

WELCOME!

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS! We're happy you are worshipping with us today and pray you will experience the love of Christ through our church. Each week we invite everyone to sign the **Friendship Pads** as one way to get better acquainted. To learn more about our church, pick up a copy of our newsletter, in-Site(s), available at each worship site or visit our website—www.AnkenyFUMC.org.

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN Children are always welcome in worship, and "Worship Bags" with children's activities are available for them to use. Quality childcare is provided on Sunday mornings for infants and toddlers, as well as Sunday School for children ages 3 and up. Just ask an usher for assistance in finding the nursery or Sunday School rooms. A "Wee Care" Room is located in the balcony of the Uptown Sanctuary, so little ones can play while parents watch and listen to worship.

SOUL FOOD CAFÉ All are invited to our informal meal Wednesday evenings during the school year between 5:00-6:30pm in our Uptown Fellowship Hall. Cost: \$3 per person (\$10 per family). NO reservations needed! Check the church website to see what's on the menu this week under "Groups & Study".

SPECIAL NEEDS At our Uptown location, large print hymnals and bulletins and wireless hearing aids are available—ask an usher for assistance.

FELLOWSHIP You are all invited to Fellowship Time! **Uptown:** Between the three Sunday services in Fellowship Hall. **Faith Chapel:** After both services in Fellowship Hall. **Christian Life Center:** Between both services. **Spirit Alive:** Before worship.

FOR THOSE WHO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY If you make your church contributions on-line, but still find it meaningful to put something in the offering plate, you will find a small basket of cards at each worship site which say, "I give electronically." Pick one up weekly and put it in the offering plate. To donate from your smart phone, use the mobile version of our online giving page at any time. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader.

WE'RE GLAD YOU WORSHIPPED WITH US TODAY!
Join us next week as we continue our Lenten sermon series "Taking It to the Streets."
Next week's theme: Palm Sunday Reflections

FEATURED INFORMATION FOR THIS WEEK

DISPLAY YOUR EASTER INVITATION SIGN TODAY!

As part of our Easter celebration this year, we are encouraging church members to display a yard sign inviting the community to our Easter services. If you took a sign in the last couple weeks or have one stored at home, display it **TODAY** through Easter Sunday! After Easter concludes you may either return the sign or keep it until next year.



2015 HOLY WEEK CANTATA

Journey with Jesus to the cross as Ankeny FUMC's Worship Arts ministry presents, "For Such a One as This," a sacred musical by Mark Hayes. Don't miss this moving and powerful reenactment of the final days of Jesus' earthly ministry, as actors, singers, and dancers portray these pivotal moments, accompanied by a live orchestra. The cast includes talented youth and adults from across all of AFUMC's worship sites, as well as from the community. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your friends, neighbors, and coworkers to experience the story of God's amazing love. Presentations are in the Uptown Sanctuary on Friday, March 27—7:00pm; Saturday, March 28—7:00pm; Sunday, March 29 - 8:30 & 11:00am; childcare is available.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE—THURSDAY, APRIL 2.

- 7:00pm at the Christian Life Center.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE—FRIDAY, APRIL 3.

- 7:00pm in the Uptown Sanctuary. Note the new time this year.

SATURDAY SERVICES—SATURDAY, APRIL 4

- 5:00pm, Spirit Alive Service, Uptown Fellowship Hall
- 7:15pm, The Road of Recovery, Christian Life Center

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES - SUNDAY, APRIL 5 All our Regular Services will be Celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus:

- Uptown – 8:30, 9:45 and 11:00am
- Christian Life Center – 9:00 and 10:45am
- Faith Chapel – 9:00 and 10:30am
- Plus our Sunrise Services, 6:30am at the Christian Life Center and Faith Chapel.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Uptown: 206 SW Walnut St ~ 964-4249
Saturdays 5:00pm ~ Blended
Sundays 8:30am ~ Traditional
9:45am ~ Contemporary
11:00am ~ Spirited Traditional
Christian Life Center: 710 NE 36th St ~ 289-9153
Wednesdays 6:15pm ~ Casual
Saturdays 7:15pm ~ "The Road"
Sundays 9:00am & 10:45am ~ Contemporary
Faith Chapel: 7384 NW 16th St
Sundays 9:00am ~ Traditional
10:30am ~ Contemporary

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Uptown: 9:45 & 11:00am
~ 3yr old -7th grade
Christian Life Center:
9:00am & 10:45am
~ 3yr old -7th grade
Faith Chapel:
10:30am ~ 3yr old-3rd grade
Nursery available at all Sunday services.

Ministers: All God's People
Lead Pastor: Scott Hibben
Administrative Pastor: Angie Loomis
Associate Pastors, Faith Chapel: Thom Bryant, Dick Pfaltzgraff
Associate Pastor, CLC: John Wagner
Associate Pastors, Thrive UMC: Jeremy Poland, Jen Hibben
Director of Worship Ministry: Jan Boehm
Associate Director of Worship Ministry: Melody Webb
Director of Children & Family Ministries: Pat Crownover
Associate Director of Youth Ministry: Theresa Bargfrede
Director of Small Group Ministry: Lindsay Drake
Director of Care & Connection Ministry: Jacque Coulson
Director of Sports Ministry: Traci Schermerhorn
Minister of Visitation: Charles Tefft

Email staff at: firstname.lastname@AnkenyFUMC.org

Deadlines: Bulletin → Tuesdays 5:00pm; Apr 15 Newsletter → Apr 1

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF AFUMC EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES:

Pick up a weekly calendar at any worship location (ask an usher for assistance) or go to our website: www.AnkenyFUMC.org.

Al-Anon
Mondays, 7:00pm, Upt Rm 314
AA
Wednesdays, 8:00pm, Upt Rm 314
Fridays, 6:00pm, Upt Rm 314
Saturdays, 6:30pm, Upt Rm 314
Wednesdays, 6:00pm, CLC Rms 103-104
Contact Gene & Marilyn Sewell
(964-0041) with questions.



Ankeny First United Methodist Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.



Bright Beginnings Preschool
Any questions, please contact Missy Starr: 229-0667

THE ROAD OF RECOVERY

REAL. LIFE. CHANGE. Saturdays at the Christian Life Center. 6:00pm pizza and salad supper; 7:15pm worship; 8:00pm Recovery Group breakout. While this ministry and worship focuses on those recovering from addictions, friends and family members of those recovering, and those having trouble meeting life on life's terms, it is open to all. *The Road's 24 hour contact number, 515-777-8333, is "always on" and we are here to help.*

3 Locations ~ 10 Worship Services
1 Congregation United in Christ!
Uptown Campus ~ Faith Chapel ~ Christian Life Center
www.AnkenyFUMC.org
AnkenyFUMC@AnkenyFUMC.org



Ankeny First United Methodist Church



UPTOWN CAMPUS: 206 SW Walnut Street
FAITH CHAPEL: 7384 NW 16th Street
CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER: 710 NE 36th Street

Our Mission:
To be an open and inviting community of faith through which God grows deeply committed Christians.

Our Vision:
Reach WITH the love of Christ.
Grow IN the love of Christ.
Serve THROUGH the love of Christ.

MARCH 22, 2015

Uptown Campus ~ Traditional Worship

March 22, 2015 ~ 8:30am

PRELUDE

WELCOME/WORSHIP FOCUS

*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lay Liturgist Glenna Trosper

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" #359

*OPENING PRAYER: God of love and mercy, today we talk a lot about life-styles and choices. Help us to understand the choice that Christ puts before us. Suffering and self-denial, cross-bearing and giving up ourselves, still sound wrong in a self-indulgent society. Keep us from being stumbling blocks to Christ. Help us to hear the announcement of resurrection, and the promise of finding our lives in the midst of losing our lives. Help us to make faithful choices, as we spend our lives following the way of Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

*WORDS OF PARDON & ASSURANCE

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Worship Leader Vicki Engh

ANTHEM

"The Cross"

[Martin/Courtney]

Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:23-27, 57-62

SERMON

"Will You Pay the Price?"

Rev. Angie Loomis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY/*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

"Take Up Thy Cross"

#415

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able.*

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS During the coming week, we encourage you to consider these questions in your personal prayer time or small group discussions:

1. What is the cross that Jesus has called you to carry?
2. How does the sacrifice you make to carry it give you life?
3. How will you live out the ministry to which you are called this week?

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PRAYERS: The following are some of our joys and concerns:

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Discharged: Sandy Decker

Baptisms: (FC 10:30) Dane Kettering Rossow, son of Aaron & Chrissy Rossow, and grandson of Mary Leichsenring. (CLC 10:45) Emersyn Lynn Clancy, daughter of Adam & Kristen Clancy, and granddaughter of Leonard & Kay Schabold. (Uptown 11:00) Mark Johnson.

New Members: (CLC 9:00) Kristin Maletta, LuAnn Barnes (CLC 10:45) Michelle Haworth, Michael Norris, Kaitlyn Higdon, Trent Hulseberg (UPT 11:00) Charlene & Monte Schuller, Mark Johnson

PRESENCE: The following are attendance figures from last week.

WORSHIP (Wednesdays@First) 37 (The Road) 54 (Sat) 30 (8:30) 144 (9:45) 148 (11:00)128

(CLC-9:00) 215 (CLC-10:45) 105 (FC-9:00) 52 (FC-10:30) 32 Total = 954

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Uptown) 85 (FC) 6 (CLC) 77 Total = 168

GIFTS: Last week's offering for Christ's work here and around the world.

General Budget \$22,045.39 Capital Campaign \$6,217.11 Missions \$2,825.44 Other \$4,107.07

Total Organ Replacement Donations: \$ 42,464.78

Feb. Food Pantry: Food (168) Diapers (186) Personal care items (14) December donations (\$2,597)

SERVICE: Today's Worship Helpers are listed below.

Ushers: Head Ushers: John & Dorothy Barnhart; Mary Adkins, Ken Kise, Darrell Krei, Jim Taylor

Greeters: Terri Kraus, Lois Lamansky, Jim & Judi Logan Organist: Mark Shultz

Chancel Choir Director: Melody Webb Chancel Choir Accompanist: Christine Stone

Sound: Caleb Webb Powerpoint: Riley Cullen Fellowship Servers: Malawi Mission Team

Opportunities for Ministry & Growth

www.AnkenyFUMC.org

NEWS TO KNOW

PRAYER VIGIL SIGN-UP From the end of our Good Friday service on April 3 until the beginning of the Easter Sunrise service on April 5, at least one person will be in constant prayer and contemplation at either our CLC or Uptown sites. You can sign up on-line. Uptown link :<http://vols.pt/cdQNiV>; Christian Life Center link: <http://vols.pt/mxUtKC>

ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS TODAY! If you would like to order an Easter flower to decorate our worship spaces on Easter Sunday in honor or memory of loved ones, please find and complete an envelope at **The Connect**. This year we will be ordering a variety of flowers. If you choose to take yours home on Easter Sunday, just take any flower; we are not having you specify the type of flower on the order. We are simply adding some color in our sanctuaries on Easter! Please complete and return your order *no later than March 29*.

FAITH CHAPEL UMW SPAGHETTI SUPPER & BAKE SALE Don't plan on cooking Friday, **March 27**; instead, come enjoy the Faith Chapel UMW, all you can eat, Spaghetti Supper and Bake Sale, from 5:00-7:00pm! Tickets are available at the door: \$10 for adults/\$5 for children 12 and under. Proceeds will go to various missions.

NEW HORIZONS 14TH ANNUAL LASAGNA DINNER FUNDRAISER FRIDAY, APRIL 10 Join us from 4:30-7:00pm in the Uptown Fellowship Hall. Adults: \$8 in advance / \$9 at the door, and children: \$4 in advance / \$5 at the door (under 3 free). Call 965-1602 to reserve your advance tickets or stop by the Uptown office and purchase. Great food for a great cause! Door prizes and a silent auction!

UMW SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON The United Methodist Women will hold their annual Spring Salad Luncheon (also includes the bake sale and boutique) on **April 14**, from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Uptown fellowship hall. The buffet features a large assortment of salads, and is all you care to eat! Carry-out is also available and men and families are welcome. Purchase a ticket as a gift. Advance tickets (\$10) are available at all church offices and after worship services on Sundays, March 29, and April 5 and 12. Proceeds will benefit local missions.

OPEN VOLLEYBALL Throughout April, the CLC will host open volleyball from 7-9:00pm on Thursdays. Adults (18+) are welcome to stop out to play pick-up games of volleyball. Registration is not required, just stop out for some fun. Contact Sara Tourte (sarabear2008@msn.com) with questions.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION FOR PEACE SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH Join the Des Moines Area Ecumenical Committee for Peace as they gather for a procession, led by a donkey followed by a prayer service for peace. Gather at the Capitol West Mall at 2:30, process downtown at 3:00 and worship at St John's Lutheran Church, 600- 6th Ave, Des Moines at 3:45. Rev. Minna Quint, Senior Pastor at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church will bring the reflection.

CRAFT GROUP Enjoy crafts and conversation? Bring your current needlework or other craft project and your own beverage to the Uptown lounge on the fourth Mondays of each month at 1:00pm. Join us **March 23rd!** Contact JoAnn Ortheil, 207-1366 for more information.

GREETING CARD MINISTRY will meet on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Uptown Fellowship Hall. We will make cards for fellow church members. All supplies are furnished, but feel free to bring any of your own, also. No experience necessary. New members welcome.

YOUTH NEWS

FUSION AND THE GATHERING Join us tonight, **March 22!** A meal is served each week from 6:00-7:00pm for \$3 for youth and their families.

- Fusion Youth Group (Grades 6-7) Sundays at the CLC from 5:00-6:45pm.
- The Gathering Youth Group (Grades 8-12) Sundays at the CLC from 6:30-8:15pm.

GET REGISTERED FOR DISCOVERY WEEKEND 2015! Plans are underway for another awesome, faith-filled weekend for mid and senior highs **April 17-19**. Registration is **now open**. Discovery Weekend can't happen without volunteers. Contact Theresa.Bargfrede@AnkenyFUMC.org for volunteer opportunities.

PASSIONATE ABOUT MISSION WORK? Our youth in grades 6-12 will participate in Discovery Weekend on April 17-19. We are partnering with the Ankeny Service Center and AHEPA Senior Housing Project to provide "care kits" for low income seniors and others in need in Ankeny. You can help by donating personal hygiene articles, as well as some food staples. There is a complete list of items, most of which can be purchased at the dollar store, available at The Connect. Please return your donations to the Discovery Weekend Care Kit bins located at each site *by April 10*. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa by email, Theresa.Bargfrede@AnkenyFUMC.org.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

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CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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2015 "SOUNDS LIKE LOVE" SHOW CHOIR CAMP Mark your calendars for the 2nd annual AFUMC Show Choir Camp, **July 13-17!** Last year, over 70 students participated in this week-long camp, full of fun and inspiring music and movement. Students who are currently in 1st-7th grades are invited to join us this year! We'll help them learn the basics of show choir, while giving them opportunities to grow in their relationships with each other and with God. Elementary Session (1st-4th grades): 9:00am-12:00pm. Mid-High Session (5th-7th grades): 1:30- 4:30pm. Early-bird registration is \$35 through June 1. (Cost is \$45 after June 1) We also need youth (8th grade & up) and adult volunteers to help with music, choreography & small groups. To register or volunteer, visit at www.ankenyfumc.org/showchoircamp.htm

EASTER EGG CANDY NEEDED! Donations of individually wrapped candy to place in eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt are needed. Tubs will be available at each worship location to drop off your donation. Our goal is to fill 10,000 or more eggs. If you would like to help fill the eggs, we will meet on **Tuesday, March 24**, starting at 6:00pm in Uptown Room 13. Bring your friends and family to help stuff eggs—and bring smiles to the faces of our children at the Easter Egg Hunt! Questions, contact Pat Crownover, 964-4249.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT ON APRIL 4! Children 2 years-old to 4th Grade bring your Easter baskets to Prairie Ridge Aquatic Center on April 4 at 10:30am! See the Easter bunny too. Plenty of open space, parking, and fun!

ROCKING CHAIRS OR GLIDERS ARE NEEDED FOR NURSERY

Our CLC and Uptown nurseries need new and gently-used rocking chairs or gliders for our nurseries. With the growing number of babies and toddlers at each nursery, we need additional rocking chairs or gliders for both sites. If you would like to donate a rocking chair or glider, please contact Stacie Gaylor, our childcare coordinator, at www.stacie.afumc.childcare@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT STUDY & CONNECTION

ENERGIZING BIG MINISTRY THROUGH SMALL GROUPS—ATTENTION SMALL

GROUP LEADERS Our church is privileged to co-sponsor and host a small group training event at the Christian Life Center on May 15-16. This training event is an event for pastors, Christian educators, small group leaders, and church leaders to explore the importance of intentional discipleship and small groups. Chris Folmsbee, Director of Discipleship at Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, will be leading participants in an exciting two-day opportunity to explore the importance and power of small groups. Chris will empower leaders with innovative ideas for enhancing your group's experience and discipleship program. Contact Lindsay Drake for more information and to register. Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFUMC.org.

THE LEGACY JOURNEY is an all-new, seven-week, Biblically based class that teaches you how to truly live and leave a legacy for generations to come. This class will lead you deeper into investing, basic estate planning, purposeful living, safeguarding your legacy, and discovering the keys to generational wealth and true generosity. This new class begins on **April 12** from 6:30-8:00pm in Uptown Room 314. Visit our website to register or contact Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFUMC.org, 964-4249 for more information.

ATTENTION SMALL GROUP LEADERS In our commitment to encouraging, supporting, and resourcing you, the Small Group Development Team would like to invite you to check-in in a round table discussion about small groups here at Ankeny First. We will be covering a variety of topics, so come prepared to be engaged and involved in the future of small group ministries at our church. Please join us on **April 13** in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm. *RSVP to Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFUMC.org by April 10.*



Uptown Campus ~ Contemporary Worship
March 22, 2015 ~ 9:45am

GATHERING SONG
WELCOME / WORSHIP FOCUS
*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING
*PRAISE SONGS

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER TIME/PRAYER SONG

SCRIPTURE
Luke 9:23-27; 57-62

SERMON
"Will You Pay the Price?"
Rev. Angie Loomis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD
MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS:
OFFERTORY

"Grace Flows Down" [Louie Giglio] Terri Krause and Scott Marler

*BENEDICTION SONG

Please stand if you are able.

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Sound: Todd Gilpin **Powerpoint:** Jessica VanDerHeyden

Worship Team: Praiseworthy **Fellowship Servers:** Malawi Mission Team

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Small Group CHECK IN

*PRAISE

PRAYER

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:45)

CHILDREN'S TIME

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:5-8

SERMON

"The Way of the Cross"

Rev. John Wagner

OFFERING OF OURSELVES

*CLOSING SONG

**Please stand if you are able.*

Note: Please silence all cell phones & refrain from flash photography during worship.

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1. Do our infinite hopes block our finite nature?
2. Is this what we signed up for?
3. I pledge allegiance to...?

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Uptown Campus ~ Spirited Traditional Worship
March 22, 2015 ~ 11:00am

PRELUDE

WELCOME/WORSHIP FOCUS

***CONGREGATIONAL GREETING**

***OPENING HYMN** "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" #359

***GATHERING SONG** "Because He Lives/Amen"

ANTHEM "The Cross" [Martin/Courtney] Chancel Choir

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

BAPTISM & RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

JOYS & CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER SONG "Above All"

SCRIPTURE Luke 9:23-27, 57-62

SERMON "Will You Pay the Price?" Rev. Angie Loomis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

***HYMN OF DEDICATION** "Take Up Thy Cross" #415

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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SERVICE: Today's Worship Helpers are listed below.

Ushers: Head Ushers: Jack & Rhonda Stewart; Lisa & Hannah Keller, Mike Long, Tara Ramsey, Bob & Kathy Steinbach

Greeters: Orleath Ingle, Rick Brown

Fellowship Servers: Malawi Mission Team

Organist: Jan Boehm **Chancel Choir Director:** Melody Webb **Chancel Choir Accompanist:** Christine Stone

Sound: Brett Pike **Powerpoint:** Herb Wilson **Worship Team:** Psalm 4

Opportunities for Ministry & Growth

www.AnkenyFUMC.org

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Uptown Campus ~ Spirit Alive Blended Worship
March 21, 2015 ~ 5:00pm

WELCOME/WORSHIP FOCUS

***CONGREGATIONAL GREETING**

***SING PRAISE TO GOD** "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"
"Blessed Be Your Name"
"Because He Lives/Amen"

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER SONG "Above All"

SCRIPTURE Luke 9:23-27, 57-62

SERMON "Will You Pay the Price?" Rev. Angie Loomis

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***DOXOLOGY**

***PARTING MUSIC** "Take Up Thy Cross"

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Faith Chapel ~ Traditional Worship

March 22, 2015 ~9:00am

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN "My Jesus, I Love Thee" #172

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*WORDS OF PARDON AND ASSURANCE

*OUR RESPONSE "Glory Be to the Father" #70

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~JOYS & CONCERNS

SERMON HYMN "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" #277

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 9:23-25 and Philippians 2:5-8

SERMON "The Way of the Cross" Rev. Dick Pfaltzgraff

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION #95

*DEDICATION HYMN "Take Up Thy Cross" #415

*CLOSING BLESSING/BENEDICTION SONG

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able.*

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WELCOME / WORSHIP FOCUS

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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*PRAISE SONGS

A TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:23-25 & Philippians 2:5-8

SERMON

“The Way of the Cross”

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- **The Gathering** Youth Group (Grades 8-12) Sundays at the CLC from 6:30-8:15pm.

GET REGISTERED FOR DISCOVERY WEEKEND 2015! Plans are underway for another awesome, faith-filled weekend for mid and senior highs **April 17-19**. Registration is **now open**. Discovery Weekend can't happen without volunteers. Contact Theresa.Bargfrede@AnkenyFUMC.org for volunteer opportunities.

PASSIONATE ABOUT MISSION WORK? Our youth in grades 6-12 will participate in Discovery Weekend on April 17-19. We are partnering with the Ankeny Service Center and AHEPA Senior Housing Project to provide "care kits" for low income seniors and others in need in Ankeny. You can help by donating personal hygiene articles, as well as some food staples. There is a complete list of items, most of which can be purchased at the dollar store, available at The Connect. Please return your donations to the Discovery Weekend Care Kit bins located at each site *by April 10*. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa by email, Theresa.Bargfrede@AnkenyFUMC.org.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

NEXT OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AT BIDWELL-RIVERSIDE DISTRIBUTION CENTER will be Wednesday, **March 25**. We will meet to carpool at 9:00am in the north Uptown parking lot. There are "jobs" for all ability levels, from guiding clients down grocery aisles to sorting and checking out clothing. You can sit or stand. So please join us. If you have questions, call Pam Heilskov at 515-257-0557.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

DIVERS AND DEVOTIONS is our AFUMC swim program for children ages 4-11 years. Your child will have the opportunity to enhance their swimming skills while learning more about God's love for them. Dates: Sundays, **April 12-May 3**, 5:30-6:30pm, Location: Easter Seals Camp Sunnyside, Cost: \$25. Registration is limited: www.ankenyfumc.org/swim. Contact the CLC office, 289-9153, with questions.

2015 "SOUNDS LIKE LOVE" SHOW CHOIR CAMP Mark your calendars for the 2nd annual AFUMC Show Choir Camp, **July 13-17!** Last year, over 70 students participated in this week-long camp, full of fun and inspiring music and movement. Students who are currently in 1st-7th grades are invited to join us this year! We'll help them learn the basics of show choir, while giving them opportunities to grow in their relationships with each other and with God. Elementary Session (1st-4th grades): 9:00am-12:00pm. Mid-High Session (5th-7th grades): 1:30- 4:30pm. Early-bird registration is \$35 through June 1. (Cost is \$45 after June 1) We also need youth (8th grade & up) and adult volunteers to help with music, choreography & small groups. To register or volunteer, visit at www.ankenyfumc.org/showchoircamp.htm

EASTER EGG CANDY NEEDED! Donations of individually wrapped candy to place in eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt are needed. Tubs will be available at each worship location to drop off your donation. Our goal is to fill 10,000 or more eggs. If you would like to help fill the eggs, we will meet on **Tuesday, March 24**, starting at 6:00pm in Uptown Room 13. Bring your friends and family to help stuff eggs—and bring smiles to the faces of our children at the Easter Egg Hunt! Questions, contact Pat Crownover, 964-4249.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT ON APRIL 4! Children 2 years-old to 4th Grade bring your Easter baskets to Prairie Ridge Aquatic Center on April 4 at 10:30am! See the Easter bunny too. Plenty of open space, parking, and fun!

ROCKING CHAIRS OR GLIDERS ARE NEEDED FOR NURSERY

Our CLC and Uptown nurseries need new and gently-used rocking chairs or gliders for our nurseries. With the growing number of babies and toddlers at each nursery, we need additional rocking chairs or gliders for both sites. If you would like to donate a rocking chair or glider, please contact Stacie Gaylor, our childcare coordinator, at www.stacie.afumc.childcare@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT STUDY & CONNECTION

ENERGIZING BIG MINISTRY THROUGH SMALL GROUPS—ATTENTION SMALL

GROUP LEADERS Our church is privileged to co-sponsor and host a small group training event at the Christian Life Center on May 15-16. This training event is an event for pastors, Christian educators, small group leaders, and church leaders to explore the importance of intentional discipleship and small groups. Chris Folmsbee, Director of Discipleship at Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, will be leading participants in an exciting two-day opportunity to explore the importance and power of small groups. Chris will empower leaders with innovative ideas for enhancing your group's experience and discipleship program. Contact Lindsay Drake for more information and to register. Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFUMC.org.

THE LEGACY JOURNEY is an all-new, seven-week, Biblically based class that teaches you how to truly live and leave a legacy for generations to come. This class will lead you deeper into investing, basic estate planning, purposeful living, safeguarding your legacy, and discovering the keys to generational wealth and true generosity. This new class begins on **April 12** from 6:30-8:00pm in Uptown Room 314. Visit our website to register or contact Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFUMC.org, 964-4249 for more information.

ATTENTION SMALL GROUP LEADERS In our commitment to encouraging, supporting, and resourcing you, the Small Group Development Team would like to invite you to check-in in a round table discussion about small groups here at Ankeny First. We will be covering a variety of topics, so come prepared to be engaged and involved in the future of small group ministries at our church. Please join us on **April 13** in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm. **RSVP to Lindsay.Drake@AnkenyFUMC.org by April 10.**

