



**We Welcome Our Guests** to Ankeny First! At today's worship service we pray that you will sense a new and energized connection with the presence of God as we worship through singing, praying, learning, and experiencing together. We invite you to tear off the Connect Card, fill it out

Worshipping at Ankeny First

**Children** are always welcome in worship, and "Worship Bags" containing children's activities are available for them to use. 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.

**Special Needs Resources** Uptown & Faith Chapel: large print hymnals and bulletins, wireless hearing aids, and wheelchairs. CLC: Wheelchairs.

**Fellowship** You are all invited to Fellowship Time! **Uptown:** Between the three Sunday services in Fellowship Hall and Saturday before worship.

**Faith Chapel:** Between services. **Christian Life Center:** Between services.

**Communion** The first weekend of each month.

### Worship

**Uptown:** 206 SW Walnut St ~ **964.4249**

Saturdays 5:00pm ~ Convergence

Sundays 8:30 & 11:00am ~ Traditional

9:45am ~ Convergence

**Christian Life Center:** 710 NE 36th St ~ **289.9153**

Saturdays 7:15pm ~ "The Road"

Sundays 9:00am & 10:45am ~ Contemporary

**Faith Chapel:** 7384 NW 16th St ~ **964.4249**

Sundays 9:00am ~ Traditional

10:30am ~ Casual

### Sunday School

**Uptown:**

9:45: 3yr old -7th grade

11:00: 3yr old -7th grade

9:45: Seekers (adult) Family Center

9:45: Disciple's Dojo (adult) Conf. Rm

9:45: Sunday School (adult) Library

**Christian Life Center:**

9:00: 3yr old -8th grade

10:45: 3yr old -8th grade

**Faith Chapel:**

10:30: 3yr old-3rd grade

**Nursery available at all Sunday services.**

**At Ankeny First, we are intentional in keeping our Membership Covenant to uphold the United Methodist Church by our PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS:**

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

**Hospitals:** **Mercy Rehab:** Verlyn Hoogland **Discharged:** Ginny Partridge

**Sympathy to:** Becky Quinn on the death of her mother, Bonnie Lou Mitchell, on November 26.

**PRESENCE:** The following are attendance figures from last week:

**WORSHIP:** (The Road)21 (Sat)49 (8:30)107 (9:45)83 (11:00)84

(CLC-9:00)211 (CLC-10:45)164 (FC-9:00)36 (FC-10:30)17 Total = 782

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** (Uptown)58 (FC)5 (CLC)144 Total = 207

**GIFTS:** Thank you for your ongoing generosity to our ministries and missions. You can give on-line at [ankenfirst.org/give.htm](http://ankenfirst.org/give.htm) or by texting "AnkenyFirst" to 77977 for a direct link.

**Find us on the web at [www.AnkenyFirst.org](http://www.AnkenyFirst.org).**

**Find events at <https://ankenfirst.churchcenter.com/registrations/events>**

### Mission

**Christmas Giving Trees Are Out!** Some will welcome your gifts of winter hats, mittens and gloves. Others will have yellow stars listing supplies needed by area agencies which minister to those in need. Take a star, purchase the item, and return to the church office **by Dec. 21.**

**Help With the Trinity ELL Christmas Program** Volunteers are needed to host the ELL Christmas party at Trinity/Las Americas UMC on **December 18** from 6:00-8:00pm for the ELL students and their families. An international potluck will kick off the fun evening. Please contact Cary or Julie Halfpop at [cjhalfpop@msn.com](mailto:cjhalfpop@msn.com) if you have any questions or want to volunteer!

**Donations In Honor or In Memory of Loved Ones** You may donate to the Christmas Mission Offering by using the special envelopes found at the Welcome Centers to honor your loved ones. This has replaced our tradition of poinsettias, but we will include a special insert in the Christmas Eve bulletin identifying those honored. Return in the offering plate or call us at 964.4249 by **December 9.**

**December Mission of the Month** What gift shall we bring? At Christmas we celebrate the birth of a baby, and what better gift can we bring an infant than the gift of diapers—all babies need them! We will again be collecting disposable diapers for Bidwell Riverside and other agencies within Polk County. Larger sizes are especially needed. Special envelopes can be found at our Welcome Centers for monetary donations, or simply write "December Mission of the Month" in your check memo.

### Connection

**Advent Studies** begin today, **December 2.** There are two options for you to join an Advent study. Both will be at the Uptown site on Sunday mornings at 9:45. Randy Loomis will lead "Christmas Is Not Your Birthday" in room 314 and Beth Madison will lead "Down to Earth" in room 310.

**Home Communion Training** Tuesday, **December 4,** 6:30 in Uptown Room 317. Do you know someone who can't make it to church any longer due to health or mobility issues? Sign up for home communion training so you can be the hands and feet of Christ, and share His love with those who can't make it to church for the sacrament of communion. Let [Rhonda.Alessio@AnkenyFirst.org](mailto:Rhonda.Alessio@AnkenyFirst.org) know of anyone who can't get to church and would like to receive home communion.

**Advent Candle Lighters Needed** On the four Sundays before Christmas, we will light the Advent candles as a devotional way to prepare for the coming of Christ. On Christmas Eve, we will light all of the candles, including the candle in the center - the Christ candle - to celebrate that Christ has come to us. If your family would like to be part of this meaningful worship ritual, please sign up on the Connect Card today! We would be honored to have your participation. If you have any questions, please contact [Amity.Wagner@AnkenyFirst.org](mailto:Amity.Wagner@AnkenyFirst.org).

**Holiday Stress Overriding Your Joy?** We know in our hearts that JESUS is the reason for Christmas! But even doing our best to use our faith, for some of us, serious depression or anxiety can zap the joy out of our Christmas celebrations. Knowing that Jesus is with us every day, we can do our best, lower our expectations, and accept that preparations, food, and gifts do not have to be perfect. We can just ENJOY the next few weeks with family and friends. Smile, laugh, and hug each other! Then come learn about our LIVE WELL classes: "Overcoming Anxiety & Depression" on Jan. 7 at 6:30pm. Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic church is hosting the ecumenical classes this session. Watch for more details.

**Save the Date!** We will once again host a Christmas Day Potluck at our Uptown location from noon-2:00pm. This is open to everyone and a great way to celebrate with other church family who don't have plans on Christmas Day. Bring a dish to share if you're able. A main dish, drink, and table service provided. **We need a few volunteers to help coordinate and plan for this welcoming event.** Please contact Mary Johnson, 515.964.5591 or sign the CONNECT card.

### Serving Opportunities

**A.** I would like to try helping the church in a **NEW** way in the checked ministry area.

- Worship Arts (anything music, audio/video, communion server)
- Worship Hospitality (usher, greeter, welcome)
- Small Groups
- Sports & Fitness
- Youth
- Children's
- Missions
- Christian Care

**B.** I would like to serve in the following **UPCOMING** ways:

- I would like 2019 offering envelopes.
- I will help with the Christmas Potluck.
- I would like to attend Home Communion Training on December 4.
- My child is interested in playing piano before the 3:00 Children's Christmas Eve service at Uptown.
- I/we would like to participate in Advent Candle Lighting at the following site:
  - Uptown
  - Faith Chapel

*(Please make sure to fill in your name & contact information on the reverse side of this card.)*

### Congregational Care

We always want to know how we can reach out to individuals that need our care. If you know of someone we've missed, please let us know.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info. \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

### Stay Informed

I would like our twice monthly e-newsletter:

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

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- Guest less than 6 months

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- Please keep this confidential to pastors and church staff only.
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**Christmas Eve Support** Christmas Eve services are special worship opportunities for our church family and our many honored guests. Help us to be open and inviting by serving during one of our many Christmas Eve Services! We will need many people to serve as ushers, greeters, and communion servers. Please register on our church's website or call the Uptown office at 515.964.4249.

**Faith Chapel UMW Christmas Program** All are welcome on Monday, **December 3** at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be served after the entertainment, singer Doug Karl. Please bring a gift of mittens, hats and scarves for our Giving Tree.

**UMW Christmas Dinner December 6** 6:30pm, Uptown Fellowship Hall. Program will be led by Pastor Martha Ward. Last chance for tickets for this women's event (\$11) can be purchased at the church office by December 3 or between worship services today, December 2. Bring gift cards from Walmart or Target for Bidwell Riverside's Christmas gifts if able.

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**2019 Estimate of Giving Cards** As we begin to look forward to our 2019 ministry plans, please remember to turn in your 2019 Estimate of Giving Card. By doing so, the Finance Committee and Church Council can set an accurate 2019 budget. Additional cards can be found at the Welcome Centers or by calling the church. You can also submit your Estimate of Giving Card online from any computer or smart phone: <http://www.ankenfirst.org/stewardship.htm>.

**2019 Offering Envelopes** are now ready to be picked up. If you signed up for offering envelopes on your 2019 pledge card or Connect Card, they are available at your "typical" worship service. Sign up on the Connect Card or contact the church office to order yours!

**Attention Piano Students!** Children of the church are invited to play a sacred Christmas carol as part of our gathering music before the 3:00pm Children's Christmas Eve service at Uptown! If your student is interested, please sign the CONNECT card. Questions? Contact [Amity.Wagner@AnkenyFirst.org](mailto:Amity.Wagner@AnkenyFirst.org).

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## Fitness

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## Youth

### Youth Group Schedule Every Wednesday!

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# Welcome

## Uptown Campus ~ Traditional Worship December 2, 2018 ~ 8:30am

### PRELUDE

WELCOME / \*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #211 vs. 1,2,3

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

"Joy to the World"

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

ANTHEM "A Spotless Rose" [arr. McGrath] Chancel Choir

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

"Joy to the World"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY / \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" #218 vs. 1,3,4

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:39-45

SERMON "Joy Within" Rev. Angie Loomis

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*HYMN OF SENDING "People, Look East" #202

\*BENEDICTION / POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

Worship Hosts: Greeters—Bob & Kay Schweers, Bob & Mary Ann Scott

Ushers—John & Dorothy Barnhart, Allaire Jutting, Terry McAnally, Bob & Connie Ruths

Tech Support: Patrick Cullen, Steve Fravel

Organist: Kim Field Hymn Leader/Liturgist: Jeff Vaughan

Chancel Choir Director: Jose Clavell Chancel Choir Accompanist: Christine Stone

### 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.



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# Welcome

## Uptown ~ Convergence Worship December 2, 2018 ~ 9:45am

\*GATHERING/GATHERING SONG "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (with King of Heaven)"

WELCOME / \*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

\*SONG OF PRAISE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE  
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OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS  
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SONG OF REFLECTION "Light of the World"

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:39-45

SERMON "Joy Within" Rev. Angie Loomis

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\*BENEDICTION

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\*PRAISE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

OFFERING OF OURSELVES

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-45

SERMON

"Joy Within"

Rev. John Wagner

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*CLOSING SONG

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**12 Days of Fitness** Keep fitness and faith a priority during this Christmas season at the CLC. Join us the 12 weekdays before Christmas Eve for a daily workout that follows the 12 Days of Christmas song format. Each day will offer new exercises and a new Christmas-themed devotion. Times: **Mon., Dec. 3-Tues., Dec. 18** 5:15am, 6:00am, 8:15am, 5:00pm, 6:30pm. (No Wednesdays for the 8:15am class, and evening classes are Mon.-Thurs. only). Cost \$20 (includes a special gift!)

## Youth

### Youth Group Schedule Every Wednesday!

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- We host an evening meal from 6:45-7:15pm for 6th-12th graders—\$3/person

# Welcome

## Uptown ~ Traditional Worship

**December 2, 2018 ~ 11:00am**

PRELUDE

WELCOME / \*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #211 vs. 1,2,3

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

"Joy to the World"

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

ANTHEM "A Spotless Rose" [arr. McGrath] Chancel Choir

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

"Joy to the World"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY / \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" #218 vs. 1,3,4

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:39-45

SERMON "Joy Within" Rev. Angie Loomis

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*HYMN OF SENDING "People, Look East" #202

\*BENEDICTION / POSTLUDE

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

**Worship Hosts:** Greeters—Jim & Pat McCullough, Mel & Kathy Weatherwax

**Ushers**—Linda Andeberg, Lisa Keller, Ruth McGee, Connie Rohwedder, Jack & Rhonda Stewart

**Tech Support:** Brett Pike, Avonda Row **Organist:** Kim Field

**Hymn Leader:** Jose Clavell **Liturgist:** Rev. Mike Janes

**Chancel Choir Director:** Jose Clavell **Chancel Choir Accompanist:** Christine Stone

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.



# Connect Card

We're glad you're here!

Please complete this tear-off as your offering of presence, and place it in the offering basket. If you have new contact information, please provide your name and updates.

### Circle Worship Location/Time:

*Uptown:* 8:30 9:45 11:00 Sat. 5:00

*Faith Chapel:* 9:00 10:30

*Christian Life Center:* 9:00 10:45

Please update the following:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Names and grades of children in attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

### I am a:

- First Time Guest  Member/Friend  
 Guest less than 6 months

## Prayer Requests

### Please select one.

- Please keep this confidential to pastors and church staff only.  
 Please put this on our public prayer chain.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## General News

**Annual Christmas Concert—Amid the Darkness Christ Is Born** Join us on **December 2** at 6:00pm in our Uptown Sanctuary to kick off our Christmas season! Enjoy our musical groups sharing their talents: Heavenly Metal, Praise Ringers, Chancel Choir, Kids of the Kingdom, Kids Music Collective, Walnut Street Players String Quartet, Bells of Faith, Visual Scriptures, Instruments of Peace and our organist Kim Anderson Field.

**Christmas Eve Support** Christmas Eve services are special worship opportunities for our church family and our many honored guests. Help us to be open and inviting by serving during one of our many Christmas Eve Services! We will need many people to serve as ushers, greeters, and communion servers. Please register on our church's website or call the Uptown office at 515.964.4249.

**Faith Chapel UMW Christmas Program** All are welcome on Monday, **December 3** at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be served after the entertainment, singer Doug Karl. Please bring a gift of mittens, hats and scarves for our Giving Tree.

**UMW Christmas Dinner December 6** 6:30pm, Uptown Fellowship Hall. Program will be led by Pastor Martha Ward. Last chance for tickets for this women's event (\$11) can be purchased at the church office by December 3 or between worship services today, December 2. Bring gift cards from Walmart or Target for Bidwell Riverside's Christmas gifts if able.

**15th Annual Festival of the Nativities "No Room at the Inn"** Valley UMC, 4201 Ashworth Rd., WDSM is displaying over 400 breathtaking nativity sets from over 34 countries! Today, Sunday, Dec. 2, 12pm to 5pm.

**2019 Estimate of Giving Cards** As we begin to look forward to our 2019 ministry plans, please remember to turn in your 2019 Estimate of Giving Card. By doing so, the Finance Committee and Church Council can set an accurate 2019 budget. Additional cards can be found at the Welcome Centers or by calling the church. You can also submit your Estimate of Giving Card online from any computer or smart phone: <http://www.ankenfirst.org/stewardship.htm>.

**2019 Offering Envelopes** are now ready to be picked up. If you signed up for offering envelopes on your 2019 pledge card or Connect Card, they are available at your "typical" worship service. Sign up on the Connect Card or contact the church office to order yours!

**Attention Piano Students!** Children of the church are invited to play a sacred Christmas carol as part of our gathering music before the 3:00pm Children's Christmas Eve service at Uptown! If your student is interested, please sign the CONNECT card. Questions? Contact [Amity.Wagner@AnkenyFirst.org](mailto:Amity.Wagner@AnkenyFirst.org).

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## Children

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## Youth

# Welcome

## Uptown ~ Convergence Worship December 1, 2018 ~ 5:00pm

### PRELUDE

**GATHERING / \*GATHERING SONG** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (with King of Heaven)"

### WELCOME / \*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

**\*SONG OF PRAISE** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #211 vs. 1,2,3

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

"Joy to the World"

### OFFERING OUR PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE & WITNESS

"Joy to the World"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY / \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**SONG OF REFLECTION** "Light of the World"

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 1:39-45

### SERMON

"Joy Within" Rev. Angie Loomis

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**\*SONG OF SENDING** "Our God (with O Come, All Ye Faithful)"

### \*BENEDICTION / POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

Pianist: Christine Stone Tech Support: Amity Wagner

Worship Team: Cindy Litchfield, Julie Quick-Alcorn

### 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.



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

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Children

## Fitness

## Youth

# Welcome

## Faith Chapel ~ Traditional Worship

**December 2, 2018 ~ 9:00am**

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### HANGING OF THE GREENS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

\*OPENING HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #211

### \*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, CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

### OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY / PRAYER OF DEDICATION #95

SERMON HYMN "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" #198

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:39-55

SERMON "Joy Within" Rev. Thom Bryant

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION "There's a Song in the Air" #249

### \*BENEDICTION/BENEDICTION SONG

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Today's Worship Helpers are listed below:

Audio/Video: Dean Pollpeter Keyboard: Claire Brown

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## Youth

# Welcome

## Faith Chapel ~ Casual Worship December 2, 2018 ~ 10:30am

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\*PRAISE SONGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/JOYS, CELEBRATIONS, & CONCERNS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

OFFERTORY

"Waiting Here For You" Worship Team

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-45

SERMON

"Joy Within" Rev. Thom Bryant

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*BENEDICTION

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

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