

Parents -Please escort your children to the restrooms.

Thank you.

Please sign registration sheets and pass to others in your pew.

If you are visiting, we welcome you and ask that you leave information so that we might be in contact with you.

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

WE GATHER to be NURTURED

Gathering Songs - Praise Band, Kids' Choir

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

"The First Noel," verses 1 & 2

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome & Sign the Attendance Pad

Advent Wreath Liturgy

Schade Armstrong Family

We light the 1st candle of Hope.

...And even if the sun should grow dark

... even if the moon refuses to shine

... even if the stars should fall from the sky

...we will have Jesus, the Light of the World, to shine

brightly in our hearts, lighting our way.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

by Dean McIntyre

§ Opening Hymn - *on the screens* "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn FWS #2129

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Children's Message

Nate Merchant

Hymn FWS #2026

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

Parents: There is no Children's Church today;

younger than 2nd grade may go to the nursery with Ms. Ryanne.

§ Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:7-8, 25-33

Leader: This is the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Sermon - "A Subtle Immanence"

Nate Merchant, Director of Christian Education

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response "Song of Hope" (Heaven Come Down)

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory - Kids' Choir

"God Made Me"

§ Doxology UMH #94

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #211, verses 1, 2, 4, 7

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

§ Benediction

You are people who have seen a great light! You are people who have received the ultimate gift in the Son of God — the Light of the World. Be bearers of the light, going with the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, this night and always. Amen.

Joyful Send-off - JuBellation

"Bwana Asifiwe"

Fellowship Time in the Narthex



Altar flowers are given...

...in memory of Marva Whipple

by Helen & Jim Gibbons.

Today we will be taking a special offering to support United Voices for Children, an agency that speaks and acts on behalf of all children and youth in the Northern Illinois conference and generates financial support for ChildServ, Methodist Youth Services and Rosecrance. Please make your check out to Court Street UMC with "5th Sunday Appeal" in the memo line.

RSVP to Geri Ryan TODAY if you think you might attend the UMW Christmas lunch on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 12:30, in the Dining Room. UMM, Wednesday evening men's group, and all other men of the church are also invited to share in this meal.

* 30-minute Noon Worship begins this Wed., Dec. 3, in the Chapel *

2015 Altar Flower sign-up sheet is posted beneath the 2014 altar flower sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Sign up now to get your first choice.



We welcome you, member or visitor, as we join in worshipping God this morning. We pray you will be blessed and invite you to return!

Angel Tree, a Ministry of Prison Fellowship, is a program designed for children whose parent is in prison. This year we have 50 children. Many of these children live in our church neighborhood. We buy gifts for the children and give them on behalf of the parent who is in prison. Family members of the children will be contacted to determine needs. Each child will receive 2 gifts, one a toy and one a clothing item. You can help us by: 1) Volunteering to distribute "angels" following any worship service. 2) Buying gifts for the children (\$15-\$25 each). **Do not buy any gifts until you receive your angel.** 3) Making a cash donation or a check payable to Court Street United Methodist Church with Angel Tree Ministry on memo line and mailing to Barb or Gene Ferry at 1321 Camp Ave., Rockford, IL, 61103. 4) Shopping for gifts. 5) Organizing and delivering gifts between December 21st and December 24th. 6) Praying for the prisoners and their families. To receive your angel, please look for the Angel Tree representative following today's service in the Narthex. For questions, contact Barb or Gene at (815) 965-6518.

**Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! - December 3
5:30 - 6:15 p.m.**

• Ministry

"Advent Conspiracy" in the Dining Room - Adults, Teens

• Kids' Choir in the Choir Room - ages 4-13

• Rev. Rhoads' class in the Library - Adults

• Mats for the Homeless in Room 4 across from the Dining Room

6:15 - 6:45 p.m.

• Dinner by Diane in the Dining Room \$3/person; \$10 max/family

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

• Men's Fellowship Group in the Parlor

It's not too early to start buying Scrip for Christmas gifts and to help supply our Emergency Scrip cards for those in need. Stop by Jan's table in the narthex or the church office to see the complete offering of Scrip cards--our order form is only a portion of those available. And the cards are good nation-wide! **Deadline for ordering for Christmas is Dec. 14; they will be returned to you Dec. 21.**

Thanks to all of you who helped prepare and/or serve a meal at the Women's and Children's Crisis Center this past year. **If you did not participate in this mission during 2014, please consider signing up for 2015.** The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex next to the coffee. All dates are open. We prepare and serve the meal the second Wednesday of each month. Ask your church committee or group members, your family, your neighbors, your friends or Barb Ferry who will gladly help you. You can reach Barb at 815-965-6518.

Get your holiday help here! Contact Nate (NateMerchant@courtstreetumc.org) to reserve our Youth group in hourly slots Dec. 7 to help you prepare for Christmas. Funds raised support our Youth Ministries.

Please note the calendar on the reverse side for more events.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Marjorie Kint
Ushers: The Sue Cram Team **Sound Tech:** Stan Tunnell
Video Tech: Steve Ripley **Van Driver:** Bob Lutmer
Fellowship Hostesses: Geri Ryan & Judy Mehren

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

Sunday	Student	Sunday/1st Sunday of Advent
11/30	9:00 am	Sunday School in Nursery, 310, 309, & 209
	10:00	Worship in the Sanctuary
	11:15	Fellowship Time in the Narthex
Mon 12/1	8:00 am	MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
	9:00	SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
	4:00 pm	Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym
	5:30	Worship Committee in the Parlor
	6:00	Gamblers Anonymous in Room 205
	6:30	Lydia Circle in the Kitchen
	8:00 am	MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
Tue 12/2	9:00	Quilters in Room 206
	9:00	History & Archives in Room 201
	9:00	"Busy Bag Ladies" in Room 205
	9:00	SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
	9:00	Mother/Baby Class in the Parlor
	10:30	Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room
	4:00 pm	Tutoring for K-8 in Room 310
	4:00	Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym
	5:30	SPRC in Sanctuary, Parlor
	6:00	JuBellation Rehearsal in Choir Room
	7:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room
	7:00	Grace Awakening in Room 205 & 209
	Wed 12/3	8:00 am
9:00		SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
9:30		Early Head Start in Room 100 & the Parlor
10:30		UMW Mission Team in the Kitchen
12:00 pm		Advent 30 minute worship in the Chapel
Thu 12/4	12:30	UMW Christmas Lunch in the Dining Room
	4:00	Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym
	4:30	Jeremiah Development Exec Brd in 109
	5:30	Holy COW! - see announcements
	8:00 am	MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
Fri 12/5	9:00	SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
	10:00	Early Head Start in Room 100
	1:30 pm	Early Head Start in Room 100
	4:30 pm	Faith/Family Night @ Janesville
	Sat 12/6	
Sunday 2nd Sunday of Advent		
12/7	9:00 am	Sunday School in Nursery, 310, 309, & 209
	9:00	UMW Bakery, Bazaar, Evergreen Sale
		Lower Level
	10:00	Worship in the Sanctuary
	11:15	UMW Brunch in the Dining Room
		UMW Bakery, Bazaar, Evergreen Sale resumes

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

The Congregation	<i>Ministers</i>
Calvin Culpepper	<i>Pastor</i>
cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org	
Miriam Castro-Rodriguez	<i>Deacon</i>
Nate Merchant	<i>Director of Christian Education</i>
NateMerchant@courtstreetumc.org	
Abby Logli	<i>Christian Education Intern</i>
Teresa Field	<i>Parish Nurse</i>
TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org	
Julia Schade Armstrong	<i>Director of Music</i>
JuliaSchade@courtstreetumc.org	
Ryanne Ludington	<i>Nursery Supervisor</i>
Diane Lutmer	<i>Nursery Assistant</i>
Verlette Gorman	<i>Church Co-Administrator</i>
ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org	
Lorelle Wandell	<i>Church Co-Administrator</i>
LorelleWandell@courtstreetumc.org	
Michael Smith	<i>Maintenance Engineer</i>
Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org	
Steven Rogers	<i>Custodian</i>

Communion Special offering - The Local Mission Committee will report what they do with your monthly contributions in The Chimes. Your contributions the 1st Sunday of every month at Communion will be greatly appreciated to further our local outreach.

Court Street United Methodist Church
 215 North Court Street Rockford, IL 61103
 Church Office: (815) 962-6061 Church Fax: (815) 962-9754
 www.courtstreetumc.org

WELCOME! November 30, 2014
We're glad you're worshiping with us this morning! Please fill out this card if you are a visitor to our church or if you have changed your address or phone number. Place completed card in the offering plate as it is passed.

- I'm a visitor.*
- Please note my address change.*

Name (s): Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms. _____

How did you hear about Court Street? _____

Children:
 Name _____ age _____ grade _____
 Name _____ age _____ grade _____
 Name _____ age _____ grade _____

Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (h) _____ (w) _____
 E-mail _____

If you do not wish to keep any part or all of your bulletin at the the end of service, please give it back to an usher and we will recycle it.
 Thank you for helping our environment!




ORDER OF WORSHIP
 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE



FIRST SUNDAY OF

Advent

Welcome to Court Street United Methodist Church

 We are a people called United Methodists.
 Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

The mission of Court Street United Methodist Church is to be a welcoming, nurturing, and serving community of Christ.

*Student Sunday/1st Sunday of Advent
 November 30, 2014*