

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

Organ Prelude "The Advent Star" ~ G. Martin

Ringing of the Bell

§ **Advent Wreath Liturgy** **Dick & Jeanine Wang**

We light the second candle of Peace.

As we light this second candle in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, perhaps we need to listen again to John the Baptizer's message, preparing the way of the Lord:

...make straight the paths

...repent of your sins

...be baptized

...and live holy lives devoted to God.

ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.

§ **Opening Hymn - on the screens** "Down By the Jordan"

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.*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

First Scripture Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem - Chancel Choir "Of a Rose, a lovely Rose"
(from 'Magnificat' by John Rutter)

"Rutter composed this piece to a 15th century anonymous English poem that imagines Jesus as a rose springing from Mary, who is seen as a rose bush with five branches: the Annunciation, the Star of Bethlehem, the three Kings, the fall of the devil's power, and heaven. The last stanza asks Mary to 'shield us from the fiendes bond'."

§ Second Scripture Lesson Mark 1:1-8

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Sermon "Playing Your Part" Rev. Calvin Culpepper

The SERVICE of WORD and TABLE

Please turn to page 12 in the front of your hymnal.

We will use Musical Setting A on p. 17 for the sung responses.

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Organ Offertory

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" ~ arr. L. Smith

§ **Doxology #94 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Please remain standing as you are able after the Doxology.

The communion bread served is gluten-free so that all may partake of the Holy Sacrament.

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ **Hymn UMH #209 "Blessed Be the God of Israel"**

§ Benediction

May the God of hope fill you up with joy, fill you up with peace, so that your believing lives, filled with the life-giving energy of the Holy Spirit, will brim over with hope!

-Adapted from Romans 15,

translated by Eugene H. Peterson, The Message

Organ Postlude "Carol of the Bells" ~ arr. M. Hayes

*All are invited to the Lower Level for
the United Methodist Women's
Brunch, Bakery, Bazaar, & Evergreen Sale.
Proceeds will support their Mission Fund.*

**We thank Rev. Miriam Castro-Rodriguez
for assisting with communion today.**



Altar Flowers are given...

...in memory of our son, Steve, by Allen & Kay Pang.

On Sunday, December 14th, Dr. Zimmerman has volunteered to give an educational talk on the flu, pneumonia, and shingles vaccine. There will be a question and answer session, so please be thinking of your questions and concerns. The talk will take place in the parlor right after the church service. Teresa Field, Parish Nurse, will hold another blood pressure clinic on December 28th, before and after the church service.

Next Sunday, December 14th, we will be taking a special offering to help us meet our Apportionment. There will be an insert next week to help you understand the importance of this offering. You may make your check out to CSUMC with "Apportionment" on the memo line.

We thank Dr. & Mrs. Milton Schmitt for donating the Christmas tree in the center of the Narthex in memory of their daughter, Dr. Katherine A. Andersen.

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



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.

*** 30-minute Noon Worship is this Wed., Dec. 10, in the Chapel *
Come & find peace in the middle of Christmas preparations.**

**Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! - December 10
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

6:00 - 6:45 p.m. - note the early start to accommodate Caroling

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

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

• **Christmas Caroling in the Neighborhood** - meet at Education

Entrance; bring a flashlight, dress for the weather; children must be accompanied by an adult

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

• Men's Fellowship Group in the Parlor

Buy 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 next Sunday, 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. **Please consider signing up for 2015** on the sheet in the Narthex next to the coffee. 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 (815-965-6518) who will gladly help you.



TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeters: Tim & Kathy Welk **Liturgist:** Randiann King
Ushers: The Sandra Gregory Team **Sound Tech:** Tim Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley **Van Driver:** Bob Lutmer

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

Sunday 2nd Sunday of Advent
12/7 9:00 am Sunday School in Nursery, 310, 309
9:00 UMW Bakery, Bazaar, Evergreen Sale, Dining Room
10:00 Worship in the Sanctuary
11:15 UMW Brunch in the Dining Room
UMW Bakery, Bazaar, Evergreen Sale resumes
1:00 pm Youth: Help Get Ready for Holidays
2:00 JFON on the 2nd Floor
Mon 12/8 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
6:00 Gamblers Anonymous in Room 205
Tue 12/9 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
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
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 Trustees in the Library
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 12/10 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
9:00 SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100 & the Parlor
12:00 pm Advent 30 minute worship in the Chapel
4:00 Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym
4:30 3rd Floor Lease Group Meeting in the Parlor
5:30 Holy COW! - see announcements
6:30 Caroling in the Neighborhood
6:30 Setup/serve Women's Crisis Center Meal
Thu 12/11 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
9:00 SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
2:30 pm Early Head Start in Room 100
4:00 Tutoring for K-8 in Room 310
4:00 Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym
6:00 Chatterbox @ Franchesco's, 7128 Spring Creek
Fri 12/12 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
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
Sat 12/13 **8:30 am UM Men's Breakfast @ Stockholm, 2420 Charles St.**
9:00 Cantata Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
Sunday 3rd Sunday of Advent
12/14 9:00 am Sunday School in Nursery, 310, 309
10:00 Worship in the Sanctuary-Christmas Cantata
11:15 Fellowship in the Narthex
11:15 Dr. Zimmerman Talks on Vaccines, Parlor

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

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

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! December 7, 2014
We're glad you're worshipping 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



SECOND 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.

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2014