

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

Prelude - Tashiana DeLeon, violin "Silent Night"

Ringing of the Bell

§ **Advent Wreath Liturgy** Ana Kelsey-Powell

We light the fourth candle of Love.

As we light this fourth candle, let us remember that this is the will of God in Christ Jesus, who comes to us.

ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.

§ **Opening Hymn - on the screens**

"View the Present Through the Promise"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Reading from the Psalter, UMH #847, response 1 Psalm 126

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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

People: Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Music Response - RYANNE LUDINGTON "Grown-Up Christmas List"

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Organ Offertory - Tashiana DeLeon, violin "The First Noel"

§ **Doxology FWS #2036** "Give Thanks"

Children's Christmas Program

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ **Hymn UMH #221** "In the Bleak Midwinter"

§ **Benediction**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us! God has anointed us to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to

proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and to comfort all who mourn. Share the good news, in word and deed. And may the grace of our coming Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of the God who sent him, and the joy of the Holy Spirit who empowers us to receive him, be with us always. Amen.

Postlude - Tashiana DeLeon, violin "Joy to the World"

Fellowship Time in the Narthex



Altar Flowers are given...

...in memory of what would have been my mother Marjorie Jones' 100th birthday on December 19th by Geri Ryan.

Our Parish Nurse, Teresa Field, will be doing a blood pressure check for anyone who is interested next Sunday, December 28th, in the Narthex, from 9:30 a.m. until worship time, and again immediately after worship service.



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 and all but maybe 1 has been taken and gifts purchased. You can help us with what remains to be done: No more cash donations are needed as we have sufficient funds for this year. We still need to organize gifts by family on Dec. 21st in the dining room at 9 am. Come down if you want to participate. If you want to deliver, come down between 9:30 and 9:45 am and select a family or two and instructions and then deliver December 21st and December 24th. For questions, contact Barb or Gene at 965-6518.

NO Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! - December 24 INSTEAD...

This is the first year we are offering a special Christmas worship service for everyone, but especially for those who have experienced significant loss or are dealing with difficult situations in their lives. We will hold it at **4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve, in the Chapel.** If you come in the Education door on Court Street, the Chapel is immediately to your left, on the street level so it is handicap accessible. A quieter version of a Christmas celebration, we will offer lots of comfort and peace.

Then all are welcome to come back that night, **December 24, at 9:30 pm. and celebrate Christmas with a Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary.** We will have a 15 minute prelude to center ourselves, and then celebrate the coming of Christ through scripture, prayer, music, and communion.

Sunday, December 28, for 10:00 a.m. worship we will have a Carol Sing, when we will sing at least 7 of our favorite carols. You won't want to miss this chance to sing together and celebrate Christ's birth.

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.

Important dates you won't want to miss in January:

Jan. 7 - 5:30 p.m. Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! resumes

Jan. 10 - 9:00 a.m. De-green the Sanctuary & Chapel

Jan. 11 - Before & After worship: Blood Pressure Check

Jan. 11 - 6:00 p.m. Youth & Parents meet to discuss mission trip, fundraising, etc.

Jan. 18 - 10:00 a.m. Lou Ness, Exec. Director of Shelter Care, speaks in worship

Jan. 21 - 7:00 p.m. Chapel Prayer Service

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

TODAY'S WORSHIP
Greeters: Milton & Judy Schmitt
Ushers: The Sandra Gregory Team **Sound Tech:** Brian King
Video Tech: Steve Ripley **Van Driver:** Bruce Shindel
Fellowship Hosts: Kay & Guy Galloway

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

Sunday 4th Sunday of Advent
12/21 8:30 am Angel Tree Gift Sorting in the Dining Room
 9:00 Sunday School in Nursery, 310, 309
10:00 **Sanctuary Worship-Children's Program**
 11:15 Fellowship in the Narthex

Mon 12/22 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 6:00 pm Gamblers Anonymous in Room 205

Tue 12/23 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
 10:00 MAYA's House Christmas Party-Dining Room
 10:30 Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room
 4:00 pm **Tutoring for K-8 in Room 310**
 6:00 **JuBellation Rehearsal in Choir Room**
 7:00 **Chancel Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room**
 7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 205 & 209

Wed 12/24 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100 & the Parlor
 4:00 pm **Blue Christmas Service in the Chapel**
 9:30 **Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary**

Thu 12/25 Merry Christmas - Church is Closed

Fri 12/26 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 10:00 Early Head Start in Room 100
 1:30 pm Early Head Start in Room 100

Sat 12/27

Sunday 1st Sunday after Christmas Day
12/28 9:30 am Blood Pressure Check in the Narthex
 10:00 **Sanctuary Worship-Carol Sing**
 11:15 Fellowship in the Narthex
 11:15 Blood Pressure Check in the Narthex

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 21, 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



FOURTH 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.

*4th Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2014*