

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

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

§ Call to Worship

Leader: When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,

People: God is there.

Leader: When Jesus is presented at the temple,

People: God is there.

Leader: When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms,

People: God is there.

Leader: When Anna recognizes Jesus in the temple,

People: God is there.

Leader: This very day,

People: God is here.

Leader: In the future we cannot see,

People: God is there.

All: Let us worship God!

§ Opening Carol - UMH #240 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Prayers of the People

Rev. Dr. Richard Wang

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Carol - UMH #218, verses 1-3

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

Psalter, UMH #815

Psalm 96

Keli Scott

Carol - UMH #234, verses 1, 2, 5

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Carol - UMH #245, verses 1, 2

"The First Noel"

Musical Response

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Julia Schade Armstrong

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Carol - UMH #220, verses 1, 3, 4

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Carol - UMH #230, verses 1, 3, 4

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

§ Doxology UMH #94

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Blessing of the offering:

We celebrate the birth of the Holy Child! Although born in humble surroundings, Jesus' presence surrounds all who call upon his name. The hope born in a manger long ago is birthed again. We gratefully offer these gifts as a way to provide hope for all God's children. We rejoice in knowing that your ministry is strengthened by our gifts and prayers. We pray in the name of the Babe in the Manger. **Amen.**

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Carol - UMH #238

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

§ Benediction

Rev. Dr. Richard Wang

God of glory, your splendor shines from a manger in Bethlehem into the darkness of human night. Open our eyes to Christ's presence in the shadows of our world so that we, like him, may become beacons of your justice and defenders of all for whom there is no room. **Amen.**

Postlude

Fellowship Time in the Narthex

We thank Jeremy Lewis

for sharing his musical gifts with us today.



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!

Our Parish Nurse, Teresa Field, will be doing a blood pressure check for anyone who is interested today, in the Narthex, after worship.

NO Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! - December 31

May you have a Happy & Safe New Year!

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

On 1/7 & 1/14 we will have nationally-traveled guest speakers who are passionate about medicine, health, and faith, kickstarting our 2015 Holy COW! ministry season. Starting, 1/21, join us as we venture into Rick Warren's 'The Daniel Plan,' a group study where we will help encourage everyone to make lasting and healthy lifestyle changes while growing in Christ. The seminars are free. If you wish to have the book, 'The Daniel Plan,' they will be available in January for \$15. Nate Merchant & Teresa Field will co-lead the sessions.

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

The more hands we have, the sooner we will be done! Everyone is encouraged to come and help.

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

Thank you to everyone who has helped out with our programs during 2014. Because of you, we were able to accomplish many great things in 2014. I pray that you will continue to help Court Street UMC accomplish our ministry in 2015. If anyone is willing to help with Sunday School, Youth Group, or Children's Activities, please contact me, *Nate Merchant.*

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

TODAY'S WORSHIP
Greeters: Bob & Karen Brown
Ushers: The Sandra Gregory Team **Sound Tech:** Ryan Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley **Van Driver:** Bruce Shindel
Fellowship Hostesses: Geri Ryan & Judy Mehren

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

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

Mon 12/29 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 6:00 pm Gamblers Anonymous in Room 205

Tue 12/30 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
 10:30 Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room
 6:00 pm **JuBellation Rehearsal in Sanctuary**
 6:00 **Knitting Group at Tavern on Clark,**
 755 Clark Rd.
 7:00 **Chancel Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room**
 7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 205 & 209

Wed 12/31 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100 & the Parlor

Thu 01/01 **Happy New Year! - Church is Closed**

Fri 01/02 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 01/03

Sunday Epiphany Sunday
01/04 9:00 am Sunday School in Nursery, 310, 309
 10:00 **Sanctuary Worship**
 11:15 Fellowship in the Dining Room

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 28, 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



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.

*1st Sunday after Christmas Day
December 28, 2014*