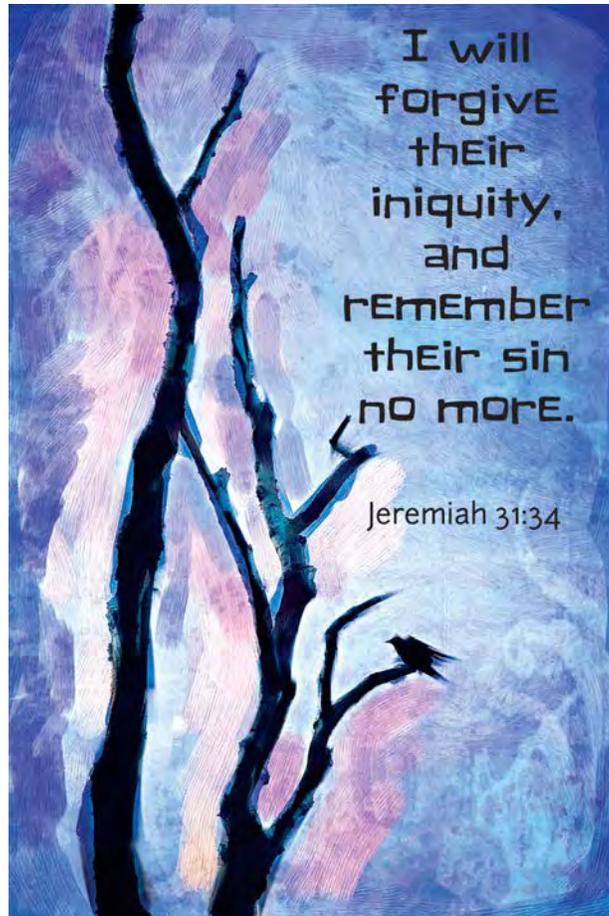


ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

Forging a *Family* of **Faith**



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.

*Epiphany Sunday
January 1, 2017*

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

Covenant Renewal Service

“Covenant Renewal Service” Copyright © 1992 UMPH. Wesley Covenant Service abridged by Ole E. Borgen.

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE

“Service Suite: Prelude”

~ *Charles L. Talmadge*

Ringing of the Bell - Please sign registration sheets and pass to others in your pew.

WELCOME

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

§ **OPENING HYMN UMH #606**

“Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine”

Charles Wesley wrote this hymn specifically for this service.

OPENING PRAYER

~ *David Tripp, Eng. 20th c*

**O God, Searcher of all our hearts,
you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own.
As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace,
and to enter anew into covenant with you,
reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us.
Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being,
and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks for all of God’s mercies.

O God, our Covenant Friend,
you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives.
We thank you for your loving care,
which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have given us life and reason,
and set us in a world filled with your glory.
You have comforted us with family and friends,
and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you,
and have given us your peace.
You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus.
You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit
and the witness of your Church.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have been our light in darkness
and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation.
You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys
and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You remembered us when we forgot you.
You followed us even when we tried to flee from you.
You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you.
For all your patience and overflowing grace.
We praise your holy name, O God.

PROCLAMATION and RESPONSE

Scripture Lesson - Old Testament p. 735

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

§ Gospel Lesson - New Testament p. 109

John 15: 1-8

This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to John.
Glory to you, O God.

Hymn of Response UMH #700

“Abide With Me”

Verse 1: ALL; verse 2: Women; verse 3: Men; verse 4: Women; verse 5: ALL

WESLEY’S COVENANT SERVICE

*Today we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God.
Let us make this covenant of God our own.*

INVITATION

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants.
Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him.
Christ has many services to be done.
Some are more easy and honorable,
 others are more difficult and disgraceful.
Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests,
 others are contrary to both.
In some we may please Christ and please ourselves.
But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ
 except by denying ourselves.
It is necessary, therefore,
 that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

**Let me be your servant, under your command.
I will no longer be my own.
I will give up myself to your will in all things.**

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

Lord, make me what you will.

**I put myself fully into your hands:
put me to doing, put me to suffering,
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and with a willing heart
Give it all to your pleasure and disposal.**

Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants.
He is the source of all salvation to those who obey.
Christ will have no servants except by consent;
Christ will not accept anything except full consent
to all that he requires.
Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing.

Confirm this by a holy covenant.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to this counsel:

First, set apart some time, more than once,
to be spent alone before the Lord;
in seeking earnestly God's special assistance
and gracious acceptance of you;
in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant;
in searching your hearts
whether you have already freely given your life to Christ.
Consider what your sins are.
Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are,
and whether you, after having carefully considered them,
are willing to choose them all.
Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant,
rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength,
so you can keep your promise.
Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful.
You have given to the Lord your hearts,
you have opened your mouths to the Lord,
and you have dedicated yourself to God.
With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord.
Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven,
open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

COVENANT PRAYER

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
Exalted for thee or brought low by thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
To thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Hymn UMH #396

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this, sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.

Signature

Date

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS into OUR CONGREGATION

William Barnhart, Moise Kossike, Beverly Maus, Sylvie Mobio

Please use bulletin insert for this part of the liturgy.

SERVICE OF WORD and TABLE

Please turn to page 12 in the front of The United Methodist Hymnal.

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

“Service Suite: Offertory”

~ Charles L. Talmadge

§ Doxology UMH #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Please remain standing as you are able.

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

The communion bread served is gluten-free so that all may partake of the Holy Sacrament. Come kneel at the rail and when you have been served hear the prayers of our Covenant we have made together.

Communion Music

“Come Back to Me With All Your Heart”

Hymn UMH #593 “Here I Am, Lord”

§ HYMN of SENDING FORTH UMH #254, verses 1-4

“We Three Kings”

§ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Service Suite: Postlude”

~ Charles L. Talmadge

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

- Sun 01/01 Epiphany Sunday - Happy New Year!**
10:00 am **Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
- Mon 01/02 Church is Closed**
- Tue 01/03**
- 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 - 9:00 **Quilters in Room 206**
 - 9:00 **History & Archives in Room 201**
 - 9:00 "Ugly Bag Ladies" in Room 205
 - 10:30 **Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room**
 - 1:00 pm Jeremiah Exec Board in the Library
 - 6:00 **JuBellation Rehearsal in Choir Room**
 - 6:00 **Knitting Group @ Five Forks, 6565 Lexus Drive, Rockford**
 - 7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 202 & 209
 - 7:00 **Chancel Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room**
- Wed 01/04**
- 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 - 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 - 10:30 **UMW Mission Team in Room 209**
 - 4:00 pm **Holy COW! -- **see announcements****
- Thu 01/05**
- 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
 - 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
 - 2:30 pm Early Head Start in Room 100
- Fri 01/06**
- 8:30 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 01/07 9:00 am De-green the Church**
- Sun 01/08 Baptism of Our Lord**
- 9:00 am **'Believe' Study in the Parlor**
 - 9:00 **Sunday School: PreK-grade 5 in 104; grades 6-12 in Balcony West**
 - 9:00 **Lamplighters (Adult Sunday School) in 209**
 - 10:00 **Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
 - 11:15 **Facetime by the Big Bell**
 - 11:15 **Children's Choir, lower level Choir Room**
 - 12:30 pm **Stick Ministry in the Sanctuary**
 - 1:15 **Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets in Room 302**



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!

The 2017 Altar Flower chart is posted outside the church office on the bulletin board. Sign up now to get your favorite date to honor or memorialize someone you love.

Church is Closed - Monday - Jan. 2

Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! on Jan. 4th!

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

- Rev. Rhoads' class in the Library - Adults

5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

- Dinner by Diane in the Dining Room for only \$3.50/person

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

- Men's Fellowship Group in the Parlor



Help de-green the church on Saturday, January 7th, beginning at 9 a.m. All are welcome & needed as we take the decorations down in multiple locations!

Next Sunday, January 8th, 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.

For the month of January, Nurture & Outreach is appropriately collecting shovels for the students at Haskell Academy. We know the children love to help out and this will help more students keep the school grounds safe. You can drop off the shovels in the church narthex by the sign for Haskell Academy. Thank You in advance!

Rockford Dist. Leadership Training Event ~ Saturday, January 28, 2017, Faith UMC of Freeport, 1440 S. Walnut, Freeport, 8am-12:30pm. Workshops offered include: Staff-Parish Relations Committee Work, Trustees Work, The Way of Christ, Best Financial Practices, Church Presence in Neighborhood, Alternate Leadership Structure and Statistical Report. Especially if you are new to a committee, here is a wonderful chance to learn what your committee needs to do. No cost to attend, but they do request that you register by January 25th. To register, please go to: www.umcnic.org/2017RkfdTraining. For more information, call: 815-561-8285.

Join us on Friday, January 20th, 6:30 p.m., at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 3300 Rural St., for a time of prayerful meditation and introspection in the spirit of Taizé. All are welcome to come, by the glow of candlelight, and enter the warmth of God's embrace.

Hey kids! NO SCHOOL

Martin Luther King Day

Let's celebrate



Peace

Monday - January 16

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

for Grades K-8



Crafts, Music, Dance
Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks

More

Only \$20 per person

Scholarships are available on request

Register in the church office

Deadline: Sunday, Jan. 8th

*Ecumenical
Prayer Service
in the Spirit of Taizé*

Come, by the glow
of candlelight,
& enter the warmth
of God's embrace.

Friday, January 20

6:30PM

Our Savior's Lutheran
3300 Rural St.

**Our thanks to Rev. Dr. Norma Lee Kerns Barnhart & Rev. Dr. Richard Wang
for sharing their gifts with us today in this Covenant Renewal Worship.**

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeters: DuWayne & Nancy Stanis

Ushers: Sue Cram

Sound Tech: Ryan Welk

Video Tech: Steve Ripley

Van Driver: Bruce Shindel

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

The Congregation

Calvin Culpepper

Ryanne Ludington

James L. Crow

Teresa Field

James Marck

Diane Lutmer

Verlette Gorman

Lorelle Wandell

Derek Coffman

Luke Kelsey-Powell

Ryan Welk

Ministers

Pastor

Christian Education Director

Director of Arts Ministries

Parish Nurse

Director of Music

Nursery

Church Co-Administrator

Church Co-Administrator

Maintenance Engineer

Custodian

Custodian

cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org

RyanneLudington@sbcglobal.net

JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org

TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org

JamesMarck@courtstreetumc.org

ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org

LorelleWandell@courtstreetumc.org

Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org

Court Street United Methodist Church

215 North Court Street

Church Office: (815) 962-6061

Rockford, IL 61103

Church Fax: (815) 962-9754

www.courtstreetumc.org

Reception into Membership

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism

we are initiated into Christ's holy church.

We are included into God's mighty acts of salvation,

and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation,

and through the reaffirmation of our faith,

we renew the covenant declared at our baptism,

acknowledge what God is doing for us,

and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

I present

William Barnhart

Moise Kossike

Beverly Maus

Sylvie Mobio

to reaffirm their faith.

RENUNCIATION of Sin and Profession of Faith

The pastor addresses Bill, Moise, Beverly, & Sylvie:

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,

reject the evil powers of this world,

and repent of your sin? ***I do.***

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives

you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression

in whatever forms they present themselves? ***I do.***

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,

put your whole trust in his grace,

and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the church which Christ offers

to people of all ages, nations, and races? ***I do.***

According to the grace given to you,
will you remain faithful members
of Christ's holy church and serve
as Christ's representatives in the world? ***I will.***

The pastor addresses the congregation:
Do you, as Christ's body, the church,
reaffirm both your rejection of sin
and your commitment to Christ? ***We do.***

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life
and include these people now before you in your care?

***With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.
We will surround them with a community of love and forgiveness,
that they may grow in their trust of God,
and be found faithful in their service to others.
We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples
who walk in the way that leads to life.***

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith
as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father? ***I believe in God.***
Do you believe in Jesus Christ? ***I believe in Jesus Christ.***
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? ***I believe in the Holy Spirit.***

THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, when nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah you saved those on the
ark through water, and after the flood
you set in the clouds a rainbow, as a sign of your promise.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,
nurtured in the water of a womb,
baptized by John, and anointed by your Spirit.
Jesus called disciples to share in the baptism
of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare God's works to the nations, His glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,
to wash away their sin, and clothe them in righteousness
throughout their lives,
that dying and being raised with Christ,
they may share in Christ's final victory.

***All praise to You, Eternal God, through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.***

Remember your baptism and be thankful. ***Amen.***

RECEPTION into THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Pastor addresses all the candidates:

As a member of Christ's universal church,
will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church,
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries? ***I will.***

RECEPTION into COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST

The Pastor addresses all the candidates:

As members of this congregation,
will you faithfully participate in its ministries
by your prayers, your presence, your gifts,
your service, and your witness? ***I will.***

WELCOME from the Congregation

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.
As members together with you in the body of Christ**

and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant to faithfully participate
in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence, our gifts,
our service, and our witness,
that in everything God may be glorified
through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,
establish you and strengthen you
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
that you may live in grace and peace.



*Welcome
To our Church*

Received
into Membership
William Barnhart
Moise Kossike
Beverly Maus
Sylvie Mobio



January 1, 2017

Court Street United Methodist Church
215 N. Court St. - Rockford, IL 61103

Rev. Calvin Culpepper, Pastor