

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 - Tim Welk, alto saxophone "Away in a Manger"

Lighting of the 4th Advent Candle, Love
Ray Baker, Perky Heath, Megan Thomas

§ Opening Hymn #184 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

First Scripture Reading Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer, #895

§ Second Scripture Lesson Matthew 1:18-25

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves
Offertory- Praise Band & Lance Tuula, guitar
"Christmas in Heaven"

§ Doxology #2036 "Give Thanks"

WE HEAR and SEE GOD'S WORD

"Sleepover at the Stable"

Children's Christmas Pageant

Hymn (FWS) #2129 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

The Young Church Gathers to Worship James L. Crow

Hymn (FWS) #2026 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Benediction

We have gathered, prepared, celebrated and received. Now let us go. Go to encounter and engage your world in such a way that those who meet you have met the incarnational presence of Christ. Know that God goes before you and with you and that you will meet no one along the way whom God has not appointed to be in your path. Amen.

§ Hymn of Sending Forth #206
"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

Postlude - Stick Ministry "My Grown-up Christmas List"

Fellowship Time in the Narthex



Altar flowers are given...

...in celebration of the Christmas season
by Sara Johnson

Christmas Eve

at Court Street UMC 2013

Family Worship

Tuesday • December 24

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Chapel

Candlelight Service

Tuesday • December 24

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Sanctuary



Please join us!

Next Sunday, December 29th, 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.



We welcome you, member or visitor, as we join in worshiping God this morning. We pray you will be blessed.

What do you see? This month we'll focus on the Heraldry of the Apostles. As you are sitting in the Sanctuary facing the altar, you will notice the large wooden screens to the left and to the right of the Chancel, covering the organ pipes. On the top of the screens are

shields, ten of which represent one of the Apostles, the eleventh being ornamental. The ornamental shield is followed by Thomas whose symbol is a carpenter's square and spear. Thomas was said to have built a church in India with his own hands and was killed by a pagan priest with a spear.

**NO Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! on December 25
or January 1 - Holy COW! resumes January 8**

Give your extra, new Christmas cards to our Jail Ministries for the inmates to use. Place in the box so marked in the Narthex. If you are able to, place a stamp on the envelope(s) to help even more.

Thanks to ALL of you for your financial support, for purchasing and wrapping gifts for the children and for your prayers. Because of your generosity, gifts were purchased for 58 children from 31 families in our church neighborhood and in the nearby area. Each child received two gifts on behalf of the incarcerated parent. Thanks also to those of you who helped organize the gifts and deliver the gifts to the families. May God bless you all, for it is in giving that we are richly blessed. We ask that you continue to pray for the incarcerated parents and their families.

Snow Camp 2014! Calling all 5th-12th graders for fun, fellowship, and friends at the Silver Birch Ranch in northern Wisconsin. January 10th-12th. We will be traveling by bus along with the 2nd Con - 1st Pres youth group for a weekend of spiritual growth and winter weather activities. The cost to attend is \$102/student. Scholarships may be available; don't let the cost prevent you from participating! See Ana or the church office for informational brochure and release forms. **Forms and fees due TODAY.**

YOUTH:

All students, grades 5-12, are invited to the Youth Group Christmas Party! TODAY @ 2:00 pm, 10834 Meadowsweet Lane, Roscoe. Everybody should bring a wrapped "white elephant" for our gift exchange game. The price limit is \$10. Aim for something fun (and preferably gender neutral) that you might like to receive. Good places to shop include Five Below and Target. Contact Ana with any questions you might have --- a.kelseypowell@gmail.com or 773-750-5353.

12/29- Youth Room Service Project @ 11:30; lunch provided. Wear old clothes!

YOUNG ADULTS: 12/28- Bowling at Don Carter Lanes (church covers cost of bowling and shoe rentals) 6:00pm.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Steve Ripley **Liturgist:** Andrew Crow
Ushers: The Sue Cram Team **Sound Tech:** Ryan Welk
Van Driver: Dan Boon
Fellowship Hostesses: Geri Ryan & Judy Mehren

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

Today 4th Sunday of Advent

12/22 8:50 am Children's Pageant Rehearsal
9:00 Lamplighters (Adult Sunday School) in 209
10:00 **Worship in the Sanctuary**
11:15 Fellowship Time in the Narthex
11:30 Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets in Balcony East
11:45 THE STORY Study in the Library
2:00 pm Youth Christmas Party at
10834 Meadowsweet Lane, Roscoe

Mon 12/23 8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
9:00 SAFE Program in Rooms 202 & 203
1:00 pm Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym

Tue 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE - Church closes at Noon - reopens for 4:00 p.m. Worship

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
4:00 pm **Family Christmas Worship in the Chapel**
9:30 **Candlelight Worship in the Sanctuary**

Wed 12/25 CHRISTMAS DAY - Church is Closed

Thu 12/26 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
1:00 pm Chimes stuffing in the Library
1:00 Early Head Start in Room 100
1:00 Rosecrance in Room 202 & Gym

Fri 12/27 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

Sat 12/28 6:00 pm Young Adults at Don Carter Lanes

Sunday

12/29 8:50 am Sunday School in the Youth Center
9:00 Lamplighters (Adult Sunday School) in 209
10:00 **Worship in the Sanctuary**
11:15 Fellowship Time in the Parlor
11:30 Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets in Balcony East
11:30 Youth Room Service Project

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

The Congregation	<i>Ministers</i>
Calvin Culpepper	<i>Pastor</i>
cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org	
James Crow	<i>Christian Education Director</i>
JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org	
Ana Kelsey-Powell	<i>Youth & Young Adults</i>
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>
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!

December 22, 2013

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:

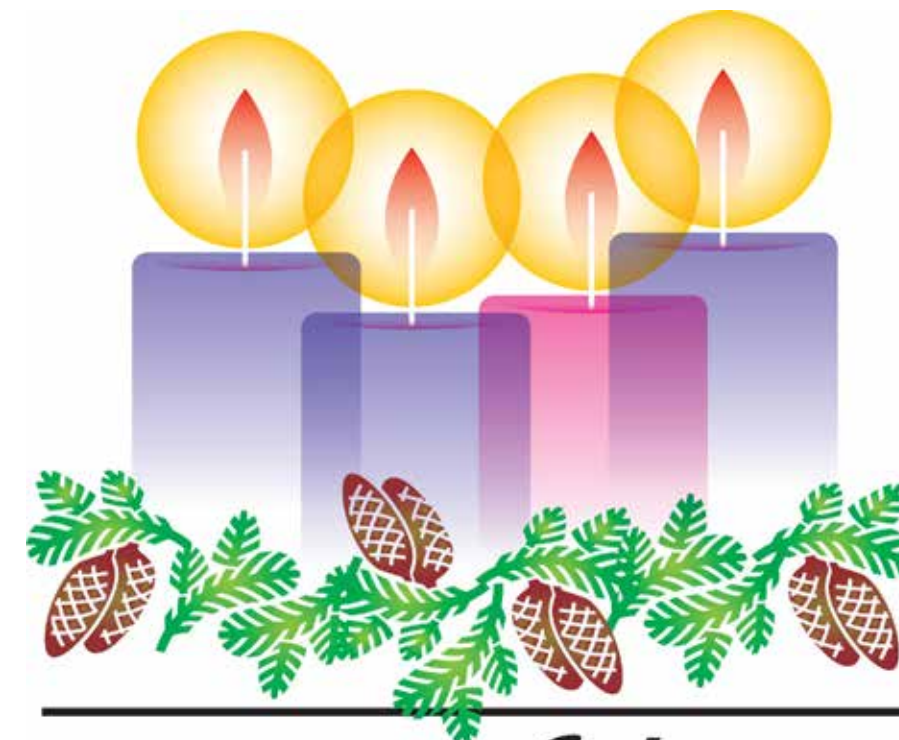
Name _____ age _____ grade _____
Name _____ age _____ grade _____
Name _____ age _____ grade _____

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.

*Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2013*