

Contemporary Service ~ 11:00 am



Countdown

Welcome & Announcements

We welcome you to our service today and invite you to greet each other with words of grace and peace. May God's blessing be upon us all as we worship together in spirit and truth.

* Song "Because of Your Love" P. Baloche

* Song "Great I Am" J. Anderson

Children's Message Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams

* Song "Shout to the Lord" D. Zschech

First Scripture Reading Psalm 25:1-10

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Video "Down to the River"

Second Scripture Reading Mark 1:9-15

Sermon "Remember Your Baptism and Be Thankful" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant See insert

* Closing Song "All My Fountains" C. Tomlin

* Benediction



Children are welcome in worship. We enjoy having kids with us in worship but there is also a special program for them called *Kids Own Worship* that takes place following the Children's Message. For those who wish, nursery care is available for infants and toddlers during the service in Room 100.

Please fill in the registration sheet that is passed around so you will be kept informed about what's happening at the church. Thank you for including your email address.

We welcome you to Holy Communion to experience the grace and love of God. We celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of the month. All who are seeking the grace of God through the presence of Jesus Christ are welcome to the table.

The Offering we give is both an act of thanks and faith – a way to offer back to God some of the blessings we have received and a response of trust that God will take care of us as we rely upon him. You are invited to place your gifts in the Offering Plate on the back table as you leave.

Worship Team: Julie Bakus, Woody Bedell, Jeff Brown, Jeff Davis, Jeanette Frisbey, Tom Seibert, Tim Tonon, Jamie Twedell

Multimedia Coordinators: Mark and Janet Mason

Refreshments: Jeanette Frisbey

Church Calendar

Sunday, February 22, 2015

8:00 AM—Pilgrim Road Study
8:15 AM—First Light Worship Service
(Nursery care available for ages 0-5 years)
9:00 AM—Coffee Time
9:15 AM—Adult Sunday School Class
9:30 AM—Traditional Worship Service
(Nursery care available for ages 0-3 years)
9:30 AM—Sunday School for all ages
(Children begin in service and leave after Children's Message)

10:30 AM—Coffee Time
10:30 AM—Pilgrim Road Study
10:40 AM—Joyful Noise & Choristers
11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship Service
(Nursery care available for ages 0-3 years)
11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship (Children begin in service and leave after Children's Time)

4:00 PM—ALPHA Course
4:00 PM—Confirmation
6:30 PM—SrHI TIDE

Monday, February 23, 2015

7:00 PM—Inquirer's Study Group
7:00 PM—Troop #72

Tuesday, February 24, 2015
9:30 AM—Pilgrim Road Study
12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA
1:00 PM—Disciple 5 Bible Study
7:00 PM—Building Committee
7:00 PM—Faithful Threads
7:00 PM—Pilgrim Road Study
7:00 PM—Lake County Green Congregations

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

9:30 AM—Staff Meeting
9:45 AM—Lectio Divina
1:00 PM—Women's Bible Study
5:30 PM—All Stars
7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE
7:00 PM—Heritage Bells

Thursday, February 26, 2015

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA
6:30 PM—Praise Band
7:00 PM—Building Committee
7:00 PM—Introduction to the New Testament
7:30 PM—Disciple 3
7:30 PM—Adult Choir

Friday, February 27, 2015

7:00 PM—20's Group @ Ben's
Saturday, February 28, 2015
8:00 AM—Men's Study
8:00 AM—Moms' Morning Out (off site)
9:00 AM—United Methodist Men
9:00 AM—Building Committee
11:00 AM—Pack #60 PADS lunches
4:30 PM—PADS Set-Up & PADS

Sunday, March 1, 2015

~ Only ONE Worship Service ~
8:00 AM—Pilgrim Road Study
9:00 AM—Coffee Time
9:30 AM—Combined Worship Service
(Nursery care available for ages 0-3 years)
9:30 AM—Sunday School for children and youth
(Children begin in service and leave after Children's Message)

10:30 AM—Coffee Time
10:45 AM—Special All-Church Conference
4:00 PM—ALPHA Course
4:00 PM—Confirmation
4:00 PM—Children's Choirs
6:30 PM—SrHI TIDE
7:00 PM—Cub Scout Committee

Monday, March 2, 2015

12:00 PM—Prime Time
7:00 PM—Inquirer's Study Group
7:00 PM—Troop #72 Court of Honor

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

9:30 AM—Pilgrim Road Study
12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA
1:00 PM—Disciple 5 Bible Study
7:00 PM—Lake County Green Congregations
7:00 PM—Pilgrim Road Study

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

9:00 AM—MEMOS
9:30 AM—Staff Meeting
9:45 AM—Lectio Divina
1:00 PM—Women's Bible Study
7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE
7:00 PM—Heritage Bells
7:00 PM—BSA District Committee

Thursday, March 5, 2015

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA
6:30 PM—Praise Band
7:00 PM—Introduction to the New Testament
7:30 PM—Disciple 3
7:30 PM—Adult Choir

Friday, March 6, 2015

6:00 PM—Young Couples
7:00 PM—20's Group @ Ben's
Saturday, March 7, 2015
8:00 AM—Men's Study
8:30 AM—Ad Board
4:00 PM—PADS Family Night
4:30 PM—PADS Set-Up & PADS



The United Methodist Church of Libertyville February 22, 2015 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

The Season of Lent

Today's Scripture Passages

The Gospel — Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Psalm — Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

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PASTORS

Stephen C. Williams • Jamie Hanna Williams

First Light Service ~ 8:15 am



Gathering Music "Voluntary in A Major" W. Selby

Welcome & Greeting (Please pass the attendance pads at this time.)
We welcome you to our service today and invite you to greet each other with words of grace and peace. May God's blessing be upon us all as we worship together in spirit and truth.

* Opening Hymn "Come, Thou Almighty King" No. 61

* Call to Worship
Leader Gracious and loving Creator, we come today with joy;
People **We come to celebrate your love in our midst;**
Leader We come here secure and assured --
People **Of your forgiveness and truth,**
Leader Your salvation and joy,
People **Your sustaining love and your alluring will.**
Leader Yet in this hour we know too, and confess our weakness --
People **Our faltering faith and our broken, hurtful lives.**
Leader Lead us, great God, in faith, through the hours and days ahead,
People **To glorify you and serve one another and the world. Amen.**

*Musical Response "Spirit of the Living God" No. 393
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Quiet Reflection and Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading Mark 1:9-15

Sermon "Remember Your Baptism and Be Thankful" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant See insert

Offering / Offertory
* Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94
* Prayer of Dedication

* Closing Hymn "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now" No. 608

* Pastoral Benediction

Postlude



* Those who are able are invited to stand.

Traditional Service ~ 9:30 am



Greetings & Announcements (Please pass the attendance pads at this time.)
We welcome you to our service today and invite you to greet each other with words of grace and peace. May God's blessing be upon us all as we worship together in spirit and truth.

Prelude "Voluntary in A Major" W. Selby

* Call to Worship
Leader Gracious and loving Creator, we come today with joy;
People **We come to celebrate your love in our midst;**
Leader We come here secure and assured --
People **Of your forgiveness and truth,**
Leader Your salvation and joy,
People **Your sustaining love and your alluring will.**
Leader Yet in this hour we know too, and confess our weakness --
People **Our faltering faith and our broken, hurtful lives.**
Leader Lead us, great God, in faith, through the hours and days ahead,
People **To glorify you and serve one another and the world. Amen.**

* Opening Hymn "Come, Thou Almighty King" No. 61

Unison Prayer
Redeemer God, we thank you for the newness of life you offer us in Jesus Christ. As we begin this Lenten journey, cast out our fear and all our diseases. Pour on us the water of your life-giving Spirit, and make us free indeed. Amen.

First Scripture Reading Psalm 25:1-10 Sue Elsea

Children's Message Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams

Anthem "Psalm 100" R. Clausen
Adult Choir; Mary Arendt, piano

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

* Hymn "Spirit Song" No. 347

Scripture Reading Mark 1:9-15

Sermon "Remember Your Baptism and Be Thankful" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

* Those who are able are invited to stand.
** Please consider completing a "Joys and Concerns" card and placing it in the box at the back of the sanctuary. The Pastors and Prayer Team will use the cards to guide weekly prayer. Thank you.

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant See insert

Offering / Offertory "Take My Life, and Let It Be" W. Held
* Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94
* Prayer of Dedication

* Closing Hymn "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now" No. 608

* Pastoral Benediction

Postlude "O Love, How Deep" J. Walther



A Warm Welcome to All!

We are delighted to have all of you sharing with us in worship! If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer to pick up a Visitor Packet and meet our Welcoming Ministries Coordinator, Joyce Bedell (Joyce.Bedell@umcl.org), for more information about our church family. All are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, refreshments, and community sharing from 9:00-11:00 AM. We look forward to seeing you there!



The roses on the altar this morning celebrate the births of Matthew McCormack Ciaglo on February 10, 2015 and Jaxon Wolavka Ciaglo on February 11, 2015. Congratulations to parents David and Kristy, big sister Grace and big brother Aidan!

Many thanks to the following people for helping with our services this morning!

Sound Tech: Bert Kibbler **Acolytes (9:30):** Ushers February Ushers (8:15): Larry Corrigan, Clem Vath (9:30): Rob Kilmer, Bob Kowal, Chris Skinner, Wes Swearingin

Coffee Fellowship: Please join us for coffee and refreshments served in Fellowship Hall (9:00—11:00 AM) and hosted by Youth Council.

UMCL News & Notes ~ February 22, 2015

SPECIAL ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE ON THE BUILDING PROJECT

Next Sunday, March 1, 10:45 AM after the 9:30 AM Worship Service

We will consider and vote on architectural plans, costs, and financial plans related to the proposed building remodeling project that has emerged from our Dream Process. Your voice and vote are important!

Please note there will be only ONE Worship Service on March 1, at 9:30 AM.

Nursery care will be available for children up to 4 years old.

Children and youth in preschool through 7th grade are invited to Room 206 during the Church Conference for movie time and snacks.

All youth who are confirmed or who are full members of the church are invited to be part of the building discussion and voting process.

Childcare questions may be directed to Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org or church office.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS, "A Wondrous Love" by Henri Nouwen and C. S. Lewis, are available in the foyer; family devotionals are also available. Pick one up to read and enrich your Lenten journey!

LAST CALL—LIBERTYVILLE TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY—You may help support the Food Pantry by bringing in the following items by NOON today: **baby cereal, baby wipes, canned potatoes, canned sardines, canned salmon, deodorant, ketchup or mayonnaise.** Please return your donations to the Food Pantry Boxes in the foyer, Christian Education wing, or Fellowship Hall. Contact: Carol Sim-Campbell at simcampbell@comcast.net.

ENDOWMENT EDGE—The Endowment Committee is accepting applications for this year's funding opportunities. Church committees and church members may apply. Pick up an application in the church office or apply online at www.umcl.org/endowment_fund. The deadline is April 3, 2015; but please complete your request as soon as possible. Last year we funded requests from \$300 to \$2,500 and remain excited about this year's applicants.

EXPLORE THE MEANING OF LIFE! You are welcome to attend the ALPHA series on **Sunday** afternoons at church, **4:00—5:15 pm.** ALPHA is a small group study that gives everyone the opportunity to explore the true meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. Foundational questions of our faith will be explored including: Why am I here?; Is there a God?; Who is Jesus?; Why did Jesus die and was he really raised from the dead?; What or who is the Holy Spirit? Contact: Kathy Locke (klocke@ameritech.net) or Jim Stewart (jstew0819@aol.com).

LENTEN STUDY—You are invited to come along on the "Pilgrim Road!" In this small group Lenten study, we will accompany Benedictine Monk Albert Holtz on a fifteen-country pilgrimage journey. Father Holtz shares his gift of seeing the divine in the commonplace, with each reflection inviting us into deeper relationship with God. This study will be offered weekly at four distinct times:

1. **Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM** (Karen Kuhlman, leader, begins Feb. 22).
2. **Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM** (Kathy Locke & Jim Stewart, leaders, begins Feb. 22).
3. **Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM** (Doreen Barton, leader; began Feb. 17)
4. **Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM** (Susie DiCello, leader, began Feb. 17)

Please contact Jim Stewart at jstew0819@aol.com or Kathy Locke at klocke@ameritech.net.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL—It's not too late to participate in the current adult study on Sunday mornings at **9:30 AM** in the New Room (second floor of the C.E. wing). Join us for lively discussions on "Spiritual Simplicity: Doing Less, Loving More" by Chip Ingram. This study is open to all adults, no advance preparation needed, and drop-ins are welcome. Contact: Scott Allen (Scott.R.Allen@jci.com).

MOMS' MORNING OUT—Come join Faith Circle on **Saturday, February 28, 8:00 AM** at Egg Harbor Café for our Mom's Morning Out! We will enjoy a nice relaxing breakfast with delicious food, laughter and conversation! RSVP to Becca Wheeler at r-wheeler@comcast.net.

PRIME TIME will meet **Monday, March 2, 2015 at 12:00 noon** for lunch (\$5). Cathy O'Brien will share pictures and highlights of her tour in Thailand! Please sign-up no later than 10:00 AM on Friday, February 27, at the church office. **Everyone** is welcome to attend the Thailand presentation at 1:00 PM in East Room!

THE ADULT CHOIR invites each and every one of our church members to sing with the choir for Easter. Please contact Jeff Brown at jeff.brown@umcl.org for more information and to sign up for this short-term commitment.

UMCL News & Notes Continued

FAMILY MISSION NIGHT FOR PADS: All members of the church are invited to volunteer on **Saturday, March 7, 4:00—6:00 PM**. In support of our church's PADS mission, we will be making lunches, setting up Fellowship Hall, and cooking dinner. Please contact Amanda to donate supplies or attend this event at Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org.

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY MARCH 8! Girls and adults who have or are participating in Girl Scouts are invited to "show their colors" by acting as a greeter, coffee host or scripture reader on Girl Scout Sunday, March 8. Be sure to wear your badge, sash, vest or one of your pins/emblems on March 8! Please contact Beth March (bethcmarch@aol.com or 847-367-5175) or Jennifer Johnson (jenj823@gmail.com or 847-680-7288).

GREEN LIVING FAIR—Save Saturday, March 14, 10:00 AM—2:00 PM for the annual Green Living Fair at Libertyville Civic Center. Please note: NO electronics recycling this year.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet on **Wednesday evening March 18**, at Libertyville's Feed My Starving Children facility at 742 East Park Avenue. We should arrive at **5:45 PM** so we are prepared to start at 6:00 and our shift will be over at 7:30. We have reservations for 20 people, so please call Mickey Donahue (847.367.4906) to get your name on the list. Following our shift, we will go across the street to Culvers for dinner or dessert! You are invited to come join us for a fun evening.

EASTER PARTY! Children, birth through 5th grade, and their families, are invited to join in an Easter celebration! On **Saturday, March 28, 10:00 AM to Noon**, we will take part in fun games, great stories, imaginative crafts and an exciting EGG HUNT! Lunch will immediately follow in the Fellowship Hall. Families must be registered for this event by March 25. Register online at www.umcl.org/easter-party-registration. Volunteers needed!

FEEDING CHILDREN—Mark your calendars for this "CHURCH FAMILY" event at the "Feed My Starving Children" packing location in Libertyville on **Saturday, April 25, 8:45 —11:00 AM**. More details coming soon.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE—The greatest thing anyone can do for God or man is pray. If you would like to talk with a Stephen Minister, please contact Kevin Garren (847-816-7340), Mary Spooner (847-548-3703) or the Pastors.

ADULT MISSION TRIP—The tornado which lashed across the city of Brookport, Illinois on November 17, 2013 killing four and injuring many more, has still left its scars across east Massac and Pope Counties. Volunteers of every skill level are needed in this vital ministry to rebuild homes and restore hope. This year's trip will take place from **April 19—25**, and we hope you will consider being a part of this life-changing ministry. The participant fee is \$250, which covers transportation, lodging, food, and supplies. Four scholarships are available to cover this cost if you have the desire but not the financial means. We need your commitment as soon as possible and your fee by April 5. Contact Jeff Welch with any questions at jpwelch5@gmail.com or 847-372-6835.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for **March 15** when UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) celebrates its 75th Birthday and you will want to be a part of the celebration. Attend the Children's Choir Musical where "tickets" are a \$.75 free-will offering OR donate items for UMCOR health kits (goal is 75 kits) OR donate (individually or combining resources) an amount containing the number 75 (100 people giving \$.75=\$75.00) AND share info about UMCOR with others. Watch for UMCOR facts as we celebrate.

PADS HELP NEEDED especially for overnight shifts (11:00 PM—3:00 AM or 3:00-6:30 AM) or clean-up (5:30-7:15 AM). Sign up in the PADS book on Sundays or call Cathy O'Brien at 847-367-8062. Remember that while we can always use women's and men's underwear, we don't have space to store additional toiletries, socks, and clothing right now. Thanks for your support!

DINNER BENEFIT FOR PADS—Pizzeria DeVille in downtown Libertyville is hosting their final guest chef charity dinner event on **February 23**. Information and menu is available at www.pizzeriaDeville.com/events. Proceeds will be used in part to support the PADS food pantry.

FEBRUARY SECOND MILE GIVING will help support: 1) **HACES** (Hispanic American Community Education and Services) Located in Waukegan, HACES serves the community with programs focusing on family unification, immigrant family resources, Affordable Care Act assistance, citizenship and naturalization, education, and access to resources. (www.haces.org, or 847-244-0300 to see how you can help. 2) **Society of St. Andrew** This non-profit organization was formed in 1979 and strives to feed people throughout the USA using three main programs: Potato Project, Gleaning Network, and Harvest of Hope. (www.endhunger.org or 1-800-333-4597)

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

Affirmation of Faith

Leader The earth has been sanctified, Lord Jesus, by your holy birth. The heavens with the stars declared your glory. Now the waters are blessed by your baptism in the flesh, and humanity has been restored once more to nobility. Christ is baptized. Coming up from the waters, he carries the universe.

People **God is joined with humanity. As Jesus is baptized, we too are baptized into renewed life. We discover the dignity of being human; we are empowered to forsake the thrall of death. God has sanctified creation: The waters are blessed, as are earth and sky and all creatures. While humans threaten to destroy this world, our Creator works to restore all creation. We join with this God who has joined with us: in upholding human dignity and working to renew our world, in challenging the rule of death and claiming the dominion of life.**

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Since the earliest times, the vows of the Baptismal Covenant have consisted first of the renunciation of all that is evil and then the profession of faith and loyalty to Christ. 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 has opened 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.

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, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant ~ Continued

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father: 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. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

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. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in his final victory.

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

Reaffirmation of Faith

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

Thanksgiving

Let us rejoice in the faithfulness of our covenant God.

We give thanks for all that God has already given us. As members of the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, 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 and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

February 22, 2015



The Building Committee was authorized by the Ad Board in 2013 with the mission to address our Dreams in a brick-and-mortar construction project. In June of last year, we met in an All Church Conference to review the preliminary designs developed in response to the Dream Process and vote to authorize detailed drawings for construction. Since that time, the Building Committee has been working diligently with our Architect to refine the designs for an improved Sanctuary, a new restroom on the second floor of the Education Wing and an inviting New Entrance and Welcoming Area in the East Room location. The scope of work in these three locations has been revised to stay within a reduced budget of between \$2.0 and \$2.25 Million. That new budget amount is based on a financial plan developed to reflect the building program pledges (nearly \$1.4 Million to date), other available sources of funds within the church budget and potential funds from borrowing.

A basic premise of the Building Committee has always been to “do the job right.” That means building a project that meets the dreams of our church, providing the elements we want and the quality we expect at a cost that is within our budget. We do not want to do a job half-way and have to come back later to upgrade or replace parts of the work. You have told us in focus groups and open meetings that the Sanctuary improvements and the new second floor restroom are your highest priorities and improvements to the East Room Entrance and Welcoming Area are very desirable. Therefore, the final design focuses on providing the elements in the Sanctuary and the new restroom and, as budget allows, selected elements of the East Room Entrance and Welcoming Area.

The latest design plans and budget estimates, the proposed financial plan, and the construction schedule and its impact on church operations will be presented at the March 1, 2015, All Church Conference for your review, comments and a vote to give final authorization for the project and construction. We urge you all to attend.

This morning after each worship service, members of the Building Committee will be available at the back of the sanctuary or worship area to listen to your suggestions and attempt to answer your questions, so that you may come on March 1 with as much information as possible, as we decide the future of our building program for the United Methodist Church of Libertyville.

We look forward to sharing the wonderful designs created to carry our church into a bright future!