

GRATITUDE AND GENEROSITY our 2017 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

We hope you received your 2017 Stewardship Campaign packets last Sunday or in the mail this week. They contain a form for your 2017 financial commitment and important information for prayerful review. Enclosed in today's bulletin is a special insert with additional information that we hope will be helpful.

Please join us next Sunday for our Thanksgiving & Celebration Service when we will receive our 2017 commitments and offer them to God! Thank You!!

CHRISTMAS PARTNER ANGELS will be available at church today and on Sunday, November 20. The Blessing of Gifts will take place on Sunday, December 11th, and the gifts will be delivered the following week. You will be able to choose to purchase a gift card or gifts for children. Gifts are delivered to Eddie Washington Center, The Haven, The Harbor Thank you for joining in making this a Merry Christmas for many children and adults! Questions? Contact Jeris Boyce.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE You are invited to attend an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 20 at 4:00 PM at Advocate Condell Centre Club in Libertyville. This will be a service of prayers, readings, music, and reflection. The offerings from this service will be used to support our local food ministries.

HELPING HANDS Our next pick up will be Saturday December 3rd. We are in need of family room, dining room and bedroom furniture that is in very good condition. We are also in need of other household items for the kitchen and bathroom. Please call John McNally at 847-401-5504

PRIME TIME will meet Monday, December 5th at noon for our lunch(\$5) and annual Christmas White Elephant Gift Exchange. Please RSVP to the church office by Thursday, December 1st (847-362-2112 or info@umcl.org)

FAITH CIRCLE Join us on Thursday, December 8th at 9:30 am. We will be having a Christmas gift exchange and providing brunch. Childcare is provided. For more information call Andrea West at 847-356-3846

BLUE CHRISTMAS is a service of worship for those suffering with pain, loss, isolation and grief in the holiday season. Our Stephen Ministry is offering a Blue Christmas Service on December 13, 7:00 in the Sanctuary. We invite you to join us for this service. Please contact Mary Spooner (847-548-3703), Kathy Locke (847-816-6841), Kevin Garren (847-816-7340) or the Pastors for more information.

SECOND MILE GIVING FOR NOVEMBER will help support **Winchester House Chaplaincy Program** - Serving the residents of Lake County for over 100 years, Winchester House offers many services including rehabilitation, memory loss care, long-term skilled nursing, and short-term respite care. The Chaplaincy Program provides an invaluable service by offering pastoral and spiritual care to all residents. To learn more about Winchester House, go to www.winchesterhouse.com, or call 847-377-7200.

ChildServ - This organization, started as an orphanage over 100 years ago, is now a child and family services network for those in Lake, Cook, DuPage, and Kane counties. Their community-based programs seek to improve the lives of at-risk children and reach over 3000 children and families annually. Please see their website www.childserv.org, or call Waukegan office 773-867-7360 for information.

AT THE MANGER is the theme for the 6th Annual UMW Advent Tea to be held on Sunday, December 4th at 3:00 in Fellowship Hall. The committee is planning a joyous afternoon to celebrate the season. Child care will be provided. As in the past, individuals will be decorating tables. We are looking for some table hostesses. If you would like to help with the planning we would love to have you join us. Contact Mickey Donahue (missmickey2005@gmail.com or 847-703-0007)

STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. Mathew 18:20. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Kevin Garren (847-816-7340) Kathy Locke (847-816-6841, Mary Spooner (8/47-548-3703) **LIVE NATIVITY** is on December 18th and your help is needed! If you are interested in helping with set design, set-up, lighting or sound please contact Amanda at Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org. Many hands make light work! **CALLING ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH** (3rd to 12th grade) we need stars on our Live Nativity stage! Some characters have speaking parts while others just put on their best smile and act. If anyone is interested in being a part of this Christmas event contact Amanda Seibert to sign-up.

Calendar

Sunday, November 13, 2016

Stephen Ministry Commissioning
8:00 AM—Cornerstone
8:15 AM—Explorers Class
9:00 AM—Coffee Time
9:00 AM—Choristers
9:30 AM—Journey of Faith
9:30 AM— Traditional Service
9:30 AM— B.I.G. Time
11:00 AM— Contemporary Service
11:00 AM—Kids Own Worship
4:00 PM—Confirmation
4:00 PM—Racial Justice
6:30 PM—Senior High Youth

Monday, November 14, 2016

10:00 AM—Lectio
1:00 PM—Book Talkers
7:00 PM—Inquirers
7:00 PM—Outreach
7:30 PM—Troop 72 Meeting
Tuesday, November 15, 2016
9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth
9:30 AM—Priscilla Circle
12:00 PM— AA/Living Free
6:30 PM—Nominating
7:00 PM—Stephen Ministry
7:30 PM— AA/Living Free

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

9:30 AM—Staff Meeting
1:00 PM—Women's Bible Study
6:00 PM—Heritage Bells
7:00 PM—Resource Committee
7:00 PM—Ruth Circle
7:00 PM—Jr. High Tide
Thursday, November 17, 2016
12:00PM—Living Free/AA
7:00 PM—Many Ways to Pray Class
7:30 PM—Choir

Friday, November 18, 2016

No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, November 19, 2016
8:00 AM—Men's Bible Study
7:30 AM—Boy Scout Council
12:00 PM—Praise Band
4:30 PM—PADS

Sunday, November 20, 2016

8:00 AM—Cornerstone
8:15 AM—Explorers Class
9:00 AM—Bake Sale
9:00 AM—Coffee Time
9:00 AM—Choristers
9:30 AM—Journey of Faith
9:30 AM— Traditional Service
9:30 AM— B.I.G. Time
11:00 AM— Contemporary Service
11:00 AM—Kids Own Worship
4:00 PM—Confirmation
4:00 PM—Racial Justice
6:30 PM—Senior High Youth

Monday, November 21, 2016

10:00 AM—Lectio
7:00 PM—Inquirers
7:30 PM—Troop 72 Meeting
Tuesday, November 22, 2016
8:45 AM—Memos
9:30 AM—Women's S. G.- Offsite
12:00 PM— AA/Living Free
7:00 PM—Thanksgiving Service
7:30 PM— AA/Living Free

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

12:00 PM—Office Closes
Thursday, November 24, 2016
Thanksgiving Day
12:00PM—Living Free/AA
Friday, November 25, 2016
No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, November 26, 2016
12:00 PM—Praise Band
4:30 PM—PADS



The United Methodist Church
of Libertyville
November 13, 2016
9:30 & 11:00 AM

The Season of Kingdomtide
Gratitude and Generosity

Today's Scripture Passage

2 Corinthians 8:1-7

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints— and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.



 **PASTORS**
Stephen C. Williams • Jamie Hanna Williams
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Traditional Service ~ 9:30 am



Gathering Music

Greeting & 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.

Thank you for passing the attendance pads at this time.

Prelude "Shall We Gather at the River?" J. Raney
Cynthia Nash-Frye, Piano

***Call to Worship** Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

Leader Let us rejoice, for morning has dawned. A new day has been born, and we are newly alive to enjoy it.

People We know the beauty of God's creation and the wonder of our human community. We remember those whose love has shaped our lives and those who have ministered to us in the strength of God's Spirit.

Leader We gather in the church to worship God, to share prayers and gifts, to consecrate servants of Christ, and to pledge ourselves to God's work in the world.

People May God bless us, so that what we do in this time together may be honest, sacred, and filled with hope. Amen.

***Congregational Hymn** "Holy, Holy, Holy" No. 64

Unison Prayer

God, with great gentleness and care, you call us to be your people and to do your work. Be here with us today, for we come, asking for your support in all that we do. We need your love, transforming our lives in hope. Be with us, we pray. Amen.

Children's Special Music "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" Joyful Noise
"Thank You" Choristers

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

Scripture Reading Acts 6:1-7

Consecration and Commissioning of Stephen Ministers

Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams & Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams
Mary Spooner, Kevin Garren, Kathy Locke

* 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 Fellowship Hall. The Pastors and Prayer Team will use the cards to guide weekly prayer. Thank you.

***Hymn** "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" No. 273

Word of Witness Jim Stewart, Stephen Minister

Anthem "Great Day" M. Hogan
Jeff Brown, Soloist Adult Choir

Musical Response "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" K. Medema
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Sermon "Grace-filled Giving" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

Offering "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" M. McDonald
*Doxology No. 94
*Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn Of Dedication** "Many Gifts, One Spirit" No. 114

*Pastoral Benediction

Postlude "Praise to the Lord" D. Cherwien



The flowers that decorate the altar today are given by Gillian Klappenbach in loving memory of Edward Klappenbach on the occasion of their Wedding Anniversary, November 13th.

A Warm Welcome to All!

We are so glad you have chosen to share with us in worship this morning! All are invited to stay after the service for coffee, refreshments, and sharing in the Community Room.

If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Desk at the East entrance to the church to pick up a Visitor Packet and meet our welcoming Ministries Coordinator, Joyce Bedell (Joyce.Bedell@umcl.org) We look forward to meeting you!

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

Sound Techs: Mark Mason, Janet Mason, Daniel Fouts
Ushers: Jane & John Aten, Bob Kowal, and Clem Vath

Choir Director: Dr. Jeff Brown

Music Director & Organist: Mr. James Grace
Please join us for Coffee Fellowship today.
The cake is provided by Stephen Ministers

Contemporary Service ~ 11:00 am



Gathering

Special Music "Thanksgiving Day" & "Thank You Jesus" Cherubs
"Every Time I Feel the Spirit" & "I Am a Christian" Joyful Noise Choir

Worship Together "Joy" Rend Collective

Prayer Ben Hallett

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

Celebration & Recognition of Stephen Ministers and Prayer

Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams & Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams
Mary Spooner, Kevin Garren, Kathy Locke

Announcements & Greeting Each Other

Community Share & Prayer

Sharing Joys & Concerns
Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Worship Together "It Is Well" Bethel Music

Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Message "Grace-filled Giving" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

Offertory Worship "Remedy" D. Crowder Band

Blessing



Worship Team: Woody Bedell, David Bedell, Ben Hallett, Gina Furner
Dan Joyce, Tom Seibert and Tim Tonon

Multimedia Coordinators: Jessie Nixon & Spencer Vang

Head Usher: Jayden Montgomery

Director of Contemporary Worship and Wonder Rush Band: Ben Hallett

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 meets in room 201 during the service. Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers in Room 100. **Thank you for completing the registration sheet** that is passed around (including email) so we can keep you informed on news of the church.

Giving in Gratitude and Generosity Stewardship Campaign 2017

How should I give to the church?

When I was serving my first church in Wheaton, I had a wonderful, young Finance Chairman who had grown up in the church but had never been a part of the church's inner workings. When talking about giving to the congregation he shared, "I always thought giving to the church was like paying when you go to the movies – if you go, you put something in the plate; if you don't go, you don't give." His honest and humorous sharing of his experience helped people rethink their giving practices as he went on to explain the importance of planned giving and annual commitments to support church ministry.

In the pie chart on back, you will see the total 2016 General Fund Budget that supports the infrastructure and the many ministries of our church. The total budget for 2016 is \$902,650. We have not determined the 2017 Budget but anticipate a slight increase for healthy growth.

Folks who are new to the church often ask, "How do I decide what to give to the church?" There are many ways people go about deciding what to give to the church in an annual commitment.

The oldest and foundational idea comes from the biblical tithe. God commanded Israel to give 10% (a tithe) of their resources to the temple as a way to honor God and show dependence upon Him, have a right relationship to money, and provide for the ministry. Jesus assumed that people would be following this commandment but invited them to go deeper and give all of themselves to God, in some cases calling people to give everything they had to the poor. (Luke 18:18-30)

John Wesley, who founded the Methodist Church, gave the clear direction; "Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can." In 1789, he expressed concern because he thought folks were following the first rule but were lax in the second two. Wesley's own commitment to giving was consistent throughout his life. As a student at Oxford, he lived on 28 pounds a year. As his earnings increased to 30 and eventually 120 pounds annually, he continued to live on the same 28 pounds and give the rest away.

Historically, church people have waived in their giving. In 1933, at the depth of the Great Depression, Protestants in eleven denominations in the US and Canada, gave 3.3% of their annual income to the church. In 2012, that percentage had dropped to 2.3%.

Some people plan to give based on the church budget and need. If there are 250 active families giving to the church and the budget is \$900,000, dividing up the cost would mean each family should be giving \$3600.

Over

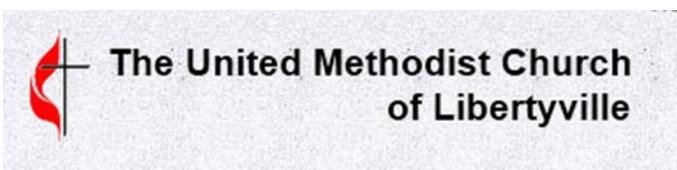
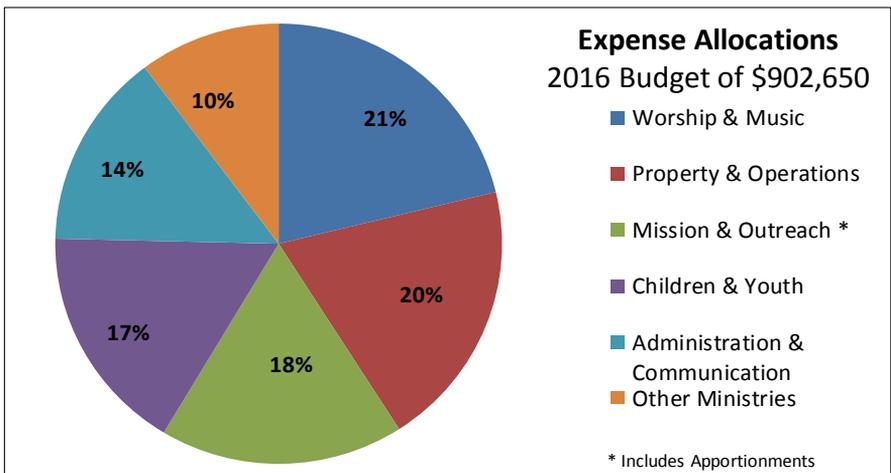
What should you give? The Apostle Paul encouraged people to give from the heart with a spirit of generosity and a healthy dependence upon and confidence in God.

“The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully, will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

What is generous, grateful, faithful giving? Each person must pray and consider what God is calling them to do. This church has a wonderful future and we invite you to support that future through your good stewardship and faithful giving.

You should have received your Stewardship materials with commitment forms last Sunday or in the mail this week. If not, please contact the pastors or email Ruth Ross in the office. We also have a Stewardship Corner in the Community Room with extra copies of these materials.

We look forward to seeing you in worship next Sunday, November 20, when we will receive our commitments and offerings with joy and thanksgiving and consecrate them to God. Thank you!



An Invitation to Commissioning

Today our congregation will commission our Stephen Ministers. Throughout history, when God has called people to special ministry, members of their community have commissioned them for the important new work they are taking on. Now we invite you to help carry on that biblical tradition by being a part of commissioning those who have responded to God's call to our congregation's Stephen Ministry.

Our Stephen Ministers have completed substantial training to equip them for their task. We now lay hands on them, pray for them, and send them out to minister, asking for God's blessing and the Spirit's wisdom and power.

This commissioning service offers an opportunity to show our support for this ministry. Our Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders will depend on our support in the time ahead as they assume the duties of their ministry.

We ask your prayers for our Stephen Leaders, our Stephen Ministers, and their care receivers. This ministry calls for both time and effort. At times they may feel tired, discouraged, or convinced that they are not accomplishing anything. The assurance of our prayers and appreciation will help them keep moving forward.

We can also affirm and show our appreciation for this valuable ministry. We can tell them how much their work means to us, tell others how much we value our Stephen Ministry, and focus attention on our Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders to bless and affirm them in special ways—as we do with our commissioning service.

We can become involved in this ministry in many ways. Some of us may recognize a call to use our special gifts in this ministry and may apply to be a Stephen Minister or Stephen Leader. Others may accept the care of a Stephen Minister. We can be ministers of referral, watching for people in need and suggesting a Stephen Minister's care. We can give our enthusiastic support by keeping Stephen Ministry always before us and by praying for and affirming those who have answered God's call to serve in this way.

As we commission our newly trained Stephen Ministers, let us thank God for all that they will bring to this congregation in providing care to others, and let us promise them our daily prayers and support as we send them out to minister among us.





Today we are commissioning our new Stephen Ministers.
They are:

Susie Dicello
Erin Mayes
John McNally
Cheryl New
Lyn Padden
Carol Sim-Campbell
Jim Stewart

They have received 50 hours of specialized training in Christian caregiving and join our active Stephen Ministers serving our congregation and community. Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a crisis or going through a difficult time. Stephen Ministers meet with their care receivers to listen, care, encourage, pray and provide emotional and spiritual support for them. Caring relationships last for as long as the person needs.

Please pray for our new Stephen Ministers; ask God to bless their ministry and work through them to bring hope and healing to those whom they serve. Pray also for the ongoing ministry of our current and past Stephen Ministers.

We welcome Kathy Locke who is returning to this ministry to serve as a Stephen Leader. May God guide us as we serve as Stephen Leaders.

Kevin Garren
Kathy Locke
Mary Spooner

