

The United Methodist Church of Libertyville  
Giving in Gratitude, November 22, 2015

  
Traditional Service ~ 9:30 am

**Greetings and 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** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" J. Raney

**\* Call To Worship**

**Leader** Out of the fullness of the lives God has given us we have come to worship and to praise.

**People** With thanks we offer to God the creativity of our minds, the warmth of our hearts, and the joy of our spirits.

**Leader** We give because God has first given to us, abundance and blessing and grace and salvation.

**People** With glad hearts we join together in praise to God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**\* Opening Hymn** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" No. 89

**Unison Prayer**

Wonderful, amazing God, we gather as those who have caught a glimpse of the glory and goodness you intend for your creation. The dream you give us makes us ever restless in this world, as we yearn for a fuller revelation of your kingdom in time and history. Free us from all bondage to sin, selfishness and futility; make us your true daughters and sons, through the creative power of your Holy Spirit, at work within us.

**Musical Response** "Amen" No. 898

**First Scripture Reading** Psalm 100 Steve Neil

**Anthem** "Festival Sanctus"  
Adult Choir

\* 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 Fellowship Hall.

UMCL News & Notes Continued

OUR FOURTH ANNUAL LIVE NATIVITY is planned for **Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 pm** at Cook Park. Come see our live performance of the Christmas story, acted out by our very own children and youth. Following the performance everyone is invited to our church to enjoy cocoa, coffee and cookies in our **New Community Room!** Invite your friends and neighbors!

LOVE IN ACTION is an opportunity for faith, fellowship and service during the Advent season! Women and children of all ages are invited to come together for this celebration of the season on **Sunday, December 6, 3:00-5:00 pm**. In lieu of the UMW Advent Tea, we will be assembling UMCOR health kits and learning about their purpose, as well as enjoying snacks, holiday music and fellowship. Watch for details about the items needed for the kits and how to make a financial donation if you'd rather not shop. Sign up starting today!

CHRISTMAS PARTNER ANGELS will be available next Sunday in the back of Fellowship Hall. Come between the services to pick up your angel. The Blessing of the Gifts will take place on **Sunday, December 6**. You will be able to choose to purchase a gift card or gifts for children. Thank you for helping to make this a Merry Christmas for many! Questions? Contact Jeris Boyce.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE.... For all the joy Christmas can hold, it holds the potential for sorrow as well. The holiday season can be a painful time because of a death in the family, a lost or broken relationship, or painful memories of the past. Stephen Ministry of UMCL is offering an ecumenical remembrance service on **Tuesday, December 8, 7:00 pm** at St. Lawrence Episcopal Church (125 W Church Street, Libertyville). We invite you to attend this worship service for those suffering with pain, loss, isolation and grief in the holiday season. Details: Mary Spooner (847-548-3703), Kevin Garren (847-816-7340) or the Pastors.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE OPENS NEXT WEEKEND, featuring beautiful fresh trees from Wisconsin. Proceeds from the sale support our Boy Scout Troop as well as ministries through the UMCL Men's group. The sale runs daily from **November 27 to December 19**. **Tree Sale Hours: Opening Friday, November 27: 9:00 am—5:00 pm; Saturdays, 9:00 am—9:00 pm; Sundays, 12:00—8:00 pm, Monday-Friday: 6:00—9:00 pm**. Volunteers are needed! If you can help with the sale, please contact Bert Kibbler at bertkibbler@gmail.com or 847-858-1456.

PRIME TIME will meet **Monday, December 7**. Lunch (\$5) will be served at **noon**. December is time for our 'White Elephant' exchange... wrap up that item around the house you no longer want or the gift you received last December! Where else can you give a gift that cost you zero \$, receive an interesting gift in return and socialize with friends! PLEASE remember to make a reservation with the church office before Friday, December 4 at 10:00 AM.

ASP 2016 (Appalachian Service Project) is scheduled for **June 11-18** in Kentucky, for high school youth and adult leaders. Anyone (incoming freshman in fall 2016 or older) is welcome to participate. Total cost of the trip is \$325; \$100 deposit due **December 1**. Contact Steve Neil (sbnail@comcast.net or 224-475-8701).

PADS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, especially overnight and clean-up shifts, as well as folks willing to bring in dinners on the 2nd or 4th Saturdays of the month. Contact Cathy O'Brien at 847-367-8062 or cobrien1021@hotmail.com to find out how you can help!

## UMCL News & Notes ~ November 22, 2015

**GIVING IN GRATITUDE**—Today is **Celebration and Commitment Sunday** for our fall Stewardship Campaign, Giving in Gratitude. We appreciate your participation as we have decorated our tree with words and our walls with children's pictures of gratitude, heard testimonials from our members, carefully read the materials and prayed about our giving for the coming year, and will offer ourselves, our gifts and commitments to God in the Celebration Offering today.

- Thank You for all you have given and plan to give!
- We hope you will stay and enjoy the special **Thanksgiving Coffee** sponsored by the Resource Committee. Many Thanks to Ruth Ross, DeLynn Vang, and other volunteers who have helped with the Stewardship Campaign this year!
- The Building Committee is offering **tours of the sanctuary and community room** today between 10:30 and 11:00. Please join us and continue to give thanks to God!

**THIS YEAR'S THANKSGIVING OFFERING** will go in its entirety to help the neediest in our community through the Benevolence Fund. Thanksgiving offering envelopes can be found in the attendance folders; checks can be made payable to UMCL with "Thanksgiving" noted on the check.

**BAKE SALE FOR PANAMA MISSION:** The annual bake sale to raise money for medicine needed for the Panama Mission trip is TODAY! Thanks for stopping by the back of Fellowship Hall to purchase an apple pie or another delicious treat to support our mission to Panama.

**THANKSGIVING WORSHIP**—Come for a night of gratitude, worship, and pie on Tuesday, November 24, at 7:00 pm. We'll gather for a short 45-minute time of testimony and song, meant to nudge our hearts toward greater gratitude this Thanksgiving and coming Advent season, with much pie to follow! Come sing, smell, and taste! (Nursery provided.)

**DO YOU HAVE A REDEMPTIVE STORY TO TELL?** We are looking for a couple of people who are willing to share a testimony with the congregation at our Thanksgiving Worship Service on Tuesday, November 24, at 7:00 pm. If you'd be willing to share your story, please contact Ben.Hallett@umcl.org

**FAMILY SUNDAY**—Please join us next Sunday, **November 29**, for Family Sunday! There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL for children and youth. Kids of all ages will join us during the 9:30 & 11:00 am services as we discover and celebrate Advent. If you have some **purple** clothes or accessories please wear it on the 29th to help us ring in the Advent Season!

**ADVENT STUDIES!** Sign up TODAY to be part of one of these 4-week Advent Studies:

- "Under Wraps"
  - ~ Sunday Morning @ 8:00 am, starts November 29, with Karen Kuhlman
  - ~ Monday Morning @ 10:00 am, starts November 30, with Mary Ann Burson
  - ~ Wednesday Evening @ 7:00 pm, starts Dec. 2, with Kara Lehnhardt & Jim Stewart
- "Watch For The Light"
  - ~ Saturday Morning @ 8:45 am, starts November 28, with Ben Hallett

Please sign up in the back of Fellowship Hall or by emailing Ben (ben.hallett@umcl.org) with which class you'd like to attend. Daily Devotionals are also available for personal study.

## \*\* Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

### Pastoral Prayer ~ The Lord's Prayer

\* Hymn "Seek Ye First" No. 405

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 6:25-33

Sermon "Faith and the Kingdom of God" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

### Celebration Offering of Gifts and Commitments ~ The Fruit of Our Gratitude

We invite you to come forward during this time and place your tithes, offerings and 2016 Financial Commitments in the baskets by the Thanksgiving Tree. The Choir will lead us in the hymn, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," No. 694. You are invited to sing when you are able.

#### \* Prayer of Dedication

**Loving God, we respond to you with joy as we bring forward our tithes, offerings and commitments. The opportunity to share is a blessing for which we are very thankful. Your great generosity prompts us to be generous in return. Accomplish your dreams and purposes, we pray, through these gifts and in our lives. Amen.**

\* Closing Hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" No. 102

#### \* Pastoral Benediction

#### \* Choral Benediction

Postlude "How Firm A Foundation" K. Renfrow



Today's altar arrangement is in recognition of our faith community and all we have to be thankful for!

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

Sound Tech: Darin Chartier

November Ushers: John Aten, Rob Kilmer, Bob Kowal, Chris Skinner

Coffee Time: Please join us for coffee and refreshments between services, hosted by the Resource Committee.

*Contemporary Service ~ 11:00 am*

*Gathering Into Worship*

*\*Opening Song*                      “Give Me Faith”                      M. Brock

*\* Scripture*                              Psalm 100                              Steve Neil

*\*Song*                                      “Good Good Father”                      A. Brown

*Announcements & Greetings*

*Congregational Prayer and Lord’s Prayer*                      Ben Hallett

*Message & Scripture*                      Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams  
“Faith and The Kingdom of God” ~ Matthew 6:25-33

*Offering*                                      “Daily Bread”                              Strahan

*Prayer*

*\*Song*                                      “Seek Ye First”                              K. Lafferty

*Scattering into the World*



**Worship Team:** David Bedell, Woody Bedell, Ben Hallett, Jacqueline Hallett  
Heidi Nelson, Tom Seibert, Tim Tonon, Jennifer Whittington

**Multimedia Coordinators:** Connor Clausen, Mark and Janet Mason

**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.

*Today’s Scripture Passages*

**Psalm 100**

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.*

*Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.*

*Know that the Lord is God.*

*It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.*

*Give thanks to him, bless his name.*

*For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

**Matthew 6:25-33**

*Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*



**A Warm Welcome to All!**

We are so glad you have chosen to share with us in worship this morning! If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by the Welcome Table at the entrance to Fellowship Hall 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 stay after the service for coffee, refreshments, and community sharing. We look forward to meeting you!

# Church Calendar

## Sunday, November 22, 2015

~ Celebration Sunday ~

8:00 AM—Adult Sunday School Class

8:15 AM—Adult Sunday School Class

9:00 AM—Cherub Choir

9:30 AM—Traditional Worship Service

(Nursery care available for ages 0-3.5 years)

9:30 AM—B.I.G. Time (Believers In God /

Children's Sunday School; room 206)

9:30 AM—Youth & Adult Sunday School

10:30 AM—Coffee Time

10:40 AM—God's Soul Girls

11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship Service

(Nursery care available for ages 0-3.5 years)

11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship (room 201)

4:30 PM—Joyful Noise & Choristers

6:30 PM—SrHI Tide

## Monday, November 23, 2015

5:45 PM—Daisy Girl Scouts

7:00 PM—Inquirers' Study

7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)

7:00 PM—Troop #72

## Tuesday, November 24, 2015

9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth

12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA

7:00 PM—Thanksgiving Worship

## Wednesday, November 25, 2015

9:15 AM—Staff Meeting

9:45 AM—Lectio Divina

## Thursday, November 26, 2015

~ Happy Thanksgiving! ~

~ Office Closed ~

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA

## Friday, November 27, 2015

~ Office Closed ~

9:00 AM—Christmas Tree Sale Begins

## Saturday, November 28, 2015

8:45 AM—“Watch for the Light” Advent Study

9:00 AM—Christmas Tree Sale

5:00 PM—PADS (off site)

## Sunday, November 29, 2015

~ Family Sunday ~ First Sunday of Advent ~

8:00 AM—Adult Sunday School Class

8:15 AM—Adult Sunday School Class

9:00 AM—Cherub Choir

9:30 AM—Traditional Worship Service

(Nursery care available for ages 0-3.5 years)

9:30 AM—Adult Sunday School Class

10:30 AM—Coffee Time

10:40 AM—God's Soul Girls

11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship Service

(Nursery care available for ages 0-3.5 years)

11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship (room 201)

4:30 PM—Joyful Noise & Choristers

6:30 PM—SrHI Tide

## Monday, November 30, 2015

10:00 AM—“Under Wraps” Advent Study

7:00 PM—Inquirers' Study

7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)

7:00 PM—Troop #72

## Tuesday, December 1, 2015

9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth

12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA

7:00 PM—Resource Committee

## Wednesday, December 2, 2015

8:45 AM—Memos

9:15 AM—Staff Meeting

9:45 AM—Lectio Divina

7:00 PM—Heritage Bells

7:00 PM—BSA District Committee

7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE

7:00 PM—“Under Wraps” Advent Study

## Thursday, December 3, 2015

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA

7:00 PM—Disciple 4

7:30 PM—Adult Choir

7:30 PM—Praise Band (off site)

## Friday, December 4, 2015

7:00 PM—First Friday Friends (off site)

## Saturday, December 5, 2015

8:45 AM—“Watch for the Light” Advent Study

5:00 PM—PADS (off site)

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Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams & Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams