



# The United Methodist Church of Libertyville

December 22, 2013  
8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 AM



## Today's Scripture Passage

**N**ow the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

—Matthew 1:18-25

*A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION*

PASTORS

Jamie Hanna Williams • Stephen C. Williams

## *First Light Service ~ 8:15 AM*



**Gathering Music** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" D. Wagner  
Cynthia Nash-Frye, piano

**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** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 230

### \* **Call to Worship**

**Leader:** Behold! God is good, and has set a star in the heavens to guide us to the truth.

**People:** **We follow it with joy, knowing that God will give us strength to climb the hills, and sight to conquer the darkness.**

**Leader:** Behold! God is good, and has promised us a light to lead us to righteousness, a Savior, even Christ the Lord.

**People:** **We await the Savior's birth with gladness and with expectation that in the holy birth our lives may be renewed.**

**Leader:** Come with wonder. Come with joy. Take your place with shepherds and wise men and angels and the very stars of heaven.

**People:** **O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

\* **Musical Prayer** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" No. 420, verse 1  
Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

The Corrigan Family ~ Larry, Marni, Mikaila & Kelsey

Introduction

Scripture Reading Luke 1:47-55

Advent Reading

Lighting the Candle of Love

Advent Song "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 234, verses 1 & 5

### **Quiet Reflection and Prayer**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 1:18-25

**Sermon** "A Father's Love" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

**Offering / Offertory** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" D. Wagner

\* Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94

\* Prayer of Dedication

**Celebration of Holy Communion** UM Hymnal, page 13  
Gluten free wafers are available in the center tray.

\* **Closing Hymn** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" No. 240

### \* **Pastoral Benediction**

**Postlude**



## 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** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" D. Wagner  
Cynthia Nash-Frye, piano

### \* Call to Worship

**Leader:** Behold! God is good, and has set a star in the heavens to guide us to the truth.

**People:** **We follow it with joy, knowing that God will give us strength to climb the hills, and sight to conquer the darkness.**

**Leader:** Behold! God is good, and has promised us a light to lead us to righteousness, a Savior, even Christ the Lord.

**People:** **We await the Savior's birth with gladness and with expectation that in the holy birth our lives may be renewed.**

**Leader:** Come with wonder. Come with joy. Take your place with shepherds and wise men and angels and the very stars of heaven.

**People:** **O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**\* Opening Hymn** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 230

### Prayer of Confession

**Amazing God, you have confounded the wisdom of this world by coming to us in the form of a human baby, frail and vulnerable. Help us to comprehend the great love with which you open yourself to the world, that we in turn may risk opening ourselves in love to all your children, and that we may find the source of our lives in Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.**

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Hetzel Family ~ Charles, Sarah, Wills, Cecily

Introduction

Scripture Reading Luke 1:47-55

Advent Reading

Lighting the Candle of Love

Advent Song "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 234, verses 1 & 5

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

**Celebration of Holy Baptism** UM Hymnal, page 39

Jason and Kara Lehnhardt present their daughter, Alaina Lillian,  
for Holy Baptism this morning. Participating in the  
Sacrament of Baptism is Rev. Bill Landis, grandfather of Alaina.

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\* 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!



## 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** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Wade

\* **Song** "The First Noel" Crowder

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** The Finley Family ~ Brett, Jill, Lake & Lillian

Introduction

Scripture Reading Luke 1:47-55

Advent Reading

Lighting the Candle of Love

Advent Song "Emmanuel" Morgan

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

**Scripture** Isaiah 7:10-16

#### Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

**Scripture** Matthew 1:18-25

**Sermon** "A Father's Love" Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams

\* **Closing Song** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Baloché

\* **Benediction**



#### Service Notes

**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.

**Please fill in the registration sheet** that is passed around so you will be kept informed about what's happening at the church. Remember to include 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.

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

**Multimedia Coordinators:** Mark & Janet Mason

**Refreshments:** Charlotte Allen

## UMCL News & Notes ~ December 22, 2013

### **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES**

*Celebrate the birth of Christ by coming to worship on Christmas Eve!*

- \* 4:00 PM ~ Family Service
- \* 7:00 PM ~ Traditional Service
- \* 10:00 PM ~ Traditional Service with Communion

Nursery Care available for 4:00 & 7:00 PM Services.

**ONE SERVICE ONLY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 9:30 AM.** Please join us for Christmastide Worship on Sunday, December 29, when we will all worship together at the 9:30 AM service. Youth Pastor Ben Hallett will be preaching and Jonathan Dahmer will share a Word of Witness.

**THANK YOU!** Amanda Seibert and the Children's Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who helped out with the Live Nativity on December 15th. Thank you to our amazingly talented cast, our dedicated volunteers and everyone who braved the cold to come out to another successful performance! Thank you as well to Jan Grigsby, Judy Awe and all those who donated cookies and helped with the reception after the Nativity!

**A MORAVIAN STAR** is an illuminated piece of Advent or Christmas decoration popular in Germany and in places in America and Europe where there are Moravian congregations. Moravian Stars take their English name from the Moravian Church. In Germany they are known as Herrnhut stars, named for the Moravian Mother Community in Saxony, Germany. The first Moravian star is known to have originated in the 1830s at the Moravian Boy's School in Niesky, Germany, most probably as a geometry lesson or project. Around 1880, Peter Verbeek, an alumnus of the school, began making the stars and their instructions available for sale through his bookstore. His son Harry went on to found the Herrnhut Star Factory, which was the main source of stars until World War I. Our Moravian Star is from the Moravian Church in Ephraim, Wisconsin in Door County.

**BLESSINGS BULLETIN BOARD**—The Building Committee is hard at work to help us accomplish some of our Dreams and Wishes for the church! Please be sure to check out the Blessings Bulletin Board at the back of the sanctuary to see all the hopes that have been or are in the process of being fulfilled and the dreams we are still hoping to see realized. We rejoice at these many blessings!

**PAJAMA SUNDAY—January 5, 2014!** Back by popular demand! All children and youth are invited to wear their pajamas to worship and Sunday School on January 5. We will serve breakfast treats and have a special activity during Sunday School. Don't hibernate! Come and join us!

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** for our Sunday School and Kids Own Worship programs, and also to help with our Special Children and Family Events this winter, including Family Game Night, Valentine's Day Dance, Family Mission Nights and the Easter Egg Hunt. We will have a training event on **Sunday, January 5, 2014 at noon**. Lunch will be provided but you must RSVP in advance. If you cannot make the meeting but are interested in volunteering please contact Amanda Seibert at [AmandaSeibertUMCL@gmail.com](mailto:AmandaSeibertUMCL@gmail.com).

**YOUNG COUPLES** will celebrate the New Year with our tradition of Jambalaya and white bean and chicken chili with a White Elephant\* gift exchange on **Friday, January 3, at 6:30 PM**. We'll meet at the home of Scott and Charlotte Allen (1202 Hampton Lane, Mundelein, 847-968-4565.) (\*White Elephant information: this should not be something that you go to the store and purchase new. These are gag gifts, things you may prefer to re-gift, etc. Please call if you have questions.)

**PRIME TIME** meets on **January 6, at Noon** for lunch (\$5). Back By Popular Demand — The White Elephant Gift Exchange!! Find your "White Elephant" around the house, wrap it and bring it for the exchange. The more unusual the gift, the more fun it will be! Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, January 3rd. We look forward to seeing you. Mary Montgomery, Priscilla Mortland

## UMCL News & Notes Continued

**HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!** We are hosting the Nebraska- Wesleyan Choir for dinner, a concert and an overnight stay in host homes on **Friday, January 10, 2014!** Plan to attend the concert at **7:30 PM** to support these young musicians! Contact Jim Grace (847-362-3116) if you are willing to host two students overnight. We need 25 homes to host two young women or two young men overnight and then bring them back to the church on Saturday morning after a light breakfast.

**2013 CONTRIBUTIONS** will be accepted through December 31, 2013. This includes any additional cash or check contributions received in the office through the end the day.

**2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES**—Boxes of 2014 offering envelopes will be available in the Heritage area of the Church Foyer starting this Sunday. Please stop by to pick up your box, making sure to verify your name and address. Those of you who have chosen not to receive a full box of envelopes will be notified by the end of December with your new tracking number. Please contact the Finance Office if you have questions or have trouble locating your offering envelopes.

**ALL-CHURCH WOMEN'S RETREAT COMING SOON!** Save the Date! An overnight All-Church Women's Retreat entitled "Nature, Prayer and the Grace of God" will be held from **Friday evening, February 28 through Saturday afternoon, March 1, 2014** at a nearby retreat center. Watch for more details in the weeks ahead!

**NEW MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING STUDY** will begin **January 11, 2014 at 8:00 AM** with a 10-week study of "Good to Great in God's Eyes, Ten Practices Great Christians Have in Common." Each week will focus on one of the ten practices, viewing a 15 minute video on the subject, followed by lively group discussion. Please let Scott Allen (847-968-4565) know if you plan on attending, so he can order books (\$10/book).

**AD BOARD MEETING**—Our Administrative Board meets on **Saturday, January 11, at 8:30 AM** in Fellowship Hall. All members are welcome to attend!

**SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES CLASS**, taught by Woody Bedell, will meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM, beginning **January 20**. Please call the church if you are interested.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will begin 2014 with an 18-week study of Exodus in preparation for a study of the Book of Revelation. If you are interested in joining this Wednesday afternoon group, call Joyce Jeffries at 847-566-6944. Join before December 30 and take advantage of the group discount on study materials.

**PADS HELP NEEDED**—We are called by Jesus to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. Please consider serving with PADS! Volunteers are ALWAYS needed for **overnight shifts** (11 PM—3 AM or 3-6:30 AM) or **clean-up** (5:30-7:15 AM). We are also in need of new women's underwear and socks for men and women. The PADS sign-up book is in Fellowship Hall during coffee time and in the foyer for our third service, or call Cathy O'Brien at 847-367-8062.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE**—Christmas is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it is Christmas. If you would like to talk with a Stephen Minister, please contact Kevin Garren, Mary Spooner or the Pastors.

**CHURCH SIGN VOLUNTEER NEEDED!** If you would be willing to change the message on our church sign on an occasional basis to let our community know of our worship schedule and special events, please contact the church office at 847-362-2112.

### HOW ARE WE DOING?

As of 12/17/13

	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
<b>Offerings/Revenues</b>	\$54,568.90	\$782,862.56
<b>Expenses</b>	\$60,854.20	\$814,761.34
<b>Difference</b>	(\$6,285.30)	(\$31,898.78)

We're still doing well. It might look like we're falling behind but it's due to paying some bills earlier than normal. We are optimistic that we'll end the year with no spending gap and results "in the black". Your continued support will make that happen! Thank You!

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, December 22, 2013

8:00 AM—Adult Sunday School Class  
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 0-2 years)  
9:30 AM—Sunday School for all ages  
(Children begin in service and leave  
after Children's Message)  
10:30 AM—Coffee Time  
11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship Service  
(Nursery care available for ages 0-2 years)  
11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship (Children begin in  
service and leave after Children's Message)

### Monday, December 23, 2013

No Scheduled Events

### Tuesday, December 24, 2013

~ Christmas Eve ~  
~ Office Closed at Noon ~  
12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA  
4:00 PM—Family Christmas Eve Service  
7:00 PM—Traditional Christmas Eve Service  
10:00 PM—Traditional Christmas Eve Service

### Wednesday, December 25, 2013

~ Christmas Day ~  
~ Office Closed ~

### Thursday, December 26, 2013

~ Office Closed ~

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA

### Friday, December 27, 2013

6:00 PM—Young Life Capernaum

### Saturday, December 28, 2013

4:30 PM—PADS Set up & PADS

### Sunday, December 29, 2013

9:15 AM—Adult Sunday School Class  
9:30 AM—Traditional Worship Service  
(Nursery care available for ages 0-2 years)  
9:30 AM—Sunday School for all ages  
(Children begin in service and leave  
after Children's Message)

10:30 AM—Coffee Time

### Monday, December 30, 2013

No Scheduled Events

### Tuesday, December 31, 2013

~ Office Closed at Noon ~

12:00 & 7:30 PM – Living Free/AA

### Wednesday, January 1, 2014

~ New Year's Day ~

~ Office Closed ~

### Thursday, January 2, 2014

12:00 PM—Living Free/AA

### Friday, January 3, 2014

6:30 PM—Young Couples (off site)

### Saturday, January 4, 2014

8:30 AM—Praise Band

4:30 PM—PADS Set up & PADS

### UMCL Staff

Pastor Stephen C. Williams	<a href="mailto:pastorwilliams@sbcglobal.net">pastorwilliams@sbcglobal.net</a>
Pastor Jamie Hanna Williams	<a href="mailto:pastorjhwilliams@sbcglobal.net">pastorjhwilliams@sbcglobal.net</a>
Business/Operations Manager: Ruth Ross	<a href="mailto:ruthaross@sbcglobal.net">ruthaross@sbcglobal.net</a>
Director of Music: Jim Grace	<a href="mailto:grace.jim@sbcglobal.net">grace.jim@sbcglobal.net</a>
Youth Director: Ben Hallett	<a href="mailto:BenHallett@sbcglobal.net">BenHallett@sbcglobal.net</a>
Junior High: Sarah Mitchell	<a href="mailto:sarahmhartley@yahoo.com">sarahmhartley@yahoo.com</a>
Children & Family Ministries: Amanda Seibert	<a href="mailto:AmandaSeibertUMCL@gmail.com">AmandaSeibertUMCL@gmail.com</a>
Contemporary Worship Director: Jeff Brown	<a href="mailto:jeffbrown418@yahoo.com">jeffbrown418@yahoo.com</a>
Director of Adult Choir: Jeff Brown	<a href="mailto:jeffbrown418@yahoo.com">jeffbrown418@yahoo.com</a>
Children's Choir Director: Blair Brockman	<a href="mailto:texasbrockman@sbcglobal.net">texasbrockman@sbcglobal.net</a>
New Member/Ministries Coordinator: Joyce Bedell	<a href="mailto:JoyceBedell@sbcglobal.net">JoyceBedell@sbcglobal.net</a>
Church Office / Administrative Secretary: Karla Bolkema	<a href="mailto:libertyvilleumc@sbcglobal.net">libertyvilleumc@sbcglobal.net</a>
Communications Secretary: Valerie Baker	<a href="mailto:Valerie.umcl@gmail.com">Valerie.umcl@gmail.com</a>



Church Office • 847-362-2112

Website • [www.umcl.org](http://www.umcl.org)

