



United Methodist Church of Libertyville

Lifting Up Christ, Using Our Gifts, Ministering To All

MEMOS

Volume 2015, Issue 22 November 18, 2015

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

The wonderful Thanksgiving hymn, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" was written by an earnest young man who wanted to put his gifts and talents into God's hands for God's use. Henry Alford was sixteen years old when he rededicated his life to God. On November 18, 1827, he wrote in his Bible,

*I do this day as in the presence of God and my own soul renew my covenant with God,
and solemnly determine henceforth to become His, and to do His work as far as in me lies.*

The work he did by God's grace and with God's help was significant. He was an outstanding scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge and became well known for his edition of the Greek New Testament, a project he worked on for eighteen years. He was also the vicar or parish priest of a small Anglican church for almost twenty years and served a number of other parishes during his ministry. He wrote the harvest hymn that has become a Thanksgiving favorite in 1844.

***"Come, ye thankful people, come
Raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come
Raise the song of harvest home!"***

God has taken care of us. God has provided for us. We rejoice! When we gather around the Thanksgiving table, when we join together in worship, we pray and sing our gratitude to God. This is a good and holy thing.

*We hope you will join us this **Sunday, November 22**, as we celebrate Thanksgiving in worship, offer ourselves, our gifts, and our 2016 Stewardship Commitments to God, and as we rejoice in all the blessings God has poured out upon us. Tours of the sanctuary and new community room renovations will be offered and a joyous fellowship coffee will be provided between the services.*

You are also invited to a special Thanksgiving service of music, testimonials, and prayer on **Tuesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm**. Fellowship after the service includes pie, lots and lots of pie. All are welcome.

May God bless your Thanksgiving and give you a joyous and grateful heart,
Pastor Jamie and Pastor Steve



Announcements, Joys & Concerns

THANKS TO MY CHURCH FAMILY for your many kind words of sympathy regarding the recent passing of my mother. My gratitude to each of you for nourishment of body and mind is heartfelt. Judy Awe



Please join us on **November 29th** for **FAMILY SUNDAY!** There will be **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** for children and youth. Kids of all ages will join us during the 9:30AM & 11:00AM service 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!**

MOVING HELP NEEDED! Due to the nursery expanding, we are going to have a moving day on **Thursday, November 19th** from **8:00AM to Noon**. Feel free to come for an hour or the whole time! Lunch will be provided at noon as a small thank you! If you can make it please let Amanda know, She would really appreciate the help!!

ASP (Appalachian Service Project) June 11-18, 2016 is a service project for high school youth and adult leaders focused on improving homes of Appalachia residents in need, deepening our Christian faith, and most of all spiritually connecting with our group and those residents we serve. Anyone (youth and adults) that will be an incoming high school freshman fall 2016 or older are eligible. To reserve your spot or find out more about the trip, contact Steve Neil (sbneil@comcast.net or 224-475-8701).

Offering Envelopes—A Few Different Options

The Finance office offers several options for offering envelopes. You can select weekly or monthly/periodic offering envelopes or no envelopes at all (for electronic and annual contributors). **No notice is needed if you would like to receive a box of offering envelopes or if you wish to use the same option as you did last year.** If you'd like to contribute your offering using a different option, we ask that you let the Finance office know which works best for you **no later than December 15th**. Offering envelopes will be available for you to pick up sometime between that date and December 20th. Everyone will be given a number to use as they make contributions regardless of the option chosen with those opting for no envelopes being notified by mail. Please contact Ruth Ross at 847-362-2112 or via email at ruth.ross@umcl.org if you have questions or would like more information.



PADS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, especially overnight and clean-up shifts, as well as people making lunches. Contact Cathy O'Brien at 847-367-8062 or cobrien1021@hotmail.com to find out how you can help! Thank you!!



PRAYER CHAIN—Please hold in prayer all those in our church family who are ill, hospitalized or recovering at home Also please pray for our pastors and committees as they work to discern and shape our future in ministry. *If there are specific prayer requests you would like circulated through our prayer chain, please contact the church office, Mickey Donahue, Karen Kuhlman, or Kathy Locke, using our new email address: prayerchain@umcl.org.*

PASTORS: Rev. Dr. Stephen C. Williams
Rev. Dr. Jamie Hanna Williams
Business/Operations Manager: Ruth Ross
Director of Contemporary Worship & Spiritual Growth: Ben Hallett
Children/Family Ministries: Amanda Seibert
Youth Pastor: Brittney Stephan
Junior High Youth Minister: Heidi Nelson
New Member/Ministries Coordinator: Joyce Bedell
Director of Music: Jim Grace
Director of Adult Choir: Jeff Brown
Children's Choir Director: Blair Brockman
Church Office/Administrative Secretary: Karla Bolkema
Communications Secretary: Valerie Baker

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pastorjhwilliams@umcl.org
Ruth.Ross@umcl.org
Ben.Hallett@umcl.org
Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org
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Jeff.Brown@umcl.org
Blair.Brockman@umcl.org
info@umcl.org
Valerie.Baker@umcl.org



STAFF DIRECTORY

Christmas Partner Angels



Last day for names to be available is **Sunday, November 29** in the back of Fellowship Hall.

You will be able to choose to purchase a gift card or buy gifts for children. Gift cards this year will go to the Harbor, Eddie Washington Center and we are adding a disabled veterans group. Also available to purchase gift cards for mothers from the Haven for \$50 for them to purchase what their children would like or need.

Once again, we will have Humboldt Park children, Emmanuel children and San Pablo. These are all United Methodist Churches.

Humboldt Park has families they are in need and their children are in the list and so you would just get a gift card and some household things and put them in a bin for the families.

The gifts will be blessed on December 6 and taken to San Pablo, Emmanuel, and Humboldt Park on December 12. All other places will be the week of December 7, after they've been blessed.

United Methodist Men—Annual Christmas Tree Sale



Come support the annual Troop 72 Boy Scout, and UMCL Men's Christmas Tree sale. Beautiful fresh trees from Wisconsin will be available in a variety of sizes. Proceeds from the sale help support our scout troop and also provide funds to support local and global ministries through the UMCL Men's group. **Able-bodied UMCL men are needed to fill volunteer time slots.**

The sale runs daily starting **Friday, November 27th** thru **Saturday, December 19th** with the following hours:

Saturdays: 9 AM—9 PM

Sundays: 12 PM—8 PM

Monday-Friday: 6 PM—9 PM *

Please contact Bert Kibbler
if you can help! (847) 858-1456
or bertkibbler@gmail.com.

* Exception: Friday, November 27 (day after Thanksgiving), we will be open 9 AM—5 PM

Blue Christmas Service

When Christmas hurts.....The holiday season can be a painful time because of a death in the family, a lost or broken relationship or because of painful memories of the past. For all the joy Christmas can hold, it holds the potential for sorrow as well.

Stephen Ministry of UMCL is offering an ecumenical remembrance service on **December 8, 2015, 7:00** at the St. Lawrence Episcopal Church, 125 W Church Street, Libertyville. We invite you to join us for this service.

Blue Christmas is a service of worship for those suffering with pain, loss, isolation and grief in the holiday season. By offering this service, we acknowledge the struggles that we face while providing a safe place of peace where you can just be, and rest in a quiet place for your soul.

Please contact Mary Spooner (847-548-3703), Kevin Garren (847-816-7340) or the Pastors for more information.



Panama Bake Sale

Our annual bake sale to raise funds for medicine will be held Sunday **November 22nd**. We will have our delicious apple pies and would appreciate any donations of baked goods. Please label as to contents and package in small amounts, such as 4 cookies or brownies per package. Any questions please call Becky Traut at 847-367-0295. Thank you.



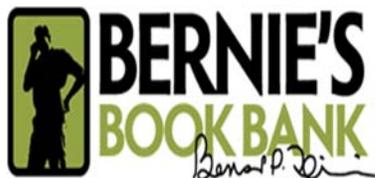
Christian Education



Due to a lot of recent births and an increase in young families attending our church we are starting to outgrow our nursery!

Beginning on December 6th, we are going to launch 2 nurseries. The “nursery” will be from 0-2 year olds and the new “toddler nursery” will be for ages 2.5-4 year olds (4+ will attend church programming). Parents of little ones will receive a letter in the mail with more details. If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering please contact Amanda (amanda.seibert@umcl.org) or at the church office.

“CHURCH FAMILY” EVENT



Come one, come all to this fun filled “CHURCH FAMILY” EVENT! All ages are invited to the “Bernie’s Book Bank” in Lake Forest on **Saturday, November 21st from 2:30 to 4:30PM**. Bernie’s Book Bank relies on volunteers to sort, sticker and bag books for at-risk children in Chicago. It’s fun, easy, not messy and very rewarding

Please sign up at www.umcl.org/bernies-registration. **SIGN UP TODAY!**

LIVE NATIVITY

The church is looking for people to help with our annual Live Nativity production on **December 13th**.

If anyone is interested in helping with directing, set design, lighting, sound or the children’s choir please contact Amanda at Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org.

Many hands make light work!



LIVE NATIVITY STARS!

The church is looking for children and youth (3rd to 12th grade) to be stars on our stage! Some characters have speaking parts while other’s just put on their best smile and act. If anyone is interested in being a part of this Christmas event contact Amanda Seibert at the church office, to sign-up!

Be A Star!!!

4-Week Advent Studies



“UNDER WRAPS”

Sunday Morning at **8:00 AM** — Starts **November 29**, with Karen Kulhman
Monday Morning at **10:00 AM** — Starts **November 30**, with Mary Ann Burson
Wednesday Evening at **7:00 PM** — Starts **December 2**, with Jim Stewart & Kara Lehnhardt



“WATCH FOR THE LIGHT”

Saturday Morning at **8:45 am** — Starts **November 28**, with Ben Hallett

Please sign up in the back on Fellowship Hall or by emailing Ben (ben.hallett@umcl.org) which class you'd like to attend.

Don't forget - there's also a daily devotional guide to pick up for your own personal study this season.

Second Mile Giving For November Will Support:

ChildServ—Founded over 118 years ago, this child and family services organization provides community-based programs to the underserved in Cook, Lake, and DuPage counties. Children and families receive counseling, group therapy, life skills education, social activities and recreation. Youth group homes are located in Lisle, Naperville, and Downers Grove. More information is available at www.childserv.org, or by calling 773-693-0300



Justice for Our Neighbors – (JFON) This unique United Methodist ministry provides free high quality legal assistance for immigrants in need. Over 100 clients are served at each location each year. JFON also educates groups through Bible studies and “know you rights” trainings. For a directory of sites and additional information, please go to www.nijfon.org, or contact Rev. Michael Mann at 847-931-0710 x20.

Electronic Giving Options

As we move into 2016, we'd like to remind you of our electronic giving options.



- ◆ UMC of Libertyville offers a monthly electronic funds transfers (EFTs), moving funds from your bank account to the Church's on or around the 15th of each month. Enrollment forms for this option are available from the Finance office or the Main office. If you're already enrolled in electronic giving, you only need to contact the Finance office if you want to change your contribution or decide to contribute in another way.
- ◆ Contributions to UMCL can be made through your bank's online payment option much like you'd pay your monthly bills. Your bank converts the contribution into a paper check that is mailed to the Church for processing. Please contact your bank for instructions on how to use this method.

Please contact Ruth Ross, our Business/Operations Manager, if you have questions or would like more information. She can be reached via phone at 847-362-2112 or via email at ruth.ross@umcl.org.

United Methodist Women

NEW CIRCLE

A new UMW circle is meeting at the church on the 3rd **Tuesday, November 17, at 7:00 PM.** Please contact Kelley Wilson, Membership; Bonnie Lill, Education and Interpretation or Mary Ann Burson, President for more information.



PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Priscilla Circle will meet on **Tuesday, November 17 at 9:30 AM** in the Fellowship Hall.

Our program is Teri Dreher talking about advocating for our families in a changing healthcare landscape. On the afternoon of the 17th Priscilla is sponsoring the birthday party at Winchester House. We need helpers to help us serve.

Any questions, please call Shirley at 847-362-0523. We look forward to seeing you!



RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet on **Wednesday, November 18 at 7:00 PM** at Karen Kuhlman, 840 Hawthorn Lane, Libertyville, 847-680-5845.

Women in the history of the United Methodist Church will be the program topic. We currently have women serving as our pastor, our district superintendent and our bishop. Come and hear about the women who were pioneers in our denomination, paving the way for those in our church, district and conference. All are welcome! Call Teri Dreher at 847-612-6684 or Julie Garren at 847-816-7340 for more information.

LOVE IN ACTION—DECEMBER 6th 3:00-5:00PM

Women and Children – Come assemble HEALTH KITS for UMCOR and learn about where they are sent. Enjoy snacks, signing and fellowship.

Love In Action

Sponsored by United Methodist Women. Sign up on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall or in the church office. Bring items for health kits or donate funds and we will buy the items.

- ◆ Hand Towel (15" x 25" to 17" x 27")
- ◆ Washcloth
- ◆ Comb (Sturdy and longer than 6")
- ◆ Metal nail file or nail clippers
- ◆ 6 Adhesive bandages (common, plain band-aids)
- ◆ Bath-size soap (3oz and larger)
NO IVORY OR JERGENS
- ◆ Adult-size toothbrush in original packaging
- ◆ 1 Plastic bag (gallon-size, sealable)
- ◆ \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

For additional information, please contact:

Erin Mayes: erin@rusticrenaissance.com
Bonnie Lill: bonifer57@yahoo.com

Kathie Slocum: kslocum@ameritech.net
Mary Ann Burson: bookwormburson@att.net

Fellowship and Nurture

CLIP AND SAVE



PRIME TIME — WHITE ELEPHANT EXCHANGE

We will meet Monday, **December 7th**. 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 BEFORE FRIDAY, December 4th at 10:00 A.M.

A Reminder From the Church Finance Office

2015 contributions will be accepted through December 31, 2015. This includes any additional cash or check contributions received in the office through the end the day and postmarked on or before that date.



For those considering security contributions, a copy of the Church security contribution procedure and the other forms are available from the Finance Office or can be emailed to you on request. To assure that all security contributions are processed in 2015 and correctly reflected on your annual contribution statement, the following time frames are suggested:

- ◆ Having your broker prepare a security certificate for donation to the Church is normally a manual process and can take four to six weeks to complete. Please check with your broker before starting this process to make sure that certificated shares can be ready within our time line and then fully processed by year-end.
- ◆ Existing security certificates take longer to process than electronic transfers. If you are considering donating existing security certificates, please contact the Finance Office immediately to expedite the process.
- ◆ We request that electronic transfers be initiated by December 11, 2015.

Given heightened personal security requirements, the Church will not know the origination of a stock transfer unless you request that your name be passed along to us with your donation. Notifying the Finance Office yourself when you have initiated the stock transfer with your broker will further assure that we know of your donation and can process it in a timely fashion.

If you need further information or have questions, please contact Ruth Ross, our Business/Operations Manager, at the Church (847-362-2112) or via email (ruth.ross@umcl.org).

Finance Update—Fourth Quarter Critical

The final quarter of the church year is critical to our overall financial health. As we move into November, the gap between actual income and actual expenses is \$112,000. We always anticipate a gap due to the pattern of giving throughout the year, but our gap at this point is about \$29,000 more than we expected. It's very important that we have a strong November and December to make up this shortfall.

If you have gotten behind in your regular giving, we hope that you will be able to catch up in November. If you have been blessed this year and would like to make additional offerings and gifts to the church, this would be greatly appreciated. God is faithful. There is much to celebrate in our life and ministry together! Thank you for your ongoing support.

HOW ARE WE DOING?



As of 10/31/15

	Month-To-Date	Year-to-Date
Offerings/Revenue	\$47,267.64	\$595,927.69
Expenses	\$62,951.05	\$708,333.21
Actual Difference	(\$15,683.41)	(\$112,405.52)
Anticipated Difference	\$2,349.40	(\$83,523.29)
Off Plan By	(\$18,032.81)	(\$28,882.23)

Calendar

Deadlines for MEMOS articles: Friday, November 27 by 10 AM; for Sunday Bulletins: the Wednesday before by 10:00 AM. Helping hands are always appreciated to help assemble MEMOS; we'll next meet at 9:00 AM, Wednesday, December 2, in Room 101!!

MEMOS & BULLETIN PUBLISHING POLICY—It is the policy for the MEMOS and Sunday bulletins to publish items related only to the United Methodist Church of Libertyville or the specific activities, programs, and missions it sponsors. Any items submitted to the MEMOS or Sunday bulletins will be subject to editing as available space may require. Likewise, the timing of publishing articles is an editorial decision.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>November 16</p> <p>6:00 PM—Cub Scouts 7:00 PM—Troop #72 7:00 PM—Inquirers' Study 7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)</p>	<p>November 17</p> <p>9:15 AM—Staff Meeting 9:30 AM—Priscilla Circle 9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth 12:00 & 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA 7:00 PM—Resource Committee 7:00 PM—New UMW Circle</p>	<p>November 18</p> <p>8:45 AM—MEMOS 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina 1:00 PM—Timothy Bible Study 7:00 PM—Ruth Circle (off site) 7:00 PM—Heritage Bells 7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE</p>	<p>November 19</p> <p>12:00 PM—Living Free / AA 6:30 PM—Financial Peace University 7:00 PM—Disciple IV 7:30 PM—Adult Choir 7:30 PM—Praise Band (off site)</p>	<p>November 20</p> <p>7:00 PM—Cub Scouts</p>	<p>November 21</p> <p>8:00 AM—Men's Study 8:30 AM—Set-up for Worship 9:00 AM—Transition Planning Meeting 2:30 PM—Bernie's Book Bank (Off site) 5:00 PM—PADS (off site) 7:00 PM—Vine & Cheese (off site)</p>
<p>November 22</p> <p><i>Giving in Gratitude Stewardship Sunday</i></p> <p>8:00 AM—Adult Class 8:15 AM—Adult Class 9:00 AM—Cherub Choir 9:30 AM—Traditional Worship 9:30 AM—Youth & Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM—B.I.G. Time (Believers In God) 10:30 AM—Coffee Time with Tours of New Sanctuary & Community Room 10:40 AM—God's Soul Girls 11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship 4:30 PM—Joyful Noise 4:30 PM—Choristers 6:30 PM—SrHI Tide</p>	<p>November 23</p> <p>5:45 PM—Daisy Girl Scouts 7:00 PM—Troop #72 7:00 PM—Inquirers' Study 7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)</p>	<p>November 24</p> <p>9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth 12:00 & 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA 7:00 PM—Thanksgiving Service</p>	<p>November 25</p> <p>9:15 AM—Staff Mtg. 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina</p>	<p>November 26</p> <p><i>Thanksgiving Day Office Closed</i></p> <p>12:00 PM—Living Free / AA</p>	<p>November 27</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p> <p>9:00 AM—Christmas Tree Sale Begins</p>	<p>November 28</p> <p>8:45 AM—Advent Study, "Watch for the Light" 9:00 AM—Christmas Tree Sale 9:00 AM—United Methodist Men 5:00 PM—PADS (off site)</p>
<p>November 29</p> <p>First Sunday of Advent 8:00 AM—Adult Class 8:15 AM—Adult Class 9:00 AM—Cherub Choir 9:30 AM—Traditional Worship 9:30 AM—Youth & Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM—B.I.G. Time (Believers In God) 10:30 AM—Coffee Time 10:40 AM—God's Soul Girls 11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship 4:30 PM—Joyful Noise 4:30 PM—Choristers 6:30 PM—SrHI Tide</p>	<p>November 30</p> <p>10:00 AM—Advent Study "Under Wraps" 5:45 PM—Daisy Girl Scouts 7:00 PM—Troop #72 7:00 PM—Inquirers' Study 7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)</p>	<p>December 1</p> <p>9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth 12:00 & 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA 7:00 PM—Resource Committee</p>	<p>December 2</p> <p>8:45 AM—Memos 9:15 AM—Staff Mtg. 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina 7:00 PM—Heritage Bells 7:00 PM—BSA District Committee 7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE 7:00 PM—Advent Study "Under Wraps"</p>	<p>December 3</p> <p>12:00 PM—Living Free / AA 7:00 PM—Disciple IV 7:30 PM—Adult Choir 7:30 PM—Praise Band (off site)</p>	<p>December 4</p> <p>7:00 PM—First Friday Friends</p>	<p>December 5</p> <p>8:45 AM—Advent Study, "Watch for the Light" 5:00 PM—PADS (off site)</p>

MEMOS is a bi-weekly publication of the
United Methodist Church of Libertyville
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*A Stephen Ministry
Congregation*



Website:

www.umcl.org

Twitter:

@UMCLibertyville

Jr & Sr HIGH YOUTH

JrHI - WED - 7:00-8:30 PM | SrHI - SUN - 6:30-8:30 PM

@ CHURCH

INTEGRATION | REFLECTION | VOCATION