



United Methodist Church of Libertyville

Lifting Up Christ, Using Our Gifts, Ministering To All

MEMOS

Volume 2014, Issue 23 December 3, 2014

*The United Methodist Church of Libertyville Presents . . .*

## *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Live Nativity*



**Sunday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m.  
at Cook Memorial Park in Libertyville!**

***The Live Nativity is a performance  
by our children and youth  
of the story of Jesus' birth.***

Angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus will all be with us to tell the humble and glorious tale of the coming of the Savior.

Live animals – goats, sheep, a donkey, and a cow will be part of the scene.

The children and community will be invited to join in singing our favorite Christmas carols.

Following the twenty-five minute performance, everyone is invited back to the church for a Christmas Celebration with cookies and hot chocolate.

**We hope you will come!**

**Bring your family, neighbors and friends and share the spirit of Christmas.**

The performance is directed by Amanda Seibert with support from Blair Brockman and a host of others.

### **THE CHURCH IS LOOKING FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH TO BE STARS ON OUR STAGE!**

The children do not need to memorize any words, just put on their best smile and act out the story of Jesus' birth.

If anyone is interested in being a part of this Christmas event, contact Amanda or the church office to sign-up.

Rehearsals are on  
Sunday, December 7th at 10:45 am,  
Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00 pm and  
Sunday, December 14th at 4:00 pm.



### **LIVE NATIVITY COOKIES & HELP NEEDED!**

If you are able to provide **2-3 dozen small cookies** for our Live Nativity on **December 14**, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer or contact Mary Ann Burson.

**Please label any cookies containing nuts** and deliver cookies to the kitchen on Sunday, December 14.

**We also need many volunteers to set-up, serve & clean-up after the anticipated crowd.**

Contact Mary Ann Burson to help  
(847-270-0633 or [bookwormburson@att.net](mailto:bookwormburson@att.net))

## Announcements, Joys & Concerns



We extend our sympathy to Diana, his children and their families, on the passing of **Randolph "Dan" Webster** on November 17th, 2014.

**CHARGE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD SATURDAY!** Join us this **Saturday, December 6, at 10:00 AM** in the East Room, for our Charge Conference, the annual meeting in which we celebrate our ministry, elect officers and committees, and look to the future. All are welcome to attend!



With deep gratitude we announce that we now have received over **\$1,283,655** through November 30th in commitments towards the building fund appeal. Thank you!

To my dear friends and family of the United Methodist Church, Along with our family, I wish to thank everyone for all the caring visits, prayers, cards, and love expressed to us at this time and during Dan's lengthy illness. Thank you for the kind words said and thank you for the beautiful luncheon that was prepared for everyone following the service. You are the very best friends I can have. With Love, **Diana Webster and Family**



**THANK YOU FROM BECKY TRAUT!** The Panama Bake Sale was a great success. Thanks to all who contributed (baking and buying). **We have 1 pumpkin pie and 12 apple pies left over.** They are in Becky's freezer! If anyone is interested please call Becky at 847-367-0295.

**WOMEN'S ECUMENICAL CANDLELIGHT ADVENT SERVICE**—All women are invited to come together for homemade goodies and fellowship followed by a service of lessons, carols and contemplation. This service will be held at First Presbyterian Church, (219 W. Maple Avenue, Libertyville) on **Wednesday, December 3; 7:00 pm** -Reception in Sanctuary Narthex; 7:30 pm -Chapel Worship.

**THANK YOU!** Humboldt Park United Methodist church gave out the many coats that you so graciously donated when they had a Thanksgiving dinner for the church families and people in their neighborhood. **MANY THANKS** to Diana Natsch for coordinating this giving.



**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 (info@umcl.org), Mickey Donahue ([missmickey2005@gmail.com](mailto:missmickey2005@gmail.com)), Karen Kuhlman ([akkuhl@att.net](mailto:akkuhl@att.net)) or Kathy Locke ([klocke@ameritech.net](mailto:klocke@ameritech.net)).



### STAFF DIRECTORY

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

[pastorswilliams@umcl.org](mailto:pastorswilliams@umcl.org)  
[pastorjwilliams@umcl.org](mailto:pastorjwilliams@umcl.org)  
[Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org](mailto:Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org)  
[Ben.Hallett@umcl.org](mailto:Ben.Hallett@umcl.org)  
[Sarah.Mitchell@umcl.org](mailto:Sarah.Mitchell@umcl.org)  
[Ruth.Ross@umcl.org](mailto:Ruth.Ross@umcl.org)  
[Joyce.Bedell@umcl.org](mailto:Joyce.Bedell@umcl.org)  
[Jim.Grace@umcl.org](mailto:Jim.Grace@umcl.org)  
[Jeff.Brown@umcl.org](mailto:Jeff.Brown@umcl.org)  
[Blair.Brockman@umcl.org](mailto:Blair.Brockman@umcl.org)  
[info@umcl.org](mailto:info@umcl.org)  
[Valerie.Baker@umcl.org](mailto:Valerie.Baker@umcl.org)

### Blue Christmas Worship Service



Stephen Ministry will offer a Blue Christmas worship service on **December 9, 2014 at 7:00 pm** in the East Room. This is a service of worship designed for those suffering from loss, sadness, isolation or grief during the Advent Season. Candles, meditative music, prayers for healing, and readings from the Bible create a welcoming worship space. By offering this service, we acknowledge the struggles we face while providing a safe place of rest, comfort, and healing. In the midst of darkness, it is a Service of Light. Childcare provided.

### Special Musical Offerings During Advent

On **December 14th**, harpist Allison Attar of Grayslake will be performing during our **9:30 am** service. Allison has accompanied our Adult Choir in the past but will be in worship that morning to play incidental Christmas music throughout the service. Also, on **December 21st**, our Adult Choir will be presenting a Cantata titled "What Child Is This" by John Leavitt. This is a 20-25 minute work about the birth of Jesus. Please mark your calendars for these two special services. We hope that you will be in attendance to share in these special musical offerings with us. In Christ, Jim Grace and Jeff Brown

### Offering Envelopes—A Few Different Options

Again this year, the Finance Office is offering the option to “opt out” of receiving weekly offering envelopes. A call or email to Ruth Ross, will remove you from the list of envelope box recipients. You’ll instead be given a number for you to use as you do make contributions (it’s needed for accurate recordkeeping). If you’d like, we can also provide just a few offering envelopes for monthly or periodic contributions. Just let the Finance Office know what works best for you. Those of you who chose this option last year as well as anyone contributing through an online bill-pay system will automatically be on the no-offering- envelopes list again for 2015. No notice is needed if you would like to receive a box of offering envelopes as usual.

### Order Form—Christmas Poinsettias For Sanctuary and East Room

It’s time to order the poinsettias which will decorate our altar and East Room on December 21 and 24!

If you would like to place an order, please fill out this form and return it with your check made payable to the United Methodist Church of Libertyville (UMCL), in the amount of \$16 per plant. (Or go online [www.umcl.org/poinsettias](http://www.umcl.org/poinsettias))



Please respond with your payment by Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, by placing this form and your check in the marked basket in the foyer, or by mailing both in to the office.

RED \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Christian Education

### LIVE NATIVITY HELP!

We will need a lot of help from the congregation!  
Youth and adults can be a part of this Christmas event by volunteering with set design, set-up/tear-down or by being an extra pair of hands to supervise our child actors and singers.

Contact Amanda Seibert at  
[Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org](mailto:Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org) to get involved.

### ALL STARS



All 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are invited to All-Stars! Join us **Wednesday, December 10** from **5:30 to 7:00pm** in Fellowship Hall.

We will have dinner together, learn bible stories, play games, make new friends and have a lot of fun!

Dinner is provided (suggested donation of \$3).

### KIDS OWN WORSHIP



All kids are invited to Kids Own Worship during the 11:00 service. Kids Own Worship is a fun, faith-filled children's church for ages 4 to 3rd grade, following the children's message.

They will create crafts, play games and discover bible stories. Please contact Amanda Seibert to sign-up to help out with Kids Own Worship.

### SELL SOME SWAG!!

The Youth program will be selling wreaths, garland, and some swag (yes, that's actually a term for Christmas decorations) out in front of church until **December 20** to help raise funds for our summer mission experiences! If you're looking for greenery - stop on by! **YOUTH** - we will be working the tree sale on Thursday evenings during this time. **Come help sell some trees - you will receive a \$10 discount on your mission trip cost for every sale you help with!**



### A Reminder From the Church Finance Office

2014 contributions will be accepted through December 31, 2014. This includes any additional cash or check contributions received in the office through the end the day.

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 2014 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 10, 2014.

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 have questions, please contact Ruth Ross at 847-362-2112 or at [ruth.ross@umcl.org](mailto:ruth.ross@umcl.org).

## United Methodist Women

**REMINDER:** This Saturday, **December 7th**, is our 5th UMW Advent Tea in the Fellowship Hall at **3:00 PM**. This year's theme is "**Christmas Traditions**" and there is a special program planned for this year. This is a wonderful afternoon to take time out of the busyness of the season, relax and celebrate the holiday season. For further information please contact Mickey Donahue (847-367-4906 or [missmicky2005@gmail.com](mailto:missmicky2005@gmail.com))

### FAITH CIRCLE

Join the Faith Circle on **Thursday, December 11th from 9:00 to 11:00 am**  
 In the East Room for our annual Christmas Brunch.  
 Bring along an ornament if you wish to participate in our ornament exchange.  
*We will also be hosting a Girls' Night Out on Friday, December 19th.*  
 More details on that will be coming soon.  
 Please contact Sheila Hillier at [schillier@comcast.net](mailto:schillier@comcast.net) if you have any questions.



### PRISCILLA CIRCLE

We will meet **Tuesday, December 16th** in the Fellowship Hall at **11:30 am**.  
 We will have a Christmas party pot luck lunch.  
 Hope you can come and if you can't bring a dish to share please come anyway.  
 Any questions call Shirley Mason 847-362-0523.



### RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet for a holiday celebration of fellowship, food and fun.  
 There will be a pot luck dinner at Sandy Palmer's home (920 Bedford Ln., Libertyville)  
 on **Wednesday, December 17th at 6:00 PM**.  
 Please call Sandy (847-680-3026) if you are coming and what you plan to bring.



## United Methodist Men



**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE**—Help support Boy Scout Troop 72, Lake County ministries sponsored by United Methodist Men and United Methodist Youth by getting your tree at UMC of Libertyville this year!

The sale runs daily through December 20 with the following hours:

- Saturdays: 9 AM—5 PM
- Sundays: 11:30 AM—8:00 PM
- Monday-Friday: 6:00—9:00 PM.

If you can help,  
 please contact Bert Kibbler  
 (847-858-1456)

## Finance Notes—How Are We Doing?

Thanks to our generous congregation we are seeing the increased offerings we were hoping for and therefore closing the gap between actual income and expenses. While that gap is still slightly larger than anticipated (\$50.3K as opposed to \$48.2K), we are hopeful that income in December will be as generous as in previous years and that we will end the year in the black. Your continued generosity and faithfulness will make it possible for us reach that goal.

### HOW ARE WE DOING?



As of 11/30/14

	Month-End	Year-to-Date
Offerings/Revenue	\$87,826.88	\$726,198.24
Expenses	\$60,521.95	\$776,477.93
Actual Difference	\$27,304.93	(\$50,279.69)
Anticipated Difference	\$15,030.63	(\$48,199.97)

## Service Opportunities



### CHRISTMAS PARTNER ANGELS

All names have now been distributed. **Please return your wrapped gifts to the church by December 7,** for the Blessing of the Gifts during the service. We will deliver all gifts by December 13.

Thank you for joining in making this a Merry Christmas for a great many children and adults! Questions? Contact Jeris Boyce.

### HEIFER INTERNATIONAL GIFT CARDS

MOOve on over to the the Heifer International table in the foyer on **Dec. 7th and Dec. 14th between all three services.** For as little as \$10, you can purchase a share of a goat, sheep, pig, llama, flock of chickens, bees and yes – even a cow. Your contribution can be made in the name of a loved one, and you receive a card to send to that person. The card explains how the program works and describes their cornerstone of "Passing on the gift." Each family receiving an animal or plant then commits to passing on the offspring to another family. In this way, more than 4.5 million families in 128 countries have been helped.

### PADS HELP NEEDED!

**We are called by Jesus to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless.**



PADS

Please consider serving with PADS! Volunteers are **desperately** needed for **overnight shifts (11 PM—3 AM or 3-6:30 AM) or clean-up (5:30-7:15 AM).**

The PADS signup book is in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Time & in the foyer for third service or call Cathy O'Brien 847-367-8062. Thanks!

### HELPING HANDS

Helping Hands has some medical supplies such as wheel chairs and walkers etc. that are available to be loaned out. Please call John McNally (847) 401-5504, Gladys Griffin (847) 816-3492, Jeris Boyce (847) 295-0409, or the church office at (847)362-2112. Thank you.



**SCHOOL BAGS FABRIC NEEDED** — Sturdy cotton, denim, upholstery, or draperies - new or used, is needed for school bags. Please place in the box located in Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact June McCoy 847-849-0530.

## Stephen Ministry Minute



Faith: Doubt sees the obstacles, Faith sees the way. Doubt sees the darkest night, Faith sees the day. Doubt dreads to take a step, Faith soars on high. Doubt questions 'who believes?', Faith answers "I". *If you would like to talk with a Stephen Minister, contact Kevin Garren (847-816-7340), Mary Spooner (847-548-3703) or the Pastors.*

## Second Mile Giving For November Will Support:



**Larry and Jane Kies** – A few years ago, missionaries Larry and Jane Kies blessed us with an excellent program here at UMCL which focused on their work at Africa University in Zimbabwe. This university continues to strive for important milestones and just last month hosted the first ever Counseling Services Symposium held in Zimbabwe. More information regarding this symposium and the university itself can be found at [www.africau.edu](http://www.africau.edu).

**United Methodist Global AIDS Fund** – UMGAF supports education, prevention, care, and treatment programs for people living with HIV/AIDS around the globe, including the United States. Part of UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief), more information regarding this fund and other sponsored projects can be found at [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org).

## Calendar

**Deadlines for MEMOS articles: Friday, December 12; 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 17, 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><b>December 7</b></p> <p>8:00 AM—Adult Class                      8:15 AM—First Light Service                      9:00 AM—Coffee Time                      9:00 AM—Cherub Choir                      9:15 AM—Adult Class                      9:30 AM—Traditional Service                      9:30 AM—Sunday School for All Ages                      10:30 AM—Coffee Time                      10:40 AM—Joyful Noise &amp; Choristers                      10:45 AM—Adult Class                      10:45 AM—Live Nativity Rehearsal                      11:00 AM—Contemporary Service                      11:00 AM—Kids Own Worship                      3:00 PM—Advent Tea                      6:30 PM—SrHI TIDE                      7:00 PM—Cub Scout Committee</p>	<p><b>December 8</b></p> <p>1:00 PM—BookTalkers                      7:00 PM—UMW Leadership Team                      7:00 PM—Troop #72</p>	<p><b>December 9</b></p> <p>9:30 AM—Women's Spiritual Growth                      11:00 AM—Toddler Play Group                      12:00 &amp; 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA                      1:00 PM—Disciple 5                      7:00 PM—Faithful Threads                      7:00 PM—Blue Christmas Service                      7:00 PM—Staff Parish Relations Committee</p>	<p><b>December 10</b></p> <p>9:45 AM—Lectio Divina                      12:30 PM—Staff Mtg.                      1:00 PM—Women's Bible Study                      5:30 PM—All Stars                      7:00 PM—Spiritual Growth Committee                      7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE                      7:00 PM—Live Nativity Rehearsal                      7:30 PM—Troop #72 Committee</p>	<p><b>December 11</b></p> <p>9:00 AM—Faith Circle                      12:00 PM—Living Free / AA                      6:30 PM—Praise Band                      7:00 PM—Disciple 1                      7:30 PM—Adult Choir                      7:30 PM—Disciple 3                      7:30 PM—Trustees</p>	<p><b>December 12</b></p> <p>6:00 PM—Young Life Capernaum                      6:30 PM—Cub Scouts #72                      7:00 PM—20's Group @ Ben's</p>	<p><b>December 13</b></p> <p>8:00 AM—Men's Study                      9:00 AM—Contemp. Worship Committee                      4:30 PM—PADS</p>
<p><b>December 14</b></p> <p>8:00 AM—Adult Class                      8:15 AM—First Light Service                      9:00 AM—Coffee Time                      9:00 AM—Cherub Choir                      9:15 AM—Adult Class                      9:30 AM—Traditional Service                      9:30 AM—Sunday School for All Ages                      10:30 AM—Coffee Time                      10:40 AM—Joyful Noise &amp; Choristers                      10:45 AM—Adult Class                      11:00 AM—Contemporary Service                      11:00 AM—Kids Own Worship                      4:00 PM—Live Nativity Rehearsal                      6:00 PM—Live Nativity (Cook Park)</p>	<p><b>December 15</b></p> <p>6:00 PM—Daisy Scouts                      7:00 PM—Inquirers Study Group                      7:00 PM—Troop #72</p>	<p><b>December 16</b></p> <p>11:30 AM—Priscilla Circle                      12:00 &amp; 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA                      1:00 PM—Disciple 5                      7:00 PM—Resource Committee</p>	<p><b>December 17</b></p> <p>9:00 AM—MEMOS                      9:45 AM—Lectio Divina                      12:30 PM—Staff Mtg.                      6:00 PM—Ruth Circle (off site)                      7:00 PM—Heritage Bells (off site)                      7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE                      7:30 PM—Troop #72 Committee</p>	<p><b>December 18</b></p> <p>12:00 PM—Living Free / AA                      6:30 PM—Praise Band                      7:00 PM—Disciple 1                      7:30 PM—Adult Choir                      7:30 PM—Disciple 3</p>	<p><b>December 19</b></p> <p>7:00 PM—20's Group @ Ben's</p>	<p><b>December 20</b></p> <p>8:00 AM—Men's Study                      4:30 PM—PADS</p>

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

(Hearing Loop enabled at both 8:15 & 9:30 services)

**8:15 AM** — First Light Service (Nursery care for ages 0-5 years)

**9:30 AM** — Traditional Worship (Nursery care for ages 0-3 years)

**11:00 AM** — Contemporary Worship (Nursery care for ages 0-3 years)

**9:30 AM** –Sunday School Classes for all ages.

(Children 4 years through 5th grade begin in sanctuary and leave for Sunday School after Children's Message.)

**11:30 AM** –Kids Own Worship

(Children 4-10 years begin in East Room and leave after Children's Message.)

**UMW SAVE THE DATES**

<b>UMW Day of Service</b>	Elgin District UMW Day of Service	February 14, 2015
<b>Books and Brunch</b>	Our Annual Books and Brunch!	February 21, 2015

# HIGH TIDE

**JrHI TIDE — IDENTIFY yourself in THE STORY**  
Sunday - 9:30 - 10:30 AM  
Wednesday - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

**Coming up...**  
Minute to Win It Games (December 3)  
Gingerbread House Contest (December 10)  
Hansa (December 17)  
No JrHI Tide—Christmas Eve (December 24)  
Christmas (December 25)  
No JrHI Tide—New Years Eve (December 31)

## SrHI TIDE

Sunday - 9:15-10:45 AM (Explore what the culture is saying about God)  
Sunday - 6:30 - 9:00 PM (Explore what God is saying about the culture)

**NAVIGATE your setting & DISCOVER your character in THE STORY**

[www.facebook.com/togetherness](http://www.facebook.com/togetherness)



*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*

MEMOS is a bi-weekly publication of the  
United Methodist Church of Libertyville  
429 Brainerd Ave., Libertyville, IL 60048-2198

**PASTORS:**

Jamie Hanna Williams; Stephen C. Williams

Worship Services: 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m. weekdays



Phone: (847) 362-2112

Fax: (847) 362-8146



E-mail: [info@umcl.org](mailto:info@umcl.org)

### A Stephen Ministry Congregation



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

Twitter:  
[@UMCLibertyville](https://twitter.com/UMCLibertyville)

8:15—9:00 am First Light Service | 9:30—10:30 am Traditional Service | 11:00 am—12:00 pm Contemporary Service