



United Methodist Church of Libertyville

Our Mission Is To Glorify God By
Lifting Up Christ, Using Our Gifts, Ministering To All

MEMOS

Volume 2015, Issue 24 December 16, 2015

Come Celebrate Worship in the New Sanctuary on December 20!



We hope you will join us on **Sunday, December 20 at 9:30 and 11:00** for two wonderful worship services in our beautiful, newly renovated sanctuary! The awesome stained glass window, the new pews and chairs, the lovely chancel stage, the brightly remodeled and painted room, the new screens and amazing technology, the lights and decorations of the season, are gifts for all of us to share this Christmas Season. Don't miss this first Sunday in our new digs!

Between services and after the 11:00 service, food and fellowship will be served in the comfortable NEW Community Room. Relax on the couches or sit around one of the tables with new friends and old to share the joys of the season.

The **Consecration Service** to dedicate the new sanctuary and community room will be held on **January 10 with two services at 9:30 and 11:00**. Bishop Sally Dyck will be preaching. See more on page 3.

Christmas Eve Services

4:00 pm—**Family Service**—Blended Worship for the Young at Heart, Contemporary Music, Traditional Christmas Carols, Children's Message, Christmas Sermon, Candle Lighting.
Nursery Care Provided.

7:00 pm—**Traditional Candlelight Service**—Special Music and Choir, Children's Message, Christmas Sermon, Candle Lighting. Nursery Care Provided.

10:00 pm—**Traditional Candlelight Service**—Special Music and Choir, Holy Communion, Christmas Sermon, Candle Lighting.

Come and Worship in our New Space



**One Service on Sunday
December 27 at 9:30 am**



Announcements, Joys & Concerns

ONE SERVICE ONLY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 9:30 AM. Please join us for Christmastide Worship on Sunday, December 27, when we will all worship together at our 9:30 AM service.

AD BOARD MEETING— Our next Administrative Board meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, January 16, at 8:30 AM** in Room 206. All are welcome to attend!



Our prayers and condolences to wife, Brenda, and children Taylor, Grace, & Maddie and family, on the death of **KARSON DRAKE**, December 11, 2015.

Our sympathy to **CHRISTOPHE GUIARD** and family on the death of Christophe's brother, Phillippe, on December 12, 2015.



FROM BECKY TRAUT

The Panama Bake Sale was a great success! Thanks to everyone who contributed by baking and/or buying from us!

Life is like a CAMERA . . .

Focus on what's important

Capture the good times

Develop from the negatives

And if things don't work out

Take another shot!!!

GREETERS WANTED— Please sign up on the website at www.umcl.org/worship to be a greeter starting January in our new Sanctuary. Volunteers stand at the doors to meet and greet worshipers as they arrive for the traditional services (from 9:15-9:30 a.m.) Sunday mornings.

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).



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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STAFF DIRECTORY

To the Glory of God ~ Consecration Service on January 10, 2016

Please join us on January 10, 2016 as we consecrate our newly renovated sanctuary, new front entrance and community room to the Glory of God. We will have two services at 9:30 and 11:00 am. Our Bishop, Rev. Dr. Sally Dyck, will be preaching.

We will recognize the wonderful people who have helped us make this great dream a reality. Between services and after the 11:00 service we invite you to a joyous time of food and fellowship in the New Community Room. Don't miss this important moment and celebration in our life together!!



Thank You to Mike Foley and the Building Committee for their amazing work these past two years. Members of the committee include: Peg Berryman, Don Boyce, Mike Foley (Chairperson), Sue Hamilton, Bruce Locke, Mark Mason, Herb Spooner, Pastor Jamie Hanna Williams and Pastor Stephen C. Williams.

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 of the day and those postmarked on or before that date. If you have questions, please contact Ruth Ross at the Church (847-362-2112) or via email (ruth.ross@umcl.org).



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.

For more information or questions, please contact Ruth Ross at 847-362-2112 or via email (ruth.ross@umcl.org).



Annual Christmas Tree Sale—LAST WEEK



The sale runs daily 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.

Wreaths, Garland, & More ~ Youth Earn a Discount for Your Mission Trip

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 19** 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!**



Christian Education

LIVE NATIVITY THANK YOU!

Amanda Seibert and the Children’s Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone that helped out with the Live Nativity on December 13th.

A **BIG** thanks to our director Denise Gibson and our music team Blair Brockman, Mary Arendt, Mary Ann Burson and Jim Grace. We would also like to thank our talented cast, including Lexi Sapp and Connor Clausen for filling in last minute!

We are also VERY thankful for our stage, lights and sound crew - John Brockman, Zac and Connor Clausen, Kevin Garren, Ben Hallett, Dan Mullen, Steve Neil, Tom & Jonathan Palmieri and Tom Seibert.

We would also like to thank our talented cast and their parents for braving the wet weather, the United Methodist Women and congregation members for the delicious cookies and hot cocoa, the 8th grade Confirmation class and many others for making this event a success!



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.

PAJAMA SUNDAY— JANUARY 3, 2016



Do you lack the motivation to get dressed and come to church on cold, snowy Sunday mornings? We have a solution for you - PAJAMA SUNDAY!

All ages are invited to wear their comfy, warm pajamas to worship and B.I.G. Time (Sunday School) during the 9:30 and 11:00 services on January 3, 2016.

We will serve breakfast treats and have a special activity during B.I.G. Time and Kids Own Worship. But please find the motivation to at least brush your teeth!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



B.I.G. Time (Sunday School) and Kids Own Worship classes are in need of teachers for January, February & March. If you are able to teach or assist a teacher, please contact Amanda Seibert at Amanda.Seibert@umcl.org.

Second Mile Giving For December Will Support:

Larry & Jane Kies —These Northern Illinois Conference sponsored missionaries, who visited our church some years ago, are based at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Jane teaches English and Larry has several roles within the agricultural curriculum. For their recent updates, go to www.africau.edu.



United Methodist Global Aids Fund (UMGAF) – This UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) sponsored program supports education, prevention, care and treatment programs for people living with HIV/AIDS around the world. One of their current initiatives is to eradicate HIV by 2020. More information can be found on the UMCOR website: www.umcor.org/projects.

United Methodist Women



RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will hold their annual Christmas Potluck Dinner on **Wednesday, December 16 at 6:00 PM** at the home of Beth March (15660 Timber Lane, Libertyville 847-367-5175).



It is a time for special Christmas fellowship so please feel free to join in. If you are interested, please call Beth to tell her what you will be contributing for the meal.

LOVE IN ACTION THANK YOU!

The UMW Love in Action event was a huge success with participants from age 5 to age 86! 33 UMCOR health kits were completed and several additional kits will be filled before shipping. Thank you to Bonnie Lill, Kim Munro and Jean Kowal for leadership of this gathering. We have been asked to schedule additional hands on events throughout the year; so watch for information. What a blessing to take time to do something for others during this busy Advent season.



SAVE THE DATE!!!! 6TH UMW ADVENT TEA DECEMBER 4, 2016

Finance Update—December Critical

The final quarter of the church year is critical to our overall financial health. As we move into December, we begin to close the gap between income and expenses, but our gap at this point is still about \$58,300 more than we expected. It's very important that we have a strong 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 as we close the year. 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 11/30/15

	Month-To-Date	Year-to-Date
Offerings/Revenue	\$60,989.01	\$656,917.73
Expenses	\$67,584.12	\$775,917.33
Actual Difference	(\$6,595.11)	(\$118,999.60)
Anticipated Difference	\$22,853.58	(\$60,669.71)
Off Plan By	(\$29,448.69)	(\$58,329.89)

Stephen Ministry Minute

Christmas Gift Suggestions: *To your enemy, forgiveness
To an opponent, tolerance
To a friend, your heart
To a customer, service
To all, charity
To every child, a good example
To yourself, respect*



If you would like to talk with a Stephen Minister, contact Kevin Garren (847-816-7340), Mary Spooner (847-548-3703) or the Pastors.

Come Sing with the Choir on Christmas Eve

The Adult Choir will sing at the 7:00 and 10:00 PM services and members of the congregation are invited to sing with us if they can. Rehearsal will be Wednesday, December 23 at 7:30 PM and Thursday, December 24 at 6:00 PM. Please contact Jim Grace (jim.grace@umcl.org) or Jeff Brown (jeff.brown@umcl.org) if you have any questions.




Fellowship and Nurture

CLIP N SAVE

PRIME TIME POTLUCK LUNCH AND GAME DAY—JANUARY 4

Join us for a potluck lunch at Noon followed by fun after lunch playing games to celebrate the New Year. Please bring your favorite game.

PLEASE remember to make a reservation BEFORE WEDNESDAY, December 30th at 10:00 A.M.



Game Day

FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS —JANUARY 1, 6:30 PM

Scott and Charlotte Allen will host Young Couples at their house at 1201 Hampton Lane, Mundelein. We will celebrate the new year with our tradition of jambalaya, white bean chicken chili and White Elephant exchange!



White Elephant—this should not be something that you go to the store & purchase new. These are gag gifts, things that you may prefer to re-gift, etc. The rule is that you leave with as many gifts as you arrived with. If you want to bring 2 gifts, you should expect to go home with 2 gifts.

Hope you can make it! Please **RSVP** at (847) 968-4565 or rscallen@gmail.com

Women’s Bible Study—Wednesday Afternoons

We will start meeting on **Wednesday, January 13th at 1:00 PM** in Room 103 at the church. We are studying the book of '2 Timothy'. The study lasts 8 weeks. If you would like to join the study, please contact Terry Johnson at JGTAJohnson@aol.com. Books will be ordered December 22, 2015 and cost \$7. They will be available for pick up in the office the beginning of the year. Everyone is welcome to join the study.

Service Opportunities

STYROFOAM COLLECTION TO SAVE LANDFILLS.


Again we will collect packing foam so that it can be properly recycled. So, drop off all the packing foam - large or small pieces - into the tubs which will be in the Fellowship Hall foyer and in the main foyer by the parking lot entrance. Thank you, The Earth.

HELPING HANDS

Just a reminder that we do take medical equipment and store it for use by our members and families as needed.

Please call John McNally (847) 401-5504, Gladys Griffin (847) 816-3492, or Jeris Boyce (847) 295-0409 if you have a need or would like to donate medical equipment.





PADS

PADS—We will be moving back to UMC in January and Need Your Help!

Volunteers are needed for overnight shifts and clean-up shifts, as well as folks willing to bring in dinners on the 2nd or 4th Saturdays of the month.

The PADS signup book is in Fellowship Hall service or call Cathy O'Brien 847-367-8062. Thanks!

Calendar

Deadlines for MEMOS articles: Friday, January 1 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, January 6,
 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
	<u>December 14</u> 1:00 PM—BookTalkers 7:00 PM—Inquirers' Study 7:00 PM—Outreach Committee 7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)	<u>December 15</u> 11:30 AM—Priscilla Circle (off site) 12:00 & 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA 7:00 PM—Resource Committee 7:00 PM—Sound System Training	<u>December 16</u> 8:45 AM—MEMOS 9:15 AM—Staff Mtg. 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina 7:00 PM—JrHI TIDE 7:00 PM—Advent Study "Under Wraps" 7:00 PM—Ruth Circle (off site) 7:00 PM—Sound System Training	<u>December 17</u> 12:00 PM—Living Free / AA 6:15 PM—Sanctuary Rehearsal 7:00 PM—Disciple IV 7:30 PM—Adult Choir 7:30 PM—Praise Band (off site)	<u>December 18</u> No Scheduled Events	<u>December 19</u> 8:45 AM—Advent Study, "Watch for the Light" 5:00 PM—PADS (off site)
<u>December 20</u> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Return to Sanctuary</i> 8:00 AM—Adult Class 8:15 AM—Adult Class 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 11:00 AM—Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM—Kids' Own Worship 6:30 PM—SrHI Tide	<u>December 21</u> 7:00 PM—Young & Board (off site)	<u>December 22</u> 12:00 & 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA 7:00 PM—Faithful Threads (off site)	<u>December 23</u> 9:15 AM—Staff Mtg. 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina 7:00 PM—Advent Study "Under Wraps" 7:30 PM—Adult Choir	<u>December 24</u> <i>Christmas Eve</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 12:00 PM—Living Free / AA 4:00 PM—Family Service 7:00 PM—Traditional Candlelight Service 10:00 PM—Traditional Candlelight Service (with communion)	<u>December 25</u> <i>Christmas Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	<u>December 26</u> 5:00 PM—PADS (off site)
<u>December 27</u> 8:00 AM—Adult Class 8:15 AM—Adult Class 9:30 AM—Combined Service 9:30 AM—Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM—Coffee Time	<u>December 28</u> No Scheduled Events	<u>December 29</u> 12:00 & 7:30 PM—Living Free / AA	<u>December 30</u> 9:45 AM—Lectio Divina	<u>December 31</u> <i>New Year's Eve</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 12:00 PM—Living Free / AA	<u>January 1</u> <i>New Year's Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 6:30 PM—First Friday Friends (off site)	<u>January 2</u> 5:00 PM—PADS (at UMCL)

Altar Flowers For Our New Sanctuary!

Call the church or go to our website (www.umcl.org/altar_flowers) to donate altar flowers. Altar flowers each Sunday are given in honor of, or in memory of, special people and events. Questions? Contact Joannie Foley at foleyszoo@aol.com.



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

Sunday: Traditional 9:30 AM—Contemporary 11:00 AM

Office Hours: 8:30 AM—3:30 PM weekdays



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Fax: (847) 362-8146



E-mail: info@umcl.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*A Stephen Ministry
Congregation*



Website:

www.umcl.org

Twitter:

@UMCLibertyville

