



...So How Are the Children?

**Christ United Methodist Church**  
**2014 CHARGE CONFERENCE WORSHIP & AGENDA**  
**Thursday, October 16, 2014, at 7:00 pm**  
**District Superintendent: Rev. Oscar Carrasco**

Welcome & Greeting	<i>Rev. Kangse Lee</i>
Gathering Song	<i>"We are the Church"</i>
Opening Prayer	<i>Gary Slagle, Lay Leader</i>
Business	
• Nominations	<i>Rev. Kangse Lee</i>
• Staff-Parish Relations Committee	<i>Gary Gruebnau</i>
• Finance Committee	<i>Joe Kilberger</i>
• Board of Trustees	<i>Jenny Heider</i>
• Membership Report	<i>Michele Linner</i>
Reflections on the Year in Ministry	<i>What are we celebrating?</i>
Report on the work of Imagine No Malaria	<i>video</i>
Scripture Lesson	<i>Matthew 19:13-15</i>
Singing	<i>"Lord I Want to be a Christian"</i>
Message and Reflection	
• Discussion:	
	<i>Jesus said, "let the children come" ... what do children and teens bring with them?</i>
	<i>What does it mean to welcome these children and teens?</i>
	<i>Who are these children and teens?</i>
	<i>What can this congregation do next to reach and welcome the neighborhood children and teens?</i>
Closing Prayer	<i>"A Prayer for the Children" by Marian Wright Edelman (see next page)</i>
Hymn	<i>"Here I Am Lord"</i>
Dismissal and Blessing	<i>Rev. Kangse Lee</i>

**“A Prayer for the Children”** by Marian Wright Edelman

(A)

We pray for the children  
who sneak popsicles before supper,  
who erase holes in math workbooks,  
who can never find their shoes. And we pray for those  
who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire,  
who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers,  
who never "counted potatoes,"  
who are born in places where we wouldn't be caught dead,  
who never go to the circus,  
who live in an X-rated world.

We pray for the children  
who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions,  
who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money. And we pray for those  
who never get dessert,  
who have no safe blanket to drag behind them,  
who watch their parents watch them die,  
who can't find bread to steal,  
who don't have rooms to clean up,  
whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser,  
whose monsters are real.

(B)

We pray for the children  
who spend their allowance before Tuesday,  
who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food,  
who like ghost stories,  
who shove dirty clothes under the bed,  
who never rinse out the tub,  
who get visits from the tooth fairy,  
who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool,  
who squirm in church and scream in the phone,  
whose tears we sometimes laugh at and  
whose smiles can make us cry. And we pray for those  
Whose nightmares come in the daytime,  
Who will eat anything  
Who have never seen a dentist,  
Who aren't spoiled by anybody,  
Who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep,  
Who live and move, but have no being

(All)

We pray for the children  
Who want to be carried and for those who must,  
Who we never give up on and for those who don't get a second chance.  
We pray for those we smother and for those who will grab the hand of anybody kind enough to  
offer it.

## **Membership Nurturing**

*submitted by Kim Aupperle, 2014 Membership Nurturing Chair*

Membership Nurturing for 2013-2014 has been successful in many ways. Some of those needs for members include serving the community: for instance, Perry Elementary Rally gearing up the Carpentersville families starting the new school year, and making crafts with children at the annual Sunset Park Festival. Another would be caring for members who have fallen ill with prayer, cards and meals brought to them during their healing time. Also, new members joining the church were introduced and welcomed with prayers, gifts and open arms into their new church family. In conclusion, we strive to be the love, care and acceptance to all as Jesus is to each of us. We stand together in welcoming all with;

Open Hearts- Accepting to all with Christ's love

Open Minds- Open minds to all in their faith walk

Open Doors-Welcoming to all people

*This is why we labor and strive, because we put our full hope in the living God who is Savior to all people, especially those that believe. (1 Timothy 4:10)*

**The following 2014 membership information  
is submitted by Michele Linner, Membership Secretary**

Professing Members as of Church Conference 2013		<b>149</b>
Members added since 2013 Church Conference		<b>+ 15</b>
Profession of Faith                      (Chris and Beth Patrylak, Dan and Ashley Ward ,6 confirmands)	10	
Transfers from Other UMC (Bill and Wanda Strother, Lorraine Taylor)	3	
Transfers from Other Denominations (Enrico and Daisy Santoso)	2	
Members Removed since last church conference		<b>&lt;-11&gt;</b>
Death	2	
Withdrawals	0	
Transfer to Other Denominations	2	
Transfer to Other UMC	7	
How Members Removed: (W – withdrawn, D – death, X – transfer to other church)		
Ralph and Carolyn Bergstrom X	Sharon McCloud D	Clark, Betty D
Bryan and Amy Doyle X	Jud Strickland X	Thom and Nancy Palmer X
Brad and Emily Plummer X		
Total Members		<b>153</b>

Baptisms since 2013 Church Conference (Dale Harden and Dan Ward)                      2



Inactive members who have not responded to status requests. **Third** year of 3-year process.  
Irizarry, Aaron, Marti ,and Natalie    Licata, Sarah    Howard, Elaine and Rod

Moved/Inactive members who have not responded to status requests. **First** year of 3-year process.

Giese, Gill	Giese, Christopher	Stubblefield, Lee	Cook, Dana
Hofer, Kevin	Hofer, Renne	Hofer, Patton	Hofer, Zach
Kuhn, Chris	Kuhn, Heather	Larocco, Braxton	Ratajczak, Tricia

## **Finance Report**

*Submitted by Joe Kilberger, 2014 Chair*

The following are the major 2014 financial related events for Christ United Methodist Church:

1. After analyzing the results of the 2014 stewardship campaign the budget was revised early in the year to balance expenses with projected income.
2. Two letters were sent to the congregation thanking them for their financial support and explaining how we are "Living Within Our Means".
3. Apportionments are being paid at a rate of 10% of collections.
4. The stewardship campaign for 2015 will begin in November and revisions will be made to the 2015 budget if necessary.

### **2015 CUMC Preliminary Budget**

<b>INCOME</b>	
Contributions Received	\$159,000
Other Income	\$7,000
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>\$166,000</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>STAFF PARISH</b>	
Compensation & Benefits	\$99,000
Travel	\$2,000
Continuing Education	\$3,250
Other Expenses	\$230
<b>Subtotal Staff Parish</b>	<b>\$104,480</b>
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	
Church Facility	\$25,989
Parsonage	\$5,954
<b>Subtotal Trustees</b>	<b>\$31,943</b>
<b>MINISTRY PROGRAMS</b>	
Membership	\$1,000
Adult Spiritual Development	\$570
Children's Education	\$2,150
Mission & Outreach	\$400
Worship	\$1,500
<b>Subtotal Ministry Programs</b>	<b>\$5,620</b>
<b>General Expenses</b>	
General Office Expense	\$4,463
Computer Expense	\$1,550
Apportionments	\$15,900
Event Expenses	\$250
Misc. Expenses	\$171
Conference Expenses	\$420
Bank & Finance Charges	\$445
<b>Subtotal General Expenses</b>	<b>\$23,199</b>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>\$165,242</u></b>
<b><u>INCOME-EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>\$758</u></b>

## Christ UMC Leadership for 2015

**Administrative Board Chairperson: Debbie Thomas**

**Church Treasurer: Larry Fournier**

**Financial Secretary: Joe Greenwood**

**Membership Secretary: Michele Linner**

**Recording Secretary: Evy Markowski**

**Lay Leader: Gary Slagle**

**Lay Member to Annual Conference: Peggy Literski, Kim Aupperle (Alternate)**

**Nomination and Leadership Development (Chairperson: Pastor)**

2015: Debbie Thomas, Lisa Greenwood 2016: Cheryl Fournier, Kim Aupperle 2017: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointed Officers: Lay Leader, Lay Member, Ad Board Chair, PR, and Chairpersons of Trustee, SPRC, & Finance

**Committee on Staff-Parish Relations (Chairperson: Evy Markowski, Gary Gruebnau)**

2015: Terence Agabin, Eric Hugg, Amy Huibregtse 2016: \*Dave Dodge 2017: Evy Markowski, Gary Gruebnau

Appointed Officers : Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conf. (Young Adults/Youth)

**Board of Trustees (Chairperson: Jenny Heider Vice: Eric Linner )**

2015: Mark Harden, Jenny Heider 2016: Chad Aupperle, Eric Linner 2017: \_\_\_\_\_

**Finance and Stewardship Committee (Chairperson: Joe Kilberger)**

Appointed Officers: Pastor, Church Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Ad Board Chair, SPRC Chair or Rep, Trustee Chair or Rep., Lay Leader, Lay Member, Stewardship Coordinator (Debbie Thomas)

Elected Member: Elena Agabin

Committee on Records and History: **Co-Chairpersons: Janet & Duane Graf**

Larry Fournier, Linda Mullen, Peggy Literski

### **Ministries Team Leaders**

<p><b>Nurturing</b>  <b>Membership Nurturing:</b> Kim Aupperle  <b>Welcoming New Members:</b> Doug Literski  <b>Stephen Ministry:</b> Linda Mullen  <b>M&amp;M's:</b> Muriel Wright  <b>Special Events:</b> Michele Linner  <b>Wednesday Morning Spirituality:</b> Pastor  <b>Thursday Morning Women:</b> Lisa Greenwood  <b>Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study:</b> Gary Slagle  <b>Visitation Ministry:</b> Kim Aupperle, Linda White  <b>Kitchen Committee:</b> Janet Kleckner, Marie Harden</p> <p><b>Outreach</b>  <b>Missions:</b> Janet Graf, Bonnie Dodge  <b>Bethlehem Market Place:</b> Janet Kleckner  <b>Caring Card Ministry:</b> Cheryl Fournier  <b>Imagine No Malaria:</b> Janet Graf  <b>Reconciling Ministry:</b> Gary Gruebnau</p>	<p><b>Worship</b>  <b>Worship Design Team:</b> Peggy Literski  <b>Worship Leader (Music):</b>  <b>Sound Team (Audio-Visual):</b> Gary Slagle  <b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Pauline Green  <b>Holy Communion:</b> Joe &amp; Eleanor Kilberger  <b>Bell Choir:</b> Janet Kleckner</p> <p><b>Education</b>  <b>Adult Education:</b> Pastor  <b>Youth Ministry:</b> Lisa Greenwood, Chad Aupperle  <b>Children's Ed:</b> Julie Kukreja, Chris Patrylak</p> <p><b>Communication</b>  <b>Public Relations:</b> ( )  <b>Web Communication Ministry:</b> Julie Kukreja, Enrico Santoso</p> <p><b>Prayer Ministry</b>  <b>Prayer Shawl Ministry:</b> ( )</p>
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## Other Ministry Reports

### Administrative Board Report for 2014 Church Conference

*Submitted by Debbie Thomas, 2014 Administrative Board Chair*

In February 2014 the Ad Board met for a day workshop that centered around how to get volunteers and keep them, to interest them in our activities without overwhelming them. We talked at great length about getting to know the person on a more personal level before signing them up to be placed in a position as well as being up front about all of the things the positions require. We also heard from each leadership team about their 2014 goals and directions.

We have worked on a decision to make some physical changes to our building to help us celebrate our 25 years of the life of this congregation. We look forward to the new changes and opportunities for outreach that they will enhance both within our congregation and the community.

We have decided that moving forward into 2015 we will begin a year round Stewardship Campaign to share what this faith means to us and encourage others to pass on the blessings. It is so fitting as we celebrate 25 years of CUMC.

I look forward to another year of leading this congregation as the Ad Board Chair and pray for Gods continued guidance as we move forward with His work.

### Mission Team

*Submitted by Bonnie Dodge and Janet Graf, 2014 Mission Team Co-chairs*

**Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry** – On Feb.2 we collected 186 lbs. of non-perishable food on “Souper Bowl Sunday”

**Imagine No Malaria** – March 2014- Kickoff for INM campaign. Information and goal was given to congregation. Goal is \$7500 by Dec 2016

**School Tool Box Program** - The month of April we collected \$1160 and were able to fill 40 backpacks with school supplies for a needy school in the local school district

**TLS Veterans** - In April we collected 49 lbs. of food for their pantry

**Get Your Can To Church** – June – On the first Sunday of each month we ask the Congregation to bring non-perishable food for the food pantry. Those who forget may put loose change in a coffee can  
June collection – 78 lbs. of food and \$40 cash  
July collection – 150 lbs. of food and \$51 cash  
Aug. collection – 147 lbs. of food and \$45.67 cash  
Sept. - 92 lbs of food

All donations were given to Algonquin/LITH Food Pantry

**Community Parking Lot Yard Sale** - June 21 - Proceeds from rental of space and tables amounted to \$290 and money went to Imagine No Malaria fund

**Colonial Café fundraiser** - Aug.21 – Percentage of sales for three days amounted to 547.80. Proceeds went to Imagine No Malaria fund

**To date (Sept 2014) a total of \$2900 has been collected for Imagine No Malaria. \$1100 has been sent to the Northern Illinois Conference**

For the remainder of the year our Mission events are:

**Bake Sale** – Sept. 21 – Proceeds will go to Imagine No Malaria

**Cardinal Crop Walk** – Oct. 19 – Monetary donations will benefit PADS and Illinois Food Bank (which will be split between the Algonquin/LITH Food Pantry & the Fish Carpentersville Food Pantry)

**Warm Ministry** - Oct. – we will collect gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats for needy children

**Home of the Sparrow Giving Tree** – WE will collect Holiday presents for a HOS family.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

*Submitted by Katy Spooner, 2014 Secretary*

Helping Hands is the Prayer Shawl Ministry at CUMC. We provide handmade shawls, cross stitch bookmarks and prayer boxes that have been prayed over by our group. Upon request, these are presented to family members, friends and neighbors of our community during challenging times in their lives.

In 2014 we have given 15 prayer shawls – 5 of those were given to Sherman Hospital in Elgin. We offer cross stitch book marks to church members on a table in the narthex. We have also given out care boxes which contain small wrapped gifts with biblical sayings to open daily during a difficult time. Prayer boxes constructed by our members are offered to new members and those visiting our church.

We meet on the second Monday of each month except July and December. We generally have 8 or more women attend as we conduct our meeting, work on our projects, and enjoy coffee and treats. We also have some ladies who make shawls, but are unable to attend our meetings; for these shawl donations we are very grateful. We collect a donation from each member and that money was used as a \$75 donation to the “No More Malaria” campaign.

This is a special ministry that offers us the opportunity to meet and to help out other people who are suffering and need God’s healing touch. If you are interested in crocheting, knitting, or cross stitching, we would welcome anyone to join us. We will be happy to help you get started. The love of this church is far reaching and the Christ United Methodist Church flame shines around the world through the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

## **Special Events Committee**

*by Michele Linner, 2014 Chair*

This Ministry team’s purpose is to plan free or low-priced fellowship events for church members and their friends. We have planned and implemented a number of events this year and have a few planned for the remainder of the year.

We continue to work with other committees/ministries when needed. We are beginning to assist in planning family activities with the Children’s Ministry team.

### **2014 Events planned and implemented:**

- Hawaiian-Themed Game Night- Saturday, March 9th 5-8:30 pm. Pizza and drinks provided. FREE
- Sundae Sunday with local strawberries. Salad Pot Luck with Strawberry Sundaes Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> following worship. FREE
- Local Park Hike and Ice Cream- (LITH Fen State Conservation Area) Sun. Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> 2-4 Ice Cream following hike. FREE (cost of ice cream not included)

### **Coming events for Fall/Winter 2014:**

- Fall Hayride and Bonfire –Randall Oaks Park. Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 5-7 pm.
- Cocoa and Carols – Sunday in December TBA

### **Coming events for Winter/Spring 2015:**

- Game Night – February or March TBA

For 2015 we have asked for a \$250 budget to help keep the cost of events down for members and their friends.



## **Stephen Ministry**

*Submitted by Linda Mullen, 2014 Stephen Leader*

**Stephen Ministry – a ministry of care.** Individuals go through a very detailed training program to become Stephen Ministers. We are so lucky to have dedicated people on our Stephen Ministry team. Each Stephen Minister makes a Covenant of Confidentiality, which is a promise made to every care receiver.

We have Stephen Ministers working in different roles. Some are ready to provide immediate support in a crisis situation, others are providing on-going care and we all are Prayer Warriors. As the result of a survey within the Stephen Minister group, we changed peer supervision from bi-monthly to once-a-month meetings. Our typical meeting also includes on-going training for everyone. Each Stephen Minister is also available for meetings based on the needs of their care receiver.

Stephen Ministry at Christ Church can go beyond our church family and the walls of our building and includes serving the community. We are prepared to provide care in any situation. We have also reached out to a church in Crystal Lake to help us provide a Stephen Minister for a member of our congregation and to assist in providing training for new Stephen Ministers. We are always available to answer questions about this ministry to anyone interested in becoming a part of it, whether as a care receiver or a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministers know that we offer only care-giving and that we leave the cure-giving to God. The support Stephen Ministers give to one another is a gift we each have been given. Stephen Ministry is often called “After Care” – after the death, after the divorce, after a relationship change. We are able to walk one-on-one with someone going through a dark time in their life. It is our privilege to serve God through this ministry.

## **Worship Design Team**

*Submitted by Peggy Literski, 2014 Worship Team Leader*

Worship Team meets with Pastor to plan enhancements to the service that are related to his message. This includes music, order of worship, videos, presentations, décor, and other creative ways to support the message. Lenten and Advent seasons are usually theme-related and are illustrated with many different creative presentations and music. Special occasions are supported with creative ideas to give meaningful definition to the event. All services are thoughtfully planned to support Pastor and his message.

We are challenged musically at this time with a lack of needed musicians. We are currently searching for guitarist, keyboard, and/or Worship Leader. This could be several people, or one that can do all these things. Commitment and passion for serving with music are necessary for this ministry. We hope to find people to share their gifts with us soon.

We are blessed to have a wonderful Bell/Chime Choir that contributes to Worship on a frequent basis. This team has many dedicated members and gives us great pleasure with their music.

The team members are all very committed to this ministry and give unselfishly of their time to make worship as meaningful as possible. I am very grateful for their passion and love.

## **Youth Explosion**

*Submitted by Lisa Greenwood, 2014 Youth Director*

On Sunday, November 17, 2013 six youth, their mentors, and their parents completed their journey for confirmation. Our confirmation class this year included Dale Harden, Nicholas Masek, Alison Blackmore, Casey Deak, and Celine and Jensen Jones, who were all given a blessing from the pastor and the congregation.

Our youth have served the congregation and community in many ways. This year our youth enjoyed being a big part of Vacation Bible School. They served as actors for skits and activity assistants in our 3D Agency VBS. Our youth again were standout helpers bonding with participants and leaders of the different activities.

In March nine youth, along with two volunteer youth from the community, served at the PADS center at Cary United Methodist Church. They made beds and served dinner to the 50+ residents in the shelter. They were commended on their hospitality and humility as they served those who came to shelter.

They participated in a "30 Hour Famine", and raised money for the world hunger relief. They visited the local animal shelter and participated in the Cardinal CROPWALK to fight hunger. Our youth were a great help in this past year's Bethlehem Marketplace. They helped with the set, activities and breakdown.

We have Youth Education most Sundays during the 10:00 am service. Youth Explosion has meetings/outings about three times per month. There are 13 middle and high school youth that regularly attend our events and services.

The numerous fun events we held over the past year included putt-putt, a super bowl party, two overnight "lock ins", an overnight trip to a lake cottage, bowling, laser tag and various events that involved food, movies and games.

### **Vision for 2015:**

....Increase our youths' knowledge of God and love for God through education (Sunday morning, Youth Explosion Spiritual Fitness, and short-term programs) ...Serve God by serving others in service events (including PADS, food pantry, 30 Hour Famine, etc.); plus serving our church (worship team, nursery, cleaning team, etc.) ...Have fun together and build relationships with each other in ways that honor God ...Increase attendance by encouraging the youth to invite friends and neighbors to Youth Explosion events.

## **Report of the Clergy**

### **Pastor's Report**

*Submitted by Pastor Kangse Lee*

*"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." (John 12:24)*

As we are celebrating 25 years in ministry as Christ United Methodist Church, I am thinking about those who decided to "die and be resurrected" to the Glory of the Lord! After the faithful people of the Lake In The Hills United Methodist Church tearfully held their closing service on October 8th, 1989, they joyfully held the very first service of Christ United Methodist Church on the following

Sunday, October 15th at Crystal Lake South High School. I am so thankful for those who served as the people of Lake in the Hills United Methodist Church, and for all those who have been faithfully serving as the people of Christ United Methodist Church. And I am so honored to be a part of God's ministry with all of God's family.

As I am now serving in my 5<sup>th</sup> year at Christ U.M.C. one key word comes to mind: "transition." We have and continue to be experiencing many transitions. As a preacher, preaching without notes has always been very challenging for me; I am so glad that I made a decision to make this transition at the beginning of this year. When I preach without notes, I clearly see that people get into the message. Their response truly helps me define my identity as a pastor in bringing a relevant message each week.

We are also experiencing a transition in Leadership Building. In February our Administrative Board (Chairperson: Debbie Thomas) hosted a workshop to align all our leaders to share and accomplish their goals and directions. I am working with our Ad Board Chairperson and our Lay Leader (Gary Slagle) as "Team One" for Intentional Leadership Building so that, with God's guidance we can move forward together.

We experienced another transition in our Children's Ministry. For more than 20 years, Cheryl Fournier devoted herself to this ministry. Now, Julie Kukreja and Chris Patrylak are stepping up to continue this ministry in Journeyland in order for our children to learn about the most important compass - Jesus Christ, and to become faithful disciples throughout their life journey.

The Building Enhancement Team's effort is going to bring another transition. As a follow up to our "Path to the Future" visioning conference held in April 2012 this team has been looking for ways to connect to the community by enhancing our visibility. Our leaders are aware that the real change we want to see won't come just from changing the physical aspect of our church building, but from the transformation by the power of the Holy Spirit. Hence, 14 members of our church family have joined an in-depth Bible Study called "Covenant" which started this fall. Surely this will bring a change in our ministry together as they learn how to love God and others better.

I am so thankful for all our ministry and mission team members and for all those individuals who are serving invisibly. It was especially meaningful to be able to support the needs of the local community by having our church families provide school supplies, and also by our participation in a Rally for the Residents of Carpentersville. I also participated in a meeting with various community leaders, including the Superintendent of School District 158, a Chief of Police, a Village Manager, a Social-worker, as well as other local area pastors where we discussed issues concerning students at school. There are so many incidents of bullying and harassment and abuse, often coming from family and economic transitions. We have agreed to build a "network" to work together.

As I close this report, I am clearly seeing "much fruits" and more seeds - some visible, some invisible. Thanks be to God. And thank you to all of the people of the Christ United Methodist Church.

Peace,  
Pastor Kangse Lee