



**Christ United Methodist Church**  
**2015 CHARGE CONFERENCE WORSHIP & AGENDA**  
**Sunday, November 1, 2015, at 12:00 noon**  
**District Superintendent: Rev. Darneather Murph-Heath**

Welcome & Greeting

Rev. Ronald Greene

Call to Faithful & Holy Conference *from "Eight Principles of Holy Conferencing" by Bishop Sally Dyck*

*We United Methodists conference together – meaning that we confer with each other in order to find our way forward as disciples of Jesus in the world today. In all aspects of church life, we have to decide how to organize our ministries, how to apply our faith to complex and contemporary matters, how to spend money, and even what it means to be a follower of Jesus. When we all come together, there are many different perspectives and opinions about each one of those decisions and lots of emotion, because the decisions matter to us.*

**So as we gather today, let us seek the presence of the Holy Spirit through whom we are reminded, taught, called, gifted, and unified.**

Opening Prayer

Gary Slagle, Lay Leader

Lectio Divina with Galatians 3:26-28

Read 3 times: in Common English Bible, in NRSV, and in "The Message"

Message and Reflection

video "Brother"

*Small-group reflections about race from the perspective of our Christian faith.  
What is the role of the church in learning about the races and creating the beloved community of Christ?  
How is the church meant to be different as we engage the topic of race?  
What would God have us do next in ministry to "see" others as our brothers and sisters?*

Business

- Lay Leadership—Nomination and election of church officers and committee members Rev. Ronald Greene
- SPRC—clergy salary plus clergy and laity ministry recommendations Evy Markowski
- Finance—budget consideration Larry Fournier
- Other items Rev. Ronald Greene

Reflections on the Year in Ministry

*What new thing has happened this year for the Kingdom?*

Closing Reflection (*BOW p. 436*)

District Superintendent Rev. Darneather Murph-Heath

*Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly"*

**Therefore, let us pray that we may see nothing in isolation, but may know ourselves bound to one another and to all people under heaven. Amen.**

Dismissal and Blessing

Rev. Ronald Greene

## **Welcoming Ministry**

*submitted by Douglas Literski, 2015 Welcoming Ministry Chair*

The primary goal of the Welcoming Team is to make a connection with a new person or family entering the church for the very first time. When they leave our service they should feel that they have a friend that they can immediately connect with when they return to our church the next time. We try and remember the first names of our new faces, so that when they return we can greet them as a friend. The person on the team who has made a connection on Sunday morning, follows up with a hand written card to the new person. We also determine when it is appropriate to ask our new people if they would like a nametag. We are sensitive to not pushing our church on anyone, and rejoice when they smile and say, 'yes, I would like a nametag'.

## **Membership Nurturing**

*submitted by Kim Aupperle, 2015 Membership Nurturing Chair*

Membership Nurturing for 2014-2015 has been successful in many ways. Some of the needs for members have included serving the community; for instance, Perry Elementary-serving alongside with students and staff passing out food items to families in need; making crafts with children in the Kids Tent at the annual Lake in the Hills Summer Sunset Festival; and packing 200 meals for two food pantries at the CARDUNAL Crop Walk Rally. Other needs included caring for members who've 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, inviting and encouraging them to serve alongside their new church family. In conclusion, we strive to be the "love, care and serve all, as Jesus taught us to do". 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

May God Bless Christ United Methodist Church to thrive  
as we serve the community and each other as Jesus taught us to do.

*Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.* (Ephesians 5:19-20 NIV)

**The following 2015 membership information  
is submitted by Michele Linner, Membership Secretary; November 1, 2015**

Professing Members as of Church Conference 2014		<b>153</b>
Members added since 2014 Church Conference		<b>+ 13</b>
Profession of Faith (Ashley & Brianne Brooks, Judith Aronson, Shelley Logston + 5 confirmands)	9	
Transfers from Other UMC (Richard Brooks, Nikki Lewis, Craig Logston)	3	
Transfers from Other Denominations (Marc Lewis)	1	
Members Removed since last church conference		<b>&lt;-3&gt;</b>
Death	2	
Withdrawals	1	
Transfer to Other Denominations	0	
Transfer to Other UMC	0	
How Members Removed: (W – withdrawn, D – death, X – transfer to other church)		
Keith DeLap	D	Naomi DeLap
		D
		Lee Stubblefield
		W
Total Members		<b>163</b>

Baptisms since 2014 Church Conference (5)  
(Amelia Ward, Everett Gustafson, Layla Brooks, Judith Aronson, Byron Lewis)

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Inactive members who have not responded to status requests. **Third** year of 3-year process.  
Licata, Sarah                      Howard, Elaine and Rod                      (need to vote on to remove from membership)

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

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

***correction: Before we voted to remove the names of inactive/moved members, Rev. Murph-Heath explained that the process for removing someone from the membership records has been changed. It is now a two year process instead of three years. Therefore the church conference voted to accept the removal of all names listed above under both the 3rd year and 2nd year processes***

## Finance Report

*Submitted by Joe Kilberger, 2015 Finance Chair*

The following are the major 2015 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. CUMC continues to operate in a debt free mode
3. "Living Within Our Means" spending philosophy
4. Apportionments are being paid at a rate of 10% of collections.
5. The UMF investment fund was utilized for capital and noncapital expenditures

The 2016 budget listed below will be finalized in early 2016 and adjusted as necessary to stay in line with income projections.

### 2016 CUMC Budget

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Contributions Received	\$152,000
Transfers	\$12,000
Other Income	\$5,700
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>\$169,700</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>STAFF PARISH</b>	
Compensation & Benefits	\$104,000
Travel	\$900
Continuing Education	\$1,100
Other Expenses	\$300
<b>Subtotal Staff Parish</b>	<b>\$106,300</b>
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	
Church Facility	\$28,500
Parsonage	\$6,000
<b>Subtotal Trustees</b>	<b>\$34,500</b>
<b>MINISTRY PROGRAMS</b>	
Membership	\$800
Adult Spiritual Development	\$600
Children's Education	\$2,200
Mission & Outreach	\$400
Worship	\$1,500
<b>Subtotal Ministry Programs</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>
<b>General Expenses</b>	
General Office Expense	\$4,500
Copier Expense	\$1,400
Computer Software	\$1,000
Advertising	\$200
Computer Misc	\$350
Apportionments	\$15,200
Misc. Expenses	\$400
Bank & Finance Charges	\$350
<b>Subtotal General Expenses</b>	<b>\$23,400</b>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>\$169,700</u></b>

## Christ UMC Leadership Team 2016

### Administrative and Support Ministries

Ad Board Chair	Deb Thomas		
Financial Secretary	Joe Greenwood		
Treasurer	Larry Fournier		
Finance Chair	Joe Kilberger		
<b>Auditor</b>	<b>Dave Clark</b>		
Lay Leader	Gary Slagle		
Lay Member Annual Conf	Peggy Literski		
Lay Member An Conf Alt	Kim Aupperle		
SPPRC	Evy Markowski	2017	chair
SPPRC	Gary Gruebnaue	2017	vice chair
<b>SPPRC</b>	<b>Amy Huibregtse</b>	<b>2017</b>	
SPPRC	Dave Dodge	2016	
SPPRC	Judy Baker	2016	
SPPRC	Lisa Greenwood	2018	
Trustee	Eric Linner	2016	
Trustee	Chad Aupperle	2016	
Trustee	Jenny Heider	2017	
Trustee	Larry Fournier	2017	
Trustee	Kelley Williams	2018	
Trustee	Sam Williams	2018	
Membership Secretary	Michele Linner		
Recording Secretary	Evy Markowski		
Leadership Nom	Cheryl Fournier	2016	
Leadership Nom	Kim Aupperle	2016	
Leadership Nom	Robin Deak	2017	
Leadership Nom	Sam Williams	2018	

### Nurture Ministries

Wed AM Study & Spirituality	Pastor		
Thur AM Study & Spirituality	Lisa Greenwood		
Sat AM Men's Study	Gary Slagle		
Membership Nurturing	Pastor	chair	
Membership Nurturing	Amy Huibregtse	home hostess	
Membership Nurturing	Linda White	Visitation ministry	
Welcoming Newcomers	Doug Literski		
Stephens Ministries	Linda Mullen		
Children's Ministries	Julie Kukreja		
Youth	Chad Aupperle		
Kitchen Committee	Janet Kleckner		
Mature Methodists	Muriel Wright		
Special Events	Michele Linner		
Prayer Shawl	Katy Spooner		

## Christ UMC Leadership Team 2016 (*continued*)

### Outreach and Witness Ministries

Missions	Bonnie Dodge
Missions	Maylo Hranac
Web ministry	Enrico Santoso
Public Relations	Elena Agabin
Special Events	Michele Linner
Bethlehem Market	Janet Kleckner
Reconciling Ministries	Gary Gruebna

### Worship and Witness Ministries

Worship Design	Peggy Literski
Sound Team	Gary Slagle
Bell Choir	Janet Kleckner
Communion	Marty Himebaugh
Greeters Ushers	Marty Himebaugh

### **Other Ministry Reports**

#### **Administrative Board Report for 2015 Church Conference**

*Submitted by Debbie Thomas, 2015 Administrative Board Chair*

This past year has brought many changes to CUMC. We bid farewell to Pastor Lee and Maria and made a smooth transition welcoming Pastor Ron Greene and Lyna. We look forward to the talents of Ron and what he can bring to this congregation. They have jumped right in to action and have gotten well acquainted with the congregation already.

We continue to move forward with the enhancement project making changes to the appearance of the exterior and interior of our building. We now have a canopy, new tile flooring in the foyer and fellowship area as well as new paint and soon furniture. We are seeing the completion of the patio area outside the front of the building and then in the spring will have a new garden area to use.

I look forward to God's plans for us in the coming year as He is good all the time and all the time God is good!

## **Children's Education**

*Submitted by Julie Kukreja, 2015 Children's Education Chair*

Journeyland explorers (K-5th graders) studied the lectionary from Charles Kirkpatrick Sermons 4 Kids weekly. Every first Sunday, explorers joined their families for worship in the sanctuary.

Vacation Bible school was held in July, theme of Everest. Kids learned how to conquer challenges with God's mighty powers. The program lasted a week with a closing celebration with families.

## **Mission Team**

*Submitted by Bonnie Dodge, 2015 Mission Team Chair*

**Bake Sale** – Sept. 21, 2014 - \$300.00 was raised for **Imagine No Malaria**

**Cardinal Crop Walk** – Oct. 19, 2014 – Participated with three other area churches and collected \$4600.00 to benefit Northern Illinois Food Bank and PADS.

**Warm Ministry** – Oct. 2014 thru April 2015 - Collected new mittens, gloves, scarves and hats – Donated to PADS.

**Home of the Sparrow Giving Tree** – Nov. 2014 – Collected Holiday presents for a HOS family.

**Colonial Café Fundraiser** – Jan. 13-15, 2015 – Percentage of sales for three days amounted to \$96.78. Proceeds benefited PADS and Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry.

**Souper Bowl Sunday** – Feb. 1, 2015 – Collected 205 lbs. of non-perishable food worth approximately \$347.00 for the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry.

**TLS Veterans** – For the month of April we collect \$150.00 cash and food donations worth approximately \$500.00 for McHenry County Veterans.

**School Tool Box** – May-June, 2015 – Collected \$1180 - Purchased 30 School Supply Boxes to fill 30 Backpacks and 30 Teacher Supply Boxes for the 2015-16 school year at Perry School in Carpentersville.

**Culver's Fundraiser** – July 27, 2015 – 10 % of sales for the one day event amounted to \$329.18 plus \$65.63 cash from donation cans. Proceeds benefited **Imagine No Malaria**.

**Lake in the Hills Sunset Festival** – Sept. 4-6, 2015 – Volunteers in Kids Tent helped children make God's Eyes and handed out shopping bags containing our church's brochures for community church awareness.

**Crop Walk Fundraiser** at Colonial Café – Sept. 19, 2015 – With money raised at Colonial, food was purchased from Northern Illinois Food Bank and packed 200 complete meals with the help of three other area Churches. Half of meals went to Fish Food Pantry and half to Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry.

**"Get Your Can to Church"** – Monthly collection of food and cash to benefit Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry – Oct. 2014 thru Aug. 2015 – 777.5 lbs. of food with an estimated worth of \$1323.00 has been donated. Cash donations for that period were \$892.00.

**Imagine No Malaria** – April 2015 \$2756.82 has been sent to INM thru UMCOR. Thru various fundraisers since we set a goal of \$7500.00 in 2014 we have raised a total of \$4376.00.

**Mc Henry County PADS** – Total cash and donations collected thru various church fundraisers amounted to \$145.00. PADS also received \$399.26 from the Oct. 2014 Crop Walk.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

*Submitted by Katy Spooner, 2015 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 2015 we have given 23 prayer shawls – 12 of those were given to Advocate Sherman Hospital in Elgin. We gave cross stitch book marks to CUMC Confirmation graduates. 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. Information on our group was given out (leaflets) at the LITH Sunset Festival September 5<sup>th</sup>.

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 a portion of that money was used as a \$50 donation to the “Imagine 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 Report 2015**

*submitted by Michele Linner, 2015 Special Events 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

#### **2015 Events planned and implemented:**

- Carnival Themed Game Night- Saturday, March 14 (*Food and drinks provided. FREE*)
- Organized and set up for Farewell Potluck for Kangse and Maria Lee (*Food and drinks provided. FREE*)
- Organized and set up for Welcome Potluck for Ron and Lyna Greene (*Food and drinks provided. FREE*)

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

- Fall Hayride and Bonfire at Randall Oaks Park Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-7  
\$2 children/\$3 adults food and drinks provided
- Kid’s Christmas Crafts – Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Small fee to cover craft cost. Snack provided.
- Cocoa and Carols – Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> (tentative)  
Caroling to home-bound members with cookies and cocoa following.

#### **Coming events for Winter/Spring 2016:**

- Game Night – February or March TBA
- Spring Fen Walk - date TBD
- Family Craft or Hobby Night – date TBD

For 2016 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, 2015 Stephen Leader*

**Stephen Ministry – a ministry of care.** Christ Church has a very dedicated group of Stephen Ministers. We gratefully welcomed a new trained Stephen Minister to this team in December of 2015. The training consists of 50 hours in the classroom and at home study. Once commissioned, each Stephen Minister also attends a monthly meeting which typically includes our on-going training component. An important element of this ministry is that we make a covenant of confidentiality while providing a one-on-one listening ear. Pastor Ron has joined this team and will be an integral part of making sure our congregation is served.

Care receivers do not get a fix or solution from their Stephen Minister. We leave the "cure giving" to God. We do, however, provide each one with support and prayer as they face difficult situations. Some care giving relationships are short-term and others take more time. The Stephen Minister meets the needs of the care receiver.

A goal for the coming year is to be sure our congregation is aware of what this ministry is about. We hope to increase the number of people using the services of a Stephen Minister and the number of trained Stephen Ministers. God gave all of us gifts and we are very privileged to be able to serve God through this ministry.

## **Worship Design Team**

*Submitted by Peggy Literski, 2015 Worship Team Leader*

This team collaborates with the Pastor to plan, design, enhance, support, and inspire the worship experience with meaningful music, creative presentations, décor, and anything else that evolves from the dialog between the Pastor and the Team members.

The typical process is to meet with Pastor on a 2-3 week basis and discuss his ideas/theme for his messages for as many weeks in advance as he can provide. This discussion is usually very lively and inspirational as everyone offers ideas for various ways to support the message perspective with music, videos, dramatic reading, skits, décor, and often surprises. *It really takes a village!!!!!!*

Advent and Lent seasons are exciting and we like to do very outrageous themes with the decorations and music to get the most impact. This requires (much) advance planning to be successful. Lent is very challenging, since traditionally we have services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and especially Easter Sunday. Typically there is a theme for the whole 6 weeks that evolves with something different but connected each week, with conclusion on Easter.

Music is a critical element to the worship experience and we try to relate the songs to the message in a way that supports and inspires the theme. The Praise Team/Sound Team are all very committed to this endeavor and make this their personal ministry. We use contemporary music with a variety of other flavors woven in to relate to the theme. Special music is often used for offering time, during communion, and any other time!!!!!!

We are here to make exciting things happen and make Jesus smile!!!!!!

## **Report of the Clergy**

### **Pastor's Report**

*Submitted by Pastor Ronald Greene*

#### **The Balcony View**

This is an ongoing time of transition for this pastor and this church. A message I took from the Transition Workshop was that, generally, pastors will experience the same quality of welcome as will any newcomer to that setting. I'm delighted to report that my introduction to this church was the most welcoming experience I've ever known. Likewise, the first new family that arrived in my early weeks reported the same delight at the quality of welcome they experienced.

Carry on, Christ, UMC! You go, church! Continue to perfect what you already do so well. Welcome the stranger just as you, who once were strangers, have been welcomed. Continue to perfect your outreach. There are so many strangers in this far northwest suburban sprawl who are hungry and thirsty for a spiritual home where they can feel appreciated for who they are, no matter their background. Let what is in your DNA continue to grow in Christian maturity. Keep refining your culture of welcoming. Study to perfect your culture of retaining and integrating new members into your shared and vibrant life.

I have tremendous appreciation for this congregation's strong lay ministry with its rich history of "Walk to Emmaus" involvement (over 38 souls from CUMC have attended). In addition this small body is blessed with three Lay Servants, numerous Stephen Ministers, a powerful worship and praise team and tech crew and web masters, church officers and leaders and volunteers who are highly qualified and caring and committed, and a church secretary who serves with professional excellence.

#### **Providing support, guidance, and training to the lay membership in the church**

Listening to and "learning" this congregation – And encouraging their remarkable gifts  
Advocating for development of Pastor-Laity "Meet and Greets", participation in Rule of Christ  
and, possibly, Church Assessment Tool

#### **Ministering within the congregation**

Working with Worship and Praise Team – and incorporating drama into worship  
Weekly Children's Messages coordinated with Sunday School  
Monthly Family Worship Services and yearly VBS  
Home visitation  
Working with Stephen Ministers  
Leading Wednesday Morning Spirituality Group  
Connecting with Thursday Morning Bible Study  
Participating in Saturday Men's Group  
Teaming with Special Events Committee

#### **Ministering to the world**

Involvement in Community Festivals and "learning" the community/ communities  
Supporting Ministries of Mercy (Food Pantry, Cluster, Social Services Networking)  
Advocating for greater involvement in Social Justice Ministries (e.g., Reconciling Ministries)

#### **Administering the temporal affairs of the congregation**

A Pastor to the front office, the Administrative Council, the Committees on Finance and Trustees,  
and all the committees and work teams

## **Pastor's Report (*continued*)**

### **Program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year**

Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary study

Monthly ecumenical social justice luncheons through Community of Congregations

Class in Mindfulness at Zen Life Center in Oak Park

On the job training with the Samaritan Center in use of Church Assessment Tool

Global Leadership Summit at Willow Springs in July 2015

Walk to Emmaus pilgrimage in October 2015

Audiobooks and podcasts - ongoing

### **Plans for continuing education for the year to come**

Stephen Ministries training

Reconciling Ministries training

Conference-wide opportunities

Developing book discussions for the community

Audiobooks and podcasts – ongoing