



**Algonquin: Christ United Methodist Church
2018 CHARGE CONFERENCE WORSHIP & AGENDA
Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 7:00pm
District Superintendent: Rev. Darneather Murph-Heath**

¶ 120. *The Mission*—The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Local churches and extension ministries of the Church provide the most significant arenas through which disciple-making occurs. *The Book of Discipline 2016*

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER

Lay Leader

VIDEO: <https://animoto.com/play/oJuNtknU8l7MwmVSCouJkA?autostart=1>

CELEBRATIONS: Shared stories of how we have followed Jesus this year

Church Members

STUDY OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURAL EXAMPLES OF DISCIPLES BEING MADE

Church Members

An Exploring Disciple: “Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” - John 1:46 (full story in John 1:43-51)

A Searching Disciple: “Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night.” - John 3:1-2a (full story in John 3:1-9)

A Beginning Disciple: “She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying.” - Luke 10:39 (full story in Luke 10:38-42)

A Growing Disciple: “Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon’s house and were standing by the gate.” - Acts 10:17 (full story in Acts 10:9-17)

A Maturing Disciple: “Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you...- Acts 17:22-23 (full story in Acts 17:22-34)

MESSAGE and RESOURCE

Rev. Darneather Murph-Heath

HOLY CONFERENCING – *In small groups, take time to discuss the following:*

How/when did you become a disciple? How is it different than simply going to church?

How do you experience growth as a disciple?

Which step of disciple-making does this church do well? Which steps need more attention?

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

POSSIBILITIES FOR MINISTRY – sharing ideas from small groups

SONG – “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

I have decided to follow Jesus (3x)

No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)

No turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow (3x)

No turning back, no turning back.

ORDERING OUR LIFE FOR MINISTRY — *Leadership Nominations & Election * Clergy Compensation * Ministry Recommendations * Additional Business*

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

**The following 2018 membership information
is submitted by Michele Linner, Membership Secretary; October 25, 2018**

Professing Members as of Church Conference 2017		155
Members added since 2017 Church Conference		
Profession of Faith	0	
Transfers from Other UMC	0	
Transfers from Other Denominations	0	
Members Removed since 2017 church conference		
Death	1	
Removed at previous Church Conference	5	
How Members Removed: (D – death, R – removed by previous Church Conference)		
Al Jones—D	Brianna Erdman Stone—R	Allison Gilbert—R
Sierra Gilbert-Erdman—R	Melodie Svihlik—R	Travis Wittmeyer—R
Removed Member requesting this year to continue to be a Member:		+1
Melodie Svihlik		
Total Members		150
Baptisms since 2017 Church Conference	1 (Huizhen Lin)	

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Moved/Inactive members who have not responded to status requests.

SECOND year of 2-year process.

Kyle Williams	Mia Geheren	Bill Geheren	Michael Geheren
Beth Patrylak	Chris Patrylak	Jim Theobald	Lois Theobald

FIRST year of 2-year process.

Mark Harden	Marie Harden	Dale Harden	Kevin LaBeau
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Finance Report

Submitted by Larry Fournier, acting 2018 Finance Chair

At this point in time, the Finance Team consists of

Larry Fournier, Treasurer

Joe Greenwood, Finance Secretary

Linda Riggs, Reconciling Bank Accounts

And members via their CUMC roles...

Richard Brooke, Leadership Team Chair

Gary Slagle, Lay Leader

Ron Greene, Pastor

Needed/Required

Finance Chairperson

Additional counters on Sunday mornings

We have faithfully maintained sending 10% of our General Fund contributions to the Northern Illinois Conference which by the end of 2018 will pay approximately 66% of our \$20,796 apportionment.

We have had been challenged this year to maintain a minimum balance in our General Fund bank account and still meet our commitment to pay 10% of our General Fund offering towards our conference apportionment. We have used periodic withdrawals of gains from our UMF Investment Fund 11 times this year to keep our General Fund bank account in the black. In 2017, we only used the UMF Fund for that purpose 6 times.

We have been able to successfully fund-raise for special needs:

\$2,939 for a new Casio Digital Piano

\$2,625 to Fund the cleaning of the church from December 2017-November 2018

Our UMF Fund has also provided us with funds to accomplish major facility improvements:

Magnetic Door Security Locks with key fob access control for the Church front doors

Replacement of the Church parking lot lights with new LED light fixtures

Sealing and Re-striping of the Church parking lot

The balance of our UMF Investment Fund at the end of September was \$157,503.26.

Our proposed 2019 Budget document is included separately in this booklet for approval at the 10/25/2018 Charge Conference.

Notes:

Not all 2019 data is currently available. Revisions will be made after all numbers are available. The Expense Pool has been helpful in the past to more accurately allocate expenses. The 2019 Budget now reflects more accurate items and the Expense Pool amount has been reduced.

2019 Christ UMC Budget	
INCOME	
Contributions Received	150,000.00
Fund Raisers	3,000.00
Other Income	2,497.00
Transfers	3,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	158,997.00
EXPENSES	
STAFF PARISH	
Compensation & Benefits	95,501.00
Travel	900.00
Continuing Education	1,100.00
Other Expenses	50.00
SubTotal Staff Partish	97,551.00
TRUSTEES	
Church Facility	29,652.00
Parsonage	4,368.00
Subtotal Trustees	34,020.00
MINISTRY PROGRAMS	
Membership	650.00
Adult Spiritual Development	271.00
Children"s Education & VBS	1,350.00
Events	500.00
Worship	1,080.00
Subtotal Ministry Programs	3,851.00
GENERAL EXPENSES	
General Office Expense	1,175.00
Copier Expense	3,650.00
Computer Expenses	1,480.00
Advertising & Publicity	300.00
Conference Apportionments	15,000.00
Misc Expenses	200.00
Bank, ACH, & EFT Charges	1,020.00
Subtotal General Expenses	22,825.00
Expense Pool	750.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	158,997.00

Administrative Support Ministries

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Leadership Team Chair	Richard Brooke
Financial Secretary	Joe Greenwood
Treasurer	Larry Fournier
Lay Leader	Gary Slagle
Staff Parish Relations Co-Chairs	Cheryl Fournier, Gary Gruebnau
Lay Member to Annual Conf	Peg Literski
Membership Secretary	Michele Linner
Recording Secretary	Linda Mullen
Retreat Follow Up Team	Cheryl Fournier, Gary Slagle

STAFF PARISH *(always includes Lay Leader and Lay Member to Annual Conference)*

2019	Sue Pedersen
2020	George Leone
2020	Cheryl Fournier
2021	Gary Gruebnau

TRUSTEES

2019	Bill Strother
2019	Eric Linner
2020	Larry Fournier
2021	Joe Kilberger

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (Nominations)

2019	Michele Linner
2020	Cheryl Fournier
2021	Evy Markowski

NURTURE MINISTRIES—EDUCATION

Children’s Ministries	Daisy Santoso
Confirmation Leaders	Brighten Sunderraj, Lisa Greenwood, Kareen Hernandez
Sat AM Men’s Study	Gary Slagle
Thurs AM Study & Spirituality	Lisa Greenwood
Wed AM Study & Spirituality	Pastor

NURTURE MINISTRIES—CARING

Kitchen Committee	Janet Kleckner
Membership Nurturing Team	Evy Markowski, Linda Mullen, Dave Dodge, Linda White, Maylo Hranac, Gary Gruebnau, Cheryl Fournier
Mature Methodists (M&M's)	Dave Dodge
Safety Team	Dave Dodge, Linda Mullen, Doug Leterski, Richard Brooke, Linda White Peg Leterski
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Katy Spooner
Stephen Ministers	Linda Mullen
Welcoming Team Coordinator	Doug Leterski

OUTREACH AND WITNESS MINISTRIES

Missions Co-Chairs	Bonnie Dodge, Maylo Hranac
Web Ministry	Enrico Santoso, Hanh Le
Public Relations	Pastor
Bethlehem Marketplace	Janet Kleckner
Reconciling Ministries Leader	Gary Gruebnau

WORSHIP AND WITNESS MINISTRIES

Worship Design Team	Peg Leterski, Gary Slagle, Lisa Greenwood, Gary Gruebnau
Sound Team Leader	Gary Slagle
Bell Choir Director	Janet Kleckner
Communion Steward	Janet Graf
Head of Greeters/Ushers	Linda Riggs

Other Ministry Reports

Administrative Board a.k.a. Leadership Team for 2018 Church Conference

Submitted by Richard Brooke, 2018 Leadership Team Chair

The Leadership team made up of the various committees within the Christ United Methodist Church met 9 times from November thru September 2018. At Christ UMC each committee has the autonomy to make decisions as they see fit unless it concerns policy, renovations of the property or financial issues that affect the church. We recognized Nathan Logston and the Boy Scouts during the dedication of the pergola. Approved the installation of new LED parking lot lighting. Formed a Community Safety Committee following meetings with the Algonquin police department, and hosted a safety meeting with several area churches. Approved payment for the resealing and striping of the parking lot.

As we look forward to 2019, we will concern ourselves with the continued growth and stability of Christ Church as a welcoming congregation to everyone.

Children's Education

Submitted by Julie Kukreja, 2018 Children's Education Chair

Journeyland explorers (K-5th graders) studied the lectionary from Charles Kirkpatrick's Sermons 4 Kids and started Group's Dig-In, The Life of Jesus, program for fall. Every first Sunday, explorers joined their families for worship in the sanctuary.

During Easter a special one-day event was held open to the public called "Walk With Jesus." This was a one-day vacation-bible-style event focusing on the first Easter morning.

Vacation Bible School was held in July, S.T.E.A.M. Themed VBS called The Conquerors. Kids learned how to code robots and other S.T.E.A.M. based activities as well as how God helps us become conquerors. The program lasted a week with a closing celebration with families.

Missions Team

Submitted by Bonnie Dodge, 2018 Missions Team Co-Chair

Events included since last report submitted In October of 2017

Warm Ministry—Oct 2017 thru April 2018- Collected new gloves, hats, scarves, and toiletries that were donated to PADS-\$143.00 estimated value- Cash donations totaled \$550.00

Home of The Sparrow Giving Tree—Dec 2017- we collected holiday gifts for one family (3 individuals) as well as items from the shelter needs wish list- estimated value \$672.00

Souper Bowl Sunday—Feb 2018- we collected 220 lbs. of non-perishable food worth approximately \$378.40 for the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry.

Mardi Gras bake sale—Feb 2018- Sold \$353.00 in baked goods. Money was deposited in the Mission Team account to be distributed later.

Walk With Jesus—Mar 2018- This was a free outreach event for children to experience the first Easter. 20 volunteers and 17 attendees participated.

TLS Veterans—For the month of April 2018 we collected \$225.93 in cash and 250 lbs. of non-perishable food with an estimated value of \$430.00

Culvers' Fundraisers—we held two fundraisers:

Missions Team continued...

- April 2018-\$839.18 (including tip jar)
- July 2018-\$465.51 (including tip jar)

Culver's Dividend from presenting church bulletin when ordering on Wednesdays & Saturdays-\$55.64

United Methodist Midwest Missions—May 2018-we collected cleaning supplies with a value of \$130.00. The cleaning supplies are used in disaster relief.

Vacation Bible School—In July 2018 we assisted VBS students and teachers with a collection of money and school supplies for Midwest Missions. Estimated value of supplies is \$330.00; Cash \$261.00.

Feed My Starving Children—Aug 2018-48 volunteers helped pack 53,352 meals which will feed 146 kids for one year in 3rd world countries.

"Get Your Can To Church"—Monthly collection of non-perishable food and cash to benefit the Algonquin/Lake in The Hills Food Pantry-Oct 2017 thru Sept 2018: 1655 lbs. of food with an estimated value of \$2846.60 has been donated. Cash donations for that period were \$434.80

At year end (2017) we had the church treasurer send checks to the six non-profits we support from the various fundraisers we held.

- UMCOR Disaster Relief - \$450.00
- Home of The Sparrow - \$225.00
- Algonquin/Lake in The Hills Food Pantry - \$225.00
- TLS Veterans - \$450.00
- PADS - \$450.00
- The Turning Point - \$450.00

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Submitted by Katy Spooner, 2018 Secretary

Helping Hands is the Prayer Shawl Ministry at Christ United Methodist Church in Algonquin, Illinois. 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 in our community during challenging times in their lives.

In 2018 we gave 8 prayer shawls, at the request of concerned parishioners. We also gave one care box.

We make cross stitched crosses as book marks to give out to various people in need. We have also given out care boxes which contain small wrapped gifts and biblical sayings to open daily during a difficult time.

We meet on the second Monday of each month except in July and December. We generally have eight or more women attend as we conduct our meeting, work on projects, and enjoy coffee and treats. We collect a voluntary donation from each member and a portion of that money is donated to various church ministries. This year we gave \$300 toward the purchase of a new electronic piano. As a group project we disposed of unnecessary items in the nursery which were then donated.

Ours is a special ministry that offers the opportunity to meet and help 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.

Safety Committee

Submitted by David Dodge, 2018 Safety Committee co-chair

The Safety Committee was established in the Spring of 2018 in response to active threats that are occurring in our country today and houses of worship in particular.

Doug and Peggy Literski, Richard Brooke, and David Dodge attended a Planning Workshop for Active Threats to Houses of Worship on March 1, 2018 that was sponsored by the Lake County Sheriff's Department. Speakers from Homeland Security, The F.B.I., The Lake County Emergency Agency, and The Lake County Sheriff's Department made presentations.

Our Committee was established following that meeting. Members include Doug Literski, Peggy Literski, Richard Brooke, David Dodge, and Linda Mullen.

Following Active Shooter Response Training attended by several members of Christ United Methodist Church (CUMC), we met with the Algonquin Police Department [APD] on April 26 to go over safety ideas for our building,

The Committee met May 15th to establish priorities for the Active Shooter Response Forum scheduled for June 19th at CUMC.

The focus of our team went from just Active Threat Response to all Safety Concerns, including fire, tornado and medical emergencies. We realize this is an on-going process.

We organized and hosted the Active Shooter Response Forum on June 19. Presentations by the APD and McHenry Co SWAT. Attended by 48 people from 9 houses of worship. (This also helped us establish communication with Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District [ALITHFPD], APD and other Houses of Worship.)

Things in place...

- Sunday AM worship service Safety Monitor
- Less time our doors are unlocked
- Point of Reunification identified as firehouse next door.

Safety features to put in place and target dates for purchase and installation.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost estimate</u>
2018	Door bell and remote opener	\$900
2018	Sanctuary door locks (Need 6)	\$35 – these have been purchase & donated
2019	Security Cameras	\$200 for cameras + \$5/month for 7-day data storage
2019	Locks for classroom, office and Safety zone doors	\$100
2019	Curtains for classroom door/windows	\$200
2019	Walkies (\$200) & 5 year license (\$70)	\$270
2020	Automated External Defibrillator [AED]	\$1500

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Submitted by Cheryl Fournier, 2017 SPRC co-chair

We have had a busy year! We took a look at the job descriptions for our Nursery Attendant and made long overdue updates. With the help of the Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study Group, we were able to do a deep clean and purge of the nursery toys, games, books, etc. and organize things in a more welcoming fashion. We also reviewed the job description for our Church Office Ministry Assistant and made needed updates to keep it current. Annual reviews for these positions are underway and will be completed before the end of the year.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee continued...

Next was the news of our Pastor's upcoming retirement and the process began for his replacement for January 1, 2019. We wish much happiness to Pastor Ron and his wife Lyna in their new home in South Carolina and the enjoyment that retirement brings! We look forward to welcoming Pastor Mi-Sook Yoo and her family with much anticipation for what her ministry will bring to Christ Church Algonquin.

Stephen Ministry

Submitted by Linda Mullen, 2018 Stephen Leader

Stephen Ministers are trained and ready to provide a listening ear. Along with the 50 hour introductory class and the on-going training, each Stephen Minister makes a covenant of confidentiality. The Care Receivers can be sure that they have a safe place to lay down their thoughts, problems and fears. There are no rules for Care Receivers to follow. While some Care Receivers have short term needs, others have concerns that are long term. The Stephen Minister meets the Care Receiver's needs where they are – by maintaining confidentiality, respecting time constraints, being a companion on their spiritual walk and always being a prayer warrior for the Care Receiver.

This ministry is currently serving several Care Receivers. Each Stephen Minister has expressed a familiar theme – that it is their privilege to be able to served God in this way and that we get much more out of our efforts than we put into it. We also agree that God puts us in certain, seemingly random situations to use what we have learned and practiced as Stephen Ministers. How lucky we are!

Worship Design Team

submitted by Cheryl Fournier, 2018 co-chair

This team collaborates with the Pastor to plan, design, enhance, support and inspire the worship experience, following the Narrative (Story) Lectionary. We provide meaningful music that appeals to the ear, creative visuals that appeal to the eye, and dramatic elements that engage the emotions and active participation of congregation members.

Last Advent we rehearsed and worked with the youth and children's programs to create an uproarious improvisational "Unrehearsed Christmas Pageant" that included 100% participation by everyone in attendance.

For our Lenten season, we used an adaptation of Marcia McFee's series "Are You Kidding" which is based on the Narrative Lectionary from Matthew 18:1-9 -Becoming like a child. The adaptation we used was called: "This Is Our Story: Game Changers Unite!" We chose this to blend in our preparations for our own April 21st Retreat at the New Morning Retreat Center in Hampshire, IL. The retreat was led by Rev. Doctor Cecelia Harris. Key verse used was from Nehemiah "The Joy of the Lord is our strength."

This summer we enjoyed series on Ruth, St. Paul, and the Ten Commandments as well as one Sunday each month focused on our Stewardship Campaign, highlighting what it means to be a cheerful giver. Summer concluded with outdoor worship and the excitement of having our own Pastor Ron re-enact a 19th Century Circuit Rider Preacher on a real horse! Our guest music minister, evangelist Rev. Kent Svendsen, lead our song and praise. A church picnic followed.

During worship October 28th, we will present the world premiere performance of Pat Van Doren's award-winning book "*Where Can I Build My Volcano,*" scripted and directed by Pastor Ron Greene. With the help of HEAR US (national advocacy organization promoting this book) outreach has gone out to media and homeless advocates locally and around the U.S. (Already, the news has reached a UMC

pastor in metro Atlanta who plans to use our script next month.) This is one way the Worship Design Team is adding to CUMC's story and to our Game-Changing vision to personally engage with story-bearers from the homeless among us.

The 2018 Worship Design Team is co-chairs Peggy Literski and Cheryl Fournier, plus Lisa Greenwood, Gary Gruebnaue and Gary Slagle. Our plans are underway for next Advent, using Marsha McPhee's "Into This World". And we will continue spreading God's story through the year ahead.

Report of the Clergy

Pastor's Report

Submitted by Pastor Ronald Greene

What Is God Doing for Us Lately?

We remember God's mighty deeds of old. In the biblical narratives God's participation was often not apparent in the midst of life's struggles and strife. Rather, it became apparent in retrospect. So, too, with God's mighty deeds in the stories of Christ UMC. God's participation becomes clear in retrospect.

Some members can reflect back 20+ years to the phone bank in the LITH UM Church basement and the countless cold calls made to new residents. This Pastor can reflect back three years to my first funeral here, when we memorialized the first one ever to respond to one of those calls.

Two decades ago some wondered if she and her family were saying yes to the church's invitation because they needed so much assistance. But on retrospection, at a memorial time, we recognized that God had been working in this family; they had been helping the church so much more than the church was helping them. It's in retrospect that we find answers to the question, "What's God doing for us lately?"

So, what is God doing recently? Reflecting on this past year, we realize that God has given us a brilliant connectional system. This pastor conferred with D.S. Darneather Murph-Heath, wondering if this church could benefit from an updated vision retreat. So Rev. Murph-Heath made a district connection referring us to Rev. Dr. Cecelia Harris and her Nehemiah Plan.

Dr. Harris then consulted with CUMC's Retreat Planning Team to study, pray about, and prepare for a half-day retreat. It came about as we had wanted on April 21 at the nearby New Morning Retreat Center. The team did NOT want this to be another brainstorming session for dreaming up adventurous wish lists, but rather a biblically based and evidence-based strategic session, taking into account our present realities, abilities and limitations. We employed the NIC MissionInsite resources and the Spiritual-Renewal/Assessment-Tools (from www.elca.org) and Dr. Harris' Nehemiah Plan.

The retreat led to several key agreements:

We agreed to focus on one thing for one year.

We agreed to discern one area of community need where the church would not respond impersonally by simply by writing a charity check, but personally by bringing "story-bearers" into our midst and becoming personally engaged.

We agreed to do follow up. Remembering that prior retreats had created folders full of "good" ideas that then would stay filed away unexamined, untouched, unused, we agreed that we needed quarterly and monthly follow up. Therefore, we are adding an agenda item to our monthly administrative meetings; the Retreat Planning Team is now designated as the Retreat Follow Up Team.

In the meantime, by coincidence or divine intervention, two colleagues from HEAR US Inc. (*a national*

Pastor's Report continued...

non-profit organization giving voice and visibility to homeless children and youth) with whom I had worked 20 years ago were reaching out to me. (There's that 20 years again.) Author Pat Van Doren was looking for help to transform her award-winning children's book on homelessness into a dramatic script for broader distribution. Documentary film maker and HEAR US founder Diane Nilan was backing the venture. On Sunday morning April 22 (the day after our retreat) they traveled to CUMC to share in a panel discussion with other homeless advocates in McHenry County.

Circumstances (God?) was putting CUMC and this pastor in the position of creating the script and hosting its premiere performance on October 28, 2018.

The mature Wednesday morning study group stepped up to portray the book's youthful characters. The worship team stepped up to creatively bringing it all to life. All is happening in connection with the Missions team and the new-member welcoming and nurturing teams.

In the meantime, as we continued to plan and to pray, we began hearing from new members of our community who resonate with the realities of homelessness in McHenry County. Lately God has provided "story bearers" in our midst who can resonate with the book's story.

We realize we cannot solve or fix every problem, no matter how many checks we write. But we can participate in God's ongoing story. All of us share the same needs: to worship, to belong, to find caring friends, to be honest about ourselves without unnecessary stigma, to receive affirmations of dignity and expressions of kindness. All of us are in this God-given life together.

What is God doing for us right now? Maybe it's too soon right now to discern exactly, but my hunch is that, years from now we will see clearly, in retrospect, that God has been giving us opportunities to live out God's story. It's the old, old biblical story of finding a Savior in the homeless one.

