

News

from  Court Street United Methodist Church

Prayer



¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV

In the New Testament, there are two modes of prayer. One is **personal and private prayer** of the individual, and Jesus advises keeping it private: "But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you" (Matthew 6:6). While the first purpose of personal prayer is personal fellowship with God, there is nothing to tell us that we shouldn't pray for others in our private prayer life. In fact, Paul urges praying for *everything*. He says, "In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6), and that can certainly include prayer for others, even people we don't know.

The other mode of prayer in the New Testament is **public and communal**. It is the prayers of the church, the collective and corporate expression of believers gathered for worship, prayer and Bible study. There are several places where Paul asks churches to pray for him and his coworkers. There are also passages that show the early church praying for safe travel for others, for boldness to proclaim their faith, for the rescue of the persecuted and for the spiritual growth of others.

Yes, we all need to "pray continually," which stresses the urgency associated with acknowledging our need for God's will and desire to be done. The following quotes reflect that need.

"The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays."
– **Søren Kierkegaard**

"Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul. It is daily admission of one's weakness. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart."
– **Mahatma Gandhi**

"He who prays must wage a mighty warfare against the doubt and murmuring excited by the faintheartedness and unworthiness we feel within us."
– **Martin Luther**

"Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts."
– **Mother Teresa**

"I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day."
– **Abraham Lincoln**

"The more you pray, the less you'll panic. The more you worship, the less you worry. You'll feel more patient and less pressured."
– **Rick Warren**

*Grace,
Pastor Cal*

The
Chronicles

The mission of
Court Street UMC
is to be a
welcoming,
nurturing,
serving
community of Christ.



The Chimes

Lay Leadership

**Lay Delegate
to Annual Conference**

Diane Risley

David Risley

**Alternate Lay Delegate
to Annual Conference**

Jeanine Wang

Administrative Council Chair

Joan Tunnell

Staff/Parish Relations Chair

Sue Cram

Finance Chair

Mike Davis

Stewardship Chair

Jeanine Wang

Treasurer

Gene Ferry

Endowment Chair

Mike Davis

Trustee Chair

DuWayne Stanis

Lay Leader

Georgalee George

Nurture & Outreach

Georgalee George

Worship Chair

Joan Tunnell

Local Missions Chair

Helen Gibbons

Christian Education Chair

Diane Lutmer

Arts Committee Chair

Richard Wang

United Women in Faith

Sue Cram

United Methodist Men

DuWayne Stanis

Jeremiah Ministry Reps

Kay Galloway

Krysta Tilges

JFON Liaison

Kay Galloway



SEPTEMBER

TUE
06

Adult Choir Rehearsals Resume

After taking the summer off, the JuBellation Bell Choir and the Chancel Choir will begin meeting weekly for rehearsals. JuBellation meets at 6 p.m., Chancel at 7 p.m. Adults are invited to join either or both choirs.

SUN
11

Grandparents Day

Bring your grandkids to church for a morning of fun activities. Plus, submit photos of you with your grandkids to the office by Tuesday, September 6th and see them shared with the congregation in a special slide show.

SUN
18

Rally Day

Court Street begins a new Church year. This year's theme is *Born 2 Change, Change 2 Be Born*. Look for program booklets in the Narthex starting in early September.

SUN
25

Youth Activities Resume

Post-service activities for youths and children begin, starting with Youth Choir after service, followed by lunch, and then a splintering of the group into age-appropriate activities.

Like us on

facebook

Follow us on

twitter

See pictures on

www.courtstreetumc.org

September 2022



United Women in Faith Meeting



Guest Speaker

Police Chief Carla Redd
City of Rockford

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 12 p.m.

All are welcome to attend. A luncheon will also be served.

RSVP to Judy Mehren at (815) 988-6561, \$10 per person.

Submit Q&A questions for Carla Redd ASAP to Sue Cram at (779) 200-7192.

Chatterbox Supper Group

The Machine Shed
7475 E. State Street
Rockford, IL

Thursday, September 8th @ 6:00 p.m.

All ladies are invited.

*Contact Cindy Fisher at (815) 519-3653 by noon
of the Wednesday before the dinner.*

UWF Mum Orders

**Pickup (1-2 p.m.) and
deliveries (afternoon) avail-
able on Saturday, September
10th for those customers who
made arrangements.**

**Otherwise, orders will be
available in the Chapel
Narthex after service on
Sunday, September 11th.**



As the current monkeypox outbreak is growing, Dr. Douglas Kasper, an infectious disease expert at OSF Health Care, answers the most frequently asked questions.

Q. What is Monkeypox?

A. It is a viral infection. Pox-related infections are nothing new. For example, chickenpox is something that most people have seen or had themselves. What makes a pox virus is the raised skin lesions that go along with the virus. This virus was actually first recognized in a study with monkeys in the 1950s and the first human cases were recorded in the 1970s.

Q. Is Monkeypox deadly?

A. For most people, it isn't a life-threatening disease, and symptoms will last from two to four weeks. However, it can lead to more serious illnesses like pneumonia or encephalitis (brain swelling or infection), particularly in people with poor immune systems, pregnant women, and children 8 and under.

Q. Is Monkeypox contagious?

A. Yes, it's contagious. However, it's not an airborne disease. Because of the way monkeypox spreads, it's not as contagious as other viruses, such as COVID-19. The risk level for the general population is low.

Health & Wellness: *From our Parish Nurse*

Q. How does Monkeypox spread?

A. Transmission can occur from person-to-person or from an animal to a person. According to the Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC), monkeypox spreads through "close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact." The virus can spread by: direct close personal/intimate (including sexual) contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids. Respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact or during intimate contact. Touching meat of an infected animal as well as their body fluid secretions. Touching clothing, bedding or objects that have touched by a sick animal or person. From a woman who's infected to her baby *in utero* through the placenta.

It is important to contain monkeypox so it doesn't spread among animals that easily transmit viruses. This virus is spread very differently than COVID-19. Where COVID-19 spreads through droplets in the air that travels fast and wide, the monkeypox virus spreads through close contact with a person who's actively infected.

Q. What are Monkeypox symptoms?

A. The virus is associated with flu-like symptoms. Symptoms usually appear one to two weeks after initial exposure and can last five days to three weeks. The most common symptoms include: fever, chills, headache, muscle weakness aches, fatigue, painful rash with blisters, and swollen lymph nodes.

Q. What does Monkeypox look like?

A. Monkeypox looks like pimples or blisters that appear on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body, like the hands, feet, chest, and genitals.

Q. Can my pet get Monkeypox?

A. Rodents, like rats, mice, and rabbits are the most likely to be affected. If you're infected with the virus, isolate yourself from pets as a safety precaution.

Q. Is there a vaccine for Monkeypox?

A. Yes, there is an FDA-approved vaccine. The vaccine can prevent and cure the virus. Monkeypox is known as a zoonosis. That means it is an infectious agent that originated with animals and spread to humans. Many viruses start out this way, which means we already have a proven and safe monkeypox vaccine that is effective at preventing the spread of the virus. These types of vaccines have been used for many decades.

Federal health officials recently declared monkeypox a public health emergency. As a result, the vaccine and drug treatments will likely become more widely available as production ramps up. There is limited supply in the United States, and supply is managed by the CDC and the state health departments.

Other disease prevention tips are:

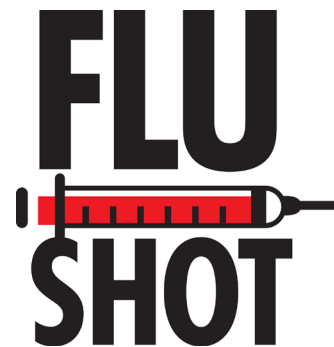
- Wash hands with warm water and soap 20 seconds or longer.
- Disinfect frequently touched areas.

Q. What do I do if I get Monkeypox?

A. Symptoms of monkeypox can be alleviated with over-the-counter medications like fever reducers and pain relievers. If you have a rash or skin lesions, soaking in a warm bath with oatmeal can help alleviate the itch. With any illness, take other necessary precautions....get plenty of rest, isolate yourself from others, and stay home from work or school. If you're infected and have a lasting fever or swollen lymph nodes, call your health care provider. If you experience trouble breathing, a stiff neck, or chest pain, go to your nearest emergency department.

I hope this has been informative.

If you have additional questions or concerns, contact Teresa Field at (815) 298-8138.



There will
be no
**Flu Shot
Clinic**
this fall.

If you would like a booster for the upcoming flu season, please make arrangements with your healthcare provider or attain one from a local pharmacy or through the Winnebago County Health Department.

LOVE Rockford

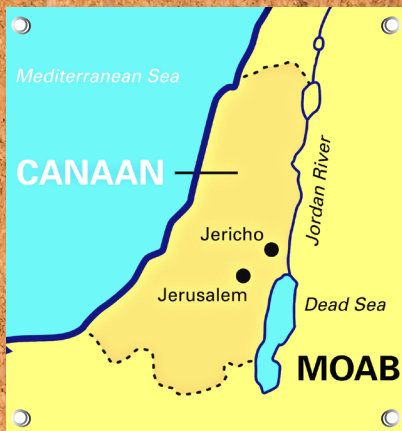


**COURT STREET UMC
LOWER LEVEL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Jeremiah Development is seeking volunteers to help with their September LOVE Rockford event. If you can help, contact Nitro Starling @ (815) 627-0001.

VOLUNTEER ♥ VOLUNTEER ♥ VOLUNTEER

170 YEARS OF COURT STREET



Do you remember?

Do you remember Sunday school paper to take home from church; or scripture cards (2" x 3") with colorful pictures and the class scripture message; or posters with classical artwork of Biblical/Religious events and persons used in your Sunday School class for teaching; or maps of Palestine, Jerusalem, St. Paul's travels; or the most especially kind, trained, and welcoming Sunday School teachers?

All these and more have been part of a long history of training Sunday School teachers, providing inviting papers and aids to learning for Sunday School. Court Street and the Pioneering efforts of John Heyl Vincent have been most significant. He not only pioneered Sunday School materials but also a systematic process for teacher training and support. And, whatever happened to Sunday School Opening Exercises? Time to get back to Sunday School for learning and fellowship.

*Rev. Richard A. Wang,
History and Archives*

September 2022



Thank you so much for the lovely altar flowers. We have been enjoying them as they are so cheery.

Rita & Bruce Johnson



The Church
will be **CLOSED**
Monday,
September 5th.

HAVE A SAFE AND
HAPPY HOLIDAY

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



Sunday, September 11, 2022
Room 209 @ 9 a.m.

All adults are invited to this class. We will start by studying The Gospels and go on from there. We will be flexible if you must leave early for Chancel Choir, JuBellation, Usher Team, etc; come when you can for as long as you can. See you September 11th!

COFFEE AVAILABLE.

CSUMC Book Club

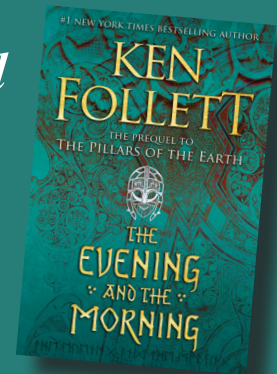
All are welcome!

Sunday, September 25th
@ 2 p.m.

*The Evening and
the Morning*

Ken Follett

Viking



Contact Diane Risley for more info at
rishouse@juno.com.



Court Street United Methodist Church
The Chimes September 2022
215 North Court Street
Rockford, IL 61103-6897

Return Service Requested

Phone: (815) 962-6061 Fax: (815) 962-9754
www.courtstreetumc.org

Thank you for volunteering!

September 4, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
Sound Tech: Tim Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley
Acolyte: Lili Breson
Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

September 11, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley
Acolyte: Kaylee Bulliner
Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

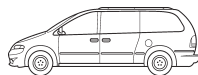
September 18, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
Sound Tech: Tim Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley
Acolyte: Ella Anderson
Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

September 25, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
Video Tech: Steve Ripley
Acolyte: Lili Breson
Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

If you wish to receive The Chimes electronically
or to be removed from this mailing,
please call the church office at (815) 962-6061
or e-mail Communications@courtstreetumc.org.



Need a Ride to Church?

Riders, please call drivers for a ride by 6 p.m.,
on the Saturday before the Sunday you wish to attend.

Riders must wear a mask, be fully vaccinated, and able to
show their vaccine card to the driver if requested.

09/04/22	Curly Thompson	815-988-2735
09/11/22	Bruce Shindel	815-397-1479
09/18/22	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444
09/25/22	Curly Thompson	815-988-2735
10/02/22	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444

Please thank these men for making this ministry work!

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Calvin Culpepper	Pastor	ext. 220	cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org
Ryanne Ludington	Director of Christian Education		ludingtonryanne@gmail.com
James L. Crow	Director of Arts Ministries	ext. 209	jlcrow@live.com
Krysta Tilges	Director of Video Ministries		ktilges@gmail.com
Jack Armstrong	Director of Music	ext. 221	gogo234@att.net
Andrew Mertzenich	Organist		andrew.mertzenich@gmail.com
Teresa Field	Parish Nurse		Teresabsf5@yahoo.com
Verlette Gorman	Church Administrator	ext. 202	ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org
Tiffany Wilken	Publications Secretary	ext. 200	Communications@courtstreetumc.org
Bert Cromwell	Nursery		
Mike Smith	Maintenance Engineer	ext. 295	Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org



We received about 20 responses to the survey about your **Hopes, Dreams, Concerns, Suggestions and Questions** about Court Street UMC. It was expressed in the survey that more communication and transparency was a hope, so we are sharing a summary of the results below. Please thoughtfully consider what has been shared and join with others in the congregation on **Saturday, October 1st at 9:00 a.m. in the church Dining Room** to contemplate and plan the future direction of the church. It is not too late to have your opinions/concerns

heard. Please submit your input to the church office at Communications @courtstreetumc.org or send it by U.S. mail to 215 N. Court Street, Rockford, IL 61103.

HOPES/DREAMS

- Continue our ministry as downtown church
- Unlock doors/ no need to screen people coming into building during week
- More people/more young people
- Look at our obstacles as opportunities
- Engage the neighbors
- Integrated congregation

ACTIVITIES TO DO

- Annual Book sale
- Annual Rummage sale
- Activities for all ages throughout the year
- Send mailings to 20–40-year-old, asking what they are seeking in a church
- Reach out to neighbors, especially to new residents in lofts

BUILDING/PROPERTY IDEAS

- Increase foot traffic with shared space – regardless of their ability to pay
- Large signage outside to announce upcoming events
- Share building with another congregation/combine other UMC congregations
- Sell the building with plan to rent back the space that CSUMC needs for use
- Move to a smaller location
- Use the carillon to call out & bring people in
- Invest in upgrades and maintenance, realizing that all renters may not be able to pay market price
- Utilize the chapel for more activity – remove pews & center carpet, install vinyl flooring and stackable chairs, round tables
- Close as much of the building as possible

PROGRAMMING

- Create a Coffeehouse or Comedy Club for monthly events
- Classes to teach us to 'share our faith and the Gospel
- Sidewalk VBS
- Christian Education for all ages
- Classes to explain and encourage RMD's & Charitable Giving
- Restart Waffles & Worship
- Consider making a part of the building living quarters for the needy
- Youth group, youth Sunday School; join with other youth groups. Provide consistent communication with parents/teens

IMPLEMENT

- Annual luncheon with speaker (civic leader or other well-known person of interest)
- A contemporary service (Friday or Saturday night)
- More contemporary incorporated into our service
- Utilize homebound to reach out by phone or mail; identify a 'church buddy' to the homebound – perhaps a youth, who will invite them to special events
- Praise band
- Youth program
- Heat parts of building only when in use

CONCERNS

- Safe Sanctuary training, as needed
- Parking
- Upkeep of building
- Are we planning for what church will look like for the next generation?
- Be transparent with our finances. Ask for money if we need it
- Not everyone practices our Open – Open- Open concept
- Losing money; losing membership
- Are we wasting money on futile hopes
- Communication between all parties to everyone
- Aging Congregation

SUGGESTIONS

- Keep info & opinions open to all
- Conduct capital improvement campaign
- Hold Sunday services in Chapel

Birthdays

Name	Date	Name	Date
Jones, Gwentyth	1	Duffey, Shana	9
Gorman, Timothy	2	Gilmore, Carey	10
Dienhart, Darlene	3	Rodgers, John Henry	11
Dow, Donna	3	Castro-Rodriguez, Miriam	13
Enderly, Megan	3	Williams, Laura	16
Jones, Thomas	3	Livingston, Rebecca	17
Mertzenich, Nancy	4	Woods, Rex L.	18
Wilinski, Jay	4	Liddell, John	19
Guyer, Peggy	5	McDonald, Philip	21
Ryan, Michelle	5	Neville, Matthew	22
Kossike, Alexis	7	Anderson, Roger	23
		Conklin, Diane	24
		Gorman, Verlette	24
		Long, Desiree	25
		Zimmerman, Phil	25
		Lander, Lois	26
		Gdowski, Jackson	27
		Mace, Janet	29
		Deleon, Michaela	30
		Faruqui, Sarah	30

Wedding Anniversaries

Name	Date	Year	Married
L'Heureux, Holly and Stephen	1	2018	4
Gillette, Larry and Annette	2	1967	55
Liddell, Patrick and Karen	14	1985	37
Ciabatti, Kevin and Amy	17	1994	28
Gregory, Sandra and Sean	18	1999	23
Anderson, Roger and Cynthia	20	1997	25
Scheffel, Troy and Shannon	30	2000	22



Our prayers and sympathy go to the family of:









Janet M. Easton, who died on June 29, 2022

John Richard Grune, who died on July 6, 2022

Truman Lander, who died on July 30, 2022



September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</p>				1 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	2 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	3 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
4 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell	5  <p>LABOR Day</p> <p>CHURCH CLOSED</p>	6  <p>WELCOME BACK, CHOIR</p> <p>8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	7  <p>GUEST SPEAKER</p> <p>8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:30 AM UMF Leadership Team 12:00 PM UWF Luncheon with guest Carla Redd</p>	8 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen 6:00 PM Chatterbox Supper Group	9 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	10  <p>Embracing our COMMUNITY</p> <p>8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 8:30 AM United Methodist Men Breakfast 10:00 AM LOVE Rockford - Event #3</p>
11  <p>Grandparents Day</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Mum Order Pickup</p>	12 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	13 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 5:30 PM Trustees 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM Stewardship Team 4:00 PM Worship Committee	15  <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>CHIMES DEADLINE</p> <p>8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen</p>	16 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	17 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
18  <p>+ RALLY DAY</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell</p>	19 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 4:00 PM Finance Committee 5:00 PM Administrative Council	20 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	21 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 5:30 PM No IL Wood Turners	22 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Jeremiah Exec. Board 1:00 PM Chimes stuffing 1:00 PM The Journeymen	23 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	24 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
25 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 2:00 PM CSUMC Book Club	26 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	27 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 6:15 PM Knitting Group 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	29 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 1:00 PM The Journeymen	30 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	