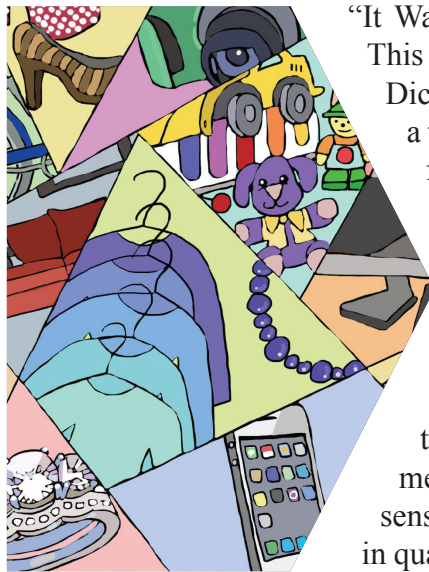


The Stewardship Paradox

⁷ Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give. But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel that you are forced to give. God loves people who love to give. ⁸ God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others. ⁹ The Scriptures say, "God freely gives his gifts to the poor, and always does right."

2 Corinthians 9:7-9, CEV



"It Was the Best of Times; It Was the Worst of Times." This phrase appears in the opening paragraph of Charles Dickens' novel *A Tale of Two Cities*. This line describes a time of controversies and contradictions. Dickens refers to two cities, Paris and London, during the tumultuous environment of the French Revolution. This proclamation of revolution for oppressed civilians really turned out to be a "spring of hope."¹

That's the surprising state of affairs in our society today, as we discover that cash cannot create contentment and possessions don't always provide us with a sense of peace. Yet, most of us expect that improvements in quality of life are going to make us feel better. But they don't — at least not by themselves. In his new book *The Progress Paradox*, Gregg Easterbrook makes the point that life is getting better all the time: Our houses are bigger, our incomes are growing, our health is improving, and the environment is becoming cleaner. We are even enjoying a drop in crime rates, and decreases in certain problem areas such as divorce, teen pregnancy, drug use and abortion. So why isn't all this good news making us jump for joy? Easterbrook has some intriguing ideas about why we feel rotten in the middle of our nation's great riches, and how we can be simultaneously healthy and unhappy.

Writing to Christians in the wealthy Greek city of Corinth, Paul reminds them of their promise to give him a "bountiful gift" for the poor Christians in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 9:5). Although he describes this as a completely voluntary gift, it is clear that he expects the Corinthians to be generous in their support, and he promises many rewards for their giving. For Paul, true happiness is found in what you give ... not in what you receive. "God loves a cheerful giver," he tells them, (v. 7). Paul asks the big question, "Are you looking for God to provide you with every blessing in abundance?" Then



¹ <https://literarydevices.net/>

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 Methodist Women

Sue Cram

United Methodist Men

DuWayne Stanis

Jeremiah Ministry Rep

Joan Tunnell

JFON Liaison

Kay Galloway

don't hold tight to a miserly attitude — instead, “share abundantly in every good work” (v. 8). The apostle is laying out for us a paradox — what we might call “The Stewardship Paradox.” In any true paradox, you are faced with a statement that seems to be contradictory, but turns out to be true. In Paul’s words to the Corinthians, he is saying that personal enrichment comes from great generosity, and that blessings in abundance come from sharing abundantly with others. His point is that you receive the most by **giving the most!**

*Stewardship Perspective,
Pastor Cal*

BUY SCRIP!



Dear Congregation:

Fall is here, and it's time for yard clean-up and getting the house ready for winter. So here is your friendly note to remind you to remember SCRIP CARDS. We have our normal supply of home improvement store cards, such as Menards, Lowe's and The Home Depot. We have also added Amazon cards.

Our sales have increased since in-person worship has resumed. We want to thank our loyal Scrip customers. We hope to have a strong 4th quarter so that we will have a nice donation to give back to the church. See you at the Scrip table!

With thanks for your support,
The Scrip Committee

Like us on

facebook

Follow us on

twitter

See pictures on

www.courtstreetumc.org

October 2021

UMW GUEST SPEAKER

October 16, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Jane Rubietta



Weary of worry and its tagalongs anxiety, discouragement, and exhaustion?

Jane Rubietta invites you to leave behind your heavy heart and learn to truly live again. Join the United Methodist Women on October 16th at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Bring a friend. Men are also invited to attend.

You will experience joy and rest in the moment-by-moment pleasure of a God who delights in you—and has all your tomorrows under control. You will laugh and you might cry, but you will leave knowing you are delighted in—and with an arsenal of unusual helps to worry less. And really live.

Jane speaks internationally and is an award-winning author with 21 books to her credit. Books will be available for sale. You can find more information at JaneRubietta.com. Anyone is invited to attend.



Thursday | October 14th
6:00 p.m.

Red Lobster
5827 E. State Street

All ladies are invited.

If you wish to come, please let Marie Lewis know, (815) 885-3916, by Wednesday noon before the dinner.



Saturday | October 9th
8:30 a.m.

Stockholm Inn
2420 Charles Street

All men are welcome!



October 17, 2021

The Walk supports the Greater Rockford Pantry Coalition and Church World Service as both fight to overcome hunger here and around the world. There will be no walk from the Riverfront Museum Park this year. Like last year, the Walk is virtual or will be observed by smaller walking groups. For more information about the event, contact Verlette Gorman at **(815) 636-0514**. To support Court Street's team online, visit events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/timothy-gorman.

Health & Wellness: *From our Parish Nurse, Teresa Field*

October is national hygiene month. Do not neglect your oral health. The best advice I can give is brush your teeth twice a day, floss once a day, and see your dentist regularly. This simple routine can help you maintain a healthy mouth for life. Did you know that the average adult between the ages of 20 and 64 has three or more decayed or missing teeth? Also, don't forget to replace your toothbrush every three to four months or sooner if the bristles are frayed. It is very important to floss because plaque that is not removed by brushing can eventually harden into calculus or tartar.

As we get older, we may enter a second round of cavity prone years. One common cause of cavities in older adults is dry mouth. Dry mouth is not a normal part of aging. However, it is a side-effect in more than 500 medications. This is just one reason why it is important to tell your dentist about medications you are taking, even non-prescriptions like allergy medication. Some recommendations to help dry mouth: use over the counter oral moisturizers, like a spray or mouth wash; swish water in your mouth, your mouth needs constant lubrication; use sugar free gum or lozenges to stimulate saliva production; get a humidifier to help put moisture in the air; and avoid foods and beverages that irritate dry mouth, like coffee, alcohol, carbonated soft drinks, and acid fruit juices.

GUM DISEASE: Gum disease is often a painless condition until the advanced stages. Many older adults have gum, or periodontal disease, caused by the bacteria in plaque which irritates the gums, making them swollen, red, and more likely to bleed. Gums can begin to pull away from the teeth and make deepened spaces called pockets, where food particles and even more plaque may collect. This can lead to advanced gum disease, which can lead to tooth loss. The good news is that with regular dental visits gum disease can be treated or prevented entirely.

MOUTH CANCER: The American Cancer Society states that there are approximately 35,000 cases of

mouth, throat, and tongue cancers diagnosed each year, this is also why dental visits are important. In the early stages, oral cancer typically does not cause pain and early detection saves lives. Some symptoms you may see include open sores, white or reddish patches, and changes in the lips, tongue, and lining of the mouth that lasts more than two weeks. You know smoking is bad for you health, so there should be no surprise that cigarettes and chewing tobacco are also harmful to your oral health.



The question may arise, do I need to take antibiotics before a dental procedure? If you have a heart condition or artificial joint, be sure to tell your dentist. You may think it's not relevant, but there are conditions with a high risk of infection where an antibiotic is recommended prior and after some dental procedures.

Many retirees don't realize that medicare does not cover routine dental care. Begin to plan for your dental expenses in advance of retirement. You can search for a dental plan at the National Association of Dental Plans website. If you have concerns about continuing your dental care due to a limited income, talk to your dentist. He or she may be able to offer solutions. Remember between the middle of the month and the end of the year is the time to look over your healthcare coverage and make changes for 2022.

A heart-shaped graphic with a red border and a white interior. The text inside the heart includes "BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS Teresa Field", "FLU SHOTS* Walgreens", and "*Be sure to bring your insurance card". There are icons for a flu shot, a blood pressure cuff, and a stethoscope. The text "FLU SHOT Clinic" is prominently displayed. The text "BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING" is written around the top and right sides of the heart. A red ampersand is at the bottom right of the heart.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS
Teresa Field

FLU SHOTS*
Walgreens

*Be sure to bring your insurance card

FLU SHOT Clinic

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Sunday, October 10th
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

I recently found this old quote that put a smile to my day; I hope it does the same for you.....

GOD IS.....

God is like **Coca Cola**.....He's the real thing
God is like **General Electric**.....He lights our path
God is like **Bayer Aspirin**.....He works wonders
God is like **Hallmark cards**.....He cares enough to send the very best
God is like **Alka Seltzer**.....Oh, what a relief He is
God is like **Scotch Tape**.....You can't see Him, but you know He's there
God is like **Tide**.....He gets the stains that others leave behind
God is like **VO-5 Hair spray**.....He holds through all kinds of weather
God is like **Dial soap**.....Aren't you glad you know Him, don't you wish everyone did
God is like **an American Express card**.....Don't leave home without Him

Author Unknown

THANKS



Thanks to the Jay Heath and Tom Mott memorials we now have three beautiful new planters filled with flowers in front of our church. Thanks to their wives, Judy Mott and Perky Flynn Heath, and their families for choosing this designation of Tom and Jay's memorial funds.

All that pass Court Street UMC will enjoy the view.

Save Tax Dollars and Support Your Church

From Your Stewardship Committee



For those of you who are >70.5 years old, this applies to you. As the time to make our giving commitment to the church for 2022 arrives, don't forget how designating part or all of your Required Minimum Distribution from your IRAs to Court Street UMC can save on your Income Tax. It is a simple process.

Contact the church office for our Federal Tax ID number, which you then supply to your IRA account manager. Then decide what amount from your RMD you want to go to Court Street UMC. Your account manager will report this to the IRS, so it will NOT be counted towards your taxable income. A check made out to Court Street UMC will be supplied to you by your financial planner/account manager. You do NOT have to itemize taxes to get this benefit. This is one way to be good stewards of our money. Money saved on income taxes leaves you more discretionary funds to support other good causes. If you have questions, contact your financial planner/account manager.

The Chimes

Angel Tree Ministry is a program designed for children whose parent is in prison. This year we have 60 children. Many of these children live in our church neighborhood. We buy gifts for the children and give them on behalf of the parent who is in prison. Family members of the children will be contacted to determine needs. Each child will receive 2 gifts, one a toy and one a clothing item. You can help us by:

1. Volunteering to distribute angels following any worship service
2. Buying gifts for the children (\$15-\$25 each Retail) **Do not buy any gifts until you receive your angel(s)!**
3. Making a cash donation or a check payable to Court Street United Methodist Church with Angel Tree Ministry on memo line and mailing to Barb or Gene Ferry at 1321 Camp Avenue, Rockford, IL, 61103
4. Shopping for gifts
5. Organizing and delivering gifts between December 19th and December 23rd
6. Praying for the prisoners and their families
7. Assisting with the administration of this program



To receive your angel, please look for Barb or Gene Ferry or an Angel Tree representative following the service in the Narthex starting Nov. 14th. The angels will be on a small green Christmas tree. For questions, contact Barb or Gene Ferry at (815) 965-6518.

Jubilee Scarves

Consider donating your handmade scarves to the Jubilee Center this year. They distribute hundreds of "Jubilee Scarves" on St. Nicholas Day (Dec. 6) to those in the area struggling with mental illness and poverty.



Please donate by November 29th.

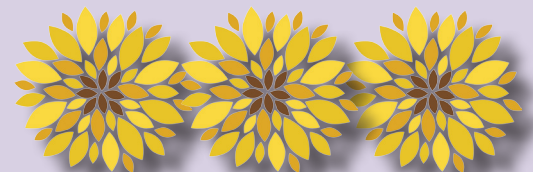
Wish to know more about this donation drive? Contact Greg Cox at gcox@aghllaw.com.

UMW Mums

Thank you to all of you that purchased mums and fall flowers from the UMW. We made a profit of \$500. Additional thanks go to Ryanne, Desisie, Diane and Bob Luther, and Steve Whitmore for driving, unloading, sorting, and delivering the plants.

Your efforts are appreciated.

Sue Cram,
UMW President



A Workspace Blessing

by Lillian Daniel

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.
- Colossians 3:23 (NIV)

When was the last time you blessed your workspace?

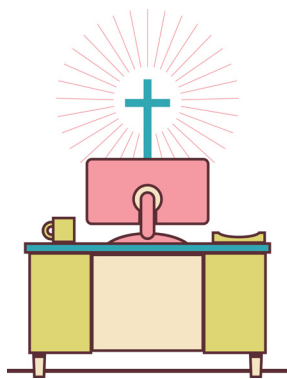
At the end of the workday, the average employee is thinking about doing many things. But blessing their space is probably not one of them.

For people who work in hard jobs and under unpleasant conditions, the workplace does not feel like a place of blessing but something to endure. But what if you blessed your space anyway?

For people who enjoy their work and look forward to it, the workplace can be a place of productivity and service. But let's not take that for granted. Why not bless your space anyway?

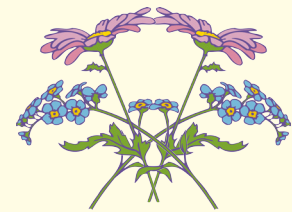
It had never occurred to me to bless a workspace until a parishioner asked me to bless her office. She invited her staff but made sure they knew it was optional. After all, we live in a multi-faith world, which includes people of no faith. Nonetheless a group gathered, and I prayed with them about their work and asked God for a blessing upon the office.

Not every workplace or employer could pull off something like that. But there is nothing to prevent any one of us from blessing the space where we work with a simple prayer like this one:



A Workplace Blessing

Loving God, I speak your grace, love and mercy into this place. Bless my job with meaning and purpose, productivity and usefulness, so that even my smallest task brings you honor. Thank you for the gifts you have given to me to do this work. I do not take them lightly, but commit to using them responsibly and well. Bless the others who work with me. Make me grateful for their gifts and patient with their shortcomings. Like them, I have my share of both. Lastly, I acknowledge your mysterious power over all that I will speak, think, do or decide here, when I open my heart to the power of your blessing. Amen.



CSUMC Book Club 2021

October 17
4:00 PM

The Secret Messenger
by Mandy Robotham
Avon



Contact Dorothy Powell for more info at hiogolfer@comcast.net.

Robert "Bob" L. Buckardt
September 20, 1927 - June 30, 2021



Memorial Service

Sunday, October 10th
2 p.m.

Court Street UMC
215 N. Court Street
Rockford, IL 61103



Court Street United Methodist Church
 The Chimes October 2021
 215 North Court Street
 Rockford, IL 61103-6897

Return Service Requested

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

October 3, 2021

10:00 Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Tim Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Natalie Urness
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

October 10, 2021

10:00 Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Stan Tunnell
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Lily Breson
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

October 17, 2021

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

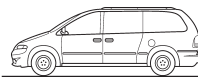
October 24, 2021

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

October 31, 2021

10:00 Ushers: The Sue Cram Team
 Sound Tech: Stan Tunnell
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Natalie Urness
 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.

10/03/21	Dan Boon	815-713-0411
10/10/21	Dan Boon	815-713-0411
10/17/21	Tim Gorman	815-636-0514
10/24/21	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444
10/31/21	Bruce Shindel	815-397-1479
11/07/21	Bruce Shindel	815-397-1479

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 Mertenich	Organist		andrew.mertenich@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

October 2021

Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lang, Jarrod	1	Whitmore, Steven	8	Hoople, Susan	15	Mueller, Marcia	20
Bailey-Murray, Joan	2	Kalke, Lorraine	10	Green, Daniel	16	Whitmore, Jeanann	20
Johnson, Sharon	2	Schmitt, Judith	10	Wandell, Lorelle	16	Whitmore, Wyatt	21
Stanis, Scott	2	King, Randiann	11	Boon, Dan	17	Condon, William	23
West, Natalie	2	Willis, Faye	11	Field, Teresa	18	Briggs, Kristi	24
Earlywine, Makayla	4	Zantow, Charlene	12	Whitmore, Ken	18	Brown, Karen	24
Gunderson, David	6	Holley, Sarita	13	Culpepper, Caleb	19	Tropp, Grace	28
Ingram, Lowell	6	Magnuson, Connie	14	Muck, Joanne	19	Weiss, Janet	29
L'Heureux, Holly	6	Olderbak, Michael	14	Voigt, Nick	19		

Anniversaries

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Married</u>
Morse, Bethany and Jason	1	2016	5
Bremner, Nathaniel and Anne Marie	4	2014	7
Cromwell, Bert and Scott	9	1982	39
Mann, Michael and Julia Jones	9	2004	17
Pearson, Linda and Richard	16	1971	50
Monroe, Delbert and Charlene Dull-Monroe	24	1998	23
Manson, Jean and Michael	30	1982	39
Dodson, Jeanne and DeVon	31	1975	46





Our prayers and sympathy go to the family of:

Virginia "Ginny" Ann Schaff who died August 31, 2021

Glenn Randall Palmer who died September 5, 2021

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Head Start 1:30 PM Head Start	2 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
3  9:00 AM The Lamplighters 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Special Study	4 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	5 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM JuBellation	6 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 10:30 AM UMW Leadership Team	7 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 10:00 AM Stewardship Team 1:00 PM The Journeymen 2:30 PM Head Start	8 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Head Start 1:30 PM Head Start	9 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 8:30 AM United Methodist Men Breakfast (Stockholm Inn)
10  9:00 AM The Lamplighters 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Flu Shots & BP Screenings 11:15 AM Special Study 2:00 PM Bob Buckardt Memorial	11 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	12 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Trustees 6:00 PM JuBellation	13 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 4:00 PM Worship Committee	14 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 1:00 PM The Journeymen 6:00 PM Chatterbox Supper Group (Red Lobster)	15 CHIMES DEADLINE 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Head Start 1:30 PM Head Start	16  8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 9:00 AM ECHO Ringers 10:00 AM UMW Guest Speaker Jane Rubietta
17 9:00 AM The Lamplighters 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Special Study 1:00 PM CROP Hunger Walk 4:00 PM CSUMC Book Club	18 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 4:00 PM Finance Committee 5:00 PM Administrative Council	19 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM JuBellation	20 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 5:30 PM No IL Wood Turners	21 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 1:00 PM The Journeymen 2:30 PM Head Start	22 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Head Start 1:30 PM Head Start	23 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
24 9:00 AM The Lamplighters 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Special Study	25 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	26 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 3:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:15 PM Knitting Group 6:00 PM JuBellation	27 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start	28 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:30 AM Head Start 12:00 PM Jeremiah Exec. Board 1:00 PM Chimes stuffing 1:00 PM The Journeymen	29 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Head Start 1:30 PM Head Start	30 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
31  9:00 AM The Lamplighters 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Special Study						