



The Brooke ~ December ~ 2016

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:13-14

Dear Brooke Road Family,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Time goes fast. We are facing the Advent Season and waiting for Baby Jesus, who is coming with Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. May Jesus bring good news to you and your family this Christmas. Let us prepare to celebrate the Birth of Jesus and be ready to receive special gifts from Jesus. When Jesus was born at Bethlehem, Magi offered gifts to the most precious one in their life. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, incense and myrrh.

What is the most precious treasure in you? Is it your time, your talent, or your dreams? Present your treasure to Jesus this Christmas Eve. And then Jesus will give his treasure to you. It is a new life, new hope and new vision. I encourage you to plan to attend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services, like the Magi and shepherds in the field. Let us open our ears and eyes to hear the heavenly song which the shepherds heard in the wilderness at the time of the birth of Jesus Christ at Bethlehem.

Let us shout out, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people on whom his favor rests." Jesus Christ is the great gift to us - the symbol of love of God for us. Because of Jesus, we became new beings. Jesus changed our life from dark to light and from failure to victory. Jesus is saying to us, "You are the light of the world. Arise and shine your light to the world. They need your light."

Christmas is the time we lift our light to the world. Christmas is the time of joy because we received the blessing of the baby Jesus in our hearts. So let us come to church and shout the joyful noise to the Lord. On December 11 during 10:00am Sunday worship we present our Christmas Cantata - "Come let us Adore!"

I invite you and your family to join in this wonderful moment - to worship God and celebrate the birth of Jesus in our town.

Jesus came to this world not only to save our souls, but to also take care of the poor, the sick and the lonely. Christmas is the time we need to take care of the poor and to look for people who are lonely and neglected in our community. Let us list their names and find ways to help and encourage them. Doing this will be a great Christmas gift to Jesus.

I want to express my big thanks to you for your love and prayers for my ministry this year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor ChungNam Kwak



Mitten and Hat Tree

Mittens and hats collected will be donated to two local elementary schools:
Nashold Elementary
Riverdahl Elementary

Outreach will be collecting food for Christmas baskets to be donated to Children's Home and Aid Society. Sign-up sheet will be in narthex through December 18th.



JustGoods

Fair Trade Marketplace

This non-profit store has the largest selection of fair trade chocolate, teas, coffees, unique clothes and gifts.

Tuesdays - Saturdays ~ 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
(Fridays ~ 10:00am - 9:00pm)
201 Seventh Street ~ 815.965.8903

A project of Rockford Urban Ministries

Wish List

Postage stamps

Gift boxes

(shirt size and larger)

8 1/2" x 11" white copier paper

8 1/2" x 14" copier paper

Cookie Exchange

We'll be having light lunch and cookie exchange following church December 4, 2016. Bring 2 or 3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies and a container to take some home. We'll also have some gingerbread men ready for decorating.

United Methodist Women (UMW)

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We collected 747 diapers and 2720 wipes for Maya's House. Thank you to all who contributed to this Mission Project. When we delivered the diapers and wipes, we were graciously given a tour of the facility. It is wonderful that parents can leave their children in a safe place and have their needs of diapers provided.

Our December 13 meeting is an outing to Hoffman House at Noon for lunch. Anyone is welcome - just contact Lyla Flynn to reserve your spot (815-397-1904).

We want to share a few facts with you as this is the end of the year. We have pledged to UMW and were able to:

Support the church	\$1332.42
Mission Pledge	550.00
Heifer Project	605.00
Community Agencies	700.00
UMCOR	195.00
Thank Offering	108.07
Call to Prayer & Self Denial	145.77
UMW Legacy Fund	25.00
	<hr/>
	\$3561.26

This is in addition to the peanut butter & jelly and the diaper and wipes drives.

This Christmas, we return to the scene of a humble manger where the great Light of the world was born. We join with the shepherds and angels - in awe of God's Love come to earth. Amidst the noise and distractions, we still our hearts as we bow before Him and worship the one true King.

Join us **Sunday, December 11th during 10:00am worship** to hear this year's Christmas Cantata, "**Come Let Us Adore**" directed by Vicki Jacobson.



2017 Wall Calendars

These beautiful, inspiring calendars, at \$13 each, make nice gifts! Please see purchase list in narthex or contact church office (815-398-8914). Proceeds will go to church's Current Fund.

Diabetes Group

Thanksgiving is past and we now approach the Christmas Holidays when we're challenged by extra gatherings and food. We will meet to be supportive to each other through this. Join us at 10 AM on Wednesday, December 21st.

Gift Wrapping Fundraiser

All hands on deck! We still need **LOTS** of help with this project. On the following days we will be wrapping gifts at **CherryVale Mall's Gift-Wrapping Center**:

November 25, 26, 27 and December 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24.

Here's where the "fundraiser" part comes in: we are able to accept any money shoppers donate for the convenience of having their gifts wrapped. Can't get much easier than that for a fundraiser! It does take a lot of time and wrappers, but we have loads of fun in the process.

We will also be wrapping gifts at **Barnes and Noble** on the following dates:

December 16, 19, 20, and 24.

If you can donate time on any of the dates listed above, please check sign-up sheets in Narthex or contact church office (815-398-8914). Happy wrapping!



Take Charge of Your Health: Live Well, Be Well

January 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20

Mondays from 1 – 3 PM.

Brooke Road UMC, 1404 Brooke Road

This 6-week program is for anyone with a chronic disease - asthma, arthritis, cancer, diabetes high blood pressure, high cholesterol, lupus and others.

We will talk about healthy eating, sleeping, breathing, activity and more.

Sign up in the narthex. Will need at least 8 to be an effective program.



Monday ~ December 26, 2016

Monday ~ January 2, 2016

Quilters

Thanks to our awesome quilters, 131 quilts were distributed to area homeless!

Directory Update

Marion Carlson

c/o Crimson Point
7130 Crimson Ridge Drive
Rockford, IL 61107

(no email or phone at this time)

Ethan & Amy Whitlock

3363 Azurite Place
Rockford, IL 61102

Monthly Finance Update

The Finance Committee has provided the following Current Fund information:

October income: \$12,345.16 October disbursements: \$14,033.97

This information is always available by contacting
Linda Johnson (Finance Chair), or Sandy McCallum (Treasurer).



*Birthdays
and Anniversaries*

December Birthdays

2nd	Leslie Stanford	17th	Larry Hairrell
3rd	Nick Faerber	19th	Bob McKinney
7th	Matt Cowan	21st	Ken Dodge
9th	Richard Albee	22nd	Linda Johnson
9th	Richard Albee		Bonnie O'Hara
15th	Lori Vowles	28th	Linda Schelin
		30th	Tyler Dobbs

December Anniversaries

15th	Ray & Carol Scribner
17th	Jim & Georgia Joiner
22nd	Steve & Jeralynn Cox
23rd	Dale & Leslie Stanford
26th	John & Hazel Dyke



Our Military

Matt Cowan, Matt Crabtree, Scott Dickson, Thomas Helser
Will Hoyum, Ian Long, Joshua Mattson, Jonathan Modler, Jerry Nettles,
Stacey Huser O'Hara, Christine Tornow, Tommy Turnure, Ryan & Kathryn (Vowles) Levack

Our Homebound

Pauline Arnsmeier, June Durham, Jean Nimz, John Pippel,
John Sauer, Doug Skrinski, Mildred Skrinski, Charlene Taylor

Family and Friends

Chris Beebe, Dorothy Benjamin, Marion Carlson, Dorothy Carpenter,
Kim Fahlbeck, Lyla Flynn, Ardene Friest, Mike McClanahan,
Laurece Thompson, Shirley Walker, Pearl Weaver, Barb Williams,



December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<u>1</u> 10:00 Advent Study	<u>2</u> 9:00am - 4:00pm Quilting 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>3</u> 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall
<u>4</u> 9:00am Go Fish 10:00am Worship Following worship Cookie Exchange Noon - 8:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>5</u> 5:30pm Christian Ed	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir	<u>8</u> 10:00 Advent Study	<u>9</u> 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>10</u> 9:00am Cantata Rehearsal 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall
<u>11</u> 9:00am Go Fish 10:00am Worship (Cantata) Noon - 8:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> Noon UMW lunch at Hoffman House 5:30pm Finance 6:00pm Trustees	<u>14</u> 6:00pm Celebration Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir	<u>15</u> 10:00 Advent Study	<u>16</u> 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall 10:00am - 4:00pm Wrap at B & N	<u>17</u> 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall
<u>18</u> 9:00am Go Fish 10:00am Worship Following worship Senior Ministries Potluck Noon - 8:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>19</u> 9:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at B & N 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>20</u> 9:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at B & N 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall 10:30am Paper Angel Closet	<u>21</u> 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall 10:00am Diabetes Group 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir	<u>22</u> 10:00 Advent Study 10:00am - 9:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>23</u> 9:00am - 10:00pm Wrap at CV Mall	<u>24</u> 8:00am - 5:00pm Wrap at B & N 8:00am - 2:00pm Wrap at CV Mall 10:30pm Candlelight Service
<u>25</u> 10:00am Worship	<u>26</u> Office Closed 12:30pm Serve lunch at Carpenter's Place 6:00pm Book Group at Warners'	<u>27</u> 6:30pm Council	<u>28</u> 6:00pm Celebration Choir 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> 9:00am - 4:00pm Quilting	<u>31</u>

Mission Statement

*to transform lives through
faith, love, and service*

Vision Statement

*to be a transforming
congregation of believers
to serve the community,
renew lives, and build faith*

**BROOKE ROAD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**1404 BROOKE ROAD
ROCKFORD, IL 61109**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office Hours

Monday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Tuesday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday **CLOSED**

Phone: 815-398-8914
Fax: 815-398-8911
www.the-brooke.org



Candlelight Service

***Saturday
December 24 ~ 10:30pm
at Brooke Road UMC***

Sunday Morning Schedule

***Bible Study
9:00am - 9:45am***

***Children's Sunday School
During 10:00am Worship***

***Worship ~ 10:00am
(Nursery available for NB - 4 years)***

Fellowship ~ Following Worship



December 4 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the Way for the Lord"
Scripture: Matthew 3:1-12

December 11 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

***Choir Cantata
"Come Let Us Adore"***

December 18 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

"The Birth of Jesus"
Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service ~ 10:30pm

December 25 ~ Christmas Day

"The Word became Flesh"
Scripture: John 1:1-14