WHAT IS YOUR WORSHIP ATTENDANCE GOAL?

In January 2015, Pastor Larry handed out, as a surprise, Worship Attendance Certificates to 15 people in our congregation who had been at our worship services at least 80% of the Sundays during 2014. He had obtained this idea when he heard that the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas—a congregation of over 10,000 people—recognized everyone who had a 90% worship attendance record.

Well, this is a fair warning! We will be keeping close track of worship attendance again this year, and will recognize everyone who has an 80% or better worship attendance during 2017 (which includes summer outdoor worship). We will remind you about this throughout the year. Who will be our top attendees in 2017, and how many will reach that goal of 80% or better?

BIBLE STUDY

There has been some interest in having another Bible Study this Winter/Spring. Pastor Larry said he would be happy to do so if the interest is evident. We could explore the Gospel According to Mark, the Gospel According to Matthew, the Book of Revelation, the Old Testament book of Exodus, or some other book that the attendees are interested in. Please contact Pastor Larry, let him know you are interested and what you might like to study. The group would most likely meet on Monday evenings at 7:00pm, with the exception on the night that the Parish Council meets.

SCOUT SUNDAY—JANUARY 29

A special program to honor our Scout Troop BST #127 will be held Sunday, January 29 during the worship service.

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES

During the snow season we will have worship service unless there is a travel ban and/or there is no electricity at the church. If the church needs to cancel worship or any other activity, we will update our church webpage as needed. We will also list this information with the following radio and television stations: TV: ABC-WHAM, NBC-WHEC, and YNN. Radio: 1180AM-WHAM and TWC News (channel 14).
COMMUNION SERVERS
  1  Rich & Bonnie Denison, Gerry Whitmire

USHERS
Les Gillespie, Bob Canan, Bob Buck, & Barb Sanger

ACOLYTE
Choir Member

GREETERS
  1  Bob & Barb Canan
  8  Jeff & Wanda Klem with family
  15  Gerry Whitmire & Bev Brown
  22  Russ & Nancy Waeghe
  29  Jerry & Michele Goodenough with family

LAY READERS
  1  Les Gillespie
  8  Rich Bergen
  15  Judy McMillan
  22  Darlene Canan
  29  Jeff Klem (Scout Sunday)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE
  1  Mary Lou Buck
  8  Pastor Larry
  15  Les Gillespie
  22  Pastor Larry
  29  Wanda Klem (Scout Sunday)

SOUND & MUSIC
Katie Scott, Jerry Goodenough, & Frank Cordaro
Choir Director: Dave Upham; Organist: Roberta Thornbury

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION—JANUARY 1, 2017
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SOUND BOOTH

Volunteers are desperately needed in the sound booth for worship. If you are willing to help out, please contact the church office. We will train you! The more people we have, the fewer times you would have to be scheduled. Right now we have only three people. **We need YOUR help!**

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MISSION TEAM

**BACKPACK PROGRAM:** We are going to donate additional funds to take care of the holidays when kids are not in school. These funds will come from the Pork Dinner, the Bake Food Sale, the Turkey Dinner, the Bazaar and the Christmas Eve service. Several other donations have been recently received. We are now funded to last into a fourth year!

**NNOC DINNER:** Our winter dinner will be on January 24th. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board for anyone wishing to help. The suggested menu is chili, bread, salad, drinks and a dessert.

**BBQ CONTRIBUTIONS:** $165 from the last BBQ has been transferred to the Backpack program and the remaining dollars ($1292) will be split between the church general fund and the UMCOR East Coast Relief fund.

**REBUILDING WITH UMCOR:** It was suggested that we consider a mission trip to PA in the Spring. Perhaps you would like to join us for a few days of work, helping folks rebuild their lives!

Grace and Peace, Rich and Bonnie

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FINANCE TEAM

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The average weekly tithing for November was $3167. The total in the bank is $18582, a nice increase from the last few months. The year to date income is +$2586 and the year-to-date expenses are $3012 lower than the plan. The year-to-date income has finally caught up and passed the plan! This is due to folks catching up and the three fund raisers in November.

**STEWARDSHIP:** We have received 36 cards totaling $79170. This is about 62% of our tithing budget and typical of Stewardship response from year to year. Thanks to all who support this program!

The budget for 2017 has been presented to Parish Council and approved. The only changes that were made are in Pastor Larry’s compensation package and the requested Shared Ministry.

The distribution of recent fund raisers was discussed at Parish Council. It was agreed that whatever is received on Christmas Eve plus 10% from all our other fundraisers would make up a donation total of $1000 to the Backpack Program this year. The LED concert love offering brought in $381. LED has requested that this offering to be placed in our general fund.

Grace and Peace, Rich

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JANUARY 2017
January Clothing Drive

Please open your hearts...and your closets and participate in the NOUMC Clothing Drive to benefit:

Open Door Mission and other local organizations
All during the month of January

Please leave your donations in the church library

For questions – call
Judy McMillan at 524-4219 or
Dawn Thomas at 524-2725

Sponsored by NOUMC Nurture Outreach Team

Items Needed: All types of warm clothing for men, women and children. Please make sure all items are clean.

Thank you!
During the January 19 Coffee Hour, materials for a four week home study on Jesus acts will be available for pick-up.

During the February 19 Coffee Hour, the Education Team will have materials for our 2017 Advent preparation study available for you to pick-up.

Materials for both programs will be appropriate for both Adults and young People!

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**Genesee Valley District**

**Informed to Transform 8**

**Leadership Training Day**

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Heather Heinzman Lear, D.Min
**Topic:** "Kingdom Leadership in the 21st Century"

**Featured Workshop:** Discipleship; Church Revitalization; Ministry Shares; Revs on Retreat; SPRC; Trustees; Pillow Prayers; Youth Ministry.

**February 4, 2017**
**Webster UMC**
9:00 am-3:30 pm

Registration available online January 3rd to 31st at www.unyumc.org

for more information (585) 340-9525

Cost: $20.00 per person
"Thank you” from the depths of my heart!

I want to express my deepest thanks to you, the North Ontario congregation, for your extremely generous gift once again this Christmas. I have never served a congregation that is as welcoming and generous as this church family. Pastor Terry and I will be doing a winter “get away” in February, taking a Caribbean cruise to spend some time together. Your gift will go towards that purpose. Again, “Thank you” to the entire North Ontario church family.

CHRISTMAS 2016 MEMORIES

By Bob Kelsch — Church Photographer!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing at TOPS in Ontario.

Caroling at The Terraces in Newark, the second stop after the Wayne County Nursing Home.

Betty Harper reading the Christmas Story at the NOUMC Women’s Brunch.
LED concert: "A Christmas Portrait"

Children’s Time Christmas Eve!
(Birthdays are in U/l case. Anniversaries are all CAPS)

The Birthday/Anniversary list contains all our church family members. Some may be parishioners who have not attended service for awhile due to various reasons, but we will continue listing them until further notice. The list is a remembrance for all those who have professed their faith in our church and their families. If you know any changes needed, please inform the church office.

3 Scott, Jay
5 Makins, Jim
6 Bergen, Stephanie
6 Pickering, Elizabeth (Libby)
11 Denison, Richard
15 Kennedy, Kay
17 Jacqueline Douglas
25 Ledain, Donald

2017 COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 15 – Trustees
Sunday, February 19 – Nurture/Outreach
Sunday, March 19 – Parish Council
Sunday, April 16 – Easter Sunday
Sunday, May 21 – Finance/Missions
Sunday, June TBD – Education (recognition of graduates if any)
Sunday, September 17 – Worship
Sunday, October 15 – SPRC
Sunday, November 19 – TBD (may be cancelled if there is a bazaar)
Sunday, December 17 – No coffee fellowship for December
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**upcoming events:***

- **Scout Sunday** Worship Service 10:00am
- **Epiphany of the Lord** Prayer Group 10:30am, Bible Study 11:00am, Mailbox Ministry 1:00pm
- **Mission Team** 6:00pm, Ministry Teams 6:45pm, Girl Scouts 6:00pm
- **Parish Council** 6:30pm
- **NNOC Dinner** Newsletter Deadline
- **Children's Church** No School
- **Girl Scouts** 6:00pm
- **Coffee Fellowship** Human Relations Day
- **Worship Service** 10:00am

**Resolution Two:** If no one else does, I still will.

**Resolution One:** I will live for God.

—Jonathan Edwards
GOD’S PROMISED SPRING

Like winter, some seasons of our faith journey feel cold, barren, devoid of life. Will renewal ever come? Will spring flourish again in our heart? Yet the world bears witness to God’s power to bring new life where all seems lost.

In the early 1990s, the St. Louis neighborhood of South City deteriorated sharply due to a stagnant economy, population decline and crime. Then Bosnian refugees started settling there. Thousands of people renovated abandoned houses and other buildings; they started businesses and brought skilled labor back to the neighborhood. As the area returned to life, the refugees experienced renewal, too—hope in place of discouragement, opportunities where none had existed, peace instead of war, life replacing death.

When our faith is challenged by despair, lost dreams or an uncertain future—when God’s promises feel as dead as winter—real-life renewal stories are signs of spring. They testify to the resurrection God has in store for us.

North Ontario United Methodist Church
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Office: 315.524.9509
Church office hours:
Tuesday–Thursday, 9:30am-1:30pm
noumc1@yahoo.com

Pastor: Rev. Lawrence Wiliford
pastorlarry@rochester.rr.com

www.noumc.com

North Ontario United Methodist Church exists to:
Spread the Gospel in our community and elsewhere as we share Christ’s hope and love with the world.