



*Community UMC*  
*2022 All-Church Conference*

October 18, 2022, 7:00 pm

Presiding Elder: Reverend Jeffry Bross, District Superintendant

Lead Pastor: Reverend Hannah Hwa-Young Chong



20 Center St, Naperville, IL 60540 • 630 355 1483 • [onecumc.net](http://onecumc.net)

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## Vision Statement

A welcoming and supportive community for all who aspire to walk in the way of Christ and reach out in God's love.

## Mission Statement

We will be an intergenerational, inclusive congregation where all people are loved and accepted. We will continue to grow in our understanding of Jesus' teachings through study, prayer and worship and will act on that understanding. We seek to serve needs in local, national, and global communities.

## Core Values

Worship and music that move and inspire us.

Christian Education for children, youth, and adults of every age and ability.

Mission, living our values to make a positive difference for those in need.

Intergenerational, we are a family investing in children, youth, and adults.

Inclusive, creating a safe and welcoming space for everyone because we value all individuals as children of God.

Progressive, searching with God's grace for new understanding and relevance in our changing world.

## Welcome Statement

As a congregation with open minds, open hearts, open doors, our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic condition, physical or mental ability.

Adopted by the Strategic Planning Committee on February 15, 2021

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2022  
**Church Conference**  
**AGENDA**

**PRELUDE** Sonata in F, KV 332: Adagio Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**WELCOME** Pastor

**CALL TO ORDER** DS/Presiding Elder

**OPENING PRAYER** Lay Leader

**HYMN** Spirit Song UMH #347

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 3:13-17 Lay Leader

**MESSAGE** DS/Presiding Elder

“Our identity as the church grows out of this grounding in Jesus’ baptism. For 2000 years, we have been rooted in Christ while finding ways to live out our faith in the Christian community. While disconnected and isolated these past few years, we witnessed the power of connection in new ways. Through Zoom, online worship, missions, acts of compassion, and opportunities for social justice, the connection has held strong.” – Bishop John L. Hopkins

**HOLY CONFERENCING**

- What do you remember from your baptism?
- How do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and serve him as your Lord?
- What is Jesus calling you to do in this new year?

**REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

The New Testament records that Jesus was baptized by John, and he commanded his disciples to teach and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:19). Baptism is grounded in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and

involves dying to sin, newness of life, union with Christ, receiving the Holy Spirit, and incorporation into Christ’s church.

Let us Pray - Pour out your Holy Spirit, and by this gift of water call to our remembrance the grace declared to us in our baptism. For you have washed away our sins, and you clothe us with righteousness throughout our lives, that dying and rising with Christ we may share in his final victory.

**People: All praise to you, eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

*(Members of the congregation may be invited to touch the water and, if desired, touch their foreheads with a moistened finger)*

Remember your baptism and be thankful. Amen.

**VITALITY REPORT by Vital Congregations** DS/Presiding Elder

(Churches' spiritual and financial vitality over several years based on their statistical report)

**BUSINESS**

- Leadership Nominations and Election
- Clergy Compensation
- Ministry Recommendations
- Lay Servant Reports
- Additional Business

**DISMISSAL AND BLESSING** Pastor

**POSTLUDE** Reflections in D Duke Ellington

## Lay Leadership Team

Listed below are all the people who serve on committees in our church. The numbers after the names indicate multiple committees. Community UMC is so appreciative of all volunteers and their hard work.

- |                          |                           |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Bill Abernethy        | 35. Chris Garofalo [x2]   | 68. Hans Muehlsler              |
| 2. Scott Baker [x2]      | 36. David Gray            | 69. Melissa Muehlsler           |
| 3. Lisa Bauer            | 37. Ed Green [x2]         | 70. Mark Norman                 |
| 4. Pat Becker [x4]       | 38. June Green [x2]       | 71. Mark Norman [x2]            |
| 5. Jennifer Borja        | 39. George Groves [x4]    | 72. Peter Overstreet            |
| 6. Al Brunsting          | 40. Patricia Gruber       | 73. Lynn Pries [x4]             |
| 7. Beth Buffington [x2]  | 41. Abbey Hagemeyer       | 74. Betty Reed                  |
| 8. Evie Burke [x5]       | 42. Conner Hagemeyer      | 75. Fran Rice [x2]              |
| 9. Marty Cann            | 43. Shawn Hagemeyer       | 76. Joe Roche                   |
| 10. Ron Carter           | 44. Beth Hagemeyer [x5]   | 77. Betsy Roche [x2]            |
| 11. Steve Celander       | 45. Hunter Henderson [x4] | 78. Nadine Roskens              |
| 12. Kim Celander [x2]    | 46. Sally Hines [x2]      | 79. Sheila Rossi [x2]           |
| 13. Gary Chipman [x2]    | 47. Dave Hollander [x3]   | 80. Mari Schirmer [x4]          |
| 14. Stacy Colgan         | 48. Amy Hollander [x4]    | 81. Jo-Anne Schonewille Colling |
| 15. Craig Colling        | 49. Shelley Hubert        | 82. Grace Ann Simoni            |
| 16. Barb Cornelison      | 50. Susan Keaton [x4]     | 83. Ann Steele [x2]             |
| 17. Ken Cox [x3]         | 51. Bob Kinsman           | 84. Patricia Steinhaus          |
| 18. Carol Craig [x3]     | 52. David Kinsman         | 85. Pat Steinhaus [x2]          |
| 19. Dean Craig [x3]      | 53. Kathy Krohn           | 86. Greg Streul                 |
| 20. Jim Davidson [x2]    | 54. Katie Lapham [x2]     | 87. Marsha Taylor               |
| 21. Sharon de Waard [x3] | 55. Emily Les [x2]        | 88. Ollie Taylor [x6]           |
| 22. Melissa DeCamp [x3]  | 56. Nancy Leventry [x2]   | 89. Clyde Uebele                |
| 23. Brenda DeGeer [x4]   | 57. Sam Leventry [x3]     | 90. Nancy Whittington [x2]      |
| 24. Brad Donaldson       | 58. Mary Lou Lipscomb     | 91. Graham Wills [x3]           |
| 25. Spencer Donaldson    | 59. Yema Luhahi           | 92. Suzanne Wills [x3]          |
| 26. Jill Donaldson [x2]  | 60. Sue Mack              | 93. Zack Zigterman              |
| 27. Paul Dude            | 61. Kevin Markwell [x2]   | 94. Amanda Zigterman [x5]       |
| 28. Nancy Dummer         | 62. Kyle Markwell [x2]    | 95. Rosemary Zimmerman          |
| 29. Mary Elliott         | 63. Cy McMMain            | 96. Dale Zimmerman [x5]         |
| 30. Sydney Elliott       | 64. Mike Mistele          |                                 |
| 31. Tim Elliott          | 65. Lynn Morgan           |                                 |
| 32. Ruth Fawell          | 66. Linda Morgan [x2]     |                                 |
| 33. Bill Feind           | 67. Jim Morrow            |                                 |
| 34. Rich Fleming [x6]    |                           |                                 |

## Staff Parish Relations Committee

Once again, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee had a busy year. SPRC focused on several areas over the course of this year:

- Liaison's continued to connect with staff members.
- In April, SPRC prepared and conducted reviews for our Pastor and reviewed her plans for the upcoming year.
- Conducted searches for a Director of Youth Ministries and Pastoral Care positions. We conducted interviews for both positions but have not hired anyone yet. Searches continue.
- Reports on SPRC activities were made to the Church Council at each meeting.
- Preparing a proposed budget for 2023 with the help of the Treasurer.
- The Church Profile was updated and submitted to the conference along with the other applicable reports.

The year ahead will provide us with many opportunities to participate in moving forward with CUMC's strategic plan. SPRC will continue to work closely with the pastor and staff.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evie Burke, Chair

## Membership

Although we have made major progress in recovering from the pandemic restrictions of last year, our congregational attendance continues to be divided into the in-person and online groups. Overall there has been a rather stable population with few joining or leaving. Unfortunately six of our long-time members have been lost through death. Our data system has been updated, but we continue to classify our rolls into two groups – active or inactive. The active group are those who have either registered their attendance or donated money within the last three years. The number of members in this active group are currently estimated to be 302.

In the period since the last church conference (12/9/2021 – 10/18/2022):

- Thirteen people were received into membership
  - \* Three by affirmation of faith
  - \* Four by transfer from other churches
  - \* Six by confirmation
- Nine persons were removed from membership
  - \* Three by transfer to other UM churches
  - \* Six by death
    - ◇ Terry Ferguson
    - ◇ Ruth Kinsman
    - ◇ Jeff Ray
    - ◇ Forrest Rice
    - ◇ Caring Schwenk
    - ◇ Pat Stockner
- Four baptisms were celebrated
  - \* Josephine Falk
  - \* Samuel Larson
  - \* Emma Cowan
  - \* Rori Cowan

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Chipman, Membership Secretary

## Administrative Team

The Administrative Team met twice a month in 2022 via Zoom. The purpose of these meetings is to deal with church issues that come about between times when other church committees are not meeting. The attendance at these meetings is extraordinarily good and the subject matters are important to the life of our church. Some matters of discussion were COVID-19 protocol, Trustee lawsuit, Associate Pastor vacancy, Lansdale Parsonage sale, and Capital Campaigns. The Administrative Team looks forward to its service in 2023.

Respectfully submitted  
Rich Fleming, Administrative Team Chair



## Certified Lay Servant Annual Report

A Lay Servant is a member of the congregation who has completed required courses and has been approved by a district or annual conference committee to conduct worship services, preach and lead study sessions as requested by the pastor or district superintendent. Lay servant ministry has existed since the very beginnings of the church. I took the basic Lay Servants classes in 2014 to become a Certified Lay Servant. Since then, I have taken advanced classes in Spiritual Gifts, Advanced Preaching, Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders and most recently Leading Public Prayer. These classes gave me the knowledge on how to better conduct lay activities within the UMC spiritual and cultural framework. I try to use this knowledge at Community UMC, as well as, in my Men's Ministry roles. I have recently taken UMM sponsored studies of the Mighty Men of Prayer and the Four Voices, taking control of the conversation in your head.

I have multiple roles here at CUMC, as well as, on conference and aligned organizations. Here at CUMC I am leader of the UMM local unit, sit on the Church Council, Finance and Stewardship Committees and the CUMC Foundation. I usher and greet for the 11:00 service, plus I was a confirmation mentor. I facilitate the weekly Lectionary bible study. This year I gave the Ascension message, made other presentations, and read the scriptures at our services.

Outside of CUMC, I am NIC UMM Conference President and as such, lead the NIC UMM Executive Committee, am a member of the NCJUMM Ex. Com and the National Association of Conference Presidents (NACP). As UMM Conference President I lead the NIC UMM Executive Committee, establish a conference calendar, plan and lead our annual meeting, and lead the planning, agenda, speakers our annual Spiritual Congress men's retreat at Williams Bay, WI which was once again held as an in-person men's retreat after the pandemic cancellation. As the UMM has developed the new electronic apps for use in ministry – Live Bold and Adventure Men, I've introduced these offerings at many opportunities throughout the conference and to men here at CUMC.

I am a member of the Annual Conference, Board of Laity, Annual Conference Planning Committee and Nominations. I serve on the board of directors of the UMFoundation of the NIC on the grants committee. This year for the Laity Convocation I made a video presentation on small groups utilizing our Lectionary Study group as the case study.

I am a certified Men's Ministry Specialist (MMS) through the GCUMM, as I completed the requirements and was commissioned by Bishop James Swanson in 2016 and completed my recertification requirements for 2020-2021. MMS is a laity para-professional certification for Men's Ministry in the United Methodist Church, under the purview of the General Commission on United Methodist Men. I am in a weekly small group with UMM leaders where we start each meeting with a discussion of how we've witnessed God in our life the previous week.

I am thankful that I took these courses toward becoming a Certified Lay Servant and MMS. I find that the spiritual growth I received from the material and the class discussions surpassed the knowledge. I feel called to use my gifts and learned knowledge to work within the UMC in developing stronger men's ministries throughout the Conference and to establish stronger ministries here at Community.

Respectfully submitted,  
George Groves

## Church Council

Church Council serves as the primary administrative body of the charge conference and oversees the management and programming of the church. Its functions include leading the vision and strategic planning process within the church, approving the church budget, and filling vacancies in lay leadership positions that occur between meetings of the charge conference.

The Council has met five times in 2022 (January, March, May, June, and September) and will meet a sixth time in November. In addition, a member of the Finance Committee and members of the new Building Committee were approved by email votes.

The Council approved the church's 2022 budget at its January meeting. That budget has an estimated loss of \$59,793. By way of comparison, the budget approved in January 2021 had an estimated loss of \$53,825, which was reduced to a loss of \$25,893 by subsequent budget actions. The actual result in 2021 was a surplus of \$35,278, and the church's operating cash increased over what it was at the end of 2020. Hopefully a similar result will occur at the end of 2022.

In May, the Council approved the extension of the church's \$50,000 line of credit from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The purpose of this line of credit is to make funds available in the event a temporary operating funds shortfall occurs at some point during the year. To date there has been no need to use this line of credit because the church's available operating cash has been sufficient to pay all debts due.

At its May meeting the Council approved the creation of a new Building Committee to consider and prioritize the actions needed to complete some of the items in the church's original building program, including finishing the second floor addition to make it a usable space.

Also in May, the Council approved a motion to request a Special Church Conference to approve the sale of the parsonage which is no longer needed because the church will not have a second appointed pastor. The Special Church Conference which approved the sale was held on June 22.

One of the goals adopted by the strategic planning process conducted in 2021 was to make the church debt free by 2025. The church's second parsonage has been sold for \$370,000, with a closing date of October 21. The proceeds can only be used for capital related purposes, such as mortgage payments and remodeling. The church currently has 2 mortgages, both with the Wheaton Bank and Trust Co. The oldest mortgage of about \$100,000 had a maturity date of June 30, 2022, which the Bank graciously extended through October. At its September meeting the Council voted to completely pay off this mortgage. The Council also approved the recommendation to reduce the second mortgage of about \$190,000 to approximately \$80,000. The church will be well on its way to being debt free. A great debt of gratitude is owed to the chair of the Board of Trustees, Hunter Henderson, for his extensive work on this project.

Respectfully submitted  
Dale Zimmerman, Council Chair

## Diversity Outreach Committee (DOC)

### Mission Statement

The Diversity Outreach Committee strives to foster a greater understanding of how diverse groups are similar and unique through education and outreach using our Christian perspective to build relationships and understanding with diverse people.

We will take a look at the different aspects of our church mission statement.

### Current Focus

- Maintaining our commitment to being an open and welcoming church.
- Race and culture education.

### Events either organized or hosted by the Diversity Outreach Committee, November 2021 –October 2022:

- June 2022: CUMC participated in Aurora's Pride Parade.
- Summer 2022: We continue to update the CUMC website to include a Diversity outreach page. This page includes two main topics/tabs; one for "Equity Resources" and the other for "LGBTQIA Resources".
- September 2022: We organized volunteers to support the Naper Pride Fest held at Naper Settlement on September 10.

### Members

- June Green (chair)
- Scott Bakerr
- Pat Becker
- Jennifer Borja
- Beth Buffington
- Sharon de Waard
- Sydney Elliott
- Beth Hagemeyer
- Clyde Uebele
- Amanda Zigterman
- Dale Zimmerman

We will continue to support or organize activities to support our mission of inclusion.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Diversity Outreach Committee

## Community United Methodist Church Foundation

Our endowed funds are invested with the United Methodist Foundation of the Northern Illinois Conference in the Moderate Fund (60% equities and 40% fixed income).

Our non-endowed funds are invested in the Vanguard Wellesley Income Fund. This fund was chosen based on its 10 year performance, lower volatility, and low expenses.

Through June 30, 2022, the Foundation distributed \$18,400 from the Endowment Funds to CUMC. Since the CUMC Foundation was incorporated in 2001, it has distributed a total of \$177,300 to CUMC from its endowed funds. The distribution for 2022 will be determined at the January Foundation meeting.

As of June 30, 2022, the balances in the Foundation's funds were:

### Endowment Funds:

General	\$267,039
Music	\$60,680
Building	\$42,101
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$369,820</i>

### Non-Endowment Funds:

Current (operating expenses)	\$494
Capital Improvement	\$56,053
Paul Schwab Scholarship Fund	\$11,818
Richard Legg Memorial Fund	\$9,802
Memorials	\$35,926
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$114,093</i>

The Foundation's Memorial Fund holds memorial gifts and bequests made to CUMC until they are designated to a specific fund or purpose. For the quarter ended June 30, 2022, the Memorial Fund had contributions of about \$2,856.

The investments in the non-endowed Capital Improvement fund are managed by the Foundation for the benefit of the Trustees who retain control over the use of these funds. Both principal and earnings in this fund may be spent by the Trustees on capital improvements.

### 1837 Society

The 1837 Society Member designation is conferred on members and other benefactors who have provided support

to the CUMC Foundation through planned gifts, estate plans or other forms of commitments to make a deferred gift. There are currently around 27 members of the 1837 Society.

### Remembering...

Through June 30, 2022, the CUMC Foundation has received bequests from or contributions in memory of:

- Carole Chapdelaine
- Harris Fawell
- Audrey Murr
- Gina Belmont
- Jeff Ray
- Caring Schwenk
- Forrest Rice

### Current CUMC Foundation Directors and Officers

- Sam Leventry (President)
- George Groves (Vice President)
- Greg Streul (Treasurer)
- Sue Mack (Secretary)
- Carol Craig
- Paul Dude
- Patricia Gruber
- David Gray
- Sheila Rossi
- Patricia Steinhaus
- Rev. Hannah Hwa-Young Chong

### Audit

Full year audited financial statements will be prepared following the ending of the Foundation's fiscal year on December 31, 2022 and will be available to any interested CUMC member.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sam Leventry, Chair & President

# Hunger Commission

### Meetings

Jan 25, 2022; Feb 22, 2022; May 3, 2022, Aug 16, 2022.

### December 2021: Heifer Project campaign: virtual Living Market and large ark display in the Welcome Center

We collected \$7,122 (\$2831 online, \$4,291 turned in at church). The money went to help provide animals, training, and more to families in need around the world! Thanks to a corporate matching grant through Heifer International, our donation was doubled! That means Heifer International received \$14,244 for their projects.

### January 30, 2022: 6th Drive-Through Food Drive

33 boxes: 909 lbs pounds of food and items donated to Loaves & Fishes.

### February 19 & Feb 20, 2022: Feed The Need NCC Campus- (Feed My Starving Children)

41 volunteers worked from CUMC.

### March 13 – April 17: Seed Drive for CHA Senior gardens

\$441.82 donated used to purchase additional seeds plus seeds collected at CUMC during drive 1054 seed packs delivered to CHA Senior in two batches - April 12 & May 4.

### March 28, 2022: Hased House

Provided Portillo's dinner purchased with our funds.

### April 24, 2022: 7th Drive-Through Food Drive

25 boxes: 352 lbs delivered by Judy Maples, 255 lbs delivered by Nancy Leventry – 607 lbs total.

### May 2022: Dispersed funds

\$1000 to World Central Kitchen

\$1000 UMCOR (Ukraine Relief Fund)

### May 23, 2022: Hased House

Provided Portillo's dinner purchased with our funds.

### June 20, 2022: Feed My Starving Children Outing

11 CUMC people attended.



**July 25, 2022: Hased House**

Provided pizza dinner purchased with our funds.

**July, 2022**

Resumed sack lunch program in church office for homeless, so far around 40 lunches have been distributed.

**September 26, 2022: Hased House**

Provided dinner purchased with our funds.

**September 4 – 18: NCC Giving Box Drive**

Collected and delivered several large boxes of donations for college pantry.

**October 16 , 2022: 40th Naperville Area CROP Walk**

Team of 11 walkers raised \$2850 (as of 10/14).

**Members**

- Amy Hollander, Chair
- Pat Becker
- Dean Craig
- Jim Davidson
- Sally Hines
- Shelly Hubert
- Katie Lapham
- Nancy Leventry
- Lynn Pries

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Hollander, Chair

## *Marketing Committee*

CUMC's Marketing Committee provides marketing and communications expertise to promote church events and missions but, more importantly, to share the bigger story of CUMC as a place all are welcome and all are loved. Some of our goals for this year were to publicize specific church events (worship opportunities, VBS, Sunday musicales and the like); to demonstrate to the community that we truly live our welcoming statement; to consider new ways of outreach (live-streamed services, our building as a community meeting place); and to reach out to more people in our immediate neighborhoods. As we end the year, committee members are taking part in coaching sessions designed to lead CUMC to new ways of reaching more people in our communities and changing their lives.

So far in 2022, the committee has:

- Placed a rainbow-colored ad in the Naperville Sun inviting all to Easter Services.
- Designed and displayed outdoor banners for Easter Services & for VBS.
- Advertised the May 15 Sunday Musicale (ragtime pianist Reginald Robinson) and Oct. 2 Musicale (Chris Garofalo playing Debussy) through church posters, listings in local community calendars, a short article in Positively Naperville newspaper, and communications with local senior centers and music departments.
- Boosted promotion of Sundays in the Park through enhanced signage, local calendar listings.

The committee also started work on a major outreach campaign that we plan to launch in November. With Pastor Hannah's help, we are developing a "Seven Days to Mindfulness" guide that will be offered through targeted social media advertising. It will be available to the community in a free download and to our church community and other groups using our building as a printed guide. This is an outreach to the broader community, specifically to show our neighbors and the unchurched what CUMC is all about.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Keaton, Chair

## Membership Committee

The Membership Committee has initiated phone calls to church members who have not been participating in worship in person or online. The committee will promote ways that church members can invite relatives, friends, and neighbors who are not attending a church to participate in Advent and Christmas Eve services. The Membership Committee will be participating in a church coaching program from our Northern Illinois Conference.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Lynn Pries, Chair

## Missions Committee

### **PADS**

PADS has been able to purchase a motel in Downers Grove and now offers interim housing at the motel. They have about 330 guests at any given time; about a third of the guests are children. CUMC continues to support this organization. In the spring, we purchased a number of toys and outdoor sporting equipment so the children had activities when out of school. In the fall, we purchased cleaning supplies, as well as clothing and shoes for 30 children. In most cases these were delivered directly to the families. We worked with St. Luke's church to provide a meal. CUMC will be holding a collection of needed items for PADS in the fall. The PADS team has combined with the Missions committee.

### **Other Support for the Homeless**

The Hunger Commission has provided meals to the family shelter at Hased House on a bimonthly basis. Several members are also participating in a homeless ministry, Community Kitchen in Downers Grove. The youth provided one meal to this ministry in late Spring.

### **Missionaries**

On Easter Sunday we had the honor to welcome two Missionaries who attended service with us and presented to the Forum Sunday School. Kyeong-Ah Woo and Jin Yang Kim are both with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. CUMC is currently serving as their host church.

Thanks to the church membership, Missions was able to support the following organizations in 2022:

- Feed the Need
- Missionaries
- PADS
- Disaster Relief including The Bishop Appeal for the Ukraine Assistance
- Back to School Drive for Kids Above All
- Korean Mission Trip (taking place next year)
- The Youth Mission Trip
- Honduras Children's Fund
- SamaraCare
- Hased House
- Loaves and Fishes
- Katherine Manor
- Support for Immigrants and Asylum Seekers sent to Chicago

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Becker, Chair

# Music Ministry

## Service Schedule

- 9:00 am Sunday Traditional Service - organ, piano, harpsichord, Community Singers, Heart 'n Soul, Carillon Bells, and professional guest musicians.
- 11:00 am Sunday Service - OnCenter Band.
- Volunteer Ensembles – all ensembles resumed in September 2022
- Community Singers Chris Garofalo, director. 11 voices. Scheduled 3 times per month.
- Carillon Bells Kyle Markwell, director. 12 members. Scheduled monthly.
- Heart 'n' Soul (Women's Ensemble) – Amy Hollander, director & Joline Bastounes, piano, eight members. Scheduled once monthly at both services.
- Rainbow Dancers – Donna Pries, director. To be scheduled in the future.
- Volunteer Cantors/Soloists – Scheduled throughout the year: Mary Elliott, Marty Matutis, Minji Will, Chris DiMarco, and Chris Groves.
- OnCenter Band – Kyle Markwell, Director, Dave Jenkins, leader. Scheduled Sundays at 11:00 am

SPRC and I are still searching for a new choir accompanist. The choir has enough fundamental skills in place now to function as a chamber ensemble and can present music in services without a conductor. The choir will need a separate accompanist for large scale choral works with instrumental ensembles.

## Guest Musicians

Professional soloists and ensembles continued to be engaged for services. The soloists for this year include: Jonita Lattimore, soprano; Dan Moroz, saxophone; Eric Pidluski, violin; Andrew Molina, cello; Carolyn May, flute; Lerryn Schaefer, viola; Maria Arrua, violin; Andrew Molina, cello; Julie Spring, harp; and Robert Gordon, oboe.

## Lent, Easter and Holy Week

- Ash Wednesday – March 2: Ecumenical service and choir at 1st Congregational UCC.
- Holy Thursday - April 14: Mary Elliott, cantor & Chris Garofalo, piano. Garofalo: The Lord's Prayer, Walker: Let Us Break Bread Together, Beethoven: Moonlight Sonata and Bach: Prelude in B minor.
- Good Friday - April 15: Ecumenical service at Community UMC. Morricone: Gabriel's Oboe; Beeckmans: Hymne for Theremin, Oboe, String Quartet and Piano; Marcello: Oboe Concerto D minor, Mvt. 1; Jenkins: Benedictus. Marty Matutis, tenor & cantor; Robert Gordon, oboe; Eric Pidluski, violin I; Maria Arrua, violin II; Lerryn Donatelle, viola; and Andrew Molina, cello.
- Easter – April 17: Shane Courville, trumpet and Vocal Quartet: Mary Elliott, soprano; Minji Will, alto; Marty Matutis, tenor; and Chris DiMarco, bass.

## Instruments

All six pianos are tuned and voiced regularly. The Reuter pipe organ will be serviced in November and all maintenance issues are up to date.

## Streaming Copyright Licenses

To cover the copyright use of the wide variety of music presented in the online services, streaming licenses from three companies are purchased for the church. The Visual Arts Budget is used to cover the license expenses as well as the church's DropBox account. A list is maintained of all music compositions presented in the services throughout the year and reported weekly for the streaming services.

### Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI)

- CCLI – General License (for Christian rock)
- CCLI – Rehearse License (for sharing recordings for rehearsals)
- CCLI – Streaming License (for Christian rock used in streaming services)
- CVLI – Video License (for video clips and films at services, meetings, and events)
- Church Copyright Solutions (CCS)
- CCS – PerformMusic (for sacred and secular music for services, events, and concerts)
- CCS – WorshipCast (for streaming services and concerts)

OneLicense with Streaming (for traditional hymns/anthems for services)

## Christmas Eve 2022

The 7:00 pm Christmas Eve concert for this year will feature carols by John Rutter with a vocal quartet, string quartet, oboe, piano, organ and harpsichord. Mary Elliott, soprano; alto TBD; Marty Matutis, tenor; Chris DiMarco, bass; Eric Pidluski, violin; Maria Arrua, violin; Lerryn Schaefer Donatelle, viola; and Andrew Molina, cello; and Robert Gordon, oboe. The program will also include the Christmas Story, a prayer, and congregational carols. I compose the string quartet arrangements for the concert and 11:00 pm service each year.

## Microphones / Choir Loft Camera

Four more Rode NT-1 large diaphragm condenser microphones were purchased in May. There are now 10 high quality microphones at the church for streaming acoustic instruments and voices. All ten will be used for the 2022 Christmas Eve Concert.

A new camera that is controlled remotely and provides views of the piano, organ, choir loft and congregation was purchased with the last remaining funds from the Joan Uebele Memorial Fund. An HDMI signal converter was purchased with funds from the Special Music Fund to improve the signal strength travelling from the choir loft to the audio board. We now have the ability to show the piano and organ keyboards projected on the sanctuary screen. This added a whole new dimension to the Ragtime Sunday Musicale, the services and the many programs scheduled at the church from area piano teachers and music organizations.

### Sunday Musicales & Concerts

Sunday afternoon concerts for Community UMC and the community at large sponsored by Senior Ministries and Music Ministries. The programs are offered free to the public in-person, live-streamed and recorded to view on YouTube. As the community interest in these outreach programs has increased, four Sunday Musicales will be scheduled in 2023.

Reflections in the Water: Piano Music of Claude Debussy

Chris Garofalo, pianist

Sunday, October 2, 3:00 pm

Ragtime Sunday Musicale

MacArthur Foundation Genius Award winner Reginald Robinson presented a very fun and engaging program of ragtime works old and new on May 15. The program was well publicized by Susan Keaton, Betsy Roche, and the publicity team. Attendance was 62 in-person + 688 YouTube views = 750 views as of September 11, 2022.

### Previous Programs - YouTube concert views as of October 18, 2022.

Title	Date	Attendance	Total
• Reflections in the Water	10/02/22	45 in-person + 163 YouTube	208
• Ragtime	05/15/22	62 in-person + 692 YouTube	754
• Truth, Hope & Love Abide	02/24/21	65 in-person + 579 YouTube	644
• Harmonics	08/29/2021	YouTube	69
• According to Joseph	12/24/20	YouTube	256
• Arias and Songs	11/08/20	YouTube	290

### Budgets

2023 budget proposals were submitted for the Music Budget, Organ Budget and Visual Arts Budget.

The congregation's continued interest and engagement in the wide variety of music and programs in the Music Ministries of Community UMC is reflective of transcendence and spiritual transformation through art.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Garofalo, Director of Music Ministry

## Pastor Report: Reverend Hannah Hwa-Young Chong

I am deeply grateful for Spirit's presence in the mission and ministry at Community UMC. Amid continuing challenges from COVID, the church staff and leadership have been generous, flexible, and creative in providing time, talents, and gifts.

We are excited that we recently started a year-long coaching process with Coach Paul Nickerson and four other churches. The purpose of this coaching is to reach new people in the community. It's a perfect time to engage in this coaching process, as we recover from COVID and find new ways to engage in the community. We have been active in relating to LGBTQIA+ communities in DuPage. We already have a plan to host a Christmas service in the Naper Settlement and are eager to find more ways to bring our presence out into city events and fairs.

There have been many joys this year. We are getting to be known in our community for our inclusive and justice-oriented actions and ministries. Seven youth members have completed a yearlong confirmation class, and six of them were confirmed on Pentecost Sunday. We received seven new members, and more people have expressed their intention to join our church soon. We celebrated baptisms for both infants and older children. The Ephesus project is going strong as we enter the second year of this anti-racism program. Many of our committees and work groups have worked hard this year to begin new initiatives. I am greatly thankful for the love and dedication of all our leaders!

We have many challenges ahead of us as well. We've had significant losses through death and relocation. We sent off Pastor Jeremiah with our blessings, and it's not been easy to fill open positions. We are still cautious about in-person gatherings due to the high number of COVID in DuPage. We continue to offer excellent online services thanks to our fantastic tech team. We typically have more than 100 YouTube views of our worship services each week, and one of our challenges is to find ways to identify our viewers.

There's no doubt that the Spirit is alive and guiding us through all of our joys and challenges. Every Sunday, I often hear from our people how they have sensed the active presence of the Spirit in our worship services. I celebrate that Community UMC is a faithful community of worship, prayer, learning, and mission. With the support of our mission committee, we are exploring a border mission trip next spring. We are part of the group mission trip to South Korea next summer along with two other United Methodist Churches.

It is a great joy to serve Community UMC!

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Hannah Hwa-Young Chong

## *Clergy in Connection: Reverend Doctor Jin Yang Kim*

As coordinator of the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace at the WCC, I have organized a series of pilgrim team visits to Europe this year which involves going to the most vulnerable places in the world: Italy, Armenia, and Norway. In Italy, from 20-25 May, the pilgrims saw rich examples of the diaconal work promoted by WCC member churches in assisting refugees and migrants. In Armenia, taking place from 26 May through 2 June, the pilgrim expressed solidarity and accompaniment with sisters and brothers in Armenia through interaction with grassroots groups and religious leaders, focusing on issues of trauma healing, defending of religious and cultural monuments, and diaconal work of member churches in Armenia. In Norway, a visit with Indigenous Sámi communities is taking place 31 May through 2 June. In the Arctic region, which is heating up twice as fast as the global average, Indigenous peoples are bearing the brunt of climate change impacts.

The World Council of Churches, together with the National Council of Churches in Korea, published a 2022 Easter prayer, inviting all Christians around the world to pray with the Korean churches: 2022 Easter Prayer for Peace and Reunification on the Korean Peninsula. The WCC also expressed a grave concern over COVID-19 outbreak in North Korea, calling for an urgent humanitarian response by the international community. The WCC also invited the global fellowship and all people of good will to join, on 15 August, a prayer for peace and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula.

The WCC's 11th Assembly took place in Karlsruhe, Germany from 31 August to 8 September under the theme: "Christ's love moves the world to reconciliation and unity." One of the urgent issues for this assembly was the climate emergency. I convened the 1st thematic plenary: "God's love in Christ for the whole creation." The plenary took place on 1 September, the Day of Creation, which is observed by churches worldwide. It inspired the assembly participants by the three spiritual dimensions of the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace as sacred journey to reconciliation and unity: celebrating God's gift of life, the beauty of creation and the unity of reconciled diversity, visiting wounds with God's incarnated compassionate presence in the midst of suffering and discrimination, and engaging in transforming actions for reconciliation and unity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Doctor Jin Yang Kim

## *Clergy in Connection: Reverend (Kay) Kyeong-Ah Woo*

One of my major responsibilities as a conference coordinator on World Mission and Evangelism at the World Council of Churches (WCC) here in Geneva, Switzerland is to coordinate the World Mission Conference which took place in March 2018 in Arusha, Tanzania, then its follow-up such as to publish the "Arusha Report Book", to implement the Arusha Call to Discipleship in conjunction with the next WCC Assembly preparation with the working group on Theology for Mission, and to coordinate the preparations for the next WCC Assembly which also took place from Aug 31 to Sept 8, 2022, in Karlsruhe, Germany.

### **Last season of full-time telework due to COVID 19**

Just like many parts of the world, the first part of the year continued the global coronavirus outbreak with full-time teleworking, however, some aspects of productivity have been improved due to more concentration of work.

### **Limited Itineration sponsored by the Global Ministries of UMC**

Then, we had the opportunity for a limited itineration to return to our home Annual Conference of N.IL this Easter for the first time since I was commissioned as a missionary couple along with my husband Jin KIM in 2017. The main purpose of an itineration is to enable the people of the United Methodist Church to learn about and experience the global nature of the church's mission, to ask support and prayers, and to build and sustain partnerships in God's mission that we shared our mission work with the Sunday school class at Community UMC in Naperville, and I preached at Wesley UMC in Sterling, and also had the chance to meet and catch up with the Korean clergy caucus.

### **11th WCC Assembly**

The second half of the year began with an active preparation of the WCC's 11th Assembly that I continued theological working on a mission from the perspective of the Arusha Call to Discipleship and the WCC Assembly theme, "Christ's love moves the world to reconciliation and unity." I have also been enjoying developing the concept of Brunnen Workshops which provide space for the ecumenical family: to discuss issues of common concern and/or emerging challenges, to allow for discussion in an environment of mutual learning, to enable the exchange of information and to share of knowledge, specialization, and experience, while developing common approaches to best practice in our local churches and organizations.

### **Reflections**

This particular year, 2022 has been a very meaningful, memorable, and even historical year for me in many ways, and I conclude my brief report with a celebration of the completion of a successful WCC 11th Assembly with joy and gratitude.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend (Kay) Kyeong-Ah Woo



## *Clergy in Connection: Reverend Lynn Pries*

Since my retirement from being the College Chaplain of North Central College I have found many opportunities to participate in ministry. I am working with Al Brunsting to lead the Forum adult Sunday School class. I am the Chairperson of the Welcome Center, and the Membership Committees of Community UMC. I am the coordinator of the Naperville Area CROP Hunger Walk, President of the Naperville Interfaith Leaders Association, Chairperson of the Northern Illinois Commission on Church Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and secretary of the Northern Illinois Conference Board of Outdoor Retreat Ministries. I recently attended an online church leadership conference sponsored by Church of the Resurrection near Kansas City, Missouri. I serve on the North Central College Alumni Board and am assisting the college's Development Office work raising funds for an endowed Office of the College Chaplain. Last summer, I was the preacher for 8 weeks at the Friendship United Methodist Church while their pastor is on sabbatical.

I am blessed to have these opportunities for ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

With blessings,  
Reverend Lynn Pries

## *Clergy in Connection: Reverend Robert Harman*

Pastor Hannah has reminded me of the connectional duty of ordained pastors to report to their Charge Conference annually. It was a tactful and gentle acknowledgement that a retired pastor in his ninth decade of life might not have a record of active pastoral accomplishments to report. She hoped I might be able to tell you that I am doing well, so let me assure you that "All is well with my soul."

But let me also offer a word of commendation. I have chosen this pastoral relationship to CUMC because of manifest evidence that you continue to know the value the connectional bond to the UMC, successor denomination to the one that called you into being. This is critical in this stressful time when some congregations are choosing separation and joining an effort that is spreading untruths about the UMC, its doctrinal integrity and alleging abdication of duty by its leaders.

To the contrary, you understand the nature of a covenant that binds congregations in the Wesleyan tradition together in "taking up the yoke of Christ, being heartily content with the place and work he appoints...some easy and some difficult, some bring honor and others reproach...some suitable to your inclinations and others not....but relying always upon Christ who strengthens you."

So I celebrate your embrace of this covenant by fulfilling a commitment to apportionment giving to resource the organizational life and ministries of the church with 100% support. By choosing second mile Advance giving for underwriting global mission needs in addition to your support for the challenges you face in your local community. By supporting Pastor Hannah where her gifts and graces for leadership are offered and required in the offices of the annual conference and its informal affiliates. By studying to prepare and inspire your members, young and old, to make a quality witness to the inclusiveness of the gospel of sacrificial love found in the Word of God and expressed in our social creed.

It was an honor to be called to the pastorate of CUMC in the early years of my ministry 54 years ago. I assure you, I count it a privilege to continue to join in the yoke of Christ's covenant with you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Robert (Bob) Harman



## Trustees

The Board of Trustees has had a very productive year yet again! There have been changes made to the way our church is structured and the way we operate to better serve the needs of our congregation. As we wrap up 2022 we look forward to what 2023 will bring to our congregation as we continue to grow and support our community.

### 2022 Projects Completed or in Progress

- Installation of a new furnace and air conditioner in Fellowship Hall (removing it from the boiler completely)
- Purchase and installation of new exterior signs on both Benton and Center Street (Center Street is waiting on install)
- Remodel and sale of Associate Pastor parsonage

### 2022 Building Inspections

- Fire alarm: Passed
- Sprinkler system: Passed
- Fire Pump : Passed
- Stage Door lift equipment: Passed
- Water backflow preventers (4): Passed
- Elevator equipment and operation: Passed
- Boiler: 2020 Inspection good till 2022 Fall Up for inspection at the end of October

### Community United Methodist Church Environmental Sustainability

In a continued effort to do our part to take care of the environment here is what the Trustees are doing:

- (2021) Replacement of 95% of our lighting to LEDs reducing our lighting energy usage by 60%
- More recycling bins have been added throughout the building to encourage all members and visitors to recycle (paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, metal, plastic)
- Through our first HVAC project we have reduced the usage of the old 1950's boiler by 35% (with the completion of part two this will increase to 50%)
- Reduced our plastic waste from cleaning by 75% by using dissolvable PODs in reusable bottles
- Environmentally friendly paper products
- Toilet paper made of 100% recycled paper fibers
- Restroom hand towels made of 100% recycled paper fibers
- Surface paper towels made of 50% recycled fibers
- Facial tissue made of <10% recycled fibers
- Usage of an Energy management system to Control all of our HVAC to reduce energy waste

### Church HVAC Lawsuit

Please reference the 2021 annual report if you are unfamiliar with this topic.

Our church continues to battle with the involved parties for this lawsuit. As it stands today, our case has gone to court as not enough of the involved parties wanted to participate in the mediation process. As a result, our attorneys have been working very hard to win back the compensation that the church is deserving of so that the mistakes that were made in the design of the heating and cooling system that was installed in the addition and renovation in 2018 can be corrected. Please continue to pray for our church as our legal team continues to fight this battle for us.

### 2023 for CUMC

As a Trustees Board we will continue to approve projects that are in the best interest of our church. We hope that you will continue to support us in our efforts to care for our historical building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hunter Henderson, Chair

## *Welcome Center*

Scott Baker installed two computer monitors in the Welcome Center and an additional one near the elevator on the second floor. These monitors to show information about the ministries and events in the life of our church. One monitor will face each entrance in the Welcome Center, so both Sunday morning worshippers and guests who use our building during the week will be able to know of our activities. I am grateful for the Suzanne Wills for her talent in creating images and information on these monitors. In the coming year, new signs in the Welcome Center will help direct guests to our nursery, rest rooms, classrooms, and sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Lynn Pries, Chair

## *Youth Ministry*

Youth fellowship continues to meet every Sunday afternoon. Last June, we said goodbye to Pastor Jeremiah who has led youth programs. Since then have been searching for a new youth director. We hope to have a new youth director/pastor in place by January, 2023. In the meantime, we are very thankful that Beth Hegameyer and Nate Burke have stepped up to lead youth ministries. They led the summer ASP mission trip successfully, and currently they are leading and coordinating Youth Sunday School and Youth Fellowship. Their love and care for our youth have been greatly appreciated! We also give thanks to God for all our teachers, mentors, and volunteers in youth ministry.

CUMC is blessed with many youth leaders!

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Hannah Hwa-Young Chong



# Sign-Ins

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