

clude a Record Card in the back for facilitators to submit to Membership Records.

Although these two courses are only available today in English, they and the other new courses are also being produced in French and Spanish. Our team will inform you as new courses continue to become available between now and World Conference 2016.

Information can be found at www.heraldhouse.org

A New Format for Worship Resources

This year, Worship Resources, Year C (beginning Advent 2015) is packaged in a new way. In the past, the single book included each Sunday's service suggestions and sermon helps. The new format will separate the sermon helps and the worship suggestions into two stand-alone volumes. They are sold as a set in English.

Worship Resources will include suggested orders of worship, with specific page number cross-references to the associated sermon helps in the Sermon & Class Helps book. Both Worship Resources and Sermon & Class Helps will be available and linked to the calendar on the church's website.

Offering the class and sermon helps in a separate volume will create a reusable book each time the three-year cycle (A-B-C) of the Revised Common Lectionary repeats. The International Resources Coordination Team suggested this change to use translation staff members' time more efficiently and standardize sermon helps for languages such as Bemba, Chewa, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, and Tahitian.

You can order Worship Resources at www.HeraldHouse.org.

Michigan Mission Center

MISSION CENTER ACTIVITIES

To schedule a mission center activity, contact Noelle Gaffka at ngaffka@cofchrist.org

MISSION CENTER INFORMATION

For more detailed information regarding Mission Center news and activities, please go to the website: www.cofchristmi.org. Due to space restrictions, we cannot include all necessary information in this bulletin.

Michigan USA/Canada Mission center information

Website: www.cofchristmi.org * Toll-Free Phone: 888-853-2339
Local Phone: 517-541-2575 * Address: 223 S. Washington, Charlotte, MI 48813



Community of Christ

Michigan Mission Center

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS for the week of December 18, 2015

*Newly added items are listed in **bold italics**. This information is emailed weekly to all pastors, congregation communication liaisons and anyone who chooses to subscribe. If you have questions, call the Mission Center office at 888-853-2339.*

MICHIGAN USA/CANADA MISSION CENTER NEWS



Holiday Office Closure

Community of Christ offices will be closed from December 23 through January 3 to allow employees time to celebrate the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Please contact Dan Nowiski in the event of a congregation emergency.

2016 Spiritual Growth & Renewal Opportunities

Dear Mission Center Leaders,

As you anticipate ministry priorities in the new year, we wanted to make you aware of two opportunities for spiritual growth and renewal to share with your mission centers.

March 4-6, 2016 "Practicing the Prophetic in Decision-Making"

- **Spiritual Formation Center & Kirtland Temple**
- **Facilitators: Apostle Ron Harmon and Katie Harmon-McLaughlin (Spiritual Formation Specialist)**
- **Cost: \$50.00 (includes meals and materials)**

Description: What does it look like to be a prophetic people amid the many decisions we face in our personal and congregational lives? This retreat will be an opportunity to explore practical application of spiritual practices and concepts in decision-making processes. Join us as we engage the heart of discernment, share resources and tools, and grow in awareness of how to move forward through the daily details toward living Christ's mission in the world!

To download the retreat flier or register, visit spiritualformationcenter.org/news-and-events/practicing-the-prophetic-in-decision-making-spiritual-retreat/

April 8-10, 2016 "Deep Hunger, Deep Thirst"

- **The Temple, Independence, MO**
- **Facilitators: Presiding Evangelist David Brock and Katie Harmon-McLaughlin (Spiritual Formation Specialist)**
- **Cost: \$60.00**

Description: Many within and outside of the church are hungering for something deeper. Join us in a retreat experience of noticing and tending our own deep longings and the longings of others. What are people hungering for in the world today and how can we be communities that tend this deep hunger and thirst?

To download the retreat flier or register, visit spiritualformationcenter.org/news-and-events/deep-hunger-deep-thirst-spiritual-retreat/

**In the coming year, may we find ourselves deeply rooted in the presence of the Spirit who is the source of our mission. Blessings to you in your leadership and ministry!
In Christ's Peace, Katie Harmon-McLaughlin**

Mission Expansion Grants

A portion of the mission center budget is designated for grant funding to support local efforts aimed at developing new ministries or growing efforts that reach new individuals and communities.

Congregations are generally eligible to receive up to \$1000 of funding each calendar year. Applications are accepted throughout the year until all funds are awarded. Grant funds may be used for equipment, supplies, materials, food, advertising, training, guest ministers, or other items as approved. Personnel and capital improvement costs are generally not supported.

The grant review team seeks applications for congregational ministries aligned with the mission initiatives. Proposals that focus primarily on inviting new people to Christ are

given priority consideration. Congregations may apply up to three consecutive years for the same project. Retreats, camps, conferences, and other events with a mission expansion focus hosted by congregations are eligible for grant funding.

Visit the mission center website to submit a grant application online or see a summary of previous projects supported by grant funding.

Please see www.cofchristmi.org for more details

Items Available from CCM Congregation

The Contemporary Christian Ministries (CCM) Congregation in Burton has been disorganized following many years of living mission and providing ministry in the local neighborhood. Many have been blessed by the grace, generosity, and compassion offered by the members and leaders of the CCM Congregation. With great thanks and appreciation we celebrate the life of this faithful community of disciples!

Mission Center Officers have worked with congregation leaders for several weeks to plan for the final worship of the congregation, disperse items owned by the congregation, and prepare the building for sale. Blessings continue to flow from the CCM Congregation as many items have been passed along to other missional projects including the Thumb Baby Pantry, Detroit Hope Congregation, Journey House Campus Ministry Center, Capital Congregation clothing table, and other local congregations.

Additional items from the congregation remain available for congregations and campgrounds that may have need for the equipment. See below for more detailed information. Please contact Dena DeVormer to reserve any of the items listed. They will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The CCM facility will be open on Saturday, December 19 from 10 AM to 2 PM for pick-up of items. Another date for pick-up may be scheduled if necessary. Donations for items will be used to pay the costs of repairs, maintenance, and operations necessary for selling the building. A recommendation for use of final net proceeds will come to a future mission conference.

Introduction to Scripture - Waterford

The new Introduction to Scripture class, written by Tony and Charmaine Chvala-Smith, will be offered at the Waterford Congregation beginning January 20 at 6:30 pm. Books are available through Herald House either as hard copies or e-books.

This is a pre-ordination class, but ALL disciples are invited to join. The class will continue through March 9.

Please contact Bobbie Ann Robinson at bobbieann.robinson@outlook.com or Cindy Omans at cindyomans@comcast.net for more information.

Temple School Classes Available

The Ministry & Priesthood Team is happy to announce that two new Ministry & Priesthood courses are available for sale on the Herald House website. Ministry of the Disciple and Introduction to Scripture are the first two courses ready for your use in the new format.

Temple School credit is available for both courses and is included in the cost of each book. All of the new Ministry & Priesthood courses will in-