

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](http://www.heraldhouse.org)

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#### **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](http://www.HeraldHouse.org).

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## Michigan Mission Center

### MISSION CENTER ACTIVITIES

To schedule a mission center activity, contact Noelle Gaffka at [ngaffka@cofchrist.org](mailto:ngaffka@cofchrist.org)

### MISSION CENTER INFORMATION

For more detailed information regarding Mission Center news and activities, please go to the website: [www.cofchristmi.org](http://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](http://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 January 8, 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 on January 18, 2016 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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

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#### ***New Organization and Leadership Structure***

***A new organization and leadership structure is now fully in place for the USA Field and Michigan Mission Center as 2016 begins. Dianna Vanderkarr will be the main point of contact for pastors, and Jack Tigner will be the main point of contact for congregation financial officers. Dianna and Jack will field questions from these congregation leaders and refer as needed to other mission center staff and leaders. A single-page handout listing the main contacts for Michigan can be found at the link below. Hours of operation for the mission center office will be Monday through Thursday from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. An updated directory for the mission center will be distributed to pastors by the end of January. Please contact Heather Peasley at the mission center office as soon as possible with any updates or changes to your congregation's priesthood and leaders list.***

***May we all be fully awake and ready to respond filled with the courage to risk something new and become a blessing of love and peace this year!***

***For More information, go to: [www.cofchristmi.org](http://www.cofchristmi.org)***

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### **Hiring a Part-time Youth Camp Coordinator**

**Funding was approved at the fall mission center conference to hire a part-time youth camp coordinator in 2016 for the mission center. Individuals interested in this position are now able to apply. A position description can be found on the Community of Christ employment opportunities page under the local jurisdictions heading. [www.cofchrist.org/human-resources-job-opportunities](http://www.cofchrist.org/human-resources-job-opportunities)**

**Please submit a resume (including references) and a cover letter to [dnowski@CofChrist.org](mailto:dnowski@CofChrist.org) or mail to Michigan Mission Center, 223 S. Washington, Charlotte, MI 48813.**

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### **Canadian Congregations Joining Canada East Mission Center**

**Changes over the past year by Revenue Canada have resulted in greater restrictions on transfers from Canadian charitable organizations out of the country. Consequently, the Sault Ste. Marie (Ontario) and Amherstburg congregations were informed during the later part of 2015 that contributions to the Michigan Mission Center would no longer be possible while maintaining tax-exempt status.**

**Based on these changes and further discussion with leaders of Community of Christ Canada, both congregations have decided to join the Canada East Mission Center effective 1/1/2016.**

**Members of both congregations will still be invited and encouraged to participate in Michigan events. We look forward to maintaining and growing relationships with our friends and colleagues just beyond the national border!**

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### **THE BWC IS COMING SOON!!**

**The BWC (Blue Water Congregation) is an emerging congregation that will meet at the Blue Water Campgrounds four times a year. This is not a young adult group but a new kind of congregation for people of all ages. Do you know anyone who is a Community of Christ member or friend that is not actively engaged in a congregation? Do you know anyone who loves camping? Perhaps the BWC would be a good fit for them. We also invite those who are active in a local congregation to join us for a weekend of spiritual renewal so they can go back on fire for Christ to the places they attend. Our first gathering will be April 23rd. More details to come. check us out on facebook. please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Rich Allen 517-648-5075 [richallen80@hotmail.com](mailto:richallen80@hotmail.com)**

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### **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](http://www.cofchristmi.org) for more details

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### **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.

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### **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](mailto:bobbieann.robinson@outlook.com) or Cindy Omans at [cindyomans@comcast.net](mailto:cindyomans@comcast.net) for more information.

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### **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-