

One Matters Award, Prairie North

Northern Illinois Conference 2026

Christ United Methodist Church

Rockford, IL – Prairie North

Christ UMC's mission statement, stated simply, is to "Gather, Grow, and Go"



James did not mince his words in James 1:27. He said, "Let's be clear about the nature of real religion. It must be visible and practical. It visits, it meets needs, it cares.

As we **gather** each week for Sunday Worship, we pay particular attention to being welcoming to one another and to the visitor. Our welcome center is staffed with those being particularly intentional in welcoming members and visitors. The congregation itself is welcoming. Worship is spirit-filled and meets the needs of every heart condition: broken, seeking, grieving, hungry, and joyful.



We are **growing** in discipleship by providing opportunities for fellowship and spiritual formation for every age: children, youth, young adults, and older

adults. We offer year-round opportunities to serve our community through our outreach ministries. We grow in numbers as we invite others into membership twice a year and help them assimilate into the life of the church. We grow in numbers as God brings new families into a church that makes a special place for children with Sunday School, Kid's Worship, and nursery care.

We **go** out from our gathering and growing to make a gospel impact in the world by seeking, loving, and serving the least, the last, and the lost in the name of Jesus through our Ministries of Compassion and Visitation. We **go** out in strength and gospel love with the undergirding of prayer through a group of prayer warriors, meeting regularly to pray for our church and its mission to **be** the church that bears His name, Christ our Lord.



As we seek to be obedient to the “great commission” of Jesus Christ: to present His offer of sins forgiven, a place in the family, and to join the fellowship of those who begin real living by believing in Him...by God’s grace, He grows His church.