



Snapshot Summary

Sunday, April 28th
3:00 p.m.
Church sanctuary

Commissioning Larry McCure

Since his recruitment on the IL Conference Stewardship Ministry in 1991, Larry McCure has had a passion for stewardship. In the years to follow, he studied, attended seminars and workshops, and served with the stewardship ministry team and the conference ministers. He especially strived to practice principles of stewardship in his own life. One of these principles was *a tither in process*, a principle he gradually achieved. Eventually, Larry became Stewardship Ministry Chair, a position he still holds today. Through his involvement with the ministry, Larry has had many “photo opportunities” with stewardship programming and helping churches encourage responsible stewards. He has had opportunities to create instructional materials, lead workshops for adults and youth, and share the message during worship. His work with stewardship has led him to opportunities on the UCC national level as well as in the five associations of the IL Conference.

During these years, Larry considered “commissioning”. His interest was particularly tweaked by his experiences in the IL Conference CAML and LAMP study programs. Finally, in 2018, the encouragement (and strong nudges) from some of his mentors and friends “forced” Larry into a decision to pursue commissioning. It meant commitment to a deliberate reading list, study, and a fair amount of writing. Completed manuscripts were submitted to Rev. Eric, EA Minister Rev. Tom Norwalk, and finally to the EA Committee on Ministry with whom Larry must meet for a review and Q&A. All the reading and writing has been completed, the manuscripts submitted, and now Larry awaits his meeting with the COM on March 28th. With the committee’s approval, Larry’s commissioning will be in his home church the afternoon of Sunday, April 28th. Larry looks forward to this milestone in his faith journey as a way to deepen his commitment to serve the Lord and to acknowledge all those who have helped, mentored, and encouraged him by showing faith in his role as a steward. *Good luck, Larry, and God bless this next “photo opportunity” to serve the Lord.*

In a nutshell, commissioning is a process of preparation, discernment, mentoring, and study. The process is focused on a particular calling, passion for serving, and/or area of ministry. The one seeking commissioning has demonstrated such a calling, passion, or keen interest in ministry and is willing to commit to a deliberate program of reading, study, and



written project. This program is under the guidance and final approval of the local church council, a mentor, often the minister in one's home church, the association minister, and the association's Committee on Ministry.

Commissioning is granted by the IL Conference association in which the one is a member. Thus, the Committee on Ministry makes the final approval. Upon approval, the distinction of Commissioned Minister in the chosen ministry is bestowed during a celebration of worship usually in one's home church. It is an honor, but even more, it is a recognition of the person's commitment to serve with integrity, knowledge, and dedication. It is a formal standing in the association that indicates preparedness, validity, and experience.

Larry McCure, a member of this congregation, has completed his study program for commissioning in the ministry of stewardship. He has submitted his assigned manuscript to the committee and will meet with them for review. Upon approval, Larry will be granted Commissioned Minister in Stewardship by the Eastern Association the end of April. He will follow the late Norma Storey as the second one to be commissioned from our congregation. Norma was a Commissioned Minister in Christian Education.

Nor 'easter Music Festival

April 28 at 3pm

Join us to hear choirs from the North East Association UCC and a variety of music perform-

ances while celebrating Larry McCure 's
commissioning