

The Messenger

A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Dearborn Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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*WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY **SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.** NURSERY CARE PROVIDED*

*REGULAR OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY **9:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm***

Reverend Kren's Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday mornings 8am—Noon
Monday—Thursday afternoons 1pm until 5pm,
except when visiting members of the congregation.



Please come visit the Craft Show and Bake Sale on April 1st 9am-5pm



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Wow – God Is Greater Than I Thought!

I'll never forget the class! It was a course on Egyptian history, relating to the Old Testament. The instructor was an expert in this field. He was tough and demanding. (I managed a "C" for my final grade.) He expected excellence from his students. He was also the type of professor who considered himself very enlightened in the ways of truth and very eager to show this enlightenment to members of his class.

One day we had a most "enlightened" lecture on Moses, the parting of the Red Sea, and the destruction of Pharaoh and his army. Our progressive and somewhat liberal professor informed us he was going to open our eyes to the "reality" of miracles in the Bible.

"It can all be very easily explained. Modern scholarship has shown that the Red Sea in that area was only 10-inches deep at that time. It was no problem for the Israelites to wade across."

Members of the class sat quietly – absorbing this new information. Then, one young man raised his hand and declared: **"Wow! God is greater than I thought! Not only did He lead the whole nation of Israel through the Red Sea, He topped it off by drowning the whole Egyptian army in 10-inches of water!"**

On April 16, 2017 we will be celebrating the miracle of an empty tomb, the miracle of a risen Savior, and the greatest of all miracles – Jesus' gift of salvation! We celebrate a victory over death and the grave that brings saving grace to all who will believe!

Let's begin in earnest preparation during Holy Week 2017. Plan on worshipping at Dearborn Congregational Church on Palm Sunday and rejoice in the coming of the Savior. Gather on Good Friday Evening and reflect on the Cross and the Cost of this great salvation plan. And finally, come on Easter Sunday at 10:00 AM, expecting a great and holy blessing.

Years ago, a young student proclaimed, **"Wow!" "God is greater than I thought!"** Indeed!

Joyous Easter Blessings,



Pastor Bill

Messages from the Diaconate

Easter Flowers

Sunday, April 2 is the deadline for ordering your flowers. The cost is \$7.00 each and you have a choice of tulips, lilies, hyacinths and daffodils. Please sign the sheet in the Mayflower Room or Sanctuary and indicate how many of each flower you would like and the names(s) of those being remembered or honored.

Bible Study – Thursday April 6

This is the last week for our Thursday night Bible Study at 7:00 pm. We are studying the book of James. This is a great time to spend together in fellowship while gaining a better understanding of the Bible.

Palm Sunday Service & Brunch – April 9

Our Lenten journey continues as we celebrate this special Sunday service with palms, worship, and then a delicious brunch catered by Park Place immediately following. Please see Pat Stacho or Nancy Wolter for tickets. They are \$8.00 each. What a special day indeed! What a perfect time to invite family and friends.

Good Friday Service – April 14

Rev. Kren and the Diaconate have discussed and decided not to have a Maundy Thursday service this year. Instead we hope you will join us on Good Friday at 7:00 pm. Rev. Kren will be sharing a meaningful message and the choir will be singing special music. To understand the excitement and joy of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday let us first experience the sorrow and pain of Good Friday.

Easter Sunday Communion – April 16

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Come and celebrate Easter morning when we will be sharing in our Lord's Supper.

Diaconate Meeting

The Diaconate will meet Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 pm.

From the Moderator:

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING -- TUESDAY,
APRIL 25 @ 7 PM

There will be a meeting of the Church Council on the last Tuesday of April at 7:00 pm in the Board room. This meeting is open to all church members, but the head of each Board & Committee should plan to attend or otherwise arrange for a representative to appear in their place. Several topics will be on the Agenda at this important meeting, including a proposal to buy new hymnals, procedural matters governing the Men's Club & Women's Fellowship in relation to the Board of Trustees, issues concerning the recording of member giving, and updating the membership roll. In addition, members will be asked for ideas to put on a church "wish list". Please mark the date and see you on the evening of April 25!

Thank you,
John Peters
Moderator

Treasurer's Report for February 2017

Income- \$ 4,134.00
Expenses- \$10,209.63

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 13,564.66
Investments with UBS valued at \$175,922.49

Matthew Haling, Treasurer



Book Club

The Book Club is reading *My Beloved World*, by Sonia Sotomayor. The next meeting to discuss the book is Monday, April 10th, at 7pm

OUR CHURCH AT WORK In April



Helpers for Sunday Services

Ushers:

- April 2 – Tom Brown & Jay Carter
- April 9 – Teresa Curless & Available
- April 16 – Available
- April 23 – Available
- April 30 – Available

Liturgists:

- April 2 – Dave Allen
- April 9 – Fred Michaels
- April 16 – Jay Carter
- April 23 – Valerie Haas
- April 30 – Valerie Haas

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Jim Haling
- 8 Jaclyn Meadows
- 17 Kathy Hren
- 19 Joanne Owen
- 19 James Martin
- 25 Diana Lindsey

Dedication of Flowers - April

- April 2 – Nancy Wolter
- April 9 – Rufus & Marilyn Beardsley
- April 16 – Easter Flowers
- April 23 – Available
- April 30 – Available

Fellowship Hour – April

- April 2 – Karen & Kara Lawrence
- April 9 – Palm Sunday Brunch
- April 16 – Elaine Stacho
- April 23 – Available
- April 30 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
John Langley	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Tom Schlaff	Medical Concerns
Carol Burroughs	Medical Concerns
Irene Moxon	Medical Concerns
Family of Bernice Hartling	Bereavement

Dates to Remember:

- April 6 Bible Study 7pm
- April 9 Palm Sunday Brunch 11am
- April 10 Book Club 7pm
- April 12 Trustees Meeting 7pm
- April 14 Good Friday Service 7pm
- April 19 Diaconate Meeting 7pm

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

April has arrived! Are you ready?? Me, either. This year is flying by. I will have to admit, I am still adjusting to writing 2017 on my checks. There are things that have to be done, and I keep postponing the inevitable. That glorious April sunshine, is only pointing out the windows need cleaning...NOW. It's always just a little cloudy at my house.

Remember pigpen, Charlie Brown's pal? That little dust cloud that followed him everywhere is hovering over my house. But, since not everyone can appreciate classic humor, it's time to get busy.



"It must be Spring. I can't see out the window."

Which made me start thinking—always a dangerous thing. Are there things you know have to be done, but you put them off? (Please say yes. I don't want to be the only one!)

I have been busy setting things up for the craft show. It has become a valid excuse for letting the windows go. But, it's over, time for a reality check. I made a list to get me motivated. Killed some time, but I should've posted the list on my fridge. Can't find it...forgot what was on it, and truth be told, I don't care! So there, Martha Stewart.

I've decided not to stress over little things. I've learned to appreciate the little blessings, and adjusted my attitude. So what if the windows haven't been cleaned! I'm grateful the glass is still intact. See how easy this is gonna be?

Weeds in the flowerbed? One person's weeds are another person's flower. God put them there for a reason. Who am I to question? The kitchen cabinets should be straightened out. But then I'd have to learn where everything is. I know my seasonings are in the left cabinet, by the stove, at the ready. If some are almost empty, I will find out soon enough. I have come across some things that are questionable. Impulsive purchases. I probably won't use the Moroccan spice packets. But they sure sounded good when I got them. When, that's the question. Guess it's okay to pitch it. There! I've started my spring cleaning.

That's another thing! Who decided we are supposed to "spring clean"? Kids get a spring break. I like the sound of that. Adults deserve a break. I'm taking one.

So, if you stop by and notice my house is due for spring cleaning, remember, I'm on a break! I'm just sayin'.

Take a break, my friends, enjoy the sunshine, relax, and before you know it, a good old-fashioned rain will clean those windows. God is on our side.