

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

OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm



MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR APRIL, 2019

March was a busy and productive month at Dearborn Congregational. Our Ash Wednesday soup & bread supper followed by the Imposition of Ashes was a wonderful evening of fellowship in which we gathered to eat at Christ's table and pledge ourselves anew to discipleship in His kingdom. The soups were simply delicious! Many thanks to Nancy Wolter for placing ashes on those gathered that evening and for leading a short service marked by a sobering devotional. Sundays have been an interesting adventure for us. Our worship service leaders have included retired clergy, active clergy, and even the brother of our dear former Pastor, who performed a skit as the Apostle, Peter. Each has brought special insight to our church audience and left us with great memories. I'd also like to use this space to extend special thanks to Jim Haling, who brought us the Sunday morning message on multiple occasions in February.

Meanwhile, our Interim Minister Search Committee made great progress in March. Discussions in meetings, coupled with informal conversations between committee members and a candidate referred to us by the Conference have produced a choice for our next minister -a part-time interim minister- to guide us through a period of church transition that will likely dominate the rest of the calendar year. As such, we are pleased to announce the candidacy of Rev. Lewis Worthington to become the next face of our congregation. The search committee unanimously endorses the hiring of Rev. Lew, who led us in worship as "pulpit supply" back on Feb. 17 after we initially contacted him. According to the church Bylaws, a minister must be elected, so a Special Meeting of our congregation has been called for Sunday, April 14 (Palm Sunday) immediately after the service to conduct a vote. We need every member to make a concerted effort to attend this meeting to ensure a quorum of 25 members is present. Below is a short biography of Rev. Worthington for your review:

Rev. Lewis Worthington resides in Lansing and is a member of The Peoples Church in East Lansing. He was ordained by the Church of God (Anderson, IN) denomination. He was granted privilege of call in the Michigan Conference UCC most recently on December 2, 2018. He has a Master of Divinity degree from the Anderson University School of Theology, and a PhD from Vanderbilt University. He brings a wealth of pastoral experience dating back to 1981 and has served in a variety of church positions including Senior Pastor, Associate Pastor of Youth, and Director of Christian Education. He was also Founding Pastor of the Church of God in Grand Blanc, where he served for 8 years, and has previous experience as an interim pastor, as well. In addition, Rev. Lew has served on the board for an Indiana community mental health association, on the board of directors for a family support services group, and an ethics committee to advise on issues involving mentally challenged citizens. He has been involved in various ways with prison social groups, too. Lew also works in Information Technology for the State of Michigan. He lives with his wife, Jen, and son, Caleb.

Rev. Lew will commute back and forth from his home in Lansing while serving us and has expressed enthusiasm about the opportunity to lead Dearborn Congregational Church!

Palm Sunday Brunch – April 14 We are having our annual Palm Sunday Brunch in the Mayflower Room following the service. It will be catered by Park Place and the cost is \$10 per person. Sign-up sheets are in the Sanctuary and Mayflower Room. Payment can be given to Pat or Nancy.

Good Friday Service – April 19
Please join us at 7:00 for a Good Friday service to prepare our hearts for Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday Communion – April 21
Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Come and celebrate Easter morning at 10:00am when we will share in our Lord's Supper.

Diaconate Meeting
The next Diaconate meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10 at 7:00 PM.

Church Council Meeting -April 30:
All members are encouraged to attend a quarterly meeting of the Church Council on Tuesday, Apr. 30 at 7 pm in the Board Room. The head of each Board and Committee should be present or arrange for a representative to appear in their place to give a brief oral report of their group's activities in the 1st quarter of 2019. The main emphasis of the meeting will be to have a roundtable discussion on the direction of the church with a focus on revenue generating ideas and formulating a strategy to attract new members. We will also address Church Clean-Up Day in May. Remember, this is your best chance to voice an opinion on the future of our church! Hope to see you there.

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, April 14, 2019

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, April 14th in the Mayflower Room after Sunday Service. The purpose of the meeting is to address two issues.

- The first is to approve Rev. Lewis Worthington as our new Interim Minister. Rev. Lewis Worthington will lead our Sunday service on both April 7th and April 14th.
- The second is to change Article XIX: Quorum, of the church by-laws that currently reads as follows: Twenty-five (25) voters shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the church. **To a new amendment that shall read Article XIX: Quorum Nineteen (19) voters shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the church.**

Please plan to attend this special meeting, Sunday, April 14th as we continue to move our church forward.

If you have any questions, please see our Moderator, John Peters or Jim Haling, Chairperson of the Interim Minister Search Committee.

Thank you

Treasurer's Report for February 2019

Income- \$1,742.00
Expenses- \$7,752.29

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 13,205.32
Investments with UBS valued at \$120,612.88

Matthew Haling, Treasurer



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In April



Helpers for Sunday Services

Ushers:

April 7 – Available
 April 14 – Available
 April 21 – Available
 April 28 – Available

Liturgists:

April 7 – Available
 April 14 – Available
 April 21 – Available
 April 28 – Available

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

Dedication of Flowers - April

April 7 – Available
 April 14 – Available
 April 21 – Easter Flowers
 April 28 – Available

Fellowship Hour – April

April 7 – Available
 April 14 – Palm Sunday Brunch
 April 21 – Elaine Stacho
 April 28 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Barbara Allen 3/3	Health Issues
Jane Haling 3/3	Medical Concerns
Carrie Goldie 3/3	Medical Concerns
Rev. Bill Kren 3/3	Medical Concerns
Rev. Geoff Drutchas 3/3	Medical Concerns
Frank Kren 3/3	Health Issues
Fred Michales 3/3	Medical Concerns
Gail Waggoner 3/3	Health Concerns
Theresa Arrington 3/17	Health Concerns
Bill Hotchkiss 3/17	Health Concerns
Teresa Curless 3/17	Recovering from Surgery

Dates to Remember:

April 10	Diaconate Meeting	7 pm
April 10	Board of Trustees Meeting	7 pm
April 14	Palm Sunday Brunch and Congregational Meeting	11 am
April 19	Good Friday Worship	7 pm
April 30	Council Meeting	7 pm

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

Just wanted to share some exciting news! Ready??

I won playing the MICHIGAN LOTTERY... Yep...that's right.

I won, playing Michigan lottery scratch offs. I was so excited, I couldn't wait to share my good fortune with Pete.

He was not as excited as I was. Granted, it was \$5...not \$5,000...but it was a winner.

Just goes to show you, some of us are more appreciative of the little things in life than others. Personally, getting a five dollar pizza at Little Caesar's, compliments of the state of Michigan, that makes me a winner!!

It makes me wonder how many other things we take for granted. I have running water, hot and cold. Losing one or the other, makes you realize how blessed we are. That hot water keeps not just me, but my underwear clean. The cold water is refreshing after a day spent doing laundry! See how that works out? Life is good.

For the younger generation, all you youngsters under the age of 60, knees are not always going to be flexible. One day, more than the kitchen floor will be creaking! Trust me. I now pray sitting on the side of my bed. Last time I kneeled, my prayer changed. I prayed I could get up again.

That's another thing...your prayers in general change. From praying for a new bike at six, to that cute boy paying attention to you at 15, to praying he'll leave you alone at 16. Praying throughout your life for healthy babies, living through their teenage years, to one day praying for the strength to get out of bed.

Yes, we spent our life taking so much for granted, we forget to appreciate the good things in life. Like free pizza from the State of Michigan. I'm just saying



See Upcoming Events Here! To quickly check dates of scheduled events, just log on to the Internet, type www.dccdearborn.org in the Search bar at the top of the page and hit Enter to get the latest information on Recent and Upcoming Events at Dearborn Congregational. Our Webmaster, Tom Brown, updates this page weekly so if you haven't been able to make it to church lately or you can't easily locate your current issue of The Messenger, you can see everything going on at our church on this page!