

What Am I Doing For God?

Each year the congregation of Plains Baptist Church holds a one-week revival service. In preparation for the week, the leaders of the congregation would venture into the community inviting non-churched members to the services.

The then Georgia Governor, Jimmy Carter, always participated in this event. He would visit a few homes, read the Scriptures and have prayer, share some religious beliefs, and invite the family to services.

In his autobiography, *Why Not the Best?* President Carter writes: *"I was always proud enough of this effort to retain a clear conscience throughout the remainder of the year."*

One day Carter was asked to speak at a church in Preston, Georgia. The topic he was assigned was "Christian Witnessing." As he sat in his study writing the speech, he decided he would make a great impression upon the audience by sharing with them how many home visits he made for God. He figured in the fourteen years since returning from the Navy - he had conducted 140 visits. Carter proudly wrote the number in his script.

As Carter sat there, he began to reflect on the 1966 governor's election. As he campaigned for the state's highest office, he spent sixteen to eighteen hours a day trying to reach as many voters as possible. At the conclusion of the campaign Carter calculated that he met more than 300,000 Georgians.

Sitting in his study the truth became evident. Carter wrote in his autobiography, *"The comparison struck me – 300,000 visits for myself in three months, and 140 visits for God in fourteen years!"*

Maybe we should be asking: What am I doing for self? What am I doing for God?

Here at Dearborn Congregational Church, we have a beautiful building. We have a wonderful history of serving in this part of the world. We've had some great successes and we've endured some difficult trials. We have a beautiful sanctuary with empty seating. All we need is to be inviting our friends and neighbors to worship.

What am I doing for the Lord? Is it my best?



Pastor Bill Kren

Messages from the Diaconate

Feather Bowling on Tues., Apr. 26 -A traditional favorite activity of the church returns in April! Save the date and join us for a fun-filled evening at the Cadieux Cafe in Eastpointe for dinner and feather bowling! We will meet at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, April 26th in the church parking lot and carpool with others to our destination. The plan is to eat dinner about 6 pm and take the court for feather bowling from 7-9 pm. This year, we ask everyone going to chip in \$10 apiece. This amount will cover food and non-alcoholic beverages purchased, plus the rental cost for the bowling courts. Alcoholic beverages are extra and the responsibility of each individual. Participants can pay their \$10 on the night of the event -it's not necessary to pay in advance. Special thanks to the Men's Club for subsidizing the majority of the cost for this evening out for our members.

Memorial Service – April 16

There will be a memorial service for David MacKenzie at 11:00 am on Saturday, April 16th at Dearborn Congregation Church. Funeral luncheon at the Dearborn Inn, following the service. Please sign the sign-up sheet in the Mayflower Room if you plan to attend the luncheon.

Member Directory

Our updated Member Directory will be available starting Sunday, April 17th in the Mayflower Room. Be sure to pick up a copy. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the Church Office and let Val know.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our One Great Hour of Sharing Mission. We collected \$213.00!

Mother's Day – May 8

Looking ahead to Mother's Day when we will celebrate this special day by having an outdoor worship service. We made a few attempts last year at having an outdoor service, but it just was not meant to be. Start praying now for good weather so we can celebrate God and our mothers in warm and sunny weather. ☺



Treasurer's Report for February 2016

Income- \$ 5,248.98
Expenses- \$11,062.07

Capital Improvement Fund - \$13,024.45
Investments with UBS valued at \$184,576.83

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

Book Club – May 9th at 7:00pm

The Book Club is currently reading *A Man Called Ove*, by Fredrik Backman. Books are available in the church office.



COLORING BOOK



You're invited to join the book club ladies at our Coloring night, April 18th @ 7:00. We have the coloring books, and supplies. Stress relieving, fun and guaranteed laughs. Plus you get to take it home for the refrigerator.

OUR CHURCH AT WORK In April



Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

April 3 – Ian Haas
April 10 – Ian Haas
April 17 – Ian Haas
April 24 – Ian Haas

Ushers:

April 3 – Pete Stacho & Teresa Curless
April 10 – Available
April 17 – Available
April 24 – Available

Liturgists:

April 3 – Sue Wilson
April 10 – Available
April 17 – Available
April 24 – Available

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

Dedication of Flowers - April

April 3 – Nancy Wolter
April 10 – Tammy Jabtecki
April 17 – Sue MacKenzie
April 24 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
Dotty Klein	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Gordon Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Arline Prois	Medical Concerns
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Barbara Allen	Medical Concerns
Colleen Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
John Langley	Medical Concerns
Pat Mangrum	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns

Fellowship Hour – April

April 3 – Teresa Curless & John Peters
April 10 – Ann Saadah & Deb Evans
April 17 – Available
April 24 – Available

Dates to Remember:

April 14	Diaconate Meeting 7pm
April 16	David MacKenzie Memorial Service 11am
April 18	Coloring Night 7pm
April 20	Trustees Meeting 7pm
April 26	Feather Bowling 5:00pm meet at church

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

Read any good books lately? You could always join our book club...we've read many. But lately my eyes are not making it easy to keep up with my reading. I have read a lot in my reader's digest—my monthly treat! And I still browse my cookbooks, looking at all the things I cannot have.

But my new obsession is bumper stickers. Yep, you read it right...bumper stickers. You can learn a lot about the people around you by their bumpers. How many kids, what animal they are spoiling, political preferences, who they love or who they don't.

Allow me to share some of my favorites: JESUS LOVES YOU....BUT I'M HIS FAVORITE. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all lived trying to be His favorite.

DAMN IS NOT GOD'S LAST NAME. This is self-explanatory. Remember for future stress attacks.

BEING OVER THE HILL IS BETTER THAN BEING UNDER IT....Just a reminder to be thankful for each day, even the bad ones! Like bad gas, this too shall pass.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS ARE NOT SUGGESTIONS. Must be why they are commandments.

RAP IS TO MUSIC AS ETCH-A-SKETCH IS TO ART. Common knowledge to anyone over 15!

THEY'RE NOT HOT FLASHES, THEY'RE POWER SURGES! Every woman will understand, every man that doesn't...back off!!

TEACH, DON'T PREACH. This applies to teachers, parents, even mentors, but not you, Pastor Kren!

ROCK IS DEAD...LONG LIVE PAPER AND SCISSORS. I wonder if that means devote more time to crafts...hmmmm...

OLD AGE COMES AT A BAD TIME. Is there a good time???

DON'T BLAME ME, I VOTED. Remember this one in January!!

There are so many more words of wit and wisdom on the road. I don't want to give them all away, find yours on the highway. In the meantime, love your neighbor, but don't get caught.....Just sayin'



"End of Life Care"

**WORKSHOP LED BY:
DAVID PALMER,
FAMILY SUPPORT COUNSELOR AT
BEAUMONT HOSPITAL MADISON HEIGHTS**

Topics will include:

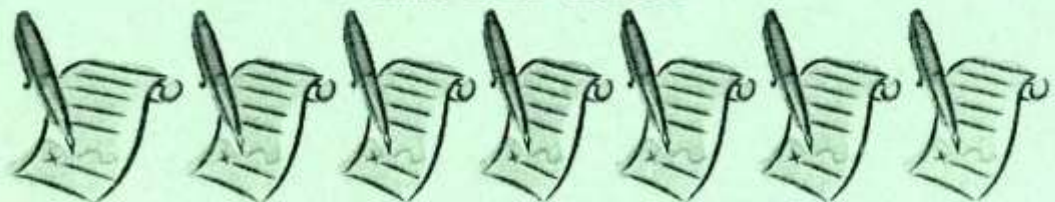
- Living Will vs Advanced Directives
- Funeral Plans
- Understanding Hospice
- Grieving

Thursday, April 7 – 7:00 PM

Wesleyan Parlor

This workshop is for EVERYONE 18 years and older!

**DEARBORN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
22124 GARRISON AT MASON
DEARBORN
313-563-5200**



This Workshop is sponsored by our Senior Ministry Committee