

He's Lord Over the Flood!

But now, O Jacob, listen to the Lord who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. ² When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. ³ For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (Isaiah 43:1-3 NLT)

Every workday morning, I unlock the "tower" door at Dearborn Congregational Church and walk the hallway to my office. This ritual includes a moment when I pause and look at the framed picture of our church building. It was taken the spring of 1947. It reminds me of God's faithfulness. ***"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you."***

For days prior to Easter Sunday, 1947, heavy rains and melting snow in the area triggered mass flooding. Normally, the Rouge River could handle excess runoff into the Detroit River. Not this year. Days of rain overwhelmed the river and the sewer system. On April 5, 1947, our church building was transformed into an island!



Men from the church assembled that rain-soaked Saturday and frantically cleared out the basement, fought to stop the flow of water that was rapidly filling the basement and, with the help of the Dearborn Fire Department, pumped water until the things were under control.

There were quite a few "heroes" in this battle against the flood. Not only did the Fire Department lend a hand – several National Guard Soldiers drove up in an Army "Duck" (an amphibious vehicle that can travel through the bush and over rivers) and offered their assistance.

One interesting side note: A few members were standing on dry ground and watching the swirling flood waters, when Henry Ford Sr. and his wife, drove up Rotunda from Greenfield. He told the men that he was concerned about the effect of the flood on the church. For the last twelve months or so, Ford had been watching the progress of the building and had, several times, stopped and talked with the Pastor and the workmen. He was favorably impressed with the renovation of a barracks building and the construction that created a new place of worship on Rotunda Drive.

Just before leaving the area, Mr. Ford turned to his wife and said, ***"Well, we'll have to come back and see what we can do to help."*** The chauffeur turned the car around and they departed. That night, Henry Ford Sr. died at his Fairlane home, near the same Rouge River, north of Michigan Avenue.

This episode in the life of the Greenfield/Dearborn Congregational Church, captured in a black and white picture hanging in the hallway, reminds me of how God helps in the darkest hour. When I am anxious about the future and the floods seem to be threatening our church, I look at that picture and I can almost hear God speaking through Isaiah:

"Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand." (Isaiah 41:10 NLT)

Messages from the Diaconate

Vista Maria Foster Care Mission: The Diaconate is organizing the collection of summer clothing, pool toys, personal care products, notebooks, board games, and DVDs for the young women being served by Vista Maria Foster Care in Dearborn Heights on the first 2 Sundays in August. This is a mission of caring for the whole person – physically, emotionally and spiritually. We hope this effort is the start of a long relationship with Vista Maria as one of our community outreach partners. Check the list of needed items in this newsletter and see how you can help. Items can be placed on the shelves in the hallway. Clothing and games can be new or second-hand as long as they are clean and in good condition. Delivery to Vista Maria will occur in mid-August. Thank you!

Sunday Sermon by Brian Sampson: On Sunday, August 9, music director Brian Sampson will fill the pulpit and delivering the morning message for Rev. Kren while he's on vacation.

Volunteers for Sundays in August: The Diaconate is looking for ushers, liturgists, and fellowship hosts in August. If interested, please sign the sheet in the Mayflower Room or see Sue Wilson. Your volunteering is appreciated! Meanwhile, we are taking up an offering for a "donut fund" during fellowship to ensure we have refreshments each week.



Treasurer's Report for June 2015

Income- \$5,768.31

Expenses- \$11,617.04

Capital Improvement Fund - \$11,242.26

Investments with UBS valued at \$222,892.96

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

Reminder about check requests:
Anyone requesting reimbursement needs to obtain an approval signature from someone in the group the purchase was made for (i.e., Building & Grounds, Diaconate).
Thanks.

Save the Date!

Reserve a table!

Are you crafty, or have friends who are?

We will be having our 1st Craft Show on Saturday, December 5th.

Tables are \$20. Call Pat Stacho @ [313-381-1699](tel:313-381-1699) to reserve your spot.

OUR CHURCH AT WORK In August

Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

- August 2 – Available
- August 9 – Available
- August 16 – Available
- August 23 – Available
- August 30 – Available

Ushers:

- August 2 – Carrie Goldie & Pete Stacho
- August 9 – Available
- August 16 – Available
- August 23 – Available
- August 30 – Available

Liturgists:

- August 2 – Irene Moxon
- August 9 – John Peters
- August 16 – Valerie Haas
- August 23 – Available
- August 30 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Bunny Hoganson	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
Dotty Klein	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Sean Goldie	Medical Concerns
Daniel Less	Medical Concerns
Irene Moxon	Medical Concerns
Gordon Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Arline Prois	Medical Concerns
John Adams	Medical Concerns
David MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Audrey Langley	Medical Concerns



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Susan MacKenzie
- 15 Cathie Salach
- 17 Matthew Haling
- 26 Susi Wilson

Dedication of Flowers - August

- August 2 – Polly Fitzpatrick
- August 9 – Elaine Stacho
- August 16 – Schilbe Family
- August 23 – David & Susan MacKenzie
- August 30 – Available

Fellowship Hour – August

- August 2 – JoAnne Owen & Elaine Stacho
- August 9 – Available
- August 16 – Available
- August 23 – Available
- August 30 – Available

DATES TO REMEMBER...

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| August 12 | Trustees Meeting | 7pm |
| August 13 | Diaconate Meeting | 7pm |

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

It's AUGUST !! You know what that means....RUMMAGE SALE. It's just around the corner, so get your "goodies" together. Don't wait...donate! (You like that? I just made that up, really!!)

We are playing rummage roulette at my house. I cannot convince my dear hubby to give up not even one of his 300 screwdrivers. OK, 300 might be a slight exaggeration, but not by much. Our garage looks like an explosion at Harbor Freight. Tools, not used, but might be, someday. Pieces of carpeting from when we had new carpeting installed. (12 years ago!) Yet, he thinks it's reasonable to expect me to give up a couple of my purses! Or that cute little two piece outfit I ordered from QVC. It has been a few years, but it's like brand new. (Actually, it's not my size. I just never got around to returning it. It's so cute, and it might fit me one of these days.)

I want you to know, I am not going to give up. I am boxing things up, things he'll never miss. Oh wait, he's taking those boxes to the church. BUSTED

I hope you will get some things together too. As you all know, this is one of the ways we raise money, and have so much fun, it should be illegal. Two days of hard work, fellowship with dear friends, and the promise of a good old fashioned pot luck dinner. Actually, we work several weeks, sorting, setting up, pricing, cleaning donated items, and much more. WHEW. I'm doubly grateful for all your help.

Every year is better than the last, and this year will not disappoint. Pastor Bill has been working diligently on e-Bay, giving Women's Fellowship a fantastic head start!

I am not giving up on clearing out the clutter at home. Hopefully I can get rid of enough that I have room for MY clutter. All of which is important stuff! If only I could convince Pete. (Not gonna happen...ever)

One more reminder...BAKE SALE. Dig out your favorite cookie, bread, cupcake, etc., recipes. This has become a big hit with our regular shoppers, thanks to all of you who donate the fabulous baked goods. Our workers have been known to buy a mid-day snack as well.

Thank you, in advance.

I am looking forward to it, hope you are too! There will be lots of treasures to search through, lots of things we must have, some things we may have to hard sell. We do it all....and do it well.

By the way, did you know October is national rummage sale month? Churches across the country proudly compete against each other. Last year we came in 2nd among the metro Detroit area. Let's take 1st place this year. OK, I made that up, but just go with it. I wanted to get you all motivated. (Sorry Pastor...I know I shouldn't have lied.)

Enjoy the summer, but think rummage. I'm just sayin'...