

## Do We Need More Color in 2015?



Following the morning service, a grey-haired gentleman was escorting his granddaughter home. The six-year-old had never heard this particular pastor preach before. “Rachel,” he asked, “What did you think of the pastor’s message this morning?” She thought for a moment and looked up and said, “Grandpa, he could use more color.”

The grandfather was surprised by the answer. “Rachel, what do you mean he could use more color?” The young lady thought for a moment and then replied, “He doesn’t make it very exciting. It’s important that the things that are true be made exciting --- because the things that aren’t true are always exciting.”

This conversation actually took place! Isn’t it amazing ... out of the mouths of babes?

A new year is upon us! This is an exciting time for the church! I am praying that this is our time for spiritual refreshment and growth! Our time for more color!

- A new year to grow in the faith!
- Sundays of spiritual food, Christian fellowship and marvelous communion with God!
- New opportunities for learning ... worship ... prayer and blessings!
- Our year for families to grow closer to the Lord ... and grow closer to one another!
- A bold year that will find us all inviting new people to our church.

Let’s work – and BELIEVE together for a very special 2015! Let this be our year for color! May our prayer be: “Lord, add more color to my life! More color to my witness! More color ... for Jesus sake, Amen.” (Crayons are optional!)

- *Pastor Bill Kren*

## Messages from the Diaconate

Diaconate Meeting - Thursday, Jan. 8

"Taking Down the Greens": On Sunday, Jan. 4, we kindly ask anyone who's willing and able to please pitch in and help take down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary and the Mayflower Room following worship service and coffee hour. The un-decorating activity shouldn't take that long with enough helpers. Many hands make light work! Thank you.

Volunteers on Sunday: We need your help during January. If you are able and available to lend a hand as an usher, liturgist, or fellowship host, please see Teresa Curless or put your name on the sign-up sheet in the Mayflower Room. Thank you!

Altar Flowers Sign-Up: There is an altar flowers calendar for 2015 posted in the sanctuary on the bulletin board to the left as you enter. If you wish to dedicate flowers in memory of a loved one, simply write your name and dedication on the chart next to the Sunday of your choice, if that date is available. You may also call the church office or send the secretary an e-mail at [dccucc@gmail.com](mailto:dccucc@gmail.com) to place your request. The cost to purchase altar flowers for a Sunday service is \$15. Payment can be put in an offering envelope and marked "flowers".

Social Calendar: The Diaconate has been discussing and is in the process of fleshing out a calendar of social activities for the coming year. Some of the proposed events include a trip to the Cadieux Cafe in East Detroit for an old favorite among our members, feather bowling, and a "Pizza & Game Night" at the church. Stay tuned for more updates as events are planned and the schedule comes together. It promises to be a fun time for all!

## Annual Congregational Meeting Meeting

Our by-laws call for a single Annual Meeting to be held yearly in January. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015. We are asking for approval of the 2015 Budget, as well as elections of boards and committee members. Copies of the proposed budget are available in the Church office and at the rear of the Chapel.

A reminder to all Boards and Committees that an annual report of the past year's activities needs to be in the Church office in time to be printed before the Annual Meeting. With this in mind, please make sure your report is delivered, either through email or as a hard copy, to the office by January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Arnie Schilbe  
Chair of the Board of Trustees

## Treasurer's Report for November 2014

Income- \$7,236.15  
Expenses- \$9,194.66

Capital Improvement Fund - \$12,059.55  
Investments with UBS valued at \$258,542.40

Matthew Haling, Treasurer





## OUR CHURCH AT WORK In January

### Helpers for Sunday Services

#### Greeters:

January 4 – Ian Haas  
January 11 – Ian Haas  
January 18 – Ian Haas  
January 25 – Ian Haas

#### Ushers:

January 4 – Fred Bachert & Pete Stacho  
January 11 – Available  
January 18 – Available  
January 25 – Available

#### Liturgists:

January 4 – John Peters  
January 11 – Available  
January 18 – Available  
January 25 – 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
Ron Hopson	Medical Concerns
Harley Fisher	Medical Concerns
Daniel Less	Medical Concerns

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Toni Boyd  
8 Linda Haling  
10 Pat Mangrum  
11 Linda Berndt  
27 Cole Haas  
30 David MacKenzie  
30 Marilyn Beardsley

### Dedication of Flowers - January

January 4 – The Halings  
January 11 – Available  
January 18 – The Bolton Family  
January 25 – Elaine Stacho

### Fellowship Hour – January

January 4 – Nancy Wolter & Cheryl Brown  
January 11 – Available  
January 18 – Available  
January 25 – Available



### Book Club

The Book Club is reading *Bootstrapper: From Broke to Badass on a Northern Michigan Farm*, by Mardi Jo Link. There are copies available for check-out in the blue bag behind the desk in the office. The next Book Club meeting will be January 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

### DATES TO REMEMBER...

January	8	Diaconate Meeting	7pm
January	14	Trustees Meeting	7pm
January	19	Book Club Meeting	7pm
January	25	Annual Meeting	11:30am

## I'm Just Sayin'...

### ...with Pat Stacho

HAPPY NEW YEAR !! 2015?? Wow...never saw that coming.

No New Year resolutions for me this year, not a one. I have made it through 7 decades, for most of which I made resolutions.

I started out simple, I promised to say my prayers every night, not just around my birthday or Christmas. I will admit I really outdid the praying at both times of the year. I resolved that I would not sass my mom, not out loud. (funny how sometimes you don't even realize you said something out loud, certainly not in "that tone". I am still guilty of that) In my second decade my resolutions became more sophisticated. I started out at about 11, maybe 12, to promise to use Kleenex for a stuffy nose, not to stuff... well, never mind. By 13 I didn't need the Kleenex. Another decade, a new set of resolutions! In my twenties I made the resolutions EVERYONE makes, lose weight, quit smoking, and to take my pill!

That was also the decade I got married, and became a mother...twice. By the end of that decade I succeeded by keeping two of those.

In my 30's I just resolved to be a more patient wife & mother. Just one, repeated every year! Must have worked, I did not kill them...didn't even seriously hurt them. I think that is pretty darn good. I will admit that praying was at an all-time high.

In my 40's...ahhh, my forties. I stopped caring about my weight. I quit smoking, and no longer needed the pill! Life was good. The boys were on their own, Pete had been properly trained by then, and I was working, seeing adults on a daily basis. Sure, I was waiting on them, but I was with adults! My 50's were a wake up. Gall bladder, leaky bladder, arthritis, poor

circulation—socially as well. I resolved to toughen up. And believe me, it was tough. My 60's were nothing like the 60's of long ago! But by then, I had a by-pass, a hysterectomy, on and on, and I MADE IT! I simply resolved to be thankful. And I am. Praying is much easier, and I do it more often, giving thanks rather than complaining. You, my dear church family, are responsible for that. The best gift came from Elaine & Uncle Dave when they brought us to their church. Life is good knowing I have an extended family to lean on. And now I am blessed to have a wonderful new Pastor, Rev Kren and his dear wife, Sue. We ALL are. I just started my 7<sup>th</sup> decade, so there is not much going on yet. I guess I should resolve to pray a little bit more, to insure I see the 8<sup>th</sup> decade.

But no more resolutions for me...really. I no longer do very much to regret in the morning. OK, once in awhile I indulge in too much pizza.

I have gotten in the habit of telling God something I am thankful for every night. Sometimes it may just be making it through another day! Sometimes it's a phone call from my grandson in England, so I can hear my great-grandson laugh. Or one of my sons takes time out to just call and ask if I'm ok. Or seeing sweet Elaine getting stronger after our loss of dear Uncle Dave. My grand-daughter sent me a post card just to say "I miss you Grandma." How can I not thank God for this??? Think about it people...resolutions should be banished! Let's make New Year's Thank yous.

I guess turning 70 made me more aware of all the precious things we take for granted. That, and the fact that I can eat peanut butter on my apples cuz I don't wear pantyhose anymore! So there!!

Happy, Blessed New Year to all. And try to make it a fun New Year. Pay it forward - (You got my address, right??!! LOL)

I'm just sayin'...

