

# The Messenger

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## A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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Dearborn Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
16350 Rotunda Drive  
Dearborn, MI 48120-1120  
313-271-8552  
*E-mail: [dccucc@gmail.com](mailto:dccucc@gmail.com)*  
*Website: [www.dccdearborn.org](http://www.dccdearborn.org)*

*WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY **SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.** NURSERY CARE PROVIDED*

*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.



## It's Been a Good Year

It's a good year when you can look back on twelve months and acknowledge that if you could do it all over again – you wouldn't change a thing. I have had a good year.

Oh, it hasn't been as smooth as I would have liked it. In June I received some news that was concerning. Let's just call it a "bump in the road." In spite of the health issues, I'm now dealing with, it has been a good year for me – I'm learning to trust even more in God. And I have this promise that *"God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."* (Romans 8:28NLT)

It's been a good year because our congregation is growing numerically and spiritually! We are making gains together, for God's glory! I believe that if we "stay the course" – in 2018 we will see our church gain holy ground and we will receive even more of God's blessings! Oh, we'll probably have a few more "bumps in the road" – but that's life. We can deal with it! Amen?

As we work together in this new year, I promise I will be a pastor who continues to embrace the charter of Our Lord and Savior. I will not proclaim my point of view, but I will always strive to share Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. And it will be a good year.

Oswald Chambers wrote that it *"is easier to belong to a small group of people which tells what Jesus Christ has done for me, easier to become a devotee to divine healing, or to a special type of sanctification, or to the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Paul did not say, 'Woe is me if I do not preach what Christ has done for me,' but 'Woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!'"*

In 2018, I pray that we are a group of believers who will honestly proclaim the gospel story. That, together, we will preach the good news – and this is the good news – *"The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

It's been a good year for us – and I'm anticipating an even better year in 2018!

And so – from our house to yours – have a very safe and blessed New Year!

Pastor Bill and Sue

## **FROM THE DIACONATE**

### **January 8 – Taking Down the Greens**

Please plan to stay after church and help take down the Christmas tree, the greens in the chandeliers, and store away the decorations for another year.

### **January 10 – Diaconate Meeting**

The Diaconate is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, January 10 at 7:00 pm.

### **January 19 - Pizza & Movie Night**

We encourage you to invite family and friends to our annual Pizza and Movie Night on Friday, January 19 at 6:30 pm. Please sign the sheet in the Sanctuary or Mayflower Room so we know how much pizza to order. In addition to pizza – soft drinks, water, popcorn, and snacks will also be provided. Stay tuned for what movie is selected. What better way to spend a winter evening!



### **January 28 - Healing Service**

On Sunday, January 28, during our Morning Worship Service, there will be a Healing Service. At the appointed time, Rev. Kren will



invite anyone who would like a special prayer for healing, to meet him at

the front of the Church. They will receive anointing oil and prayer and then return to their

pew. The oil is an important symbol God gives us, but no special powers are transferred. Prayer to God is what is special and powerful. It is sincere prayers which God hears and responds to. Please be in prayer leading up to this special service.

### **Offering Envelopes**

If you need to replenish your supply of offering envelopes, they are available in the clear plastic containers on the back table in the Sanctuary.

### **Altar Flowers**

There is a new altar flower calendar for 2018 in the sanctuary. If you wish to dedicate flowers, simply put your name and dedication next to the Sunday of your choice. You may also call the Church Office at [\(313-271-8552\)](tel:313-271-8552) or email [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 "altar flowers".

### **Fish & Loaves Food Pantry**

We encourage ALL members and friends to donate non-perishable food items to our collection baskets in the church sanctuary. Donated items will be delivered to the Fish & Loaves food pantry in Taylor.



## FROM THE MODERATOR

### Annual Congregational Meeting



The Annual Meeting of Dearborn Congregational Church is scheduled for Sunday, January 21, 2018 in the Mayflower Room immediately following the regular worship service. ALL MEMBERS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND THIS

IMPORTANT MEETING!

The purpose of the meeting is to review church



finances and approve the 2018 Budget, as well as to nominate and elect members of the Board of Trustees & Diaconate Board. Committee positions will also be finalized, and major issues impacting the church will be addressed.



Copies of the proposed budget are available on the table at the rear of

the Sanctuary. Reminder to all Board and Committee chairs:

A summary report of your activities/ accomplishments in 2017 must be

submitted to the Church office to be printed before the Meeting. So please deliver a hard copy or e-mail your report to the office by Friday, January 12th. Copies can be placed in the Secretary's mailbox. At the meeting, each person will receive a



packet composed of all reports plus the budget to be voted on. Thank you.

John Peters,  
Moderator



## OUR CHURCH AT WORK In January



### Helpers for Sunday Services

#### Ushers:

January 7 – Available  
 January 14 – Available  
 January 21 – Available  
 January 28 – Available

#### Liturgists:

January 7 – Available  
 January 14 – Available  
 January 21 – Available  
 January 28 – Available

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

### Dedication of Flowers - January

January 7 – Available  
 January 14 – Available  
 January 21 – Available  
 January 28 – Available

### Fellowship Hour – January

January 7 – Available  
 January 14 – Available  
 January 21 – Available  
 January 28 – Available

## PRAYER LIST



Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Tom Schlaff	Medical Concerns
Carol Burroughs	Medical Concerns
Irene Moxon	Medical Concerns
Rev. Norman Kirsch	Medical Concerns
Lois Clickner	Medical Concerns
Elie Stergiou	Medical Concerns
Jane Haling	Health Issues
Jim Shippee	Medical Concerns
Carrie Goldie	Serious Medical Issues
Rev. Bill Kren	Serious Health Issues
Della King Family	Medical Concerns
Wanda Silvey	Medical Concerns
Nancy Gerlach	Medical Concerns

### Dates to Remember:

January 7 Taking Down the Greens  
 January 10 Diaconate Meeting 7pm  
 January 10 Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm  
 January 28 Healing Service

## I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

It's a new year, a fresh start! January is when everyone makes resolutions, quit smoking...lose weight...etc, I've decided to come clean...confess my sins and resolve to change.

I AM AN ADDICT.

xfinity is my dealer. I am addicted to daytime TV. Not the soaps; I really don't want to listen to their problems. Too much drama for this mama!! But the judges have me waiting impatiently to hear the latest cases. Judge Marilyn Milian hears small claims cases every morning and I'm there to watch.

She's a retired Florida state circuit court judge, so surely she knows her stuff, right? She has a bit of sass, attitude and flair. Her temper has a tendency to rear its ugly head, but she quickly defuses it with a bit of sarcastic humor. 30 minutes flies by. All the time I am gaining legal knowledge, so it's not really wasted time. 30 minutes of free legal advice.

Then I hurry and grab my second cup of coffee and wait for Drew

Carey to show up. Whoo hoo...the big wheel is coming up. I watch people who probably won't be able to pay the taxes on the hot tubs, 70" TV's, cars, and trips they won! But I am mesmerized watching that wheel flirt with the dollar spot...worth an extra thousand dollars. That's such a rush!

4:00...time for Judge Judy. Talk about a role model. That woman takes no crap...from nobody! Her quips are hilarious. I wanna be like her when I grow up! The problem with her program is the time. I should be preparing dinner. AHA! Xfinity solved it. I can record Judge Judy and watch her whenever I want. I love modern technology.

But I will try to kick the TV habit. It's getting out of hand. I schedule my doctor appointments according to the TV schedule. My son has written instructions on when to call me. My doorbell and phone go unanswered. The madness must stop!!! Did I mention Netflix? I'm just sayin'...



Crabby Road

12-30-11



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