

Dearborn Congregational Is Moving Forward!

What do airplanes at Detroit Metro Airport, a Ford Motor Company plant assembly line, and Dearborn Congregational Church have in common? Give up? The answer is simple: If either stops moving forward – they are in trouble!



Saint Paul wrote to the Philippians, *"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:14) Paul described the Christian life as a race. The goal of the runner is a complete knowledge of Jesus and eternal salvation. The task ahead is to "press toward" and never give up! *"Press toward"* and concentrate on the one thing of winning the prize. If we quit moving forward – if we fail to "press toward" ... we are in trouble.

I'm happy to report that God is blessing his people and blessing our church! We are moving forward! There have been some small but positive gains made for the Kingdom of God. New members have joined our Church family. Visitors are returning, and their comments to the Pastor indicate they sense God is doing good work in this part of the world. Longtime members and friends continue to support their church and work hard in providing a beautiful place of worship.

We have much to be grateful for ... much to celebrate ... much to give thanks and praise!

Have a happy and blessed summer!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bin".

Messages from the Diaconate

Strengthen the Church Begins June 1

Strengthen the Church is a special mission offering that helps support youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches around the country where the UCC voice has not been heard before. Your generosity will awaken new ideas in existing churches and help develop the spiritual lives of youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that "God is still speaking" which is a campaign that has worked with thousands of UCC churches and individuals across the country to extend a welcome to all – because no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here. Special offering envelopes will be available in the pews through June 15.

Volunteers for Sunday

Your help is needed on Sunday mornings. Please see John Peters and let him know when you can serve as usher, liturgist, or fellowship host, or even better, just add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Juneflower Room. Thank you for your support! Your Diaconate appreciates it.

Churches Tour in July: Save the date - *Friday, July 8* - the day of our 5th annual Tour of Churches. Those of you who have gone on past tours know how much fun and interesting this summer outing has been. This year, we're heading out to Oakland County rather than the city of Detroit to enjoy two 1-hour tours of two exquisite churches: Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield Hills and Shrine of the Little Flower Catholic Church in Royal Oak. The tour of Kirk in the Hills starts at 10 am and the next tour is scheduled for 11:45 am. Afterwards, all those participating are invited to have lunch in Royal Oak. In the second half of June, there will be a sign-up

sheet in the church so you can add your name and indicate how many are in your party are going. We need to know how many plan to attend. We hope you'll join us! More details forthcoming in the July *Messenger*.



Treasurer's Report for April 2016

Income- \$6,106.00
Expenses- \$8,837.22

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 13,049.45
Investments with UBS valued at \$183,887.25

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

Book Club

The Book Club is currently reading *The Boston Girl*, by Anita Diamant. Books are available in the church office.



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In JUNE

Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

June 5 – Ian Haas
 June 12 – Ian Haas
 June 19 – Ian Haas
 June 26 – Ian Haas

Ushers:

June 5 – Carrie Goldie & Sue Wilson
 June 12 – Available
 June 19 – Available
 June 26 – Available

Liturgists:

June 5 – Valerie Haas
 June 12 – Marge Manspeaker
 June 19 – Rufus Beardsley
 June 26 – Rufus Beardsley

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
Colleen Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
John Langley	Medical Concerns
Pat Mangrum	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Keith Meadows
 Kevin Schilbe
 3 Dr. Alice Lindsey
 9 Robin Hansen
 11 Andrea Schilbe
 16 Gordon Grozdanoff
 23 Cathy MacKenzie
 24 Carol Labonowski

Dedication of Flowers - June

June 5 – Mark & Susan Dobronski
 June 12 – Available
 June 19 – Available
 June 26 – Available

Fellowship Hour – June

June 5 – The Haas Family
 June 12 – Deb Evans & Ann Saadah
 June 19 – Available
 June 26 – Available

Dates to Remember:

June 6 Coloring get together, 7pm
 June 8 Trustees Meeting 7pm
 June 8 Fundraiser Party 7pm
 June 9 Diaconate Meeting 7pm

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

Spring cleaning time... downsizing... clearing out closets, corners, basements, and other hiding places! Easy, right? HA. Should be renamed "Avoiding divorce".

WE (retirement changes your status) decided to get rid of some things we no longer use, you know, things the kids will kick to the curb once we're gone.

Suddenly, my things became disposable, while his things were collectible... 15 screwdrivers, really? I was not willing to part with my material, collected carefully for a possible quilt, or the yarn which could be transformed into fashionable scarves at some point. I cannot visualize 15 screwdrivers turning into functional sculptures. So, we compromised. I hid my stash, then boxed up 12 screwdrivers for the rummage sale.

I threatened to sell the stove if he even thought about clearing out the kitchen!

My gadgets, my domain; let's talk about the garage. (Shut him up right quick!)

On to the closets. Since self-defense is so difficult to prove, we chose to do that separately. I offered to do his side of the closet, but he refused my offer of help. Go figure. Like he needs all those shirts. However, I require several colors of the same top, simply because I am not sure of the mood I may wake up in. Why is that so hard to understand? Men!

Which brings me to my next question. Why are we saving remotes we no longer need? From cable companies we no longer use...vcr remotes, but no vcr. We have 6. (*Had 6...gone!*)

This is just not working out. I will have to wait until he has work to do at the church. Then I can really gather up all the things he, I mean we, no longer need. I just hope he doesn't buy all those darn screwdrivers!

He tends to save receipts, old receipts, boxes full of old receipts. Yet, complains about my books. Well DUH...that's why we have bookshelves. We do not however have any receipt shelves.

I will not give up. I will be patient, but firm. My sons will not have to sort through junk. Although Scott, our youngest son, told me not to worry. He plans on torching it and going for the insurance. Uh oh...I may have just blown his cover.

He may have to deal with it after all. But then, he can always use a few screwdrivers. Genetics can be a terrible curse. I'm just sayin'...



SPECIAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHURCH PARKING LOT

In a few days, all of you will receive an important letter in the mail. The subject of the letter is the east parking lot (main lot) of the church. As many of you know, a large section of the parking lot is in bad shape and very much in need of repair. Removal and replacement of broken asphalt plus application of a sealer and new stripes are necessary.

The Trustees have determined that the lot is our #1 maintenance priority, but the repair is not cheap. We need your help! Will you pitch in and contribute to this special campaign to help us reach our goal?

Prayerfully consider giving something extra to Dearborn Congregational Church this month and next and allow God to speak through you! Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Fundraising totals will be reported weekly throughout the summer in the Sunday bulletin and on a progress chart on the wall of the sanctuary.

Thank you and God bless!



Coloring Party 2!

Monday, June 6th @7:00 we will have another coloring get-together. Join us in the Mayflower room. Everything is provided, just bring a smile



Fundraising Party

Wednesday, June 8th @7:00 in the Mayflower room, we will have a "party" Pure mountain olive oil and RADA knives will be demonstrated and up for sale. Bring a friend and make our fundraiser a success.



Thinking "Out of the Box"

Many years ago in a small village, a merchant had the misfortune of owing a large sum of money to a gambler. The gambler, who was mean and sneaky, fancied the merchant's beautiful daughter so he proposed a bargain. He said he would forgo the merchant's debt if he could marry the daughter. Both the merchant and his daughter were horrified by the proposal.

The gambler told them that he would put a black pebble and a white pebble into an empty bag. The girl would then have to pick one pebble from the bag. If she picked the black pebble, she would become the gambler's wife and her father's debt would be forgiven. If she picked the white pebble, she need not marry him and her father's debt would still be forgiven. But if she refused to pick a pebble, her father would owe twice the sum he currently owed.

They were standing on a pebble strewn path in the merchant's garden. As they talked, the gambler bent over to pick up two pebbles. As he picked them up, the sharp-eyed girl noticed that he had picked up two black pebbles and put them into the bag. He then asked the girl to pick her pebble from the bag.

What would you have done if you were the girl? If you had to advise her, what would you have told her? Careful analysis would produce three possibilities:

1. The girl should refuse to take a pebble.
2. The girl should show that there were two black pebbles in the bag and expose the gambler as a cheat.
3. The girl should pick a black pebble and sacrifice herself in order to save her father from his debt.

The above story is used with the hope that it will make us appreciate the difference between lateral and logical thinking.

What if...The girl put her hand into the moneybag and drew out a pebble. Without looking at it, she fumbled and let it fall onto the pebble-strewn path where it immediately became lost among all the other pebbles.

"Oh, how clumsy of me," she said. "But never mind, if you look into the bag for the one that is left, you will be able to tell which pebble I picked." Since the remaining pebble is black, it must be assumed that she had picked the white one. And since the gambler dared not admit his dishonesty, the girl changed what seemed an impossible situation into an advantageous one.

MORAL OF THE STORY: Most complex problems do have a solution, sometimes we have to think about them in a different way.