

The Messenger

A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Dearborn Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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To reach Rev. Blair, please use his cell phone number; 1-734-748-6039.
Please use his gmail for email messages at Jabulaney3@gmail.com.

WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M



Dear beloved of Dearborn Church:

We hope and pray you are staying safe, staying well, and staying in prayer. The coronavirus pandemic has changed everything. We all have to begin to think about moving forward. We cannot stay home forever. And we have to realize that nothing in our lives will be the same after the pandemic has subsided. We will all be changed, even in the church. Our church leaders are looking at new ways of being the church into the future.

SO, let's get started on our new lives as people of God.

Weekly Zoom Conference Call

Please know that the staff and church leaders are meeting by Zoom every week. Liz, our office administrator has sent you information regarding her work days. you can email her if you need anything. We are looking at a Church Council meeting via Zoom in the very near future.

Our Re-Opening Worship Service - Sunday, May 31, 2020 - Pentecost Sunday - 10:00am

This will be an abbreviated service.

Wear a mask! Use hand sanitizer! We will social distance!

Offering plate will at the back of the church!

Come as you feel comfortable.

ZOOM: You are going to need and want to download and use Zoom, the web conferencing tool being used today. Yes, it is time for you to get web savvy. We are going to be offering a coffee hour, prayer and bible studies, business meetings, and other gatherings using Zoom. If you already have it, great! If not, get started with the UCC conference training using the link below. It is quite easy, so give it a try.

LINK for trainings:

http://www.michucc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=177:conference-zoom-recordings&catid=27&Itemid=379

Care Calls: We are planning on calling our members for a wellness check-in call. You can expect someone to give you a call in next few days. The church leadership wants you to know we are still the church even though separated by time and space Share your concerns, prayer needs, and how you are doing.

Reaching Pastor Gene Blair

email: Jabulaney3@gmail.com

Cell phone: 1-734-748-6039

May the Lord bless and keep you safe in the days ahead,

Pastor Gene

News and Updates

FROM THE MODERATOR

Church is Re-Opening on May 31!: After much discussion with Pastor Blair and our lay leaders and careful consideration of all factors including the fact some denominations are resuming services, the size of our congregation, and assurances that all necessary precautions will be taken, as well as our ability to adequately socially distance in the chapel, we've decided to open our doors and welcome back our church family on **Sunday, May 31**. This Sunday is also Pentecost, a fitting occasion for the "rebirth" of our church through the work of the Holy Spirit. So that every person feels safe when we gather, worshippers will be required to wear a mask, the pews will be marked off to ensure everyone sits at least 6 feet apart, and hand sanitizer will be in the sanctuary. NOTE -We ask everyone attending to bring their own portable hand sanitizer. There will be NO choir because of their inability to space. There will be NO fellowship/coffee hour, either. For Sunday and likely many Sundays afterwards, worship bulletins will NOT be handed to people as they enter, and we will leave a plate near the chapel entrance for people to drop their offering in. At the same time, we are sensitive to each person's situation. We want you to return -but only when you feel comfortable doing so! Stay safe and stay well!

Church Council Meeting -Tues., June 30: All members are encouraged to attend a meeting of the Church Council on Tuesday, June 30 at 7 pm in the Board Room. The head of each Board and Committee must be present or otherwise arrange for a representative to appear in their place. The emphasis of the meeting will be Pastor Blair's agenda for the church going forward, including incorporating technology and identifying a mission, the organizational aspects of the church and recommended Bylaws changes in order to achieve proper business functioning, and revenue-generating ideas. Remember, this is your opportunity to voice an opinion on the future of our church! Hope to see you there.

2020 Men's Club Annual Christmas Tree Sale ???

The Annual Men's Club Christmas Tree sale this year is in limbo. After 63 years of consecutively selling Christmas Trees, not sure what we are going to do this year. Dutchman Tree Farms has sent emails that the order must be in by June 1st. Replied to their request to see if there is any "wiggle" room in the order date. To date: no response from Dutchman Tree Farms. Also have spoken with a number of the diehard weekend tree sellers and it is a mixed review on whether we should continue. While we have great support (20 – 30 people) and turnout for the lot setup and unloading of the trees, we fall off to less than 10 people to fill the six weekend slots to sell trees. John Peters sent out numerous emails last year asking for volunteers with little response and ended up working many a double shift to keep the tree lot open. The weekend slots are our most productive and efficient use of manpower. With Covid-19 still on everyone's mind and the impact on the Michigan economy, we don't have a crystal ball to predict what sales will be like in December. We are already at the minimum order of 200 trees.

If anyone has any great ideas, please share your input with John and me.

To comment or commit to selling trees on the WEEKEND, just contact: John Peters or Jim Haling

John: joopett13@hotmail.com
Jim: jimhaling@gmail.com

Jim Haling



Communion on Sunday June 7

We are tentatively planning to have Communion on June 7. For our safety and peace of mind, we have purchased pre-filled Communion cups and wafers in individually wrapped sets and are hoping they will be delivered by June 4. If they are, we will have them available on the back table of the Sanctuary for you to pick up as you enter. Pray that we are able to be together at the Lord's Table in June.

PRAYER LIST



Gail Waggoner, 05/31 Health Issues
Pauline Gourlay, 05/31 Shut in
Tom Schlaff, 05/31 Waiting for heart transplant
Carol Bowen, 05/31 Friend of Sue Wilson
Health Concern

Cary Goldie, 05/31 Health Concern
Jim Shippee, Friend of Sue Wilson, 05/31 Health Concern

To all those who have lost their lives to the COVID-19 virus.

To all the front line workers, first responders, health care workers, law enforcement, grocery workers, sanitation workers, transportation workers, delivery workers who risk their lives everyday so the rest of us are safe, clean and fed and healthy.

You may want to brighten the day of those listed on the prayer concerns with a card or note.
If you don't have their address, please call the office.

Our Condolences to:

We offer our sincere Christian sympathy to the following church families who have passed away recently

David and Barbara Allen

Helen Cumming, mother of Cathy MacKenzie, who passed away recently at the age of 99. Cathy said her mother, "lived a good and wonderful life."

Dates to Remember:

June 10	7 pm	Trustees Meeting Diaconate Meeting
June 30	7 pm	Council Meeting



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

7 Jim Haling
8 Barb Fritz
8 Jaclyn Meadows
25 Diana Lindsey

MAY BIRTHDAYS

9 Roberta Adamson
21 Rufus Beardsley
22 Ann Saadah
23 Cathy MacKenzie
27 Dave Jabtecki
25 Diana Lindsey

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Keith Meadows
Kevin Schilbe
11 Andrea Schilbe
24 Carol Labanowski

Treasurer's Report for April 2020

Income- \$5,900.00
Expenses- \$5,884.69
Capital Improvement Fund - \$13,530.32
Investments with UBS valued at \$96,092.35

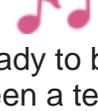
Matthew Haling, Treasurer



I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

June  is busting  out

all  over! And to be honest, I'm about ready to bust out too! The self quarantine has been a test of strength to be sure.

There are so many things I miss. My church family every Sunday morning. Although Brian Sampson was kind enough to play a hymn daily, online, it's not the same singing along...alone! (But thank you Brian. You brought such comfort to so many. Love you, piano man!)

I miss my Wednesday morning BINGO games. I have been meeting the same ladies every week for years. We may not win, but we're winners! Friends who laugh together, harrass the callers together, and share our Joy's and sorrows with, you can't buy that.

I miss Cracker Barrel with Elaine. I miss Charlie's with Barbara. I miss just hanging out with Teresa, seeing everyone at Fellowship. But we will do all of that again, maybe not now, but soon. I miss my son's hugs. Porch delivery of meals are sweet, but waving through the window is tough.

In the meantime it's just Pete and meday after day, after day!! But we are managing, we haven't hurt each other yet. And that's a good thing, right? We've binged through Yellowstone on Netflix, watched every episode of British Baking Show, and rerun after rerun. And of course. Price is Right after breakfast. "Come on down!" (But you can't come in!) Such togetherness, such closeness, it's driving me to clean my closet!

I suggested I clean his side of the closet. He reacted as if I suggested to do major surgery on him. He has such a fear of letting go of his

junk, but is willing to haul all of my things to the curb. "Back off, big guy!"

With so many events being canceled, it's a whole different world. No baseball, no 4th of July fireworks, no graduation parties, no big family picnics.....geez, we better appreciate what we have, what we will have again.

Take time to thank God for our blessings. They're there, just think about it. We've got food, (ate too much of it) we've got electricity, heat, cable, and we have guts! We got this, my friends. Remember all those who have lost loved ones in your prayers. Comfort them when this is over.

See you soon. Meanwhile ,chin up, I'm just saying.



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CHURCH MAINTENANCE JOBS

Many of you may not yet be comfortable attending a worship service once we re-open, but there's still a way to volunteer for valuable service AT church! Below is a list of Outdoor and Indoor jobs that need to be done. Please look over the list, select a job, and consider coming over on your own time to spend an hour or two working. We can use your help! For outdoor work- bring a lawn bag, lawn rake, trash bag, clippers or lops, and gloves. For indoors -bring a dust cloth and polish or cleaner. For the Inventory of rooms and the storage garage, bring a notebook and pen.

This list will be posted inside a front window of the sanctuary. You can check to see what needs to be done. When you finish working, **please cross off a job IF you complete it.** Thank you!

OUTDOOR

Cut back vines, branches and brush to the top of the bank behind the church. Clean-up area and dispose of organic waste and trash.

Cut back vines, branches and brush to the top of the bank along the East side of the property to the TPC fence. Clean-up area, dispose of organic waste and trash.

Clean-up trash around storage garage. Please dispose of trash in can behind the church.

Clean out West parking lot drain going through the bank to the river ditch.

Clean out East parking lot drain behind the church office going through the bank into the river ditch.

Clean-up area around Church sign.

Clean stairwells on the East side of the church and behind the church.

Trim tree branches away from church building.

Pickup trash, rake leaves and weed all beds around building.

Spray insecticide around buildings.

Shape and trim bushes around church.

Cut back decorative grasses in garden beds.

Clean all gutters on church and storage garage.

Seal roof over Mayflower Room (5 gallons of material in storage garage).

Kill weeds and grass in parking lot pavement.

Kill weeds and grass in cracks in sidewalks – all sidewalks.

Seal cracks in parking lots and rear driveway.

Wire brush, prime then paint metal edge of tower entrance steps with yellow paint on shelf.

Wash Sanctuary windows (outside).

Wash all outside doors.

Clean glass in post lights. Replace missing glass.

Shop garage and yard sales to find and purchase old gas lamp fixtures to match those in front of our church.

INDOOR

Wash Sanctuary windows (inside).

Clean chandeliers and wall sconces.

Clean and dust around radiators.

Clean pulpit area including all benches and railings.

Clean and organize coat racks in Sanctuary entrance.

Wash Office windows inside and out (when Liz is not in building).

Wash Education Wing windows inside and out.

Clean storage garage office.

Clean and organize equipment and work bench in storage garage. Sort and organize tools. Sort and mark chemicals.

*Inventory storage garage.

*Inventory 101 classroom including shelves and closets.

*Inventory 103 classroom including shelves and closets.

*Inventory 105 classroom including shelves and closets.

*Inventory 107 classroom including shelves and closets.

*Inventory 109 classroom including shelves and closets.

*Inventory 110 classroom including shelves and closets.

*Inventory Library including shelves and closets.

*Inventory Board Room.

*Inventory Mayflower Room.

*Inventory offices and office store room.

*Inventory Equipment Room and closets.

*Inventory Sanctuary.

*Inventory basement kitchen.

*Inventory storeroom behind basement kitchen

Survey basement kitchen to determine needed repairs.

Survey women's restroom in the Community Room to determine a fix-up plan.

Replace wax ring under water closet in the men's restroom in the basement Community Room.

Fix Community Room emergency exit panic bar door lock (North door) – not latching.

Replace boiler make-up water valve.

Solve drainage problem under basement floor to improve water flow into sump in kitchen, thereby reducing water on the boiler room walls.

Thanks, in advance, for your assistance!

John Peters

John Proctor

Mac McAdam