

# The Messenger

---

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

---

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*

*REGULAR 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 all about following a winner!



The Christian is not only a believer – he or she is a follower of Jesus Christ. As followers, we live seriously with Jesus. God has become so very real to us that we know that not even death can destroy the reality of God and his care for us!

On Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017, we began our journey to Resurrection Sunday. In this Lenten journey we are will be reminded that...

We follow a winner and we are not afraid of the end of our earthly existence. We know that the full, complete life lies before us, not behind us.

We follow a winner. Jesus blazed the trail for us. Easter took place and Jesus was triumphant over death! The tomb is empty.

In his book *Countdown*, G. B. Hardy offers thought-provoking questions about the resurrection:

"There are but two essential requirements:

(1) Has anyone cheated death and proved it?

(2) Is it available to me?

Here is the complete record:

Confucius' tomb -- occupied.

Buddha's tomb -- occupied.

Mohammed's tomb -- occupied.

Jesus' tomb--empty!

Argue as you will, there is no point in following a loser."

Praying you have a blessed March - happily following Jesus!



**Pastor Bill**

## **Messages from the Diaconate**

### **Ash Wednesday – March 1**

As we begin our Lenten journey, plan to join us for our annual Ash Wednesday Supper and Service on March 1 in the Mayflower Room. As we did last year, we are providing a light supper of fresh bakery breads and home-made soups and chili before we gather to worship. Supper will be at 6:00 pm followed by our Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm. We hope you will join us as we begin a period of prayer, sacrifice, and good works reflecting the life of Jesus Christ.

### **Daylight Saving Time Begins – March 12**

Remember to change your clocks forward one hour.

### **Easter Flowers**

Starting Sunday, March 12, you can begin placing your order for Easter flowers. These spring flowers are a wonderful way to honor or remember loved ones in your life and also help beautify the church for Easter morning. You can also plant them and enjoy them again next spring! The cost is \$7.00 each and you have a choice of tulips, lilies, hyacinths and daffodils. Please sign the sheet in the Mayflower Room or Sanctuary and indicate how many of each flower you would like and the name(s) of those being remembered. The deadline to place your order is April 2.

### **One Great Hour of Sharing Mission**

Our One Great Hour of Sharing special mission offering begins March 12. This offering enables us to reach people and communities affected by disaster, displacement or poverty. We can provide assistance to families around the world, helping them to become stronger, healthier and better equipped to address hardships and catastrophes. In 2016, every dollar received was used to help those living in critical situations worldwide. This year's theme is "You are here". Our gifts allow the church to be there when people need us most. Special offering envelopes will be in the pews through March 26.

### **Diaconate Meeting – March 15**

Diaconate is meeting Wednesday, March 15 at 7:00 pm.

### **Pizza & Game Night – March 17**

Be sure to join us for some friendly competition on Friday, March 17 at 6:30 pm for our "Luck of the Irish Game & Pizza Night". Please sign the sheet in the Sanctuary or Mayflower Room so we know how much pizza to order.

Participants are encouraged to bring their favorite board or card game. Pop and snacks will also be provided.

### **Bible Study on Thursdays**

Rev. Kren is leading a one-hour Bible study on Thursdays at 7:00 pm through April 6. We are studying the book of James. No sign-up is required; just attend as often as you

like. This is a great time to spend together in fellowship while gaining a better understanding of the Bible.

### **Lennon Pregnancy Center**

The baby bottles for the Lennon Pregnancy Center are available in the Mayflower Room and Sanctuary if you would like one. They are to be used to collect loose change, dollars, or checks. We will return the filled bottles to the center (which is located in Dearborn Heights) to provide monetary assistance for their ongoing work. Their mission is to enable parents to choose life for their unborn children and to raise them in loving families. Filled bottles may be given to Nancy.

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

As an on-going mission, we are collecting non-perishable food items that we are donating to the Fish & Loaves Food Pantry located in Taylor. Your food items may be placed in the basket behind the last pew in the Sanctuary. This organization was first launched and led by Rev. Drutchas of St. Paul Church in 2008.

## **From the Moderator:**

### **What is the Pastoral Relations Committee? A Bridge between the Minister and the Congregation!**

The Pastoral Relations Committee is a long-standing committee in the church consisting of the Minister, the Moderator, and two other members. Currently serving in those positions are Rev. Kren, John Peters, Marge Manspeaker, and Elizabeth Paul. The committee has a dual purpose -to support the ministry of the church and act as "mediator" between the pastor and the congregation. Anyone can approach any person on the committee at any time to voice any concern they may have about the worship service, relationship with the pastor, or other "stumbling block" that keeps them from fulfillment as a member of Dearborn Congregational Church. The committee will be happy to convene a meeting, if necessary, to address the issue with the party, or parties, involved and come to a resolution. And please be assured that all discussions remain strictly confidential.

Blessings,  
John Peters, Moderator

## OUR CHURCH AT WORK

### In March

#### Helpers for Sunday Services

##### Greeters:

March 5 – Ian Haas  
 March 12 – Ian Haas  
 March 19 – Ian Haas  
 March 22 – Ian Haas

##### Ushers:

March 5 – Pete Stacho & Dave Jabtecki  
 March 12 – Available  
 March 19 – Available  
 March 26 – Available

##### Liturgists:

March 5 – Marge Manspeaker  
 March 12 – Available  
 March 19 – Available  
 March 26 – Available



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 John Proctor
- 4 Michelle Fitzpatrick
- 7 Melissa Schilbe
- 10 Betty Radatz
- 10 Elizabeth Paul
- 14 Phyllis Preston
- 16 Polly Fitzpatrick
- 22 Grant MacKenzie
- 23 Zoe Martin
- 23 Marge Manspeaker
- 27 Michelle Martin
- 30 Michael Haling
- 31 Linda Meadows

## PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
John Langley	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Tom Schlaff	Medical Concerns
Carol Burroughs	Medical Concerns
Irene Moxon	Medical Concerns
Marilyn Beardsley	Medical Concerns

## Dedication of Flowers - March

March 5 – Tammy & Dave Jabtecki  
 March 12 – Preston Family  
 March 19 – Available  
 March 26 – Elaine Stacho

## Fellowship Hour – March

March 5 – Teresa Curlless & John Peters  
 March 12 – Available  
 March 19 – Available  
 March 26 – Available



## Treasurer's Report for January

### 2017

Income- \$ 3,698.00  
 Expenses- \$10,415.21

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 13,564.66  
 Investments with UBS valued at \$173,922.09

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

## Dates to Remember:

March 1 Lenten Dinner and Service 6pm  
 March 8 Trustees Meeting 7pm  
 March 15 Diaconate Meeting 7pm  
 March 17 Pizza and Game Night 6:30pm

## I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

I love George Carlin. Remember George? Irreverent, sarcastic, sometimes vulgar, but always funny. His take on any given subject made me smile, often laughing out loud.

My favorite monologue is his rant about "stuff!" You remember that one, right? If not, Google it. I promise you will find yourself in his hilarious rant. Which brings me to why George is on my mind the past few days. The incredible springtime we're experiencing puts me in my "clear out my stuff" mode. We do that to make room for new stuff; George Carlin logic.

Now, here's my dilemma. We no longer are having a rummage sale, so that box I keep filling with stuff has nowhere to go. I KNOW...Salvation Army, Goodwill, etc. It's not the same. I need to know my stuff goes to the right person, be appreciated, cared for. That box contains treasures accumulated over time. Otherwise, I would put it in one of the many bins throughout the area.

Why I have so much stuff is not quite clear. I no longer need that yellow yo-yo, but I really like it! Nostalgic, no doubt. Besides, it's not taking up much space.

Exercise equipment, which only causes pain, gone! I will keep the charts, just in case. On second thought, they're going too. I have books to read. Forget the charts, I have enough stress in my life. I don't need guilt.

T-shirts! How did they multiply? I have every color, various sayings or logos, some faded, all comfortable. I need comfort in my life, I'm keeping them. Sorry, George.

Pens, pencils and notepads! Why do I need to have so many? I have a bad habit of lifting ink pens, whenever the opportunity arises. If I ever ask you if you have a pen, just say no. I most likely have three or four in my purse.

So I guess I'll just keep my "stuff". The trick is controlling myself from getting more "stuff" George wasn't too clear on that. But I might have missed it. I'm just sayin' ...

