

The Messenger

A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Dearborn Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M



March, 2021



A CHALLENGE FOR LENT

Lent to most Christians signifies giving something up that you like for instance, Chocolate. While giving up sweets is beneficial for most of us, it probably does not strengthen our relationship to Christ. This year I challenge you to add something rather than give something up. Over one third of the Gospels focus on the final week of Christ. Why not read the accounts of the final week from all of the gospel. By only reading a few chapters a day you will learn about the most important aspect of Jesus' life. Here are the chapters per gospel:

- A third of Matthew, from Matthew 21-28
- A third of Mark, from Mark 11-16
- A quarter of Luke, from Luke 19-24
- Nearly half of John, from John 12-20

35 chapters that will change your life. So go ahead, grab a decadent, rich cup of cocoa and let the word of God wash all over you. Then share something you learned with someone. Anyone!

God bless all of you in your daily walk with the Word. May faith be stronger, your love for God deeper, and your desire to share it with others compulsive.

Best, Brian

Thursday Evening Bible Study

You are invited to join us Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM via Zoom to study the Book of Romans. Our next meeting is March 4 when we are studying Chapter 3. If you're not available every week, that's no problem. Just join us when you can. If you are interested, please email Cheryl Brown at cherbrown27@yahoo.com and she will include you in the Zoom meeting invitation that is sent out each week.



Good Friday Service - April 2

Please join us in person and on-line April 2 at 3:00 PM for a very special Good Friday service.



Easter Sunday Service and Communion - April 4

He is risen indeed! You are invited to come and celebrate Easter morning at 10:00 AM when we will share in our Lord's Supper.

Church Surveys Due by Feb. 28: You should have received a letter in the mail in early Feb. accompanied by 4 questions we need you to answer concerning the church. Please note the *deadline to return the survey is Sunday, Feb. 28*. You can drop it off in person on Sunday, mail it within the next few days (OK if arrives after the 28th), or Reply to the email you received last week. Your opinions are crucial to the Way Forward Committee in determining their next course of action! Questions? Contact John Peters: (313) 495-1871 or joopett13@hotmail.com. Thank you for taking the time to complete & return your survey!

Position Opening - CLERK: The church has an opening for Clerk in 2021. Duties of the position include recording Minutes at Council meetings, Congregational Meetings, and the Annual Meeting; and tracking membership changes (additions/subtractions). The Clerk also keeps track of vital records of the church. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact John Peters at (313) 255-7774 or email: joopett13@hotmail.com.

Altar Flowers in March.: If you'd like to dedicate flowers in memory of, or in recognition of, a loved one or event in your life, there are open weeks available in March. Please contact the church office by phone (313-271-8552) or email (dccucc@gmail.com) and let Liz know the Sunday on which you'd like flowers for the altar and to whom you are dedicating them. The cost is \$15, payable to the church. Payment should be turned in BEFORE the week of dedication.

Give Online at Your Convenience: Now you can make an offering or pay your pledge online! Go to www.dccdearborn.org and click on the yellow "Donate" button. YOU DO NOT NEED A PAYPAL ACCOUNT. Pay by major credit card and just enter the information asked for. If you use Facebook, go to the "Dearborn Congregational Church, UCC" page where you'll see a 'Pinned' post on the right-hand side of the page with a link to Donate, as well. We invite you to take advantage of this feature!

Downriver for Veterans Donations & Pull Tab/Lid Collection: We're still collecting non-perishable foods, personal items, unwrapped clothing, and new pillows for Downriver for Veterans in Wyandotte. Place your items in a plastic bag and leave it in the basket in the church behind the pews. We're also collecting aluminum pull tabs and can lids for Ronald McDonald House. Thank you for donating!

View our Sunday Bulletin Before Every Service: Each week, usually by Friday night, a copy of the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday service is posted on our website at www.dccdearborn.org (click on 'DCC Home' at top of page and then scroll down to 'Weekly Bulletin'). Or, if you go to the church Facebook page, "Dearborn Congregational, UCC", look for the latest post promoting the upcoming service and click on the highlighted links. Once you have selected 'Weekly Bulletin', in order to see the Order of Worship, click on 'Worship'. To see the Prayer List and Altar Flower Dedication for the week, click on 'Announcements'.

How do we know when Lent begins and ends?

Lent always starts exactly 46 days before Easter Sunday, so its dates always depend on Easter, which is a floating holiday. So how do we determine Easter? It's got a lot to do with the Moon. According to Christian tradition, Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday following the full Moon that occurs on or just after the Spring equinox (and church calendars state that the Spring equinox always falls on March 21). In 2021, the first full Moon after March 21 takes place on March 28, which means Easter falls on the following Sunday, April 4. Subtract 46 days from that and you get the first day of Lent, which was February 17.

DEDICATION OF FLOWERS

March 7 – Available
March 14 – Available
March 21 – Available
March 28 – Available



PRAYER LIST



Diana Schilbe, 02/28 Broken Shoulder
Lew Worthington, 01/24 Undergoing Chemotherapy
Dorothy Brown, 01/03 Mother of Tom Brown
Health Concern
Cindy Taylor, 01/24 Sister of Tom Brown Health Concern
Gail Waggoner, 01/24 Long-Term Health Issues
Pat Stacho, 01/24 Undergoing Physical Therapy
Sue Wilson, 01/24 Health Concern

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.

March Birthdays

2 John Proctor
Karen Lawrence
4 Michelle Fitzpatrick
7 Melissa Schilbe
10 Elizabeth Paul
Betty Radatz
16 Polly Fitzpatrick
22 Grant MacKenzie
23 Zoe Martin
Marge Manspeaker
27 Michelle Martin
30 Michael Haling
31 Lynda Meadows



Date to Remember:

March 10	7 pm	Diaconate Meeting
March 23	7 pm	Zoom Book Club
Thursdays at	7 pm	Zoom Bible Study

Treasurer's Report for January 2021

Income- \$2,220.00
Expenses- \$5,061.31
Citizens Account - \$9,061.92
Investments with UBS valued at \$101,897.31

I'M JUST ASKING...
with Pat Stacho

(Re-printed from The Messenger - March, 2012)

Wow, time sure flies! It's hard to believe the Lenten season is already upon us. An optimist would say that means Spring is just around the corner and a sign that warmth will soon return to our lives. But more importantly, Lent is a time for honest reflection. Which leads me to the question of the month – What is the best advice you've ever given or received?

Pete was advised by several of his friends to “marry that girl...she's smart, pretty, funny, and a great cook.”

But he married me instead. :)

Our dear uncle, Dave Stacho, thinks the best advice he ever gave anyone was inviting us to join his church. You were right, Uncle Dave.

Thanks for expanding our family, not that YOU weren't enough! We are blessed to be here.

Our resident diva, Linda Haling, remembers her mother telling her, “It never hurts to ask. The worst they can say is 'No'”. (Who could tell Linda 'no'??)

And, Miss Jane tells me, “Keep downsizing. Throw out three things a day and get rid of the clutter.” (Do you think Miss Jane would notice me hanging around on trash day?)

Dr. Phil's advice: “You wouldn't worry so much about what people thought of you if you knew how seldom they do.” (Hmmmmm, sage old Texan, that Dr. Phil!)

Marge Manspeaker shared this advice: “Be your kindest and best self in whatever you say or do. If you slip up, admit it, apologize, let go, and move on. Life is too short to carry the burden of hurting someone by word or deed, and not making it right.” Thanks, Marge.

Truly good advice. She is one of the most gracious women I know.

As for me, my mom's advice is seared into my brain forever: “Always wear clean underwear in case you get hit by a bus.” To this day, I heed her advice, although I'm pretty sure if I see a Greyhound heading my way, my underwear will NOT be clean for long!

But, sorry, Mom, I have been known to make faces and my face never froze...

And while I may not run with scissors, I have walked briskly!

Maybe that's why my kids never listened to my advice, either.

And something to think about...“If life hands you melons...you may be dyslexic.” ;)

See you in church.

*A note from your friends at church, Pat. We really miss you and hope you're your way to recovery so we can see you and Pete soon. Meantime, we will keep borrowing your articles from previous Messengers.