

# 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  
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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.



## Infusion Ain't All That Bad!

Okay, maybe I'm exaggerating a bit. Sitting in the "chemo chair" and waiting for the last drip of medication to run through an IV, isn't how I like to spend my day. It is, however, my routine. Once, every three weeks, I'm at the U of M Cancer Center for a blood draw. Afterward, with vitals recorded; my Oncologist gives me a quick exam, we discuss my treatment - and then I'm off to the Infusion Room.

I hope you never see this room or experience the type of medical treatment dispensed. However, if you do, smile with the assurance that God is with you knows ALL that is going on in your life!



I did approach this week's infusion with a bit of a smile. The drug doctors are using in fighting my type of cancer, has a positive side effect.

It's not happening with all cancer patients – but with a few who are receiving Keytruda, the hair is changing! The drug blocks a protective mechanism of the cancer cells and allows the immune system to destroy those cancer cells. It also is regenerating the color of my hair!

When I started treatments, my hair was 90% gray. It wasn't a problem – I kind of like the gray. I'm 71 years old; I've earned every gray strand, and I still have something to comb. And besides, doesn't **Proverbs 16:31** remind us that **"Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained by living a godly life."**

But now, the hair is beginning to darken. SLOWLY, my "crown of gray glory" is returning to its original color - brown. And at the rate of progression, I could be looking like a 40-year-old in a few years! Maybe the regeneration will go beyond hair color? (Remember the movie, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*?)

With all that said – here is a promise from the lips of Jesus:

***What is the price of two sparrows — one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. (Matthew 10:29-31 NLT)***

Pastor Bill Kren

## News from the Diaconate

### Strengthen the Church Begins May 6

Strengthen the Church is a special mission offering that helps support youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of 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 May 20.

### Pentecost – May 20

Acts Chapter 2 tells us that on the day of Pentecost, the followers of Jesus were all together in one place when all of a sudden, a sound came from heaven, like a strong wind, filling the house where the people had gathered. Something like tongues of fire rested on their heads and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Wear something **Red** on Sunday, May 20 as a symbol of the power and fire of the Holy Spirit that started the Christian church.

### Downriver for Veterans

We are collecting non-perishable food items for Downriver for Veterans located on Fort Street in Wyandotte. Only in its second year, this organization needs ongoing support to assist local resource-limited veterans with food and other needs. Some veterans are on disability income and don’t have enough to pay their bills and buy groceries. You can place your donations in the Totes of Love bin in the back of the Sanctuary. Plan to give to this worthy cause. Also check the expiration dates, as expired items cannot be accepted.

### Diaconate Meeting

The Diaconate is meeting on Wednesday, May 9 at 7:00 pm.



### Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet Wednesday, May 9, at 7pm.

### Church Clean-Up Day - June 2

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 2** from 8 am -12 noon (That's NEXT MONTH, not this month!). That's the day we gather to spruce up the outside grounds and clean the inside of the church. A list of jobs to be done is posted elsewhere in this newsletter and behind the glass in the tower entrance hallway. Bring your favorite cleaning supplies. For outdoor work, gloves and a garden rake or trowel are recommended. We need volunteers able to carry loads of wood chips in wheelbarrows, especially! For inside work -dust rags and furniture polish would be helpful. So join in the effort, show Him your love, and help to beautify His house!

### Treasurer’s Report for March 2018

Income- \$3,845.17

Expenses- \$8,860.92

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 12,830.32

Investments with UBS valued at \$156,315.25

10,000 was transferred from UBS to Charter One to meet expenses

Matthew Haling, Treasurer



## OUR CHURCH AT WORK IN MAY



### Helpers for Sunday Services

#### Ushers:

- May 6 – Pete Stacho & Ray Carter
- May 13 – Available
- May 20 – Available
- May 27 – Available

#### Liturgists:

- May 6 – Ann Saadah
- May 13 – Sue Kren
- May 20 – Available
- May 27 – Available

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 9 Roberta Adamson
- 12 Eva Martin
- 21 Rufus Beardsley
- 22 Ann Saadah
- 23 Cathy MacKenzie
- 27 Dave Jabtecki
- 28 Bev Traver

### Dedication of Flowers - May

- May 6 – Available
- May 13 – Available
- May 20 – Jay & Ray Carter
- May 27 – Polly Fitzpatrick

### 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
Rev. Norman Kirsch	Medical Concerns
Lois Clickner	Medical Concerns
Elie Stergiou	Medical Concerns
Jane Haling	Health Issues
Jim Shippee	Medical Concerns
Carrie Goldie	Serious Health Issues
Rev. Bill Kren	Serious Health Issues
Della King Family	Medical Concerns
Wanda Silvey	Medical Concerns

### Fellowship Hour – May

- May 6 – Pat Stacho
- May 13 – Available
- May 20 – Available
- May 27 – Available

### Dates to Remember:

- May 5      Craft Show      9am-5pm
- May 9      Diaconate Meeting 7pm
- May 9      Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm

## I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

I miss you Erma Bombeck! You always were able to make light of some of my more traumatic times. When my youngest son refused all attempts at potty training, you suggested getting a puppy to explain all the "puddles."

You got me through the temper tantrums by screaming along with the little monsters. I followed your advice about just ignoring the tears on the first day of school. (I generally stopped crying by mid-afternoon) As they grew and entered junior high, I still cried. But, then it began mid-afternoon...as I knew they'd soon be home.

I remember your anecdotes about first dates. I had two sons to protect from all the little hussies chasing my incredibly handsome boys. Although, they didn't seem to mind being sought after. I needed to indulge in daily doses of Bombeck to remain sane. I miss you, Erma.

I was a loyal follower, through each and every stage of my life...newlywed, pregnancy, births, birthday milestones, teenagers, daughters-in-law, how to raise a husband, anniversaries, nosy neighbors, shopping fiascos, the list goes on and on, throughout my life!

Now I'm in my 70's and you're gone. I could sure use some humor, Bombeck style. Arthritis, hearing loss, bad bladder, and often bad temper. Not so funny. There are times I feel like the Hallmark character, Maxine. Which is appropriate since at times I feel like I'm

married to Walter! (You know, Jeff Dunham's old man character.) Of course, Jeff can simply put him in a suitcase, close it and BAM. Problem solved! Life is good...but sure can get hard at times. I look in the mirror and see my mother. And man, she looks old!!!

Yep, I miss you Erma Bombeck. I still read your books, still smile at the thought of my old friend, Erma. Just wish you had been around a lot longer. We sure could use your humor to get through these golden years! I'm just sayin'...

*When I stand  
before God at the  
end of my life, I  
would hope that  
I would not have  
a single bit of  
talent left and  
could say, "I  
used everything  
you gave me!"*



Erma Bombeck  
1927-1996

## BUILDING & GROUNDS ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY – JUNE 2, 2018

Save the date! On Saturday, June 2 from 8:00 am to noon we will gather to clean the inside & outside of the church. Bring your favorite cleaning supplies! Please put your name next to a task of your choice on the list in the church. What better way to contribute to help your church? For more info, call John Peters: (313) 255-7774



### OUTSIDE

1. Spray weed killer around walks, cracks, and elsewhere, if necessary.
2. **Remove leaves and trash from around the buildings & shrubs.**
3. Pull weeds and trim bushes if needed.
4. **Spread wood chips around shrubs along outside walls and trees on lawn.**
5. Remove A/C doors from Sanctuary.
6. Clean, adjust, change oil, and sharpen mower and lawn equipment.
7. Wash outside of sanctuary and windows. (Cleaning ingredients posted in garage).
8. Wash all outer doors (inside & out)
9. Clean glass in lawn lights (and paint?)
10. Dispose of used oil from garage.
11. Clean, sand & paint handrails at all entrances.
12. **Spray for bugs near all entrance doors.**
13. Repair outside basement steps (tuck-point)

### INSIDE

1. Wash pew woodwork.
2. Vacuum and rotate pew cushions.
3. Clean and paint white table at rear of Sanctuary.
4. Clean chandeliers and wall sconces.
5. Dust and vacuum around radiators.
6. Clean around piano, minister's bench, pulpit, and railings.
7. Clean coat racks/closets in Sanctuary.
8. Clean the altar.
9. Wash and defrost both refrigerators as necessary.
10. Dust shelves in Library.
11. Clean furnace room and check furnaces.
12. Set and check mouse traps in rear of sanctuary(if needed)



**\*Items in bold are a priority**

## WHAT IS PENTECOST?

By Richard Wagner and Kurt Warner

Pentecost is a Christian holy day that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit 40 days after Easter. Some Christian denominations consider it the birthday of the Christian church and celebrate it as such.

Originally, Pentecost was a Jewish holiday held 50 days after Passover. One of three major feasts during the Jewish year, it celebrated Thanksgiving for harvested crops. However, Pentecost for Christians means something far different.

Before Jesus was crucified, he told his disciples that the Holy Spirit would come after him:

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. *John 14:16–18*

And 40 days after Jesus was resurrected (10 days after he ascended into heaven), that promise was fulfilled when Peter and the early Church were in Jerusalem for Pentecost:

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. *Acts 2:1–4*

Although many North American Christians hardly notice Pentecost today, traditional European churches consider it a major feast day. Pentecost, also called *Whitsuntide* in parts of Europe, is just behind Easter in overall importance. For example, in Germany today, on only three occasions does the observance of a national holiday span two days: Christmas (December 25 and 26), Easter (Sunday and Monday), and Pentecost (Sunday and Monday).