

The Messenger

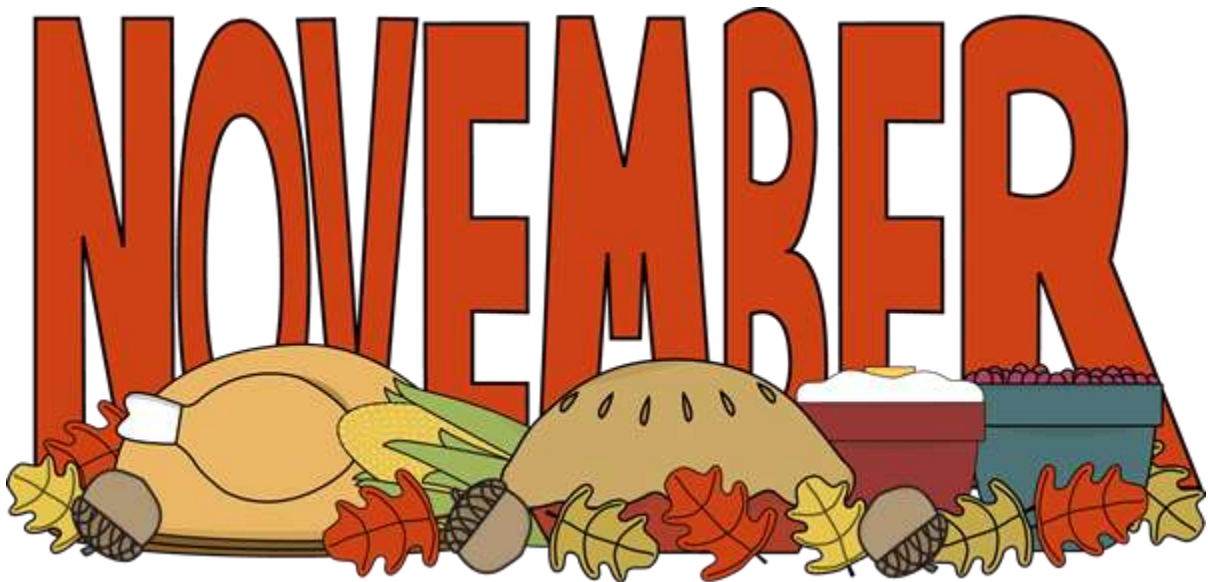
A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Dearborn Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
16350 Rotunda Drive
Dearborn, MI 48120-1120
313-271-8552
E-mail: dccucc@gmail.com
Website: 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.



I'm So Very Thankful

On Thursday, November 23rd many of us will be celebrating Thanksgiving with family and friends, eating turkey, watching football, and enjoying a day of relaxation. Hopefully, we will also be giving thanks to God for the many blessings received.

This will be a very “thankful” Thanksgiving for the Pastor. My life radically changed on Father’s Day, 2017 when I received the news that I have lung cancer. Since that day, I’ve been on a journey that has strengthened my faith, and made me keenly aware of what really matters. Oh, it’s not that I had forgotten. It’s that things have been so good, these last few years as your Pastor, that I began taking them for granted. No more!

I’m So Very Thankful! Every day I give God thanks for another day, filled with the prayers and support of so many people. This keeps me going. It inspires me to do more for the Church – in serving Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior.

I’m So Very Thankful! I talk to God every day and thank Him for His healing presence and for the strength He gives when I’m at my lowest and hurting. Truly, I’m amazed at what I’ve experienced in six months and how I even survived! God is good ... all the time!

I’m So Very Thankful! A few weeks ago I wrote an article on my blog, describing my struggle with Chemo Brain. I give God thanks that He is not only guiding me through this journey, that at times is foggy, He is also guiding the U of M Hospital doctors and nurses, in helping me cope with my illness. And I know He is with my family as they lend their help and good advice, to a sometimes tired and frazzled man.

I’m So Very Thankful! I’m thankful for a congregation that has stood by me, these past six months. You’ve showered me with your love and your prayers - at times, so much so that it’s overwhelming.

In Psalm 92:1-2, King David expressed his thanks and praise to God: ***“It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; To declare Your loving kindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night,”*** (Note – David did say “every night.”) I’m not limiting my attitude of thanksgiving to one day out of the year. Every morning, throughout the day and in the evening before I retire – I’m giving thanks and praise to God! He has been so good to me!

If you aren’t quite sure about things to thank God for, here is a partial list:

And so, from our house to yours, have a very **Happy** and **Blessed Thanksgiving**. After all, **we have so much to be thankful for!**

FROM THE DIACONATE

Daylight Saving Time Ends - November 5

It's time to "fall" back. Remember to turn back your clocks one hour Saturday night before you go to bed.

All Saints' Sunday – November 5

On November 5, we will remember those who have walked the paths before us and beside us in faith. You may call the Church Office ([313-271-8552](tel:313-271-8552)) or email your request to dccucc@gmail.com to present the name(s) of those that have passed away. The names of your loved ones will be read during worship on November 5 and a family member or friend will be asked to join Rev. Kren at the front of the Church for a special time of prayer.

Potluck & Hanging of the Greens - December 1

Mark your calendars and join us on Friday, December 1 for our annual Potluck Dinner. We'll start with dinner at 6:00 pm followed by decorating the Christmas tree and hanging of the greens in the Sanctuary. The Diaconate will provide a ham and you bring your favorite dish to pass. What could be better! Plan to be with us for this evening of good food, fun and fellowship as we prepare our church for a joyous Christmas season.

Advent Season Begins – December 3

December 3 is the first Sunday in Advent. The Advent season is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Lighting Advent Candles is a way of celebrating the season. Our tradition here at Dearborn Congregational is to have members of the congregation light a candle each of the four Sundays during this season. If you would like to volunteer to light an Advent Candle during the worship service, a sign-up sheet will be available in the Mayflower Room.

Thank You

Thank you to those who gave to our Neighbors in Need offering last month. We collected \$67.00.

Diaconate Meeting

The next Diaconate Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 8 at 7:00 pm.

FROM THE MODERATOR

Member Information Form w/ Emergency

Contact: A form for members only has been created that we are kindly asking all members to complete so we can keep on file pertinent information about your membership, as well as to have a record of who to notify in case of emergency, should something happen unexpectedly. Hard copies of this form are available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. A form can also be e-mailed to you. Please fill out the form and return it to the church office or submit it by e-mail to the secretary at dccucc@gmail.com at your convenience. Thank you.

Church Keys: Also, if you have a church door key in your possession and you haven't recently been contacted, please call or e-mail John Peters ([313-255-7774](tel:313-255-7774) or joopett13@hotmail.com) and give him the 2-digit number on your key so we can update the Key List on file in the office. Thank you.

Treasurer's Report for September 2017

Income- \$3,093.85

Expenses- \$8,121.71

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 13,614.66

Investments with UBS valued at \$182,599.82

Matthew Haling, Treasurer



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In November



Helpers for Sunday Services

Ushers:

November 5 – Teresa Curless & Deb Evans
 November 12 – Available
 November 19 – Marty Warren & Available
 November 26 – Marge Manspeaker &
 Available

Liturgists:

November 5 – Sue Kren
 November 12 – John Peters
 November 19 – Sue Wilson
 November 26 – Available

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

8 Pauline Gourlay
 16 Nancy Wolter
 18 John Peters
 18 Teresa Curless
 21 Deb Evans
 25 Diana Schilbe
 26 Kirk Haas
 27 Cheryl Brown
 29 Katherine MacKenzie

Dedication of Flowers - November

November 5 – Available
 November 12 – Diana Lindsey
 November 19 – John Peters
 November 26 – Available

Fellowship Hour – November

November 5 – Available
 November 12 – Available
 November 19 – Available
 November 26 – Available

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
Irene Moxon	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 Medical Issues
Rev. Bill Kren	Serious Health Issues
Della King Family	Medical Concerns
Family of Shirley Fedraw	Bereavement
Wanda Silvey	Medical Concerns

Dates to Remember:

November 5 All Saint's Day Service
 November 8 Trustees Meeting 7pm
 November 8 Diaconate Meeting 7pm
 November 18 Men's Club Breakfast and
 Christmas Tree Sale Kickoff 8am
 December 1 Potluck & Hanging of the Greens

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

I was in the doctor's office last week (big surprise, right?!). Anyway, I was waiting patiently for my name to be called, reading the current selection of our book club. The gentleman sitting across from me said, "Wow! You don't see that very often." Pardon me? (I've always been able to come up with a witty comeback.)

"You're reading an actual book, not a Kindle or Nook, or some other electronic device. Just don't see that anymore."

Got me thinking....about so many other things people don't do anymore.

1. When was the last time you saw a man wearing a hat? Not a baseball CAP, I'm talking a hat. My grandfather wore a fedora whenever he stepped out of the house. Unless he went to work, then he wore his "newsboy" cap.

2. Little girls with white ruffled socks, Mary Jane shoes and a cute little girl dress? Little girls wear far too suggestive clothing if you ask me. And even if you don't, that's my opinion...you just got it!

3. Ever hear teenagers talking in the mall?? Not all, granted, but a lot of those sweet kids have mouths that are in dire need of a bar of Ivory soap. You know, 99/44% pure. Some of those words weren't in my vocabulary until I was in my thirties. Some I still don't know what they mean, but I'm sure it's not good. I'd like to hear a young man

say, excuse me, not ...well use your imagination here.

4. Some of those same little darlings are wearing their pants around their knees. I don't recall that being attractive back in the day. I guess wearing decent clothes is a thing of the past as well. Unless the young men attend a school requiring a dress code. Which, by the way, I think should be mandatory.

5. When did people stop buying groceries, and start to stockpile junk food? My grandmother, my mother, and yours truly, all cooked. Really cooked. We didn't warm up frozen pizza in a microwave and call it dinner. Or drive thru to get burgers and fries so the kids could eat dinner in the car.

Which brings me to...

6. Drive thru! Banks, restaurants, drug stores, pick up curbside, it's insane. Remember walking into these various places? No wonder obesity is so widespread.

This rant has gone on long enough. I guess that gentleman was right. There's a lot we don't see anymore.

Sad, isn't it? I'm going to keep reading, turning those pages, and getting out of my car to make my VISA payments at my local bank. I can exchange pleasantries with the teller. Try that at your ATM! I'm just saying...

(Happy Thanksgiving. Don't forget to count your blessings. Last I heard, people still do that. Be one of them.)

Member News

For anyone interested... this is the group that **Jay Carter & Raymond Carter** sing with! The group is **OUTSTANDING!!**



SAT, NOV 11 AT 7:30 PM
Avenue A Cappella
Concert

GOING ▼

Theatre on the Avenue in Wyandotte.
2656 Biddle Ave
Wyandotte, Michigan 48192

Tickets available at the Downriver Actors Guild site:

http://www.downriveractorsguild.net/Box_office.html

Or by calling 734-407-7020

2017 Men's Club Annual Christmas Tree Sale:

Save the date -Saturday, November 18!

It's time once again to sell Christmas trees!

Join us for breakfast in the Mayflower Room at 8:00 am, then lend a hand as we unload 225 trees due to arrive at 9:00 am, followed by setting up the tree lot. This year, a continental breakfast (donuts, danish, cereal, fruit) will be served. Unloading of the truck will occur after breakfast. Plenty of volunteers are needed --whether serving breakfast, unloading trees, tying trees to posts, pricing trees, or especially...selling trees! To sell trees, there will be a sign-up sheet with blocks of time where you can add your name. They will be 3-hour blocks and the times we need to fill are Friday nights from 5-8 pm, Saturdays from 11 am-2 pm, 2-5 pm, and 5-8 pm; and Sunday blocks identical to those on Saturday. The lot will open the day after Thanksgiving and run until we sell out! Yes, there's plenty to do, but every year our church rises to the occasion. Bring a friend or guest to help on Nov. 18. All are welcome! To volunteer on the 18th or to sell trees on a given day and time, call me at 313-255-7774 or e-mail: joopett13@hotmail.com

Thank you,

John Peters

Deep Thoughts for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is more than a day. It's a lifestyle. So in honor of this week of turning our attention toward gratitude—and in hopes of it lasting much longer than a week—here are a few encouraging/inspiring/interesting thoughts I've picked up from wise people, published research, or simple observation.

- It's often said that whatever you focus on grows larger. That's true for fears, hopes, dreams, offenses—and blessings. Gratitude focuses so closely on the good that the bad can become almost unnoticeable.

- Gratitude shifts your perspective. It makes you realize the glass isn't half-empty. In most cases, it's actually more than 90 percent full. If you don't think it is, you might need to focus more on what you're thankful for.

- Thankfulness is healthy. People who are continually grateful are generally in better health than those who aren't. Conversely,

complaining (the opposite of thankfulness) is at least as unhealthy as having a poor diet. The difference in physical symptoms between thankful people and bitter people is startling.

- Thankfulness is a strong anti-depressant. Sometimes simply stating your gratitude out loud—even just two or three things you're grateful for, no matter how small—can change your mood for the rest of the day.

- Gratitude is a powerful prayer. You get more from God by thanking him than by begging him. And thanking him in advance for something he has promised but not yet given is a profound statement of faith.

- Thankfulness is an act of humility. You're acknowledging that you're dependent, not self-sufficient. And God is drawn to humble hearts.

Have a happy Thanksgiving, everyone. Enjoy your family members, the day off, the meal, the football games, and even Black Friday, if that's your thing. But above all, don't forget to give thanks.

(From a Chris Tiegreen blog.)

