

The Messenger

A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

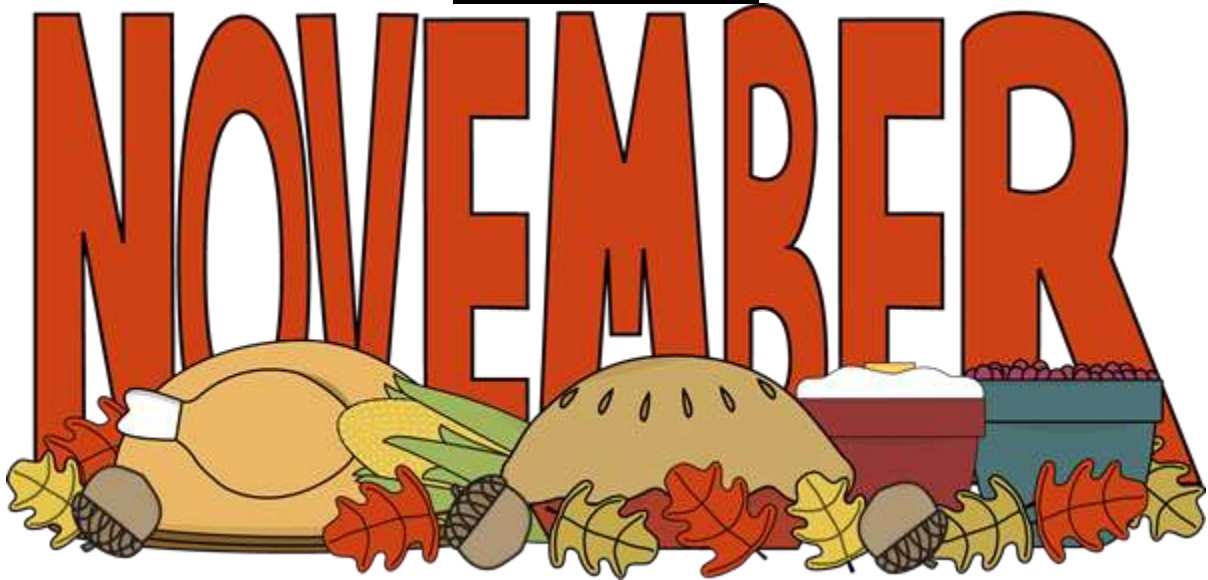
Dearborn Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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Rev. Dr. Lewis Worthington, Interim Pastor
Pastor Lew's e-mail: DearbornCongregational@gmail.com

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Website: www.dccdearborn.org*

WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M. NURSERY CARE PROVIDED

**OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm**



Summary of Recommendations from Council Meeting of Oct. 22 to Address Church Sustainability

A great deal of input was contributed by congregation members at a well-attended meeting of the Church Council in response to the question, "How do we improve the financial situation of the church?" in the face of declining active membership and diminishing assets. As a result of the discussion, the following initiatives were chosen to be acted upon by the Way Forward Committee in an expeditious manner:

- 1) Canvas the area to find a small church meeting in a storefront or school willing to share our building and lease space from us.
- 2) Find a business to lease office space in the educational wing.
- 3) Start a GoFundMe page for the church as a charitable organization.
- 4) Apply for the installation of cell phone towers on church property and collect rent from their usage.
- 5) Initiate a comprehensive Stewardship Drive, including sending a letter to members with pledge cards.

We also resolved in the meeting to contain our overhead costs as much as possible to reduce the budget deficit. There are various ways of accomplishing this.

The Minister Search Committee will also begin looking for a settled, part-time minister. Our Church Profile is still in process of being drafted by the committee. Completion of this document is an important step before resumes of job candidates will be sent to us from the Michigan Conference. The committee will consider candidates from other sources, as well.

John Peters



2019 Men's Club Annual Christmas Tree Sale

The Trees are Coming: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 !!! at NOON
Lot Set-up will be: Saturday, November 23, 2019 !!! at 9:00 AM

The Men's Club is pleased to announce that we will again sell Christmas Trees this year. To reduce our shipping costs, we will take delivery of the trees on Wednesday, November 20th at approximately noon. Save the date of Saturday, Nov. 23rd for a continental breakfast, setting up the lot, and pricing trees. Breakfast will be served at 8:45 am. We will set up the lot after breakfast. The trees will already be unloaded, so we will complete the lot set-up and pricing of the trees. We are always looking for plenty of volunteers: whether setting up the lot, unloading the truck, pricing trees, or selling trees. For selling trees, sign-up sheets will be available at church. Selling times will be in the usual 3-hour blocks. As you can see, there is plenty to do, but every year, we as a church community rise to the occasion and make a successful annual tree sale. Bring a friend or guest, all are welcome. See you on Wednesday, November 20th at Noon and /or Saturday, November 23rd at 9am.

To volunteer, just contact: John Peters, Pat Stacho, or Tammy Jabtecki to be put on the schedule.

John: joopett13@hotmail.com
Pat: patstacho44@gmail.com
Tammy: tammy930@yahoo.com

Jim Haling



Daylight Saving Time Ends - November 3 It's time to "fall" back. Remember to turn back your clocks one hour Saturday night before going to bed.

Church Utilities Fundraiser UPDATE - With grateful hearts, we are extremely pleased to announce that we have reached our Utilities Fundraiser goal in just one month! The total collected was \$5,338, thus exceeding our \$5,000 goal. Many thanks and abundant blessings to all those in our church family who gave generously to this cause!

Group Study - We are continuing our discussion of the book, "Weird Church: Welcome to the Twenty-First Century", which explores and documents new paradigms of church & ministry which depart from the traditional church model and are largely characterized by doing God's work in the context of community. We will meet in the church Library on Wednesday nights in November at 6:30 pm. We will be focusing on Part 2 of the book that looks at existing churches that have re-imagined the way they do church or are newly planted churches. Everyone is welcome! If you haven't read the book, it can be found online at www.epicentergroup.org and there is a Study Guide to accompany the book which is available at that same link. *NOTE: We will not meet on Wed. Nov. 27 as it's Thanksgiving Eve.

Trustees Meeting - The Board of Trustees will meet Wednesday, November 13, at 7pm.

Coloring With a Twist - November 7

Bring your favorite beverage and join us for a fun evening on Thursday, November 7 at 6:30 PM for a Coloring Party. Snacks will be provided along with coloring books and pencils. Feel free to invite family and friends.

Noisy Offering Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who made a noisy offering to Franklin Graham's, **Samaritan's Purse**. We collected \$99.28 that will be used to continue sharing the love of Jesus Christ and the hope of the Gospel around the world.

Book Club is reading *Accidental Further Adventures of the Hundred – Year-Old Man: A Novel*. We will meet and discuss the book on **Monday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m.**



Thanksgiving Baskets

November 3, we will start collecting non-perishable foods to assemble Thanksgiving baskets for the Lennon Pregnancy Center in Dearborn Heights. Any cash donations will be used to purchase turkeys. In addition to food, we will also collect items that will be helpful and appreciated by new mothers and babies, such as baby wipes, bottles, etc. We will collect items through November 24 and hope to have enough for at least two baskets.

Frank and Jane Haling Memorial

Dearborn Holiday Choral Festival – December 14

Here is another date to put on your calendars! We are planning a musical outing this year to the Dearborn Holiday Choral Festival on Saturday, December 14 at 6:00 PM at the Ford Performing Arts Center located on Michigan Avenue near Greenfield Road. Tickets have not been purchased yet, but the cost will be \$11.00 or \$14.00. We will let you know when we have tickets available.

Advent Readers

The Advent season begins Sunday, December 1 and continues through December 22. We will be looking for volunteers to read and light the Advent candles during our morning worship services.

Diaconate Meeting

The Diaconate is scheduled to meet Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00 PM.



We wish **Pauline Gourlay** a very Happy Birthday this month. Pauline will be turning 100 on November 8th. Please send her a happy birthday greeting, if you can. Her address is:

Pauline Gourlay
15091 Ford Rd. #408
Dearborn, MI 48126

A heartfelt THANK-YOU to our church family for all of your love, prayers, calls, hugs, cards, and attendance at the memorial service. It meant a great deal to our family to be so well-supported by all of you.

With Love and Gratitude,
The Halings



Hanging of the Greens & Potluck Dinner - December 6

Mark your calendars and save the date to join us on Friday, December 6 at 6:30 PM for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun as we prepare for the Advent season. We will have our annual potluck dinner in the Mayflower Room followed by hanging fresh greens and decorating the Christmas tree from our tree lot.

Directory Update:



Polly Fitzpatrick Address:
6264 Gilman St.
Garden City, MI 48135

OUR CHURCH AT WORK IN NOVEMBER

Helpers for Sunday Services

Ushers:

November 3 –
November 10 –
November 17 –
November 24 –

Liturgists:

November 3 –
November 10 –
November 17 –
November 24 –

PRAYER LIST



Barb Allen 10/27	Health Concern
Gail Waggoner 10/27	Health Concern
Teresa Curless 10/27	Chemotherapy
Pauline Gourlay 10/27	Shut In
Fred Michales 10/27	Health Concern
Tom Schlaff 10/27	Heart Failure
Carrie Goldie 10/27	Health Concern
Ken Wolffe 10/27	Serious Surgery

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

Dates to Remember:

November 3 Boiler Cleaning - After church
November 7 Coloring with a Twist 6:30 pm
November 11 Way Forward Meeting – After Church
November 13 Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm
November 13 Diaconate Board Meeting 7pm
November 20 Tree Unloading
November 23 Tree Lot Set Up
November 25 Book Club 7 pm



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

Dedication of Flowers

November 3 – Gail Waggoner
November 10 –
November 17 –
November 24 –

Fellowship Hour

November 3 – Elaine Stacho
November 10 – Linda Haling
November 17 –
November 24 –

Treasurer's Report for August 2019

Income- \$1,976.86
Expenses- \$5,908.17
Capital Improvement Fund - \$13,230.32
Investments with UBS valued at \$103,747.56

Treasurer's Report for September 2019

Income- \$1,900.38
Expenses- \$5,218.80
Capital Improvement Fund - \$13,230.32
Investments with UBS valued at \$100,637.08

\$5000.00 was transferred from UBS to Checking Account to pay expense

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

Remember Steve Austin? The six million dollar man? Well, he is no longer a t.v. hero, but a reality star. Who, amongst us, doesn't know someone who is bionic. Lol Seriously, my brother has steel rods in his back. My husband has two knee replacements and a steel plate in his shoulder. Our own Marge Manspeaker has had hip replacement. Even I have a steel plate and rods in my arm. A fairly new addition to my list of surgical magic.

My point is, well, I'm not really sure what the point is! I just find it amazing that so many of my childhood fantasies have become reality. Remember the Jetsons? We are living the dream folks. Electric vehicles, microwaves in every home, telephones that take pictures just to name a few. I can not only talk to my grandkids in ALASKA, I can see them in real time. That's pretty darn amazing to me.

And ALEXA...OMG. I don't have echo, but I am a bit creeped out by the whole concept. Talk to an innocent looking device and you can turn on your lights, lock your doors, make a phone call, play music or talk dirty to yourself. (Which almost makes me want one!) And that is just the beginning.

With all the modern technology, wouldn't you think we could eat chocolate without side effects?? And I would appreciate it if I could buy a pair of jeans that fit comfortably immediately, not six months later when I finally have them stretched out.

Take a few minutes and think about all the modern advancements in the last 25 years.....heck even the last ten years. It is mind boggling. Good or bad, changes are constantly occurring. There are some I wish we had the technology to get rid of. You KNOW what they are. I've complained about

them often enough!! (Sorry)



OK. Rant over. In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving.

Do your best to keep tradition alive. Enjoy the day with family and friends. It is a good time to let your loved ones know how much they mean to you.

No matter how advanced our society becomes, it will never replace the human touch. Hugs will never be out of fashion. Telling those we love, that you love them. Thanksgiving is just that.....giving thanks. So to all of you, thank you for supporting me and this silly little monthly venture. I love doing this, and love you. I'm just sayin'.

Fall Craft Show



Another Successful Craft Show

I am so glad to report that we had another successful craft show this year. We made \$1100 and had the best turnout of church family coming to help. Many thanks. I really appreciated all the help, especially with my health issues this year. Special thanks to Teresa Curless for putting aside her own serious health issues to handle the bake sale. It was big part of our success. Also thanks to Dave Jabtecki for taking care of the 50/50 raffle. Rev. Kren usually handled that and Dave kept it going. Vendors...crafters...and women's fellowship ALL had a full day of fun and profit and most of all FELLOWSHIP. I'd also like to say a special thank you to my dear hubby, Pete. Without his support and hard work.it wouldn't have happened. So thank you all who helped make this happen. ~Pat Stacho