

Beginning this Fall – Happy to Serve!

After a service of ordination to the Christian ministry, a sad-faced woman came up to the newly-ordained pastor and said, *“It’s a grand thing you are doing as a young man – giving up the joys of life to serve the Lord.”*

That same attitude seems to reflect a common held belief in local church work! Volunteering for a project, serving on a committee, teaching a Sunday school class, or, attending a special event – means that all joy is taken out of living!

How sad! I can only say that we should resist the temptation of embracing this idea that it’s all drudgery and pointless work in the church. When asked to help or volunteer, we should view this as an opportunity for joy and happy service!

We have a community and a world of lost souls, watching our Church. What happens when Christianity appears to be a depressing faith, with unwelcome disciplines? What message is sent when our attitude is that Church work cramps our lifestyle and crushes our spirit?

As we enter into the fall season and our Church calendar fills with activities and opportunities for service, **count it as a blessing!**

This has been a message from a blessed and happy Pastor!



Pastor Bill

Messages from the Diaconate

Outdoor Service & "Rally Sunday"- Sept. 14

In the spirit of coming together to welcome all our members back from summer vacations and to celebrate the Fall harvest=2C we are planning a "Rally Day" Sunday worship service on September 14 that will be held outdoors (weather permitting) on the front lawn of the church! The choir will return to sing, and a special fellowship meal is planned, including hot dogs grilled outside by the Men's Club. If you can bring a side dish to share, please add your name to the sign-up sheet located in the sanctuary and indicate what you are bringing. We hope to see EVERYONE there!

'Neighbors In Need' Special Mission

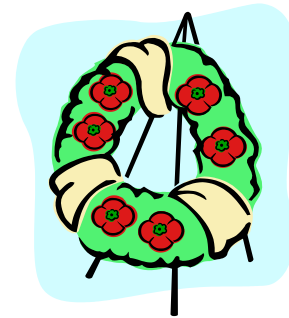
September is the month we launch our campaign on behalf of children and youth living in poverty by contributing to the UCC special mission offering called *Neighbors In Need*. When you give to this cause, you support ministries of justice and compassion through out the United States. In 2014, the focus is on improving literacy and basic reading skills through the UCC's newest all-church initiative called "Reading Changes Lives". With your help, Neighbors in Need can make a difference by working to create a system where education is accessible to all and literacy is no longer a concern.

"Time & Talent" Sheets

The Diaconate, along with the Stewardship Committee, respectfully asks you to consider serving the church in some capacity, as you are able. On September 14, as part of "Rally Sunday", we will be passing out forms listing a dozen or so duties that the church would welcome your assistance in helping with...items such as serving on Sunday morning during worship, interior decorating, collating and folding the monthly newsletter, library book sorting, and several other indoor and outdoor tasks. Please take the time to fill in the form. *This is not a contract or obligation*. It simply gives us an idea where you can help the church if a need arises so we can call on you. Completed forms can be left in the offering plate, mailed to the church, or scanned and e-mailed to dccucc@gmail.com. Remember, no one has to do it all if we all do something!

Sad News

We gathered on August 20th for a memorial service to mourn the passing of David Stacho August 18th, at the age of 77. Many church members, as well as family and friends, attended a lovely service followed by a luncheon at Park Place. Dave was a kind and loving man and we will all miss him. Our prayers continue for Elaine and the entire Stacho family during this very difficult time.



On another sad note...former member Dorothy Knox passed away on August 21st at age 90. Dorothy was a member of Greenfield Congregational Church from 1952 – 1989 before moving to Arizona. Please keep the Knox family in your thoughts and prayers.

A Fond Farewell

Dotty Klein is moving to Fort Myers, Florida, on August 31st. Her son, Ernie, promised an address for Dotty soon, but in the meanwhile, cards and notes can be sent to him:

Ernie Klein
8397 Blackberry Rd.
Fort Myers, FL 33967

Please remember Dotty in your prayers. We will all miss her, but hope that she is well and happy.



Treasurer's Report for July 2014

Income- \$4,021.00
Expenses- \$9,349.72

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 11,034.55
Investments with UBS valued at \$224,602.50

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

Book Club

The Book Club is reading *Sing for Home*, by Jodi Picoult. The next Book Club meeting will be October 13th.



Rummage Sale

The Annual Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale will take place October 3rd from 9am to 5pm and October 4th from 9 am to noon. Please consider signing up to help out in one of the rooms. See Pat Stacho or Teresa Curless for more information. We are also accepting rummage Monday – Friday, 9:00am – Noon.

Women's Retreat

The St. Paul UCC, Taylor, Dorcas Society is sponsoring a Women's Retreat entitled, "Loving Well", held at the Michindoh Conference Center on Saturday, September 6 and Sunday, September 7. They have graciously extended an invitation to the ladies of Dearborn Congregational to join them for the weekend.

The fee is \$94, which will cover your room, three meals, and supplies needed by the leaders. If you wish to attend or would like additional information, please call the office between 8:00am and Noon.

School Supplies

The new school year is beginning, so now is the time to find good deals on school supplies at local stores and donate them to our mini-missions. Several stores, like Target, Walgreens, and Meijer offer bargains on many items. Even dollar stores like Dollar Tree have school supplies for, well, a dollar. Supplies can be placed in a box outside the office and will be delivered to schools around the second week of September. Donate today and help us help kids who can truly benefit from our charity!



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In September



Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

September 7 – Ian Haas
September 14 – Ian Haas
September 21 – Ian Haas
September 28 – Ian Haas

Ushers:

September 7 – Available
September 14 – Available
September 21 – Available
September 28 – Available

Liturgists:

September 7 – Available
September 14 – Valerie Haas
September 21 – Available
September 28 – Valerie Haas

PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Bunny Hoganson	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
Ellis Mangrum	Medical Concerns
Dotty Klein	Medical Concerns
Edith Schwartz	Medical Concerns
David MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Family of Dave Stacho	Bereavement
Family of Dorothy Knox	Bereavement

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Susan Hutton
5 Edith Schwartz
16 Rev. Bill Kren
16 Ruth Smith Noonan
22 Dotty Klein

Dedication of Flowers - September

September 7 – Sue Wilson
September 14 – John Peters
September 21 – Cheryl & Tom Brown
September 28 – Marge Manspeaker

Fellowship Hour – September

September 7 – Available
September 14 – Available
September 21 – Available
September 28 – Available

DATES TO REMEMBER...

September	10	Trustees Meeting	7pm
September	11	Diaconate Meeting	7pm
September	14	Rally Day Service	10am
September	20	DMA Meeting	9am

Pastor Kren's Office Hours

Our new minister, Reverend Kren, will be in the office Monday – Thursday, 8:00am – 12 noon; after 1:00pm by appointment. Feel free to drop by and say hello!

I'm Just Sayin'...

...with Pat Stacho

By now, you all may be aware of the passing of Dave Stacho. He lost his battle with cancer Monday, August 18th, at 6:00 am. He is probably looking down on us, right now, asking God: "Was I really loved that much?"

"Oh yes, David. MORE than you know!"

But then again, I pray that is not the case. I'd like to think Uncle Dave knew how much he was loved. He certainly knew Elaine loved him. Theirs was a very special marriage; 22 years of true wedded bliss. People used to tease Elaine and wish Dave could be cloned. Not possible, ladies. He was truly one of a kind. And lucky Elaine, she was his one & only. When Dave passed, there was little I could do to ease the pain of her loss. I knew it, she knew it. We talked, cried, and yes even chuckled a bit. The days ahead will be tough, but so is she!

Dave's stepson, Marv, had to love the wonderful man who took such good care of his mom.

Elaine's grandchildren, Sarah and Aaron certainly loved "Grandpa Dave."

Linda Haling spent many hours caring for Dave and staying with Elaine. Her nursing skills were a blessing but, more important, her love for a dying friend will forever be appreciated. Thank you, Jim, for sharing her with us.

Our church family—too many to name...ALL showed such concern, caring, and yes, Uncle Dave, love! Thank you for the prayers and offers of help. Knowing you were in our corner brought comfort in such a difficult time. Thank you so very much for the countless cards these past months. You sure kept the Postal Workers busy! Uncle Dave had to love that!

Pete & I loved him dearly, and always will. As will the rest of his family and friends.

His neighbors on Parkside all wept over the loss of a good neighbor, a good man.

His cronies at Burger King, where he'd go for coffee with Pete...every morning... would discuss all the problems of the world, looking for the simple solution, but seldom agreeing on one. They too loved him, in their own way, and will miss him in those morning sessions.

Thank you to Pastor Bill. We are so blessed to have you ministering in our time of loss. You brought much comfort to Dave, and continue to bring that comfort to us as we face the days ahead.

So you see, Uncle Dave....you really are loved that much. And more. You have touched so many lives, left so many smiles behind, and will always be loved. Rest in peace dear, sweet Uncle Dave. (Back at cha!)

Until we meet again, save me a seat. I'd like a cloud with a view.

I'm just sayin'...



For Elaine...for everyone missing Dave...

*I am not so far from you,
Just a little way beyond;
Past the cares and past the pain,
Far past my earthly bonds.*

*When you feel you miss me most,
As years go drifting by;
Each memory will prove to you,
That our love will never die.*

*For memories are but a touch,
From the Father's gentle hand;
To heal your pain and mend your hearts,
To help you understand...*

*That while I left you far too soon,
I did not leave alone;
For the Father sent His angels,
To gently take me home.*

*Take comfort when you think of me,
Keep my love alive in your heart;
And with the warmth of each memory,
We will never be apart.*