

Have You Joined the Hall of Fame?

The hallway of our educational wing at Dearborn Congregational Church has an interesting display of framed pictures of Jesus Christ and the 12 Disciples:



According to the framed explanation,

"These pictures are copies of photographs of models chosen by Sune Richards. Choosing the models from everyday life – an artist, a machinist, a student – she endeavored to find men whose faces reflected the qualities suitable to each disciple. The coloring, done with oil paint, has been done so skillfully that the originals of some of these portraits have been hung in fine salons and prize exhibitions."

Mrs. Sune Richards photographed the modern-day models shown here in a remarkable portrayal of the disciples of Jesus. The project covered a period of about ten years. Before each photograph was taken, she prayed, "let the spirit of the Lord go before us to make beautiful and perfect our way."

The pictures were donated to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. MacNaughton, thus creating a type of "Christian Hall of Fame." No doubt, the MacNaughtons felt that the church should put "God's New Testament Heroes" on display at Dearborn

Congregational: A reminder that, had it not been for Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior, and the men who sacrificed so much, there would not be a church today.

This got me thinking. Just what qualified these men to become a disciple and follower of Jesus Christ? We know that they were a diverse group. While many had ordinary occupations (fisherman) a few were wealthy, some had occupations that were despised by the public (Matthew – a tax collector) and one disciple (Simon) was a radical militant Jew who fought against the Romans,

We know that they were men of faith. They were all called by Jesus to be disciples and quickly abandoned everything to be followers of the Messiah.

They knew how to persevere in times of trouble. This group endured trials and hardships in its three-year journey with Jesus. These men knew they had found the answer to eternal life.

After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Book of Acts bears out how the faith of the disciples allowed them to share their testimony of Jesus Christ and spread the Good News.

Our life should be one of demonstrating that we qualify for membership in this illustrious group. When we become faithful believers and followers of Jesus Christ – when we have engaged in effective ministry and we walk with the Savior – we've joined the "Christian Hall of Fame!"

- *Pastor Bill Kren*

Messages from the Diaconate

School Supplies: The new school year is just around the corner, and the Diaconate is asking for your help to provide for children in need.

This year, in light of our focus on Vista Maria in Dearborn Heights, we're collecting donations for the girls attending their 2 charter schools.

Bargains can be had on supplies at several stores like Target, Walgreens, Meijer, and Office Max. Among the items most requested by Vista Maria are notebooks, markers, pens, and colored pencils. Donations can be placed in the baskets on the shelves outside the church office. Your gifts are a blessing to these young women! Items will be delivered the 2nd week of September.

Outdoor Service & "Rally Sunday" - Sept.

13: In the spirit of coming together to welcome all of our members back from summer vacation and to celebrate the Fall harvest, we are planning a "Rally Sunday" worship service and fellowship event on September 13 that will be held outdoors (weather permitting) on the front lawn of the church! A tent will be set up with tables and chairs, the pastor will preach from a lectern, Brian will play the piano, and the choir returns to sing. After the service, the Men's Club will grill hot dogs under the tent and we'll enjoy a "potluck" picnic lunch. If you can bring a dish to pass, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the sanctuary along with what you are bringing. We hope to see EVERYONE there!

'Neighbors In Need' Mission: September 13 is also the start of the campaign to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States through the UCC special mission offering called *Neighbors In Need*. The 2015 theme for NIN is "Unexpected Places" and connects to the work of the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM) and its denominational advocacy to address centuries of injustice to tribes and Native American nations in North America. CAIM is also an

invaluable resource for over 1000 individuals from dozens of tribes who are members of UCC congregations in the U.S. With your help, together we can improve the lives of these native peoples. The formal date of offering is Sunday, Oct. 4. Thank you!

Volunteers for Sundays in Sept.: The Diaconate is looking for ushers, liturgists, and fellowship hosts in September. If interested, please sign the sheet in the Mayflower Room or see Nancy Wolter. Your volunteering is appreciated!

'Invest in the Vision -Strengthen the Church'

Result: Due to the generosity of our members, we raised \$180 during our annual 'Strengthen the Church' offering. Thanks to all who gave to this important mission!



Treasurer's Report for July 2015

Income- \$3,990.36

Expenses- \$10,776.82

Capital Improvement Fund - \$11,267.26

Investments with UBS valued at \$222,704.55

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

News and Updates

From Trustees July 2015 meeting :Information on the Moderator's Ad Hoc House Committee

The responsibility of this committee is to advise and make recommendations on changes in and around the church. This would include the acceptance or rejection of donations made to the church in the form of furniture, pictures, wall adornments, etc. as well as enhancements or changes to the décor of the various rooms in the church such as painting, window coverings, furniture, etc. Requests should be made in writing to the committee which consists of Roberta Adamson, Polly Fitzpatrick, Jane Haling, and Suzanne VanRanst.

Sad News

From Donna Lewis...

Juanita M. Newcomer died on Sunday, August 30, 2015. While Juanita lived at Oakwood Common, she enjoyed attending the church. Members were very friendly and helpful, as she used a walker. She enjoyed listening to the sermons and hearing the choir sing as the organist beautifully played the music. Thank you for welcoming my mother into your church family.

Save the Date! Reserve a table!

Are you crafty, or have friends who are?

We will be having our 1st Craft Show on Saturday, December 5th.

Tables are \$20. Call Pat Stacho @ [313-381-1699](tel:313-381-1699) to reserve your spot.

Thank You!

We'd like to extend a special 'thank you' to Pete & Pat Stacho for providing donuts and making the coffee for Fellowship on most Sundays for the past two months.

We all enjoyed those "Yum-Yum Donuts" -especially Pastor Bill!

The contributions by the congregation to the free will "donut fund" were also much appreciated!

OUR CHURCH AT WORK In September



Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

- September 6 – Ian Haas
- September 13 – Ian Haas
- September 20 – Ian Haas
- September 27 – Ian Haas

Ushers:

- September 6 – Pete Stacho & Teresa Curless
- September 13 – Available
- September 20 – Available
- September 27 – Available

Liturgists:

- September 6 – Dave Allen
- September 13 – Valerie Haas
- September 20 – Available
- September 27 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Bunny Hoganson	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
Dotty Klein	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Sean Goldie	Medical Concerns
Daniel Less	Medical Concerns
Gordon Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Arline Prois	Medical Concerns
John Adams	Medical Concerns
David MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
John B. Curtis	Medical Concerns
Family of Audrey Langley	Bereavement
Family of Juanita Newcomer	Bereavement

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Susan Hutton
- 5 Edith Schwartz
- 15 Doris Bachert
- 16 Pastor Bill Kren
- 16 Ruth Smith
- 22 Dottie Klein

Dedication of Flowers - September

- September 6 – Sue Wilson
- September 13 – Pat Mangrum
- September 20 – Cheryl Brown
- September 27 – Available

Fellowship Hour – September

- September 6 – Donuts
- September 13 – Rally Sunday Outdoor Potluck
- September 20 – Available
- September 27 – Available

DATES TO REMEMBER...

September	9	Trustees Meeting	7pm
September	9	Diaconate Meeting	7pm

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

The calendar says September, the stores are saying Christmas! What!?! When did they decide to expand the season? I still won't get my shopping finished until Christmas Eve. They can't make me. It just extends my anxiety and guilt. There's something confusing about displays of pumpkins, costumes and candy, next to a smiling Santa holding a list of toys every child wants this year! It's just wrong.

I like to enjoy Indian summer, the majestic beauty of God's change in nature's glorious colors. Do today's kids even know about Indian summer? I doubt it. I haven't seen it celebrated on the internet. Please take the time to watch the season change. Michigan offers a magnificent show of color. Take time to enjoy it, to see it! And, please, not on TV or the internet! Don't be one of those who watch the fireworks with Devon & Carmen on TV4

And on the plus side, kids are back in school. I can sit on the porch, coffee and a good book in hand, and actually enjoy the wonderfully quiet time. No screaming, fighting over a basketball, which on its own is annoying. Thump...thump...thump...that sound gets annoying after 50-60 dribbles. Even if it's the NBA.

Yep, September; my favorite time of the year. The heat, humidity and mosquitoes are on the way out! I am not a heat lover, never have been a water "bug", but I love the fall. Simpler times, baked pumpkin bread, zucchini muffins, homemade vegetable soup, sweatshirts to hide the above mentioned indulgences.

And HOCKEY, RED WING HOCKEY! I will miss Babcock (that gorgeous hair) but as long as Mickey Redmond is still doing his play by play, I'll be a happy woman. If Katie ever shuts that door, I hope I'm behind it! Mickey is my secret crush. If ever Pete were to divorce me, Mickey would be named as the reason. I know that every time he starts a broadcast, that wink he gives, is for me! Watch him, every game, he winks...for me! Our spouses are both dependent on us, otherwise...well I can fantasize...and I do.



I am looking forward to at least a couple weeks of fall relaxation, a prelude to rummage set-up, the sale itself (always a fun time!), then our pot luck appreciation dinner. This year we're having our first annual (hear that...every year...Whoo hoo) craft show. I have plans people...and YOU are included. Please remember, no one has to do it all, if we all do something!

I leave you with my latest revelation. Getting older is when you don't care where your spouse goes, as long as you don't have to go! I'm just sayin'...