

SEVEN WEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Starts Tuesday, September 20, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.

“Come on Pastor, you got me for one hour on Sunday – why should I attend your Bible study?”

No one actually asked this question, but I suspect a few of you have been thinking this (or something similar), after reading my little advertisement. What’s the benefit of a Bible study? Do I really need this? I’ve got so much on my calendar, why should I give one more hour a week to the church?

Since I am the person organizing the Bible study, I had better have an answer to the above questions. May I submit a few?

- A weekly, informal meeting is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the members of Dearborn Congregation, make new friends, or to deepen existing friendships.
- This is a way of supporting your church and it gives you a reason to invite a friend or neighbor to Dearborn Congregational. If we hope to be healthy and strong congregation – we need to grow in numbers, as well as in faith!
- You will get to learn more about the Bible and further develop more theological insight. Isn’t it nice to know “why” you believe what you believe?
- Best of all – you will get to know God through his Son Jesus Christ! God has made Himself knowable, and we study his word so we might know even more about Christ, the living Word.

A word of caution: You may not have all your questions answered. What I can’t answer immediately, I promise to do my homework and “get back to you!” And, by the way – in case you were wondering: There are no “dumb” questions.

So be prepared to listen, to learn, and to participate in something that is worship of God and it will spill over into all of life! As our study progresses, you may find yourself being stretched and challenged ... but it will all be good!

No sign up sheets. No pledges or commitments. All you need to do is show up at Dearborn Congregation at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday – beginning September 20th! It will be fun and informative – and I promise you it won’t be boring!

See you then!

Pastor Bill

Messages from the Diaconate

Neighbors In Need Mission Offering

September 11 through October 2 we will be promoting our Neighbors In Need Special Mission Offering. Neighbors In Need is the UCC's annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. The 2016 theme is "This we believe" and connects the issue of child hunger to the work that UCC congregations are doing to serve their community. As a 2014 NIN grant recipient, The Potato Project, near Reading, Pennsylvania, is viewed by its directors, Walt and Linda Zawaski, as a faith-based farming ministry by "responding to a call of the Holy Spirit which directs them to help by offering food from the land they have been given to manage and by giving only out of what they possess, and /or can do by their own hands." To that end, eight acres of potatoes were harvested in September 2014 which reached and supplemented local meals with fresh food for an estimated 30,000 households, about 84,000 people, ranging from children and single parents to senior citizens. With your generous support, the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering helps its members live out their beliefs via acts of service. The offering will be collected
October 2.

Fellowship Hour

Set-up for the Rummage Sale in the Mayflower Room begins September 6. Fellowship Hour will be held in the Sanctuary from September 11 through October 9.

Volunteers for Sundays in September

Your help is needed on Sunday mornings. Don't wait to be asked. Please see Teresa Curless and let her know when you can serve as usher, liturgist, or fellowship host or just add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Mayflower room. It's just that easy. Thank you for your support! Your Diaconate appreciates it.

Rummage Sale, October 7-8, 2016:

Set-up begins on September 6th. The Sunday Fellowship Hour will be moved to the Sanctuary, beginning September 11, and continuing through October 9.

Donations are being accepted during regular office hours, or by appointment.



Treasurer's Report for July 2016

Income- \$4283.60
Expenses- \$9,464.50

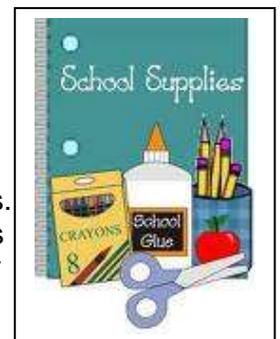
Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 15,837.66
Investments with UBS valued at \$179,160.66

Matthew Haling, Treasurer

Parking Lot Update: Last Sunday marked the end of our campaign to raise funds to pay for the repair of the parking lot. We are pleased to report that the total amount raised was \$8,210. While this number fell short of our goal of \$10,000, considering the size of our church and number of donors, we actually did quite well. Certainly, we will accept any future contributions towards the lot if anyone wishes to give, but those gifts will not be reported and we will no longer have "Improvement Fund -Parking Lot" envelopes in the pews. We'll update our 'tote board' in the sanctuary one last time on Sunday. The contractor hired to do the asphalt repaving, King Kurb, is expected to repair the lot by the 3rd week of September, in advance of the Rummage Sale. Thank you and God bless each and every one of you for your generous contributions!

Donating School Supplies:

School is back in session, so this is the final week to donate supplies for kids in need! All donations go to Vista Maria for students in their charter schools. Bargains can be found at stores like Target, Meijer, Wal-Mart, or any dollar store. Items desired most include composition notebooks, colored pencils, markers, and pens. Donations can be placed in the white baskets outside the office. The supplies will be delivered to Vista Maria next week after Labor Day. Your support for this effort is greatly appreciated!



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In September

Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

September 4 – Ian Haas
 September 11 – Ian Haas
 September 18 – Ian Haas
 September 25 – Ian Haas

Ushers:

September 4 – Teresa Curless & John Peters
 September 11 – Ann Saadah & Available
 September 18 – Available
 September 25 – Available

Liturgists:

September 4 – Nancy Wolter
 September 11 – Valerie Haas
 September 18 – Sue Kren
 September 25 – Available



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Edith Schwartz
 Susan Hutton
 16 Pastor Bill Kren
 Ruth Smith
 22 Dotty Klein
 30 Tammy Jabtecki

Dedication of Flowers - September

September 4 – Elaine Stacho
 September 11 – Pat Mangrum
 September 18 – Elaine Stacho
 September 25 – Elaine Stacho

Fellowship Hour – September

September 4 – Valerie Haas
 September 11 – Available
 September 18 – Available
 September 25 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Bernice Hartling	Medical Concerns
Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Suzanne Van Ranst	Medical Concerns
Dotty Klein	Medical Concerns
R. Ferguson Family	Healing, spiritual guidance
Gordon Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Arline Prois	Medical Concerns
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Colleen Grozdanoff	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
John Langley	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Wayne Boyd	Medical Concerns
Family of Del Wolter	Bereavement
Mary Ellen Matchynski	Medical Concerns
Nietubicz Family	Bereavement

Dates to Remember:

September 8 Diaconate Meeting 7pm
 September 11 Guest Minister
 September 14 Trustees Meeting 7pm

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

...from August...

August is here! One more month until September. That means fall...leaves turning golden, mid-seventies, kids back in school. No wonder it's my favorite time of the year.

But first we have to get through August. This year has been a terrible year for lawns, gardens and tempers. Heat waves are a tricky thing, we hope for warm weather, then threaten the weatherman when he goes overboard.

How have you dealt with the heat? I have a few suggestions. Face it, the heat will be around for August. People always say, "It's not the heat, it's the humidity." Don't believe it...95° is HOT

My first tip is simply common sense. Don't go out in the heat! DUH. If you have air conditioning, use it. If you don't have air, visit friends who do. Tell them you've missed them, bring cookies. (Buy some, don't turn the oven on, under any circumstances.)

There'll come a time your friends won't answer the door. Go to plan B. Malls, movie theaters, restaurants, (careful of that one. It can ruin a diet.) But a movie is a good option. You can even take a nap during the 2nd or 3rd showing.

Go to the mall using extreme caution. You might want to leave credit cards and large amounts of cash at home. Sitting in the comfort of air conditioning is great, but boring. You will be tempted to window shop. You will find bargains; you will want to buy it all. I know this from experience.

Another option is the library. Not only air conditioning, but hundreds of books. Most, if not all, libraries have comfortable seating. Relax, read enjoy yourself. Strike up a

conversation with the librarian. Speak softly, it's a library don't forget.

Or you can go to Baskin-Robbins. There's a great idea. 28 flavors of cool, refreshing ice cream. Ask for samples, lots of samples. Just pace yourselves. You don't want to get brain freeze.

I know some of you love the hot weather. Well, good for you. But please don't tell me to enjoy the heat! Ain't gonna happen. I hate to sweat. I don't like having my hair drip, my cheeks getting flushed, my underwear sticking to my...well you know!

I'll make it through August. But if you don't see me, check the options I've outlined. There's a good reason we moved the rummage sale to October. Now you know my secret.

You know the old saying, "if you can't stand the heat..." Not much going on in my kitchen for a while. Cold cuts have taken on a new meaning. Chop up a few slices, throw them on top of pre-packaged salad, throw in a few raisins and tomatoes, and TA-DAH...dinner is served! Well, not served, but ready!

Enjoy August, it won't last any longer than 31 days. Then glorious fall will be here. Until then, stay cool. I'm just sayin'...

...from September..

Smiles back in my life! First let me share a blessing our family received. My grandson, David, and his wife Brittany, welcomed a baby girl August 6th. Weighing in at 8lb, 7oz, Madelyn Rae has brought joy to us all. God is good, indeed.

Another thing to share....a dear friend of mine, Linda (our Diva) Haling called with an invite for a girl's afternoon outing. I picked up Elaine and off we went to beautiful downtown Plymouth's Penn Theatre for a showing of SINGIN' IN THE RAIN !!

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It was amazing; so much fun. We sang along with Gene Kelly...laughed at Donald O'Connor's slapstick dancing and singing "Make 'em Laugh." And laugh we did! An 18 year old Debbie Reynolds, who we fell in love with all over again. All in all, a great way to spend an afternoon. There was applause and chatter as the credits rolled. If you have a chance, check the Penn Theatre for a chance at nostalgia to make you smile. Thanks Diva.

We then headed to Bode's, a local diner with good food, and a fun waitress named Gwen, who joined in our nostalgic mood and traded favorite TV shows. All this started me thinking of things I miss.

I miss being barefoot in the grass... jumping in rain puddles. Guess I could still do it, just worried I'd land on my no longer six year old behind.

I miss the Good Humor man, ringing his bell as he slowly rode down the street. Toasted almond please! I miss the "mom & pop" corner stores. I knew their names and they knew mine.

I miss Ernie Harwell. Loooong gone! (sigh) I miss TV shows that were funny without being vulgar. Lucy....you've got some 'splaining to do.

I miss being safe enough to leave the windows wide open all night long!
I miss presidential debates when they actually had a debate!

Which is exactly why an afternoon with Gene Kelly and Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds kept me smiling for days!

So let's sing in the rain...have fun, smile, be silly now and then. You will feel better... just sayin'...



Men's Club Update

After attending a Trustee's meeting a few months back where the Men's Club was asked to consider a donation for the Parking Lot Fund, an email was sent out to the men to vote on a proposed donation.

The men then voted to donate \$1,500 this year to the Parking Lot Fund. The check was written and submitted. In that same vote, the men also voted to donate another \$1,500 to the Parking Lot Fund in January 2017 upon a successful completion of a Men's Club Christmas Tree Sale this December.

So guys (and gals – we volunteered you too), start to get ready to sell trees again this year. I already have the catalog for ordering trees. The order will go in later in September or early October. Although it is not firmed up at this point, expected delivery of the trees will be the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 19, 2016. (This has been the usual delivery date for many years.)

As we did last year, we will sell Friday evening and Saturday & Sunday.

I am always looking for help, so anyone interested in cooking breakfast, setting up the lot, selling trees, or helping with the scheduling, just let me know. I will put sign-up sheets in the back of the chapel and the Mayflower room to list your name, updated email, and phone number for future contact.

Men's Club
Jim Haling

Book Club



The Book Club is currently reading *My Brilliant Friend*, by Elena Ferrante. Books are available in the church office.

Calling all Kroger shoppers!

If you shop at Kroger and have a Kroger Card, you can help out our church by simply continuing to shop as you always do. All you need to do is go to the www.kroger.com/Account/EnrollCommunityRewardsNow website, and after signing in to your Kroger online account, or creating one if you don't have it, you can enroll in the community rewards program to have a percentage of your Kroger purchases made with your Kroger Card donated back to our church.

Please contact Matthew Haling at mhUofM@gmail.com with any questions/assistance needed in signing up.

Thank you

Guest Pastor

On Sunday, September 11th – Pastor Bill and Sue will start a week of vacation. Filling the pulpit on this day is Ron Hinrich. Ron is the Community Pastor in Training at Forecast for Life Church, in Southgate, MI. Ron and his wife Leah are passionate about ministering and sharing God's great grace. Ron regularly preaches at Forecast for Life, sharing the power of God through His Word.



Ron is the Director of Events & Media Relations at the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce, a non-profit organization serving the interests of the businesses and residents of the Dearborn area community. At the Chamber, Ron is responsible for the production of several large and small scale business and community events.

Ron is an alumnus of Dearborn High School, and the Henry Ford Community College Honors Program where he was named Distinguished Student Leader two years in a row. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Wayne State University. Ron resides with his wife Leah and daughter Natalie in Southgate, Michigan. Ron and Leah are expecting their second child this winter.

We look forward to having Ron with us and giving him a warm welcome.