



**DAVID'S DATLINE  
JANUARY 2015 Newsletter**

Sunday Worship, 8:30 & 9:50 a.m.  
Church School, 9:50 a.m.

**Church Office**

**Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Phone: 937-434-2131, Fax: 937-434-1913**

**[www.davidsucc.org](http://www.davidsucc.org)**

*Ministers of David's Church - All David's People*

**Senior Pastor Brian Q. Newcomb  
Associate Pastor Michelle Wilkey**

Plan to attend

*David's  
United Church of Christ*

*Annual Meeting  
of the congregation  
Sunday, January 25, 2015  
Following the 9:50 service*

- Celebrate the accomplishments of the past year.
- Vote of the budget for 2015.
- Share hopes, dreams, and concerns.

## From the Pastor's Desk...

At our Interfaith Community Thanksgiving service back in November, Rabbi Judy Chessin shared a lovely parable. In the story she told the Messiah has arrived, and everyone rushes to greet the person God has sent. Some say to the Messiah, this is the second coming, right, the return you promised when you said you would come again? Others said, this is your first coming, is it not, as promised in our sacred literature? But the Messiah responds, you are both right, I have come before, I have always come, I have come many times, the reason some of you think I'm just now arriving for the first time, or that this is my great second coming is that you have not been paying attention to all the times I have come among you, the many times I have come to share this life with you.

That seems to be the point that Jesus makes in Mark's Gospel at the beginning of his ministry when he says: "The time is fulfilled, and the realm (or kingdom) of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

If you're like me you probably trip over the word "repent." I grew up associating that word with recriminations and an expectation that somehow I was unworthy, that I should experience feelings of guilt and shame, if not for actual actions, at least my very thoughts. But all it really means, is change the way you are thinking, or the direction you're headed. "Turn around," it seems to say. And in this context, it suggests that while we may have missed it in the past, the in-breaking movement of God is here, within reach, just around the corner, move or awaken yourself so that you are in a position to meet it head on this time.

Several times in scripture, Jesus tells a parable or story of this in-breaking realm of God, and then adds the words, "Let the one with ears to hear, hear it." Which seems to suggest that if we're not paying attention, or we're not really listening, if we're not engaging the story, we could miss its insight, its lesson. I think that's why there are some texts in scripture, many that find their way into Advent services, which call us to "wake up," to "be alert" and to "pay attention." God is doing something, and if we're distracted, if our attention is elsewhere, we're not likely to see and hear the Good News and experience it for ourselves.

In Eastern religions, this is the concept of "mindfulness." It invites us to take notice of what's really going on, right here and right now. It calls us to look inside, and pay attention to the margins to see the whole picture, not just what's going on on the surface of things. How does this make us feel? Who's being quiet and hiding in the shadows, and why? Mindfulness invites us to a deeper engagement, with life and what's really going on.

So, as I move into the New Year, as we move through these holidays, these holy days, it means taking the time to recognize what's taking place, what's taking shape right before our eyes. Sometimes it means turning off the cell phone and not allowing ourselves to be distracted from who is talking to us over the dinner table. Other times, it may mean taking that call from a person you haven't spoken to in years, returning that email, or reaching out to someone you've missed seeing/talking to who for some reason no longer is as active in your day to day life.

I'm not fond of making New Year's resolutions... they're always the same (lose weight, stop this habit or that, be more healthy) and often we break them as soon as we write them down. What I am fond of is day by day seeking to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, of being on the look out for God's movement in our world, of being open, mindful and aware of God's Spirit alive and active in my day to day existence. Right here. Right now.

Happy New Year to each and every one of you. May God's blessings and peace follow us as we attempt another successfully journey around the sun. May we seek health and wholeness, may we be awake and mindful, may we be the Church that Jesus calls us to be... for ourselves, for each other, and for the least of these whom Jesus called his sisters and brothers.

Your pastor and friend,  
*Brian Q. Newcomb*

## Notes from Rev. Michelle

December was a very busy but exciting time at David's Church. I was honored to be able to participate in many of the Advent events that were going on. We kicked off the month with the Hanging of the Greens event on Saturday December 6. I was so proud that many of the Confirmation students took time out of their schedules to come and help decorate the church. I was in awe of just how fast everything got done. This church is filled with some amazing and hard working people.

December is the month for Christmas concerts and I attended many of them. It is my desire to spend time with the Confirmation kids outside of class as well. This month, I attended three Christmas concerts for three of the kids. The American Spiritual Concert at David's on Tuesday December 16 was another incredible musical performance. Perhaps the best performance this month belongs to the choir. They did such an incredible job in the Christmas Cantata. It was an honor to join Pastor Brian and Amy Askins in being narrators for the Cantata. We are blessed to have such an amazing choir here at our church and Tim Williams is a great choir director.

December is also the month for home communions. I had the wonderful opportunity to visit many of our shut ins during the week of December 8. One of my favorite aspects of pastoral ministry is being able to build relationships with different people. This was a week of relationship building as I entered the homes and the lives of many of our members. I got to go visit and serve communion to: Frank Johnson, Vi Zimmerman, Margaret Effinger, Kurt Olt, Val Andrews, Dottie Fox, Dottie Bitzer, Marilyn Lusa, Lea Nakauchi, John Barnett, and Thelma Leach. I wanted to say thank you to: Lou Mason, Don Porter, Diane Herbst, and Alice Stone. Thank you for taking the time to come out with me to assist with the visit and the communion. It was a great week of getting to know some of my church family.

On Friday December 12, I led a group of 13 people to Riverscape Metro Parks for an evening of ice skating and hot chocolate. It was a very cold but fun evening. I made a personal goal to not break any of my bones and I met that goal with flying colors. So there was one thing that I discovered that night; I will never become an Olympic Gold Medalist in ice skating. Regardless of my non-existent skills, we all had a fabulous evening. This was my first planned family event and it will definitely not be the last. I plan on organizing a family activity each season. So we will have another fun event in the spring.

The Confirmation class and I had the wonderful opportunity to attend a Shabbat service at Temple Beth Or on Friday December 19. It was an incredible experience and I believe the kids were able to learn many things throughout this service. I was pleased with the hospitality that was shown to us that night. On January 17, we will be heading to Apex Community Church for a Saturday night worship service. Throughout the course of this Confirmation year, I want to expose the kids to a wide variety of worship settings.

It was an honor to be able to celebrate Christmas here at David's for the first time. Christmas Eve is my favorite part of Christmas. I love being at church and celebrating with others the birth of Jesus. I was able to be involved in all three services this year at church. It was such a privilege to invest my evening in worship. All three services went very well. I loved seeing all the kids dressed up in their costumes during the 5:00 service.

As we enter into a new year, I want to make mention of an event that I have planned for January. On Friday January 23, I will lead a Young Adult (19-30+) activity. We will go see a movie and have dinner afterward to discuss the film. The movie we will be seeing will be "Selma." "Selma" is the story of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic struggle to secure voting rights for all people. We will meet at the church at 6:00 pm and head to Rave Cinemas in the Greene (4489 Glengarry Drive). After the movie, we will head over to BD's Mongolian Grille (4488 Glengarry Drive) for dinner. It will be a fun night out on the town. Please let me know if you are interested in coming to this event.

T.S. Eliot said, "For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice." 2014 has come and gone and a new year is upon us. I love the beginning of a new year; there is such fresh possibility for new beginnings. A new chapter in my life began this past year as I became your Associate Pastor. It is hard to believe I just began my time at David's in September. There have been so many exciting things that have already happened in such a short time. I am so lucky to be serving at such an amazing church and I am so grateful for all of you. It is a joy to work with such an amazing staff and such an incredible pastor. I wanted to take time to extend my gratitude to the congregation for the generous love offering I received. Thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity and love that you have shown me from day one. I am greatly looking forward to what still lies ahead, and I am confident that 2015 will be another great year at David's.

## **"Unhanging" Of the Greens!**

Please join us on Sunday, January 4, 2015 following the 9:50 worship in the Narthex as we reverse the process and "unhang" the Greens! With many hands of all ages and great fellowship as we work together, our church home should be returned to normal in just a few hours! Hope you'll plan to join us!

## **Spaghetti Dinner Leadership Opportunity**

If you would be interested in taking a leadership role in David's Spaghetti Dinner, please contact *Jim Williams* before January 11. You can reach *Jim* at [jimterrywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:jimterrywilliams@gmail.com) or 937-609-6105. The dinner is scheduled for February 28, 2015.

## **Keenagers**

Keenagers will start the New Year off on the right note when Pastor Brian shows us his pictures of Africa. Guess we don't say slides anymore! Please join us on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, for soup (it's really good) and sandwiches and something warm and gooey for dessert.

## Bible Study: The Gospel of Luke; Good News for All



Beginning in January, Dr. Newcomb will be offering a Bible study class on the Gospel of Luke using a curriculum from The Kerygma Program. Luke's Gospel is uniquely inclusive, involving all people. Its relevance today inspires faith, spirituality and action. We will meet on Monday nights, starting at 7 p.m. (and finishing no later than 8:30 p.m.), beginning on January 12, and the study will run for 14 weeks. The cost for the Resource Book/study guide is \$21 (if anyone needs help with money, please speak to Pastor Brian privately). To sign up, just drop a check off at the church office by December 29, marked "Bible Study" in the memo.

## Thank You!

Pastors Brian & Michelle, and the rest of your staff at David's Church – including Tim, Lyn, & Julie who lead our worship music, and Anne & Chris in the office – want to express their sincere thanks for your gifts to us this holiday season. For all the homemade goodies, chocolates & nuts, gift cards, the cash gifts through the Love offering, and all the many wonderful signs of your affection and support, we are profoundly humbled and grateful. Thank you, thank you, thank you all.

## New Member Orientation

If you would like to become a member or you are just interested in learning more about David's and the United Church of Christ, we invite you to come to an orientation meeting in the church conference room following second service Sunday, January 4, 2015! We will be taking in new members on Sunday, January 25.

## Holiday In-Gathering of Food – Thank You!!!

Thank you to all that donated food, money, and time to the Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets. With your help, we were able to feed 41 families for Thanksgiving and 51 families for Christmas. We received many blessings, tears, hugs, and smiles in return. *Chris Wood*



## Game Night

Attention all Gamers! From 7-10 p.m. on January 9 come to The Bender's for Game Night. Bring a snack, BYOB, your favorite games, and be prepared to have fun playing board games or card games like euchre, double pinochle, or canasta.

## Cutups Needed

Attention men and women – Can you use a pair of scissors? Are you available on Monday mornings? Want to have some fun with a nice group of people? Then this position could be for you. It is not necessary to commit to every Monday – very flexible schedule and hours. To learn more show up at Fellowship Hall between 9:30 a.m. and noon any Monday or call *Nedral Gockel* at 416-4164. The pay is not the best, but the rewards are priceless. – Warm Wishes Committee

## Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, January 11



SIGNS Youth Group will be hosting a pancake breakfast in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 11. With the help of the amazing *Jim Williams*, pancake maker extraordinaire, we will be serving pancakes, sausage, applesauce, coffee and juice at two seatings - one at 9:15 a.m. and another at 11:15 a.m. We will be accepting free-will offerings in return for this delicious food. All proceeds will help offset costs for SIGNS annual summer trip. Please plan on joining us for this tasty pancake fundraiser.

## Important Tax Notice

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2014 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax deductible if you file your tax return before receiving written acknowledgment of your contribution from the church.

## January Birthdays

- 3 Judy Jones  
Brian Newcomb
- 4 Tina Donovan
- 6 Susan Newcomb  
Rebecca Deitz
- 8 Jill Chabut  
Jeni Pence
- 9 Will Roess
- 10 Tim Walker
- 12 Kathy Randall  
Jenny Creel  
Abigail Vest
- 14 Julie Pickrel
- 15 Florene Forrester  
Steven Zimmerman
- 16 Janet Olt
- 17 Patrice Schottelkotte
- 18 Rory McKenna
- 19 Lee Zimmerman  
Judith Tripp  
Louis Wright



- 20 Lila Minnich
- 21 Helen Brown
- 22 Howard Sizek  
Jenny Walker
- 23 Bonnie McNabb  
Robb Castelee
- 24 Stormey Sheridan
- 25 Bob Chelle  
Kirsten Sherk  
Beth Hughes  
Shaina Creel
- 25 Del Faulkner  
Eli Pence
- 29 Kirby Randall  
Amelia Bernard
- 30 Hal Gegel
- 31 Jim Hale

## Grandparent Announcement

*Alden Lee Weese* was born on December 19, 2014 to *Abby (Zimmerman) & Mark Weese*. Proud grandparents are *Lee & Barb Zimmerman*. Proud great-grandmother is *Marge Heffner*.

## Baptism

*Klaire Brooklyn Leitschuh*, daughter of *Heather (nee, DeRegnaucourt) & Kurt Leitschuh II* was baptized on December 14, 2014 by *Rev. Dr. Brian Q. Newcomb* at David's Church.

## Death

Our sympathy to *Sue Krichbaum* in the loss of her sister, *Lyn Strickland*, on December 9, 2014.

Our sympathy to the family of *Neva Loomis*, who died December 9, 2014.

## Peanut Butter Needed!

Thank you all for helping with the Kettering Backpack Program. This ensures that needy students will not go hungry over any given weekend. A backpack is sent home with the kids each week filled with several food items. Please remember to pick up a few extra jars of peanut butter (16 or 18 oz.) when you do your grocery shopping, and place them in the orange bucket in the Narthex. Thanks!

## Mark Your Calendars for Pike Lake!

It seems early to be thinking of hiking, fishing, wildflower seeking, wiffleball and volleyball games, but pull out that new 2015 calendar and mark May 15-17, 2015 as the date for our 49th year at Pike Lake State Park. If you are a regular to this spring event, you'll want to make sure you hold the date open or if you already have another event for that weekend, please contact Kevin and Debbie McCoy (299-9218) so we can full your cabin! If you enjoy tent camping, you can always join in the fun by setting up in the campground!

If you'd like more information on Pike Lake, please give Kevin and Debbie a call. We'd be happy to share a synopsis of the weekend!

## SIGNS

SIGNS has been very busy the past couple of months helping with the Pilgrim Feast, peanut butter sorting, Adopt-A-Family gift wrapping and working at our one-room schoolhouse Sunday School. SIGNS is an ecumenical youth group which meets at the Grove on Sunday evenings. It is open to area high-schoolers and participates in many fun and rewarding events and service opportunities throughout the year. New members are always welcome!

Don't forget to support us at our Pancake Breakfast on January 11!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY 1	FRIDAY 2	SATURDAY 3
 <h1 data-bbox="394 186 856 251">JANUARY 2015</h1> <p data-bbox="254 259 997 321">DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (937) 434-2131 WWW.DAVIDSUCC.ORG</p>				<p data-bbox="1213 191 1476 224">OFFICE CLOSED</p>		
<p data-bbox="46 406 294 641">4 8:30 &amp; 9:50 AM Worship Gateway 11:15 AM Second Hour/New Member Orientation 7:00 PM Book Study</p>	<p data-bbox="350 406 590 552">5 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 12:30 PM Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p data-bbox="638 406 877 519">6 10:00 AM Quilting 7:00 &amp; 7:30 PM Board Meetings</p>	<p data-bbox="926 406 1098 462">7 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p data-bbox="1213 370 1455 394">NEW YEAR'S DAY</p> <p data-bbox="1213 418 1446 641">8 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p data-bbox="1501 406 1755 519">9 7:00-10:00 PM Game Night at the The Bender's</p>	<p data-bbox="1789 406 1984 487">10 8:00 AM Trustee Meeting</p>
<p data-bbox="46 682 325 917">11 8:30 &amp; 9:50 AM Worship with Communion Food &amp; Clothing Outreach 11:15 AM Second Hour/Pancake Breakfast 3:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Book Study/ SIGNS</p>	<p data-bbox="350 682 611 950">12 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:00 AM Private Reception 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Adult Education Meeting 6:30 PM CE Meeting 7:00 PM Gospel of Luke</p>	<p data-bbox="638 682 854 738">13 10:00 AM Quilting</p>	<p data-bbox="926 682 1178 763">14 11:30 AM Keenagers 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p data-bbox="1213 682 1446 917">15 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p> <p data-bbox="1213 941 1461 966"><b>DATELINE DEADLINE</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1501 682 1533 706">16</p>	<p data-bbox="1789 682 2011 885">17 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast @ Bob Evans 5:30 PM Confirmation Class @ Apex</p>
<p data-bbox="46 977 325 1144">18 8:30 &amp; 9:50 AM Worship 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/ SIGNS</p>	<p data-bbox="350 977 611 1226">19 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  7:00 PM Gospel of Luke  MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY</p>	<p data-bbox="638 977 894 1120">20 10:00 AM Quilting 10:30 AM SONKA COP Meeting 7:00 PM Council Mtg.</p>	<p data-bbox="926 977 1098 1031">21 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p data-bbox="1213 977 1446 1209">22 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p data-bbox="1501 977 1755 1058">23 6:00 PM Young Adult Movie &amp; Dinner</p>	<p data-bbox="1789 977 1820 1002">24</p>
<p data-bbox="46 1239 279 1477">25 8:30 &amp; 9:50 AM Worship/Reception of New Members <b>11:15 AM Annual Meeting of the Congregation</b> 7:00 PM Book Study/ SIGNS</p>	<p data-bbox="350 1239 590 1442">26 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Gospel of Luke</p>	<p data-bbox="638 1239 854 1291">27 10:00 AM Quilting</p>	<p data-bbox="926 1239 1098 1291">28 6:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p data-bbox="1213 1239 1446 1469">29 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p data-bbox="1501 1239 1533 1263">30</p>	<p data-bbox="1789 1239 1820 1263">31</p>