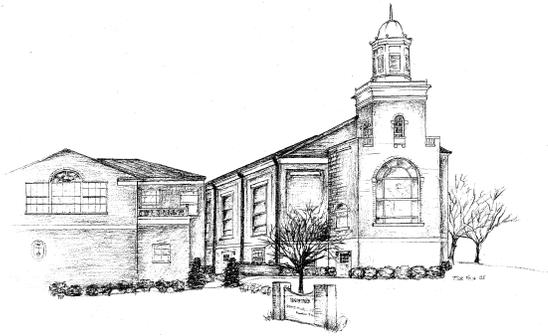


**DAVID'S DATELINE**  
**SEPTEMBER 2014 Newsletter**



**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**

**CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

September 1 – Office Closed

September 7 – New Member Reception/Fall Kick  
Off @ The Grove to Welcome Rev. Michelle  
Wilkey

September 8, 15, 22, 29 – “Convictions” Book  
Study with Pastor Brian

September 12 – Game Night at Trinity  
Community

September 14 – Golf Outing

September 19 – Oktoberfest & Silent Auction

October 5 – Installation of Rev. Michelle Wilkey/  
World Communion Sunday/Neighbors In Need  
Offering/Blessing of the Pets

## From the Pastor's Desk...

This has been an interesting summer; to say the least... Back last fall when Pastor Daria resigned, I knew I was going to have to take over the confirmation pilgrimage, as that remains a unique opportunity for our young seekers to spend some quality time with one of their pastors. So, Susie and I had the privilege to take six of our 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> graders to Memphis and St. Louis for 8 days in June. While we did some good work with the folk at the First Congregational UCC of Memphis' food pantry and Lydia's House, a St. Louis housing project for women and their families seeking to rebuild their lives after escaping situations of abuse, we managed to include visits to important historic sites like Slave Haven, the Nat'l Civil Rights Museum, and Gateway Arch & Museum, as well as have some fun on the Sun Studio Tour, playing at the City Museum and a bit of theatre at the MUNY Opera in St. Louis.

I came home to a week at church before departing for two weeks with the SONKA trip to visit our mission partners at the Presbyterian Teachers' College and Health Center at Rubate, Kenya, where I was part of the ceremony dedicating the water project that we helped make possible contributing toward the goal of \$60,000 alongside the other 80 churches of our Association. (I will be sharing the photos from my trip and talking about my experiences in Kenya at a second hour presentation on Sunday, November 9, and also at a Keenagers' luncheon on October 8.)

I am so grateful for the help and presence of Rev. Bev Jenkins, who came on-board to work with us for the summer, and cover the time that I was away on these trips, and for our August week's vacation to Maine. She not only visited with many of our shut-in members and preached on those Sundays when I was away, but she brought a sense of continuity around the offices, and offered care for families at funerals and memorial services. It was wonderful that she could share her gifts in ministry with us.

Late this summer, we've had quite a few reminders that the world, while beautiful and amazing, can be a complicated, dangerous and confusing place to try to live in peace, love & understanding. There's renewed violence in Iraq and Syria as ISIL/ISIS has taken over American military hardware and begun attacking and killing any who don't share their radical, fundamentalist form of Islam, including more moderate voices, Christians and other religious minorities who live in that region. And then the horrible murder of journalist James Foley, something so horrific that I chose not to watch the video.

On top of that, the events of racial unrest in Ferguson, MO., following the killing of another young black male by police, which has become an all too regular occurrence in this country of ours. Whatever the outcome when the facts of the event surface, I have to admit I have been surprised by the amount of racially charged language and assumptions that have surfaced as the riots and protests continued night after night, and this after the Supreme Court used the idea that we are living in a post-racial era to dismantle voter rights protections earlier this year. One cannot help but wonder what it might take for us to begin a much needed honest dialogue on race and justice in this country; one that would allow for a growing understanding on both sides of the divide? Maybe now would be a good time to think about revisiting our Gospel concerts, and look into engaging in partnership with an African American congregation as a way to dismantle systematic racism in our own community.

Now, with all but the late August summer heat behind us, we look forward to the Fall. Our children and young people have returned to school, we've prepared to gear up our fall programming with book studies, Adult Education following worship services, and many more opportunities to engage and participate in the life of your congregation. On Sept. 7, we have the Fall Kick-Off, a great chance to get to know each other and spend some time. Older members can get to know some of our newer members, and vice versa. Plus, we'll be welcoming our new Assoc. Pastor Michelle Wilkey, as she begins her work among us.

So, it's been a crazy, busy summer. And it's shaping up to be a crazy, busy fall. But here's the thing, the most important things I'll take away from this summer is the connections with people, the real conversations, the face to face encounters. Too often in this busy world, we let our calendars dictate our lives, we run from activity to program and back. We may be doing and seeing a lot of things, but are we taking the time to be with people, to know ourselves and others in the places we are, where we live and move and find our being? Because, I've found in my own life that just being with people in the moment, in the quiet as well as the loud moments, it is there that I meet God, and feel most connected to life itself.

As the fall's activities threaten to pull us in a thousand different directions, I hope you'll remember and take the time to come and be with your church, to come to worship, to come and pray together, to sing, tell stories, to listen and to learn and to grow. As with many things, it is also true of the church, your spiritual life, and our mission of service in the world, we can only receive what we've put in in the first place. Or to quote the apostles Paul and John, "in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make."

So, teach a Sunday school class, join the book study I'm offering, go to coffee hour and seek out someone you've not met yet, make food for the Gateway shelter or better yet volunteer to go and serve, join the choir, ring the bells, bring your musical talents to church and play an offertory or special music piece, increase your pledge, join the prayer chain, mentor

a confirmand, if you have Monday's free, come and help out at Warm Wishes, if you're in that appropriate age group attend the Keenagers luncheon, sign up for a Board, volunteer to bring the treats for coffee hour... dig in, participate, make a difference. Your presence with us truly makes a difference.

Your pastor & friend,  
*Brian Q. Newcomb*

## Meet Our New Associate Pastor of Faith Formation & Family Life



The Search Committee announced in the April issue of Dateline that Michelle Wilkey was recommended, Council issued a call to her at the March meeting, and she happily accepted.

Michelle graduated from United Theological Seminary in May, was ordained in July, finished her internship with Pilgrim UCC in Cincinnati, and has served in a hospital in Cincinnati for a CPE program this summer. Clinical Pastoral Education was not required but is highly recommended. Michelle believed the program will leave her better prepared in the area of pastoral care, especially when it comes to hospital calls.

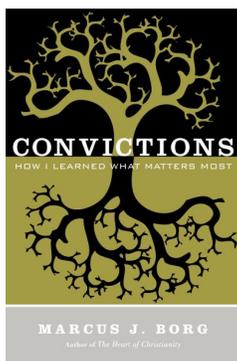
Michelle is young, bright, energetic, excited about engaging with our youth program and the Church as a whole. She comes as our Associate Pastor of Faith Formation & Family Life. We anticipate that on average she will devote about 75% of her time and energy to work in the Christian Education area, supporting our Sunday School, Children, Youth and Family ministries. Her remaining time will be supporting Pastor Brian in pastoral care, worship leadership and general ministry to the congregation.

We are looking forward to having Michelle join our David's Church family. Her first Sunday will be September 7. We will be welcoming her at the Fall Kick-Off Picnic at the Grove following the second service.

## Sunday School Teachers Needed

Want to explore your faith through Bible stories? How about experiencing the Bible through the eyes of a child? Have we got an opportunity for you!! Volunteer to teach Sunday School- its not scary, the kids are lovable and insightful and you only have to teach less than half the Sundays from mid August to mid May. With 2 teaching teams in place, there's still plenty of Sundays to attend Worship and a sub list for times when you have a conflict. Theological expertise definitely not required, learn as you go! Please give prayerful consideration to joining the fun bunch on Sunday mornings. Thanks, contact *Pam Storar* at 294-4682, 657-1065 or [camiha@aol.com](mailto:camiha@aol.com) :)

## Announcing Fall Book Study, Starting September 8



Rev. Newcomb is inviting everyone to explore and consider their deepest spiritual and religious convictions, using the latest book by Bible scholar and theologian Marcus Borg as a stepping off point. In the book, "Convictions; How I Learned What Matters Most" (HarperOne, 2014), the 70 year old author looks back on his own faith life and journey as he moved from a more conservative upbringing to become a leader in the Progressive Christian movement, exploring the "memories, conversions, and convictions" that have made him who he is today.

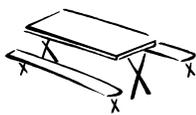
For many of us, whether we think of ourselves as "spiritual but not religious," or a person more defined by our doubts than our faith, or as someone who has embraced a more progressive expression of religious belief but may lack the critical tools and language to express our new understanding, Borg's book arrives at a time when many are looking for a more relevant, authentic and meaningful expression of our trust in the story of Jesus as we find it in the Bible.

As Borg explores his own hard-won convictions, we'll use the chapters of his book as jumping off points for our own conversations about what we may no longer believe and have let go of from our past religious training, and what new thoughts, understandings and ideas we now find give a fuller, richer expression of our faith and trust in the God that we find best expressed in the person of Jesus.

Chapters like "Life Is a Journey" and "Jesus Is the Norm of the Bible," may come as a comfort, even as chapters like "The Bible Can Be True Without Being Literally True," "Jesus' Death on the Cross Matters—But Not Because He Paid for Our Sins" may push us to think outside the box. Closing chapters like "God Is Passionate about Justice and the Poor," "Christians Are Called to Peace and Nonviolence" and "To Love God Is to Love Like God" will call us to act on behalf of others in ways that stretch and expand our faith and call us to action.

Classes will begin on Monday, Sept. 8, at 7 pm in the conference room with Pastor Brian. We'll meet consistently on Mondays at that time/place, skipping those days that have significant conflicts attached. So if you're interested in a study that allows for a deeper understanding of your own spiritual convictions and those shared by others, Pastor Brian invites you to purchase the book now and begin reading (oh, and drop us an email to say you plan to attend). We hope folk will try to come having read the preface and chapter one, "Context Matters," so we can begin responding to the author's thoughts and our responses at that first class. And watch for a Facebook group on our Church's FB page, that will allow us to share our thoughts on some of the ideas we encounter in the passages.

Classes will begin on Monday, Sept. 8, at 7 pm in the conference room with Pastor Brian. So if you're interested in a study that allows for a deeper understanding of your own spiritual convictions and those shared by others, Pastor Brian invites you to purchase the book now and begin reading (oh, and drop us an email to say you plan to attend). We hope folk will try to come having read the preface and chapter one, "Context Matters," so we can begin responding to the author's thoughts and our responses at that first class.



---

**WELCOME PASTOR MICHELLE WILKEY**  
**FALL KICK-OFF CELEBRATION - SEPTEMBER 7, 2014**  
**ALL CHURCH POT LUCK PICNIC - DAVID'S GROVE**  
After second service



- Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex
- Sign up to bring a vegetable dish, salad, or fruit - to serve 10 to 12 people
- Main dish (fried chicken), drinks, plates, tableware will be provided
- Lawn chairs appreciated, but not needed
- Come and enjoy the food and fellowship

(Sponsored by Fellowship & Hospitality Board)

---

## Adult Ed.

Earlier in the year, the Adult Ed. committee presented a series on the Welcome Dayton Initiative. We will kick off the fall season by continuing the discussion with two exciting speakers.

September 14<sup>th</sup> - We welcome Media Jyawook, a refugee case manager at Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley, to discuss refugee resettlement in our community as well as her personal experiences as an immigrant.

September 21<sup>st</sup> - Tom Wahrab, past executive director of Dayton's Human Relations Council and honored as a Champion of Change at the White House, will share his experience. We will revisit our "Welcome Dayton" discussion from earlier this year.

The goals of the Second Hour Adult Education program are to further Christian education and faith development, to generate questions, and to provoke thinking. Join us as often as you can as we explore timely subjects hosted by knowledgeable speakers. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Most classes are held in the Adult Education Room (except where noted) and begin at 11:15 AM. Light refreshment served prior to class.

## Peanut Butter Needed, Again



We have started a new school year with our affiliation with the Kettering Backpack program and we need your help. The Mission Board appreciates your enthusiastic support for the program. There is currently enough peanut butter to get started thanks to your generosity. Please continue to bring in 16 ounce jars of peanut butter. They will be put in a backpack to feed a hungry Kettering child for a week.

*-The Mission Board*

## BYOG, BYOB, and BYOS!

Attention all Gamers! From 7-10 p.m., on September 12, for Game Night hosted by the Bayman's at the second floor community room at Trinity. Bring your own favorite games, bring your own beverage, and bring your own snack to share, and be prepared to have fun playing board games or card games like euchre, double pinochle, or canasta.

## Children's Moment Folks Needed!

We need a few good souls to help with the Children's Moment during Sunday service. If you'd like to share the message of Jesus' love with the children of our congregation and are willing to help out once or twice per month, please contact *Amy Askins* at [amyaskins@hotmail.com](mailto:amyaskins@hotmail.com) or 513-405-1001. We have material for you to use as a guide and it is not as scary as it may look!

## Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Bob and I thank you for your many cards and words of condolence in the recent death of my son, Andrew. It was comforting to know that we were in your thoughts and prayers.

*Carolyn and Bob Brethen*

## Choir Singers & Ringers of All Ages Needed!

It's beginning to look a lot like choir time! We are in need of singers and ringers of all ages! Here at David's we have a chancel choir, adult handbell choir (high school students welcomed), children's choir, and children's handbell choir. As you know the times for practice are:

- Handbell Choir (open to high school students through adult):  
Thursdays from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Chancel Choir (open to high school students through adult):  
Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- Children's Choir: grades kindergarten through sixth grade:  
Sundays following the second service
- Children's Bell Choir: Sundays following Children's Choir

The Thursday adult handbell choir will begin on September 11.

Playing bells is so much fun and the fellowship is rewarding as well. The most important point is that we play from our hearts to the glory of God. We aren't always note perfect, but we give every performance our best. We have several positions open, and we are going to be intentional about seeking other people to ring. Please consider ringing with us.

Adult choir (high school students are welcomed with open arms) began on August 21. Many of you have told me that choir anthems enrich the worship service immensely, yet you are reluctant to join to help make music. I will help anyone who needs it anytime. We will do whatever it takes to help you sing with us. We are providing a childcare service and will continue as long as we have families with youngsters. We do not want you to have any obstacles keeping you from joining us. The church music conference that I attended this summer was outstanding and the adult sessions were led by Brad Holmes, the director of the Milliken University Choirs, Decatur, IL. Making music with him as the director was so exciting. We ended the week with a concert of four songs that were very inspirational. I would like our congregation to be thoroughly blessed by the music they hear. You can help make that happen! Don't hide your gifts under a bushel – they lose something kind of crucial! Come join us and sing praise every Sunday.

The Sunday rehearsals will begin on September 14 for the Children's Choir and Children's Handbell Choir. I would like to see the Children's Choir really grow this year. Children are our hope for the future and rehearsals last about ½ hour on Sunday mornings after the service. What we will need is commitment from both your child and you to get them to choir. We will make memories to last throughout the years. I could certainly use a choir "mother" or "father" to help with many different tasks. All I ask is that the person is willing to give their all to help for the time that we schedule the choir.

I am really looking forward to great choir seasons, but we need YOU to make it happen! Please consider giving back by joining one or more of the groups.

*Tim Williams, Music Director*



## Keenagers

Getting to know you, getting to know all about you . . . a great song from the King and I, but this time we are going to get to know our new Associate Pastor Michelle Wilkey. Please join us on Wednesday, September 10 for a yummy lunch - warm ham and cheese sandwiches, yummy baked beans with a secret ingredient, Asian salad and drumsticks - and for a chance to ask Michelle any reasonable question regarding her years on earth! I, for one, definitely need to know if she likes chocolate. Just kidding, of course, but do think of a question and we will have a basket waiting for you to drop it in. See you then. Meanwhile, get your thinking cap on.



## Kettering Partners for Healthy Youth - A Great Success

In August, David's participated in the Kettering Partners for Healthy Youth program (Kettering Healthy Youth Foodtastic program). We provided 371 lunches during the week, played many games, and thanks to Pat Johnson and Planned Parenthood each child was able to receive three books to choose and take home.

Thanks to all who donated, made lunches, packed lunches, served lunches, and the S.I.G.N.S. leaders and youth who helped out.

## Temple Beth Or Childcare Opportunity

As many of you may know, we have a relationship with Temple Beth Or where they provide childcare for us on our High Holy Days and we do the same for them. We have the opportunity now to give back to them by helping during their Holidays. The CE Board is looking for members who are willing to help provide this much needed service. The times are Wednesday, September 24 at 8:00 p.m., Thursday, September 25 at 10:00 a.m., Friday, October 3 at 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, October 4 that will be broken into shifts the first at 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 and 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. We ask that you prayerfully consider being a part of this wonderful interfaith opportunity. If you can help we ask that you be there 30 min. before that service and two people for each time would be ideal. If you can help please contact *Heather Greene* at [hgreene29@gmail.com](mailto:hgreene29@gmail.com) or 219-5437. Thank you!

*Celebrating the Gifts of Our Still-Speaking God*

David's United Church of Christ

*Joyfully Announces and Warmly Invites You To The*

Service of Installation

for

The Rev. Michelle Wilkey

*as Associate Pastor of Faith Formation and Family Life at*

*David's United Church of Christ*

*170 W. David Road, Kettering, Ohio 45429*

*on Sunday, October 5 at 9:50 a.m.*



## September Birthdays

- 2 Jim Amon  
Jim Williams
- 3 Nita Jennings  
Bill Dieruf
- 5 Nancy Madden
- 11 Jake Schairbaum
- 12 Paul Hamm  
Cesar Chaves
- 13 Mark Stachler
- 14 Lauren Pickrel
- 16 Ronald Lafayette  
Craig Chabut
- 20 Ann Heaton



- 21 Jessie Blumberg
- 22 Barbara Pelfrey  
Robyn Moore
- 23 Max Heiner
- 24 Jim Phillips  
Doug McClure
- 25 Mick Morgan  
Bob Miller  
Karina Czeiszperger
- 27 AJ Wright
- 28 Sydney Pence
- 29 Sarah Hess  
Lauren Walker
- 30 Suzanne Cryst  
Andy Blumberg

## Member Deaths

Our sympathy to *Ernie Dalton & family* in loss of his wife, *Judith Dalton*, on August 14, 2014.

## Grandparent Announcement

*Eloise Grace Stewart* was born on July 31, 2014 to *Caitlin & Brian Stewart*. Proud Grandparents are *Andy & Pam Storar*.

## David's Oktoberfest Is Set For September 19 – PROST!

Make plans to attend David's Oktoberfest and silent auction in Fellowship Hall on Friday, September 19 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. An authentic German meal will be served with Mettwurst or Bratwurst, sauerkraut, red cabbage, potato salad, and choice of soft drinks, coffee, or water as well as an ice cream sundae for dessert. Pretzels and a seasonal beer will be sold separately. A hot dog meal will also be available for children. Meals can also be purchased to go. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Be sure to check out the silent auction, too. Bid on an array of items and compete with friends and family to win! Tickets will be available in the narthex on Sundays or call the church office at 434-2131.



## Special Opportunity to Give Aid to Help the Students in Rubate, Kenya

In the August Dateline, Pastor Brian wrote about his trip with SONKA to visit the Presbyterian Teacher's College of Rubate, Kenya, a long time mission partner of our congregation and association. There are many needs there, too many to list. However, Rev. Newcomb encountered a couple requests that seemed doable. The college needs \$3000 USD to replace their inadequate P.A. system, and they would like a keyboard for their music theory & education department. We've been offered a keyboard, and are looking into the expense of shipping and handling to send it half way around the world. If it is reasonable we may need to use some of the monies raised here to ship the keyboard to Nairobi. And finally, there are many students who start out at the college but have to drop out because they can't afford the cost, any extra monies raised would be made available as scholarships to worthy young adults with inadequate incomes. So, if you want to contribute toward this special offering, please mark your gift as "Rubate-Special Needs." We thank you for your help in meeting these needs.

## Blessing of the Pets – October 5

Blessing of the Pets will take place at David's Church on Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m. We invite you to bring any and all of your pets for a brief service when we will ask God's blessing on "all creatures great and small" in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi. This service is open to the public, so we hope you'll tell and bring along your friends and family and all their pets.

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u> 1	<u>TUESDAY</u> 2	<u>WEDNESDAY</u> 3	<u>THURSDAY</u> 4	<u>FRIDAY</u> 5	<u>SATURDAY</u> 6
	<b>Office Closed</b>  <b>LABOR DAY</b>	10:00 AM Quilting/Bazaar 7:00 PM Yoga 6:30, 7:00 & 7:30 PM Board Meetings	6:00 PM Yoga	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM Chancel Choir		
7 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship Gateway/SIGNS New Member Reception <b>Welcome Rev. Michelle Wilkey</b> 11:15 AM Fall Kick-Off @ The Grove 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	8 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Adult Ed 7:00 PM <i>Convictions</i> Book Study	9 10:00 AM Quilting/Bazaar 7:00 PM Yoga	10 11:30 AM Keenagers 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Deacon Mtg.	11 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	12 7:00 PM Game Night at Trinity	13 8:00 AM Trustee Meeting
14 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship w/Communion 11:15 AM Second Hour 12:30 PM Golf Outing 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	15 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM <i>Convictions</i> Book Study  <b>DATELINE DEADLINE</b>	16 10:00 AM Quilting/Bazaar 4:00 PM SIGNS Peanut Butter 7:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Council Meeting	17 6:00 PM Yoga	18 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	19 <b>5:00 PM Oktoberfest Dinner and Silent Auction</b>  	20 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
21 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship Food & Clothing Outreach 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	22 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM <i>Convictions</i> Book Study	23 10:00 AM Quilting/Bazaar 7:00 PM Yoga	24 6:00 PM Yoga	25 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Knitters 5:00 PM Worship Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	26	27
28 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	29 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM <i>Convictions</i> Book Study	30 10:00 AM Quilting/Bazaar 7:00 PM Yoga	 <h1 style="margin: 0;">SEPTEMBER 2014</h1>  <p style="margin: 0;">David's United Church of Christ 937-434-2131</p>			