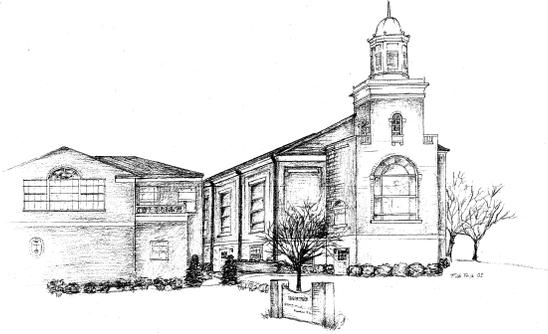


DAVID'S DATELINE
OCTOBER 2017 Newsletter



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

Ministers of David's Church - All David's People
Senior Pastor Brian Q. Newcomb
Associate Pastor Michelle Wilkey

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

October 1 - World Communion Sunday/
Neighbors In Need Offering/Gateway/
CROP Walk/Blessing of the Pets

October 5 - Grief Support Group

October 8 - Access Sunday

October 12 - Women's Book Study

October 13 - Game Night at The Grove/
Youth Event

October 15 - Warm Wishes Dedication/
3rd Grade Bible Presentation

October 20 - Oktoberfest

October 25 - New Member Dinner

October 28 - Family Event: Pumpkin Carving

October 29 - Reformation/Big Hat/Jazz Sunday

From the Pastor's Desk...

In recent weeks, we have been mindful of the dreadful and destructive power of Hurricanes, Harvey which attacked the Gulf Coast of Texas and then Irma which has devastated communities across the whole state of Florida. Many of us have been prayerful for specific people, relatives and friends, colleagues and congregations who have had to ride the storms out, some evacuated to shelters, many of which will deal with property damage and loss of power and decisions about costly repairs and rebuilding in the weeks and months to come. When you add to that the far greater impact and destruction on the Caribbean Islands of Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands of St. John and St. Thomas and many others, it's clear we've witnessed two of the most massive storms in known history, and both within a brief window in time.

And that's not even all that's going on. We are also hearing ongoing reports of wildfires in the Pacific Northwest, a massive earthquake in Mexico, tropical storms and flooding in Southeast Asia, in the countries of India and Bangladesh and elsewhere and more hurricanes yet to arrive. Sadly some have turned issues around Climate Change into a political hot button issue, while to the rest of us it's obvious that what scientists warned some years ago is happening now. They said warming of the oceans by even a few degrees would cause sea level rise, which we've heard often causes flooding in Miami even in good weather, and that hurricanes and tropical storms would get stronger, more destructive. It seems that having seen the symptoms, like a patient having been diagnosed with a challenging disease will seek out the best doctors, we would want to heed the advice of the best climate scientists, and pursue the remedies they suggest, like the attempt to cut CO₂ emissions set out in the international Paris Accord.

We need to insist, I believe, as people of faith entrusted by God with the stewardship of our planet, its land, its water and air, and as Americans concerned about the earth we are leaving behind for our children and grandchildren, that we make common sense changes in our use of energy, and the kind of by-products we're sending out into our environment. But as I said, to me that's just common sense, for others it's about partisan politics.

What's not common sense is the kind of superstitious and spiritual malpractice that we see from some religious leaders and television personalities when these kinds of disasters arrive at our shores. You probably remember the Rev.'s Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson hitting the airwaves shortly after the terrorist attack on 9/11 in 2001, speaking for God and declaring that this event showed God's displeasure over abortion, homosexuality, secular schools and courts, and, let's not forget, the ACLU. Now, it might occur to the thoughtful observer that this is nothing new for these two preachers and political organizers, as they seem to think God is against everything they've been lobbying and organizing against for their entire careers. As the Church Lady used to say on Saturday Night Live, "Well, isn't that *convenient!*"

So, I guess it should not surprise us that this response has become as predictable as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce has become at forecasting hurricanes. With the onslaught of Harvey and Irma, close on the anniversary of 9/11, our preacher friends in the more conservative Evangelical movement were quick to point at who's to blame. You guessed it, it's the gays... it's always the gays.

There's been a potpourri of ultra religious folk rushing to cameras and microphones to pile on to already marginalized groups and claim that God is punishing our country for what... seeking equal treatment under the law, and pursuing a more just and inclusive society? So in recent weeks, whether you've been paying attention or not, we've been reminded by the pastor of First Baptist Dallas' Robert Jeffries, who is a regular spiritual confidant of President Trump, that 9/11 happened because of abortion. Washed up and strangely enough, recycled End Times preacher Jim Bakker declared that "this flood (Harvey) comes from God," so everyone should buy his dehydrated apocalypse survival cuisine, Tasty Pantry, that come in handy waterproof buckets.

And Pastor Kevin Swanson assured the citizens of Florida that God would quickly alter the path of Irma if the Supreme Court would rush into session and make abortion and gay marriage illegal. Billy Graham's daughter who can't be ordained in her own tradition but speaks out as an authority on God's word and teaching has said that God had forsaken America because of transgender people, the teaching of evolution, and secularism. Rick Wiles assured his radio listeners that Houston was getting what it deserved because the city elected a lesbian mayor, and the city's "affinity for sexual perversion."

But somehow, they never seem to draw the opposite conclusion when the storms come their way. When the head of the anti-gay, conservative Christian organization, The Family Research Council, Tony Perkins' home was flooded when storms hit Louisiana last summer, forcing his family to live in a camper for six weeks, no one argued that God was using the force of nature to get them to be more accepting of LGBT folk. In fact, a year prior Perkins had sat with a so-called "prophet" to suggest that God was sending Hurricane Joaquin to send America a message about legalizing gay marriage. So it's always a message about how the people they dislike and disagree with are wrong.

And sometimes these people who claim to be spokespeople for God predict God's judgment on a community over a specific event, as they did during Katrina, claiming God was sending the hurricane against the LGBT Pride parade in New Orleans, but it turns out Bourbon St. and the Mardi Gras parade route were fine, it was the 9th Ward where lots of low

income housing was located that got flooded when the levee broke. The Pride parade went off without a hitch. So, are these folk saying God means to destroy the party district of New Orleans, but missed... maybe had bad aim?

It's too easy to poke fun when we see this kind of nonsense, but I have a serious point. These people, who are comfortable speaking for God only matter, only get heard on TV and elsewhere, because people are sending them money. So while we want to write off these folk as outliers, as insignificant variants on the outskirts of religious practice, it turns out they are voicing the opinions of many who are supporting their ministries. If they weren't making money by talking like this they'd be off somewhere selling snake oil or used cars. So there's that.

But a second issue is that when these people speak for God, it's not just their constituents and fellow "believers" that are listening, these folk have had a major impact on what many in the younger generation have come to assume: that "all Christians" think like these individuals. When we see studies and polls that suggest that the number of young people who no longer participate or possess beliefs that are sympathetic to traditional Christian teaching has grown from below 10% to over 25%, I believe it's because of this kind of public faith expression, which is doing far more harm than good. When people see religion offering up judgmental, scientifically specious arguments, which assume that God's character is cruel and indifferent to human suffering, it makes all religion, all expressions of Christian faith suspect.

It's worth remembering that the Protestant Reformation grew out of something very like this. In the 1500's, the Catholic Church leaders spoke for God, and were issuing these paper "Indulgences" for purchase to parishioners. These silly pieces of paper were promises that God would not punish their deceased loved ones and friends for too long in purgatory, but would scoot them along rapidly to heaven. Because the church said this was true of God, and the afterlife, the common people who had no other access to an alternative understanding, as they could not read the Bible, which was available largely in Latin, and rarely even understood what the priest said in church because it too was Latin. So the poor people were giving what little money they could scrounge up, not to meet their own needs or to better the lives of their children, but were giving it to the church in the attempt to ease the suffering of their loved ones (or themselves) in the afterlife.

Martin Luther saw this as a distortion of God's will and way, and was disgusted by the obvious greed and abuse of a church hierarchy that was comfortable manipulating and profiting off a fearful and uneducated laity, and thus the beginnings of the Reformation. In his anger over this injustice, Luther said to the Pope: "You are like a magician who congers gold coins into the mouths of silly people, but when they open their mouths they have horse dung in them." I can't tell you the number of times I've heard some preacher repeat this kind of nonsense on television and muttered under my breath something similar to what Luther called it. Actually it was closer to the old RSV translation of Psalm 50:9: "I will accept no bull from your house."

For Luther, and those of the Protestant Reformation, principles and practices were put in place so that no person, not even the Pope, could speak for God. The principle of "Sola Scriptura" or "only Scripture" was to limit the authority of Bishops and priests. Luther translated the New Testament into common German so that his friends and neighbors could read for themselves what the Bible teaches, rather than rely on someone else to say what it means. They practiced the "priesthood of all believers," so that the faith would have less control coming from the top down, so that you had to believe what the Pope or Bishop said without discussion or debate, making the church a more democratic society. And by insisting that salvation came by God's grace alone, eliminated the idea that anyone could buy their way out of purgatory which folk learned pretty quickly for themselves is not actually mentioned in the Bible.

Writing in modern times, theologian Paul Tillich describes this quality as "The Protestant Principle," suggesting that "the divine and human protest against any absolute claim made for a relative reality" was integral to children of the Reformation. Tillich said that the revulsion we might feel when someone claims to speak for God is a natural, even spiritual response to any such proclamation. He argued that everything we have and claim to know is historically conditioned, a product of its time and place, so that nothing we know is ultimate, permanent or infallible.

Tillich concludes, "The heart of Protestantism asserts itself and says, 'No!' whenever a person, institution, or movement claims that its values are God's values, its truth God's truth, its action, God's action." That is why I try to assure people that I do not claim ever to speak for God, when I speak, even in my sermons on Sunday morning, I am telling you what I think, what I've learned in my studies, what I think Scripture teaches us about God. And it's perfectly acceptable to disagree with me, we can discuss our differences in understanding, because none of us can know or speak for the heart of God.

As Christians we believe Jesus is the one who actually can speak for God. When Jesus comes in contact with someone born blind, he rejects the idea that the blindness came because of someone's sin. Same when Jesus is told of a natural disaster when a building collapsed and killed innocent people, he rejects the idea that these folk were being punished or deserved what happened to them. It was an accident, the man was blind, because these things happen in life, not because God is punitive and using natural phenomenon to frighten us so we'll all do what we're supposed to.

Finally, and ultimately, this is again about the character of God. And I believe, with Christians of every age, that the best example of how God acts, what kind of a person God is, is to look at Jesus, how he loves and cares for people.

Hurricanes come because storms are natural, but rising temperatures in the atmosphere and ocean have made them stronger. They just are, they happen. God takes no pleasure in natural disasters, in my opinion, God wants us to take care of each other when bad things happen, not look for someone to blame. So when I hear another religious leader say something about how God wanted to teach us a lesson through earthquakes, tornados or storms, I'll quote that line from Martin Luther about them having horse dung in their mouths...and then when I get done laughing, I'll pray for those in harms way, and give what I can for their restoration.

Your pastor & friend,
Brian Q. Newcomb

Notes from Rev. Michelle

There are many laws that God's people are expected to follow and many of these laws and commandments are found in the Old Testament. As we look to the New Testament, we find Jesus doing something special. Jesus sums up all the laws when he answers the question from the lawyer who asked him, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is greatest?" According to Matthew 22:37-40; Jesus answers, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." This passage and these words from Jesus have come to be known as the Greatest Commandment and I believe it sums up all of Jesus' teachings and all the commandments in the Bible. Put it simply; love God and love God's people.

I love what Marcus Borg had to say about this passage: "A remarkably simple vision of the Christian life: It is not complicated, though it is challenging. It is crystallized in the very familiar twofold "great commandment" attributed to Jesus. I prefer to think of it as the "great relationship," and I thus paraphrase it as follows: The first relationship is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength." This is the great and first relationship. And a second relationship is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two relationships depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Over the past two months; I have been focusing on "The Three Great Loves" campaign of the UCC. "The 3 Great Loves is the denomination's opportunity to express how our Love of Neighbor, Love of Children, and Love of Creation work together to address the inequities in our current world." As you can guess this month's article will be centered around "love of neighbor." I will use this love of neighbor as my focal point as I continue discussing my experience at General Synod this summer.

This year's General Synod was filled with many memorable events and one such event was the Immigration Justice Rally and March that took place during the week of Synod. In the press release about this important act of faith; Connie Larkman writes: "A day after the 31st General Synod of the United Church of Christ declared the denomination an "Immigrant Welcoming Church," members put those words in action, rallying in support of an Annapolis, Md., artist and grandfather, who was seized outside his home on his way to work and detained the past three months by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. Nearly 300 people, chanting in English and Spanish, marched a few blocks from the Baltimore Convention Center to Hopkins Place and the Baltimore ICE office, urging the agency's chief counsel to reopen the case of Guillermo Recinos Morales so that he can apply for asylum and remain with his family in Annapolis." I was honored to participate in this act of faith and it was empowering to walk beside others who were doing their best to live out the Greatest Commandment.

It is such a privilege to belong to a denomination that is passionate about making this world a better place. At this year's General Synod, there were several resolutions brought to the floor which centered around love of neighbor and because of this I will not share with you every resolution. But I will share some of the resolutions. If you would like a complete list of all the resolutions, you can find them at <http://synod.uccpages.org/resolutions/index.html>.

1. There was a resolution which encourage support for American Missionary Association Founded Churches that participated in the merger which formed the UCC. Here are some words from the text of this resolution: "This resolution is intended to be an expression that recognizes the importance the historic mission of a predecessor body of the UCC, which was to support and advance persons of African descent through the means of church development, Christian Education, and leadership training...Whereas, if the color line in America is to be fully broken, there must be a change in understanding and attitude."
2. There was a resolution which sought to raise awareness of the injustice and hardship the US embargo of Cuba inflicts on the Cuban people. Here are some words from the text of this resolution: "Clearly the time has come, indeed has long since passed, to tear down our Berlin wall in the Caribbean...Be it finally resolved, the 31st General Synod of the UCC urges Christians in the U.S. to attend to the testimony of our Cuban brothers and sisters."

3. The business committee of the 31st General Synod recommended a resolution which centered around the pattern of giving to be sent to a Committee of the General Synod. Here are some words from the text of this resolution: “The money we give to support the work of the UCC in all settings is an essential expression of our covenanted lives. With our money, we bear witness to the gospel.” This resolution pertains to the love of neighbor because it is through the generosity of so many people that the UCC continues to be able to live out the Greatest Commandment.
4. There was a resolution centered around the rights of adoptees to have access to their birth certificates. Here are some words from the text of this resolution: “Some states do not allow adult adoptees access to their birth certificates. Consequently, adult adoptees in those states are deprived of knowledge of their human story...Therefore be it resolved that we, the delegates of the 31st General Synod of the UCC, identify the difference in rights of adult adoptees as a human and civil rights issue.”
5. There was a resolution which encouraged the UCC to become an immigrant welcoming church. Here are some words from the text of this resolution: “This resolution calls on the UCC and its congregations to become Immigrant Welcoming as it recognizes the ongoing struggles of refugees and migrants who come to the US seeking safety, security, and freedom and opportunity but instead experience suffering as they fear raids, deportation, and witness their families being torn apart...Be it finally resolved that the 31st General Synod of the UCC asks the National Setting to provide resources such as Becoming an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation-The Journey is Made by Walking, to assist congregations in this process.”

It was made plain to see throughout this year’s General Synod, that the people of the UCC are passionate about living out the Greatest Commandment. Our love was put into action as we marched and rallied for the rights of immigrants and we put our love to action as we submitted resolution after resolution which centered around the love of our neighbors. What an honor to belong to a denomination that is working to bring more love into the world. What an honor to belong to a denomination that is seeking to live out the Greatest Commandment in all that we do.

Love and Blessings to all,
Pastor Michelle

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 1, 2017 - 8:30 & 9:50 A.M.

Support Neighbors in Need on October 1

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on October 1, supports the UCC’s ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through UCCTakeAction.org, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC’s Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.



Neighbors in Need helps make another world possible. It needs your support.

Pew envelopes will be available on October 1. Please give generously. And remember, contributions to Neighbors in Need can be made on-line at any time at: www.ucc.org/nin

Crop Walk

On Sunday, October 1, everyone is invited to participate in the Dayton Crop Walk which will take place from 12:30-2:30 and the walk begins at Island Metro Park. CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events that bring people together in a common mission: helping hungry people at home and around the world. I'm excited to be part of it and would love to have you join me on this journey. The steps we take - and the funds we raise - will make a real impact! The Crop Walk is sponsored by Church World Service (CWS) and working in partnership with many other denominations is a hallmark of CWS. This kind of inter-denominational partnership is what makes our local Crop Walk successful. If you have any questions, please let *Pastor Michelle* know. Let's fight against hunger together!!

Blessing of the Pets – October 1

Blessing of the Pets will take place in the parking lot of David's Church on Sunday, October 1 at 2:00 p.m. We invite you to bring any and all of your friendly, well-behaved pet friends 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, we hope you'll tell others and bring along your friends and family and all their pets. Participating pets are expected to be up-to-date on their rabies shots.

Women's Bible/Book Study Begins in October

All women are invited to participate in a Bible/Book study group that Pastor Michelle is starting. The first meeting will be on Thursday, October 12 and the group will meet from 10:30am-12:00pm. This group will primarily meet on the second Thursday of each month and will meet in the Conference Room. The first book to be discussed will be "Bad Girls from the Bible: and what we can learn from them," written by Liz Curtis Higgins. The cost of the book is \$10.00. Please let Pastor Michelle know by Monday October 2 if you wish to be part of this group; this way she can have time to order the books.

Grief Support Group

Beginning on Thursday, October 5 from 12:00-1:30pm, *Pastor Michelle* is launching a monthly grief support group. This group will meet in the Conference Room once a month and is open to anyone who has experienced loss of any kind. Some find that talking about their loss and perhaps sharing it with others can help in the healing process and that support from others can lighten the load of sadness and grief. There will be a book study that accompanies this group. For the first five meetings; the group will go through the book "The Grief Recovery Handbook: The Action Program for Moving Beyond Death, Divorce, and Other Losses." If you are interested in being a part of this support group, please let *Pastor Michelle* know by September 22, so that she can order the books and get them in time for the first meeting. The cost of the book is \$10.00.

Annual David's Oktoberfest



Mark your calendar for Friday, October 20, 5-7 PM for this year's annual Church Oktoberfest. Join Chefs Uli and Terry, for some great food, music and fun. Carry out will be available. Adults \$10, kids \$5. For additional cost enjoy savory soft pretzels. Bring some extra cash to bid on silent auction items and for the 50-50 raffle. All proceeds will benefit Dayton Area Refugee Relocation. See you there!

Adult Education

The goals of the Adult Education program are to further Christian education and faith development, to generate questions, and to provoke thinking. Classes are held in the Adult Education Room and begin at 11:15 AM.

Please join us on October 15 as we present Julia Hughes' one-hour introduction to Real Health and Wellness. She writes - If I told you there was one diet that could cure arthritis, fatigue, irritable bowel, reflux, chronic allergies, eczema, psoriasis, autoimmune disease, diabetes, heart disease, migraines, depression, and attention deficit disorder, and that it could help you quickly and easily lose weight without cravings, suffering, or deprivation, you would probably think I was crazy. Well, you are invited to find out!

Bible Presentation

It is a tradition at David's to give each 3rd grader a Bible, presented to them by a special person of their choice. This will take place again this year on Sunday, October 15 during the 9:50 worship service. If your child is in the 3rd grade this year, or is older and has never received a Bible of his (her) own, please contact the church office. This way we can make sure your child is included in this very special event.



Friday the 13th Youth Event

All youth are invited to a fun evening of playing laser tag and participating in an escape the room challenge. We will meet at 6:45 pm on Friday, October 13th at LaserQuest (201 E. Alex Bell Road Centerville, OH). All the teens will divide up into three groups and each group will get to participate in an escape room challenge entitled "Detention." In this challenge, the teens will have 45 minutes to find the hall pass so they can find freedom from detention. When the teens aren't busy trying to escape from detention, they will have the chance to play laser tag. This event will last from 7pm-10pm and the cost is \$20 per participant. Youth are encouraged to bring extra cash in case they want to play video games or get a snack. This will be a fun way to spend Friday the 13th!!! If you have any questions or are able to attend, please see Pastor Michelle.

Offering to Benefit UCC Colleges in Ohio

On Sunday, October 29 – also Reformation/Big Hat/Jazz Sunday – we invite interested persons to make a gift on behalf of the institutions of higher education here in Ohio, Heidelberg and Defiance Colleges. In recent years, David's Mission Board has moved to more local outreaches, efforts to put food and resources directly into the hands of our neighbors in need. That has meant less money to our related institutions of higher learning, so this fall we're making available an opportunity to give an offering to our nearby colleges. In the spring, we'll take a special offering to support our related seminaries. Just mark your offering for UCC Colleges, and we'll split the offering between our two Ohio institutions.

Keenagers

Good Grief! Keenagers is already revving up for its next event on October 11. Mark your calendars now! Debe Dockins from the Centerville Washington Township library will be entertaining us with stories about, you guess it, Charles Schultz. Does his cast of characters not always bring a smile to your face? Since we are reminiscing, we will be featuring the first meal we ever had for Keenagers, a delicious hot chicken casserole, salad, Sister Schubert rolls, and dessert, maybe something from the great pumpkin patch? ☺ See you then!

Reformation Sunday (October 29) is Big Hat & Jazz Sunday

After years of Rev. Newcomb wearing his Doctor of Ministry cap and hood on Reformation Sunday, we have introduced "Big Hat Sunday," to let everybody get in on the fun and it appeared a good time was had by all.



Reformation Day commemorates the Protestant Reformation, the movement that led to the establishment of the Protestant denominations of Christianity, including the Evangelical & Reformed roots of our U.C.C. Reformation Day is the anniversary of the act that began the movement in 1517: Martin Luther nailing the manuscript of his "95 Theses" to the door of the palace church in Wittenberg, Germany. These statements denounced a number of practices then common in the Roman Catholic Church, including the selling of "indulgences," or documents granting the forgiveness of sins.

On Reformation Sunday, we hold up our traditional commitments to the idea that we are "saved by grace alone." We also affirm our conviction in the "priesthood of all believers," and our commitment to an educated clergy, preachers and teachers committed to equip the saints for a life of faith and ministry to the world. Plus, given the ecumenical nature of our on-going inter-faith work, we strive as well to be reconciled to other Christian traditions, including our Roman Catholic sisters & brothers.

This is a joyful calling, so come to services on Sunday, October 29 wearing your favorite sombrero, 10-gallon cowboy hat, ball cap, jester or stocking cap, propeller beanie, tiara or crown, whatever makes you happy and come enjoy our Jazz service.

Final Section Of *Living The Questions* And New Advent Study

As we agreed, we'll be completing the final chapters in the book & DVD series, *Living the Questions 2.0*

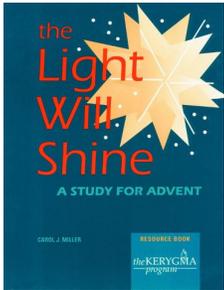
Class Schedule, On Mondays, beginning at 7 pm.

October 2: Chap. 18, "Prayer; Intimacy With God"

October 9: Chap. 19, "Compassion; the Heart of Jesus' Ministry"

October 16: Chap. 20, "Creative Transformation"

October 23: Chap. 21, "Embracing Ministry"



Even if you have not participated previously, anyone who wishes to join the class is welcome to do so. You can find the paperback version of the book at Amazon, read the chapters and come on out to view the DVD's and discuss the issues together. There are no silly or bad questions, and no wrong answers.

Then, as we get past the Thanksgiving Holiday, Pastor Brian will offer a special Advent Bible study using a curriculum from The Kerygma Program, titled "The Light Will Shine; A Study For Advent." The class will meet on four Wednesday's prior to Christmas (Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, and 20), and then again one class in January (TBD) to discuss the 5th Chapter on the meaning of Epiphany. Together, we will discover new light in the traditional Biblical texts and seasonal themes, and find fresh perspectives on the journey through Advent to Christmas and beyond. The price of the resource book will be \$13, and couples/friends can share. We will open registrations for this special opportunity on Oct. 22, by dropping a check by the church office, or calling to add your name to the list. Registrations will close on Nov. 12.

Attention All Men!

For many years, the third Saturday of each month has been reserved for the men of David's Church to get together and have breakfast. These days, those who are available, have been meeting at the Bob Evans in Centerville (7115 Far Hills Ave) at 8:00 a.m. Any gentleman who would enjoy getting to know others from church and eat some good food is invited to join in! The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, October 21. No need to RSVP, but you can call the church office at 434-2131 with any questions.

Game Night at The Grove

Attention all Gamers! From 7-10 p.m. on October 13 come to The Grove for Game Night – hosted by Lynn Bender. Bring a snack, a beverage, your favorite games, and be prepared to have fun playing board games or card games.

Family Fall Event on Saturday October 28

Families of all shapes and sizes are invited to a fun morning at David's Church!! From 10am-1pm, families are invited to bring their own pumpkin and carving utensils to the church. Then we will spend time carving those pumpkins in the Fellowship Hall. We will also have snacks and refreshments and watch the classic film, "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown."

For those not interested in carving a pumpkin, we will have other games and activities available. If you have any questions or are able to attend, please see Pastor Michelle.



Do You Have Your Christmas Shopping List Ready?

It is time for David's Christmas Bazaar! The Preview Night for members of David's and friends is Friday, November 3rd from 6-8pm. Come ready to shop and also have dinner. On Saturday, November 4th the Bazaar is open to everyone in the community from 9:00AM-3:00PM. Lunch will be available starting at 11:00AM. There were be lots of Christmas ornament, bake goods, and a variety of Christmas decorations as well as knitted goods plus some vintage items, and lots of surprises. We look forward to seeing you there with your lists!

Usher & Greeter Sign-Ups

Check out the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to greet or usher at the second service on Sunday mornings.

Holiday Food Basket In-Gathering

I was hungry & you gave me food; I was thirsty & you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger & you welcomed me.
--Matthew 25:35

You are invited to bring an offering of food—food that will go into the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for area families in need. Last year we gave away 90 baskets between the two holidays, and we hope to do the same again this year. We ask that you wait until November to bring the food, due to the fact that we do not have anywhere to store it for an entire month and a half.

Items for the baskets include: boxed stuffing, mashed potato, and brownie mixes; canned green beans, corn, yams, cranberry sauce/jelly, gravy; disposable aluminum roasting pans; and contributions to purchase turkeys and hams.

We would like items for the Thanksgiving baskets no later than November 12, and for the Christmas baskets no later than December 10.

Thank you so much for your support of feeding these families in need. - *Chris Wood & Anne Jones*



S.I.G.N.S. Ecumenical High School Youth Group

S.I.G.N.S. invites you to join our group! We are an ecumenical, faith-based, high school group and have been active in Kettering for more than 17 years. We hold meetings during the school year every Sunday evening from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at David's Grove. At our meetings, we delve into a wide variety of topics, and we participate in many social, spiritual, and community service and outings throughout the year. If you would like to join us, please contact *Jill Chabut*, at 297-0324 or jjcna@att.net.

- Sunday, October 1 – Crop Walk, Corn Maze, 4:00-8:00p.m.
- Sunday, October 8 - Regular meeting at David's Grove, 7:00- 8:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 9 – Peanut Butter 4:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 15 - Regular meeting at David's Grove, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 21 – Haunted Event, 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, October 22 – Regular meeting at David's Grove, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 28 – Make A Difference Day
- Sunday, October 29 – Regular meeting at David's Grove, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers (\$20 per vase) are available for the upcoming weeks. You may order flower arrangements for the altar to honor or remember a special someone in your life or to celebrate a special occasion. Your message will be printed in the Sunday bulletin. Call the church office, 434-2131, to order.

Access Sunday Second Sunday in October

Each year, one Sunday is designated on the UCC church calendar as Access Sunday. In 2017, October 8th will be the occasion that all the UCC will join together in celebrating the gifts of persons with disabilities and the strides that the church has made in being more whole through becoming more accessible. It is also a day that we, the church, acknowledge the journey yet to be taken with our sisters and brothers with disabilities.



Recycle Your Printer Cartridges

Have empty printer cartridges you don't know what to do with? Bring them to church and put them in the basket in the Narthex. They will be taken to Staples for recycling.

Peanut Butter



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 oz.) when you do your grocery shopping, and place them in the orange bucket in the Narthex. Thanks!

Serving at Gateway

The first Sunday of every month, David's Church is responsible for providing and serving a meal at the Gateway Shelter for Men. This meal, which consists of meat loaf, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, salad, and lemonade, is one of the favorites served at the shelter. In the Narthex, you will find a sign-up sheet for food that is needed as well as an opportunity to be a server at the shelter. Our next serving is Sunday, November 5. Many items are still needed. Please take a moment to see where you can help!

Thank You

Thank you, thank you for your overwhelming responses to the loss of Jim – including the amazing gourmet luncheon after the service. We have been blessed beyond words to have so much love and concern surrounding us.

Thank you,
Gratefully,
Ruth Widman

October Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Norma Wallad
Kevin McCoy
Tom Webb
Steven Hopkins | 13 | Lou Mason
Hunt Brown
Amy Leighty
Joe Nielsen |
| 2 | Diana Thompson | 14 | Sally Lafayette
Kristen Hendricks
Violet Meehan |
| 3 | Joan Sharp
Ken Neufled
Tammy Caskey
Kristen Allen-Vogel
William Mhaskar | 16 | Ginny Dieruf |
| 4 | Bobbi Beyer | 17 | Kate Hill |
| 5 | Robert Stitt | 19 | Doug Gordon |
| 6 | Jeff John
Marsha O'Connor
Felicia McCarron | 21 | Beth Schaeffer
Anne Jones
Becca Webb
Alecia Smith |
| 7 | Joanna Stitt
Lillian Wissler | 22 | Gerri DeMuesey |
| 8 | Mary Ellen Hopkins
Mark Lathrop | 25 | Rosalie Bonacci-Roberts |
| 9 | Cooper Schairbaum | 26 | Ernie Dalton
Claudia Stolz
Steve Roark |
| 10 | Louise Webb
Cindy Wheeler
Tom Johnson | 27 | Mark Nakauchi
Marian Jones
Robin Dunkle
John Newcomb |
| 11 | Becky Yerman
Kevin Williams
Jenna VanHouten
Katie Wood | 28 | Teddy Artz
Phillip Sizek |
| 12 | Karen Duell
Karen VanHouten
Geoffrey Miller
Kaitlyn Hendricks | 29 | Jennifer Teeters |
| | | 30 | Irene Gilleland
Rachel Barnett |
| | | 31 | Benjamin Persinger |



New Members

Bobbi Beyer

2833 Ridge Ave.
Dayton, OH 45414
(937) 901-5286

John Bierman

5273 Bittersweet Dr.
Dayton, OH 45429
(937) 438-0211

Mary Ellis

Elise/Max Hunter
6012 Amos Place
Dayton, OH 45459
937-522-0484

Jeff & Julia Hughes

Samantha Hughes, Jackson Bush,
Bennett Hughes, Natalie Hughes
5812 Batsford Dr.
Dayton, OH 45459
Jeff (937) 477-8883
Julia (937) 545-3377

Zeida Patmon

1636 S. Elm St., Apt. A
W. Carrollton, OH 45449
(240) 463-3636

Larry & Faye Phillips

3027 Kant Pl.
Beavercreek, OH 45431
Larry (518) 441-2554
Faye (518) 694-1376

Emily Phillips

4108 Elliot Ave.
Dayton, OH 45410
(716) 380-0237

Jennifer Phillips

Jackson Phillips, Ella Phillips-Shimovetz
3753 Mesquite Dr.
Beavercreek, OH 45440
(937) 912-5554

Connie Wade

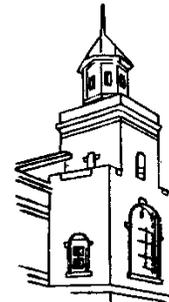
115 Freshbrook Ct.
Dayton, OH 45459
(937) 436-0306

Hebrew Class

Temple Beth Or will offer a beginning Hebrew class for adults starting Oct. 15. The eight-session class taught by Rabbi Ari Ballaban is open to people of all faiths. You will learn the Hebrew alphabet and basic rules of reading Hebrew. Cost is \$100. Classes meet on Sundays from 1 to 2:15 p.m. at the Temple, 5275 Marshall Road. Call 937-435-3400 or visit www.templebethor.com for more information. Online registration and payment is available for this class.

Intro to Judaism

The Synagogue Forum of Greater Dayton will once again offer Intro to Judaism. This class begins Oct. 16 and will meet 16 times on Monday evenings at three different area synagogues. It is a great way to learn more about your Jewish friends and neighbors. For more information, contact Temple Beth Or at 937-435-3400 or visit www.templebethor.com.



Do You Know David's . . .

- has 17 in this year's confirmation class?
- has had 27 members join so far this year?
- 4,210 jars of peanut was delivered, last school year, to the Kettering Backpack program.
- had so many Sunday School children this in the gathering room that we ran out of chairs?
- Warm Wishes group was honored at the "Making A Difference" dinner by WHIO?

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
1 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship World Communion Sunday/NIN Offering Gateway 11:15 AM Second Hour 12:30 PM CROP Walk 2:00 PM Blessing of the Pets 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	2 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM LTQ Book Study	3 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry/Bazaar Workshop 7:00 & 7:30 PM Board Meetings	4 6:00 PM Yoga	5 12:00-1:30 PM Grief Support 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6	7
8 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship Access Sunday Gateway 11:15 AM Second Hour 12:30 PM Private Reception at The Grove 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	9 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 4:00 PM SIGNS Peanut Butter 6:30 PM CE Board Mtg. 7:00 PM LTQ Book Study 7:00 PM Private Reception at The Grove <i>Columbus Day</i>	10 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry/Bazaar Workshop	11 11:30 AM Keenagers 6:00 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Deacons	12 10:30 AM-Noon Women's Book Study 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	13 6:45 PM Youth Event at LaserQuest 7:00-10:00 PM Game Night at The Grove DATELINE DEADLINE	14 8:30 AM Trustee Meeting
15 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship 3rd Grade Bible Presentation/ Warm Wishes Dedication Food & Clothing Outreach 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	16 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM LTQ Book Study	17 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry/Bazaar Workshop 7:00 PM Council Mtg.	18 6:00 PM Yoga	19 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	20 5:00-7:00 PM Oktoberfest 	21 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast @ Bob Evans 2:00 PM Private Reception at The Grove 7:30 PM SIGNS Haunted Event
22 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship and Baptism 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	23 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 7:00 PM LTQ Book Study	24 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry/Bazaar Workshop 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 5:30 PM WHO Group 6:00-8:00 PM Private Reception at The Grove 7:00 PM Nominating	25 6:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM New Member Dinner	26 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	27	28 SIGNS Make A Difference Day 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Family Event: Pumpkin Carving
29 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship Reformation/Big Hat/ Jazz Sunday 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	30 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Mtg.	31 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry/Bazaar Workshop <i>HALLOWEEN</i>	 <h1>OCTOBER 2017</h1> <p>DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (937) 434-2131 WWW.DAVIDSUCC.ORG</p> 			