

**DAVID'S DATELINE
FEBRUARY 2020 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**

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 3 – Warm Wishes II

February 9 – Evolution Sunday/
St. Therese Brass Community Concert

February 10 – Food Fundraiser at City Barbeque

February 14 – Game Night at The Grove

February 17 – Office Closed

February 27 – Women's Book Study

February 22 – David's Dinners

February 23 – Transfiguration

February 26 – Ash Wednesday

Ashes to Go – 7:30-8:30 AM, 12:00-1:00 PM, 5:00-6:00 PM

Ash Wednesday Service – 7:00 PM

February 29 – David's Got Talent Show

From the Pastor's Desk...

Can we talk... I mean, really talk. More and more, as our country has become more and more divided around issues of politics and a variety of "culture wars," I have to ask, is it safe for us to talk honestly and with a modicum of civility about some of the things that are going on in the world? Will you tell me what you honestly are thinking, if I promise not to interrupt with my own two cents worth, and strive to listen? Will you listen to me, can we really listen to each other, or are the sides already drawn on every issue along party lines, that it's impossible for us to drop our guard and have a genuine conversation that allows for both of us to share what we're thinking, how the news makes us feel?

Most of us grew up with the standing social rule, that we should avoid discussing our views on "religion and politics" in polite company, because we didn't want to create tension or invite conflict. And I guess that kind of makes sense in a way. But in reality, the logical outcome of that approach has created several generations who lack the basic skills required to talk about some of our deepest concerns, hopes and dreams. Perhaps it would have been better had we been taught how best to talk to each other about our thoughts and feelings around the issues related to our religious and spiritual lives, and the political commitments and values that have been shaped by our experiences in life in a civil and gracious way. But, at this point, given the highly contentious nature of the current public debate, it may be too late for that kind of wishful thinking.

Of course, I'm writing to you as your pastor and teacher (at least that's what it says in the call documents, when a congregation hires a minister), so every Sunday I'm required by my job to talk about "religion," the basic teachings of our faith tradition as informed by a study of the Christian Scriptures and leaning on the guidance of the Holy Spirit through prayer and reflection. But time has shown us that these waters are less safe to swim in than in years past.

I've shared with you here before that I'm part of a Facebook group titled "Things They Didn't Teach Us In Seminary," and another for "UCC Clergy," and routinely I see posts from colleagues who have found themselves walking a tightrope over some issue that came up in their preaching on the biblical text of the day which caused a member of their church to take offense even though they never meant to say something that was partisan or even political. One preacher reported some who complained that her sermon was an attack on the President, because she had addressed the issue of online bullying and the way name-calling dehumanizes another child of God. Another colleague had a similar experience when advocating from the pulpit for truth-telling as opposed to conspiracy theories that divide and distort reality, and a call for fact-based evidence when dealing with one another online or in public conversation. Someone emailed the pastor suggesting they too had politicized their sermon in "an obvious attack on our President." Both colleagues were gobsmacked by these accusations, since they were merely trying to apply the spiritual teachings of our faith tradition to some of the challenges modern day people are experiencing, something we have been doing in the Church since the time of Christ.

(By the way, don't you just love the word "gobsmacked"? I heard it in an interview with a British politician and had to look it up immediately and was pleased that it means exactly what it sounds like: "overwhelmed with wonder, surprise or shock." So, if you get nothing else from this letter, perhaps you can add a new word to your vocabulary.)

Such is the challenge before us, here in a Presidential election year while we are as a nation in the unprecedented situation of an impeachment trial. As my colleagues in ministry reported with wonderment, how can we talk about the basic human morality of honesty and truth-telling, which by the way is one of the Ten Commandments ("Neither shall you bear false witness," Deut. 5:20), when one of our nations great newspapers has run a tally of the President's lies and sharing of mis-information that runs into the tens of thousands in his time in office? Similarly, we all teach our children not to engage in name-calling, because not only is it mean and unkind, but it goes against a fundamental teaching of the Bible that every person is created in the image of God, while just yesterday our President referred to the opposing council in the trial in the Senate as "sleaze balls"?

Clearly, we as a nation and we as people of faith are in an unusual time in our history. I think people from every political perspective can admit together that these are not normal times. And to make things more difficult, or more interesting, depending on your perspective, throughout his time in office, President Trump has both in rhetoric and executive order sought to diminish the Johnson amendment, which has served as a

significant barrier to churches becoming involved in direct political activity. It is his belief that churches and pastors should be able to not only advocate for one political candidate or political party, but that we should be allowed to endorse, fund-raise and function as a political action committee without fear of losing our tax exempt status. Evidently, he's convinced that that would work in his favor. I'm not sure that's true.

However, as I've said here before, speaking from our tradition in mainline Protestantism, I am strongly opposed to any church mixing its religious message with the world of partisan political activity. While our denomination advocates for its members to actively participate in the political process through "Our Voice Our Vote," we as a body strongly reject the idea that we should use our religious platform to engage in partisan political activity or even hint at telling anyone how they should vote. If you make a quick visit to <https://www.ucc.org/ourfaithhourvote>, you will find strong language that suggests "Our faithful voice is needed," and that "voting is a natural expression of faithful action," but you will also find ways that "your congregation can participate in the electoral process through faithful, nonpartisan engagement. The United Church of Christ can help with resources on civic engagement, voter registration information, issue education, and voter mobilization." While our faith tradition calls us to actively and intelligently engage the political issues of our time, the emphasis is on "faithful, nonpartisan engagement." A couple years back, I remember the "Our Voice Our Vote" initiative put out a bumper-sticker that declared: "God is Not a Republican or a Democrat." We should remember that no political movement fully reflects the teachings of Jesus about the coming "kin-dom of God," and there are decent, well-intentioned people, including people of faith, on both sides of every political divide.

As people of faith, as Christian believers who live and move and have our being in this unusual and challenging time in our nation's history, let us not be quick then to demonize those with whom we disagree. Let us avoid ad hominem attacks on one another, let's not succumb to the temptations to name-calling, and let's ask our national leaders to do the same. Let us seek to be truthful with one another, and demand truthfulness from our public officials. Let us learn to listen to one another better, especially when our sister or brother is speaking to us from a position very different than our own. One of the most obvious ways to "love our neighbor" is to give them our attention and listen to their concerns, and then as the New Testament scriptures suggest, "speak to one another with love." We do not always have to, nor will we always agree, but we can disagree without be disagreeable, we can think differently and remain in relationship if we learn to treat each other kindly.

I know that this is harder than it sounds. But I'm utterly convinced that this challenging and difficult time calls for people of faith to enter into the conversation and the world of politics while acting out of generosity, kindness and love.

And, I also think we can say that our Bible has something to say to our time, and the concerns and challenges of our time, that it is important for all of us to hear. The love ethic of Jesus can and should impact the way people of faith address the concerns that arise in our political lives. When Jesus calls his followers to be "peace-makers," that should influence our thoughts on national security and global conflicts. The teachings and actions of Jesus, echoing the words of the Hebrew prophets, should speak to us as we think about challenging issues that face our nation. The Gospel addresses how we treat our neighbor, it speaks to us about human rights and relationships, it calls us to overcome racism, sexism, age-ism, heterosexism, all the isms, because it teaches us to "love our neighbors as ourselves," and Jesus parable of the Good Samaritan challenges us to recognize that that admonition includes our black and brown neighbors, our senior citizen neighbors, our LGBTQ neighbors, our Muslim/Jewish/Hindu/Sikh/Buddhist/Atheist neighbors, and so on. And, for centuries now, Christians have understood that the work of the Social Gospel is part of the church's mission. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu once observed, "We need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go up stream and find out why they are falling in."

As I said, talking about these things is going to be a lot harder than it sounds, but I am confident that we can do it, if we strive to trust one another to live and speak out of our best intentions. These are not normal times, but we can still act out of our best true selves and treat one another with kindness and respect. So, again, I promise to you, as your pastor and teacher, that in this coming election year I will encourage you to live and think and vote out of your faith, to take seriously the teachings of our Scriptures as you faithfully engage in the political circus of our time as good citizens in this crucial time. I will not attempt to tell you how to vote or what you should think about any specific candidate or party platform. I will try my best to share with you what I hear and think God has to say on a variety of the issues we face together as they arise from the texts of Scripture

from week to week, but as always you are free to disagree with me (as I know you do from time to time). And, here in this congregation which includes a wide variety of people who share a wide spectrum of political ideas and interests, I will ask that we treat one another kindly and well. They will not know we are Christians by the way that we vote, or the soapbox we stand on, they will know we are Christians by our love.

In loving service as your pastor and friend,
Brian Q. Newcomb

From the Desk of Rev. Michelle Wilkey

“Look at the stars, look how they shine for you and everything you do, yeah they were all yellow.” (Coldplay, “Yellow”) You might be wondering why I began my article with lyrics to one of the best songs by one of the best bands. Well, at the beginning of January, I had the opportunity to go to Arizona for a week of leadership training. On the very first day, our leader played this song and proceeded to tell us that the theme for the week is the color yellow. Since coming home from this intensive time of training, I can’t get this song out of my head and I am okay with that.

For the past four years in January, I have spent a week in Arizona receiving leadership training and this has been provided by a program I am in called Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI) which is a program led by the United Church of Christ’s Pension Board. It says this on the website:

“In 2008, the United Church Board of Ministerial Assistance (UCBMA) undertook bold steps to strengthen congregational ministry in the United Church of Christ by birthing the Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI or the Initiative). The implementation documents stated that “having been richly blessed by resources given by our forebears and having a more than century-old mandate to care for and work with those at the frontiers of ministry, [UCBMA] is committed not just to the future of the Church but to the Church of the future.” NGLI has emerged as a leadership development initiative that equips, energizes, and empowers younger UCC local church pastors to build vibrant congregations that change lives and further God’s mission in the world. It seeks to honor and challenge younger clergy who have accepted the high calling to parish ministry, who demonstrate significant potential and who view parish ministry as a career path and are willing to make a long-term commitment to service in congregational settings of the United Church of Christ.”

While in Arizona, we have had a different focus each year in our training. In January of 2017, our classes centered around Self-Differentiated Leadership and Bowen Family Systems theory, with an emphasis on practicing non-anxious leadership and applying systems theory in a congregational context. During year two, 2018, our focus was on Inner Work: Adaptive Leadership and Reflective Practice, with an emphasis on the evolving context of pastoral leadership and its implications for leadership formation and one’s inner life. In January of 2019, our training revolved around Building Great Teams: From Story to Practice with an emphasis on team formation and effectiveness in varied contexts. Finally, in January of 2020, this past month, our training was centered on Leading Congregations to Faithful and Fruitful Ministry, with an emphasis on exploring trends that point toward a new paradigm of evangelism and spiritual formation and sharing practical strategies for more effective outreach and growth. Aside from the trainings in Arizona, I also have attended two UCC General Synods and participated in an on-site learning visit during these first four years of the program. NGLI is a 10-year program and throughout the remaining six years, I get to choose areas of growth to focus on and I will be given money to cover the cost of continuing education opportunities. If you want to find out more about NGLI, here is the website: <https://www.pbucc.org/index.php/ngli>.

I can’t say enough how much I have benefitted from NGLI. This program has helped me to become the leader that I am today. Not only has this program offered up dynamic training opportunities but it is through this program that I have met and become friends with some amazing clergy. When I was accepted into NGLI, I was put in a cohort with 14 other young clergy. Throughout these past four years, we have become like one big family. While in Arizona this year, our cohort was tasked with leading the closing worship of the week. It was bittersweet as we completed this final year in Arizona because we knew that we would have to be more intentional about seeing each other because the final six years are on our own. During worship, one of the

leaders of NGLI went around and blessed our cohort and then after we were blessed, we blessed others. We even began our service outside in the desert under the stars. I quoted the first lines of “Yellow” while we were all gathered outside. How appropriate to hear the words, “Look at the stars” while we were standing underneath the stars. Our closing worship went very well, and it felt very meaningful as we began in the desert and then journeyed together to the indoor worship space. During the portion of our worship that was inside we took time to sing “Yellow.” Singing Coldplay during worship was pretty great!

As I have already said, NGLI has helped me become not only the pastor that I am today but the person that I am today. Being part of this leadership program has helped me to feel seen. One writer said: “Understand this if you understand nothing: it is a powerful thing to be seen.” I completely agree with this writer, it is such a life affirming thing to be seen for who you are. I am someone who has struggled with self-confidence for many years of my life. I grew up in a faith tradition that told me time and time again that I wasn’t worthy and that I had to become some perfect version of myself in order to be loved by God. Since joining the UCC in 2009, I have come to see that I am and all of us are loved just as we are. We don’t have to be anything less than our full authentic selves to be loved by God.

Not only do I see that I am loved by God, but thanks to NGLI and thanks to my time at David’s so far, I am able to see my strengths and I have come to recognize that I have a voice that deserves to be heard and I have become a stronger more confident leader. I feel like I see myself in a new light but not only that, but I also feel seen by others. After year one of training in Arizona with NGLI, I can remember thinking that the leaders of the program were able to see something in me that I wasn’t quite able to see for myself yet. Now after completing the first four years, I feel like I am able to see what they see, I am able to see my potential and my leadership qualities and strengths.

I want to thank this church for your continued support and encouragement throughout these past four years. I know that I still have growing and learning to do and so I am looking forward to the next six years of this program. NGLI has and continues to help me to be the best leader that I can be and the skills and the training I am receiving will help me to better serve alongside with Pastor Brian this wonderful congregation.

Much love and appreciation,
Pastor Michelle

Evolution Sunday – February 9, a Time to Thank God for Good Science

For a few years now, Pastor Brian has used the second Sunday of February, the closest to the birthday of Charles Darwin (Feb. 12), to speak on the relationship between faith and science. With some Christians arguing that the Bible insists that the earth is only 6000 years old, and that “intelligent design” and the Genesis accounts be taught in schools as an alternative scientific theory, Dr. Newcomb wants to go on record with the common sense view that many modern mainline Christian thinkers have expressed, that we can believe in God and still accept the teachings of evolutionary science. He signed this Clergy Letter ages ago, and looks forward to preaching on Faith, the Bible and Science again this month.

The Clergy Letter - from American Christian clergy – An Open Letter Concerning Religion and Science

Within the community of Christian believers there are areas of dispute and disagreement, including the proper way to interpret Holy Scripture. While virtually all Christians take the Bible seriously and hold it to be authoritative in matters of faith and practice, the overwhelming majority do not read the Bible literally, as they would a science textbook. Many of the beloved stories found in the Bible – the Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah and the ark – convey timeless truths about God, human beings, and the proper relationship between Creator and creation expressed in the only form capable of transmitting these truths from generation to generation. Religious truth is of a different order from scientific truth. Its purpose is not to convey scientific information but to transform hearts.

We the undersigned, Christian clergy from many different traditions, believe that the timeless truths of the Bible and the discoveries of modern science may comfortably coexist. We believe that the theory of evolution is a foundational scientific truth, one that has stood up to rigorous scrutiny and upon which much of human knowledge and achievement rests. To reject this truth or to treat it as “one theory among others” is to deliberately embrace scientific ignorance and transmit such ignorance to our children. We believe that among God’s good gifts are human minds capable of critical thought and that the failure to

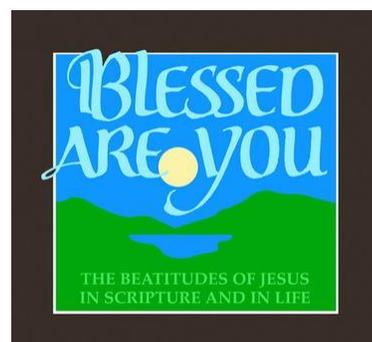
fully employ this gift is a rejection of the will of our Creator. To argue that God's loving plan of salvation for humanity precludes the full employment of the God-given faculty of reason is to attempt to limit God, an act of hubris. We urge school board members to preserve the integrity of the science curriculum by affirming the teaching of the theory of evolution as a core component of human knowledge. We ask that science remain science and that religion remain religion, two very different, but complementary, forms of truth. (http://www.theclergyletterproject.org/Christian_Clergy/ChrClergyLtr.htm)

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, February 2. Many items are still needed. Please take a moment to see where you can help!

Any interest in a thematic Bible study for the season of Lent?

Pastor Brian is weighing to see if there is interest in a 6-week Bible study to run on the Wednesdays of the Season of Lent based on the Beatitudes in Matthew. We would again use a curriculum from The Kerygma Program, titled "Blessed Are You; The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life." The price for the resource booklet will be \$17, and the class would run from Wednesday, March 4 through Holy Week, with the last class on April 8. Email or call the Pastor Brian at the church office to indicate interest, or you can just drop a check for the appropriate amount by the office or in the offering plate, with the words "Beatitudes study" in the memo line.



"Shameless" Book Study Led by Pastor Michelle

Pastor Michelle will be offering a special book study during Lent and the book that will be read is Nadia Bolz Weber's "Shameless." One review said this about the book: "Negative messages about sex come from all corners of society: from the church, from the media, from our own families. As a result, countless people have suffered pain, guilt, and judgment. In this instant bestseller, Nadia Bolz-Weber unleashes her critical eye and her vulnerable yet hopeful soul on the harmful conversations about sex that have fed our shame. For anyone who has been harmed by the shaming sexual messages so prevalent in religion, this book is for you." This book study is open to anyone who would like to participate in this important discussion around sex. If you wish to participate, the cost of the book will be \$15 and Pastor Michelle would need to know by Monday, February 24 so she can order the books. We will meet in the Confirmation Room on Wednesday nights from 7pm-8pm through the season of Lent. The dates we will meet are March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25, and April 1. If you have any questions, please see *Pastor Michelle*.

David's Got Talent Show on Saturday February 29!!!

On Saturday, February 29, the Confirmation class will host a special fundraiser. This year we are going to be performing a talent show and we are looking for acts!!! If you have a talent that you would like to share with the church, I invite you to let Pastor Michelle know and she can put you on the program for that evening. The talent show will be open to people of all ages and there will be a special prize for the winner! The winner will be determined by those who are there to be spectators. We will have a light meal at 6:30pm on that Saturday and then the Talent Show will take place at 7pm in the Sanctuary. The tickets will be \$10 apiece and if we sell 100 tickets, Pastor Michelle will unveil her talent that night! Tickets will be on sale each Sunday after church throughout the month of February. You won't want to miss this special night!! If you would like to be part of the Talent Show, please let *Pastor Michelle* know by February 25 so she can get your name into the program.

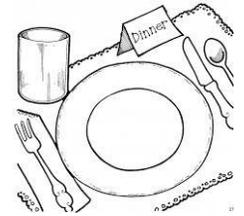
David's Dinners

Back by popular demand, David's Dinners! These dinners are a wonderful way for David's family to get to know one another.

The three dates for this year's dinners are Saturday, February 22, Saturday, March 21, and Saturday, April 18. Starting time is up to the host. Hosts will be sent a list of names and phone numbers, based on the number they have indicated they would like to entertain. If any guests on the list cannot make it, the host is welcome to invite others, provided that they attend David's Church. Hosts cook the main course – other guests bring fill-ins, such as an appetizer, side dish, salad, or dessert.

We encourage everyone to sign-up in the Narthex, starting in February. When you do, please indicate which nights you would like to attend, which dates you'd like to host, if any, and how many people you would like to host.

Questions? Please contact *Steve Roark & Jeff Baldwin* at 513-855-1180 or s.roark@att.net.



Warm Wishes II

If you have an interest in helping with the largest outreach project at David's here is your opportunity. If you know how to use a pair of scissors you can cut fleece. If you know how to do basic sewing, you can sew hats and mittens. This group is open to everyone, so sign-up in the Narthex to come to our meeting February 3 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Warm Wishes II only meets once a month. For anyone new, the Warm Wishes group also meets on Monday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We are always excited to have new people join us. If you have questions, please call *Nedral Dalton* at 416-4164 or email her at realtornedal@sbcglobal.net.

Coffee With Pastor Michelle

Pastor Michelle will be holding office hours out in our community. Throughout the year, she will hold office hours from 3-5pm at nearby coffee shops. Pastor Michelle will hold coffee hours on the second and fourth Tuesday in February. She will be at Panera at Town and Country in Kettering, OH on Tuesday, February 11 and Tuesday, February 25. If you have any questions, let *Pastor Michelle* know.

Game Night

Attention all Gamers! From 7-10 p.m. on February 14 come to The Grove (hosted by Judy Fehr & Lynn Bender) 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.

Why Do I Need To Sign The Pew Pad?

Did you know that we ask you to sign the pew pads for a very important reason? As part of being a member in good standing, attendance is important. Signing the pew pad is a way for us to confirm that you are honoring your commitment to church membership. The Church Constitution reads:

- *Members shall pledge themselves to attend the regular worship of the Church and the celebration of the Lord's Supper, to live the Christian life, to share in the life and work of the Church, to contribute to its support and benevolences, and to seek diligently the spiritual welfare of the membership and the community.*
- *A member who, for a period of two years, has not attended the Church's worship or received Holy Communion, after contact by the Church, may, by recommendation of the Elders in consultation with the Pastor and vote of Council, be removed from the membership roll.*

Another reason we ask you to sign the pew pad is to get to know the neighbors in your pew that you are sitting with that day. As you sign and pass the pew pad, you may notice a name or two of someone you have wanted to meet, or have not met yet. So, sign in, help us take attendance, and get to know your neighbor!

Church Nametags

Do you know everyone, by name, at church? Neither do we. Please be considerate to others and wear your name tag at church so that others can greet you by name.

If you have misplaced your name tag and need a new one, contact the church office, 434-2131. If you know that you should have a nametag and can't find it, please check the numbered list above the trays. Since we update the whole system once every couple of years, not everyone is in alphabetical order. Thanks!

Ashes-To-Go at David's UCC on Ash Wednesday for the Ninth Year

February 26 from 7:30 – 8:30 am, Noon – 1:00 pm, and 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm.



On Wednesday, February 26, Pastors Brian and Michelle will be out in the church's parking lot during rush hour drive times prepared to impose ashes for any persons who desire to begin the season of Lent in this time-honored tradition of Ash Wednesday. At 7:00 p.m., there will a full service, imposition of Ashes, with the addition of hymns and special music from our Chancel Choir.

"We've not invented the idea of 'Ashes to Go,'" says Dr. Newcomb. "I had a number of UCC and Episcopal colleagues back in St. Louis, where I served previously, go out and offer ashes to passersby on the street corners. I was reminded of this by recent comments from Church historian and author Diana

Butler Bass, and thought we ought to do something for those folk who want to begin the season of Lent in a meaningful way, but perhaps their work and family lives don't allow them to stop everything for an hour to attend a full worship service."

Lent is, in the Christian tradition, a pre-Easter season of preparation that lasts 40 days (not counting Sundays), often marked by penitence and confession, fasting or other kinds of sacrifice, special times of prayerful reflection, and acts of service or generosity. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, a reminder to Christians that life is fragile. Traditionally, the ashes are imposed with the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This reminder of one's mortality, an act of humble contrition, can be a helpful, even powerful reminder of God's goodness and grace and the promise of new life that Easter brings.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

February 26, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Proclamation of the Word and Imposition of Ashes

Following the Service, we will gather in the Chapel
for prayers for healing of human hurts.

UCC Seminaries Offering

On Sunday, February 23, you will have an opportunity to support three excellent graduate schools in the Midwest offering a Masters of Divinity program that prepares new ministers to serve the needs of the Church. They are Chicago, United (located in Minneapolis/St. Paul) and Eden (in St. Louis, MO). We invite our members to support the work of our seminaries and the future ministers with a generous gift.

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

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, February 15. No need to RSVP, but you can call the church office at 434-2131 with any questions.

Ready for Summer Camp?

The Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ is excited to announce that registration for 2020 Summer Camp is now open! Register today to lock-in early bird prices (the early bird deadline is April 15) and to ensure your place at camp.

You will also have the opportunity to purchase a camp t-shirt (even if you don't plan on attending camp). The t-shirt is currently in the final stages of its design, but that design will be made public soon. The deadline to pre-order a t-shirt is May 10.

David's Church offers camperships that cover 50% of the cost of your camp at Temples Hills. Please let the church office know which camp you are registering for. Register at <https://heartlanducc.campbrainregistration.com/>

Giving Statements By Email Authorization Form

I authorize David's United Church of Christ to send my Giving Statements by Electronic Email. This will replace the paper statements I currently receive. Please send to the email address listed below. I understand that at any time I can change back to the paper statements by contacting Kathy Goodpaster in the church office. This action also includes the January Statements that represent the prior year's giving for tax preparation.

Print email address

Print Name of Giver

Signature of Giver

Date

Please place form in Offering Plate, mail to the office, or drop off to office.

Save the Date

On Saturday, March 21, David's Church will participate once again in Lesotho Nutrition Initiative's Pack Away Hunger. There will be more details to come!

Breakfast with the Bunny!

Mark your calendar for our "Breakfast with the Bunny" and Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 4. This annual event will include food, games, and, of course, the main event: the Easter Egg hunt. Keep an eye out for more details!

Please Help Our Money Counters!

Each Monday, following the Sunday morning service, a group of four church member volunteers come into the office to count the offering money. They want to make sure your offering gets counted correctly and is placed in the appropriate fund 100% of the time.

Here's how you can help:

1. Place your offering in an envelope that has your name clearly printed on the envelope. (While you may think your writing is clear, please print as legibly as possible.) Monthly giving envelopes are available from the church office. Those who like to give weekly can utilize the envelopes located in the pews.
2. Clearly write the amount of the offering on the outside of the envelope.
3. If you are contributing to more than one fund, write a separate check for each fund.
4. Clearly identify the fund you are contributing to. For example, you could state: "regular offering" or "Peanut Butter fund" or "Remembrance Fund for _____", etc. This can be done on the "memo" line if writing a check or clearly written on the envelope if giving cash.

By following these four simple steps you will assist our volunteers to meet their goal of 'perfect accounting'. Thank you!

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.



City Barbecue Food Fundraisers

The Board of Deacons is pleased to announce that City Barbecue food fundraisers are back in 2020. We will have the opportunity to receive 25% back on our purchased every second Monday of each month. You can either present the printed coupon, or show it on your phone at the City Barbecue in Centerville from 10:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. on:

February 10	August 10
March 9	September 14
April 13	October 12
May 11	November 9
June 8	December 14
July 13	

Coupons may not be distributed on the premises of City Barbecue. This will cause our organization to lose the ability to participate in further events.

Monthly coupons will be available on the Narthex table.

February Birthdays

- 1 Irene Hopkins
- 3 Rolf Lindner
Gary Hutchison
Glenn Wood
Cody Wright
- 4 Julie Wellbaum
- 6 Don Ashbrook
Chris Wellbaum
- 7 Sam Wellbaum
- 8 Jill Blum
- 10 Vaughn Shannon
Katie Gregg
- 13 Dagmar Michel
Jamie Mhaskar
Cate Shannon
- 15 Amy Stamper
Jenni Thompson



- 16 Herbert Sizek
- 17 Betsy Keyes
Dave McElwee
- 18 Sean Miller
- 19 Cody Boothe
- 20 Nico Avila-John
Lucas Avila-John
Alan Avila-John
- 21 Thelma Leach
Carol Strine
Jerry Beinlich
- 22 Steve Mason
- 23 Winter White
- 24 Caleb Cook
- 27 Brian Barrett
- 28 Amy Hamm
- 29 Pat Johnson

Church Directory Change

Jill & John Chabut

5411 Ayrshire Ct.
Dayton, OH 45429

Correction:

Lynn & Darlene Rogers

890 Deer Run Road
Dayton, OH 45459

Member Deaths

Our sympathy to *Margie Phillips* in the loss of her husband, **Jim Phillips**, on December 21, 2019.

Deaths

Our sympathy to *Louise & Ed Webb* in the loss of Louis' mother, **Marian Hager Owens**, on January 1, 2020.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers (\$23 per vase) are available for the upcoming year. 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.



Free Community Concert By St. Therese Brass – February 9

The St. Therese Brass will be giving a public concert at the church on Sunday, February 9 at 3:00 pm. We will be taking in a free will offering to donate to the Dayton Foundation to benefit the families of the shooting tragedy as well as those affected by the Memorials Day tornadoes. The St. Therese Brass, based out of Little Flower Parish in Mt. Airy, have performed hundreds of concerts since 2006. Besides their brass sextet, they will be bringing their vocalist, pianist and drummer to play a variety of swing, New Orleans jazz, classical and modern favorites. Please invite friends and family to come play away the winter blues by listening to some top-notch jazz!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <h1 data-bbox="661 154 1207 219">FEBRUARY 2020</h1> <p data-bbox="625 235 1243 349">DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (937) 434-2131 WWW.DAVIDSUCC.ORG</p> 						1 9:00 AM-Noon Private Reception
2 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship Gateway 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	3 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 PM Staff Mtg. 4:00 PM SIGNS Peanut Butter 6:30 PM Warm Wishes II 6:30-8:30 PM Brass Rehearsal	4 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry 3:00-5:00 PM Coffee with Rev. Michelle at Panera Town & Country 7:00 & 7:30 PM Board Meetings	5 6:00 PM Yoga	6 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	7	8 8:30 AM Trustee Meeting
9 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship with Communion EVOLUTION SUNDAY 11:15 AM Second Hour/Deacons Meeting 3:00 PM St. Therese Brass Concert 7:00 PM Book Study/SIGNS	10 10:30 PM Staff Mtg. 6:00-8:00 PM Y12SR Yoga 7:00 PM Isaiah Book Study 7:00 CE Meeting <i>Food Fundraiser: City Barbecue</i>	11 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry 3:00-5:00 PM Coffee with Rev. Michelle at Panera Town & Country	12 6:00 PM Yoga	13 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	14 7:00-10:00 PM Game Night at The Grove DATELINE DEADLINE VALENTINE'S DAY	15 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast @ Bob Evans
16 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship Food & Clothing Outreach 11:15 AM Second Hour 12:30 PM Private Reception at The Grove 7:00 PM Book Study	17 OFFICE CLOSED 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 6:30-8:30 PM Brass Rehearsal PRESIDENT'S DAY	18 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry 10:30 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM Council Mtg.	19 6:00 PM Yoga	20 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM T&C Book Group at The Grove	21 1:00-4:00 PM Private Reception	22 David's Dinners
23 8:30 & 9:50 AM Worship TRANSFIGURATION CUE Offering 11:15 AM Second Hour 7:00 PM Book Study/ SIGNS	24 9:30 AM Warm Wishes 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:00-8:00 PM Y12SR Yoga	25 10:00 AM Quilting Ministry 5:30 PM WHO Group	26 7:30-8:30 AM Ashes-To- Go 12:00-1:00 PM Ashes-To- Go 5:00-6:00 PM Ashes-To- Go 6:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service ASH WEDNESDAY	27 10:30 AM-Noon Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Adult Bells 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	28	29 6:30-8:30 PM David's Got Talent Show