

Deerfield United Methodist Church

February 2012 Newsletter

Prayer is the link...

from Pastor Jackie

A Pattern for Daily Prayer

Silence

Only in God do I find rest;
 my salvation comes from him.
 Only God is my rock and my
 salvation—
 my stronghold!—I won't be shaken
 anymore.
 --Psalm 62:1-2

Inviting God's Presence

Pursue the LORD and his strength;
 seek his face always!
 Remember the wondrous works he
 has done,
 all his marvelous work, and the
 justice he declared.
 --Psalm 105:4-5

Scripture Reading

Then he opened their minds to
 understand the scriptures.
 --Luke 24:45

Personal Reflection and Response

On the last and most important day of
 the festival, Jesus stood up and
 shouted,
 "All who are thirsty should come to
 me!
 All who believe in me should drink!
 As the scriptures said concerning
 me,
 rivers of living water will flow out
 from within him." --John 7:37-38

Prayer

"Have faith in God!...Therefore I say to
 you, whatever you pray and ask for,
 believe that you will receive it, and it will
 be so for you. And whenever you stand
 up to pray, if you have something
 against anyone, forgive so that your



I received a book gift at the district office during Christmas entitled "Three Simple Questions" by Bishop Rueben Job. In it, at the end he says this about prayer: "Prayer is the link that keeps us connected to God in profound and intimate ways – ways that not only offer guidance, direction, and comfort, but also transform our lives and our way of living." (pg. 75)

We have been given the opportunity to "go deeper" in our small group studies. One obvious way to deepen our relationship to God through Christ is to learn more about prayer, to commit to praying more often, and to search for deeper understanding. There are so many ways to pray, and there is no one "right" way to pray. At its most basic level prayer is how we touch God and how God touches us. It's how we listen to each other, and then respond. There is no situation that we cannot give to God. It's about letting go of solely our own control, and allowing God to guide our thoughts, actions, and responses. I know this isn't easy to do on a regular basis. I don't mind asking for comfort, but the guidance and transformation parts are a bit more difficult to ask for at times.

As we "go deeper" with God, I wanted to share a simple guide from Bishop Job's book. The form you may use as a model, or you can adapt it for your own daily use. It is a guide for us, as we learn to go to God more often and more deeply.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mardi Gras	2
Passionate Worship	2
Intentional Faith Development	3
Vacation Bible School	3
Do You Know Your	4
Risk Taking Mission	4
Chef Luigi Returns	5
Breakout those Baking Pans!	5
Walking the Corners of the World	6
Did You Know?	6
February Calendar	7
Prayer Concerns	8
Birthdays & Anniversaries	8
Sympathies	8

Father in heaven may forgive you your wrongdoings.”
 –Mark 11:22b, 24-25

Offering of Self to God

Then I heard the Lord's voice saying, "Whom should I send, and who will go for us?" I said, "I'm here; send me." God said, "Go."

–Isaiah 6:8-9a

Receiving God's Blessings

Happy are those who trust the Lord,
 who rely on the Lord.
 They will be like trees planted by the streams,
 whose roots reach down to the water.
 They won't be stressed in the time of drought
 or fail to bear fruit. –Jer. 17:7-8

This pattern allows for our personal needs, and any adjustments to be done. Simply begin in silence and invite God to join you. Next, read any scripture you like (perhaps use the "Upper Room" daily reading) and follow that with your own reflection. Ask/tell God whatever is on your mind. In your own way, offer yourself to God, and listen for God's blessing upon you each and every day!

When we willingly and openly unbind our hearts and reach for God, we will learn how to understand God's abiding presence with us and what God's will is for us. Keep praying Deerfield UMC!



**Come join us!
 Invite your friends!**

Mark Your Calendars!

For a special **Mardi Gras** celebration at DUMC! Come **Tuesday, February 21st**, gathering at 6pm at the church. A pancake dinner will be served at 6:30pm, followed by "mix and mingle" fun for adults, and some fun games for children of all ages! (and adults too!)

St. Mary Magdalene will be hosting the dinner (including a "King's cake"), and DUMC the fun events. You are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to this event, especially if you know they don't have a church home. Festivities will conclude by 8pm in the sanctuary. It's "Fat Tuesday", so why not join us for the fun!

Passionate Worship *(Sunday, 11:00 a.m.)*

We continue our "Unbinding the Heart" series, and begin the first Sunday of Lent with a new sermon series entitled, "Stuff."

- **February 5th** – We'll take a look at "Catalytic Conversations" based on Is. 43:15-19 and John 4:7-10, 16-29. Watch for a special invitation inside your bulletin! Holy Communion will be served.
- **February 12th - Scout Sunday!** We'll hear about "Hospitality Healing" from Mark 2:1-12, and the Scouts will be taking part in various ways during the worship service. Watch for a "scripture skit" mini-drama.
- **February 19th** - This last Sunday in the series will be a "Faith Focus" from Proverbs 3:1-8, and Matthew 14:22-33. Let Jesus reach out and grab you!
- **February 22nd - Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00pm.** This combined service with St. Mary Magdalene will include the traditional ashes and invitation to observe a holy and meaningful Lent.
- **February 26th** - Lent One begins our series on "Stuff: What's in Your Survival Kit?" Based on Mark 1:9-15, we'll take a look at whether we are prepared for wilderness survival like Jesus was.

Intentional Faith Development

Adult

Prayer Group

Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome! For information, contact Margie Burke.

Craft/Bible Study Group

Second & Fourth Monday of the month (Feb. 13 & 27), 6:30 p.m. in the kitchen. Bring your craft to do while we study "The Old Testament" taught by Professor Amy-Jill Levine of Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Contact Barb Dixon at 683-0281 if you have any questions.

Bible Study

Starts back up on Sunday, February 26. 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.. Topic: "Chronological Walk through the Gospels."

Good Morning God!

First Saturday of each month
9:00-noon

Come when you can for as long as you can. Come join us! What a way to start the day—spending one-on-one time with God.

This retreat will have a short worship service followed by a contemplative time. During the contemplative time, you can experience the provided reflective exercises, do some mandala coloring, read your bible or bring something that you would like to do. We will end with a short sharing time.

Lead by Sandy Vogeles and Luke Copley.

Children

Children's Sunday School

(Age 4 through grade 2)

- ◇ Feb. 5, attend worship with parents
- ◇ Feb. 12, 19, 26, attend Sunday School. Children can be dropped off at 10:55 a.m. and picked up immediately following worship.

Children's Bible Study

(Grades 3 - 6):

- ◇ Feb. 5 & 19, attend worship with parents
- ◇ Feb. 12 & 26, attend Bible Study. Children can be dropped off at 10:55 a.m. and picked up immediately following worship.



Ready, set, go!!! We are off and running with our kick-off team meeting for VBS this summer, to take place on Wednesday, February 15th at 7:15 pm at church.

Join the team!

We will be taking a team leadership approach this year in our joint VBS with St. Mary Magdalene. We need people interested in marketing, props, snacks, crafts, bible storytelling, music, games, and skits. With this type of leadership sharing, everyone can do something to help make this year's VBS a great success. You will not want to miss all the fun we are going to have together! Come to the meeting and see where you can join in.



Lenten Bible Study

Begins February 26

We desire it, we acquire it, our lives are filled with it...join us as we take a look at our..STUFF! This six week study covers...

- ⇒ What's in Your Survival Kit?
- ⇒ Why Deny?
- ⇒ What's on Your Table?
- ⇒ What needs to be exposed?
- ⇒ How many trees are in your apple?
- ⇒ Who is your judge?

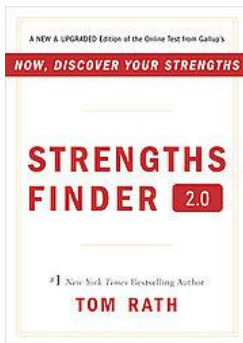
Look for more information about days and times on our Facebook page, our website and in the weekly bulletin as we draw closer to the Lent season.

Do You Know Your Strengths?

By Pastor Jackie

"Chances are you don't," writes the author of "Strengths Finder 2.0." This book is all about helping us work from our strengths, and to help stop us from focusing all our attention on our weaknesses. The Gallup Organization developed the first version in 2001, and over the last decade has fine-tuned the results. Millions of people have taken the on-line test that will help each person discover their top 5 talents.

This great tool has been used in church settings all over our conference. We even have a conference leader who can teach us how to use our individual results to work better together in the church! Several of our church leaders have taken their on-line tests already. As your pastoral leader, I am asking you to "discover your strengths!"



Here is what you need to do: This next month, go on-line (amazon.com) or to a bookstore (I know Barnes & Noble had a few on sale!) and purchase

"Strengths Finder 2.0" by Tom Rath. In the book is a "code" to enter at the book's website. Register and take the test. (It takes about 30 minutes.) You will immediately be given the results. Look through the website. It contains valuable information about how you can get started working with your strengths!

In March, the church will schedule a time when we can meet together to discuss the results and where are the best places for you to work in the church, and out in the world. We'll share our results with each other, and also learn who has complimentary strengths that would work well with the ones we each possess.

Sounds like fun to me! Let's learn more about each other and how we can work better and smarter for the good of the Kingdom of God right here in Landen/Maineville/Loveland/S. Lebanon/Mason! Watch for details on the meeting time in the month of March.

Risk Taking Mission

EXTREME TAILGATE
DEERFIELD STYLE

February Community Dinner

Sunday, February 12,
6:00—7:30 p.m.

It will be on the 12th and will be a Tailgating Extravaganza. We will be making chili, hot dogs and many other tailgating favorites. Plus we will have veggies, salads and yummy desserts.

Sign up to bring something, to help set up or clean-up or just to come and share conversation with our neighbors. See Shem if you have any questions.



Bernie's place

February 18, 5:30 p.m.
If you would like to join them, they would love to have you.

DUMC Buckeye Sale

This is a little late, I know but I wanted to sure all the monies were in. The total amount realized by the sale was \$635.00. So everyone, you "done good!" The money will be used to help fund the Community Dinners. Along with the grant from Sam's that will give us more than \$1,000 which will hopefully carry us through at least till next Buckeye season! Thanks to all who made, packed, sold and bought them!

Chef Luigi to return to Deerfield UMC on March 25



How do you do? My name is Luigi, and I'm the best pasta chef this side of Italy.

On Sunday, March 25, in the year of our Lord 2012, I'll be making one of the best pasta dishes you'll ever want to taste—spaghetti with red sauce—meat sauce, meatballs or vegetarian style. It also comes with some great garlic bread and a delicious salad.

A bunch of the men from Deerfield and St. Mary Magdalene are going to help me serve this wonderful dinner.

You know what? It really amazes me that this will be the 25th year in a row that they'll be having this much fun!

Carry out service will be available again this year from 4 PM until 6 PM. Seating will begin at 5:15 PM, and serving at 5:30 PM.

Tickets: adults and children over the age of 12, \$10; children 0-12, free.

I hope to see you at the dinner! You'll know me because I'll be the one with the mustache. If you need anything, just ask for Luigi and I'll make it right.

Now don't forget to buy your tickets and come and enjoy.

At 6:30 PM, the Missions Team will be holding a Dessert Auction as in the past.

Break out those Baking Pans! (or run to the bakery)

The 20th Annual Dessert Auction will be held immediately following the spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, March 25. Each year, DUMC Missions coordinates the auction, to which the proceeds benefit a local child who is battling serious illness.

This year's recipient is Paul Gautraud, 4-month old son of Andrea and Mica Gautraud.

Benefits 4 month old Paul Gautraud

Paul is the youngest of 4 children and was born with multiple birth defects. He is in need of vigilant monitoring and a variety of treatments. Andrea has quit her job to devote her time to caring for Paul, so the financial strain alone has been tremendous for the family.

Bring your fancy homemade (or purchased) desserts and your checkbook to help out the Gautraud family! We are also in need of cookies/brownies/cupcakes, as we will have a bake sale table, as well. Questions? Contact Julie Reed - 933-0471/jdr1@roadrunner.com





Bishop Bruce Ough has written to all the churches of the West Ohio Conference with a “healthy” challenge! Our conference will be assembling “Health Kits” for Annual Conference this year (much more about this in the March 2012 newsletter) and as we help other parts of the world to be healthy, let’s start by being healthier ourselves!

Here is the challenge: Bishop Ough writes, “Each of our four mission partnerships is in a different corner of the world. It is a cumulative total of 27,090 miles from the Conference Center in Worthington to Monterrey (Mexico), Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), Samara (Russia), Kamina (Congo) and back to Lakeside. On February 12, 2012 (my 61st birthday) I will begin to log my miles to the four corners of the world. I will post my progress on the West Ohio Conference website at www.westohioumc.org and on our West Ohio Facebook page at www.facebook.com/westohioumc. I hope hundreds of you will join me in walking and also posting your progress online. Together, we may be able to walk to the four corners of the world multiple times before the last day of this challenge June 12 – four months from February 12.

While I walk, I will be praying. I will be praying for Jesus’ ministry of healing to become deeply imbedded in my life and the life of each of our congregations. I will be praying for solidarity with God’s children around the world – most of whom have no mode of transportation but walking. I will be praying for each of our four partnerships. I will be praying for Holy Spirit breakthroughs of health, vitality and renewal in each of our West Ohio churches. I invite you to fully engage in this **Prayer Walk** for personal and global health.”

So, DUMC, let’s start logging our miles together beginning Feb. 12th, and posting it on-line! (Your pastor will find more details about how to do this soon!) Perhaps we may even want to start a walking group????! Let’s talk about it!



Did You Know?

- 4 members attended the District Training event on an icy Saturday morning. We learned about our Strengths, Lenten worship series, twitter, and other amazing stuff!
- Our Sandy Vogele led one of the small group presentations at the District Training Day.
- The trustees have caught and released 4 church mice who have been enjoying our kitchen!
- Progress is being made on our technology grant, and we hope to have our new worship equipment in place by Easter Sunday!
- There are about 37 folks involved in our small group study “Unbinding the Heart.”
- David Marshall made a special clock for DUMC. It’s behind the sound system.
- The small group leaders are praying for all our prayer requests and the church everyday!
- Pastor Jackie recently traveled to Columbus for an assessment interview involving our conference’s “New Church Start” program. She is still waiting for the results.
- Barb Dixon recently made a prayer shawl for Elaine Goodman while she is recovering from surgery to have her foot amputated.
- Sandy Vogele will have her certification interview for her Licensed Local Pastor’s License on February 6th!
- New pictures and scripture wall hangings were recently donated to hang in the church office.
- Pastor Jackie will be on vacation February 23rd – March 2nd. She will be visiting her parents who fly south to Punta Gorda, Florida this time of year.
- Mark Bredemeier finished the drawings for the directional and room signs, now David Marshall will make them for us on his laser machine.
- You may now watch each week’s sermon from our church website!

If you know of any “Did You Know” information, please give to Cindy in the church office anytime during the month, or email it to deerfieldumc@zoomtozn.com.

February Calendar

Deerfield events, Boy Scouts events and St. Mary Magdalene worship services are listed here.
For all other events check the website at www.deerfieldumc.org.

- Wednesday, Feb. 1
- * Unbinding Your Heart: 7:00-8:30 pm
- Thursday, Feb. 2
- * Worship Committee: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 103
 - * Band Practice: 8:00-10:00 pm, Sanctuary
- Saturday, Feb. 4
- * Good Morning God: 9:00 am-noon, Sanctuary, Rm 101-103
- Sunday, Feb. 5
- * Unbinding Your Heart studies: 9:00-10:30 am, Rm 101 & 103
 - * St. Mary Magdalene worship service: 9:30-10:30 am, Sanctuary
 - * Fellowship time: 10:30 am, Narthex
 - * Deerfield Worship service: 11:00-noon, Sanctuary
 - * Unbinding Your Heart: 7:00-8:30 pm, Rm 108
- Monday, Feb. 6
- * Boy Scouts: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 101-103, 107
 - * Unbinding Your Heart study: 7:00-8:30 pm, (Denker House)
- Tuesday, Feb. 7
- * Prayer Group: 6:30-7:30 pm, Sanctuary
 - * SPRC: 7:00 pm, Rm 103
- Thursday, Feb. 9
- * Admin Council: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 101
 - * Band Practice: 8:00-10:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Sunday, Feb. 12
- * Unbinding Your Heart studies: 9:00-10:30 am, Rm 101 & 103
 - * St. Mary Magdalene worship service: 9:30-10:30 am, Sanctuary
- * Fellowship time: 10:30 am, Narthex
- * Deerfield Worship service: 11:00-noon, Sanctuary
- * Children's Sunday School (age 4-grade 2): 11:00-noon, Rm 105, 106
- * Children's Bible study (grade 3-6): 11:00-noon, Rm 107
- * Community Dinner: 6:00-7:30 pm, Sanctuary
- * Unbinding Your Heart: 7:00-8:30 pm, Rm 108
- Monday, Feb. 13
- * Boy Scouts: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 101-103, 107
 - * Craft Bible Study: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 108
 - * Unbinding Your Heart study: 7:00-8:30 pm, Rm 104
- Tuesday, Feb. 14
- * Prayer Group: 6:30-7:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Wednesday, Feb. 15
- * Mission Committee: 6:30-8:30 pm, Rm 104
 - * Vacation Bible School team meeting: 7:15-8:30 pm, Rm 107
- Thursday, Feb. 16
- * Band Practice: 8:00-10:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Sunday, Feb. 19
- * Unbinding Your Heart studies: 9:00-10:30 am, Rm 101 & 103
 - * St. Mary Magdalene worship service: 9:30-10:30 am, Sanctuary
 - * Fellowship time: 10:30 am, Narthex
 - * Deerfield Worship service: 11:00-noon, Sanctuary
 - * Children's Sunday School (age 4-grade 2): 11:00-noon, Rm 105, 106
 - * Children's Bible study (grade 3-6): 11:00-noon, Rm 107
- Monday, Feb. 20
- * Boy Scouts: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 101-103, 107
- Tuesday, Feb. 21
- * **Mardi Gras celebration:** 6:00-8:00 pm, Sanctuary
- Wednesday, Feb. 22
- * **Ash Wednesday service:** 7:00 pm, Sanctuary
- Thursday, Feb. 23
- * Band Practice: 8:00-10:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Sunday, Feb. 26
- * Adult Bible Class: 9:30-10:30 am, Rm 101
 - * Lenten study: 9:30-10:30 am, Rm 103
 - * St. Mary Magdalene worship service: 9:30-10:30 am, Sanctuary
 - * Fellowship time: 10:30 am, Narthex
 - * Deerfield Worship service: 11:00-noon, Sanctuary
 - * Children's Sunday School (age 4-grade 2): 11:00-noon, Rm 105, 106
 - * Children's Bible study (grade 3-6): 11:00-noon, Rm 107
- Monday, Feb. 27
- * Boy Scouts: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 101-103, 107
 - * Craft Bible Study: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 108
- Tuesday, Feb. 28
- * Prayer Group: 6:30-7:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Thursday, Mar. 1
- * Worship Committee: 6:30-8:00 pm, Rm 104
 - * Band Practice: 8:00-10:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Saturday, Mar. 3
- * Good Morning God: 9:00 am-noon, Sanctuary, Rm 101-103
- Sunday, Mar. 4
- * Bible Class: 9:30-10:30 am, Rm 101
 - * Lenten study: 9:30-10:30 am, Rm 103
 - * St. Mary Magdalene worship service: 9:30-10:30 am, Sanctuary
 - * Fellowship time: 10:30 am, Narthex
 - * Deerfield Worship service: 11:00-noon, Sanctuary

Check out
the calendar
so you don't
miss an
important
date

Prayer Concerns



Angela

Gene Baker
Al Billock
Merry Sue Boggs
Kent Dennison
Greg
Henry Harmeier
Shawna Hershey
Bill Hume
Jeanie
Kathy
Greg Kenwell
Gene Kindle
Laurie
Karen Mason
Marilyn
Abby Miller
Pasket Family
Stephi Penny &
Gabriella
Zola Rendell
Chris Schenkel
Elicia, Heather & Kaylee
Shaughnessy
Stanley Family
Don Withers

February



4 – Randy Cesco
10 – Jody Wik
11 – Chuck Miker
13 – Chad Royer
15 – William Morgan
16 – Justin Burke
Jonathan Cameron
18 – Emily Wolf
22 – Andrew Douglass



Anniversaries

16 – Brian & Cindy
Goodlander

If your birthday or anniversary was not listed, please either call the church office or send an email to deerfieldumc@zoomtown.com.

Deaths

Our sympathy to the Bredemeier family on the passing of Nancy's uncle, John Sorn, on Tuesday, January 17, 2012.



We are on the web
www.deerfieldumc.org



2757 West U.S. 22-3, Maineville, OH 45039
(513) 683-PRAY (7729)
Fax: (513) 683-7829
11 AM Worship
Rev. Jackie Marshall, Pastor

Our Mission...Connecting to God, Serving Others

Our Vision...To be a **healthy congregation** who shares God's love, grace and power through:

Radical Hospitality - that is attractive, welcoming, and invitational,
Passionate Worship - where we offer inspirational community praise,
Faith Forming Relationships, Experiences, and Education - where we foster growth and transform into caring, active discipleship, and
Risk Taking Mission and Service - through which we interact with others by modeling Christ-like examples of compassion and service.