

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

## Deerfield United Methodist Church

# January 2016 Newsletter

### *A Note From the Pastor*

What are your family's New Year traditions? Do you go out or stay in? Have family and friends over for a big party, or celebrate at home in a small way? Is there a special meal you like to eat?

In past years, we have gathered with friends at their houses on New Year's Eve to play board games; other years we have gotten together with family to celebrate on New Year's Eve, and regardless of who we're with, we usually watch the ball drop in Times Square to count down to the New Year. My father-in-law often would stand at midnight to open the front door saying "I have to go let the New Year in!" Our young children thought Grandpa was hilarious!

A friend from the south says to eat greens and chickpeas on New Year's Day—for greenbacks and change in the New Year. One part of the family says to eat pork and sauerkraut for good luck in the New Year. One year for fun I took tweezers and removed the slips of paper from fortune cookies. Next I wrote out new fortunes based on scripture and inserted the new fortunes in the cookies for people to open on New Years Day.

There is something about a brand new year stretching out in front of us—a clean slate of sorts. A fresh start.

With Jesus, every day is like a new year—a fresh start. Because of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we all start with a clean slate and a chance to re-commit ourselves to living as the person God intends us to be each and every day. I don't know about you, but often I find that I have slipped up again and done the thing I know I shouldn't have, or not done the thing I know I should (Romans 7:19). Yet, because of God's grace through Jesus, my slate is wiped clean, and I have a new year stretching out in front of me, each and every day.

Here's to the New Year, 2016! A great year to live in God's grace through Jesus every day!

Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15

*Pastor Linda*

THANKS  
BE TO GOD  
FOR HIS  
INDESCRIBABLE  
GIFT.  
2 CORINTHIANS 9:15

## Passionate Worship

(Sundays, 11:00 am)

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him. Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.* 1 Chronicles 16:29

- January 3, What Epiphany Have You Had?**
- January 10, Why? Why Do the Innocent Suffer?**
- January 17, Why? Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?**
- January 24, Why? Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life?**
- January 31, Why? Why God's Love Prevails.**

## Church Council Trustee News

Your trustees have been working diligently with the Church Council to bring a comprehensive lighting proposal to the table. As of December, we have decided to partner with Becker Electric, and Church Council directed us to come back in the new year with a three phase plan to replace all the lighting in the parking lot and in the church. Each phase will have a cost of approximately \$6,000. We are currently discussing how to fund each phase and the priority of each. This is necessary as new regulations are phasing out the kind of lighting we have in the church and we will not be able to buy the light bulbs in the near future. Our new lighting will be brighter and will save us between \$400-\$600 a month on the electric bill.

In other news, the parsonage is in good shape and (still) waiting to be rented. Both the Trustees and the Finance Team are in discussion as to the best use of the parsonage. Should we continue to rent, or should we sell? If we sell the house we will need to develop a comprehensive plan to submit to the district committee as to how Deerfield UMC would use the funds. Two very good uses would be to pay down our church mortgage and create a housing allowance fund for the pastor. We cannot use the money to fund our church budget as there are strict guidelines and the district committee has the right to direct us in its use, as the United Methodist Church owns the parsonage, not the local church (per our Discipline).

Discussion continues as to the timing of the purchase of a new water softener and water heater. Our water heater is very old and it makes good sense to purchase the two items at the same time. The water softener would have to be commercial grade because of pipe size and the regulation of water pressure coming into the building. This does increase its cost and other associated costs with it of reconfiguring the janitor's closet in the main hallway.

Hopefully as you read this in the new year, we will have a new refrigerator in the kitchen (or very shortly.) With a generous donation and some other income sources we are in discussion on how to fund the rest of the cost. With the addition of the new refrigerator, we will need to begin to reconfigure the large closet space next to the kitchen as well.

Our "to do" list continues with the cleaning of the closets and the creation of more efficient space usage. If you would like to speak with any Trustee about any of the above projects talk to: Dale Wik, Len Troy, Tom Reed, Luke Copley, Juric Neal, or Jackie Marshall. We are happy to answer your questions. We want to be good stewards of our building; to enhance its use to be in service to our community, and to make a lasting and deep impact on the world around us in the name of Jesus Christ.

## Technology and the Church

Technology is becoming more prevalent in the church every day. To that end, Deerfield UMC has been using a service called Realm. We are using the system as our electronic directory as well as for giving statements. We would like to use it for more things, like a place for the prayer chain. To do this we need the correct information for everyone.

Everyone should have received an email from the church asking you to sign up for Realm access. If you did not get one or can't find it in your inbox please let us know so a new email can be sent to you.

For more information on Realm you can visit their website [www.acstechnologies.com/products/realm](http://www.acstechnologies.com/products/realm).

For group leaders we are looking into training that will help all of us use the system better. There is a free Getting Started session on Thursday January 21 at 2:00 pm EST. You can access this training from your computer at home. Watch for more information.



## Safe Sanctuary Training

Anyone currently working with the children's ministry, nursery, Boy and Cub Scouts chartered by Deerfield UMC, or anyone wanting to start the Safe Sanctuary Process, please plan to attend a safe sanctuary training. Deerfield UMC is adopting the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church Safe Sanctuary Policy. If you attended a training class prior to May, 2015, you need to take a refresher course. Watch for training dates to be announced.



## Leadership Training Day

The annual Ohio River Valley District Leadership Training Day will be upon us before we know it - January 30, 2016. Armstrong Chapel has agreed to host us again and we are grateful.

Workshops will focus on administrative processes of the church and developing and implementing a modified leadership structure. Three different church structure conversations will be held based on church size, giving you the opportunity to really see how it would work in your setting and what fruit and of course, challenges, to expect.

Worship will be a very key part of our day, both in the morning and the afternoon. You'll take away learning insights, and you'll also have a chance to share what you know with others, too. *Given* is the theme to Annual Conference 2016 and we'll begin to immerse ourselves in *Given* with Luke 6:38: *Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back - given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity.* (The Message)

Mark your calendar for this great day of learning and fellowship and stay tuned for sign up information coming soon!



## Radical Hospitality

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15:7)*



We plan to "strike" up the new year with our first fellowship event on Friday, January 29 and we are going bowling! The place is still to be determined, so keep an eye on your bulletin for more information.

Here are some dates to save on your calendar for the rest of the year for fellowship events (all events will be held on a Friday): June 3 is an end of school blast, August 5 will be a swim party and November 4 ends out the year with a family fun game night!

## Risk-Taking Mission & Service

*Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?* Matthew 25:37-39

## Children's Ministry Missions

January offerings will be added to our Imagine No Malaria campaign. During every Children's Sunday School, children will be given an opportunity to partake in an offering. The offerings collected this month will be added to the Imagine No Malaria collection pond at the entrance of the church. Coins are appropriate. Giving children opportunities to practice giving will help build their understanding of being a good steward and generosity.

## Good News From Missions

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the "Unfood" drive in November. The total was three thousand four hundred and eleven items (this includes the small samples of shampoo, lotion, etc., too).



Other good news is that the team of Karen Burton, Martha Miker, Cat Neal, Barb Dixon, Steph Copley, Margie Burke and Deb Berta made quick work of the buckeyes on December 5. At the end of two hours, more than 100 dozen were dipped, bagged and ready for sale. By the end of the second week, only a few bags were left and the missions treasury was over \$700 richer. This money will help fund the Community dinners and other projects. Thanks to everyone who helped make or bought buckeyes.

## January Food Pantry Drive

Deuteronomy 16:17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which he has given you. We will be making a New Year's resolution of reinvigorating our food pantry contributions for 2016 by having monthly themed drives. This month's theme is canned soups and chili. Please keep this opportunity to give in mind while you are grocery shopping and watch for specials or coupons. Even the smallest item can make the biggest difference in someone's life. Donations should be placed in the wooden box under the coat rack to the right of the sanctuary. Please see the Food Pantry display for more ideas or contact Stephanie Copley at [Stephanie.copley@gmail.com](mailto:Stephanie.copley@gmail.com) or Barb Dixon at [bdbluebird@cinci.rr.com](mailto:bdbluebird@cinci.rr.com). Thank you!



## Community Dinner

Please join us Sunday, January 10 for the first Community Dinner of 2016! We will be preparing our favorite Comfort Foods that help ward off winter's chill. If you would like to volunteer to help, please sign up to bring a dish on the communication card in your Sunday Bulletin or at the Missions Center bulletin board. The dinner will be served from 6:00pm-7:30pm and is open to the entire community. Please contact Stephanie Copley at [stephanie.copley@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.copley@gmail.com) with questions. Invite a neighbor, family, or friend! All are welcome!

## Operation Christmas Child

It is never too early to begin your Christmas shopping, especially with all the post-season sales and clearance going on in stores this time of year. Please keep the boys and girls around the world who do not yet know the Good News of Jesus and/or will not receive gifts at Christmas. To read about lives changed through a shoebox filled with gifts, go to <http://bit.ly/1P6m5XR>. Please contact Stephanie Copley at [Stephanie.copley@gmail.com](mailto:Stephanie.copley@gmail.com) or Pastor Linda Troy at [linda@troy-hill.net](mailto:linda@troy-hill.net) with questions.



## Matthew 25 Ministries Volunteer Opportunity

All are invited to join in on Saturday, February 6, 2016 from 9-11 am at Matthew 25 Ministries. The work of Matthew 25 Ministries helps the poorest of the poor and disaster victims throughout the United States and around the world. With the help of our volunteers, donated goods are processed at our 168,000 square-foot Processing Center in Cincinnati, Ohio and then shipped via forty-foot seagoing containers and by semi-trailers to the poorest of the poor and disaster victims. More than 99% of Matthew 25 Ministries' cash and in-kind donations go toward programs. Volunteers play an essential role in the work of Matthew 25 Ministries. The donated goods we receive must be sorted, counted, packaged, and put on pallets ready for shipment to various parts of the world. There is a job for everyone! Volunteering at Matthew 25 can be a great team-building activity, and is also very family friendly. A morning or afternoon's work will typically produce enough finished materials to help hundreds of people in need in the U.S. and around the world. Their staff will place and train you on a specific work station when you arrive, based on greatest need and availability of products. Tasks are simple and easy-to-learn, and many can be adapted to fit a variety of ability levels. They are located at 11060 Kenwood Rd, Blue Ash, OH 45242. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please sign up at the Missions Bulletin Board, or contact Stephanie Copley at [stephanie.copley@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.copley@gmail.com).

## Dessert Auction Following Men's Spaghetti Dinner

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday February 21, 2016 Every year Deerfield UMC chooses a child and their family to be recognized after the Men's Spaghetti Dinner during a Dessert Auction. Typically the child has a significant medical need or expense and we raise money to donate to the family. We will need many dessert donations (we have had 60 or more in years past!) which can be homemade or from your favorite location. We are currently looking for a recipient by working with JF Burns Elementary School. More information to come once a recipient has been chosen. If you are interested in working on this amazing mission opportunity by planning, contacting local businesses for donations, or providing desserts, please contact Stephanie Copley at [stephanie.copley@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.copley@gmail.com).



## Intentional Faith Development

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*  
Acts 2:42

### Experiencing God Study

The Monday evening study will resume meeting on January 4 at 7:30 pm.

### What is a Walk to Emmaus?

The Walk to Emmaus is a three day experience of renewal, learning and sharing in the atmosphere of a Christian community. It is a different experience for each individual.

The Gospel of Luke tells the story of the resurrected Christ appearing to two men walking on the road between Jerusalem and the small town of Emmaus. (Luke 24:13-35).

This story provides the background for the Emmaus Weekend, a program sponsored by the [Upper Room](#). The Emmaus brochure puts it best: "The Walk to Emmaus is a three-day experience which takes a New Testament look at Christianity as a lifestyle. It is a highly structured weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, and through them their families, congregations and the world in which they live. Emmaus is a combined effort of laity and clergy toward the renewal of the church."

Think you might be interested, have questions, or just want to hear more? Please get in touch with Dale Wik, Jackie Marshall, Julie Dian-Reed, Karen Kenwell, Shannon Clark, Karen Long, Margie Burke, or Penny Cesco. These individuals have been on an Emmaus Walk. They can provide you with more information.

There are two Women's Walk to Emmaus; the first one is April 14-17, 2016 and the second one is October 20-23, 2016. There are also two Men's Walk to Emmaus; the first one is April 28-May 1, 2016 and the second one is October 13-16, 2016.



## Adult Bible Study

This class meets on Sundays, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in Room 101. We are studying the Book of Acts. Come join in!

### Children's Sunday School

(Age 4 years - Grade 2)

- ◇ January 3, attend worship with parents.
- ◇ January 10, 17 & 24, attend Sunday School.
- ◇ January 31, Fun Day Sunday, Children will start in the worship service and leave for their class after the time Especially for Children. They can be picked up immediately following worship.

### Children's Bible iWitness

(Grades 3 – 6)

- ◇ January 3 & 17 attend worship with parents.
- ◇ January 10 & 24, attend Bible Study.
- ◇ January 31, Fun Day Sunday, Children will start out in the worship service and leave for their class after the time Especially for Children. They can be picked up immediately following worship.

### Jr./Sr. High Sunday School

(Grades 7 – 12)

- ◇ January 3 & 17, attend worship with parents.
- ◇ January 10 & 24, attend Sunday School.
- ◇ January 31, Fun Day Sunday,

## Let Us Pray! Prayer Group

The Tuesday evening prayer ministry is on hold while Margie Burke is recuperating from surgery. Please keep Margie in your prayers.

### E-Prayer Group

Wanting to help in the power of prayer? Join the Prayer Team! If you are interested, contact Karen Long (543-0965, [kshlong357@gmail.com](mailto:kshlong357@gmail.com)). You'll receive emails sent from the weekly prayer requests submitted at Sunday service, as well as information about helping when a member of Deerfield UMC is in need.



**Prayer Concerns**

Al	Mel Kattelman
Eric Amshoff	Ted Keith
Elise & Angel Awarado	Greg Kenwell
Al & Judy Billock	Tom Kidwell
Marsha Braeshear	Barb Leach
Gary Brown	Brandi Lumpkin family
Karen Bundy	April Matson
John Burke	Montgomery family
Chelsea Cesco	Linda Murray & family
Jack & Joyce Chipner	Kenneth Pope
Connie Combs	Michelle & Lee Robertson
Condos family	Chris Schenkel
Debbie Daniel	Emily Schenkel
Jim Davidson	Mike Schenkel
Country of France	Shaughnessy family
Donna Harvey	Colleen Shillington
Hicks family	Den Staab
Holland Family	Thompson family
Lynn Huber & family	Dan Troy
Paula & Jade Humble	Joe Troy
Humboldt family	Family of Isa Turner
Duke & Judy Huth	Ron Vagler
Roberta Jacobs	Nancy & Fr Tom Van Brunt
Roy Johnson	

**Kroger Plus Card**

Deerfield UMC will receive proceeds from your Kroger shopping, and it doesn't cost you a thing! You can enroll anytime, but you need to re-enroll once a year to benefit Deerfield UMC! Please follow the steps below to enroll for the first time or re-enroll your Kroger Plus Card.

1. Go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards).
2. Sign in to your online Kroger account (or create an account if you don't have one).
3. Click Kroger Community Rewards and search for "Deerfield United Methodist Church" or our organization's number: 80765.
4. Under "Select Your Organization" click the dot for Deerfield United Methodist Church, then click Save.
5. Use your Kroger Plus card every time you shop at Kroger. Your purchases will earn money for Deerfield UMC!



**Breakthrough Goals**

In January 2014 the Church Council set goals for 2015 regarding number of people in worship, number of people involved in small groups, weekly giving, number of baptisms and professions of faith, and other markers that indicate our fruitfulness in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. These goals are shared below so we can work together to be the Body of Christ, Inviting the Community, Connecting to God, Growing as Disciples, and Serving Others.

**January Birthdays**

1/1	Steph Copley
1/2	Spencer Meeker
1/14	Howard Robinson
1/19	Shannon Clark
1/21	Michelle Prather
	Cat Neal
1/31	Ian Meeker



**January Anniversaries**

1/14 James & Sandy Vocele


*If your birthday or anniversary was not listed, please either call the church office or send an email to [dumc@deerfieldumc.org](mailto:dumc@deerfieldumc.org).*

	<b><u>Goal</u></b>	<b><u>Current</u></b>
Passionate Worship	60	45
Radical Hospitality		
Professions of faith	6	4
Baptisms	3	4
Intentional Faith Development		
Average no. small groups	8	3
Average no. attendees	50	24
Percentage of congregation in small groups	65%	54%
Risk Taking Mission/Service		
Total number engaged in	55	45
Extravagant Generosity		
Average weekly giving	\$2,500	\$2,470
Apportionments	100%	100%
Additional giving		
Missions	\$25,000	\$3,025
Fundraisers/budget	\$3,000	\$4,000
Capital	\$1,500	\$1,800
Advance specials	\$500	\$1,100

**Sunday Morning Worship Schedule:**

9:30-10:30 am St. Mary Magdalene worship service, Sanctuary  
 10:30-11 am Fellowship time, Lobby  
 11:00-Noon Deerfield worship service, Sanctuary

# January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>Happy New Year</h1>					1	2
3 * Worship (see above) * Unhanging of the Greens after worship	4 * Whiz Kids at JF Burns 4pm * Boy Scouts 6:30-8pm, Rms 101-103, 105 * Experiencing God Study 7:30pm-9pm	5 * Girl Scouts Room 101 6:30pm	6 * Cub Scouts 6:00-8:30pm * Church Council Meeting 6:30pm Rm. 104	7 * Band Practice 7:00pm Sanctuary	8	9
10 * Worship (see above) * Community Dinner 6:00pm	11 * 2757 Meeting 6:30pm Rm 104 * Boy Scouts 6:30-8pm, Rms 101-103, 105 * Experiencing God Study 7:30pm-9pm	12	13 * Cub Scouts 6:00-8:30pm * Daisy Scout Meeting 6-7:30pm Rm 107	14 * Band Practice 7:00pm Sanctuary	15	16
17 * Worship (see above)	18 * Boy Scouts 6:30-8pm, Rms 101-103, 105 * Experiencing God Study 7:30pm-9pm	19 * Girl Scouts Room 101 6:30pm	20 * Cub Scouts 6:00-8:30pm <b>Newsletter Articles Due!</b>	21 * Band Practice 7:00pm Sanctuary	22	23
24 * Worship (see above)	25 * Whiz Kids at JF Burns 4pm * Boy Scouts 6:30-8pm, Rms. 101-103, 105	26	27 * Cub Scouts 6:00-8:30pm	28 * Band Practice 7:00pm Sanctuary	29 * Fellowship Event Bowling	30 * Leadership Training 9:00am-2:45pm Armstrong Chapel
31 * Worship (see above) * Kids Fun day Sunday						<div style="border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 15px; background-color: yellow; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;">                 Check out the calendar so you don't miss an important date             </div>

## Thank You!

Dear Members of Deerfield United Methodist,

Thank you so much for the use of your facility on December 5 for the Kindervelt #57 vendor expo. It was a successful event which raised \$900 for our Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Your hospitality and assistance with setting up and taking down tables, etc. was very appreciated. All participants shared positive feedback and expressed interest in repeating the event in the future. Special thanks to Randy Cesco and Scott Douglass for all their assistance.

Thank you!  
Kindervelt Group #57  
Northeast Cincinnati



NewsLetter  
**DEADLINE**

\* \* \*

Deadline for the next newsletter is:  
Wednesday, **January 20, 2016**  
Email to: [dumc@deerfieldumc.org](mailto:dumc@deerfieldumc.org)



2757 West U.S. 22-3, Maineville, OH 45039  
(513) 683-PRAY (7729) Fax: (513) 683-7829  
[www.deerfieldumc.org](http://www.deerfieldumc.org)  
11:00 am Worship  
Rev. Linda Troy



**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,

**Intentional Faith Development** - where we foster growth and transform into caring, active disciples, and

**Risk Taking Mission and Service** - through which we interact with others by modeling Christ-like examples of compassion and service, and

**Extravagant Generosity**—giving generously to the mission and kingdom work of our extravagant God.