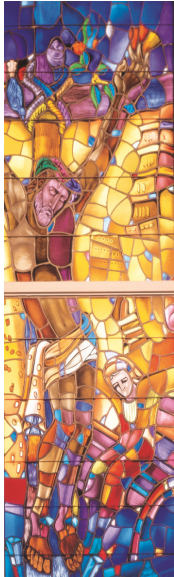


August 16, 2017

Dear DUMC Members,

It has been a busy summer of ministry at Davidson UMC!



- In June, **24 middle school students** traveled to Danville, Virginia to serve in mission.
- This summer's Vacation Bible School, "Created by God. Built for a Purpose." was a success, with **310 children and 100 adult and youth** volunteers participating.
- In July, **over 100 children** participated in music camp and celebrated Patty Gruce's retirement.
- **Forty-two high school and middle school students** traveled for a week to the Knoxville and Pigeon Forge area, sharing their gift of music with three churches.
- We sent **14 senior high youth** to Philadelphia to learn and serve in mission to the homeless and impoverished of that city.
- Each Wednesday, **60 women** have been gathering to grow in fellowship and faith as they participate in the book study of *Giddy Up Eunice*, written by Sophie Hudson.
- Our five-week sermon series, **Half-Truths**, based on the book by Adam Hamilton, was well received.

These ministry events and opportunities imprinted the faith lives of the participants, as well as impacted the lives of those served by them.

Great ministry is happening, but we are not without our challenges. The Finance Committee met in July to review the church's finances through the end of the second quarter, during which time we spent \$150,000 more than we received. This compares to a \$100,000 deficit during the same period in 2016.

While deficit spending is not uncommon at the end of the second quarter, the increase in the amount of deficit raised concern. Analysis showed that our spending was in line with respect to our expectations—and even less than in 2016 (\$1.64 million versus \$1.73 million). The major difference is a decline in giving of \$1.49 million this year versus \$1.63 million last year.

In light of these facts and looking at overall giving trends, the Finance Committee has enacted an 80% controlled-spend on line items where there is some control over expenses. This means that each ministry area will only be able to spend 80% of their budget balance for the rest of the year. **This measure will save approximately \$83,000.** The Finance Committee will review the financial reports over the next few months to see how these measures are helping. If giving and the overall financial picture improve sufficiently, the Committee would look to lift the controlled-spend measure.

As you review the enclosed record of your giving through the end of July, prayerfully consider your gifts to the church this year. If you are behind in your giving, we hope this letter serves as a reminder of how important your support of DUMC is to our ministries. If you typically give in the later part of the year and are able to make your gift earlier, please consider doing so. **Each gift makes the ministry of DUMC possible.** (If you have questions about your report, contact Rev. Dr. Glenn Kinken at gkinken@davidsonumc.org or 704-892-8277.)

As you consider your giving, **we are pleased to share that you will soon be able to contribute to DUMC online.** The launch of a new church website in September will include a "GIVE" tab, which will take you to a secure website for online giving. We hope this will make it easy for you to give, even when you are traveling throughout the year.

The ministries of DUMC are always at work. We are thankful for your support of what we do.

Rev. Sally Langford, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Glenn Kinken, Executive Pastor
Clark Kovacs, Finance Committee Chair