



October

2021

DUMC News

Davidson United Methodist Church



For All The Saints

REV. DR. KEVIN TURNER - PASTOR FOR MUSIC AND WORSHIP

We are entering a holy time of year in our worship calendar. Before we get to Advent and Christmas, we will remember those who have gone before us in our annual remembrance of All Saints'. This year, we have an orchestra joining us in leading the Requiem of John Rutter. This beautiful piece combines the words of the Latin Requiem mass with familiar English words of scripture. We will remember not only our DUMC saints, but, this year, we will remember all those dear to us with a special candle of community. This year, the special candle takes on special significance for those in our larger community who have died in our pandemic as well as others in our hearts and memories.

As the youth choirs and Chancel Choir prepare this beautiful work, I think it is fitting that we have invited other singers in our community to join us. Members of the Choral Arts Society of Davidson will be singing with us, representing our larger community, and we have enjoyed meeting and singing with them in our recent rehearsals. We, as the body of Christ, are engaging with the world outside our doors in mourning the losses in our community. We are representing to our neighbors that God mourns with them.

Finally, our All Saints' remembrance will be special this year because last year we were unable to remember our saints together. While we were able to do so virtually, we look forward to being together to acknowledge the hope of resurrection we have in Christ. These services will be held in-person on Sunday, October 31 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. with the 9:00 a.m. service being livestreamed.

Grief Care Support

REV. JIM HUMPHRIES - PASTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The death of a family member or friend is a traumatic event that disrupts every aspect of our life. The sadness we feel can be overwhelming. And as a year of "firsts" commences (first Thanksgiving and Christmas, first birthday, and anniversary), our grief can become even more pronounced. Processing this grief, in order that we not be consumed by it, becomes extremely important.



DUMC offers a safe space to journey through your grief with others who are in similar circumstances. Our Grief Care Support Group begins meeting this year on Monday, October 18, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Congregational Care House (262 South St.), and meets every Monday evening through January 3. Morgan Temple, Deanna Wilson, and Rev. Jim Humphries will lead the group this year.

If you would like to join us, please register online at www.davidsonumc.org/event-registrations/, or call Rev. Jim Humphries with any questions about the group; 704-892-8277 ext. 234. Be encouraged, for you are not alone in your journey.

Sewing Kit Project 2021

DAISY BATMAN - QUILT MINISTRY

Needle and thread - who would have thought that such small and simple items would bring together so many people to fulfill a request so quickly. The DUMC Quilt Ministry did just that.

One of our members Ann Cripps is a Red Cross Volunteer. Due to the recent arrival of Afghanistan refugees she was deployed to Fort McCoy in Wisconsin. Ann is assisting over 8,800 Afghans upon their arrival in the United States. Working with the refugee women, she determined there was a need for needles and thread. Ann requested the help of our DUMC Quilt Ministry for mini sewing kits with a needle and a spool of any thread. The Quilt Ministry went above and beyond by soliciting and receiving a large thread donation from YLI Thread Corporation in Rock Hill, SC. The members donated thread, scissors, thimbles, straight pins, safety pins, rulers, buttons, and lots of needles. In a matter of four days from the date the request was made, it took only two hours of fun and fellowship to make 160 mini sewing kits with more than just a needle and thread.



Many thanks to the volunteers who were available to make kits, and to all our members, past and present, who for 25 years have served our local communities and beyond.

DUMC Quilt Ministry makes and delivers quilted comfort to seriously ill infants, children, and senior adults as a reminder of God's love. If you like to sew or would like to learn to make a quilt, join us! We meet the first and third Wednesday of each month from 1:00 - 3:00 pm in Room G-1 of the Alexander Education Building. To learn more, contact Daisy Batman at daisyb335@aol.com or 469-774-7066.

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it goes well with your soul."

3 JOHN 1:2

PRAYER LIST

Names remain on this list for two issues, unless otherwise requested. To add your name or that of a friend or loved one, contact Sherry Carpenter at scarpenter@davidsonumc.org or 704-892-8277.

Kim Browning
Alex Dahan
Judy Feigl
Hayes Foscue

Cheryl and Shawn Greenwood
Jean Huff
Doug Johnson
Devin Kiser
Carole and Woody Naman
Carleton Powell
Linda Turner

Sympathy to

The family of Jack Archer
The family of Harry Costner
The family of Ann Greeson
The family of Paul Streater
The Powell family in the death of Carleton's father
The Hammett family in the death of Jeff's father
The Slater family in the death of Dick's aunt
The Fuerst family in the death of Melissa's father
The Watson family in the death of Nan's nephew
The Schmidt and Durkee family in the death of Melinda's father

Extravagant Generosity

REV. DAVID HOCKETT - SENIOR PASTOR

Bishop Robert Schnase defines extravagant generosity as an "...un-selfish willingness to share and give from all of our resources in a way that exceeds all expectations. It describes lavish sharing, sacrifice, and giving in service to God and neighbor."

Extravagant generosity requires the reordering of our priorities, of living as if Christ really is Lord of our lives, including our time, our service, and our money. Churches and individuals who practice extravagant generosity know that we have a deep-seated need to be generous, because God has made us in God's image, and God is generous. We practice being generous not because we think we can buy God's favor or repay God for all that God has done, or because we feel guilty or coerced, or because the Church needs money. Rather, we give generously as a way of expressing our love and gratitude to God. When we place our offering in the offering cabinets or make an online contribution we are essentially saying, "God, this is one of the ways this week that I want to say thank you and I love you."



When we practice generosity at least two things happen. First, we grow closer to God. Through being generous we learn that the real source of our life is not found in our bank account. We learn to trust God in new ways. Second, through generosity we participate in God's mission of rescuing the world. So, when we give to God through the mission of DUMC:

- Children and youth build relationships and experience a deeper connection with God
- Sacred music is played and sung, and we are drawn into the beauty of God's presence in worship
- Food and shelter are provided for our vulnerable neighbors
- You can read your worship bulletin or participate in online worship because the lights are on, and our technology is up and running
- Individuals deepen their faith through ministries of retreat, prayer, and contemplation
- Loved ones receive pastoral care and support during illness
- Our facilities are warm, or cool, and clean
- The gospel is proclaimed and lived on college campuses
- Students answer a call to ordained ministry
- Missional impact is made through ministries like Ada Jenkins, Habitat for Humanity, Bags of Hope, Bridges, mission trips, and much, much more
- Care teams provide support and encouragement for those in crisis
- Small groups meet for prayer, learning, fellowship, and accountable discipleship
- Older adults share lunch and fellowship and life together
- People travel to Guatemala to serve God's children
- And so much more

So, hopefully a picture is emerging. It's not just a check; it's not just a little money. Your generosity is an investment in God's Kingdom. Your giving matters to you, to people you might never meet, and to God.

Thank you, Davidson UMC for being generous. Thank you for loving Christ and giving to God. Thank you for sharing in God's mission of rescuing the world.

DUMC October Make-A-Difference Collection

During the month of October we will be collecting NEW hats and gloves for infants, children, and youth for the Ada Jenkins Center.

Please drop off supplies in the MAD bins located in the Gathering Space and Office Lobby area.

Equipped for the Task

REV. DIANNE LAWHORN - PASTOR OF EDUCATION

One of the aspects of ministry at DUMC that has been the most fun for me has been training our small group leaders. If you haven't led a small group at DUMC, you may not be aware of the training process for group leaders. Prior to each of our Church-Wide Studies, we recruit and train new group leaders. We also open this training up to any existing group leader who would like to take part. To date, we've had 25 individuals go through this training. We've had Sunday School teachers, staff, and youth group leaders join in the fun!



In our training we gather for four 90-minute sessions, where we utilize a video-based resource called "Leading Life Changing Small Groups" by Bill Donahue. This training focuses on helping us to understand the power that small groups have to change lives and shape communities. The training includes teaching around the many practical skills necessary to facilitate groups. Our time together provides the space for us to discuss this video-teaching in a way that is engaging, interactive, and fun! The training covers the many important components of healthy group leadership: clarifying purpose, determining mission, vision, and values, caring for members, sharing leadership, measuring group progress, and impacting your world.

My favorite part of this experience is that it gives all of our leaders a chance to understand the kind of group experiences that we want to create, as we seek to help people connect deeply with God and with one another. We want to create small groups that help people grow, take responsibility for their faith, and become stronger disciples of Jesus Christ. Our training gives leaders a chance to catch that vision for group life! It helps them to understand the important part that each one of them plays in the overall ministry.

Another highlight for me is that this experience gives our team of coaches a chance to get to know our leaders. We have the opportunity to hear insights, questions, and take-aways from the teaching. We have the chance to hear what drew them to say "yes" to this ministry and how they think small groups can help us live out our mission. We get to hear what values they think are most important to emphasize in their groups and what needs they have for prayer, as they step into a new season of leadership. This sharing helps us give our leaders the support they need to carry out their leadership task. It helps us to learn how to pray for them and how to resource them. It helps us to know that we've not only recruited and trained them, but we are truly equipping them for the task to which God has called them! This is good work!

The DUMC Library Has a Great Collection of Bibles for Children

GAIL SPACH - DUMC LIBRARIAN

DUMC member Cheryl Greenwood reviewed the NIRV (New International Reader's Version) Adventure Bible for Early Readers. The DUMC Library has a copy of this Bible and many more available for check-out. Here's an abridged version of Cheryl's review; the full review is on the library's Facebook page.

"The Children's Adventure Bible is currently the best-selling children's Bible in English. Inside are packed all kinds of eye-catching and helpful features: Intros to Bible Books, Life in Bible Times, People in Bible Times, applications to life, words or concepts defined or explored, illustrations on almost every page, a concordance, and maps.

This New International Reader's Version is written on a third grade reading level, generally appropriate for ages 3-10. It has shorter sentences, simpler words, and more sections with titles than the NIV."



What Brings a Smile to Your Face?

MENITA MERCURI - DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

We all need some happy in our lives, so I want to share with you what has brought me JOY at Davidson UMC this month! We have a lot to be thankful for this fall.

- DUMC Preschool staff returning and bringing life and laughter to the classrooms
- Preschool children excited to come to school, many for the first time
- GodsWay Theater actors and techs practicing together and sharing their love of Christ and our faith story with children
- Small Group leaders attending training to help be better leaders and build relationships with our children
- Children returning on Sunday mornings to learn about God together
- Brightly renovated large group spaces
- A newly formed tween group building relationships and asking faith questions
- Church staff able to meet in person and working together on ministry
- Photos sent my way of our children on the first Sunday back at church
- Parents excited for some normalcy
- Children's Handbell and Choir rehearsals
- Attending Church Family Camp at Camp Tekoa with awesome families
- Pumpkins and knowing that this month we WILL have the Fall Harvest of Blessings



Youth Serve: Operation Sandwich

EVAN NESTER - DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

Service is a foundational part of the Christian walk. In response to the love we have received from Jesus as seen on the cross, we look for ways to share that same love with others. This extension of love can be as thorough as building a well for an African village or as simple as making a sandwich for someone. In September, DUMC Youth had this very opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus for the Urban Ministry Center of Charlotte. The center exists with the goal of supporting vulnerable homelessness populations and helping them overcome their circumstances. This mission is not accomplished alone though as they rely on the support of sponsors and churches.

In response to this need, the youth came together to make 450 sandwiches for the center which serves meals 365 days a year. By the time we finished, the students made 489 ham, turkey, chicken, and cheese sandwiches to fill the bellies of those struggling. Not only were they fed, the homeless experienced 489 mini-gospel messages of love. That's our hope with DUMC Youth. We want Jesus to shine through everything we do, whether it's speaking the gospel, painting homes, or making sandwiches.



Other Things to Note...



DUMC's Coffee Fellowship gets a makeover! We are excited to begin offering Coffee Talk on the fourth Sunday of the month, starting October 24. Coffee Talk will be hosted from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Come to church early or stay after worship to gather in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy the company of others. This is a service-based opportunity that will be provided by volunteers. If you'd like to be a "barista," set up for the event, clean up afterwards, or have other questions, contact Charlotte Thomas at [cthomas@davidsonumc.org](mailto:cthomas@ davidsonumc.org).



The Family Ministry Team is hosting a Fall Harvest of Blessings for all DUMC families at the Molly McKay House parking lot on Sunday, October 10 from noon – 1:30 p.m. There will be fun for the entire family – a hot dog lunch, inflatable double slide, games, the Kona shaved ice truck, and crafts. Free and open to the community!

Welcome to Our New Members!

Jo & Frank Griffith: Jo and Frank live in the St. Albans neighborhood in Davidson.

Susan O'Neal: Susan and her husband, Ken Schiebner, live in the Vermillion neighborhood in Huntersville.

Jennifer Urmston-Lowe: Jennifer lives in the Town Heights neighborhood in Cornelius.

Maxton & Caroline Voncannon: Maxton and Caroline live in the Twins Creek neighborhood in Concord.

Pat Schottenheimer: Pat lives in Bailey's Glen in Cornelius.

Cindy McAlpin: Cindy lives near the church in Davidson.

DAVIDSON
UNITED
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CHURCH

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