

The Messenger

November 2009

Dear Friends,

November is a season of changes, as we make our way through late autumn into weather that feels like winter. The trees lose their leaves around us, and the world becomes a sparser place.

We will do three special things in November here at First United Methodist Church of Dearborn: we will celebrate All Saint's Day and remember those loved ones who have died since last year, we will celebrate Thanksgiving, and open our church to those who do not have homes of their own in which to relax and live, and we will begin the season of Advent.

We will light candles on November 1, reading the names of church members who have died, as well as reading names and lighting candles in memory of your loved ones and friends. It is time for us to be thankful for all they were in our lives, and in the life of our church, and to praise God for offering them an eternity of perfection, life, hope, and love.

From November 22 to 28, we will house the homeless here. It is a gift we are able to offer because of the bounty of our own lives. Our guests will eat here and sleep here and make themselves at home here, and many of our members and friends will work hard to make it an especially good week for them. It is a difficult way to live, and we hope to make them comfortable and happy during their time with us. Doug Marks is the man to turn to if you want to volunteer your time, talents, and services. It is truly a way to serve Jesus Christ by serving his children.

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. It seems impossible that we are already talking about Advent leading us to Christmas, but the time is now to prepare our homes and our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. We get so busy in the Advent season, decorating and baking and shopping and entertaining—so much of our attention is taken up with the world and its demands on us. It is up to us to keep God at the center of our season, lest we lose sight of the reason for it. We must wait expectantly for Jesus, with at least as much eagerness as we offer while we wait for Santa Claus. We must be Christians in Advent, or we will not be Christians come Christmas Eve, and we will not know why we bother to sing and rejoice.

Plan now to help us decorate the sanctuary on Saturday, November 28. Help us make our church home a welcome and festive place to wait for Christmas.

We need you here at church in November.

Please plan now to join us, every Sunday and on many other days as well.

See you in church.

Rev. Susan DeFoe Dunlap

**ADULT BOOK CLUB
NOVEMBER 12, 2009**

Olive Kitterage

By Elizabeth Strout

We will meet in the Asbury room
at 7:00 p.m. for discussion.

Books for 2010

January - Loving Frank by Nancy Horan
February - The Middle Place by Kelly Corrigan
March - Body Surfing by Anita Shreve

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

On Friday, November 6, Church Women United will celebrate "World Community Day, 2009." Our topic will be "Piecing Earth Together," and we will study and learn of ways to protect and preserve God's world. As women working together, we can make a difference.

There will also be an in-gathering of non-perishable food stuffs for the Salvation army, as we remember the hungry in our world.

The meeting and program will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Farmington first United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River in Farmington, Michigan. Luncheon will be served following the program. The cost is \$5.00.

Call Sharon Loftis if you would like to car pool from our church.

"OCCASIONAL" BOOK CLUB

The "Occasional" Book Club will get together on Nov. 15 at 11:20 a.m.
to discuss

The Guernsey Literary and
Potato Peel Pie Society

by Mary Ann Schaffer, Annie Barrows

WINTER COATS

As we take pleasure in giving gifts to ourselves, our family and our friends, let us spread the warmth of the season to those who are less fortunate. Steven Bernard Jewelers will be collecting new and gently used winter coats to be distributed by the First United Methodist Church of Dearborn. Donations will be accepted during holiday business hours at Steven Bernard Jewelers through 12-31-2009.

"Coupons for Coats" is the Campaign established to support those in need in our community. This is an incentive promotion encouraging you to participate in this worthwhile program. Donations given will receive a 20%* discount coupon from Steven Bernard Jewelers.

Joan Schnell

SAVE THESE DATES

Saturday, November 21: **HOUSING THE HOMELESS**

Saturday, November 28: **HANGING of the GREENS** - All are welcome to join us as we prepare the church for Advent and Christmas.

Thursday, December 31: **FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES** - The 14th Annual Joe Adams New Year's Eve Family Party.

PAIRS AND SPARES

November 20, 2009

Africa Missions - Alyssa Marks, assisted by her parents, Doug and Judy Marks. Alyssa Marks chose to work on a curriculum project in South Africa during her senior year in college. She will have interesting information to share. Her parents, Doug and Judy Marks were able to visit her for a short time while she was there.

We hope you will be able to attend our potluck on November 20. It will be held in the Wesleyan Parlor at 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite dish (not dessert) and your own table service. We hope to see you there, to hear their first hand report.

December 13, 2009

Anyone wishing reserved seats for the Dearborn Choral presentation on December 12, please send your Pairs and Spares will have dinner at Richter's Chalet at 6:00 p.m. before attending the concert. Everyone and their friends are welcome to join us for a festive evening.

SUSANNA WESLEY CIRCLE

Sunday, November 8 7:00 p.m.

Meet in the Fellowship Hall and assemble the hygiene kits for our Homeless Hospitality Week.

Co-hostess: Shirley Barrick

"CAN TEEN"

Youth of the church have a mission project to help supply bed netting for children in countries where mosquitoes pose the threat of malaria. Returnable bottles and cans can be deposited in the big black trash cans marked "Can Teen." \$10 was recently deposited to the account. You are welcome to bring returnable bottles from home, or the youth will pick them up from home if you leave a message for Daphne Mitchell at the church (313) 563 5200 or e-mail daphnemyd@aol.com.

Thank you

INGATHERING MONTH

November is ingathering month at Dearborn First United Methodist Church. As you shop, please remember our less fortunate friends and neighbors. Ministry to the World will collect these non-perishable items on Sunday, November 22.

If you have any questions please contact Lister Worth or Shelly Hruska.

THANK YOU

Thank you for continuing to drink tea and save the tea tags. They are appreciated and used for medical aids; canes, crutches, and etc.

Thank you also for saving the box top points for education.

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Please DO NOT bring medicine containers to the church unless YOU know of some use. If so please collect them from the office.

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Used stamps can no longer benefit World Medical Relief.

Prayers or Letters for Military Personnel

of military service people from First United Methodist Church and others connected to us will be posted on the bulletin board at the top of the steps above the double

glass doors .If you have a family member, niece or nephew, neighbor or friend serving, please complete a form in the office or e-mail information to the church office: fumcod@aol.com.

MARY REBEKAH CIRCLE
The Mary Rebekah Circle
will not meet
the month of November

PRAYER CONCERNS
Margaret Sagan, Betty Haynes
Shirley Adams, Leonard Moore,
Marjorie Lilley, Jack Lang, Lorraine Olsen
Betty Samyn, Betty Doan, Majel Sturm

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, November 15 12:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
Speaker: Richard Abdo

Our guest speaker Rick Abdo, is a retired electrical engineer from Ford Motor Company and now owns and operates Abdo Organ services. We are fortunate to have his services as he repairs and maintains the organ we enjoy every Sunday here at our church. While volunteering a considerable amount of time on the Pine Ridge Reservation of the Oglala Lakota Nation in South Dakota, he has learned a lot about Native American history, customs and religion. Rick and his wife Ann plan to talk on Native American issues in general and also on the SuAnne Big Crow Boys and Girls Club. Come hear of his experiences participating in the Sundance and Yuwipi ceremonies. This is a meeting you will not want to miss!

It's a bring-your-own-sandwich kind of meeting. Soup and dessert will be provided.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DEARBORN:
Welcoming People for 200 Years

First United Methodist Church of Dearborn has a long held and highly cherished history of open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

In the middle 1800's our congregation had a supportive interaction with the soldiers stationed at the Detroit Arsenal at Dearbornville. At the turn of the century we reached out to the Dearborn community with tent revivals. In the 1970's we sponsored two Vietnamese immigrants and hosted Vietnamese language services. We have also housed a "FISH" food pantry and provided dinners to residents of the Fordson Hotel. We have hosted Easter Sunrise breakfasts for the community at Rouge Park.

2010 is our 200th anniversary year and we are committed to continue to offer God's welcome to all.

- ◆ **We intend to practice the ancient biblical practice of hospitality with a new Welcome Center inside the parking lot doors that has ministry information and a gift for first time visitors.**

- ◆ **We will continue to house the homeless through our Cass Avenue program during the Thanksgiving holiday week.**
- ◆ **We will learn how to help others open their minds, hearts and doors to God's ministry of Welcoming.**
- ◆ **We will continue to support Christian/Muslim gatherings and intra-Christian worship and service projects.**
- ◆ **We will help more people feel welcome with our holy worship that blends contemporary and traditional elements.**

**All who are looking for a spiritual home are welcome here.
We are praying for you.**

Different Settings on Thanksgiving Day, let us give thanks.

Another Thanksgiving Day will soon be here. Family and friends will come together to enjoy the day. Aromas from the kitchen fill the house and laughter fills the rooms. Isn't it great? Life seems so perfect at times. Preparation for the day has been made in advance. Prayer has been said before the dinner. Yes, everything is perfect. Of course there are two sides to every story. You see there is another Thanksgiving Day down at the soup kitchen. Preparations have been made and it will be different today. For some friends and family will be remembered. Laughter of years gone by will flash through some minds. It's good just to be alive. Prayer is given before dinner.

You see no matter what the setting, Jesus is always there with us. Communication can be made through prayer. Life seems to take on a new meaning just knowing we have a God who provides for us and loves us. matter who you are or where you are this Thanksgiving Day you are a child of God. No matter what the setting, preparation was made for you a long time ago on a cross. Remember theon Jesus' back and read between those marks.

This Thanksgiving as we serve the homeless at our church,table is set. Let us pray about it and let us give thanks that God works through us to serve others.

The TableSet,
Your Friend in Christ,
Bob McCain

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S BICENTENNIAL

2010 will mark a significant milestone in the life of our congregation as we celebrate 200 years of service and faithful fellowship in Dearborn. The Bicentennial committee is planning a number of events to commemorate our anniversary. Some of the events will be small while others will involve people from many places and walks of

life. We are proposing two major events - a half hour "Ken Burns style" video history of our congregation and a gala worship service celebrating our heritage. In addition, we are considering programs that will involve all of our members. Let's have one Sunday next spring when we have the Sunday School members do a balloon launch! Won't it be fun to see just how far the breezes will take them? Another possibility is to have a series of historical presentations during the year. Maybe John Wesley or Francis Asbury could visit us - or perhaps one of the early circuit riders who helped to establish our congregation will stop by! The possibilities are endless and limited only by our imaginations.

The Bicentennial Committee is hard at work developing projects for the 2010 year. We are open to suggestions from every member of the church. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. if you would like to attend a meeting. You are also welcome to contact Tara Gnau, the committee chair, at 561-0311 or taragnau@yahoo.com. Please plan to help celebrate the 200th birthday of the First United Methodist Church of Dearborn - one of Michigan's oldest continuous Protestant congregations.

HOW TO CHECK OUT LIBRARY MATERIALS:

- Remove the book card from its pocket.
- Write the date, your name, and your telephone number on the card.
- Slide the card into the small slot in the Return Box labeled "Books Out" or place the card in the box labeled "Books Out" on the book stand in the Church Parlor.
- You may keep library materials for a month.
- To return, please slide returned items into the Return Box in the library or place them in the blue cardboard box on the book stand in the Church Parlor.

**ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS
POINSETTIA TODAY**

Cost: \$10.00

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the altar please fill out the form below and

place in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

This year we are offering Red, White, or Pink double plant (8-14 blooms) poinsettias.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY NOVEMBER 17, 2009

NAME _____ Phone No. _____

COLOR: PINK _____ RED _____ WHITE _____

QUANTITY _____ TOTAL COST _____

IN HONOR
OF _____

IN MEMORY
OF _____

****Poinsettias will be displayed on the altar on December 20 and may be taken home then.****

Please detach and drop in offering plate or turn in to church office.

November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Hebrews 11:6, 32-40 Memorial Sunday Communion * Daylight Saving Time ends * ** Red Coat Sunday ** 9:00am 'Soundings' Study Group 9:00am Prayer Group 9:30am Prayer & Preparation Time 10:00am Worship Service 11:30am Quilt Show Disbursement Meeting 12:00nn Detroit Alum. Panhellenic Assoc.	2 Psalm 104:1-24 10:30am Church Women United 5:15pm Oertones 6:30pm Carillons 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible Study/Rev. Marshall	3 John 14:1-4 7:00am Men's Breakfast @ Panera Bread 8:30am Women's Breakfast @ Leon's 10:00am Library Group 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Calendar Staff Meeting 11:15am Chair Exercise 5:00pm Program Staff Meeting 5:30pm Living Well Fellowship 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Exercise Class 7:00pm Trustees	4 James 3:13-18 11:00am Parish Visitors *Wesley Wednesday* 5:00pm Church Mice 5:30pm Dinner 5:45pm Wesley Ringers 6:00pm Angel Choir 6:30pm Classes/Opportunities (all ages) 6:30pm Asbury Choir 7:30pm Adult Choir 7:30pm Praise Band	5 Romans 12:9-16 9:30am Village Smockers 9:30am Boutique Meeting 11:15am Chair Exercise 5:30pm Worship Design Team 7:00pm Bicentennial Meeting 7:00pm Exercise Class	6 Galatians 2:19-21 Church Work Session/FirstUMC Men	7 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Church Work Session/FirstUMC Men
8 1 Peter 4:12-16 * Consecration Sunday * 9:00am 'Soundings' Study Group 9:00am Prayer Group	9 Philippians 4:4-9 5:15pm Overtones 6:30pm Carillons 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Bible	10 Jeremiah 30:1-9 7:00am Men's Breakfast @ Panera Bread 8:30am Women's Breakfast @ Leon's	11 Mark 10:46-52 *Wesley Wednesday* (see Wed, November 4th)	12 Malachi 3:8-12 9:30am TARTS 7:00pm Exercise Class 7:00pm Adult Book Club 7:00pm OCD Support Group	13 Mark 2:1-12 7:00pm Boy Scouts/Eagle Court of Honor	14 John 4:1-39

<p>9:15am Orff Ensemble 9:30am Prayer & Preparation Time 10:00am Worship Service * Stewardship Celebration * following worship 7:00pm Susanna Wesley Circle</p>	<p>Study/Rev. Marshall</p>	<p>10:00am Bible Study 10:00am Library Group 11:00am Calendar Staff 11:15am Chair Exercise 5:30pm Living Well Fellowship 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Exercise Class 7:00pm Finance Committee</p>				
<p>15 Colossians 1:3-14 9:00am 'Soundings' Study Group 9:00am Prayer Group 9:15am Orff Ensemble 9:30am Prayer & Preparation Time 10:00am Worship Service 11:20am 'Occasional' Book Club 11:20am Video Bible Study 12:00nn UMW Meeting & Program</p>	<p>16 Luke 15:1-7 10:30am Mary Circle 5:15pm Overtones 6:30pm Carillons 7:00pm OCD Board Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Ministry to the World 7:30pm Bible Study/Rev. Marshall</p>	<p>17 Nehemiah 2:17-20 & 6:9, 7:00am Men's Breakfast @ Panera Bread 8:30am Women's Breakfast @ Leon's 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am Library Group 11:00am Calendar Staff Meeting 11:15am Chair Exercise 05:00pm Program Directors Meeting 5:30pm Living Well Fellowship 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Exercise Class 7:00pm Staff-Parish Relations Committee</p>	<p>18 1 Corinthian 2:6-16 *Wesley Wednesday* (see Wed, November 4th) 6:00pm Boy Scouts/Order of the Arrow</p>	<p>19 Matthew 6:19-24 9:30am TARTS 6:00pm Boy Scouts/Order of the Arrow 6:30pm Program Ministers Meeting 7:00pm Investment/Endowment Committee 7:30pm Church Concl</p>	<p>20 Corinthians 2 1:3-7 6:00pm Pairs & Spares Potluck & Program</p>	<p>21 Matthew 6:25-34 * Hospitality Ministry *</p>
<p>22 Psalm 119:97-106 9:00am 'Soundings' Study Group 9:00am Prayer Group 9:15am Orff Ensemble 9:30am Prayer & Preparation Time 10:00am Worship Service 11:20am Video Bible Study 11:20am Faithlink Study Group * Hospitality</p>	<p>23 Daniel 12:1-13 Bell Rehearsals ??? Boy Scouts Serving Dinner * Hospitality Ministry *</p>	<p>24 1 Peter 1:13-25 7:00am Men's Breakfast @ Panera Bread 8:30am Women's Breakfast @ Leon's 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am Library Group 11:00am Calendar Staff 11:15am Chair Exercise 5:30pm Living Well Fellowship 6:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting 6:30pm Cub</p>	<p>25 Acts 16:25-34 * Hospitality Ministry * Choir Rehearsals???</p>	<p>26 Ephesians 1:3-14 THANKSGIVING 5:15pm * Staff Holiday * * Hospitality Ministry *</p>	<p>27 Ezekiel 34:20-31 * Staff Holiday * * Hospitality Ministry *</p>	<p>28 Proverbs 15:1-4 8:00am Decorate the Sanctuary (children) 10:00am Decorate the Sanctuary (adults) * Hospitality Ministry *</p>

Ministry *		Scouts??? 7:00pm Exercise Class * Hospitality Ministry *				
29 John 1:6-8, 19-28; 1 Th4 United Methodist Study Day 9:00am 'Soundings' Study Group 9:00am Prayer Group 9:15am Orff Ensemble???? 9:30am Prayer & Preparation Time 10:00am Worship Service	30 Mark 12:41-44 5:15pm Overtones 6:30pm Carillons 7:00pm Boy Scouts					

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DEARBORN
VISION STATEMENT**

With God's grace and Christ as our guide we reach out with love and hope offering opportunities to develop a Christian family who will witness our faith to our congregation, community and world.

The End of the November 2009 Newsletter