

DeBows Crows

The Monthly Newsletter of DeBows UMC



May 2016

DeBows UMC

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National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 5

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8

Pentecost

Sunday, May 15

Pasta Dinner

Saturday, May 21

Memorial Day

Monday, May 30



Prayer List

Please keep the following people in Prayer

Madhavi Badey	Barbara Wesolovski
Chris Bitondo	Joe Huber
Edith Gutwein	Dean Sparling
Karen Hornak	Tiffany Morgan
Rudy & Jean Iannacone	Helen Kramer
Mark Hayward	Bert Pitcher
Skylar Ridge	Renee Ridge
Scott Timberman	Bruce Montgomery
Rose Teepe	Sean
Diane Hinze	Allie Juliano
Jen Shane	Dave Pierceall
Eddie Covert	Joe Sisti & Family

All those that . . .

- . . . are homeless or hungry
- . . . are "un" or "under" employed
- . . . struggle with various addictions
- . . . are affected by earthquakes & terrorism
- . . . are in prison & those that work with them
- . . . serve and support the DeBows Food Pantry

NOTE: Please inform the Pastor when a name should be added or removed from the Prayer List. Also, contact the church office in the event of a pastoral care situation that might need Ernie's attention or response. Thank You.

Sunday Worship Schedule

Bible Study	9:45 – 10:45 AM
Worship Service	11:00 AM
Sunday School	11:00 AM
Fellowship Time	After Worship Service
Choir Practice	12:30 PM

Study of God's Word

Women's Bible Study

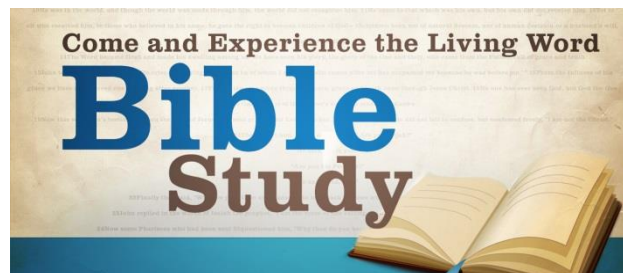
Fellowship Hall – Sunday at 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study

Downstairs classroom – Sunday at 9:45 AM

Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday at 11:30 AM



A Word From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

As I write this we are having another spate of warm weather. Even though winter has been mild, and spring has so far been relatively dry, I can feel a longing welling up within me for some warmer weather.

Last week we had a joyous Baptismal service. It was my first baptism here at DeBows. Of course it is always a joy to have the extra family members sharing in the worship – making the church look quite full. But the greater delight is in the message of the sacrament: that God’s grace reaches out to us through the event. I reminded the congregation of the three “promises” involved in the liturgy of the service. Firstly, there is God’s gracious promise part to embrace the child. Secondly, there is the promise on the part of the parents (and godparents/sponsors) to bring the child up in the Christian faith which is done by their own personal involvement in the life of the church family. Thirdly, there is the promise on the part of the church family (speaking for the church everywhere) to assist in the Christian formation of the child by providing an accepting environment, as well as educational and recreational opportunities for the nurture of the child in faith.

It was ironic that this Baptismal service coincided with the launching of our “Informal worship”. It was the first of our efforts to change the format of our worship to something less traditional, and more informal. We plan to do this on the third Sunday of each month. It would be helpful for those who attend these to offer their thoughts and comments about the

experience. It would be helpful to know how people are responding. So take a moment to send an email to Ernie to let him know YOUR reaction – (i) what YOU liked or did not like, (ii) what was different and how did YOU respond to it, (iii) and whether YOU think there might be benefits for the “outside” community (those who do not currently attend our church) for this type of service. We want to monitor the response over the next several months before drawing any conclusions.

We continue our journey through what has come to be called “the Great Fifty Days of Easter.” It represents the interlude between Easter and Pentecost, two of the great feasts of the Christian calendar. Pentecost is celebrated by some as the birthday of the church, but it is supremely celebrated as the time when the church is empowered by the Holy Spirit for mission and service. We will be sure to mark this celebration in ways that draw attention to this momentous event in the life of the church, and we will remember our own need for empowerment as we seek to be faithful disciples in our time and place.

Enjoy spring, and the splendid resurgence of new life it offers. However, please remember the need we all have for renewal and blessing. The Psalmist (104:24) says it so well:

*Lord, you have done so many things!
You made them all so wisely!
The earth is full of your creations!*

Shalom!



Upcoming Events

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 National Day of Prayer	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9 Food Pantry	10	11	12	13	14
15 Pentecost	16	17	18	19	20	21 Pasta Dinner
22	23 Food Pantry	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday, May 1

Bible Study	9:45 AM
Worship Service & SS	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	12:30 PM

Wednesday, May 4

Prayer Time	11:15 AM
Bible Study	11:30 AM

Sunday, May 8

Mother's Day

Bible Study	9:45 AM
Worship Service & SS	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	12:30 PM

Thursday, May 5

National Day of Prayer

Monday, May 9

Food Pantry Open	6:30 PM
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Wednesday, May 11

Prayer Time	11:15 AM
Bible Study	11:30 AM
Trustee Meeting	7:00 PM

Thursday, May 12

Wesley Club	6:00 PM
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Saturday, May 14

Praise Worship Service	6:30 PM
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Pentecost Sunday, May 15

Bible Study	9:45 AM
Worship Service & SS	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	12:30 PM

Wednesday, May 18

Prayer Time	11:15 AM
Bible Study	11:30 AM

Saturday, May 21

Pasta Dinner	4:30-7 PM
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Sunday, May 22

Bible Study	9:45 AM
Worship Service & SS	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	12:30 PM

Monday, May 23

Food Pantry Open	6:30 PM
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Wednesday, May 25

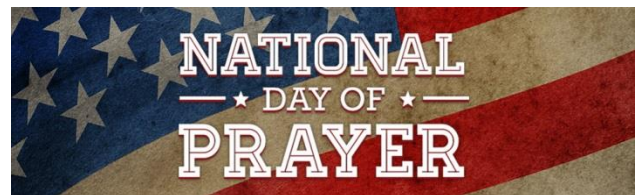
Prayer Time	11:15 AM
Bible Study	11:30 AM

Sunday, May 29

Bible Study	9:45 AM
Worship Service & SS	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	12:30 PM

Monday, May 30

Memorial Day



The **National Day of Prayer** will be observed on Thursday, **May 5th**. There will be an inter-faith prayer service in the Jackson Town Hall Main Meeting Room starting at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.



Join Us!

Saturday, May 21st

4:30 – 7:00 PM

DeBows UMC will host a Pasta Dinner on Saturday, May 21, 2016. As in the past, this will be a good opportunity for fellowship while supporting the ministry of the church. Please reserve the date and invite friends and family.

Adults (13 & Older) - \$10.00
Children (5 to 12) - \$6.00
Children 4 and under are free

You may contact Joy Santillo for more information. There will be sign-up sheets posted if you would like to volunteer to help host this event.

Church Humor

FAMILY CIRCUS



5-4
Copyright 1984
The Register and Tribune
Syndicate, Inc.
"Daddy said there'll always be prayer in school as long as they give final exams."

Connect with DeBows Online

Visit DeBows UMC online at:

www.debowsumc.org

or

www.facebook.com/debowsumc

You can visit now on your smart phone by scanning the below QR Codes.

DeBows Website

DeBows Facebook



On the website you can access the latest information concerning schedules, events and activities, as well as current blog posts and general information about the church.

Emails can be sent to church staff via the "Contact Us" page. Also, alert notices and weather related cancellations will also be displayed on the website as needed. Visit often for the latest information.



Inside the church you can connect to the WiFi service using the instructions found on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall.

Hymn Story

“O Spirit of the Living God”

Henry H. Tweedy – UMH #539

Henry Hallam Tweedy (1868-1953) was born in Binghamton, N.Y. He was a Congregational pastor, serving churches in New York and Connecticut, and later taught practical theology from 1909-1937 at Yale Divinity School. One of his most noted contributions was being the editor of the hymnal “Christian Worship and Praise” (1939).

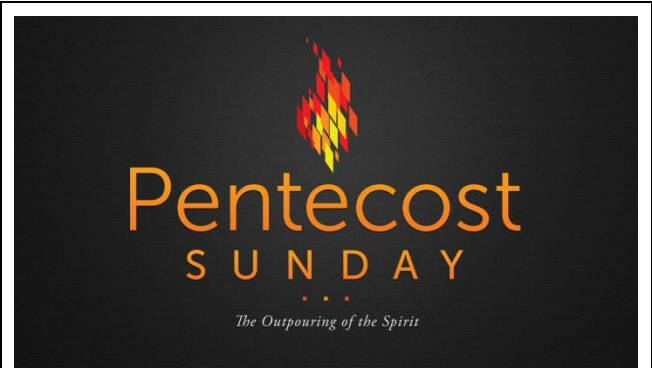
“O Spirit of the Living God” was first published in the Methodist Hymnal (1935) after his friend Halford E. Luccock sent it to the hymnal committee for consideration.

The text is an exposition of Acts 2, a passage focused on Pentecost. The theme is the Holy Spirit, using the metaphors of fire, wind, and speech in the first three stanzas to illustrate the nature of the third person of the Trinity. The fourth stanza explains how the church can better understand the power of Christ through an understanding of the Holy Spirit's work.

Methodist hymnologist Guy McCutchan quotes Tweedy as saying he composed “O Spirit of the Living God” because “some of the old Pentecostal hymns were to me unsatisfactory, and I was eager to interpret the symbolism of the story in Acts in a way that modern men could understand and sincerely mean.”

Tweedy makes these petitions so that “we know the power of Christ who came to this world to save. . . .” If these petitions are fulfilled, “true holiness” will make “thy children whole” and we will be “perfected by thee . . . [to] reach creation’s glorious goal!” Interestingly, the language of Christian perfection indicates a Wesleyan direction for the culmination of the hymn.

Pentecost Word Search



Find 12 words associated with Pentecost.
Up, down, diagonally, forward or backwards.
All words are in a straight line.

Holy	Spirit	Church	Fire
Wind	Pentecost	Filled	Tongues
Fifty	Acts	Disciples	Amazed

P	E	K	D	D	I	T	A	P
D	E	T	O	N	G	U	E	S
F	R	N	F	I	L	L	E	D
D	I	Q	T	W	V	A	L	N
I	F	F	G	E	M	X	H	A
S	W	U	T	A	C	W	J	H
C	S	A	Z	Y	H	O	S	A
I	D	E	L	B	U	I	S	C
P	D	O	F	M	R	L	D	T
L	H	T	C	G	C	T	O	S
E	K	E	C	N	H	Z	R	R
S	P	I	R	I	T	K	L	P

Website Update Status



website
UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The update of the DeBows UMC church website has begun behind the scenes. You will begin to notice changes online in the next 2 weeks. Most of the current informational content will still be there and in some cases will be refreshed.

The update is being implemented to improve the general appearance and functionality of the website. More content and features will continue to be added. Visit often to see the changes and do not hesitate to offer feedback or suggestions.

120 Years of Faithful Service



DeBows
1896 – 2016

DeBows had its beginnings in 1867. It was then known as the DeBows Methodist Episcopal Sabbath School. Christian education classes and worship were held in a small schoolhouse near the site of the present church.

In May of 1896, DeBows was incorporated and officially became a Methodist Episcopal Church. Two parcels of land were purchased at the current location and a new church building was erected.

You can see a complete history of DeBows and some pictures on the church website.

MAP Process Update



Thanks to everyone who attended one of the MAP Town Halls and/or completed a survey form in April. We had over 25 people participate in these events.

The Town Hall events and surveys represented opportunities for us to gather as a church to openly discuss ideas needed to create a meaningful Ministry Action Plan for our church.

Data collected in April is being compiled for review and will be used by the Church Council to help determine specific goals in the MAP. The MAP will be published and included as part of our annual Church Conference reporting.

DeBows Food Pantry

The Community Food Pantry continues to be one of DeBows most successful outreach programs, and it is in the process of becoming even better.

To better accommodate clients who cannot navigate the basement stairs, the 4 shelving units containing food were moved upstairs. Space in Fellowship Hall and the nursery room

were used for food distribution. Initial feedback from both clients and volunteers was very positive.

The distribution process will be tweaked and the upstairs floor/closet space will be optimized going forward. Once the new distribution process and storage areas are finalized, we need to have the Monmouth and Ocean County Food banks review and approve the new process; a requirement for State and USDA funded foods.

As part of the new food pantry operations, 3 combo refrigerator/freezer units were received at the church. These units were obtained via a grant from the County Food bank. Deb Cregle, DeBows Food Pantry Coordinator, was instrumental in submitting the grant request and following through with the approval process. All 3 units will be installed in the Fellowship Hall kitchen area, replacing the old and energy inefficient commercial refrigeration unit.

Pentecost



Sunday, May 15th is Pentecost.

Pentecost is one of the principal days of the Christian year, celebrated on the fiftieth day after Easter. The Greek word *pentecoste* means "fiftieth day." Pentecost is the day on which the Christian church commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and others assembled in Jerusalem. (Read Acts 2) It marks the beginning of the Christian church and the proclamation of its message throughout the world and is often referred to as the birthday of the church.

The liturgical color for Pentecost is red. Traditionally, Pentecost has been a day for baptisms and since it was the custom in the early church for persons being baptized to wear white robes or clothing, the day also became known as Whitsunday, a contraction of white Sunday. Today, most people wear something red to church on Pentecost Sunday.

Did You Know?

- ❖ Have you ever considered the design of The United Methodist Church logo? (See header of this newsletter) It acknowledges God through Christ (the Cross) and the Holy Spirit (the Flame). The flame is a reminder of Pentecost when witnesses were unified by the power of the Holy Spirit and saw "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3).
- ❖ The next Praise Worship Service is scheduled for Saturday, May 14 at 6:30 PM.
- ❖ Large print hymnals are available for those that need them. Just ask an usher.

- ❖ You can submit questions, feedback or suggestions by visiting the "Contact Us" page on the church website. Select the desired recipient from the pull down list and compose/send the email.
- ❖ **The annual church Flea Market, Bake Sale and Car Wash is scheduled for Saturday, June 11th. Contact Sue Hayward for further details.**
- ❖ There is now a dedicated Prayer Time each Wednesday at 11:15 AM in the sanctuary, prior to the Wednesday morning bible study at 11:30 AM.

History of Mother's Day

The modern American holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in May 1908 when Anna Jarvis, after receiving financial support from Philadelphia department store owner John Wanamaker, held a memorial for her mother at St Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. Today St Andrew's Methodist Church holds the International Mother's Day Shrine.

Anna's campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died. Ann Jarvis had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War, and created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues. Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother by continuing the work she started and to set aside a day to honor all mothers.

After much lobbying and persistence by Anna Jarvis, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day in 1914, to be held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Ironically, after all her work to establish Mother's Day, she became resentful of the commercialization of the holiday. By the early 1920s, Hallmark Cards and other companies had started selling Mother's Day cards. Jarvis believed that the companies had misinterpreted and exploited the idea of Mother's Day, and that the emphasis of the holiday was on sentiment, not profit. As a result, she organized boycotts of Mother's Day, and threatened to issue lawsuits against the companies involved. Jarvis argued that people should appreciate and honor their mothers through handwritten letters expressing their love and gratitude, instead of buying gifts and pre-made cards. Jarvis protested at a candy makers' convention in Philadelphia in 1923, and at a meeting of American War Mothers in 1925.

By this time, carnations had become associated with Mother's Day, and the selling of carnations by the American War Mothers to raise money angered Jarvis, who was arrested for disturbing the peace.

Mother's Day has since been adopted by other countries, and it is now celebrated all over the world.

Happy 
Mother's Day
 Sunday, May 8