

DeBows Crows

The Monthly Newsletter of DeBows UMC



July 2016

DeBows UMC

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Sunday Worship Schedule

During the summer DeBows will conduct its **Sunday worship service at 9:30 AM**. Fellowship Time will be held after the service. We will return to the fall schedule on Sunday, September 11, 2016.

Sunday morning will look a little different when we return on September 11th. There will be two worship services. The Sunday worship schedule will be as follows:

Worship Service #1	9:30 – 10:15 AM
Sunday School	9:30 – 10:15 AM
Fellowship Time	10:15 – 10:45 AM
Worship Service #2	10:45 – 11:45 AM

Sunday School will take place during the first worship service and Fellowship Time will take place between the two worship services. This will provide time for people attending either service to get together to catch-up with one another or purchase grocery cards.

The purpose of the new Sunday schedule is to offer people more options concerning the time and style of worship and hopefully attract new people who had conflicts with the single 11 AM service time. Watch for more details.

Prayer List

Madhavi Badey	Barbara Wesolowski
Chris Bitondo	Joe Huber
Edith Gutwein	Dean Sparling
Karen Hornak	Tiffany Morgan
Rudy & Jean Iannacone	Helen Kramer
Paula Reilly	Chase McKinney
Skylar & Renee Ridge	Pat Duncan
Dottie Weeks & Family	Eddie Allerton
Rose Teepe	Sean
Asher Smith	Allie Juliano
Jen Shane	Dave Pierceall
Robbie Mclean	Joe Sisti & Family
Emanuel Disporto	

All those that. . .

- ... are homeless or hungry
- ... are "un" or "under" employed
- ... are dealing with domestic violence
- ... are struggling with personal illness while caring for family
- ... are affected by natural disasters & terrorism
- ... are in prison & those that work with them
- ... DeBows Food Pantry Ministry

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 Pastor Ernie's attention or response. Thank You.

A Word From the Pastor

Dear friends,

With the change of time for the summer, the reality dawns that we have made it through a year together. There is always a challenge for both the pastor and the congregation when a change in appointments occurs. It is never only about saying farewell to the former beloved pastor. It is about starting a journey with a new pastor who is an unknown quantity. The arrival of summer tells us that we have survived the year - relatively unscathed.

Early in the year we needed to deal with membership concerns. There were, and still are, far too many who appear on our records as members, but have shown very little, if any, commitment to the DeBows church. This remains a challenge for us. How do we respond to them? How do we help them regain a sense of belonging? How do we keep extending grace to them while still maintaining our identity as a community of faith? This will need to be addressed again as we enter a new program year.

On the worship front there have also been a few changes. The congregation seems to have adjusted well to that. In the last few months we have introduced a different format for our worship on the 4th Sunday of each month. This is an effort to move away from the "traditional" worship in which we are all rooted. It is not meant to be a cure all. But it signals our desire as a congregation to adapt to a changing culture and its need for us to communicate using different media. (See below picture as an example) We will keep experimenting with that. For all of us it is important never to confuse the wine with the

wineskins. (Luke 5:37) Some of our old, culture-bound skins of worship styles are overdue for a change!!

Erica and I will again be traveling this summer. We will be going "home" to South Africa for almost a month. Our two children, daughters-in-law and three grandchildren will be traveling with us. It will good for us all to connect with our families and our roots. Traveling in such a big group will have its own challenges. While we are away, worship will be led as follows:

July 31	Ed Stillwell
August 7	Deb Cregle
August 14	Pastor Betty Gibbons
August 21	Mark Hayward

Whatever your own plans for summer are, I trust you will enjoy them, and that you will travel safely. We return home at the end of August to be here at worship on the 28th.

Shalom,



Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 2016					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9 Praise Service
10	11 Food Pantry	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Food Pantry	26	27	28	29	30
31	Sunday Worship - 9:30 AM					

Sunday, July 3

Worship Service 9:30 AM

Monday, July 4

Independence Day

Saturday, July 9

Praise Service 6:30 PM

Sunday, July 10

Women's Bible Study 8:30 AM
Worship Service 9:30 AM

Monday, July 11

Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM

Sunday, July 17

Worship Service 9:30 AM

Sunday, July 24

Women's Bible Study 8:30 AM
Worship Service 9:30 AM

Monday, July 25

Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM

Sunday, July 31

Worship Service 9:30 AM



Our Music Director, Grayce Armstrong, would like to thank all those who have thus far volunteered to offer their musical talents to help with the music ministry portion of the worship service during the summer. There are still opportunities to volunteer if you are interested in sharing your musical talent (vocal or instrumental); please contact Grayce. She can be reached at music@debowsumc.org.

Grayce sang an inspiring rendition of "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" during the worship service on Sunday, June 26th in honor of Dottie Week's sister, Shonnette Alexander, who passed away earlier in June.



As a church, part of our mission is to serve the needs of our surrounding community. The Food Pantry is our most visible form of serving, but we also engage various community groups by allowing them to use our facilities. This allows the church to build relationships that not only help us to serve them, but to offer opportunities to share the Goods News with others. The church currently supports the following community groups:

Boy Scout Troop #2

Over Eaters Anonymous

Workaholics Anonymous (starting soon)

Counseling Corner

by Donna Ridge

Mental health today has come far from the early days, but is still not understood. When most people think of mental health they think of depression, bipolar, schizophrenia, phobias, etc. Just as there are many physical diseases, so there are mental illnesses. Where to turn for help sometimes can be confusing. If you or a loved one, neighbor, coworker or anyone you may know is suffering in this area or are wondering if help is needed, help is just a phone call away. New Jersey Mental Health Cares is a comprehensive mental health information and referral hotline and website. It is not just for professionals, but also the general public.

NJ Mental Health Cares is not for crisis intervention, but provides information which includes services for adults and children. It makes referrals to legal services, housing, employment, rehabilitation, inpatient and outpatient, self-help and more.

There are trained mental health professionals to answer calls.

- Live coverage is from 8am to 8pm. (Multilanguage capability and TTY)
- Complete up to date listings of NJ's public mental health services.
- Ability to answer information and referral request over the phone or through e-mail
- Individuals can search NJ Mental HealthCares online data base.
- Follow-up to ensure callers are satisfied with the referred service.
- Ability to directly transfer calls to services while the staff remains on the line with you to facilitate transfers.

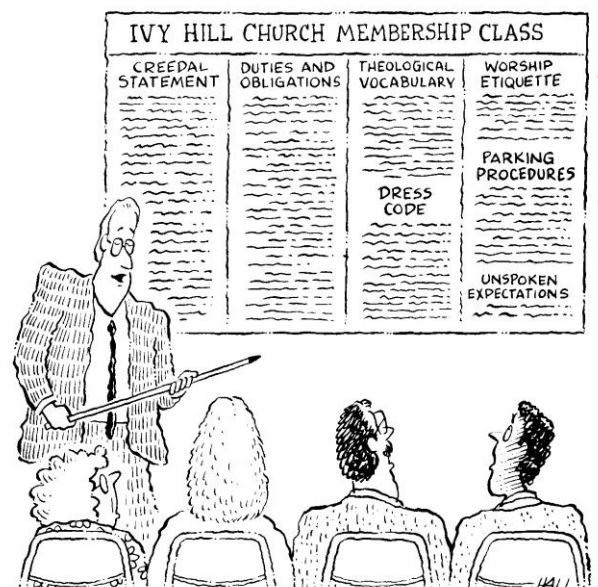
The number is 866-202-4357 or on the web at njmentalhelpcares.org. I hope this information is of value to you. Do not hesitate or feel ashamed to call. After all, our brain and our emotions are just as much a part of us as are our hearts and the rest of our physical body.

~ Donna Ridge



Pray for understanding of God's will ... Col 1:9

Church Humor



"Some churches use the acronym TULIP to remember their beliefs. We use CHRYSANTHEMUM."

Connect with DeBows Online

The church website is the place to access the latest information concerning schedules, events and activities, as well as current blog posts and general information about the church. You can leave comments for blog posts or send emails to church staff via the "Contact Us/Send Us Email" page. Alert notices and weather related cancellations will also be displayed on the website as needed. Visit often for the latest information.

Also, don't forget to check out the church Facebook page!

www.debowsunc.org

or

www.facebook.com/debowsunc

Smart phone QR Codes

DeBows Website



DeBows Facebook



WiFi is available in the church. To connect, just follow the instructions found on the bulletin boards inside and outside Fellowship Hall.

July 4th Word Search



Find the 12 words below associated with Independence Day. Up, down, diagonally, forward or backwards. All words are in a straight line.

Independence	Liberty	Picnic
Philadelphia	America	July
Fireworks	Fourth	Flag
Freedom	Declaration	Bell

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

Pictures from June

Every year in early June the Laurel blooms, making a grand display in our wooded areas. This is a sample taken just down the road from the church on route 537.



On June 11th DeBows had its annual Flea Market. Here are a few pictures from that event.



MAP Process Update

The Church Council continues to work on the 2016 Ministry Action Plan (MAP). They are currently reviewing all the data collected during the Town Hall and Survey events and developing and prioritizing a list of possible action items and goals to include in the MAP.

Short and long term goals will be reflected in the final MAP document, which will be published in time to include in the 2016 Church Conference reports. When considering goals and action items there will be a conscious effort to select goals that will improve the church in all areas. By this we mean each of

the following functional areas of a typical healthy church life cycle will be addressed as seen in the below graphic:



You will be hearing more about this life cycle in the future, but here is a short summary:

Connect (Evangelism) - ways to connect with new people in the community to create opportunities to share the Gospel and encourage engagement with our church.

Worship - ways to provide inspiring worship at DeBows by improving our worship services or other worship events to bring appropriate praise and honor to God.

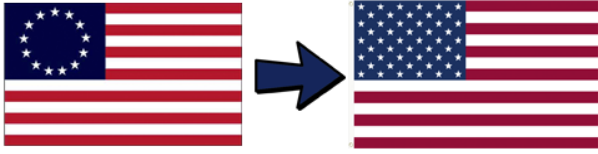
Grow (Discipleship) - ways to strengthen the Body of Christ by improving Bible Study, Devotions, Training, Giving, Prayer Life, Fellowship, etc.

Serve - ways to share God's love with others; Food Pantry, Community Outreach, Mission Events, Supporting Community Groups, etc.

Did You Know?

- ☑ It may be hard to remember our Prayer Shawl Ministry during the warm weather of summer, but they take some time to make and we welcome donated shawls all year-round so we have some on hand as needs arise. You can find instructions and more information on the website.
- ☑ This fall's Certified/Advanced Lay Servant class will be on the topic of Prayer. Watch for details about the dates/times/location in late August. You may contact Mark Hayward or Pastor Ernie if you have any questions concerning the Lay Servant Ministry.
- ☑ Bulletins for the Sunday service are available on a stand in the hallway leading to the side door of the sanctuary. Bulletins for children can also be found there along with busy bags for kids.
- ☑ Sunday worship is at 9:30 AM during the summer. We will return to our fall schedule on Sunday, September 11, 2016. See article on page one for more details.
- ☑ You can now see online the complete chronology of pastors that have served at DeBows during its 120 year history. From the main menu on the church website, select About DeBows/History/Chronology of Pastors at DeBows.
- ☑ The UpperRoom and Daily Bread daily devotionals are available on the table outside of Fellowship Hall. They can also be accessed online from the church website.

Fun Facts About the U.S. Flag



1. There have been 27 official versions of the U.S. flag, each with 13 stripes representing the original 13 colonies and an amount of stars representing the number of states. There is one exception to this: upon welcoming Vermont and Kentucky—states 14 and 15—into the union, a new version of the flag was created that had 15 stars and 15 stripes. However, as new states were added, it became readily apparent that continuously changing the number of stripes was impractical and starting with the next version they reverted back to 13 stripes and simply kept updating the number of stars to represent the number of current states. Ironically, the flag that flew at Ft. McHenry during the War of 1812 and inspired Francis Scott Key to write The Star Spangle Banner, was the 15-star, 15-stripe version of the flag.
2. A 17-year old high school student designed the flag as it appears today. In anticipation of Alaska and Hawaii becoming states, Robert G. Heft created the 50-star flag as part of a history project (for which he received a B-) before submitting it to Congress for consideration. In August of 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower chose Heft's design over 1,500 other applicants and informed him of the news over the phone. (Heft's teacher changed his grade to an A).
3. Another name for the American Flag; Old Glory actually refers to a specific flag owned by Captain William Driver. Old Glory was made with 24 stars. Old Glory traveled with Driver on his ship and circled the globe twice before retiring with Driver in Nashville, TN. The flag was hidden away inside Driver's bedspread in Nashville, when Tennessee seceded from the Union. When the war was over, Driver joyously ripped open his bedding to an astonished group of patriots to be proudly displayed for all to see. Due to its fragile state and incredible historical and sentimental value, Old Glory now lives in the Smithsonian.
4. The official colors used in the U.S. flag were standardized in 1934 and are: White, Old Glory Red (Pantone 193 C), and Old Glory Blue (Pantone 281 C).
5. When folded properly, the US flag is shaped like a triangle with only the stars showing. If you have exacting standards, it usually takes 13 folds: the same number of original colonies.
6. The Canton is the correct name for the dark blue rectangular area on the top left quarter of the American Flag.

Have a great SUMMER!

Summer is here and we hope you will be able to worship with us at the 9:30 AM Sunday services. We also realize that with summer come opportunities for special events, family get-togethers, and vacation travel. We pray you have a healthy & safe summer season and look forward to seeing you for our new fall schedule, beginning on Sunday, September 11, 2016.