

# DeBows Crows

The Monthly Newsletter of DeBows UMC



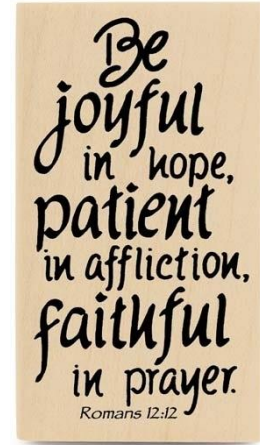
## August 2016

### DeBows UMC

509 Monmouth Road  
Jackson, NJ 08527  
732-928-4475

Rev. Ernie Williams, Pastor  
pastor@debowsumc.org

debowsumc.org  
facebook.com/debowsumc



### Prayer List

Madhavi Badey	Barbara Wesolovski
Chris Bitondo	Joe Huber
Edith Gutwein	Dean Sparling
Karen Hornak	John Manion
Rudy & Jean Iannacone	Helen Kramer
Paula Reilly	Chase McKinney
Skylar & Renee Ridge	Pat Duncan
Hannah Ziti	Eddie Allerton
Rose Teepe	Smith Family
Asher Smith	Allie Juliano
Kevin Turner	Dave Pierceall
Robbie Mclean	Joe Sisti & Family
Emanuel Disporto	Virginia Lane
Ron Calub	John DeMarco

#### 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.

~ Thank You ~

### 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.

Please note: 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.

## A Word From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

As we gathered for our most recent informal worship service, we took some time to reflect together on the Language of Prayer. We noted from a George Barna survey some interesting research regarding prayer in the U.S.A.:

- 82% of adult pray once a week
- 89% believe there is a God watching over us who answers our prayers
- 82% believe prayer can “change what happens in a person’s life.”

I confess that sometimes I am bemused by such research results. Maybe the above statistics raise for you the same question it raises for me: why do so many people pray so seldom (once a week!) considering they believe God actively watching over us and answering our prayers?

We reviewed the teaching Jesus gave to his disciples in answer to the question, “Lord, teach us to pray.” His answer was, of course, the patterned prayer we know as the Lord’s Prayer. Jesus invited his disciples to ask for bread, forgiveness, and deliverance. We all need that – all the time!

We added an important reminder: that learning to pray will lead us beyond words to action. Our concluding thought was that prayer is in fact, less about words and more about relationships. Among other things, God is concerned to establish a deep and abiding relationship with each of us. That then

becomes another incentive for us to pray earnestly and steadfastly – “without ceasing!”

As Erica and I prepare for our summer vacation we will hold you all in our prayerful memories – and invite you to do the same for us. On the Sundays we are away you will be well served by those who will lead our worship: Ed Stillwell (7/31); Deb Cregle (8/7); Rev. Betty Gibbons (8/14); Mark Hayward (8/21). Please give them the support they deserve. Also, as best you are able, please give Betty the warmest of welcomes.

Shalom,



Please keep Pastor Ernie, his wife Erica and their entire family in your prayers as they travel to South Africa to visit family and friends. They will be away for much of August. Pastor Ernie will return to the pulpit on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Until then, we will entrust them to God’s loving care.

## Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>August 2016</b>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Charlie Zahm Concert OYMH - 7PM
7	8 Food Pantry 6:30 PM	9	10	11	12	13 Praise Service 6:30 PM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Food Pantry 6:30 PM	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Sunday Worship - 9:30 AM		

### Saturday, August 6

Charlie Zalm Concert  
Free at OYMH 7:00 PM

### Sunday, August 7

Worship Service 9:30 AM

### Monday, August 8

Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM

### Saturday, August 13

Praise Service 6:30 PM

### Sunday, August 14

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

### Sunday, August 21

Worship Service 9:30 AM

### Monday, August 22

Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM

### Sunday, August 28

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



**Saturday  
August 6, 2016  
at 7:00 PM**

### Charlie Zahm Concert Old Yellow Meeting House

70 Yellow Meeting House Road  
Upper Freehold, NJ 08514  
(Off Route 526 in Imlaystown, NJ)

Charlie Zahm is returning once again to the Old Yellow Meeting House to share his gift of music. Charlie is a very popular baritone balladeer, specializing in Celtic, Maritime, Early American, and Civil War music, as well as Traditional Hymns and Christmas music during Advent. This is a free concert, which starts at 7:00 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

You are welcome to come at 6:30 PM and take a self-guided tour of the historic cemetery, dating back to the early 1700's.

For more information, contact Wayne at:  
weme86@optonline.net



Our Music Director, Grayce Armstrong, would like to thank all those who have volunteered to share 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. Also if you wish to participate in the choir starting in September, please contact Grayce. She can be reached at [music@debowsumc.org](mailto:music@debowsumc.org).

## Looking Ahead . . .



The following church training opportunities and events have been scheduled for later this year. Watch for more detailed information as the actual dates gets closer.

**The fall 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.

**Annual Church Conference for DeBows UMC.** Our church conference has been scheduled for Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. All church reports are due by October 10<sup>th</sup> to allow time to incorporate them into the church conference booklet. The church conference will be held at St. Mark UMC, Hamilton Square 465 Paxson Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08690.

**Year-end statistical reports training.** Pastors, finance committees, stewardship teams, treasurers, financial secretaries, and auditing committees are encouraged to attend. Conference Treasurer John Cardillo and his

team will discuss important issues regarding year-end reports and will be available to answer any questions you may have.

CENTRAL REGION - 2-4 PM or 7-9 PM  
Wednesday, December 9th  
Aldersgate UMC, 568 Ryders Ln  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

### **Doxology: A Worship Conference**

(Note: this regional event replaces what used to be called District Day of Learning)

The conference will present workshops for contemporary worship teams, traditional worship planners, preachers, multimedia teams, volunteers, small churches, and all kinds of musicians. Everyone who serves in worship ministry will come away with practical learning as we continue to express the glory of God.

The cost is \$100 total for churches sending 4 or more persons. The church will cover the cost of this training event. Please let Pastor Ernie know if you are interested in attending so he can process the group registration.

Saturday, November 12, 2016  
8:30am - 3:00pm  
Calvary Korean UMC in East Brunswick  
572 Ryders Ln  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

8:30 – 9:00 am – Gathering  
9:00 – 10:00 am – Worship  
10:15 – 11:30 am – Morning Workshop  
11:30 – 12:30 pm – Lunch  
12:45 – 2:00 pm – Afternoon Workshop  
2:15 – 3:00 pm – Closing Session

Sometimes we may think that God is not listening to our prayers. It seems as though things are getting worse rather than better. I took a course a few years back in Prayer Counseling given by Elijah House. That is one of the first things they taught - things may get worse before they get better. It is sometimes difficult for us to be patient and wait upon the Lord; especially in this day of instant gratification.

Polly Wigglesworth was a woman of faith that we can take a lesson from of being patient and having faith. Many of us have probably heard of Smith Wigglesworth, a simple plumber who became a great man of God. He had received the Lord early in his life but had become a drunk. His wife Polly was a faithful woman of God who had prayed for her husband for years. In one of his rages, Smith told Polly that if she went to church he would lock her out. Even though she knew that she may also be facing a beating she went on to church.

When she returned that night sure enough he had locked her out, although it was almost winter and cold. She pounded on the door, but he would not come.

In the morning he opened the door. Polly popped up and going in asked him sweetly what he wanted for breakfast. The story goes that he repented of his actions and because of his wife's prayers and patience he became a faithful servant of God.

I am not advocating spousal abuse of any kind. Those who know me know that quite the opposite is true. God does not want His children to be abused. Through this story, however, we see that God works all things to the good for those who love him and are called to His purpose. God does answer prayer in His timing.

~ Donna Ridge

For those needing immediate assistance:

## The National Domestic Violence **HOTLINE**

24/7 Confidential Support

[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

800-799-7233

800-787-3224 (TTY for Deaf/hard of hearing)

and we know that in  
**all things**  
**GOD**  
works for the  
of those who **good**  
**love him,**  
who have been  
**called**  
according to  
**his purpose.**  
Romans 8:28.

## Connect with DeBows Online

[www.debowsumc.org](http://www.debowsumc.org)

or

[www.facebook.com/debowsumc](http://www.facebook.com/debowsumc)

Smart phone QR Codes

DeBows Website



DeBows Facebook



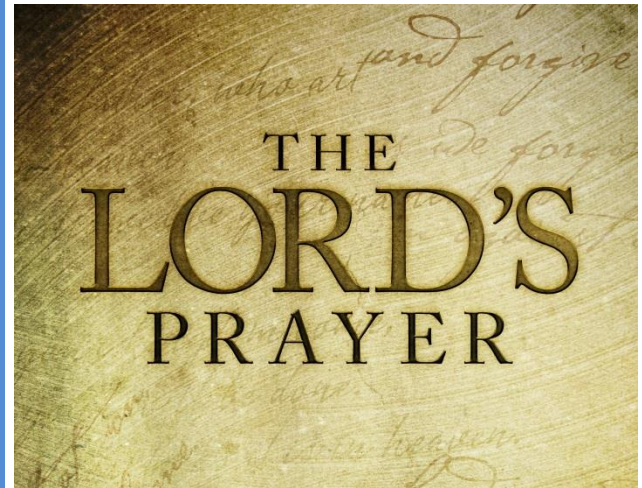
The church website is the place to access the latest information concerning schedules, events and activities, as well as current blog posts and general information about the church. You can leave comments for blog posts or send emails to church staff via the "Contact Us/Send Us Email" page. Alert notices 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!

[New website feature](#) – when you hover the mouse over any bible verse reference in the website text, a box will pop-up showing the entire text of the verse.



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

## Bible Word Search



Find the 12 words below associated with The Lord's Prayer. Up, down, diagonally, forward or backwards. All words are in a straight line.

<b>Father</b>	<b>Forgive</b>	<b>Heaven</b>
<b>Hallowed</b>	<b>Kingdom</b>	<b>Earth</b>
<b>Trespases</b>	<b>Bread</b>	<b>Power</b>
<b>Glory</b>	<b>Forever</b>	<b>Daily</b>

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

## Wednesday Bible Group

Our Wednesday Bible Group will resume our normal bible study in September, but in the meantime and in addition to the bible study our group has also adopted a couple of mission activities.

We will coordinate the collecting of "Labels For Education" and "Box Tops" which we will send to Red Bird Missionary Conference. The Red Bird Missionary Conference is located in Southeastern Kentucky and is the most comprehensive mission effort of the United Methodist Church in the United States, providing outreach and services that minister to the whole person (spiritual, physical, social, and economic). They will be able to use these labels/box tops to purchase needed items for the school they run (pre-school to high school). The list of products that carry these labels/box tops is available on the table outside the Fellowship Hall.

We will also be collecting recyclable greeting cards for St. Jude's Ranch For Children. Their Recycled Card Program, an entrepreneurial teen-run job training program, teaches teen's critical employment skills so they are prepared to be productive, wage-earning citizens in the community when they leave St. Jude. *Only the front of the card is used*, so any donated cards must not have writing on the back of that donated front picture. Please note: they do not accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting Cards.

If you wish to learn more about these two mission activities or want to know how you can

help, please contact Anita Chichester for more information.

We appreciate any support you can give us. Our purpose is to pass on useful items to help others, and by doing so, we serve our Lord.

## A Lesson About Imperfection

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. 'I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house.'

The old woman smiled, 'Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?' 'That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them.' For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table.

Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house.'

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

## Did You Know?

- ☑ Starting with the July 2015 issue, past issues of the DeBows UMC monthly newsletter can be downloaded and viewed from the church website under the News & Media menu item.
- ☑ 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.
- ☑ You can contact the church office at 732-928-4475 in the event of a pastoral care situation that might need Pastor Ernie's attention or response.
- ☑ Sunday worship is at 9:30 AM during the summer. We will return to our new fall schedule on Sunday, September 11, 2016. See article on page one for more details.
- ☑ Driving to DeBows UMC? The DeBows UMC GPS coordinates are:  
Latitude: 40.1657445  
Longitude: -74.4159201
- ☑ 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.

- ☑ 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.

## 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.

## Church Humor

