

# DeBows Crows

The Monthly Newsletter of DeBows UMC

**June 2017**

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

Rev. Ernie Williams, Pastor

[pastor@debowsumc.org](mailto:pastor@debowsumc.org) - [debowsumc.org](http://debowsumc.org) - [facebook.com/debowsumc](https://facebook.com/debowsumc)

**Flea Market & Car Wash**

**Saturday, June 3**

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Transition Team Meeting**

**June 4**

**Flag Day**

**Wednesday, June 14**

**Father's Day**

**Sunday, June 18**



**Pentecost Sunday, June 4th**

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.

## **Sunday Worship & Schedule**

Women's Sunday School	9:00 AM
Worship Service	10:00 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Fellowship Time	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	11:15 AM

## **DeBows UMC Online**

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

**[www.facebook.com/debowsumc](https://facebook.com/debowsumc)**

The church website is the place to access the latest information concerning schedules, events & activities, current blog posts, alert notices & weather-related cancellations, and general information about the church. Visit often for the latest information. Also, WiFi is available inside the church building.

**DeBows Website**



**DeBows Facebook**



## Pastoral Transition

The Pastoral Transition Process has begun, as Pastor Ernie prepares to serve at Lumberton UMC and DeBows prepares to welcome Rev. Lawrence “Wren” Hillis. These appointments will be effective on July 1, 2017.

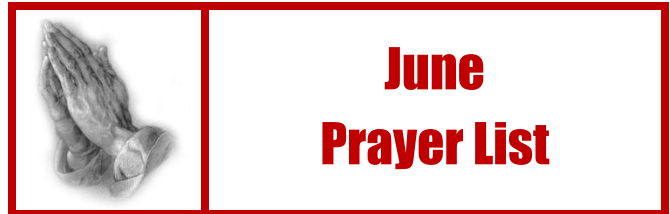
Ed Stillwell and Mark Hayward attended the Greater New Jersey Conference session explaining the transition process and spent some time with both Pastor Ernie and Pastor Wren. A rough timeline for the transition process was discussed and the DeBows Transition Team will be working to gather the needed information and plan the details to ensure a smooth transition. The DeBows Staff Parish Relations Committee will be coordinating the transition process. The first Transition Team meeting will be on Sunday, June 4 at 12:00pm.

Pastor Ernie’s last Sunday at DeBows will be June 11 and Pastor Wren’s first Sunday will be July 2. Certified Lay Servants, Guy Raymond and Mark Hayward, will conduct the two intervening worship services.

Several people from the congregation will be asked to participate in the transition process, so watch for announcements and emails providing more details.



Pastor Wren



Anthony Giarratano	Jamie Gray
Chris Bitondo	Chase McKinney
Edith Gutwein	Dean Sparling
Karen Hornak	Diane Prusarczyk
Rudy Iannacone	Cindy Ziegler
Pam Boucher	Janet Kittstein
Mark Jenson (Baby)	Barry Odell
Kevin Turner	Jim Armstrong
Ron Calub	Betty Barrentine
Jim Cromer	Pastoral Transition

### 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

. . . are affected by war or terrorism

. . . are in prison & those that work with them

. . . support the DeBows Food Pantry Ministry

NOTE: Please inform the Pastor when a name should be added or removed from the Prayer List.

~ Thank You ~

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*

*~ Romans 12:12 ~*

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Farewells are never easy. Yet they do provide for us a moment to concentrate our thoughts and emotions. Farewells allow us to bring things into focus. They signal an end to a season or period of time, and bring to a close finished and unfinished business. Relationally, farewells afford us the opportunity to celebrate what has been beneficial and enjoyable, and they help us face the reality (sometimes painful) of parting.

This is true for pastoral relationships too. At one level these relationships are almost artificial. The bishop effectively creates this relationship for us, leaving us to work out the details of it. Sometimes this works better than other times for the congregation and pastor. The same can be said for individual members. Some forge closer relationships than do others. Pastoral needs in the experience of individuals or families often create even stronger bonds between pastor and people. So, what starts out as being a kind of imposed and functional relationship can become deeply personal with strong attachments. When that is the case, it is frequently a double-edged sword. One can enjoy the fruits of the rich relationship, but one also must bear a measure of loss in the severing of these relationships. And then, without even having had enough time to clear away the debris of the past, one is confronted with a new pastor!

As we together deal with this farewell, let us be sure to take the moments we need to celebrate the time we have shared. Much has transpired in these past two years. Things have changed in the area of leadership. We have

navigated a MAP process which allowed us to sort out our values and set some goals. It even provided momentum for our less than spectacular experiment with two services. But the results were some visible changes to both sanctuary and worship. The growth in the morning Study Group has been gratifying. A lot accomplished and worth celebrating.

Pastor Wren brings much that will be a sheer gift to DeBows. He has a good academic foundation and a strong desire to teach; he brings experience in leading worship; he has musical gifts that will enrich the common life at DeBows; and he brings the energy and enthusiasm of youth. All of these hold great promise for the future of DeBows. Embrace him as you embraced Erica and me!

As Erica and I leave, we do so with gratitude for the time we have spent at DeBows. You have shared so much of yourselves with us and we have been blessed. We will take with us a catalogue of precious memories as we continue our journey.

I leave you with these words from the Apostle Paul:

*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:3-6*

Shalom,



# Upcoming Events

June 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Flea Market
4 Pentecost Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Food Pantry	13	14 	15	16	17
18 Father's Day	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Food Pantry	27	28	29	30	

## Thursday, June 1

Rehearsals for choir and  
for the Ocean Grove  
Choir Festival 5:00pm

## Saturday, June 3

Church Flea Market 8am-2pm

## Sunday, June 4 - Pentecost

Women's Sunday School 9:00am  
Worship Service &  
Sunday School 10:00am  
Fellowship Time 11:00am  
Choir Practice 11:15am  
Transition Team Meeting 12:00pm

## Wednesday, June 7

Bible Study 11:30am

## Thursday, June 8

Rehearsals for choir and  
for the Ocean Grove  
Choir Festival 5:00pm

## Sunday, June 11

Women's Sunday School 9:00am  
Worship Service &  
Sunday School 10:00am  
Fellowship Time –  
Farewell Luncheon for  
Pastor Ernie 11:00am

## Monday, June 12

Food Pantry Open 6:00pm

## Wednesday, June 14 – Flag Day

Bible Study 11:30am

## Thursday, June 15

Rehearsals for choir and  
for the Ocean Grove  
Choir Festival 5:00pm

## Sunday, June 18 - Father's Day

Women's Sunday School 9:00am  
Worship Service &  
Sunday School 10:00am  
Fellowship Time 11:00am

## Wednesday, June 21

Bible Study 11:30am

## Thursday, June 22

Rehearsals for the Ocean  
Grove Choir Festival 5:00pm

## Sunday, June 25

Women's Sunday School 9:00am  
Worship Service &  
Sunday School 10:00am  
Fellowship Time 11:00am

## Monday, June 26

Food Pantry Open 6:00pm

## Wednesday, June 28

Bible Study 11:30am

## Thursday, June 29

Rehearsals for the Ocean  
Grove Choir Festival 5:00pm

## Sunday, July 2 – Pastor Wren's 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday



## Mark Your Calendar Events & Opportunities

### Saturday, June 3

**CHURCH FLEA MARKET & CAR WASH** – at DeBows from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Proceeds will support the ministries of DeBows UMC. Vendor table space is \$10. Please contact Sue Hayward at 732-928-0352 for more information.

### Sunday, June 4

**RADA KNIVES FUNDRAISER** - Catalogs are available on the table outside of Fellowship Hall. These are great knives at great prices. Please give you order to Anita before and no later than June 4th. Thank you for your support."

**PENTECOST SUNDAY** – Wear something red.

### Saturday, June 10

**SEWING CLASSES** will begin on Saturday, June 10th from 10am to noon. This is for beginner sewers who wish to learn to master their sewing machines. This is open to everyone. If you have any questions, please call Barbara (732-446-5639) or Anita (848-373-9304). A sign-up sheet is on the table outside of Fellowship Hall.

### Sunday, June 11

**FARWELL LUNCHEON FOR PASTOR ERNIE** – Sunday, June 11th will be Pastor Ernie's last Sunday at DeBows. After the worship service, there will be a special luncheon to honor Pastor Ernie's service to our church.

## Pentecost Word Search



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

Flame  
Holy  
Sound  
Filled

Wind  
Spirit  
Tongues  
Heaven

Fire  
Church  
Amazed  
Together

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



## Ongoing Mission Activity

### DeBows UMC Food Pantry

The DeBows Food Pantry is a true beacon of God's love in our community. If you would like to volunteer time to support this ministry, please see the sign-up sheet outside of Fellowship Hall. You may contact Deb Cregle for more information.

The Food Pantry is open the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month from 6:00-8:00pm. It serves between 100 and 120 people per month. Your faithful financial support and donation of food items is greatly appreciated.



### Recyclable Greeting Cards for St. Jude's Ranch For Children

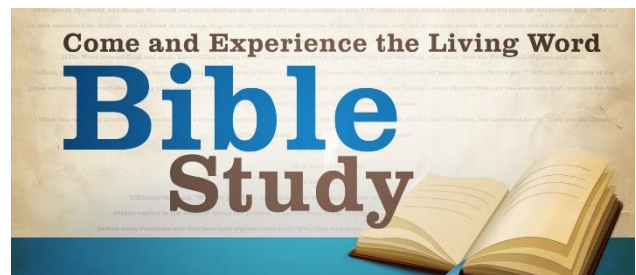
This mission supports St. Jude's entrepreneurial teen-run job training program, which teaches teen's critical employment skills so they are prepared to be productive, wage-earning citizens in the community when they leave St. Jude. *Only the front of the card is used*, so any donated cards must not have writing on the back of the front picture. Please note: they do not accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting Cards. There is a collection box outside of Fellowship Hall.



### Box Tops for Education

This program provides the Red Bird Mission with real money for the redemption of the box tops. 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. They will be able to use these box tops to purchase needed items for the school they run (pre-school to high school). A collection jar and a list of products that carry these box tops are available on the table outside of Fellowship Hall.

### Wednesday Bible Study



The 11:30am Wednesday Bible Study class will be finishing their study of Ephesians and then break for the summer. They will resume after Labor Day and start a new study on Colossians. Everyone is welcome to attend this class. Watch for more details on the church website.

## Hymn Story

### "This Is My Father's World"

Maltbie D. Babcock - UMH # 144

Maltbie Babcock (1858-1901) was a noted Presbyterian pastor, who was also an accomplished athlete and amateur musician, playing the organ, piano and violin.

While a pastor in Lockport, N.Y., near Lake Ontario, Babcock would frequently take morning walks in the surrounding countryside. It is said he would often announce these walks with the expression, "I'm going out to see my Father's world."

Babcock died just a few months short of his 42nd birthday in a hospital in Naples, Italy, following a trip to the Holy Land. The hymn was published posthumously based on a poem found in his papers containing 16 four-line stanzas, each beginning with the phrase "This is my Father's world."

One of Babcock's friends, Franklin Shepherd (1852-1930) created the hymn we know today by adapting an English folk song and inserting portions of Babcock's text into three, eight-line stanzas.

The hymn reveals Babcock's deep appreciation for the sights and sounds of nature, while acknowledging God's sovereign control.



## Springtime at DeBows

A few pictures of Spring at DeBows UMC:



Preparing for Easter Morning Service



Pastor Ernie presents Emma Leah Suarez during her baptism



Iris in bloom by front ramp

## Music Ministry



After Father's Day, the choir will be taking a break until Labor Day. Our Music Director, Grayce Armstrong, will be looking for people to share their musical talents (vocal or instrumental) during the summer worship services. You may contact Grayce at [music@debowsumc.org](mailto:music@debowsumc.org) if you are interested.

On Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, DeBows observed Native American Sunday. During the service, Grayce performed some native American music on a modern replica of a traditional Cherokee Native American Flute. Following is an extract of an article Grayce wrote discussing this and similar instruments. The entire article can be accessed on the church website at [debowsumc.org](http://debowsumc.org).

*... In modern times, the Native American Flute has been regaining popularity in America. There are many manufacturers, both native and non-native. Purchasing flutes, from indigenous artisans, supports and perpetuates ancient traditions of musicianship, craftsmanship and artistry. The instruments are soothing and healing to play, good for the body, mind, and soul. How many of the "things" we own, have a name and face of a creator, behind them? And we all know, who the creator is who created the creators: God. There is a world of difference, between a mass-produced machine made plastic instrument, and a handmade instrument, of*

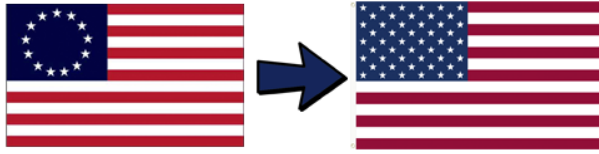
*natural renewable material. In an industrial society where mechanization, computers, robots, and electronics rule and so much of life is impersonal, codified and conformed to the point that humanity itself becomes unnecessary, replaced by machinery, it is nice to be able, to appreciate and value what mankind can do by hand with God's help and tradition. We are all unique, and every one of these handmade flutes, is unique, is different, has its own voice, just as we as people, are all different, unique, and have our own voice. Thanks be to God! Maybe through sharing and enjoying the beautiful sound, of a handmade flute, and appreciating the myriad talents of others, we can all find peace and harmony and nature, in a world full of discord, where so many sounds are loud and harsh. The soul, longs for beauty, for emotional expression, and flutes are one way to fulfill that spiritual need, universal across all people.*



Above are various types of flutes discussed in the article. Details for each one can be found in the complete article found on the church website under the BLOGS menu item. Item # 4 is the Native American flute Grayce played in the worship service.



## Flag Day – Some Fun Facts



- ☑ Flag Day, also called National Flag Day in the United States, is a day honoring the national flag, and is observed on June 14. The holiday commemorates the date in 1777 when the United States approved the design for its first national flag.
- ☑ In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson made a presidential proclamation, which officially established Flag Day. It was not until 1949, however, that President Harry Truman signed an act of Congress designating June 14 as Flag Day.
- ☑ There have been 27 official versions of the U.S. flag, each with 13 stripes representing the original 13 colonies and a number 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.
- ☑ 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).
- ☑ 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.
- ☑ 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).
- ☑ 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.
- ☑ The Canton is the correct name for the dark blue rectangular area on the top left quarter of the American Flag.

## Did You Know?

- ☑ Speaking of Pentecost, have you ever noticed 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).
- ☑ 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. Voicemail is available. You can also reach out to the Pastor via email by using the church website Contact page.
- ☑ WiFi is available in the church. To connect, just follow the instructions found on the bulletin boards inside and outside Fellowship Hall.
- ☑ Past issues of the DeBows UMC monthly newsletter can be downloaded and viewed from the church website under News & Media/Newsletter Archive.
- ☑ Bulletins for the Sunday worship 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 access the Upper Room and other daily devotionals online by visiting **debowsumc.org** and selecting "Daily Devotionals" under the Grow menu item.



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

## Grocery Shopping Cards



Every week during Fellowship Time, you have the opportunity to purchase grocery store shopping cards for either Shoprite or Stop & Shop. This is a convenient way to pay for the food you buy at the grocery store and support the ministries of DeBows UMC at the same time. The church makes 5% of all shopping cards sold. This has proven to be an easy and effective fundraising program over the years and the church thanks you for your continued support. You may see Sue Hayward or Marilyn Allerton to purchase the gift cards on any Sunday.