

# DeBows Crows

The Monthly Newsletter of DeBows UMC

**August 2017**

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

Rev. Lawrence "Wren" Hillis, Pastor  
pastor@debowsumc.org - debowsumc.org - facebook.com/debowsumc

**Church Town Hall**

**Sunday, August 6**

**Church Council Meeting**

**Wednesday, August 9**

**Food Pantry Open**

**Monday, August 14 & 28**

**Trustee Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 15**

**Church Picnic**

**Sunday, August 27**

## Sunday Worship

Worship Service	10:00 AM
Fellowship Time	11:00 AM

## Sharing God's Love

Five of our members went on a Home Repair Weekend Workcamp in Scranton, PA. (July 21-24) Attending from DeBows UMC were Lynn, Deanna & Mary Sparling, Rylie McKinney and Matt Stevison. Also, in the picture is our former pastor, Betty Gibbons, and 3 other volunteers. Visit the church Facebook page to see additional pictures.



## DeBows UMC Online



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

[www.facebook.com/debowsumc](https://www.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. The church calendar can be viewed on the church website by clicking on CALENDAR in the main menu. Visit often for the latest information. You can scan the below QR codes with your smartphone to quickly access DeBows Online.

DeBows Website



DeBows Facebook





## August Prayer List

Anthony Giarratano	Jamie Gray
Chris Bitondo	Chase McKinney
Edith Gutwein	Dean Sparling
Jim Cromer	Diane Prusarczyk
Rudy Iannacone	Cindy Ziegler
Pam Boucher	Janet Kittstein
Ruth Hammond	Barry Odell
Kevin Turner	Jim Armstrong
Ron Calub	Betty Barrentine
Donna Ridge & Family	Our Transition Process

### All those that . . .

. . . are homeless, hungry, “un” or “under” employed, dealing with domestic violence, affected by natural disasters or terrorism, struggling with personal illness while caring for family, and everyone that supports the DeBows Food Pantry Ministry.

NOTE: Please help keep the prayer list current. Inform the Pastor when a name should be added or removed from the Prayer List.

~ Thank You ~



**In Memorium** – Please keep Tom Hornak and his family in your prayers as they continue to mourn the passing of Tom’s wife, Karen, earlier in July. Karen was a member of our church family and very active in the Food Pantry Ministry.



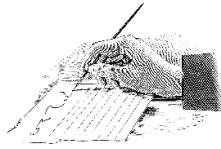
Our Music Director, Grayce Armstrong, would like to thank all those that have shared their musical talents thus far during the summer worship services. There is still time to contribute if you wish. You may contact Grayce at [music@debowsunc.org](mailto:music@debowsunc.org). The regular choir will resume after Labor Day. Watch for details for practice times. New members always welcome!

## Pastoral Transition Status

The pastoral transition process is well underway. July was a busy month. Pastor Wren has conducted a series of 2-on-1 meetings and attended two very productive house meetings for the purpose of getting to know the congregation and better understand their concerns and vision for our church. Thanks to the Cregle’s & VanArsdale’s for graciously hosting the house meetings!

August will be another busy month. There will be a Church Town Hall on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> after the worship service. This will be a forum for Pastor Wren and the congregation to exchange ideas and provide feedback on some of the changes already implemented or proposed.

Throughout August there will also be a series of committee meetings to help Pastor Wren become familiar with the operational aspects of the church and to prepare for the busy upcoming fall church season.



## Pastoral Address

Dearest Saints,

Throughout July, we have been exploring the theme of presumptive generosity as we parse through the Matthean parables. These parables, as my teacher often calls them, are ‘Kingdom lessons’ – fables or stories intended to spark the mind into actively contemplating the possibility of an ever more divinely inspired society. Rather than presenting overly simplistic truths, these stories are deep pools of wisdom that we are invited to dive into, to push down into the inky-black mystery of the deep, in order to seek hidden treasures. If encountered authentically, we rarely resurface the same. As a called and sent community of faith, committed to pursuing the *missio dei* wherever we may find it, we must do our very best to seek that deep mystery, and to lean into the ideals of that hidden Kingdom.

While most of our days are overrun by the frenetic pace of modern life, my hope for all of us is that our time together in worship would be an opportunity to reset. Together, it can be an occasion to seek Sabbath, and encounter each other more deeply and richly, as an alternative community that does not follow the standard operating procedures of this world. While there yet remains much mystery regarding the Kingdom, if there is one thing we can say with surety about Jesus’ refracted vision, it is this: if we were to peer behind the veil of normalcy into that beautifully off-kilter world, we would see that a spirit of presumptive generosity is the currency that keeps it spinning.

Especially in today’s self-aggrandizing political economy, we must strive to cultivate people of emotional, intellectual, and spiritual depth capable of building coalitions of vulnerability and generosity across widely diverging peoples, interests, and priorities. Regardless of our own particular social, ideological, political, or personal proclivities - the spirit of presumptive generosity resists bitterness, subverts the drive for existential revenge, and makes it possible for folk with seemingly intractable differences to find common ground in our fundamental weakness. If the Church is to become a vital institution in the post-secular age, it must be like an inn that sits at the crossroad of worlds; where all are welcome and may find refuge, succor, and rest - wherever they may be coming from, or going to.

In my short time with you, it has become clear that you are a family much better acquainted with generosity than bitterness; and I am grateful to you all for extending that spirit of generosity to me during this time of transition. Whether it is something as large as daring to try something different in worship, or as small as temporarily forgetting a name – you have all extended such grace and hospitality to me that I have been overwhelmed. It has been a genuine pleasure to spend time with you all, whether meeting in private, invited so graciously into your homes, or simply seeing you on Sunday morning. I look forward with eager anticipation to the great things that we can accomplish as a worshiping community in the coming days.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

Rev. Lawrence E. Hillis

## Upcoming Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>August 2017</b>						
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Town Hall	7	8	9 Church Council Meeting	10	11	12
13	14 Food Pantry	15 Trustee Meeting	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Church Picnic	28 Food Pantry	29	30	31	Sunday Worship 10:00 AM	

### Sunday, July 30

Worship Service	10:00am
Covered Dish Luncheon	11:00am

### Sunday, August 6

Worship Service - <b>Communion</b>	10:00am
Church Town Hall	11:00am

### Wednesday, August 9

Church Council Meeting	7:00pm
------------------------	--------

### Sunday, August 13

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

### Monday, August 14

Food Pantry Open	6:00pm
------------------	--------

### Tuesday, August 15

Trustee Meeting	7:00pm
-----------------	--------

### Sunday, August 20

Worship Service	10:00am
Fellowship Time	11:00am

### Sunday, August 27

Worship Service	10:00am
Fellowship Time	11:00am
<b>Church Picnic at Santillo's Home</b>	<b>Noon</b>

### Monday, August 28

Food Pantry Open	6:00pm
------------------	--------

### Monday, September 4 – Labor Day

## Looking Ahead ...

### DeBows UMC Church Conference Saturday, October 28, 2017

The Greater New Jersey Church Conferences will once again be held *regionally* this year. This means that the Capital, Raritan Valley and Northern Shore districts will all meet, in a staggered schedule, on October 28<sup>th</sup> in East Brunswick (Calvary Korean Church and Aldersgate...which are next door to each other). The featured speaker is Tony Campolo and all churches will have the opportunity to hear him speak. Each church will have about 45 minutes to conduct the business of their church conference with a presiding elder.

Our church will be working on completing all the necessary reports, due at the end of September, in preparation for the church conference. All members of the congregation are welcome to attend the church conference. Please watch for further details as this event approaches.



# Events & Opportunities

# Parable Word Search

## Every Saturday

**SEWING CLASSES** take place from 10am to noon. Every Saturday. 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, July 30

**Covered Dish Luncheon** – Starting on July 30<sup>th</sup>, and whenever there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in a month going forward, we will have a Covered Dish Luncheon during our Fellowship Time after the Worship Service. Please join us.

## Sunday, August 6

**CHURCH TOWN HALL** – There will be a church-wide Town Hall event after the 10AM worship service on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. As part of the transition process, this will be an informal, open forum to share ideas about how to move our church forward. We will stay in the sanctuary for the Town Hall, then gather for Fellowship Time.

## Sunday, August 27

**CHURCH PICNIC** – Steve & Joy Santillo have graciously offered to host our church picnic at their house on Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, after the worship service. Please watch for more details and sign-up sheets for this end of summer fellowship event.



This past month, Pastor Wren has talked about several parables of Jesus during worship. Find the 12 words below associated with parables. Words can be up, down, diagonally, forward or backwards, and are in a straight line.

Parable	Wheat	Weeds
Sower	Soil	Seeds
Mustard	Leaven	Kingdom
Heaven	Jesus	Story

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



## 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 shopping cards on any Sunday.

## 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.

## DeBows UMC



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.

The DeBows Food Pantry is a tangible and meaningful way we share God's love with 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.

## Recyclable Greeting Cards



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.

# Counselor's Corner

By Donna Ridge

**NOTE: This is part 2 of a 6-part series discussing how a person's temperament interacts with the emotion of anger.**

Last month I introduced 5 temperaments people exhibit: Choleric, Melancholy, Phlegmatic, Sanguine and Supine. This month I will discuss how people with a Choleric temperament react to the emotion of anger. To do this, I will share some information that comes from a series of articles written by Phyllis J. Arno Ph.D.

I will be using the phrase "In Inclusion". This simply means "the need to establish and maintain a satisfactory relationship with people in the area of surface relationships."

Choleric's "in Inclusion" tend to internalize and externalize anger. They need to be recognized for what they do. They are the people who keep the ball rolling so to speak. They are the ones who are leaders, organizing and planning social functions perfectly.

Choleric's have a tendency to take on more than they can handle because they need recognition for a job well done. They thrive on it. If they don't receive it they become resentful, which leads to anger. As they internalize this anger it becomes like a time bomb, usually undetected.

Choleric's "In inclusion" can vent this anger verbally as well as physically. They can be destructive, including breaking things, beating people up, or worse. They are not sorry for their actions, actually justifying it in their own minds.

Anger affects them physically, emotionally and spiritually. They burn out from taking on too many projects. They are driven to receive that praise they need.

Emotionally, they can play head games. They can secretly be thinking about ways to get even with those they feel have taken advantage of them. They become cold and most people avoid them when they are angry.

Although they may continue to attend church, Bible studies, etc., their hearts may not be in it. No one will know how angry they are, because of their ability to mask their true feelings. They must learn to forgive as well as look to God for the much-needed recognition they so desire.

Please remember, these are all just characteristics of a Choleric temperament. Many other factors come into play. They can learn to forgive and change their way of handling their anger through the Word of God and the help of the Holy Spirit.

Memorizing Ephesians 4:31-32 may help:

*Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. (KJV)*

See you next month, when I will discuss the Melancholy temperament.

Standing in faith,  
Donna

## Did You Know?

- ☑ Past issues of the DeBows UMC monthly newsletter can be downloaded and/or viewed from the church website main menu under NEWS & MEDIA/Newsletter Archive.
- ☑ You can contact the church office at 732-928-4475 in the event of a pastoral care situation that might need Pastor Wren's attention. Voicemail is available. You can also reach out to the Pastor via email by using the church website Contact page or directly at [pastor@debowsumc.org](mailto:pastor@debowsumc.org).
- ☑ The Worship Service on the last Sunday of each month will be a little more contemporary and casual than other Sundays.
- ☑ The Upper Room and Daily Bread daily devotional booklets are available on the table outside of Fellowship Hall, as well as online versions of these devotionals on the church website by selecting "Daily Devotionals" under the Grow menu item.
- ☑ If you see a reference to any bible verse anywhere on the church website, you can see the text for that verse simply by hovering your mouse cursor over the verse reference. While hovering, a pop-up box will appear on the screen containing the text.
- ☑ You can contact DeBows UMC by clicking on CONTACT US/Send Us Email from the main menu on the church website. There you can fill-in a form to send email to the Pastor, Music Director, Website Admin, Newsletter Editor, or submit a Prayer Request (goes to Pastor).

## Lay Servant Ministries

Terri Pagani, Director of Lay Ministries for the Greater New Jersey Conference - Capital District, has released the following information. The 2017 fall advanced class topic for Lay Servant Ministries is Methodist Heritage and Polity. This course will count as one of the required classes for Lay Speakers, for those interested in pursuing that title. It will also serve to re-certify Certified Lay Servants due for recertification. Details on the dates, time, and location will be coming out sometime in August. Registration information will be included.

You can read more about the Lay Servant Ministries program on the church website, under Grow/Lay Servant Ministries.

## Church Humor

