

# DeBows Crows

The Monthly Newsletter of DeBows UMC

## November 2017

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

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

- Pathfinders Hike  
**November 4**
- DST Ends  
**November 5 at 2:00am**
- Church Townhall  
**Sunday, November 12**
- Food Pantry Open  
**November 13 & 27**
- #GivingTuesday  
**November 28**



**Daylight Savings  
Time Ends  
Sunday, Nov. 5th at 2 AM**

**Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour**



## November Prayer List

## 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. Visit often for the latest information.

**DeBows Website**



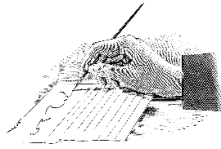
**DeBows Facebook**



Anthony Giarratano	Jamie Gray
Chris Bitondo	Chase McKinney
Edith Gutwein	Dean Sparling
Joann Young	Diane Prusarczyk
Rudy Iannacone	Jon Brysceynski
Pam Boucher	Janet Kittstein
Ruth Hammond	Barry Odell
Susan Turner	Jim Armstrong
Ron Calub	Betty Barrentine
Paul Bartek	Hong (Sparling Friend)
Carol Ehlers	Joan Macrina
Jackie Zimmerman	The Hornak Family
All those that were impacted by the recent series of hurricanes and the mass shooting in Las Vegas.	

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

~ Thank You ~



## Pastoral Address

Dearest Saints of the Church,

November is a time for us to reflect on all of the good gifts which God has given us throughout the year. As the chill continues to set in and the leaves change over into the darker hues of Autumn, we recognize the vibrancy of the world around us, even as it spins out away from the sun into the colder reaches of the solar system. If you are like me, you might have already begun to spend more time indoors, wrapped up in a sweater and dreaming of fireplaces. The days grow short; the night arrives swiftly, and – if you will pardon the pop culture reference – “winter is coming.”

While winter is also the time of Advent and holiday cheer, Christmas Carols won't make their annual debut for another few weeks. So instead we are left with the harvest celebration; a time to bring in the wheat and corn, a time to take stock and stock shelves. If we lived in ancient Israel, this would be a time to make offerings to God in gratitude for an abundant year in an often dry and desiccated land. Like most other aspects of human existence, the abundance of summer is only made evident in the contrast of this soporific season. Even as the sugar maples shed their beautiful leaves and prepare for hibernation, we are only now able to tap their xylem for the sweet sap seeping back down towards the roots to be converted into starch. There would be no maple syrup if not for the dreary drowsiness of the land in these months.

Less abstractly: in our modern economic culture, it is far too easy to be sucked into a cycle of material addictions where, no matter how much we have, there remains a pervasive and deeply

ingrained sense that we need more. More money, more popularity, more time, more respect, more authority, power, control – the list goes on ad nauseam. Only when we have experienced a time of loss are we able to recognize how much we have – family, friends, food, and faith. So we will gather around the table to give thanks and reignite the warm spark of filial love amongst us.

This November we are embarking on our annual stewardship campaign. Across the next four weeks, we will be exploring what it means to develop faithful stewardship habits which are a foundational component of being a disciple of Christ. As such we will be exploring what it means to develop A Rhythm of Commitment for 2018. In addition to developing various biblical and theological themes on stewardship and discipleship, you will also be invited to engage in weekly “action steps” and participate in practical applications throughout the month. To facilitate our experience (and stay within an hour-long timeframe), we will be following our “informal service” order of worship during each of these four weeks.

DeBows UMC has accomplished great things in recent years, and your faithfulness deserves both recognition and commendation. However, we have been called as a community by God to accomplish still greater things. As a community, we commit to this month of stewardship at the end of the liturgical calendar to lay a strong foundation for the upcoming year. Our communal willingness to give of our time, talents, resources, and skills is what makes our faithful pursuit of God's mission – *the missio Dei* – possible. I thank you and look forward to working with you all in the coming days.

Shalom in the Christ,  
Rev. Lawrence E. Hillis

# Upcoming Events

November 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 DST ENDS Clocks Back 1 Hr	6	7	8	9	10	11 SENT Conference
12 Church Townhall	13 Food Pantry	14	15	16	17	18 Trustee Clean-Up Day
19 Thanksgiving Service Jackson UMC	20	21	22	23 Happy Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27 Food Pantry	28 #Giving Tuesday	29	30		

## Every Sunday Morning

Women's Sunday School	9:00 - 9:45 AM
Worship Service	10:00 AM
Fellowship Time	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	11:15 – 12:15

### Saturday, November 4

DeBows Pathfinders Hike 11:00am

### Sunday, November 5

**DST Ends at 2AM**

**Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour**

### Saturday, November 11

SENT Conference 8:00am

### Sunday, November 12

Church Townhall 11:00am

SPRC Meeting 12:00pm

### Monday, November 13

Food Pantry Open 6:00pm

### Saturday, November 18

Trustee Cleanup Day 9:00am

### Sunday, November 19

Thanksgiving Service  
at Jackson UMC 5:00pm

### Thursday, November 23

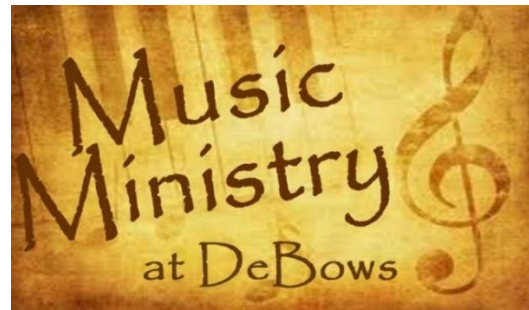
**Happy Thanksgiving!**

### Sunday, November 26

Communion 10:00am

### Monday, November 27

Food Pantry Open 6:00pm




The choir sings on the first & third Sunday of each month during the Offertory. The band will lead the congregation in singing during the casual worship service on the fourth Sunday of each month. The Introit and other Sundays will be covered by Grayce, soloists, and members of the band per their availability.

The choir will practice on Sundays following the worship service at 11:15 AM and the band will practice on Friday nights at 6:00 PM. Check the calendar on the church website for exceptions.

Grayce and the choir are preparing to participate at the Thanksgiving Service, which is at Jackson UMC on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. Grayce will be announcing plans for the Christmas Cantata soon for those that may be interested in participating. It will be presented at the December 24<sup>th</sup> 10 AM service. Contact Grayce at [music@debowsunc.org](mailto:music@debowsunc.org) if you have any questions or would like to participate in the music ministry.

## Events & Opportunities



mark your calendar!

### Every Wednesday – 11:30am - 1:00pm

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets on Wednesdays from 11:30am – 1:00pm. They are currently studying the book of Colossians. Prior to the class at 11:15am, there will be prayer time in the Sanctuary for those interested.

### Every Sunday – 11:15 AM

**Choir Practice** – The choir will practice every Sunday at 11:15am following the worship service. Check the church calendar online for schedule exceptions.

### Every Friday Night – 6:00 PM

**Band Practice** – The band will practice every Friday night at 6:00pm. Check the church calendar online for schedule exceptions.

### Saturday, November 4



### DeBows Pathfinders

The DeBows Pathfinders will conduct their next hike at Sourland Mountain Preserve in Hillsborough Township on Saturday, November 4th. People will gather at DeBows at 11:00am to carpool to the location. The hike itself is approximately 5 miles and will take around 3 hours to complete without factoring in stopping at points of interest or rest breaks. The terrain will be hilly in spots with some rocks. The group will gather for refreshments at Pastor Wren's house (Hopewell, NJ) after the hike.

### Saturday, November 11



### SENT Conference – One Day Workshop

The Great Commission calls us to go, make disciples, baptize and teach. Learn from a storyteller, changemaker, organizer and theologian on how to be SENT into this world. November 11<sup>th</sup> at Aldersgate UMC in East Brunswick, NJ.

### Saturday, November 18

#### Trustee Clean-up Day

The Trustees have scheduled a church clean-up day on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 9am. If you wish to participate, your help would be much appreciated. Contact Linda VanArsdale for details.

### Sunday, November 19

#### Thanksgiving Service at Jackson UMC

Jackson UMC will host a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. A potluck meal will be served at 5:30pm. DeBows choir will participate in this service. Please place your name on the signup sheet if you intend to attend so Jackson UMC can plan accordingly.

### Tuesday, November 28

#### #GivingTuesday

See related article on page 8 of this newsletter for details.

## Word Search



Find the 12 words below associated with the observance of Thanksgiving. Words can be up, down, diagonally, forward or backwards, and are in a straight line.

Blessings	Praise	God
Turkey	Harvest	Grateful
Prayer	Pilgrims	Family
Pumpkin	Friends	Holiday

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

## The Church in Mission

### Box Tops for Education for Red Bird Mission

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.

### Recyclable Greeting Cards for St. Jude's

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.

### UMCOR Hygiene Kits

With so many disasters happening in such a short time, UMCOR has a great need for Hygiene Kits. Can you imagine losing your home and everything you possess and not being able to brush your teeth or wash the dirt off your face. That's what so many going through these disasters are going through now. A box for

completed kits and instructions on how to make them is outside of Fellowship Hall. The *quicker we can get them sent off, the faster the people can be helped*. Let's fill that box! If you cannot make a kit, but wish to donate, make your check payable to the church with UMCOR/kits in the memo spot. Detailed information about UMCOR hygiene kits can be found online at <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies/Relief-Supply-Kits/hygiene>.

## Chemo Hats

Frequently, patients undergoing chemotherapy lose their hair. With winter coming on and in an effort to make these patients comfortable, we will be making chemo hats. Anyone who has a serger or a zigzag sewing machine can make these hats. They are not difficult to make. For more information and instructions, you can talk to Anita at 848-373-9304. Finished hats can be placed in the box outside of Fellowship Hall.

## Holiday Gift Drive



DeBows will once again participate in the Holiday Gift Drive in support of the Children's Home Society of Trenton. A list of children, with ages and suggested gift items, will be available on Sunday, November 12th. Please place gifts in a shopping bag (unwrapped) and bring them to church by Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will be delivered to the Children's Home Society during the following week. This is always a very rewarding outreach activity. Tom Hornak is coordinating this activity.

## 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 about 120 people per month and that number is increasing. Your continued 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.

For Thanksgiving, we had 30 families order turkeys to pick up from our pantry this year versus 24 last year. The turkeys, with all the fixings, will be distributed on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

## ----- Bag of Thanks -----

This year, as every year, we have many reasons to praise our Lord and be thankful for all our blessings. We can express our thanks for God's blessings and bounty in our lives with a "Bag of Thanks". The "Bags of Thanks" will be given out in November and may be brought back to the church any time during the month of November or December. A list of suggested items will be attached to each bag. The food collected will help us to restock our Food Pantry and will enable us to continue to serve families in our community who are in need. Thank you for your support.



DeBows UMC will be conducting the following fundraisers. All proceeds will be used to support the ministries of the church. Thank you for your continued support.

### 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.

### Scrip Gift Card Program

**What is Scrip Fundraising?** It is very much like our existing Grocery Card program, but with a much wider selection of retailers and categories. You purchase gift cards at face value to do your everyday shopping (or to give as Christmas gifts) and the church will realize a percentage of the

total amount. The complete list of retailers can be seen on the order forms located on the church sign-up table. There is a wide range of retailer categories available, including Gas Stations, Restaurants, Apparel, Home Improvement, Online Shopping, Movies, and more. Please note that Shoprite and Stop & Shop grocery cards should continue to be bought directly from Sue Hayward. For these grocery cards, we realize a higher percentage rebate than with Scrip and turn around time is much less.

The church places periodic bulk orders with the Great Lake Scrip Center. All order forms and checks should be given to Dena Kaiser for processing. All checks should be made out to "DeBows UMC". DeBows will be placing its next bulk order on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The Gift Cards will be ready for pick-up before Christmas. Please give all completed forms and checks to Dena by that date. So, check out the order form to see the places you shop at anyway or perhaps would buy a gift card for someone for the upcoming holiday season. Dena can be reached at 732-833-9363 or theluckyone@verizon.net.

### Candy Fundraiser



Gertrude Hawk Candy fundraiser. The sale brochures are available on the table outside of Fellowship Hall. Final orders must be received by Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Orders will be ready for pick-up before Christmas. Please contact Sue Hayward for more information.

## #GivingTuesday

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

# #GIVINGTUESDAY™

November 28, 2017

### WHAT IS #GIVINGTUESDAY?

#GivingTuesday is nationally celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, and unlike the widely popular consumer driven shopping events of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday provides an opportunity to give back or support charitable causes. This spirit of generosity is often facilitated by online giving.

As we enter into the season of Advent we invite you to support the ministries and programs of DeBows UMC by participating in #GivingTuesday by using our online giving option found on the church website at [www.debowsumc.org](http://www.debowsumc.org).

Just click on the “Online Giving” button found in the church website footer. This will permit you to donate online using the church’s secure PayPal account and your credit card. You do not need to have a personal PayPal account to participate. As always, donations to the church are tax deductible and will be reflected in your year-end giving statement from DeBows UMC.

For your reference, this is what the “Online Giving” button looks like on the website.



While this feature is a permanent part of the church web site and is available all year long, we encourage you to participate on #GivingTuesday (November 28<sup>th</sup>) or any time during Advent.

## Church Townhall

### Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>

The next church townhall will take place on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the worship service. Much like the successful townhall held last August, this will be an opportunity for the congregation to ask questions and make comments & suggestions concerning the life of our church.

One area of focus will be to receive feedback on the DeBows UMC Church Conference Report, which was distributed as a PDF file with this newsletter. This report, which was presented at the Annual Regional Church Conference on October 28<sup>th</sup>, contains 2017 summary reports for our church and 2018 committee structure information. We invite you to review this document prior to the townhall.



As part of the UMC Vital Congregation program, DeBows UMC captures and reports several Vital Signs metrics. These metrics include such items as weekly attendance, weekly giving, number of small groups, mission activity etc.

Starting in January 2018, we will share summary information for some of these metrics in the monthly newsletter. Going forward, this will be one of several ways we will keep the congregation informed about how we are doing as a church.



# Counselor's Corner

By Donna Ridge

**NOTE: This is part 5 of a 6-part series discussing how a person's temperament interacts with the emotion of anger.**

Just a reminder once again, temperament "in inclusion" means the desire to maintain surface relationships and social relationships. The following article is based on information from a booklet "Temperament Corner", by Phyllis J. Arno, PhD.

The temperament in discussion today is the Sanguine. The Sanguine is perhaps the most colorful of all the temperaments. They are very social and thrive on being with people.

However, don't make them angry. They may explode over the smallest issue and definitely externalize their anger. You won't have to wonder if they are angry.

Unlike the Melancholy, who stew in their anger, twenty minutes later, the Sanguine will forget what made them angry in the first place. Their explosive anger usually pushes people away, which can cause them much stress because of their NEED for socialization. Sanguines need to learn to think about the consequences of their outbursts.

Sanguine tend to swing socially. If they are sad and someone tries to make them happy, they will reject the attempts to help them. The opposite is true if they are happy; it's not likely they will become sad at the moment. In other words, the Sanguine will swing at will in order to maintain balance. The main cause of the swings is rejection.

This externalization of their anger often affects them physically, emotionally and spirituality. Overeating, drinking, or taking drugs, may be a way of dealing with rejection.

Emotionally, they tend to be depressed or moody, because their explosive anger has pushed others away. No one can cause them to come out of their funk until they are ready.

Spirituality, they become so self-conscious, that God is the least of their concern. They need a flesh and blood person to talk to. The best ways to come back out of their desperation is to listen to praise tapes, watch Christian TV, and get out among other Christians.

Applicable Scriptures:

*Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:*

*James 1:19*

*Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth:*

*I Corinthians 13: 4-6 NKJV*

The Message actually says " does not fly off the handle".

Standing in faith,

Donna



## Did You Know?

- ❖ The GNJ Digest is the weekly email newsletter of The Greater New Jersey Conference. It is the easiest way to stay up-to-date on important announcements, upcoming events, messages from Bishop Schol, and conference news. To sign up to receive the GNJ Digest, just go to the below link and provide your email address.  
<https://www.gnjumc.org/the-gnj-digest/newsletter-signup/>
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Online versions of several daily devotionals can be found on the church website by selecting “Daily Devotionals” under the Grow menu item.
- ❖ 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).
- ❖ As we approach the holiday season, additional Prayer Shawls are always welcome. More details and instructions may be found on the church website under Serve/Prayer Shawl Ministry.
- ❖ Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. You can read how this uniquely American holiday came to be on the church website at <http://debowsunc.org/happy-thanksgiving>.

## Preview of December

Below are some upcoming special days/events scheduled in December. Visit the calendar on the church website for the latest details as more information becomes available.

### Sunday, December 3

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent - Hope**  
**Chrismon Tree**  
**Communion**

### Saturday, December 9

**Living Nativity**  
**at Jackson UMC**

### Sunday, December 10

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent - Love**

### Monday, December 11

**Food Pantry Open**

### Saturday, December 16

**Advent Coffee House**  
**at DeBows UMC – 6:00PM**

### Sunday, December 17

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent - Joy**

### Monday, December 18

**Food Pantry Open**

### Sunday, December 24

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - Peace**  
**Christmas Cantata - 10AM Worship**  
**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service -**  
**6:00PM**

### Monday, December 25

**Merry Christmas**

### Sunday, December 31

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Covered Dish Luncheon**