

## Friday January 21st, 2021

Join us for worship, online or in-person!
Sunday morning traditional service @ 1020am
Thursday evening contemporary service @ 7pm



# A Message From Pastor Dave

Welcome to the inaugural edition of our new electronic newsletter, 3D Connection!

As we continue going through these challenging days of the pandemic, we are striving to find new ways to increase our digital communication capacity, while decreasing our use of paper, ink, and physical contact. In addition to our current digital outlets of our app, our webpage (<a href="www.doverfirst.org">www.doverfirst.org</a>), and our Faithlife page (<a href="www.faithlife.com/doverfirst">www.faithlife.com/doverfirst</a>), this Newsletter will provide an opportunity to view our worship service outlines, sermon notes, LIFEGroup Study Guides, Ministry and Serving opportunities, and more. We will publish updated Newsletters each Friday and email them out, so please share with anyone who may be interested in receiving this, and have them contact our church office during business hours to be added to our email chain (330-343-1322).

Now, why is this Newsletter named 3D Connection? Good question! I'm glad you asked. As we enter into a new year, our mission statement is going to be "Discover, Develop, Deploy" (thus, 3 D's!) Over the next 52 weeks, I am going to challenge us all to "Discover" new ways of reaching out, serving, ministering, tithing, worshiping, inviting, and more. Once we Discover these new ways of "doing things" we are then going to "Develop" them together. We will then "Deploy" into our families, our communities, our workplaces, our schools, and even into the world as we put these new "things" into action. This will be accomplished through our church family, our LIFEGroups, and our ministry teams.

Why are we doing this? The purposes that we are all called to as followers of Christ (mission, ministry, worship, fellowship, and evangelism) were modeled and taught by Jesus through this process. Additionally, our spiritual growth is centered on this same process of Discovery (John 1:39), Development (Luke 2:52), and Deployment (Matthew 10:1). Even within Old Testament scripture we see this. "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? (Discover) Indeed, I will make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert. See, I am doing a new thing! (Develop) Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland" (Deploy) - Isaiah 43:10.

I encourage us all to prepare for the journey of a lifetime, even in the midst of a global pandemic, as we forget the things of the past and our old way of "doing things," and reach forward towards the new things that lie before us. God is calling us to something greater than we are, and I am excited about the possibilities. I pray you are as well.

Now more than ever we need to be Christ's Church. Six months into this pandemic, 22% of church going Christians stopped attending worship services, digital or physical, and in 2020 that number increased to 25%.

My friends, now is the time for us to be The Church. I pray that you will join me on this journey as we seek new ways to Discover, Develop, and Deploy!

In His Name,

Pastor Dave

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



As part of our Discover, Develop, Deploy Mission, we will once again be helping the Dover-Phila Food Pantry by distributing food to those in need.

Rather than worshiping at our Recharge service,

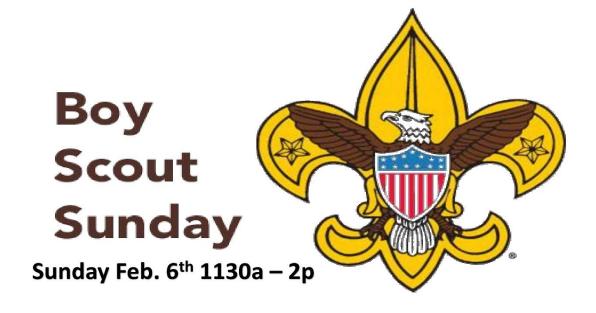
we will be serving on the 4th Thursday of each month (January 27th)

Contact the church office at (330) 343-1322 or

doverfirst@gmail.com to sign up.

This is a wonderful opportunity for individuals, families, small groups, and our church family to reach out and help those in need in our communities.

### **Scout Sunday**



Scout Sunday is coming up Sunday Feb 6th,

Our Boy Scout Troop will once again be serving a spaghetti lunch fundraiser.

You can dine in or order to go, and this event is open to the public.

Lunch will be served from 1130a - 2p in our Fellowship Hall

Make sure to share and invite!



#### **Welcome Desk Help Needed**



Want to be a welcoming presence in our church?

We are in need of individuals or groups to serve at our Welcome Center on Sunday Mornings each week.

Assist with directions
Hand out Welcome Gift Bags
Answer Questions
Welcome Visitors and Guests!

To sign up, contact our church office at (330) 343-1322 or Email us at <a href="mailto:doverfirst@gmail.com">doverfirst@gmail.com</a>

This is a great opportunity to use your gifts to welcome everyone each week as we gather to worship!

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it — Hebrews 13:1



We are currently accepting applications for the position of church pianist/organist.

If you or anyone you know are interested in the position, please submit a resume via email to doverfirstpastor@gmail.com





Interested in finding out more about baptism, membership, or just have questions about the church?

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend our Next Steps class Sunday Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> from 12p-2p in our lounge (this is being rescheduled from Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Pizza Lunch and Nursery Care will be provided

RSVP to the church office doverfirst@gmail.com





Looking for a way to get connected in a Bible Study, but are not ready for an in-person group just yet?

You're in luck!

Join Pastor Dave online each week for one of his three Online Bible Studies.

Digging Deep - Saturday afternoons at 3pm (starts Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>) (An in-depth study of various Biblical texts)

Sunday @ 6 - Sunday evenings at 6pm (starts Jan 23<sup>rd)</sup> (A weekly study of the Gospel of John)

Tuesday @ 2 - Tuesday afternoons at 2pm (Starts Jan 25<sup>th)</sup> (A weekly study of the Book of Romans)





In addition to our app, webpage, Faithlife page, and 3D Connections, we have created a QR code that allows for instant access to our weekly service outline, sermon notes, and small group study guides.

Simply scan this QR code with your mobile device!



# We Need Your Help To Support Our Vision!

Fast and Easy Giving

Dover First United Methodist Church



## BETTER TOGETHER! STRONGER TOGETHER!

2020 and 2021 have been challenging years for us all. We have missed out on many times of fellowship, worship, and serving together.

But the mission and ministries of our church have continued!

In order to continue our outreach into 2022 and beyond, we need your help.

Please consider online giving. It is quick, safe, and easy to use. Simply visit

https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/BWVG6F/#/

Enter the amount of your gift along with the frequency, click next, continue as a guest, complete your information, and submit.

It's that easy!

Our ministries, facilities, and administration rely 100% on the offerings of our church family.

Please consider how you can faithfully give to Christ's Church today!

# Sunday Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 **Worship Service**

5 Minute Countdown Begins At 10:15am

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

First Scripture 1 Chronicles 29:11 (NIV)

\*Hymn #176 "Majesty"

\*Call To Worship

We gather together today to worship The One who created all things. The One who created us in His image. The One who calls us, equips us, and loves us without end. We are all welcomed, just as we are. We are all loved, just as we are. With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

\*Prayer

\*Hymn #89 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

**Second Scripture** Ephesians 5:15-17 (Phillips)

**Special Music** 

Offering Introduction/Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Offertory Music

Discover, Develop, Deploy: Developing A Life Plan Message

Pastor Dave St.Aubin

\*Hymn "Be Thou My Vision" (Verses 1 and 2) #451

\*Benediction

\*Hymn #451 "Be Thou My Vision" (Verse 3)

\* denotes to please stand as you are able if worshiping in person







Visit Our Webpage: www.doverfirst.org Follow Us On Our Faithlife Page: www.faithlife.com/doverfirst

> **Download Our App: search Dover First UMC** Share our Toll-Free Number: (844) 863-4567



Message Notes
January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022
Discover, Develop, Deploy
Developing Our Life Plan
(Message 4 of 8)

#### WHY MAKE PLANS? BECAUSE:

#### 1. God Makes Plans

'I know the <u>plans</u> I have for you,' says the Lord, '<u>plans</u> to prosper you and not to harm you, <u>plans</u> to give you a hope and a future.' - Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

God is not a God of disorder... - 1 Corinthians 14:33 (NIV)

#### 2. God Calls Us To Make Plans

Mark out <u>a straight path for your feet</u>; then <u>stick to the path</u> and stay safe - Proverbs 4:26 (NLT/LB)

Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way - 1 Corinthians 14:40 (NIV)

#### 3. Planning Is Stewardship

Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as those who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days. Don't be vague but firmly grasp what you know to be the will of God - Ephesians 5:15-17 (Phillips)

#### **HOW TO DEVELOP A LIFE PLAN (based on Nehemiah 1:11-2:9)**

#### 1. PRAY

O Lord, please <u>hear my prayer!</u> Listen to the prayers of those who delight in honoring you. Grant me success today by making the king favorable to me. Put it into his heart to be kind to me." In those days I was the King's cup-bearer - Nehemiah 1:11 (NLT)

If you want to know what God wants you to do, <u>just ask Him</u>, and He will gladly tell you, for He is always ready to give a generous supply of wisdom to all who ask Him - James 1:5 (TLB)



Message Notes
January 23rd 2022
Discover, Develop, Deploy
Developing Our Life Plan
(Message 4 of 8)

#### 2. PREPARE

<u>Four months later</u>, as I was serving the king his wine he asked me, "why so sad?" - Nehemiah 2:1 (TLB)

A wise man thinks ahead; a fool doesn't - Proverbs 13:16 (TLB)

#### 3. EXPECT FEAR

As I was serving the king his wine he asked me, "why so sad? Your heart Must be troubled." <u>I</u> was badly frightened. but I replied, "sir, why shouldn't I be sad? For the city where my ancestors are buried is in ruins, and the gates have been burned down." - Nehemiah 2:1-2 (TLB)

#### 4. ESTABLISH A TARGET

I replied; "if it pleases Your Majesty and if you look upon me with your favor, send me to Judah to rebuild the city of my fathers!" - Nehemiah 2:1-2 (TLB)

#### 5. ESTABLISH A DEADLINE

The king replied... "how long will you be gone? When will you return?" So it was agreed! And <u>I</u> set a time for my departure - Nehemiah 2:6 (TLB)

#### 6. ANTICIPATE BARRIERS

If it please the king, give me letters to the governors west of the Euphrates River instructing them to <u>let me travel through their countries</u> on my way to Judah. Also a letter to Asaph, the manager of the king's forest, instructing him to <u>give me timber for the beams and for the gates</u> of the fortress near the Temple and for the city walls, and for a house for myself - Nehemiah 2:7-8 (TLB)

#### 7. TRUST GOD

And the king granted these requests, for God was being gracious to me - Nehemiah 2:8 (TLB)

We may make our plans, but God directs our steps - Proverbs 16:1 (NLT)

If it is The Lord's will we will live and do this or that - James 4:15 (NIV)





OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE - SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.

#### WHY SHOULD I MAKE PLANS?

#### 1. BECAUSE GOD MAKES PLANS

'I know the plans I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'" Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

How do we know our plans align with God's will? How can we recognize when we are following the world's view and not God's?

#### 2. BECAUSE GOD CALLS US TO MAKE PLANS

Mark out a straight path for your feet; then stick to the path and stay safe - Proverbs 4:26

What plans did you set for your life that did not go as you had hoped? What did you do?

How might the outcome have been different if you had turned to God first?

#### 3. PLANNING IS STEWARDSHIP

Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as those who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days. Don't be vague but firmly grasp what you know to be the will of God - Ephesians 5:15-17 (Phillips)

Give an example of how you could make better use of your time.

Step 1: PRAY
Step 2: PREPARE

If you want to know what God wants you to do, just ask him, and he will gladly tell you, for he is always ready to give a generous supply of wisdom to all who ask him - James 1:5 (TLB)

In the past, have you planned something on your own, or did you ask God what steps to take? How did it turn out and what did you learn?



Like us on Facebook!

Follow us on Instagram!

Subscribe to our YouTube Page!

Download our App!

#### **Step 3: EXPECT FEAR**

As I was serving the king his wine he asked me, "why so sad? Your heart Must be troubled." <u>I was badly frightened</u> - Nehemiah 2:1-2 (TLB)

Give an example of a time when fear prevented you from planning something. What was that fear that stopped you? What could you have done to overcome that fear?

Step 4: ESTABLISH A CLEAR TARGET

**Step 5: ESTABLISH A DEADLINE** 

After praying I answered, 'If it pleases Your Majesty and if your servant has found favor in your sight, send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.' Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked, 'How long will your work take, and when will you get back?' The king was willing to send me, so I set a time!" Nehemiah 2:5-6

Planning requires patience.

Are you able to establish a clear target and set a deadline, or do you want immediate results? Why?

**Step 6: ANTICIPATE THE BARRIERS** 

Step 7: TRUST GOD TO MEET ALL MY NEEDS

A sensible man looks for the problems ahead and prepares to meet them - Proverbs 27:12 (TLB) We may make our plans, but God has the last word - Proverbs 16:1 (TEV)

How do you anticipate the barriers you may face when planning? Will you trust God to overcome those barriers?

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage your group to consider how they felt and what each can do as a result of hearing the message.

- 1. What did you hear? What point in this message was most impactful for you?
- 2. What do you think? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
- 3. What will you do? How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?

REVIEW ANY ASSIGNMENTS OR COMMITMENTS MADE DURING YOUR PREVIOUS MEETING CONTINUE TO CONSIDER WHERE AND YOU YOUR GROUP WANTS TO CONTINUE MEETING