



Friday May 27, 2022

Join us for worship, online or in-person!
Sunday morning traditional service @ 1020am
Thursday evening contemporary service @ 7pm
(No worship services are held on the 4th Thursday of each month)



**A Message
From
Pastor Dave**

Growing in our faith is something we all need to do. Faith is good, but we must continually *grow and mature* in our faith. We know there are seasons during the year. When God created the earth He established the seasons. Genesis 8:22 says; *as long as the earth remains, there will be springtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night.* We know this is true by the seasons of weather we experience; winter spring summer and fall. But there are also seasons of human activity; relational, physical, spiritual, and emotional seasons of life. Ecclesiastes 3:1 says; *there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.* The NCV translates this as *everything that happens to us on earth has its own special season.* If you are a gardener, you know that if you don't have a change in the seasons your plants aren't going to make it. You have to have seasonal changes in order for plants to grow. The same is true in our lives. We all go through various seasons in life, and these seasons help us to mature and grow. What do we know about the seasons of life? First we know that they are beyond our control. We can't control *when* they happen, we can't control *where* they will happen, we can't control how *long* they will last. Most of the seasons of life that we experience begin with an interruption or an inconvenience of some kind. When we enter into a new season of life, our tidy schedules get thrown out the door, and all of a sudden, because of something that just happens in life, all our plans evaporate, and we have to completely redirect our focus. For example, grief is a season of life. We will go through that season many times in life because there will be times when we lose a loved one. Or there will be times in life if you are a parent that your kids will grow up and eventually will move out and begin their own life, and that will be a kind of loss. Or, you may lose an ability that you once had, maybe because of an illness or because of age or because of a change in your body or because of an accident. That is a loss that can cause grief. We can't control any of those things. We can never figure out exactly when they are going to happen or which one is going to happen next or where it might happen or how long it will last. Waiting is also a season of life. The reason why we have to wait so much in life - for a job, for a relationship, whatever it may be - is because many things are out of our control. If we could control those things, we would not have to wait on those things. The seasons of life are often beyond our control. No matter what we'd like to do about it, or how much we worry about it, it's not going to change. But as Daniel 2:21 says; *God controls the times and the seasons.* The seasons of life are beyond our control, but they are not beyond God's control. It may not look like it, but God is always in control. The second thing we know about the seasons of life is this; they are often confusing. Sometimes you may be in a situation and you think, why is this happening to me? I don't understand it. Why is this happening again? Why now? Our understandings usually *follow* our experiences, rather than *precede* them. We tend to understand the seasons that we are in long after they are over, but we don't usually understand them while we are in them. But if you look back on your life, would you agree that you have a far greater perspective on it than if you look ahead? Looking ahead, we don't know what's going to happen. Looking back, we know everything that has happened, and that gives us perspective to see the seasons that we've gone through. Hind sight is 20/20, but there are some things that are going to happen throughout our lives that we are never going to understand; things that we may never get an explanation for until we get to heaven. Why? Because God wants to teach us how to live by faith, not by explanations. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says; *God does everything just right, and on time, but people can never completely understand what He is doing.* If we could understand why God does everything that He does, we'd be God. But we're not. Our brain capacity isn't big enough to understand why God does all the things that He does.

The third thing we know about seasons of life is this; God has a *purpose* for *every* season of life; the lonely seasons, the sad seasons, the seasons of success, the seasons of waiting, the seasons of grief, and so on. Romans 8:28 tells us that *we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into His plans*. Circle the words *working for* and *if*. This is a promise for good in our lives for all who love God and trust Him with what He is doing in the midst of our seasons. Friends, this is one of the basic truths in the Bible. Nothing comes into life that hasn't been filtered by our heavenly Father. Life is not a random series of freak accidents and occurrences and circumstances that just happen. God never does anything by accident. He has an appointed time for everything in life. Even the bad times? Yes. God does not *plan* all the problems in our lives, but He does have a *purpose* that He can *draw good* out of each and every event in our lives. That means every single event, no matter how dark, no matter how shameful, no matter how bad, how guilty, how bitter we feel about it, God can bring good out of it. This verse does not say all things are good, because not all things *are* good in the world. There are a lot of bad things going on in the world. There is a lot of evil in the world. But it *does* say that *all things work together for good* for those who love God and give Him all the pieces of their lives and say, 'God, I trust You to work good out of this. I trust you will work good out of this experience. I trust You will work good out of this season of my life.' God has an appointed time for everything. The fourth thing we know about the seasons of life is; they include both good and bad times. Life is full of contrasts. We go through mountain top experiences, and we go through valley experiences. We go through successes, and we go through failures. We have winnings in life, and we have loses in our life. Ecclesiastes 3:2-8 provides a list of 28 different life experiences. This is not an exhaustive list, but it is a representation. In weather, there are just 4 seasons; winter spring summer and fall. But in life, there are dozens of different seasons. Ecclesiastes 3:2-8 says; *there's a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to laugh, and a time to cry; a time to find, and a time to lose* - that one is one of the most difficult experiences in life; a time to find, and a time to lose. Have you ever had a problem trying to figure out; should I hold on to this, or should I let go? Do I hold on to this dream that isn't happening, or do I let go because maybe it isn't what I'm supposed to be doing anyway? Do I hold on to this relationship, or do I let go of it? The Bible says there's a time for both of those. *There is a time to keep, and a time to throw away*. This is a good verse for your garage as we start to think about spring cleaning. *There is a time to hug, and a time to not hug. There is a time to speak up, and a time to be quiet*. Usually we get those two mixed up. We need the courage to speak up when we should speak up, and the love to be silent when we need to be silent. *There is a time to plant and a time to harvest, a time to tear down and a time to rebuild, a time to grieve and a time to dance*. Life is a combination of contrasting seasons. Why? Because all sunshine and no rain creates a desert. It takes sunshine and rain to make a rainbow. Friends, if you are following God's will - if you are really trying to live your life according to the way God wants you to live - each of these experiences that take place in your life will have meaning and purpose and value in your life. There is a time and season for everything. God wants us to grow and learn. In all of these seasons of life, there is an important lesson to learn, and to make the most of these seasons, we have to extract those lessons. We have to look for the truths and for the principles. As we near our time of transition with me and my family departing and Pastor Wes and his family arriving, remember that God is in control, and God has a plan. To every season, there is a purpose under heaven. In His Name,

- *Pastor Dave*



First, Terri St.Aubin will be transitioning out of her role as Director of Children and Family Ministries effective May 31st. Thank you Terri for all you have done for our children and families over the last two years during a very difficult time during the pandemic!

Next, Deena Wolfe will be transitioning out of her role as Youth Director into the open Director of Children and Family Ministries position effective June 1st.

Deena has done a wonderful job as our Youth Director, and looks forward to her new role.



Finally, our Leadership Board has unanimously approved the hiring of Logan Ladrach as our next Youth Director! Logan will begin his new duties effective June 1st.

We are blessed to welcome him to the Dover First UMC Team!

Please take a moment to thank Terri and Deena, and welcome Logan!

<https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450>

Call 888-252-6174

Or give through our church

Write "Advance #982450-Ukraine"
on the memo line of your check

**UNITED WITH UKRAINE
IN PRAYERS FOR PEACE**

The United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR)
is engaged in assisting the people of Ukraine.

If you would like to contribute a financial donation to UMCOR,
use Advance Number 982450.

This is the UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery Fund.

This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine
as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.
One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

While The United Methodist community in Ukraine is small,
it is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need.

Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership
as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those
who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.

For more information visit: www.umcormission.org
or call 888-252-6174.



Sign up to serve 4th Thursday each month

As part of our Discover, Develop, Deploy Mission,
our Recharge Worship Service will break on the 4th Thursday of each month
as we gather to help serve at the Dover-New Philadelphia Food Pantry.

Serving times run between 4:45pm - 8:00pm and will be indoors.

Face coverings are required

Sign up in the lobby, or contact the church office at (330) 343-1322

or doverfirst@gmail.com

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.



CHURCH picnic



Sunday, July 10th
Following the Worship Service

Enjoy Food, Fellowship and Games
in the Church Pavilion and Yard
or Fellowship Hall in the Event of Inclement Weather

Please Sign Up in the Lobby
Bring Your Favorite Dish to Share



Celebrating and Honoring Our Pastor and Friend Rev. David St.Aubin



**Sunday, June 12th
After The Worship Service**

**Let's join together in Fellowship Hall
to celebrate Pastor Dave's ministry
and send Pastor Dave, Terri and Tanner
to their next appointment
with our blessings and our love.**

**A meal will be served, so please help us to plan
our catering needs by signing up in the lobby.**

A card and gift box will be available.

Youth Group News

Dover First UMC Youth Group Pampered Chef Fundraiser

Let's help our youth group to DREAM BIG!
Fundraiser for a mission trip and
2023 Youth Conference in Daytona Beach

How to Place Your Pampered Chef Order

- ◆ Visit the table in the lobby on Sundays thru May 29th
- ◆ Order online at:
<https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/youthgroup2022>
- ◆ Order on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/496155655571181/?ref=share>
- ◆ Contact Sara Marlatt: (330) 795-6023 or dsninjas3@gmail.com

Payments accepted using: credit/debit cards, cash, check and PayPal



Dover First UMC's
Church Pool Party!

Sunday, July 31st

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Dover City Pool

Invite your friends and family
for a free evening of summer fun.

Sunday May 29th

Worship Service

20 Minute Countdown Begins At 10:00am
Welcome and Announcements Begin At 10:20am

*Prepare yourself for worship by letting go of any distractions.
Take several slow, deep breaths,
and remember that you are in the loving presence of God.*

Prelude

First Scripture John 15:9-13 (NIV)

*Hymn #437 "This Is My Song"

*Call To Worship

In a world filled with violence and war, we gather together to celebrate the promise of peace. In a world filled with oppression, we gather together to celebrate the promise of justice for all. In a world filled with greed, we gather together to celebrate the promise of abundance for all. Our hope is in the name of the Almighty God, The Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of heaven and earth.

*Prayer

*Hymn #698 "God Of The Ages"

Graduate Recognition

Special Music - Chancel Choir

Offering Introduction/Prayer/Memorial Day Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Offertory Music

Message *Our Next Chapter: Remember To: **Give Your Best!***
- Pastor Dave St.Aubin

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

*Benediction

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

Postlude

**please stand as you are able*



Dover First UMC



dover first umc Ohio



doverfirstumc

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



**Worship Service Outline
May 29th 2022**

***Our Next Chapter:
Remember To: Give Your Best!***

'do your best to improve your faith' - 2 Peter 1:5 (CEV)

When determining if I am giving my best to God, I should:

Consider the soldier (2 Timothy 2:3-4) and ask...

1) What would I give up my life for?

The greatest love you can show is to give your life for your friends - John 15:13 (GWT)

2) What would I sacrifice my comfort for?

*Take your share of suffering as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, just as I do; and as Christ's soldier
- 2 Timothy 2:3 (TLB)*

3) What distractions in my life can I eliminate?

do not let yourself become tied up in worldly affairs, for then you cannot satisfy the one who has enlisted you in his army - 2 Timothy 2:4 (TLB)

Consider the athlete (2 Timothy 2:5) and ask...

1) Am I walking in faith with intention?

In a race everyone runs, but only one person gets first prize. So run your race to win. To win the contest you must deny yourselves many things that would keep you from doing your best. An athlete goes to all this trouble just to win a blue ribbon or a silver cup, but we do it for a heavenly reward that never disappears. So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (TLB)



**Worship Service Outline
May 29th 2022**

**Our Next Chapter:
Remember to: Give Your Best!**

2) Am I walking in faith with discipline?

I fight to win. I'm not just shadow-boxing or playing around. Like an athlete I punish my body, treating it roughly, training it to do what it should, not what it wants to. Otherwise I fear that after enlisting others for the race, I myself might be declared unfit and ordered to stand aside - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (TLB)

3) Am I walking in faith with focus on the reward?

Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed - that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls! - Hebrews 12:2 MSG

Consider the farmer (2 Timothy 2:6) and ask...

1) Am I planting seeds generously?

Remember this - a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever."

- 2 Corinthians 9:6-13 (NLT)