



Friday January 7th, 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 (www.doverfirst.org), and our Faithlife page (www.faithlife.com/doverfirst), 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

Recharge Contemporary Worship Resumes!



After a short hiatus while our Fellowship Hall roof underwent some repairs, our Thursday Evening Contemporary Recharge Worship Service is resuming!

We invite you to join us each Thursday evening as we worship God, join in fellowship, and hear His Word.

Messages are different from Sunday morning worship.

Invite a friend and join us in our Fellowship Hall or online.

Also new for 2022:

Recharge will not meet on the 4th Thursday of each month as we take time to help serve at the Dover-Phila Food Pantry.

If you are interested in serving with us, contact the church office

(330) 343-1322 or doverfirst@gmail.com



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. 9th from 12p-2p in our lounge.**

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
(An in-depth study of various Biblical texts)**

**Sunday @ 6 – Sunday evenings at 6pm
(A weekly study of the Gospel of John)**

**Tuesday @ 2 – Tuesday afternoons at 2pm
(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!**



Message Notes
January 9th 2022
Discover, Develop, Deploy
“Discovering Our Neighbor”
(message 2 of 8)

Whenever you speak, or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law of love, the law that set you free. So you must show mercy to others, or God will not show mercy to you when he judges you. But the person who shows mercy will stand without fear at the judgment, because mercy triumphs over judgment - James 2:12-13 (NLT/NCV)

IN ORDER TO DISCOVER MY NEIGHBOR, I MUST:

1. LISTEN

Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by they shouted out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” - Matthew 20:29 (CEV)

The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet. But they shouted all the louder! “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” - Matthew 20:30-31 (CEV)

2. STOP

When Jesus heard their cries He stopped... - Matthew 20:32 (CEV)

Don't be so obsessed with always getting your own advantage. Forget yourself long enough to lend a helping hand - Philippians 2:4 (MSG)

3. LOOK

Jesus looked steadily at the man and was filled with love for him - Mark 10:21 (NJB)

When Jesus looked out over the crowds, His heart broke, because they were confused and aimless, wandering like sheep with no shepherd - Matthew 9:36 (MSG)

4. ASK

Then Jesus asked; ‘what do you want Me to do for you?’ ‘Lord, we want to see!’ they said - Matthew 20:32 (CEV)

5. DO

Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Instantly they could see, and they followed Him – Matthew 20:34 (CEV)



Message Notes
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(message 2 of 8)

WHO CAN WE LOOK FOR THAT NEEDS OUR LOVE?

1. PEOPLE WITH NEEDS

Share your food with the hungry, give to the poor, and provide shelter for the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not refuse to help your own relatives. Then my favor will shine on you like the morning sun - Isaiah 58:7-9 (NLT)

2. PEOPLE WHO FEEL ALONE

Look for opportunities to be hospitable - Romans 12:13 (NIV)

3. PEOPLE WHO FEEL GRIEF

God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others - 2 Corinthians 1:4 (NLT)

4. PEOPLE WHO FEEL DEFEATED

When people sin, you should forgive and comfort them, so they won't give up in despair -Corinthians 2:7 (CEV)

God will not forget the work you've done and the love you've shown him caring for and helping other people - Hebrews 6:10 (NLT)

LET'S
TALK
ABOUT IT

January 9th 2022
Discovering Our Neighbor

Introduce yourselves to new members of your LIFEGroup

OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH PRAYER

SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS

(THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE. FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS OTHER POINTS THAT SPEAK TO YOUR GROUP)

Whenever you speak, or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law of love, the law that set you free. So, you must show mercy to others, or God will not show mercy to you when he judges you. But the person who shows mercy will stand without fear at the judgment, because mercy triumphs over judgment

- James 2:12-13 (NLT/NCV)

We Are called to love the people that we might otherwise overlook. In the story of Jesus healing the two blind men in Matthew 20:30-34, we discover five things that summarize how Jesus interacted with the blind men. He listened, He stopped, He looked, He asked, and He touched them. In order that we might follow Jesus' example, we too can listen for clues that people are in pain, stop whatever we are doing at that particular moment, look past their behavior to see their value, ask them what they need without assuming we know, and do whatever we can to help them.

Who needs your love? Look for people with needs and discover ways to help. Look for lonely people and discover ways to become a friend. Look for grieving people and discover ways to be there for them. Look for defeated people and discover ways to help them start over. Are you ready? Let's *Talk About It!*

1. With Jesus, there were no marginal people, because He moved the margins!

Read James 2:12-13 again and ask; what does this scripture say about learning to love others? (the "law of love") and showing mercy?

How does the mercy we show to others impact the way we will be judged by God?
What will happen if we don't show mercy to others?

Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!' The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!' Jesus stopped and called them. 'What do you want me to do for you?' he asked. 'Lord,' they answered, 'we want our sight.' Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him."

- Matthew 20:30-34 (NIV)

2. Read Matthew 20:30-34 as a group.

Jesus allowed himself to be interrupted by the blind men while the crowd tried to silence them. Likewise, if we want to be used by God we must get used to being interrupted.

Discuss how busyness can be the enemy of mercy



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Download our App!



Don't be obsessed with always getting your own advantage. Forget yourself long enough to lend a helping hand

- Philippians 2:4 (MSG)

3. The Amplified version of 1 Corinthians 10:24 says, *Let no one seek [only] his own good, but [also] that of the other person.* Read Philippians 2:4 above and discuss how we can make ourselves available for God to work through us.

God comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort others who are in trouble with the same comfort that we ourselves received from God - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

4. In 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 above, Paul tells us why God comforts us and how he wants us to comfort others. Talk about how you see this play out in your own walk with God. Think about someone in your life needing comfort, encouragement, or help in their defeat or despair. What will you do to comfort them?

Diving Deeper (optional)

Think of a time you found yourself in a situation that felt foreign or uncomfortable to you and you had nobody to help you. Discuss that feeling in your group. Then read Leviticus 19:33-34 in your Bible and talk with your group about the difference someone could have made.

Discuss any experiences with your group when someone did help you when you felt helpless.

What can you do in the next week to make such a difference in the life of someone you know?

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