

### Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>, 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 How do we serve God? We serve God, by serving other people. Whenever we use our talents, our time, our energy, our resources, our gifts to help other people, we are serving them, and, we are ministering to them. In doing so, we are serving God. Every one of us is a minister. Every time you help somebody you are ministering to that person. But God says; I don't want you to do this by yourself. I don't want you to minister alone. I want you to do it in community.

Philippians 2:2 tells us to agree with each other, love one another, and work together with one heart and one purpose. How do we work together with one heart and one purpose? And why does God call us to serve with other people?

One reason is because we are family. 1 Corinthians 3:9 tells us to work together as partners who belong to God. God says to us, I want you to work together as partners. We are a family when we are working together.

Another reason God calls us to serve together is because we need each other. Nobody has all the talents. Nobody has all the gifts. Nobody has all the resources. Nobody has all the time. Nobody has all the energy. You need me, I need you, and we all need each other. Nobody can do it all by themselves. 1 Corinthians 12:27 tells us that we are all a part of the body of Christ, and each part of the body needs all the others. We have to be connected in order to do what God calls us to do.

A third reason God calls us to serve together is because we get more done together. Ecclesiastes 4:9 tells us that two are better off than one because together they can work more effectively. Teamwork multiplies effectiveness. You might be thinking; 'what can I do? I don't have any talents. I don't have any gifts. I'm too young. I'm too old. What do I have to offer?' You have something. We all have something. But on our own, we don't have everything. That's why we need each other.

Maybe you have fond memories of being on a team; playing a sport, singing in a choir, playing in a band. Maybe you were, or are, part of a bowling team, a golf league, a craft guild, or another team. Being on a team brings us closer together. We get more done, and, we have more fun!

What does it take to build up a team? First, we need trust. Trust is the emotional glue that draws us closer to our friends, our family, our neighbors, our church family, our co-workers everyone. Without trust it is difficult to have the kinds of intimate relationships that God wants us to have. Trust is the glue that holds a team together. In 1 Timothy 6:20 Paul wrote to Timothy; guard what has been entrusted to your care. Serving together involves trust. In order to build trust we have to share responsibility.

Second we need empathy. 1 Peter 3:8 says; live in harmony with one another and be sympathetic. We can't have harmony without empathy. We can't have a team without being aware of what's going on in each other's lives. More than just serving together, we also have to be aware of each other.

Here's the question we all need to ask; how are we as Christ's Church going to make a difference in our communities? Hebrews 10:25 gives us the answer: *let us not give up the habit of meeting together, but let us encourage one another.* Don't stop doing what you're doing. Keep on serving. Keep on meeting together. Get connected with a LIFEGroup. Keep learning how to grow together. Fellowship together, reach out together, and to serve together. Why? Because we need each other.

If you look around at all the challenges and problems in our communities, it can soon feel pretty discouraging. It can feel pretty depressing. Poverty and illiteracy and disease and addiction and human trafficking and all the other problems we are facing can overwhelm us. And we soon think; how in the world can I make difference? Many times we look at the problems of the world and we are tempted to ask God; 'why don't You do something about it?' But friends, God is asking us the same question; 'why don't you do something about it?' There is enormous, incredible power in a team. We take more risks when we are together than when we are on our own. When you have a committed team, a compelling purpose, and a clear vision, God says, you will be unstoppable.

Agree with each other, love one another, and work together with one heart, and one purpose (Philippians 2:2). Friends, Good Neighbor Weekend is coming up quickly. Let us continue to seek ways to work together with one heart and one strong purpose in love. Let us continue to reach out together, grow together, and serve together. Let us continue to build up trust and show empathy with one another, and let us continue to journey together on one mission with one clear vision. Why? Because we are better together. And we are better together, when we serve together.

Be in prayer as you prepare for Good Neighbor Weekend. God is going to do a mighty thing through you, through us, through His Church.

In His Name,

- Pastor Dave

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# GOOD NEIGHBOR





Good Neighbor Weekend April 2nd and 3rd

Good Neighbor weekend is fast approaching! Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup>

We will not be holding worship services on Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> Instead, we will be going out into our communities this weekend, seeking opportunities to reach out, serve, and help our neighbors.

We will live stream a brief message Sunday morning, but no online or in-person services will be held.

Good Neighbor suggestion booklets are available for pickup in the church office during the week or during any of our worship services.

Information is also available on our webpage (www.doverfirst.org/goodneighbor)



We are excited to announce the return of our Easter Sunday worship service and breakfast!

Join us Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 9am in our Fellowship Hall for breakfast, followed by worship at 1020am.

We will also be hosting an egg hunt for the children and are asking for donations of individually wrapped pieces of candy for placing in the eggs.

Candy donations can be dropped off anytime at the church office between now and April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Invite someone to join you for this wonderful day of fellowship and worship!



### Sign up to serve 4th Thursday each month

As part of our Discover, Develop, Deploy Mission, our Recharge Worship Service will break on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



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.

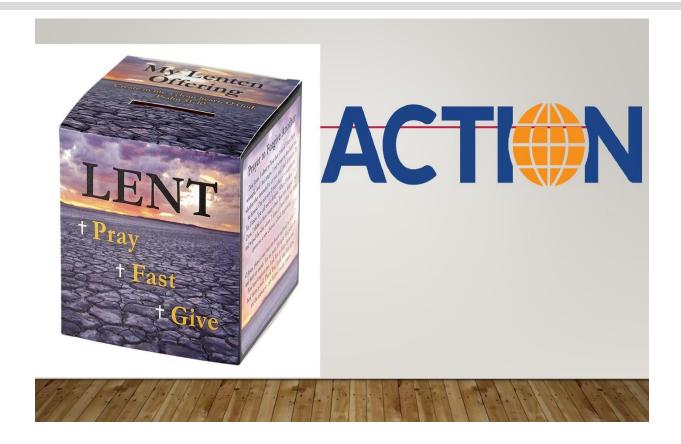
This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

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: <a href="www.umcormission.org">www.umcormission.org</a> or call 888-252-6174.



Lenten Giving Boxes are now available for pickup in the church lobby.

Help those in need by adding coins and special donations during the Lenten Season, then bring your box to the Easter Sunday service for a dedication.

Donations will support Action International's outreach of food, safe shelter, medical care, education and a faith community for the over one million vulnerable children living on the streets of the Philippines.

Please remember to tape boxes closed when returning them.



Are you interested in being part of our team?

Dover First UMC is now hiring!

We are now accepting resumes and applications for full time custodian. Responsibilities include (but not limited to):

Vacuum, clean, mop and wax floors as assigned, required, or needed.

Remove and dump trash, as assigned, required, or needed.

Maintain clean restrooms and replenish supplies.

Dust furniture and equipment weekly.

Maintain the exterior of the facility

Responsible for all mowing, edging, shrubbery trimming and removing leaves.

Other maintenance responsibilities as outlined in the job description.

This is a full time hourly position (40 hours per week) with wages established by the Dover First UMC Leadership Board. If you or someone you know are interested in this position, please drop off your resume at the church office during business hours, or email it to doverfirstpastor@gmail.com

Copies of the job description can be picked up in the church office

# Welcome to the Family

## Teresa MacEachen

We are pleased to announce and welcome the newest member of the Dover First UMC Staff and church family, our new organist and pianist, Teresa MacEaechen!

We are blessed to have Teresa join our staff and worship team.

Teresa brings a lifetime of knowledge and experience with her to the church, and we are certain you will be blessed by her gifts and talents.

Please share a word of welcome to Teresa!



As my family and I prepare to conclude our time in ministry at Dover First UMC, it is with sadness that I am concluding our online Bible studies as of March 8th.

While I have enjoyed our time together, I am going to take the next several weeks preparing for our move and the upcoming pastoral transition. I thank you all for taking time to study God's Word with me and many others around the country over the last two years.

Our online Bible studies originated as a result of the early stages of the Covid pandemic, and were a great help to many as we looked for ways to stay connected during our time of separation.

I encourage you to continue to study God's Word as often as you can. Previous studies are all available on our app, webpage, and Roku TV, so feel free to revisit them anytime! I also invite you to worship with us in person each Thursday and Sunday as these are also excellent opportunities for studying His Word together.

May we all continue to grow in the Light of the eternal, unchanging Word of God that is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Blessings,

Pastor Dave



In addition to our app, webpage, Faithlife page, and 3D Connections Digital Bulletin, we have a QR code that allows for instant access to our weekly service outline, sermon notes, study guides, and more!

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 never stopped!

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 March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Worship Service

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

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 Ephesians 1:3-8 (NLT)

\*Hymn #94 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*Call To Worship

Speak to us, Lord, through these scriptures. Remind us again of your everlasting power. May we know your story and our place within it. May we remember your mighty works and deeds. May we know that you are the God of all ages. May we claim your promise and share your love. We are listening, Lord; speak to us today.

\*Prayer

\*Hymn #166 "All Praise To Thee, For Thou, O King Divine" (Verses 1,2,3,5)

Second Scripture Revelation 3:1-6 (NIV)

Special Music

Offering Introduction/Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Offertory Music

Message Dear Church: "What Jesus Writes To A Dying Church"

- Pastor Dave St. Aubin

Prayer

\*Hymn #420 "Breathe On Me, Breath Of God" (verses 1,2,3)

\*Benediction

\*Hymn #420 "Breathe On Me, Breath Of God" (verse 4)

Postlude

\* denotes to please stand as you are able

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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** March 27th, 2022 **Dear Church:** "What Jesus Writes To A Dying Church" (Message 5 of 7)

To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches - Revelation 3:1-6 (NIV)

Ephesus - Jesus says to a busy church; 'keep first things first'

Smyrna - Jesus says to a suffering church; 'look up and look ahead'

Pergamum - Jesus says to a confused church; 'confusion grows out of your relationships'

Thyatira - Jesus says to a tolerant church; 'stay uncomfortable with all that violates scripture.

Sardis - Jesus says to a dying church; 'don't give up. Wake up!'

### 3 Prayers to offer up to God when it feels like your faith is dying:

#### 1. Lord, help me to see the gaps in my life (Revelation 3:1)

Jesus holds the seven spirits of God - symbolizing The Holy Spirit working in our lives Jesus holds the seven stars - symbolizing the messenger of God

He knows the difference between:

reputation and reality what I say and what I do

where I am and where I could be

### 2. Lord, help me to *close* the gaps in my life (Revelation 3:2-3)

How to revitalize anything:

- Wake Up!
- Strengthen what remains
- Remember what you have heard
- Hold fast and repent
- Let go of false security

Jesus' warning to His children: I will come like a thief



Worship Service Outline
March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022
Dear Church:
"What Jesus Writes
To A Dying Church"
(Message 5 of 7)

### 3. Lord, help me to *overcome* the gaps in my life (Revelation 2:4-6)

The *picture* for those who overcome: Victory!

"the one who overcomes will...be dressed in white"

The *promise* for those who overcome:

"I will never blot their name out of the book of life"

"I will recognize them before my Father and His angels"

#### What does it mean to be "one who overcomes"?

#### For Israel and the Church:

Then the man said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome - Genesis 32:28 (NIV)

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it - Matthew 16:18 (NIV)

#### For us, as is written to the Seven Churches:

To the one who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life

- Revelation 2:7 (NIV)

The one who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death

- Revelation 2:11 (NIV)

To the one who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna

- Revelation 2:17 (NIV)

To the one who overcomes, I will give authority over the nations

- Revelation 2:26-27 (NIV)

The one who overcomes will be dressed in white/I will not blot out their name from the book of life

- Revelation 3:5 (NIV)

To the one who overcomes, I will make a pillar in the temple of My God

- Revelation 3:12 (NIV)

To the one who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with Me on My throne

- Revelation 3:21 (NIV)