



**DCPC**  
**Faith and Families**  
**Newsletter**  
**November 17, 2017**

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**Letter from Robert**

**Active Listening and Dancing**

Dear Friends,

The other morning my daughter came down the stairs complaining that it was a terrible day! Immediately I contradicted her – announcing “It isn’t a terrible day. It’s beautiful outside. This is the day the Lord has made! Let’s rejoice and be glad in it!” Sounds like something a preacher might say doesn’t it? For a moment I was pleased with myself and my defense of the day and the Creator of every day but then I realized that I had no idea what my daughter was upset about and she was now much less likely to want to talk with me about it.

I believe that we often get upset by minor things that, in the grand scheme, aren’t that big of a deal. Regardless, it is still important to listen to one another in our homes and in our families, among our friends, at work, and in the church. It is a way to show love, to show respect, and to show that you value a person. We need to listen to others in the same way we would want them to listen to us – in the same way we would want God to listen to our prayers! Active listening is like asking someone to dance rather than stay in opposite corners of the dance floor. And dancing is a lot more fun than being a wall flower!

I might have said to my daughter, "It sounds like you are upset...what's going on? Would you like to talk about it? How can I support you?" Questions like these invite conversation and can lead to solutions, collaboration, and shared experiences. They lead to a type of dance that in the end draws people closer. That is the stuff of life and relationships and that is why we are here – to live in relationship – to love God and to love one another. And that's what Jesus came to offer. Are you listening?

To God be the Glory!

*Robert*

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### **Faith Building Opportunities**

#### **Advent Wreath Making is Coming!**

*DCPC Advent wreath making* will take place Sunday, December 3 at 3:00 p.m., in Jetton Hall. Wreath forms and candles will be available, along with some greenery to create your special Advent Wreath. Please reserve your space by emailing [Rhonda Boggs](#) by Monday, November 20, to ensure we have enough materials. The cost will be approximately \$20 for the materials. Please bring clippers and any pretty greenery you have (boxwood, magnolia, arborvitae, yew, berries, for example) to share.

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#### **Christmas in Davidson Needs Your Help!**

November 30, December 1 and December 2 from 6:00–9:00 p.m. [CLICK HERE](#) FOR VOLUNTEER SIGN UP .

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#### **We Need YOUR Pledge to Reach our Goals!**

It is a blessing to be able to count on the financial support of our members. This helps us pay our church staff, keep our building in good shape, support our community and global mission partners, and purchase needed resources for education and worship. So far – less than half of our DCPC giving units (one family is a giving unit) have made a pledge for 2018. If you have not made your financial pledge – would you please do it today??

[CLICK HERE](#) to make your pledge online!

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#### **Join us for Wednesday Night Live!**

Our midweek programs are off to a great start! Join us each

**Wednesday for Kid's Club, Children's Choirs, and Wednesday Night Live Dinners and Devotion!** It is a great way to spend your Wednesday evening. This year, children of all ages can benefit from homework help from Davidson College Students. [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP for dinner!

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### **Stephen Ministry is for FAMILIES too!**

#### **Stephen Ministry is for PARENTS too!**

Parenting can be a lonely and difficult job. Whatever your circumstances, if you'd appreciate someone to journey with you for a bit (you decide how long), DCPC Stephen Ministers are ready to offer confidential, Christian, one-to-one support (men with men, women with women). Would some encouragement or listening make a difference for you? Email [stephenministry@dcpc.org](mailto:stephenministry@dcpc.org) or talk to a pastor for additional information.

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If there are concerns or joys that you would like to have listed here please email me at [alexander@dcpc.org](mailto:alexander@dcpc.org) so that we might keep one another in prayer.

Family of Brian Early - Brian was known by many at DCPC. He died suddenly from a heart attack on Friday, November 10. Please keep the Early family in your prayers.

Jay Neal and family - We remember Jay and his family following the death of his father, Jerry Neal, on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Jeff Osman - We continue to pray for Jeff and his family as he awaits a possible liver transplant.

Greg Snyder - We pray for Greg as he recovers from a recent gall bladder surgery.

