



DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Youth Sunday was a celebration of our talented youth- the future of our church! Thank you to all who participated, supported, and shared in worship.



From the Desk of Rev. Tony...

When Certainty Becomes Dangerous

In November of 1948, the Chicago Daily Tribune was so sure Thomas Dewey had defeated Harry Truman in the presidential election that it printed one of the most famous mistaken headlines in American history: “Dewey Defeats Truman.” The problem, of course, was that Dewey had not defeated Truman. Truman won. The next day, Truman was photographed smiling while holding up the newspaper that had confidently announced the wrong result. The Truman Library still preserves the front page as a reminder of how memorable that mistake became.

That story has lasted because it is familiar. We know what it is like to be certain too soon.

We hear one side of a story and think we know what happened. We see one headline and assume we understand the whole issue. We read one post, one article, one text message, one comment, and something inside us says, “Well, that settles it.”

But Proverbs offers a quiet warning:

“The one who first states a case seems right, until the other comes and cross-examines.” — Proverbs 18:17

That is not just courtroom wisdom. It is life wisdom.

The first version of a story often sounds convincing. The first person to speak may sound sincere. The first explanation may fit what we already believe. The first accusation may stir our anger. The first rumor may confirm our suspicion.

But wisdom waits.

Wisdom asks another question.

Wisdom leaves room for another voice.

Wisdom knows that a story can be partly true and still incomplete.

Anne Lamott puts it sharply: “The opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty. Certainty is missing the point entirely.”

That may sound strange at first. Many of us were taught that faith means being certain. But perhaps mature faith is not the refusal to doubt. Perhaps mature faith is the humility to admit: I may not know the whole story yet.

That kind of humility matters deeply right now. We live in a culture that rewards quick conclusions. Social media invites instant reaction. Cable news turns uncertainty into combat. Algorithms learn what already angers us and then feed us more of it. Public life often trains us to decide quickly who is right, who is wrong, who is good, who is dangerous, who belongs, and who does not. But the wisdom of Proverbs asks us to slow down.

This does not mean we should avoid conviction. Some things do require moral clarity. Injustice should be named. Harm should be taken seriously. Truth should matter.

But certainty becomes dangerous when it makes us unteachable.

A wise community, like Davids, does not have to be a community where everyone agrees. In fact, that would probably be impossible. But we can continue to be a place where we practice listening before judging, asking before assuming, and seeking understanding before declaring a verdict. That is one of the gifts our church can offer to the larger community, not a place where everyone is certain, but a place where people are willing to become wise together.

So perhaps we can receive from Proverbs a simple spiritual practice:

Before we repeat the story, pause.

Before we assume the motive, ask.

Before we decide we know, listen.

Before we close the case, leave room for grace.

Because the first version of a story may seem right. But wisdom waits long enough to hear more.

Pastor Tony

Lesotho

nutrition initiative

MISSIONS

THANK YOU!

25,300...That's the number of meals we packed during the Lesotho Nutrition Initiative packing event on April 11th. Approximately 65 volunteers gathered in Fellowship Hall and packed meals for the children in Lesotho, who suffer from chronic malnutrition and stunting. Lesotho is a land-locked country in Africa, where the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate is the highest in the world, at 24% of the population. This crisis has resulted in 360,000 orphaned children, about 1/5 of the population, who are struggling to survive. David's UCC is also making a donation of \$3,405 to help pay for these meals!

WOW!

Mission Board would like to say THANK YOU! Thank you for sharing your time to pack these nutritious meals. Thank you for your monetary donations, both personal donations and the matching funds from the Rummage Sale committee. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of Lesotho children, who so desperately need our help and for supporting this very important mission project!

Gateway food drop-off

NEXT GATEWAY SATURDAY MAY 2!

We are hoping to enlist some new cooks to the long standing Gateway mission of David's Church. We've been running low on delivering all of the sloppy joes that we've promised, so won't you please consider making some this month? Find the sign up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board and add your name this month. Pans & recipes are in the Narthex, the beef is in the kitchen freezer. Many hands make less work! Call or text Anne Brown if you have questions at 937-219-9639.

Pet assistance

Would you be willing to add a furry ball of love to your family? Member Joyce Comer will be reaching a point soon when she will

need to enter into an assisted living arrangement, and sadly, her beloved furball, Hershey, won't be able to join her. She is around ten years old and is a trained, well-behaved pup. Because of Joyce's mobility, Hershey has spent most of the past few years in a small apartment and does not seem to require a lot of running-around space.



Please consider taking in a sweet pup for the last few years of her life. You would be doing a great service to both of them! Contact Gwen at the office for more details: gwen@davidsucc.org

Rummage sale

STARTED SPRING CLEANING? RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING SOON!

Have you started spring cleaning yet? Ready to donate good, clean, working items you just don't need any longer to the Rummage Sale?

One change to keep in mind as you set items aside for the 40th Annual Rummage Sale this year is we will NOT receive any clothing for the Sale.

We know July 5 seems like a long time to wait to donate items you've decided you're ready to part with but every space is being used at David's on a daily/weekly basis so we kindly ask that you start a "Rummage Sale Corner" somewhere in your home until July 5. On the 5th and 12th of July, you can bring items between 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. During the week, items will be received in Fellowship Hall during church office hours – 9 to 5. Evening drop off times will be announced or call Debbie McCoy (937-689-4224). If you're going to be gone during the time donations are being received, please arrange for a friend or relative to bring your items to the church or arrange for them to call Debbie McCoy and arrange pick up. We will continue to receive donations till NOON on Wednesday, July 15 with the Preview Sale Thursday, July 16 and continuing Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18. Proceeds from this sale will be designated for Mission Projects, Building Improvements, and more. Soooo, if you've started spring cleaning, please start your "Rummage Sale Corner" at home in anticipation of JULY 5th! As always, it takes many hands to have a successful Rummage Sale so please consider volunteering!

The Grove

mowing team

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - The Grove Mowing Team

Join 4 other team members who take turns mowing grass at the Grove. We will train you to drive the Church's Kubota tractor. Requires about 4 hours per month. Text or call Jim Williams or Neil Jones



Kettering

summer food program

The Summer Food Program is right around the corner! This is a great way for David's congregation to be the hands and feet of Jesus...to Be The Church! The Summer Food Program not only provides lunches for Kettering youth, but also supports these children by providing positive interactions with adults, mentoring opportunities, and fellowship.

WHAT: Summer Food Program

WHEN: June 15th – 19th

WHERE: Monday, Wednesday & Friday @ The Trails of Oak Creek;
Tuesday & Thursday @ Van Buren Park

We Need Your Help!

- Volunteers – Volunteers are needed throughout the week. Please look for the volunteer sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
 - o Morning Volunteers – Will prep/pack up lunches in the kitchen at David's UCC.
 - o On Site Volunteers (Noon-2:30) – Will set up/serve the lunches and interact with the youth.
- Food Collection Drive – The Mission Board is collecting food donations, which will be used for the lunches throughout the week. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. Donations can be dropped off in the collection bins located in the Narthex, the church kitchen (make sure to label as Summer Food Program), OR during the June 6th Gateway food collection. The final day to donate food items is Sunday, June 7th.
- Monetary Donations – Monetary donations are always appreciated. If writing a check, please make sure to put "Summer Food Program" on the memo line.

The Summer Food Program is a GREAT way to Be The Church and to serve Kettering youth and families! This program addresses all 4 of the Mission Board's guiding principles...supporting vulnerable populations, combatting food insecurities, making a local impact, and providing an opportunity for David's to serve. Thank you, in advance, for your support of this very important and impactful outreach event in our community!

CHURCH EVENTS

Coffee and Conversation with Rev. Tony

Rev. Tony would like to invite you to coffee and conversation! He will be at The Muddy Goose, 465 N. Main St. in Springboro on Wednesday, May 6 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Sign up in the Narthex or call the office to add your name to the list so he knows to expect you! More coffee dates will be added in the future, so be on the lookout.

Young Families

Please join the Young families group on Friday, May 8th from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Gentile nature park, 915 Peach Orchard road. Please feel free to bring scooters, bikes, roller skates etc and a snack to share with the group . In the event of inclement weather, we will send out a text and post on the Facebook page by 6pm if we decide move back to the fellowship hall! Any questions call or text Amanda Worsowicz 614-579-2643

Green Team Meeting

Do you have a passion for the environment and working to make our world more sustainable? Consider joining us! Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00 pm at The Grove. Any questions, contact Dave Evans dajevans@me.com

Happy Hour with Rev. Tony

Dislike coffee? Do you work during the day? Are you sad to be missing out on getting to know our new minister? Join Rev. Tony for Happy Hour at Eudora Brewing, May 21 at 5:30pm! Please RSVP in the Narthex so he knows to expect you!

Game Night in Fellowship Hall

Attention all Gamers! Join us 7-9pm, Friday, May 22 in the Fellowship Hall for GAME NIGHT! Bring a favorite game; BYOB and a snack to share. Be prepared to have fun playing euchre, pinochle, Mexican train, Scrabble. We will be meeting in David's Fellowship Hall. Any questions contact Kevin Craig at imkevbo@gmail.com

David's Dinners

DAVID'S DINNER SATURDAY MAY 23

David's Dinners are a wonderful opportunity for Church families to come together for food, fun, and fellowship. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to host or to attend. Please sign up by Sunday May 16. The host will indicate how many people they can accommodate in their home and will provide the main dish. Attendees will be assigned to hosts by Steve Roark and Jeff Baldwin. The host will then reach out to attendees to coordinate accompanying dishes. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow parishioners and to build strong relationships within our Church community. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve Roark or Jeff Baldwin @ sroark293@gmail.com or call 937-602-0130.

Women Hanging Out (WHO)

Since its beginning WHO has gone to some wonderful eateries, some of which we want to return to again. We will do just have on Tuesday, April 28 when we will dine at SAKE Japanese Steak House at 2146 Miamisburg-Centerville Road (also known as Route 725). They serve an excellent variety of seafood, chicken, and steaks which are cooked to perfection just right in front of us at the large heated grill. It is a show in itself as the Chef performs his talents in preparing our meals with a blazing fire right in front of our eyes. Our meal will also consist of soup, salad, entree and dessert. The meals range in price from \$10 to \$19 depending on your selection.

You may add your name to the list of reservations by contacting Judy Hudson via email at cruisewriter937@aol.com or you may phone (and text) at 937-329-2800. Judy will also have her sign up sheet at church on Sunday mornings. So mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 28 at 5:30 p.m. for a delicious Japanese-style dinner with your friends from WHO.

Family Fun at Pike Lake!

Come join David's Church Family on Saturday, May 16th, for the 58th Annual Pike Lake Weekend! NOW'S your opportunity to say YES to hiking, fishing, archery, wildflower seeking, wiffleball and cornhole games! No Reservation Needed! Just pack a lunch and bring a dish to share at the Saturday Night Potluck! Hope you'll come join the fun!

May 4- Sharon Gratto, Ansel Weeks

May 5- Ben Worsowicz

May 7- Travis Roberts-Bethel, Averill Tinker

May 8- Noah Fles

May 10- Julia Hughes

May 12- Sarah Hartman, Dave Ireton

May 13- Becket King

May 14- Nolan Cantrell, Kevin Craig

May 15- David Brown

May 16- Adalyn White

May 17- Michelle Beery



May 18- Lynn Rogers

May 21- Ruth Ann Morgan

May 22- Elvis Nail

May 24- Kurt Olt, Tim Williams

May 25- Sylvia Gallagher-Yerman

May 26- Jack Gallagher- Yerman, Bonney
Walther

May 27- Carol Bradley, Danny Weeks

May 28- Kyle Dunn

May 29- Jennifer Kane

COMMUNITY OF FAITH

David's Scholarships

David's has an incredible opportunity for those seeking a higher education! If you or someone you love fits this description, keep reading! David's Scholarships are intended for students who are members and/or have a strong affiliation with David's UCC and are pursuing higher education at an accredited institution to undertake professional activities consistent with the mission and values of David's UCC. David's Church may award scholarships of not more than \$5000 per recipient each year. Recipients may reapply for funds in multiple years, so even if you were awarded a scholarship last year, you may reapply this year! If interested please contact the church office for an application or fill it out online [here](#). Applications are due by April 26, applicants will be notified in mid-May. If you need any additional information, contact Gwen in the office or by emailing gwen@davidsucc.org.

Checking in on members...

"A very simple action can make a big difference. Checking in on seniors, especially those aging in place, can support their mental and physical health."

David's has a significant amount of seniors either home-bound or dependent upon others for rides, visits, and care. [This article](#) has some great insight on how we can help those beloved members. If you would be interested in volunteering to provide transportation, do visits, or tag along with a pastor for Home Communion, please call the office.

<https://www.seniorsguide.com/aging-in-place/checking-in-on-seniors-makes-a-difference/>

Graduates!

If you are graduating from either high school or college, please let us know so we can recognize you during worship June 7! You can email gwen@davidsucc.org or call the office.

Music at David's!

Music has been an important component of the David's Church worship for 200 years. The earliest congregations sang hymns from memory. Then the congregation acquired a piano, and then later an organ. A handbell choir was added in about the 1970's. Modern worship services include a wide array of voices and instruments.

As part of our 200th Anniversary Celebration year, during the month of May we will be trying something a little different. Our current David's worship service normally includes three hymns that are sung by the congregation during the service. Tim Williams and Lyn Morton meet regularly with the Pastors to select music which complements the worship theme.

During the four Sundays of May leading up to Music Sunday on May 31, one of the three hymns that we sing together will be an "old fashioned" hymn. As a remembrance of the worshipers who have come before us, the 200th Anniversary Committee nominated about 10 or 12 "classic" hymns, most chosen from the early hymnals that are still in the David's Church library. Our worship leaders chose an appropriate "historic" hymn to sing each week. We hope you enjoy this journey down memory lane!

Grove Listening Sessions

The Grove Committee invites members of the congregation to participate in a series of small-group listening sessions focused on the future of the Grove. These sessions are designed to gather thoughtful input and help the congregation better understand how the Grove is currently used, how it functions in practice, and what its opportunities and limitations may be. This process is centered on experiential learning and is not intended to promote a specific outcome.

The first four listening sessions will focus on:

Listening Session #1 - First impressions and current use - Date: Thursday, May 7th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Listening Session #2 - Functionality and everyday use - Date: Monday, May 18th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Listening Session #3 - Use cases and flexibility - Date: Monday, June 22nd, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Listening Session #4 - Conditions and comfort - Date: Monday, July 13th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Each session will be 60 minutes and held at the Grove (located across Mad Rivert from the Church, 204 W. David Road), with small groups to encourage meaningful conversation.

A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex following the service.

All are encouraged to participate in one or more sessions. Your perspective is important, regardless of your level of familiarity with the Grove.

For questions, please contact:

Becca Karason at rkarason@yahoo.com or 937-417-6410

Dave Evans at dajevans@gmail.com or 937-545-6013

MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 Music Sunday Worship- 9:50am						2 Gateway Food Drop-off- 10am SONKA event
3 Sunday Worship- 9:50am New Member Sunday, Children's Choir, Grove Committee	4 Warm Wishes 9:30am	5 Quilting- 10am Elders' Meeting- 6:30pm	6 Coffee with Pastor Tony- 1pm	7 Handbell Practice-6pm Sanctuary Choir Practice- 7pm	8 Young Family Night- 6:30pm	9 Trustee Mtg- 8:30am 10am- Grove Meeting 11am- Bill Howard Memorial
10 Sunday Worship- 9:50am Confirmation, Children's Choir, Deacons Mtg	11 Warm Wishes 9:30am	12 FF Board Mtg- 6pm Mission Board Mtg- 7pm	13 F&H Board Mtg- 9:30am	14 Handbell Practice-6pm Sanctuary Choir Practice- 7pm	15 Pike Lake Weekend	16 Pike Lake Weekend
17 Sunday Worship- 9:50am Children's Choir, Pike Lake	18 Warm Wishes 9:30am Pastor Emily Out	19 Pastor Tony Out	20 Confirmation Dinner- 6:30pm	21 Happy Hour with Pastor Tony- 5:30pm Handbell Practice-6pm Sanctuary Choir Practice- 7pm	22 Game Night- 7pm	23 David's Dinners 5:30pm
24 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY! Worship- 9:50am Children's Choir	25 Memorial Day -Office Closed-	26 WHO Dinner- Sake- 5:30pm	27 Dinner- 6:30pm	28 Handbell Practice-6pm Sanctuary Choir Practice- 7pm	29 Game Night- 7pm	30 David's Dinners 5:30pm

