



*Snow hit 14" deep for areas of Dayton!*



*Sue made a resolution to be nice to Neil this year.*



*The snow was plowed quickly  
Thanks, Trustees!*

# DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## *Annual Meeting* *New date!*

***February 8, 2026 - 11:15am***

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of David's Church! We will celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, all members will vote on the budget for 2026, and all can share hopes, dreams, goals, and concerns.

# From the Desk of Rev. Joanna...

*Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.*

*We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.*

*Whatever affects one, directly, affects all indirectly.*

*The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*(letter from a Birmingham Jail, April 16, 1963)*

During this past week, all of you have been on my heart and close in my prayers. I am trusting that you have everything that you need in order to 'weather' this recent snowstorm that we will always remember. According to the most current weather reports, you received 14.5 inches of snow there, in Kettering, and here, in Columbus, we are also digging out from 16 inches of a beautiful but thick blanket of snow.

In recent days, I have been reminded that when the world seems to come to a standstill because of the unplowed roads, school closings and even cancelled worship services, etc., there is something absolutely amazing that comes into focus. That is, we are deeply touched and reassured that we are all, indeed, interconnected and interdependent on one another as a wider community.

This past week, Shane (my spouse) and a few others from our neighborhood shoveled the sidewalks and driveways of our neighbors who are older and mostly homebound because of health concerns. In addition, we have other neighbors who have been making soup, chili and cornbread to share with those on our street who live alone or were unable to get to the grocery store before the snow arrived. Additionally, we have neighbors who have been calling and texting one another in order to check in with each other and stay connected in the midst of this wintry weather.

Yes, indeed, we are all interconnected.

During these last couple of weeks, we have been painfully reminded of this eternal truth -- on a national level -- as we grieve the senseless killing of two Minneapolis residents by ICE agents -- Renee Good and Alex Pretti. As these news stories unfold and investigations continue, there has been an outpouring of compassion, grief and righteous anger across our nation. Whether we live in Ohio, New York, Texas or California, we all share the grief, the questions and the need for answers. Regardless of our political affiliations or ideological leanings, we are all one people and we truly belong to one another.

In these times of angst and uncertainty across our nation, I give thanks for this welcoming, inclusive and justice-minded congregation that we all love and know as David's United Church of Christ.

May God continue to inspire and equip us to respond the needs of the wider community and world around us with compassion, conviction and a heart for justice.

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

See you in worship!

Grace and peace,

Rev. Joanna Samuelson

[jsamuelson@davidsucc.org](mailto:jsamuelson@davidsucc.org)

c: 214.995.3525



# MISSIONS

NEXT GATEWAY SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7

Next Gateway drop-off is Saturday, February 7, 10:00 am at the Narthex doors. David's is the epitome of a giving church. Can you help us give just a little more this time of year? Questions? Call or text Anne Brown at 937-219-9639.

## Hannah's treasure chest

Jessie Blumberg is a Life scout in Troop 515 in Centerville, Ohio. For her Eagle Scout Project she is collecting new and/or clean, gently used bath towels and washcloths for Hannah's Treasure Chest (HTC) (<https://www.htcdayton.org/>) in Miamisburg Ohio.

Here at David's Church, we have a long history of supporting HTC. HTC was started in 2001 in Centerville, Ohio, by a mother, Angela Addington, with an excess of baby items for her daughter Hannah. HTC began to share gently used baby and children's items with families in need without charge.

Today, HTC has a 35,000 sq ft warehouse and distributes more than 400,000 items annually through 76 direct-service patterns in 6 Ohio counties (Butler, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Preble, and Warren). HTC continues to combat poverty in southwest Ohio by providing basic items to children in need, allowing their caregivers to redirect limited resources to essential living expenses.

- Mission: The mission is to "enrich the lives of children in need" by providing essential items for children from two months before birth up to age 18.
- Core services: The organization provides care packages of new and gently used children's items, including clothing, shoes, coats, books, toys, diapers, and car seats.

Jessie asked Hannah's what she could do to support their mission. They said they need bath towels and washcloths. Bath towels and washcloths are not fun or exciting to buy and donate, but they are needed. Hannah's is ALWAYS low on bath towels and washcloths.

Jessie is collecting new and clean, gently used bath towels and washcloths. A collection box will be placed in the narthex of David's Church by Feb 8, 2026. for the month of February.

**Jessie is asking that you check your closet, and if you have a gently used bath towel and washcloth you are not using, to please bring it in and donate it. Or if you are out shopping and buy a new bath towel and washcloth and donate it. Her goal is to collect 220 bath towels & washcloths. If you have any questions, please ask her. Thank you in advance for your support.**

# Warm Wishes

*ministry*

Warm Wishes will be meeting on Mondays beginning at 9:30am, as well as Monday evening on February 2 from 6-8pm. If you want to join an amazing group of mission-focused cutters and sewers, please consider joining! WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF SEWERS!! Please consider giving us a few hours of your time as we sit in our warm homes to benefit those in our community. Questions? Contact Nedra Dalton for more information.

**HELP!**

# Tomato Bucket

*challenge*

The Green Team invites you to be a part of our "Tomato Bucket" project this year. David's Church is committed to contributing 200 five-gallon buckets with tomato seedlings to the Dayton Metro Parks "Garden's to Go" program in May of 2026. This project provides, free of charge, buckets and tomato seedlings to Dayton area food bank recipients who would like to grow produce on their patios/porches. If you wish to donate to this project, please use the online donation on David's Church website or donate with check/cash using an offering envelope in the pew and write in "Tomato Buckets". Our goal is to raise \$1,400 in donations by April 19 to purchase the buckets and seedlings.

**FAITH FORMATION**

# 2nd Hour Presentation

Join us as we welcome Nico Schrenk March 8 for a powerful and timely Second Hour presentation titled Beyond Conversion. Nico will share a survivor's account of conversion therapy, weaving together personal lived experience with evidence-based research on the impact of conversion therapy on survivors across the United States. This thoughtful and compassionate presentation invites us to look beyond the harm, deepen our understanding, and explore how faith communities like ours can actively support

# Parents' Night Out!

An evening of fun for kids — and a break for you!

★ **Friday, February 7** ★  
 5:00 PM — 9:00 PM  
 Fellowship Hall at David's UCC  
 170 W. David Rd.

★ **Drop-Off Flexibility** ★

- Drop off or pick up **ANYTIME** between 5–9 PM
- Stay for the **ENTIRE** evening

★ **Dinner Provided!** ★

- Pizza & Drinks at 7:00 PM
- Kids can pack their own dinner if they wish

★ **Evening Schedule** ★

- 5:00–7:00 PM: Free Play & Activities
- 8:00–9:00 PM: Age-Appropriate Movie

★ **Good to Know** ★

- Bring a Blanket or Pillow for the Movie
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade & Up: Bring Electronics  
(We're not responsible for lost or broken items)

★ Fun for the kids. Free time for the parents. Everyone wins! ★



**Scan to Register**  
[forms.gle/L6RjNqzkKPUNFsQFA](https://forms.gle/L6RjNqzkKPUNFsQFA)

# February Birthdays

- February 3- Karen Vineyard, Glenn Wood, Cody Wright
- February 4- Julie Wellbaum, Chris Gayler
- February 6- Don Ashbrook, Chris Wellbaum
- February 7- Virginia Dowse, Kirsten Sherk, Brad Sidaras 02/07 43 | Sam Wellbaum
- February 8- Jill Blum
- February 10- John Gramann, Vaughn Shannon
- February 13- Dagmar Michel, Jamie Mhaskar | Kristen Gayler
- February 15- Jenni Thompson
- February 17- Betsy Keyes
- February 22- Lou Mason, Steve Mason
- February 23- Winter White
- February 24- Caleb Cook
- February 27- Brian Barrett
- February 28- Judy Hudson, Amy Hamm



# Acolytes Wanted!

We are so excited so many kids in the Acolyte program at David's! Acolytes have a special role, they bring the candlelight into the Sanctuary to signify the start of worship, symbolically bring the Light of Christ into our presence. To sign up for a spot in the new year please go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA8A82AAAFAC52-60382603-2026#/> If desired, Pastor Emily will meet with the Acolyte each week for a quick review prior to the start of the service.

# CHURCH EVENTS

## The Grove Vote-Annual Meeting

THE GROVE VOTE DURING ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 8

At our Annual Meeting February 8, the Grove will be discussed with a vote to keep The Grove or to sell The Grove. Keeping the property would mean forming a new Grove Committee who would pursue development of the property in accordance with the city of Kettering. We need to hear from you. Please plan to attend the informational meeting on Saturday, January 17th at 10:00 to discuss your concerns, hear your questions and provide answers.

## Young Families

Please join the young families group on February 13th in the fellowship hall from 6:30-8:30 for some food and fellowship. Please bring a snack or drink to share with the group. Any questions please call or text Amanda at 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 meetings is Tuesday, February 17 at 6:00pm on Zoom. The zoom link is below! Any questions, contact Becca Karason at [rkarason@yahoo.com](mailto:rkarason@yahoo.com). The zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3370481150?omn=87957577198>

## Game Night in Fellowship Hall

Attention all Gamers! Join us 7-9pm FEBRUARY 20TH for GAME NIGHT! Bring a favorite game; BYOB and a snack to share. Be prepared to have fun playing euchre, pinochle, Mexican train, Scrabble. Any questions contact Kevin Craig at [imkevbo@gmail.com](mailto:imkevbo@gmail.com)

# Women Hanging Out (WHO)

We will be returning to one of our favorite dining spots in February when we visit El Rancho Grande on Tuesday February 24 at 5:30 pm. You may remember that the restaurant is located at 4139 Wilmington Pike in Kettering, You will see the Meijer store at the corner of Stroop and Wilmington. You are about a block from the restaurant. Continue on Wilmington and you will see Grismer Tire just outside the restaurant front door. We will meet at our usual time of 5:30 p.m. and enjoy a menu which has many diverse selections to choose from. There is surely something to please everyone. If you would like to join us at our WHO February event, please contact Judy Hudson either at [cruisewriter937@aol.com](mailto:cruisewriter937@aol.com) or by phone or text at at 937-329-2588 to place your name on the reservations list. Come enjoy an evening of fun and merriment as we join our friends for an evening of fine Mexican cuisine in a very relaxing atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you there as we anticipate spring being just a few short weeks away. Hooray. See you on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH

### ASH WEDNESDAY

**FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

ASHES TO GO

7:30-8:30AM, Noon-1:00PM, 5:00-6:00PM

CHURCH SERVICE 7:30 PM

Proclamation of the Word & Imposition of Ashes

\*\*following the service we will gather  
in the Chapel for prayers for the healing of  
human hurts\*\*

# FEBRUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> Worship- 9:50am 11:15am- Children's Choir, Confirmation, Faith Form. Mtg	<b>2</b> Warm Wishes 2 6-8pm	<b>3</b> Quilting- 10am Elders' Mtg- 6:30pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Gateway Drop-off- 10am Parents' Night Out- 5pm 
<b>8</b> Worship- 9:50am <b>ANNUAL MEETING</b> 11:15am	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Quilting- 10am Faith Formation Mtg- 6pm Mission Mtg- 7pm	<b>11</b> F&H Meeting- 9:30am	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Young Family Night- 6:30pm	<b>14</b> Trustee Mtg- 8:30am 
<b>15</b> <i>Communion</i> Worship- 9:50am 11:15- Children's Choir, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour	<b>16</b> Presidents' Day -OFFICE CLOSED-	<b>17</b> Quilting- 10am Green Team Mtg- 6pm via ZOOM	<b>18</b> Ashes to Go 7:30am, 12noon, 5pm Ash Wednesday Service- 7:30pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Game Night- 7pm	<b>21</b> Men's Breakfast 8:30am
<b>22</b> Worship- 9:50am 11:15- Children's Choir, Youth Sunday Planning Mtg. St. Terese Brass Concert- 2pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Quilting- 10am WHO Dinner- 5:30pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> PFLAG Meeting- 9:30am Confirmation Trip to Freedom Center- 10am

