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*The vision of Dover UCC is to seek justice, love kindness  
and walk humbly with our God.*

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# ***Dover Congregational United Church of Christ***

THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD.



PSALM 103:17

*Rev. Keith Stuart, Minister  
Martha Vivona, Lay Leader*

*Rev. Scott Patterson, Pastor Emeritus      Rev. John Rinehart, Minister of Justice*

*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

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November 11, 2018

10:00 a.m.

\*Please stand if you are able.

## ***Service of Worship & Celebration of Life***

### ***Gathering of God's People***

**Bringing In The Light**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Children's Message**

### ***Preparing our Hearts...***

#### ***To Worship...***

One: Yet you have made us a littler lower than God, and crowned us with glory and honor. You have given us dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under our feet, all sheep and oxen, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

**All:** Let no one do harm to anyone.  
Let no one put the life of anyone in danger.  
Let no one, out of anger or ill will, wish anyone harm.

One: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**All:** May all living beings live in security and peace, beings who are frail or strong, tall or short, big or small, visible or not visible, near or far away, already born or yet to be born.

One: May all of them dwell in perfect tranquility.

**Music of Reflection**      “Blessed Assurance”      Mansfield/Knapp

### *To Listen...*

One: Dear people, do you not know that you yourselves are a letter from God? A *love* letter from God!

**Many:** Bless God, O my soul.

One: You were written on God’s heart, to be known and read by all.

**Many:** Bless God, O my soul.

One: Dear people, do you not know that God is *your* letter too?  
A *love* letter from you!

**Many:** Bless God, O my soul.

One: Written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God.  
Written not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

**Many:** Bless God, O my soul.

One: And God writes; “I will take you for my spouse forever, in steadfast love and mercy.” And you answer...

**Many:** Bless God, O my soul.

\* Hymn      “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”      No. 43  
black hymnal

## Sacrament of Baptism

Amelia Collette Foote  
(see insert)

### *To Confess...*

One: For vibrant lives suddenly and shamelessly sacrificed,

**Many: We lift up the ashes of our loss, O Source of Life.**

One: For the lives that continue, haunted forever by the pain of absence,

**Many: We lift up the ashes of our remorse, O Wellspring of Compassion.**

One: For the charred visions of peace and the dry taste of fear,

**Many: We lift up the ashes of our grief, O Infinite.**

One: For all the deaths that have been justified by turning the love of God or country into fanatical arrogance,

**Many: We lift up the ashes of our shame, O God.**

One: For the ways humanity pursues, violence rather than understanding,

**Many: We lift up the stones of our anger, O Breathing Spirit of the World.**

One: For the ways we allow national, religious and ethnic boundaries to circumscribe our compassion,

**Many: We lift up the stones of our hardness, O Wellspring of Compassion.**

One: For our addiction to weapons and the ways of militarism,

**Many: We lift up the stones of our fear, O Source of Life.**

One: For the ways we cast blame and create enemies,

**Many: We lift up the stones of our self-righteousness, O God.**

One: Transforming one, hear our plea: so too may the power of your compassion soften the hardness of our hearts and draw us into a future of justice and peace.

*(a Silence)*

### ***To Find Forgiveness...***

One: God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our sin from us.

### **Reading of Scripture**

**Hebrew Tradition**      Psalm 103:1-18

**Sermon**                      “To Avoid Compassion Fatigue”  
Rev. R. Keith Stuart

### ***To Pray...***

One: Compassionate God, together with our joys and our thanks we bring before you,

the sorrows of the bereaved...

the helplessness of the weak...

the despondency of the weary...

the failing powers of the aged...

By your Holy Spirit draw near to each: those we have named on our lips and in our silence...

and those we have forgotten...

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **Joys and Concerns**

## Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (words projected)

## In Gratitude

One: The psalmist gave thanks and sang God's praises; the leper gave thanks and proclaimed God's good works; so now we give thanks out of the bounty of our lives.

## Offering Our Gifts

Offering Music

"Meditation"

W. Hutson

Doxology (words projected)

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**All: We believe in the goodness of God, that God hears and responds to our needs and to all children everywhere.**

One: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul.

**All: We are grateful that the we are blessed with enough water. We know that many do not have enough water, not enough food, not enough peace.**

One: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**All: Too many children do not see God's righteousness. Too many children watch violence, taste hunger, feel fear, and cry from the unspeakable horror of war.**

One:: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

**All: Becoming involved is risky. Pain is contagious. Our hearts may be broken and our lives threatened. Yet we hear God calling and we can no longer hide.**



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## *Assisting With Worship*

**Sermon:**..... Rev. R. Keith Stuart  
**Reader:** ..... Liz Emmer  
**Organist:**..... Jan Jones  
**Choir Director**..... Craig Reynolds  
**Ushers:**            Dave Brugh, David Edsell, Nathan Gamber,  
                              Kevin Kurth  
**Media:** ..... Sharron Wilkins

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~ The flowers on the Communion table are for mom.  
Given in love from Nan.

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~ Our newsletter - *The Interpreter*, an informational flyer about Dover Congregational UCC and devotionals are available in the Narthex and The Hub.

~ Large print bulletins and hearing amplification devices are available. An Usher can assist you.

~ Child care is available for children five years and younger in room 104. An Usher can assist you.  
Our child care provider is Katie Alexander.

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Please pray for God to be with these individuals, and for them to feel God's presence in the midst of their concerns:

Marilyn Ashbaugh, Dayan Birchler (Tessa Hongosh's friend), Marie Black, Marcie Boltz (Marge Albrecht's sister), Tom Fox, Gerrard (friend of Kevin Kurth), Sofia Greer (friend of Jeff & Amanda Hughes), Paul Horning, Vicki Horning, Dave Miller (Jane Pfaff's son), Melissa Nolan, Tanya Popi (Dover Church Custodian), Diane Radke (Lois Berrick's daughter-in-law), Rose Sabin, Jennifer Shultz (friend of Lauren Falcone), Helen Sima (neighbor of Kevin Kurth) and Robin Thomas.

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~Sisters and Brothers in Christ, welcome to worship, Christian fellowship and time to learn and grow in God's Word.  
May you be blessed and strengthened now.

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**This Week at Dover Congregational UCC**  
**Announcements and Information**



**TODAY**

Worship Service..... 8:15 am  
WCC Worship ..... 9:45 am  
Worship Service  
& Sunday School..... 10:00 am  
Coffee Hour..... 11:00 am  
Cub Scouts..... 2:00 pm

**MONDAY**

Meals on Wheels..... 8:00 am  
Play & Learn ..... 9:00 am  
Cub Scouts..... 6:00 pm  
Facilities..... 7:30 pm

**TUESDAY**

Meals-on-Wheels..... 8:00 am  
Play & Learn ..... 9:00 am  
Water Colorists ..... 1:00 pm  
Boy Scouts ..... 7:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY**

Meals on Wheels..... 8:00 am  
Play & Learn ..... 9:00 am  
Prayer Group..... 9:45 am  
Fiber Artists..... 10:00 am  
Bell Choir..... 6:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY CONT.**

Chancel Choir..... 7:00 pm  
Men's AA ..... 8:00 pm

**THURSDAY**

Meals-On-Wheels..... 8:00 am  
Play & Learn..... 9:00 am  
Cub Scouts..... 6:30 pm  
Venture Scouts ..... 7:00 pm  
Al-Anon ..... 8:00 pm

**FRIDAY**

Meals-On-Wheels..... 8:00 am  
Play & Learn..... 9:00 am

**SATURDAY**

T'ai Chi Chih ..... 9:30 am

**SUNDAY**

Worship Service..... 8:15 am  
Parish Nurse ..... 9:00 am  
Choir ..... 9:30 am  
WCC Worship ..... 9:45 am  
Worship Service  
& Sunday School ..... 10:00 am  
Cub Scouts..... 2:00 pm  
Piano Recital..... 3:00 pm

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~ If you are not taking your bulletin home, you may leave it in one of the recycle bins. **Bulletins or bulletin inserts only.**

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On Tuesday, November 27, at 7:00 p.m. Sharon Garner from Belly of the Whale will lead us in Praying with Mandalas, a Colorful, Contemplative Practice to help us get through the busy holiday season.

All supplies will be provided.



**RETIRED MEN'S  
(OR NOT) LUNCH**

Third Tuesday of the month.  
12:00 Noon.

Mahle's Restaurant  
on Detroit Road in Westlake.  
Enjoy a good lunch and the  
fellowship of other  
Dover UCC men.

Reservations not needed.

**COMING SOON**



**Micah's Cafe**

Located in Dover Church's old Bridal Room, Micah's Cafe will soon be serving fresh brewed coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

We're looking for loving, energetic volunteers to help staff it. A great way to have fun and meet new people. For the creative members, we're having a contest for the best Micah's Cafe logo. Just turn your design in to the office or to Martha. Winner gets \$25 worth of free drinks from Micah's Cafe.

All proceeds will go to mission projects. To help, please contact Martha at [martygras2@gmail.com](mailto:martygras2@gmail.com).

**~ TO OUR GUESTS:**



**THANKS FOR POPPING IN!**

Are you looking for a church home? Our Welcoming Team at The Hub has a gift for you and information about Dover Congregational UCC and the United Church of Christ.

Visit our website at [www.doverucc.org](http://www.doverucc.org).

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## THANKS AND GIVING



Is the theme of Dover's food and monetary collection in support of Denison Ave. UCC's Food Pantry.

Please consider donating a monetary gift to be used to purchase fresh meat and vegetables from the Cleveland Food Bank.

Pantry items needed are: canned tuna, chicken, beef stew, peanut butter, soup, and fruit Cereal (10-15 oz. size) is always welcome.

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## DICKENS COMES ALIVE

Saturday, December 8,  
at 7:00 pm



"A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, is brought to real flesh and bones by the voice and gestures of story-teller, Rev. John Ferris. A retired Methodist minister, Rev. Ferris has recited this tale from memory as part of his ministry .

See it come alive from one man's face and body. You'll be pleased and satisfied.

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## *Dover Watercolorists Art Show & Sale*

*Sunday, November 18  
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

Hosted and presented by Dover Watercolorists who meet every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in Thomas Hall

Dover Church members will have the opportunity for an early viewing following worship.

The show will be open to the public at 11:30 a.m.

*Meet the artists!  
Refreshments will be served.*

## Do you want to be surprised this Christmas?



The children and youth of our church will lead worship on Sunday, December 9.

The message is a play titled:

**"I Didn't Think It Would Happen  
Like This!"**

There are two more rehearsals.  
Sunday, December 2, 10 a.m.  
Saturday, December 8, 10 a.m.  
Contact Cynthia Stuart for  
details.



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## KNOWLEDGE IS KEY NAVIGATING HEALTHCARE!



Join us for an informational but important discussion regarding healthcare.

I AM is a confidential support group for the LGBTQ community, their family and friends, by helping parents move to acceptance of their LGBTQ child. Lifting up people hurt by exclusion and exile by some churches and society. We gather in the Parlor the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Community experts will review different levels of care available for **all** stages of life and will present information on understanding health insurance. Monday, November 12, at 7:00p.m. A light supper will be provided.

RSVP to Julie Kiefer  
440-371-6671.

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## ADVENT FESTIVAL & GIFT BAZAAR December 2, 4:00 p.m.

Crafts for all ages, a visit from Santa, silent auction and a light supper of soup, bread and desserts. Sign-up at The Hub Sunday, November 18 & 25.



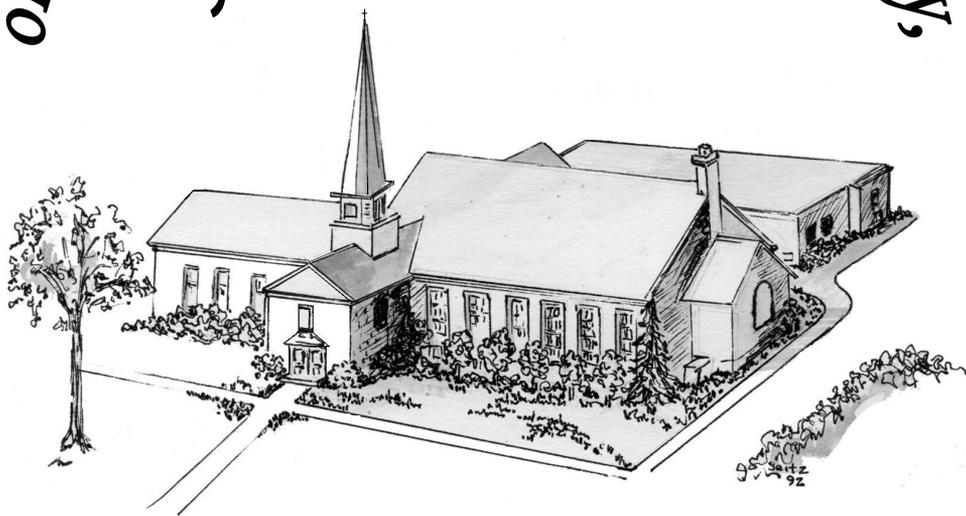
Christmas Gift Bazaar based on your donations.

- ★ Items you made:  
Fiber arts, wood crafts, paintings, pottery, preserves.
- ★ Items you put together:  
Gift baskets, show tickets, antiques, case of wine.
- ★ A service you'll provide:  
Be a singing telegram, cook a gourmet meal, rake leaves, do small repairs.

All proceeds will go toward future mission trips.

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*No matter who you are,  
or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*



### **OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT**

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. We affirm that God's grace is available to all. We welcome people of all ages, genders, races, views, abilities, sexual orientations, expressions and identities, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds into the full life and ministry of our church. We declare this in the name of God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, welcomed all people into God's circle of grace.

Approved by the congregation September 21, 2008  
Additions approved by the congregation April 13, 2014