

Disciples Christian Church Spreading the Word

www.dcchamilton.org

January 2018

Happy New Year

OUTREACH

2017 Outreach Spending

In 2017, DCC gave over 10% of our income to outreach. That total was \$11,670.53 (up from \$8,538.00 in 2016). Some of the money came from designated offerings – the rest from our budget. Here's a breakdown on how the money was spent:

	<u>From Budget</u>	<u>From Designated Offerings</u>
Chosen Meals	\$2,001.38	\$ 710.00
Chosen – Easter Boxes	683.37	180.00
Week of Compassion (Hurricane Relief)	525.00	590.00
Camp Christian	500.00	122.00
JDRF – Team Will Powers	500.00	
Trailer Park Children's Ministry	460.36	35.00
Jordan Habel's Medical Expenses	423.00	2,077.00
Trunk or Treat/Helping Hands Hygiene	344.61	88.81
School Lunches (Year End Amt.)	195.96	
Chosen/Serve City – Other (Incl. Souper Bowl)	120.00	550.06
Gas Cards	100.00	
Greater Project	56.32	
Special Day Offerings		1,037.00
St. Raphael's (from St. Pat's lunch, DCEF Interest)		380.66
Grand Total	\$5,900.00	\$5,770.53

Of course, this only counts monetary gifts. Other outreach giving includes the food we donate for Chosen meals, the gifts given for the Trailer Park Ministry and any other donations which may have been given without going through DCC's financial system.

Chosen

Meals will be served at **Chosen** on January 10th and 11th. See Sign-up Sheets on the board.

Community Meals

We will prepare the January 26th Community Meal at the Presbyterian Church on Thursday January 25th.

SOUPER BOWL LUNCHEON

On February 4th (Super Bowl Sunday), we will again participate in the Nationwide Souper Bowl of Caring. Look for sign-up sheets on January 21st and 28th. Soup pots will be available for your donations two Sunday's prior to the actual event. Then join us for a delicious Soup Luncheon on February 4th after church. Donations from this event will be given to Chosen.



EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP

DCC Men's Group Luncheon and Christmas Cookie Exchange

A pulled pork luncheon was held by the church Men's Group on December 17, 2017, at Disciples Christian Church. The menu included pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, coleslaw, desserts and drinks.

The luncheon was followed by a beautiful Christmas Cookie Exchange. The monies collected from the exchange will serve as another Men's Outreach project (TBD).

It was a great time of Christmas blessings, fellowship and a successful cookie exchange. A wonderful yummy time shared by all.



Men's Group

The Men's Group would like to thank you for your support at both our Spaghetti Dinner and our recent Pulled Pork Luncheons held in 2017. These luncheons have served to provide fellowship for our congregation and also to assist in Outreach efforts in 2017 and more in

2018. While we will have additional luncheons sometime in 2018, we will also be looking to do things for the youth in our community and our church, we will look to serve in the community and we will work to build and feed us – not just physically, but spiritually as well to be stronger Christian Men. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM and we invite All the Men of the Church to join us and participate as you can.

Thank you for your support!
The, (Your) Men's Group

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

What an unbelievable blessing to David and I on Christmas Eve when we received my gift from the congregation. We cannot imagine a better congregation to be in ministry with and look forward to many more years together. Thank you for your generosity and love.

Rev. Bonnie and David Goodwin

A Christmas Note from Helen Deaton

Helen sent a Christmas note along with a copy of the hymn "In the Still of the Night" which ends with..."With Jesus near, I have no fear, In the still of the night." I'll put it on the board at church for all to see.

Here's her note:

A check is enclosed. Use it as needed to support the church and the good things you're doing to help others in Jesus' name.

A letter will follow this sometime this winter if my tremors behave. I've already spent another Advent with you. Now I'm eager to say to you one by one (this time) "Do you remember when we did so and so.....?" Meanwhile, know I love you and I am at peace with my circumstances.

I pray God will bless you with His peace now and forever. With great respect, love, affection, faith in your tomorrows and wonderful memories – Helen A. Deaton

WORSHIP

Prayer Shawls

Our supply of hand-made prayer shawls has decreased significantly. We are looking for individuals who are able and willing to knit or crochet some for our use. Please contact Bonnie if you would like to do this.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

With joy and thanksgiving, we gather as your people. In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

December 2017 Financial Report

Checking Account Balance at 12/31/2017: \$7,394.65

Investment Account Balance (DCEF): \$351,075.00

December Income (Offerings): \$8,042.20 actual, \$8,846.17 adjusted

December Expenses/Outreach: \$15,007.95 actual, \$7,697.11 adjusted

* Adjusted takes into consideration early offerings and the amount from investments in the budget and pro-rates these throughout the year. It also uses normal expenses only. This provides a better month - to - month picture of how we're doing than the actual numbers. Adjustments in December are for Employee Christmas Gifts (to both income and expenses), payment to the Architect for basement remodeling drawings and structural engineering, and a partial payment for the Sound System from the designated capital improvements fund. In 2017, our income was \$4,256 higher than planned (in large part due to the Duke Energy Settlement) and we spent slightly under our budgeted

levels. Because of this, it was not necessary to take any money from investments in 2017. Year End 2017 Financial Reports will be shared at the upcoming Congregational Meeting.

Congregational Meeting

I've spoken with Jim Bonn (the Contractor for the basement remodeling), and he has promised a new estimate in time for the January 7th Trustee Meeting. After that meeting, I believe we'll need to bring the issue back to the congregation. Ever the optimist – I'm going to schedule a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 21st after worship.

Electronic Giving Opportunity

Electronic giving is not the future – it is the now for our congregation! We are offering another way for members, friends, and visitors to participate in giving to the Lord on Sunday morning or anytime that is convenient to them through the use of their smart phone or even home computer. Billions of dollars in fewer checks are being written each year and a large amount of people under the age of 65 pay their bills solely online. The truth is the way we use and spend money is changing to more of a swipe and sign culture.

This type of giving opportunity has become even easier for the faithful. With the use of applications with minimal fees, we are able to give straight from our phone to the church in worship, at a dinner, for a fundraiser or as disaster response. The General Church used this application at the General Assembly in Indianapolis allowing participants to give to a variety of offerings with the touch of a button. This allows the church to receive additional funds that may not have been given without this type of giving opportunity.

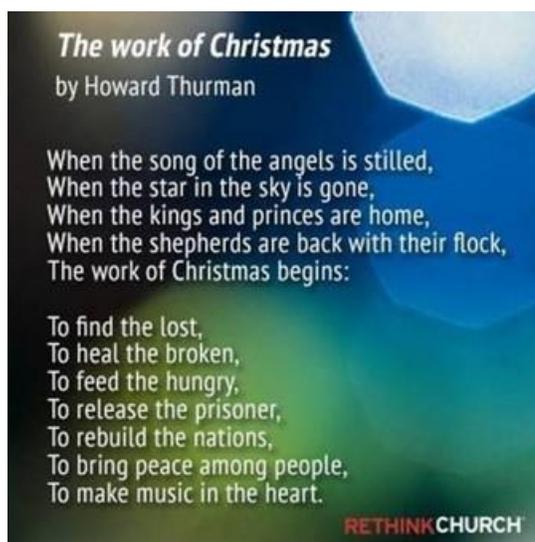
The use of the application is at NO COST to the church. Each time an individual gives a donation or offering a 2.9% transaction fee and a \$.30 charge is applied. This is similar to the transaction fee applied to business for the convenience of allowing customers to use credit card transactions. An individual can give a little more above the intended donation to cover the cost of the transaction fee.

One family has used the app Givelify for the last six months as a test to better understand how this will work for our congregation. For example: Sally can give \$100 to the regular offering, \$50 to Week of Compassion and \$10 for Chosen Meals all with a few simple clicks on her phone. After the fees are subtracted, the church would receive \$155.06. OR Sally could give a total of \$166 and cover the transaction fee. The total amount given is tax deductible for Sally and at any time she can see her giving record through the Givelify Application. The application will allow individuals to set up automatic giving if you are away.

In addition, to giving online we will soon implement a special card in the pews that individuals may place in the offering plate stating, "I Gave Online Today" allowing them to still participate in the giving of blessings during the service. Not everyone will use this application, some will remain on the envelope system writing checks and that is fine! The use of Givelify allows the next generation to fully participate in tithing to the Lord through a means that is more familiar.

A Message from John Pendergest

As we put a close to 2017 and open the door to 2018 and as we begin to pack away the decorations of Christmas, the work of Christmas has just begun, just as the life of Christ has just begun. So too does the work of the church and may we represent the life of Christ each day throughout this new year.



Blessings to All!

John Pendergest – Commissioned Minister/Pastor

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." – John 4:13-14 New International Version

When I first moved to the area, David kept telling me that no water was as good as Hamilton's! I told him he was silly. Water is just that water. I know that some tastes better than others, but really it's just water. Then I quickly learned of the world class rating that Hamilton's water has received several years. In fact, this year we received the title of "Ohio's 2017 Best Tasting Water." The taste is attributed to the Chlorine Dioxide used in the disinfectant part of the water processing along with the water source being the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer. Truth be told, the water is AMAZING!

An even greater water is found that quenches our thirst forever in the living water of Jesus Christ. I encourage you to immerse yourself in the word of God this year and be forever changed in the cleansing power of God's forgiveness through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Keep Hydrated in the Faith.

Shalom,

Rev. Bonnie Goodwin

JANUARY CALENDAR

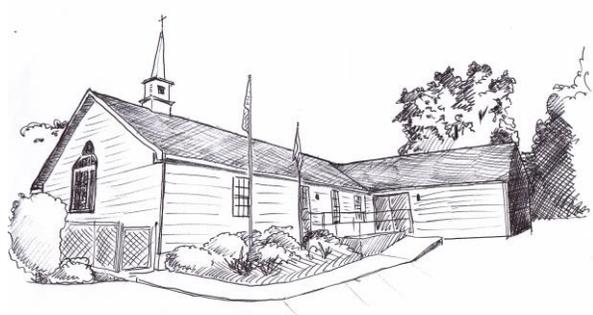
- Jan 4 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal
7:15 pm Choir Practice
- Jan 7 10:45 am Worship
12:00 pm Remove Advent Decorations from Church
12:30 pm Trustee Meeting (Lunch provided)
- Jan 9 7:00 pm Men's Group
- Jan 10 6:00 pm Serve at Chosen
- Jan 11 6:00 pm Serve at Chosen
- Jan 14 10:45 am Worship
- Jan 18 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal
7:15 pm Choir Practice
- Jan 21 10:45 am Worship
12:00 pm Congregational Meeting (basement remodeling)
- Jan 23 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting at DCC
- Jan 25 3:30 pm Prepare Community Meal at Presbyterian Church
- Jan 28 10:45 am Worship
- Jan 30 10:00 am Newsletter Deadline
- Feb 4 12:15 pm Souper Bowl Luncheon after Church

PRAYER REQUESTS

Family of Athol Cox, Debbie Ittel, John Pendergest, Gloria Bloomer, Terry Bloomer, Jeannie White, Mike Rosser, Paul Caudill, Jacquie Clingan, Nancy Kibler (Jill's Mother), Melanie (Phyllis Hurst's Sister), Abby Williams (Wilderness Training), Pan Vangen's Brother, Paul Caudill's Sister, Jordan Habel's Family (death of Grandmother), Oliver (12 mo. old with cancer)

BIRTHDAYS

January	February
Tami Adams 5	Marie Johnson 8
Lynn Adams 6	Don Garnett 18
Beverly Schmidt 11	
Kim Vangen 13	
Todd Richards 15	
Marie Garnett 25	
Debbie Ittel 28	



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