RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

DOUGLAS AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

COURIER NEWSLETTER

UNITED

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For everything there is a *season*! A message from Pastor Squire Prince:

Ecclesiastes 3 says:

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

A time to plant. A time to harvest. A time to weep. A time to laugh. A time to mourn.A time to dance.

Maybe you're in a season right now that you don't even have words for yet. Maybe it's beautiful. Maybe it's overwhelming. Maybe it feels like it just. won't. end.

Here's what I'm learning: Seasons shift. Seasons change. But while we wait for what comes next, how often do we miss what is happening right now? Not every season is good. Some seasons hurt. Some carry grief, uncertainty, loneliness, or change we never asked for. And God is present there, too

Even in the snow, a crocus can break through. So maybe the invitation isn't to rush into the next season. Maybe it is simply to be present in this one. To notice what is dying. To notice what is growing.To notice what God might be doing beneath the soil.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

All-Saints Worship Celebration – Nov 1

Youth Group Lock-In – Nov 6

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service – Nov 22

First Sunday of Advent – Nov 29

Hanging of the Greens / Potluck Pizza Party – Dec 1

DAUMC Cookie Walk - Dec 12

Subscribe to the DAUMC E-news:

Scan the QR Code to sign-up to receive weekly updates, reminders, and information about what is happening at Douglas Avenue UMC right in your e-mail.

Join us for *eerie-sistible* fun at DAUMC'S Trunk or Treat



Saturday, October 31, 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Carve out some time for Halloween fun on **Saturday, October 31st (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.) in DAUMC's Back Parking lot.** Wear your most eerie-sistible costume, bring your candy-goblin friends, and enjoy scary good treats, boo-tiful decorations, spook-tacular photo booth, and become best ghoul-friends with the baby goats.

"Scare" the fun and bring a non-perishable food item(s) to donate for the MicroPantry, too. Join us for an afternoon of fun, donate candy, help set-up/clean-up, and distribute candy! **Scan the QR Code to let us know how you would like to get involved!** It'll be a brew-tiful day! And if it rains, we're not scared! We'll move the fun inside to Great Hall. See you there!

Come join the spook-tacular fun!

Scan the QR Code to let us know how you can help!



Sherman NEIGHBORHOOD Church
AUTHENTICITY | CONNECTION | BELONGING
A new faith community is growing in Sherman.

Help Make Connections at the Sherman Soup Social!

Sunday, November 1, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

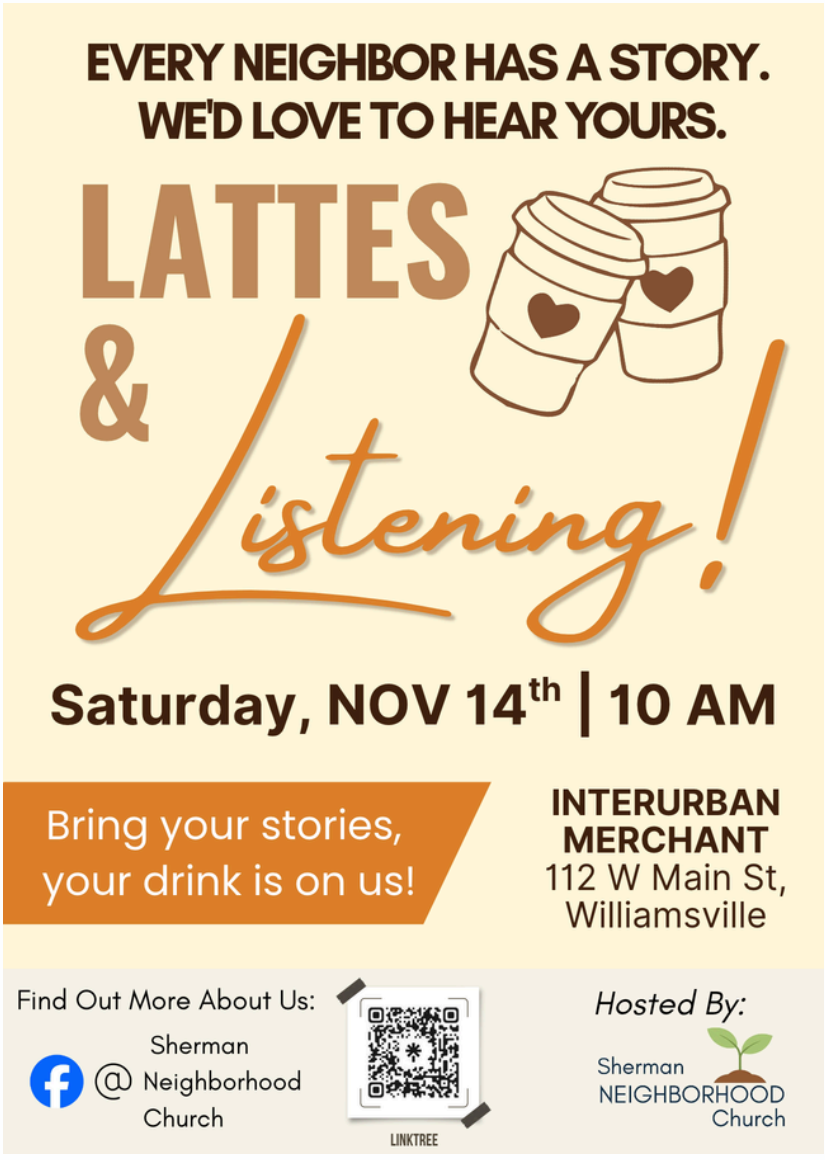


Scan the QR Code

Help Us Bring People Together Around the Table! Our emerging faith community is hosting a Soup Social at Interurban Merchant (112 W Main St, Williamsville) on **Sunday, November 1 (2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)** and we'd love your help.

We're creating a cozy, welcoming space where neighbors can enjoy a warm bowl of soup, play some games, meet new people, and build community. We're keeping things simple: good food, good conversation, and good company!

We're looking for a few folks willing to make a crockpot of soup, bring bread or drinks, help set up, welcome guests, or clean up afterward. Help us create a space where everyone belongs! Use the QR Code to let us know how you can help.



Men's Group Breakfast

Saturday, November 7, 7:30 a.m.

All Men of every age and stage - are invited to gather for DAUMC's monthly Men's Group Breakfast on the first Saturday of the month, meeting at Parkway Cafe, 2715 N. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield. Enjoy a hearty breakfast, uplifiting conversation, and shared prayer. Questions? Contact Allen Griffy, kagriffy@sbcglobal.net.

PB&J Sandwich making

Friday, November 13, 9:00 a.m.

Join in making PB&J sandwiches on **Friday, November 13** starting at 9:00 a.m. in Great Hall of DAUMC. This event is sponsored by the Central Illinois Women's Outdoor Adventures Group (CIWOA). EVERYONE is invited to come participate. Contact Cathy Lambdin, cathy.lambdin@att.net to learn more.

DAUMC Office Closures for the Holidays:

- Thursday, Nov 26 – Friday, Nov 27
- Monday, Nov 30 –Tuesday, Dec 1
- Thursday, Dec 24 (Noon closure)
- Friday, Dec 25
- Friday, Jan 1



Springfield Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m., Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist

EVERYONE is invited to the Springfield Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 1612 E. Capitol Ave., Springfield. The service will be filled with expressions of thanksgiving in music, poetry, dance, silence and prayer, including from our own DAUMC musicians! The Humanitarian of the Year Award will be given, and a special offering received to support that award. In our fragmented world, this is an amazing opportunity to come together and manifest the kind of unity our world longs to experience.

"Wreaths Across America" for Camp Butler National Cemetary

Sponsorships Due by November 30!

The mission of Wreaths Across America is to place an evergreen wreath at each and every veterans' grave in December. This effort at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield is led by Springfield Composite Squadron GLR 036 Civil Air Patrol (CAP), of which our own Craig Griffith is a member. Wreaths are $17.00 each and a small portion of each purchase benefits our local CAP. You can give donations in general or request a wreath for a specific grave at Camp Butler National Cemetery.

To purchase online, please go to this specific link which connects to our local Civil Air Patrol's efforts at Camp Butler: www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/IL0017P, or use the QR Code. You can also purchase using the Wreaths Across America form available at DAUMC, or contact **Craig Griffith, caglaw1@aol.com**. The deadline for orders is November 30. The Wreath Laying Ceremony at Camp Butler is Saturday, December 19, and volunteers are needed to place wreaths as well. You can volunteer to help using the link/QR code.



Hanging of the Greens / Potluck Pizza Party



Tuesday, December 1, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Get ready to kick off the Christmas season together! Everyone is warmly invited to come help transform our beautiful DAUMC facility for the holidays and enjoy a potluck supper.

We'll start decorating at 4:00 p.m., filling the church with cheer and Christmas spirit. At 5:30 p.m., we'll pause for a moment of prayer and share a delicious pizza supper — just bring a side dish or dessert to add to the table if you can!

After supper, we'll continue decorating and enjoying fellowship. Come for the whole evening or drop in whenever you can — all helping hands are welcome. Nursery care will be provided so families can join in the fun with ease.

Let's celebrate, decorate, and enjoy this joyful time together!





36th Annual DAUMC Cookie Walk

Calling All Bakers and Candy Makers!

Planning is underway for the 36th Annual DAUMC Cookie Walk. This year's Cookie Walk is set for **Saturday, December 12 from 8:00 am – Noon in Great Hall.** The DAUMC Cookie Walk is known for having a wide variety of cookies, candy, and other holiday treats. Customers fill a box with their items, and boxes are weighed to determine the cost. All the proceeds from this annual event are donated to local missions such as St. John's Breadline, Compass for Kids, Animal Protective League, Inner City Mission, MERCY Communities, Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery, and more.

Come to the Manger: Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 13

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 13** when our Chancel Choir will be offering their Christmas Cantata: "Come to the Manger" by Mark Hayes. This mixture of traditional carols and timeless scripture will certainly put you in the Christmas spirit!



Here are some ways you can get involved (more TBA)

- Bake cookies (any variety!). Freezer space is available at DAUMC if cookies are baked in advance. We suggest making 4 batches of each type of cookie. We will be packaging cookies again this year in plastic wrap or Ziploc bags, with 2 to 4 cookies per package.
- Make candy. The Candy Corner is a favorite at the Cookie Walk, and it is always nice to have a variety of items. Ideas for candy include fudge, caramels, buckeyes, peanut clusters, truffles, or peanut brittle, just to name a few! Many candies can also be made ahead and stored in the freezer.
- Donate empty ice cream buckets. The large, plastic, gallon-sized ice cream containers are great for storing cookies in the freezer. If you have any we can use, please bring them to the DAUMC office.
- Help decorate sugar cookies / put together cookie boxes during the week of Dec 7th in Great Hall (days/times TBA.) No experience is needed, and we provide all the supplies!
- Help on the day of the event. We need volunteers to do a variety of jobs to help the cookie walk run smoothly.

For more information, please contact **Justine (309-840-3652) jedion8@gmail.com** or if you would like to help on the day of the event.

Instant Christmas Pageant on December 20th!

No Rehearsal Needed! Everyone is Welcome!

ALL children and youth are welcome to participate in the 2026 Instant Christmas Pageant during the 10:30 Worship in the Sanctuary on **Sunday, December 20**. All you have to do is just show up on Sunday morning, December 20, at 9:30 a.m., and we will have a part for you, costume included. Bring your friends and grandkids, and come join in the fun, love, and power of telling the Christmas story together. Please contact Lauri Clemmer for more information at **lauri.clemmer@gmail.com** or through the DAUMC office.



Worship on the Longest Night

Monday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.

This is a very special annual worship celebration, filled with light, peace and healing as we acknowledge our loss and grief on this longest night of the year. The service features beautiful music, candle lighting, a healing message, and a lovely gift to take home. The service will be held in the Sanctuary of DAUMC and will also livestream on the DAUMC Facebook page (please have candle, lighter, baked good/cracker and juice/beverage available to you.) All are welcome - please bring your friends and family, for this much needed, healing time of worship.