



# stayCONNECTED

## Dover First UMC's Weekly Newsletter

### January 30, 2026

#### Let's Worship Together

Sundays at 10:20 a.m.  
in the Sanctuary

**Recharge Service**  
Live Contemporary Music  
Recharge Will Not  
Meet in January

**Nursery Care**  
Sunday mornings  
for children 1 to 3  
in rooms 1 and 3

**Preschool**  
Sunday mornings  
for children 4 to 6

**Children's Ministry**  
Kidz Min Church  
during Sunday Worship

**Youth Ministry**  
Youth Group for grades  
middle and high school  
Sundays at 6 p.m.

**Our Website**  
Visit [doverfirst.org](http://doverfirst.org)  
for online services,  
special studies,  
announcements,  
opportunities to serve,  
and the church calendar  
and ways to give.

#### Pastor Renewal Leave Time

Please note that Pastor Wes will be out  
of the office and unavailable for a time of  
renewal leave from January 19 thru February 15.  
Please contact the office if you need assistance.

#### Reflection Philippians 4

What does Paul have to celebrate in prison? He has the gospel and he does continue to celebrate despite the unjust loss of his freedom. Not only that, he exhorts the Philippians to celebrate (rejoice) for the same reason. Philippians 4:4 is one of those verses that should be read in the worst times. Not because it gives us false hope, but because it forces us to think of the truth of the Gospel in the hard times. In fact, what Paul seems to imply is that when life is difficult meditating on and celebrating in the Gospel is what can help us balance and refocus our lives. Deliberate celebration helps us overcome the anxiety and stress that can so easily overwhelm us.

**What did you reflect on this week?  
How can celebration of the Gospel help us  
live out Paul's other ideals of generosity,  
unity, and love within the community?**

*get*CONNECTED



Sisters and Brothers,

This year I want us to re-commit to paying attention to Scripture. But we do not simply read for information; we read for transformation. I am grateful for all of you who read through Philippians with me in January. I think Paul's message of rejoicing in the midst of suffering is as timely now as ever. And thank you to everyone who shared with me all your thoughts about Philippians I genuinely appreciated learning from you.

In February, I would like us to take time to read Matthew's Gospel. This is the Gospel for the liturgical calendar this year and so it is fitting to read it. If you are not aware, there are 28 chapters in Matthew and so I will be committing to reading one chapter a day. And like I said, I want this to be transformative, so I want to read this in a modern translation that will hopefully use language that is new to me and so strikes me differently and makes me think. For this reason (and because I have not used it much) I am reading through The Message. It is not important which translation you use, but I thought you would appreciate how I am approaching the text.

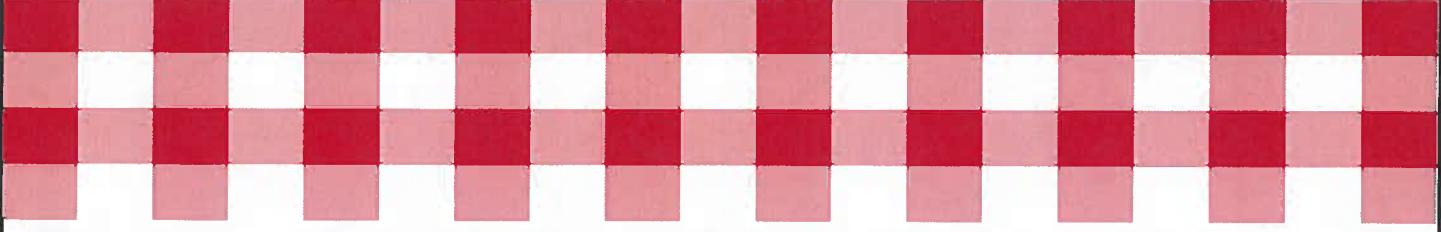
Here are some themes that I will be thinking about.

- Jesus as the new Moses, a prophet to lead
- The kingdom of heaven is here, being citizens of this kingdom
- Jesus is Emmanuel, what does it mean that God is with us.

I hope you will take the time to work through Matthew with and as we grow together in God's word.

Blessings,

Pastor Wesley



# Boy Scout Troop #94 Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

When: Sunday, February 1st  
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Dover First United  
Methodist Church  
1725 North Wooster Ave. in Dover

Enjoy: Spaghetti and Meatballs,  
Salad, Bread and Cookies  
Dine In or Carry Out

Cost: Your Free Will Donation  
The Community is Invited!

# A Week in the Life of a Slave

Join Pastor Wesley George for a special group study from accomplished Ashland Theological Seminary's professor of New Testament studies, John Byron.

The narrative follows the slave Onesimus from his arrival in Ephesus, where the apostle Paul is imprisoned, sharing the lived context of that time and place, supplemented by numerous sidebars and historical images. John Byron's historical fiction is at once a social and theological critique of slavery in the Roman Empire and a gripping adventure story, set against the exotic backdrop of first-century Ephesus.

Please Sign Up  
in the Lobby

This five-session study will meet in the lounge beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**February 17 and 24  
March 3, 10 and 17**

Books ordered by the church will be \$16 each or you can add it to your Kindle for \$15.

A WEEK IN  
THE LIFE OF  
A SLAVE



JOHN BYRON



Create in me  
*a pure heart,*  
O God,  
and renew a  
*steadfast spirit*  
**within me.**

Psalm 51:10, NIV

Dover First UMC  
Invites the Community

# Ash Wednesday

February 18th

**Drive Up Ashes in the Church Parking Lot**  
7 to 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Service in the Sanctuary**  
With the Imposition of Ashes Begins at 6 p.m.

**Dover First United Methodist Church**  
1725 N. Wooster Ave in Dover, Ohio  
[doverfirst.org](http://doverfirst.org)



# Need Help Dealing with Grief?

Join Pastor Wes for Our *GriefShare*  
Grief and Loss Support Group

**Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Lounge**  
**Beginning on February 19th**

A *GriefShare* support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief.

Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's 'normal' in grief.

Together we'll learn helpful ways to cope with its unpredictability and gain support along the way.

**Book info will be available soon. Please sign up in the lobby.**



# MAKE YOUR *Reservations!*

The Dover First UMC Youth Invites  
Our Church Family to Be Their Guests  
for a Youth-Led Dinner Fellowship

**Sunday, Feb. 15th at 5 p.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall**

Enjoy a delicious free tacos buffet  
along with desserts and beverages too!  
We'll also have fun with Valentine Bingo  
and other fellowship activities.

**Save the date and sign up in the lobby**



## Dover First UMC Youth Group **Super Bowl Sub Sale**

Enjoy fresh and delicious turkey or ham subs with fixings for just **\$6 each** on Sunday, Feb. 8th.

In addition to your order, you can also choose the option to have our teens deliver subs to the local Friends of the Homeless Shelter and to local first responder stations.

Order at the youth table in the lobby before and after the worship service or drop off in the church office.

**Orders and payment are due by Feb. 1st**  
**Pick up from 11:30 to 12:30 on Feb. 8th**

# 2026 Super Bowl Sub Sale Order Form

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Meat <u>Choose 1</u>	Cheese <u>Choose 1</u>	Veggies	Pick Up or Donate
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham	<input type="checkbox"/> American <input type="checkbox"/> Mozzarella	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato <input type="checkbox"/> Onion	<input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up <input type="checkbox"/> Donate
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham	<input type="checkbox"/> American <input type="checkbox"/> Mozzarella	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato <input type="checkbox"/> Onion	<input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up <input type="checkbox"/> Donate
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham	<input type="checkbox"/> American <input type="checkbox"/> Mozzarella	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato <input type="checkbox"/> Onion	<input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up <input type="checkbox"/> Donate
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# Welcome to Worship

## February 1, 2026

## Welcome and Announcements

# Scouting Ministries Sunday Presentation

## Scout Troop #94 and Cub Pack #94

## Call to Worship Psalm 15:1-5

L: O Lord, who shall abide in your tent?

L: Who shall dwell in your holy hill?

**All: The one who walks blamelessly,  
and does what is right,**

**All: And speaks truth from the heart;**

L: Who does not slander with the tongue,

L: And does no evil to a friend,

L: Nor takes up a reproach against a neighbor;

**All: In whose eyes a reproach is despised,**

**All: But who honors those who fear the Lord:**

L: Who does not put out money at interest.

L: And does not take a bribe against the innocent.

**All: The one who does these things shall never be moved.**

## \*Hymn #454      Open My Eyes, That I May See

Scripture	Genesis 22:1-14 (NKJV)
Prayer	
*Hymn #534	Be Still, My Soul
Scripture	1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NKJV)
Choir Anthem	<b>“Offertory”</b> Text from Micah 6:6-8 Music by John Ness Beck
*Offering Introduction/Doxology/Prayer/Lord’s Prayer	
Message	Love of the Father for the Son Rev. Doug George
Communion	
*Hymn #400	Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
*Benediction	
*Postlude	“The Power and the Glory” Lani Smith

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of renewal leave **thru February 15.**  
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# This Week at Dover First UMC

## **Sunday** **Scouting Ministries Sunday**

10:20 a.m.    Worship Service  
                 Communion

**11:30 p.m.**    **Stay After the  
Service for a  
Delicious Lunch  
Fellowship Hall**

## **Next Sunday**

10:20 a.m.    Worship Service  
**11:30 a.m.**    **Pick Up Your  
Sub Orders  
Fellowship Hall**

### **Monday**

No Events

### **Tuesday**

7 p.m.            Boy Scouts  
                         Scout Room  
7 p.m.            WMM Church  
                         Spanish-Speaking

### **Wednesday**

5:30 p.m.        Girl Scouts  
                         Fellowship Hall  
6 p.m.            Friends in  
                         Fellowship  
                         Lounge  
6:30 p.m.        Cub Scouts  
                         Education Zone  
7 p.m.            Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday**

7 p.m.            WMM Church  
                         Spanish-Speaking  
7 p.m.            Scout Leaders  
                         Meeting

### **Friday**

No Events

### **Saturday**

10 a.m.            Craft & Chat  
                         Group  
                         Lounge