

Heavenly Notes

April, 2018

Volume 12, Issue 4



Hartland United Methodist Church

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Pastor:
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

Sunday Worship

Service:
10:00 a.m.

Sunday School:
11:15 a.m.

Coffee Hour:
11:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School
11:20 a.m.

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Maundy Thursday Seder Meal

March 29, 2018

Hartland UMC Service 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

March 30, 2018

Hardy UMC 1:00 p.m.

All Saints Church 7:00 p.m.



Easter Sunday

April 1, 2018

Hartland UMC Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m.

All Church Easter Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

Resurrection Eggs / Easter Egg Hunt 9:15 a.m.

Resurrection Service 10:00 a.m.

~ Musings from the Pastor ~

Easter - Celebrating the New Covenant

I was recently talking with some friends when the topic of the New and Old Testament surfaced. “Why do we need the Old Testament?” is often the most pressing question asked regarding them.

The word used for “testament” carries the meaning of a covenant. A covenant is literally a contract. Biblically, the covenant is usually between God and people. So then, what’s the need for both an Old Covenant and a New Covenant?



In the Old Testament/Covenant God made several “contracts” with various people. Do you remember them or can you guess what they were? The first covenant was with Adam and Eve to work and be the caretakers of the garden of Eden. They broke the covenant when they ate fruit from the one tree God told them not to eat from, and were kicked out of Eden. The second covenant was with Noah when God stated He would never again destroy the earth by flood, and you know the sign of the covenant... a rainbow. In the third covenant with Abraham, God created a great nation that would be God’s people. They would be blessed by God and be a blessing of God to other people. God kept his covenant with Abraham and Israel was birthed.

The final Old Testament/Covenant was the Law of Moses. When Israel escaped Egypt and met with God at Mt Sinai, God made a covenant with the people using the 10 commandments (and other laws). If you follow my Laws, I will be your God and you will be my people. Because God knew people were imperfect, within the law he created a way for people to remain in fellowship with him even when they were disobedient. This was through a sacrificial system, i.e., when they sinned, an animal sacrifice was made to atone for the sin... innocent blood must be shed. This sacrificial system at the time lined up with many other cultures of the day, each which had some type of blood sacrifice to the gods, including the sacrifice of children.

In God’s perfect timing, he sent Jesus to be the final sacrifice for all the sins (past, present, future) of the world. This is the newest and final covenant God has offered to people. This last contract is what we now know as the New Testament. This covenant, according to the new testament is the last one where we can be in relationship with God. This covenant which God extends to all people can only be accepted by our declaration of belief in Jesus as God’s Son, who died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead on the third day. This covenant supersedes the old covenant.

So, the need for an Old Testament is to point to a God who created us to be in a relationship with him. It points to a God who continually loves and chases after his people, especially when they break covenant with God. The New Testament is God’s final act of establishing an eternal covenant with all people, sending His Son, Jesus, to be the final sacrifice.

This aster let us join together in celebrating The New Covenant with God the Father, Jesus the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, for all they have done and continue to do so that we might truly live.

Sharing the journey to know, love, and serve God...

Pastor Paul

April Birthdays

- 3 Luke Gruenberg
- 8 Tiffany Rodocker
- 11 Alec Ruby
- 13 Marge Kennedy
Earl Campbell
- 19 Joshua Voight
- 20 Maggie Ruby
- 22 Vivian Lemon



Anniversaries and Birthdays

April Anniversaries

19 Don & Pat Coleman

April Servants

Ushers

- April 1: J. & L. Gordinier
- April 8: Volunteers Needed
- April 15: Methodist Men
- April 22: Volunteers Needed
- April 29: Volunteers Needed

Liturgist

- April 1: Fran Warthman
- April 8: Pat Schleh
- April 15: Jo Campbell
- April 22: Charles Kirkpatrick
- April 29: Mary Monroe

Greeters

- April 1: Volunteers Needed
- April 8: Volunteers Needed
- April 15: Methodist Men
- April 22: Volunteers Needed
- April 29: Volunteers Needed

Multi Media Specialist

- April 1: Mary Jo Bell
- April 8: Jeff Jackson
- April 15: Mary Jo Bell
- April 22: Jo Campbell
- April 29: Volunteer Needed

Meetings in April, 2018

- Wed. April 4: Design Works, 9:00 a.m.
- Wed. April 11: Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
- Thurs. April 12: Financial Team Meeting, 6:30 pm.
Administrative Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Sat . April 14: 4 - H Meeting, 8:30 a.m.
Personal Needs Pantry Delivery, 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. April 15: United Methodist Men Meeting, 8:00 a.m.
Women's Breakfast at Hartland Big Boy, 8:30 a.m.
- Thurs. April 26: Peer Mentoring in Library, 12:00 p.m.
- Friday, April 28: Bible Journaling Workshop, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Sun. April 29: Silver Ringers Bell Choir, 10:00 a.m.



Weekly Events in April, 2018

- Every Sunday: Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School, 10:20 a.m.
Fellowship Hour, 11: 00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School, 11: 20 a.m.
- Every Monday: Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
- Every Tuesday: Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.
- Every Wednesday: Revelation Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.
- Every Thursday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (April 5,12, 19)
- Every Saturday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.





FREE Bible Journaling Workshop

Saturday, April 28

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Hartland UMC in Armstrong Hall

Come and Learn the art of Bible Journaling. No experience necessary. If you have a journaling Bible bring it with you. If not, bring your own or we will have paper to practice on.



Come with a friend and be inspired as you merge your love for art and the Bible together!

Snacks and beverages will be provided.

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News from the Frontier

News from the Frontier

April 2018

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him, “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good – except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.’” “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” Mark 10: 17 – 21

When I was young, mom always told me to be good. But what did that mean? It is more than just not being bad. How many good people did God ask to build a boat before Noah? How many good people were asked to leave their family, land and all that was familiar to them and go to a new land to start a new nation before Abraham? How many good people were asked to leave everything and go follow Jesus?

There are millions of good people in the world, every person has the potential to be good but God isn't asking us just to be good, He wants us to be obedient. He wants us to be His children. To put everything aside and follow Him! To put Him first in our life. The first thing we think of in the morning and the last thoughts as we go to sleep at night. When we put God first in our life, the result is we will be good.

Every decision we make during this life is training our inner self, our soul, for the rest of eternity. Good decisions bring us more into alignment with God's will for us. And it all starts here and now. The best way to get closer to God, to be like the Son of God, is to act like a son or daughter of God. The more you act like the person you ought to be, the easier it is to be that person. Simply let the Son of God help you today to be the child of God you were made to be!

* * * * *

An update on our Journey...

As we write this letter, we are getting ready to leave Sebring, FL after being here two and a half months. The two new houses will be dedicated next week and two new families will have a home of their own. We also did hurricane repair work on about twenty houses. Mostly drywall and siding repairs. There is still a lot of work to be done but we have other commitments in Georgia and Virginia in April then to Montana again for the summer. Keep the people here in Florida in your prayers, both the victims and the people helping.

Yours in Christ,

Jeff and Laura Walker

2018 "Easy Invites" Events At Hartland UMC

EASTER Sunday -April 1st

Sunrise - 7:00a.m.

All Church Breakfast -7:45

Resurrection Eggs / Easter Egg Hunt 9:15

Resurrection Service - 10:00 a.m.



Bible Journaling Workshop

**Saturday, April 28, 2018
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Prayerfully consider
teaching, assisting, planning,
and recruiting for this year's
Summer's Vacation
Bible School.**





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10300 Maple Street
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*Alleluia !
He is risen !*

*May the Lord bless you
and guide you today & always.*

*Have a joyful
Easter !*