



# Heavenly Notes

*"Having Conversations about God"*

Volume 9, Issue 8

August, 2015

## Hartland United Methodist Church

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**Pastor:**  
**Rev. Paul Gruenberg**

## Sunday Worship:

**Service:**  
10:00 a.m.  
**Children's Sunday School:**  
10:15 a.m.  
**Coffee Hour:**  
11:15 a.m.  
**Adult Sunday School:**  
11:30 a.m.

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## Vacation Bible School!



## Journey To The Edge



## Encounter The God Of The Universe!



## ~ Pastor's Message ~

In an effort to get some additional exercise, I have been doing some walking. One morning, I was minding my own business, not bothering anyone or causing any trouble, when a pebble jumped right into my shoe. Well the nerve of that pebble thinking it could get a free ride. I should have stopped right there and emptied my shoe of that pebble.

But I did not stop right away. In fact I continued to walk thinking, "I'll be okay, and I'll get it out later." Then an amazing thing happened...I began to get use to the pebble. It was as if my foot began to make room for it in the shoe. And although it was irritating, I thought I could handle the discomfort for a time. But did I really want to finish my walk this way?

Like most areas of life, if left alone it will eventually become normal. For instance, if you have a piano and several keys stick, and it is the only piano you play; then when you play music it becomes normal when you hear those particular notes incorrectly. Like it or not, it's just what happens.

I didn't want this pebble in the side of my shoe to become normal. So, after a few more strides I did the next best thing to taking my shoe off... I knocked the toe of my shoe against the pavement several times to dislodge the pebble from the side of my foot and it moved to the toes. Of course you already know the reasoning! There is more room near the toe of the shoe, and that would alleviate the irritation. Also, I would not have to stop next to the road, take off my shoe, take out the pebble then put the shoe back on. How embarrassing!!

Now with the pebble bouncing around the toe of my shoe, I was able to finish without too much more pain. Then I took care of my little problem. Of course, if I only dealt with the pebble the moment it jumped into my shoe I would not have had to experience near the pain or irritation I did by waiting.

Isn't it interesting how five people could be walking around, have a pebble jump into his or her shoe and each person would deal with the pebble differently? Doesn't the Bible say how we should deal with the pebbles in our shoes????

When I think of what a pebble in our shoe represents, it could be someone who makes a hurtful statement, wounding our spirit. It could come from a work associate, a neighbor, a friend, or a loved one. The statement remains with us in our hearts and minds.

What often happens is at first the pebble causes an irritation and causes us to slow down and momentarily look at the issue. For many, we continue to walk and eventually become accustomed to the irritation. Even though it remains unresolved it still causes some pain and we learn to live with it. After all we would not want to stop in the middle of life and let others see our pebble.

Often we will slow down for a moment and kick the pebble to a place where we can continue the journey without stopping. We might even ignore or forget the problem, but the truth is, it is still there. Every now and then the problem will surface, getting us in our tender spot, and cause us to move it to a place where it doesn't cause pain for a while.

For people who stop the moment they find a pebble in their shoe and remove it, they are the ones who will continue to journey without constant pain or a reminder every now and then that they have not truly dealt with the issue.

If you are experiencing a pebble in your shoe...maybe it is time you dealt with it. Maybe you feel you will be embarrassed or it would slow you down too much. But wouldn't it be better to be free from the problem than to continue to experience the pain? Often to remove a pebble, it is a matter of just forgiving someone for the pain they have caused.

God says we must just say, "I chose to forgive" and "I forgive you." Even when we don't feel like forgiving, it's best to forgive. Just take the pebble out and toss it to the ground. Then continue on your walk.

Funny thing is, once we forgive the pain begins to subside, and after a time the pain will be gone. We may remember the pebble that jumped into our shoe, but we will not be experiencing the pain of it still being there. To not forgive keeps the pebble and pain in our lives. After all, walking pebble free is nicer than walking with a pebble in your shoe.

# Calendar of Events

## **Meetings for August, 2015**

Monday, August 3: Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 5: Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 15: HUMM Love Inc. Furniture Pick up and Delivery, 8:00 a.m.

## **Weekly Events in August, 2015**

### Every Sunday:

Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.  
Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.

### Every Tuesday:

Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.  
"Sweatin" To The Oldies, 1:00 p.m.  
"Revelation Bible Study" Small Group, 7:00 p.m.

### Every Wednesday:

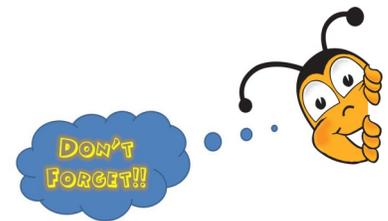
Christianity, Islam and Other World Religions, Small Group, 9:30 a.m.  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.

### Every Thursday:

Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.  
Sweatin' To The Oldies, 6:00 p.m.

### Every Saturday:

Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.



## **Upcoming Events in August, 2015**

Sunday, August 30: Confirmation 10:00 a.m.

Baptisms at Round Lake (Bruce & Janice Wright's house) 1:00 p.m.

# Special Dates

## August Birthdays

- 1 - Darcie Westbrook
- 10 - Cheryl Sorg
- 13 - Darla Jackson
- 17 - Larry Schleh



### **Note:**

We would like to include everyone, so if we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the church office know A.S.A.P.!

## August Anniversaries

- 3, 1985 - Keith & Mickie Voight
- 7 - Bruce and Pat Harton
- 9, 1969 - Earl & Jo Campbell
- 9, 1986 - Jeff & Laura Walker
- 12 - Shannon & Tiffany Rodocker
- 24, 1974 - Gary & Sue LaRoy
- 3, - Don & Sue Cornell



## August Servants

### Liturgists

- August 2: Sue LaRoy
- August 9: Charles Kirkpatrick
- August 16: Terri Preiss
- August 23: Terri Clark
- August 30: Darla Jackson

### Greeters

- August 2: Frank Paletta & Donna Webber
- August 9: Volunteers Needed
- August 16: Volunteers Needed
- August 23: Paul & Patti Sobonya
- August 30: Volunteers Needed

### Ushers

- August 2: Michael & Terri Clark
- August 9: Gary & Sue LaRoy
- August 16: Debbie & Charles Kirkpatrick
- August 23: Don & Pat Coleman
- August 30: Volunteers Needed

### Nursery Workers

- August 2:
- August 9: Pat Schleh
- August 16:
- August 23:
- August 30:

### Multi Media Specialist

- August 2: Charles Kirkpatrick
- August 9: Michael Clark
- August 19: Gary LaRoy
- August 23: Christian Muzo
- August 30: Jeff Jackson

### Heart of a Servant

Give me the heart of a servant,  
Tender and faithful and true.  
Fill me with love, then use me, O Lord,  
So that the world can see You.

## Sunday School

Shelia Daniel, Christian Education Director

Greetings from Sunday School,

We finished up our unit on “Letting Our Light Shine” by painting pictures of the sun using only our hands and we used yarn to weave a sunshine. We brainstormed different ways to let our light shine. Some of the ideas we came up with are:



1. Doing chores without complaining
2. Sticking up for someone who is being bullied.
3. Doing something nice for someone.
4. Playing a game with your brother or sister.
5. Praying with or for someone.

Our new unit is about Having an “Attitude of Gratitude”. We are making gratitude / prayer journals so we can record the things we are grateful for. If you see someone from the Sunday School Class, ask them what they are thankful for.

## Journey to the Edge Encounter the God of the Universe Vacation Bible School

Everyone enjoyed a fun filled 3 day VBS in July. We started each evening with songs and prayer at Mission Control (the sanctuary). We learned about The Woman at the Well, Jesus Healing a man with Leprosy and about the woman who anointed Jesus’ feet. After our lesson we would head to the Space Shuttle (Armstrong Hall) where we had a fun time creating great pieces of art and making our own snacks. We enjoyed Astronaut Pudding, Star-shaped Cheese and Crackers as well as Planet Pizza!

On our “space walks” outside the church, we played out of this world games like Rocket Ship Repair, Rocket Ship Refuel, and Planet, Planet Star (think Duck Duck Goose)!

Our space mission was to fill our rocket with items for Personal Needs Pantry here at church. We filled it twice in just three days to complete a very successful mission! We finished each evening with songs and prayer back at Mission Control. Thank you to all of our “astronauts”, to all of our Mission Control Workers and to “Pastornaut Paul for leading us in prayers and songs.

## New Bible Study Coming... Breath...The Life of God in Us.

Have you ever wondered how the Holy Spirit works in you? A six week Bible Study will be starting soon base on John 20:22 “ And with that Jesus breathed on them and said “Receive the Holy Spirit”. We will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the church library beginning August 18th. Come and see how the Holy Spirit is leading you. For more information please talk with Terri Clark.

## News from the Frontier!



Hello everyone! The wagon has done a lot of traveling recently. After our build in Wisconsin we made our way to the top of the Cumberland Mountains in Tennessee and met up with some past and present HUMC members. This was our first trip to Mountain T.O.P. and we got more than we bargained for. The temperature was in the high 80's with high humidity; the work was labor intensive, early mornings... What we didn't expect was how much we got out of the experience. We were greatly encouraged by the faith of the young staff and their joy in serving others. We strongly encourage you to do this next year, you won't regret it.

We are trusting in God and allowing Him to send us where He wants us to go and providing us with a path to get there. After the build in Wisconsin we had a wedding just a couple hours south of there the following Saturday; however, we needed to be in Tennessee on Sunday. We had discussed different options, driving the RV there and leaving it at a friend's house in Nashville, or finding a place to park it for a week since we had to be in Ohio for a wedding shortly after. We decided to find a place in southern Illinois to leave the RV for the week and then drive to TN in the truck. I had a feeling I should look at the Habitat build list one more time to see if I had missed something while Jeff was looking at a map, deciding that Effingham IL would be a good spot to leave the RV. I noticed a build in Sullivan, IL and asked Jeff to locate it. Sullivan was just north of Effingham. We signed up for the 1 spot and parked our RV at a campground just down the road from where the Care-A-Vanners were going to be parked. Only later did we find out that they had just opened up 1 more spot and we got it. The Lord does provide.

At this build we worked on Phase 2 of the house, which entailed hanging drywall, shingling the roof, putting up siding. We met some great people that we now consider our friends. As in Mountain T.O.P., we were greatly encouraged by Kyle, the homeowner's 18 year old son. He was there during Phases 1 & 2 every day, and we got a chance to work with him on different tasks. He was so excited once the drywall was hung- he said that he was going to paint his bedroom all by himself. I don't know how many teenage boys would show up to do this type of work every day - all day. His being there really made us feel good about the work we were doing for this family.

Now we are in Lexington, Virginia on an ongoing build. We have been greatly encouraged by these groups of people and by their site coordinator - Kelly. This Habitat works in shifts of different groups. Each group is from a different local church, plus others from the community. They spend half a day working with Habitat. The site coordinator (Kelly) is a young woman who, after college, didn't know what she really wanted to do. An ad was posted for this Habitat position and she felt God pushing her to apply. She had no knowledge or experience with building houses and the thought of the job was overwhelming. However, God had other plans. She applied and received the job, and has learned a great deal from the construction supervisor. She feels blessed that she trusted in God enough to take the chance. As she stated during one of our conversations, with God all things are possible.

God has become our guide and has laid the road out before us, not just in the builds but also in the message delivered at the church's we have attended. It seemed as if these messages were meant to encourage us to continue. The message on July 26 was one we want to share with you. It was based on Ephesians 3:14-21, which has two main ideas. Jesus is God's gift of peace, reconciliation and love, and the Church, that is, the community of Christians, by faith, are to bring Christ's message to the world. This is from the sermon of Pastor Sonja Oliver, St. John's United Methodist Church, Buena Vista, VA.

"Christmas comes with hope. Hope that is rooted and grounded in love... Our hope is grounded in God's presence and love. With Paul's affirmation comes a mission. We're to live "rooted and grounded in Christ's love." It's not just a matter of personal assurance. It's a matter of how we live with others in the world. We're to find ways to make love real, visible and concrete, both in the church and beyond. Reconciled to God in Christ we live in the world as those who bring healing, wholeness and hope. That's why the Christmas Word, whether it's spoken in December or July isn't a private one. It's about our acts of compassion, justice and peace. It's about feeding the hungry, bringing empowerment to the poor, befriending the stranger, including the outcast, giving shelter to the homeless, caring for the forgotten, and protecting and providing for the least, the weak and the needy." I hope her message speaks to you and encourages you to step out of your comfort zone and let God point you down the road He wants you to be on.

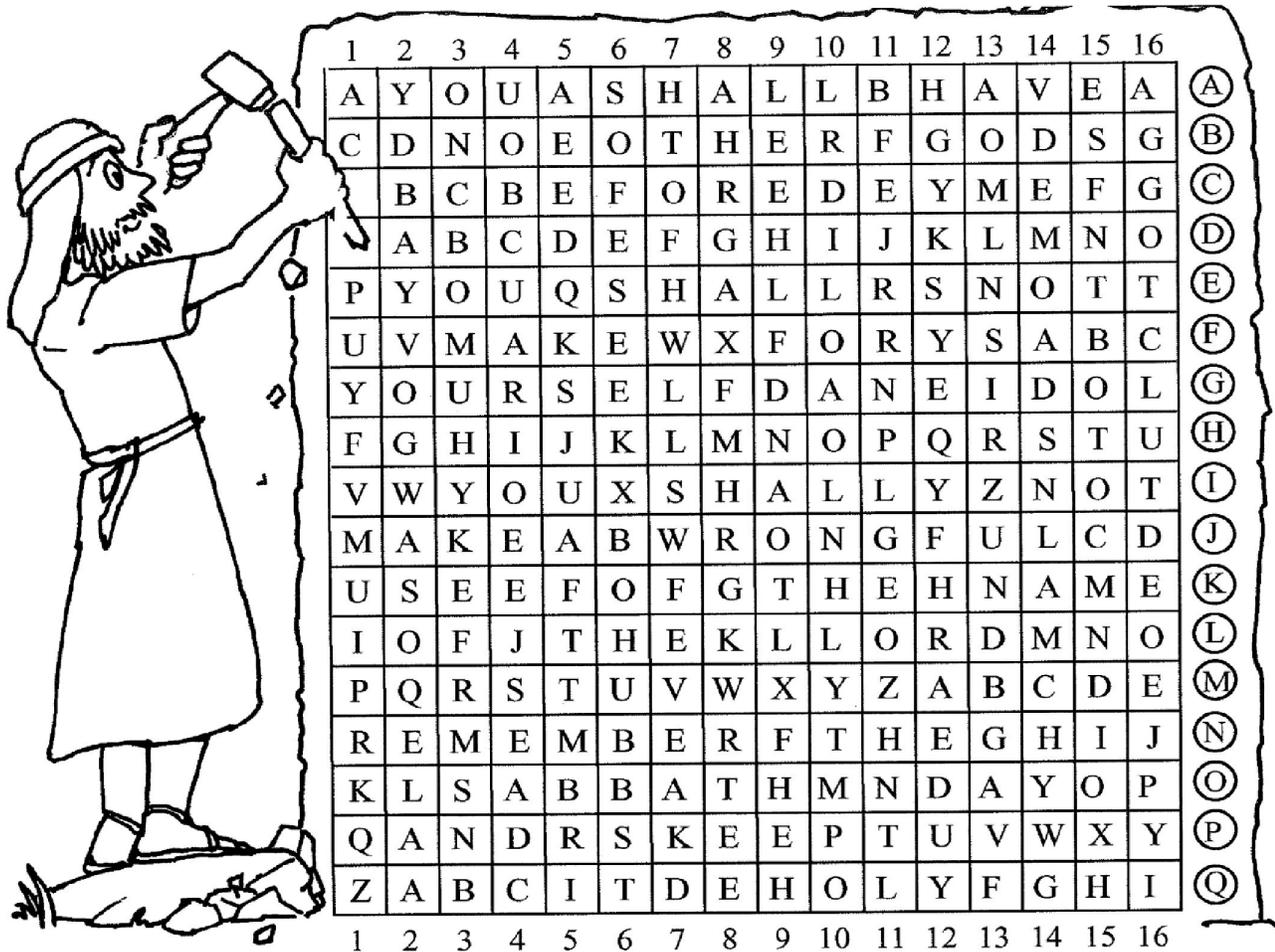
Looking forward to seeing everyone in August.

J&L Walker



**H**

elp chisel the Ten Commandments into this stone tablet.  
Color in the spaces listed for each row. You will find the  
4 commandments that are about God.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	A	Y	O	U	A	S	H	A	L	L	B	H	A	V	E	A	(A)
	C	D	N	O	E	O	T	H	E	R	F	G	O	D	S	G	(B)
	B	C	B	E	F	O	R	E	D	E	Y	M	E	F	G	(C)	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	(D)	
	P	Y	O	U	Q	S	H	A	L	L	R	S	N	O	T	T	(E)
	U	V	M	A	K	E	W	X	F	O	R	Y	S	A	B	C	(F)
	Y	O	U	R	S	E	L	F	D	A	N	E	I	D	O	L	(G)
	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	(H)
	V	W	Y	O	U	X	S	H	A	L	L	Y	Z	N	O	T	(I)
	M	A	K	E	A	B	W	R	O	N	G	F	U	L	C	D	(J)
	U	S	E	E	F	O	F	G	T	H	E	H	N	A	M	E	(K)
	I	O	F	J	T	H	E	K	L	L	O	R	D	M	N	O	(L)
	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	(M)
	R	E	M	E	M	B	E	R	F	T	H	E	G	H	I	J	(N)
	K	L	S	A	B	B	A	T	H	M	N	D	A	Y	O	P	(O)
	Q	A	N	D	R	S	K	E	E	P	T	U	V	W	X	Y	(P)
	Z	A	B	C	I	T	D	E	H	O	L	Y	F	G	H	I	(Q)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	

Color these squares:

Row A: 1, 5, 11, 16  
 Row B: 1, 2, 5, 11, 16  
 Row C: 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16  
 Row D: color whole row  
 Row E: 1, 5, 11, 12, 16  
 Row F: 1, 2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Row G: 9, 12  
 Row H: color whole row  
 Row I: 1, 2, 6, 12, 13  
 Row J: 5, 6, 15, 16  
 Row K: 4, 5, 8, 12  
 Row L: 1, 4, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16

Row M: color whole row  
 Row N: 9, 13, 14, 15, 16  
 Row O: 1, 2, 10, 11, 15, 16  
 Row P: 1, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16  
 Row Q: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry

If you are looking for a ministry that will give you a great sense of fulfillment, then the Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry is the place for you. No sewing experience is necessary. We will teach you everything you need to know. To date we have been blessed to have given over a hundred prayer quilts to those in need of comfort. We meet every Tuesday morning in Armstrong Hall at 9:30 a.m.



## New Craft Table

Please check out the homemade crafts and HUMC items for sale at the new craft table. The table will be in Armstrong Hall during fellowship hour. All proceeds for August and September will go to the Gas Card Ministry. Donations are always gladly accepted. Remember to check back each week for new items for sale. Only three more months until our Annual Cookie Walk. We would like to have a robust offering of bazaar items to raise more money for charities. So, we are asking all crafters to join us in this endeavor.

## Personal Needs Pantry

Hartland United Methodist Church is establishing a Personal Needs Pantry in cooperation with Love Inc. The Pantry will be in operation by the end of August and will occur monthly. We will accommodate five families.



The people who have been involved thus far:

- ◆ Pat Harton and Mary Monroe as Directors
- ◆ Mary Moroe's grandson Paul Chichon of Eagle Scout Troop 43 has planned and developed the space for this project. One unused bathroom in the nursery has been converted to be used to store and distribute personal care items.
- ◆ Frank Paletta has installed locks and has modified doors on closets to be used for storage.
- ◆ Sue LaRoy and Pat Schleh will work from a client list from LOVE, INC.
- ◆ Donna Webber will write the newsletter and bulletin updates, and thank you notes to all donors from outside the church.
- ◆ Donations are already coming in and are greatly appreciated.





# Join The Choir



Hello Everyone,

It has been my pleasure to lead the choir at Hartland United Methodist Church during the past year. We are small to begin with and we are shrinking due to the relocation of several members. As the choir director, I would like to invite anyone who is interested to join us. If you are really not sure, why not give it a try first. If you decide to join us, it is only a little over an hour of time commitment per week on Thursday evenings. I promise I will not embarrass anyone since we all have different musical backgrounds. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with me after worship on Sundays.



Looking forward to seeing new faces in the choir!

Angel



## Automate The Important!

As we have been enjoying a great summer season, three more people have automated their giving by going electronic. Giving electronically ensures our bills get paid while we're traveling. Not just our home bills, but our church bills as well. Our bills don't take a vacation just because we do!

To support God's work, Hartland United Methodist Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for God's work through our church. There are two avenues to automate your giving:

- 1. Online Giving** using the smart code above or if you go to our web site at [www.hartlandumc.org](http://www.hartlandumc.org) (click on "Online Giving" at the bottom of the page). It allows you at anytime to make a one time donation, set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, or view your online donation history.
- 2. Bill Pay through Online Banking** lets you make your offering automatic on a pre-determined schedule. You can set this up through your online bank or through your bank's customer service people.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Additional information is available from the church office.



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