

Heavenly Notes

Volume 13, Issue 8
August, 2019



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



Hartland United Methodist Church

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Pastor:
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

Sunday Worship

Service: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:20a.m.
Coffee Hour: 11:00 a.m.
Discussion Group - 11:20 a.m.

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Please Join us

For a Community Praise and Worship Service



**Bring
A
Friend!**

Free
Hotdog Lunch
and
snacks
provided

August 18, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Settlers Park

Off of Clark Road in Hartland

*For more information please call
Hartland United Methodist Church*

810-632-7476

~ Musings from the Pastor ~

One morning I was driving on the highway and came up on a Semi-tractor-trailer with specific markings on the trailer. On the outside it listed the name of the company, as Meijer. It was the only marking on the outside, I could only guess what was on the inside. Maybe general merchandise like toys, clothing for the fall, shoes, and so much more. The point is there was something in there, but I couldn't see. If I really wanted to know, I might have to follow the truck until the driver got out and ask him, "What is on the inside?" Without asking, I'd never know.

It's really no different with people. We see people all the time wearing specific types of clothes, coats, and shoes. Some people have visible birth marks or maybe some scars they wear from surgeries or accidents. Other people wear different types of hair styles or hats for different types of occasions. On top of that, some people have had meaningful tattoos placed on their skin. Let's call all of these things our "coverings". Yet even though we see the outside of a person, do we really know what is in the heart, the soul, or the mind of a person in regard to their life with God? We'll never really know without first asking.

I love to have conversations about God, about a person's journey up to this point in their life, about how they see God the Father, or Jesus the son, or the Holy Spirit. I'm not about judging a person so much as I want to know them better. God has placed a deep desire in my heart to help people grow in their own relationship with Jesus. Other's did so much for me so that I could grow and I simply want to now do the same for others. But I cannot have a God conversation without starting the conversation. You should try it sometime... "How is it with you and the Lord, today?"

On the third Sunday in August (18th), we will have a worship service at Settlers Park, next to the Hartland Township Hall. We are doing this to provide a safe and neutral place for people to come and worship God. By looking at the outward appearance you may not know exactly where people stand with God, but you can invite them to come with you. Say to them, "Hey, let's go to an outdoor service together at Settlers park. I'll pick you up (maybe do breakfast) and we'll get there before 10am. We'll have food afterward and maybe play some Corn Hole or Bocce Ball! If you're inviting a family, mention the awesome children's play area (it really is cool) for the kids to play on. By the way, the Pastor is going to talk about the movie, Lion King! They may say "yes", they may say "no", and you will not know either until you ask.

Remember, you may not know how the Holy Spirit is trying to draw them closer to Jesus, but God may be asking you to help with an invitation to join us at the park. When I have asked, it has opened up some conversations about spiritual things, which was cool. But it only happened because I took the first step and asked.

Blessings on your journey, and may the Spirit help you invite others!

Pastor Paul

August Anniversaries



August Birthdays

3 1985 Keith & Mickie Voight
7 1965 Bruce and Pat Harton
9 1969 Earl & Jo Campbell
9 1986 Jeff & Laura Walker
12 Shannon & Tiffany Rodocker
24 1974 Gary & Sue LaRoy

1 - Darcie Westbrook
10 - Cheryl Sorg
13 - Darla Jackson

If you would like your birthday or your anniversary added to our church list please leave a note in the office with Karen.



August Servants

Greeters

August 4: Jerry Weaver
August 11: Volunteers Needed
August 18: Volunteers Needed
August 25: Volunteers Needed

Liturgist

August 4: Shelia Daniel
August 11: Ann Martin
August 18: Terri Preiss
August 25: Joey Infantino

Ushers

August 4: Don & Marty Hansen
August 11: Volunteers Needed
August 18: Bruce & Pat Harton
August 25: Volunteers Needed

Multi Media Specialist

August 4: Charles Kirkpatrick
August 11: Jeff Jackson
August 18: Mary Jo Bell
August 25: Jo Campbell



Meetings in August, 2019

Mon. August 5 Trustee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
5 thru-9 Life Touch Training, 9:00 a.m..
Wed. August 14: Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
Thurs. August 15: Financial / Ad. Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
Sat. August 17 Faith and Fitness, Open house, 10:00 a.m.
Sun. August : 18: Praise & Worship In Settlers Park, 10:00 a.m.
Thurs. August 22 Faith & Fitness, 1:00 p.m.
Thurs. August 29 Faith & Fitness ,1:00 p.m.

Weekly Events in August, 2019

Every Sunday: Service, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School, 11:20 a.m.
Every Monday: Knit, Crochet, Pray, 12:00 p.m.
Every Tuesday: Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.
Every Thursday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.
Every Saturday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.

Have You noticed ?

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is with such joy that I write you about what we have been doing in the Worship Team. We have been hard at work implementing plans to enhance our worship so that we may praise God with all our senses.

You probably have noticed the beautiful altar-scape that reflects the liturgical color of Ordinary Time – green. From time to time we will be changing the altar to go with Pastor Paul's sermons or to simply keep it fresh. Sometimes we will use altar-scapes and other times we will use the beautiful paraments. The banners have also added so much and we change them often to reflect the seasons of the church.



Have you also noticed the hush that occurs when the flame, representing Christ, is brought into the sanctuary to light the candles just before Pastor and the Liturgist enter at 10:00? This wonderful hush allows us to hear the church bells rung at the same time. The candles are then extinguished just before our sending song and the flame carried out to remind us that we, the body of Christ, are to carry the light of Christ into the world. The meaning of the lighting of the candles is explained by Hoyt Hickman in *The Acolyte's Book*:



"Since ancient times, light and fire have reminded people that God is here with us. When you bring the light (fire) into the place where people are gathering to worship, and when you light the candles, you are reminding the people that God is with us at home, at school, and at work, as well as in the worship service; Lighted candles also remind us that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. "

Due to concerns about the possible spreading of germs during Communion, we have started cutting the bread in rectangles instead of serving from a common loaf. This way, each person has a piece of bread large enough to dunk in the chalice and no one has to fight with tough crust. We also offer gluten free bread for those with gluten sensitivities.



The Worship Team meets the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 in the library. We would love to hear your ideas so please join us or share with any member of the team.

Blessings,

Pat Harton, Chair



News From The Frontier

August 2019

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weakness, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Cor 12:10

Why would someone give a few days in the summer to help at vacation bible school? For Christ's sake! Why would anyone give up a week of vacation to go on a mission trip? For Christ's sake! Why would people in their right mind give up a comfortable life, friends, family, and their house to travel around the country building houses for people they don't know? For Christ's sake!

I'll start at the end because I didn't realize the beginning until today. Last year we met a couple at the church we attend here in Montana and they invited us for dinner at the end of the week. During that week we were working at the local Habitat for Humanity and found out they were nearing the deadline for taking applications for the next houses they would build.

At dinner we were talking about what we do and why we do it and mentioned the deadline. They happen to have a friend that was living in an rv and trying to find a house. So, the friend was told, she applied and was accepted and we are helping to build that house this year.

We had the opportunity to have dinner with Kecia and her two boys recently and are so happy we do what we do. But what does this have to do with showing strength through weakness? I'm glad you asked. That is the beginning that I realized today. Ten years ago this August, Laura was diagnosed with breast cancer. CANCER! Life as we know it is over and could possibly, literally, be at an end.

Why was God punishing us? We were good people. We went to church regularly, raised our children in the church, attended Sunday school and small groups, tithed, sang in the choir. We helped our neighbors, our family and friends wherever we could. Why would God punish us for doing all the right things? Well, He wasn't punishing us for doing the right thing. He was letting us know that we were being a little too self-reliant. Okay, a lot too self-reliant. We weren't being punished, we were being trained. Taught to rely more on God during our time of weakness so we could show His great power.

Looking back even further, He has been training us for a long time. Why did we always live in a constant state of remodel? Why did we volunteer to help at the food bank or LOVE Inc? So we would have the skills to help build houses and the desire to do it for other people who can't do it for themselves. He gave us the resources to begin this mission we are on and He sustains us through the good and the hard days.

Why do we have affliction? To keep us humble and remind us that we are not God, only God is God and we are to put all our trust, hope and faith in Him. If you want to hear what I heard today that opened my eyes to why I do what I do, follow this link and listen.

<https://gracechurchkalispell.org/archive/grace-sufficient/>

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness" 2 Cor 12:9

Yours in Christ,
Jeff and Laura Walker

Trust in the Lord
with all your heart,
And lean not on your
own understanding;

*In all your ways
acknowledge Him,*

And He shall direct
your paths.

PROVERBS 3:5-6 NKJV



Summer Challenge

Join the growing throng of people who are gaining Godly wisdom and becoming more wise with Godly understanding by reading a chapter in Proverbs everyday this Summer.

Summer Mission Project

We are collecting school supplies for all grade levels in the Hartland School District. This mission will last the three months of Summer. If you would like to contribute to this mission, please place your items in the bin as you enter the Sanctuary.



Donate from your smart phone or tablet

Hartland United Methodist Church offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easier for you to give anytime from your smart phone.

Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's Quick Response (QR) code reader!



Don't have a scanner code application?

Go to either:

App Store-Search for AT&T code scanner in your device app store. You can find it on Blackberry App World, Android Market, and AT&T MediaNet

Mobile Web-Go to [hppt://scan.mobi](http://scan.mobi) on your mobile device.



Automate the Important Electronic Giving Available

Giving electronically is easy and allows you to set up recurring contributions

As we get ready to enjoy a great summer season, let's also be sure 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! You can use the electronic "giving online" button on our website or use Bill Pay through your bank.

www.hartlandumc.org
and click on the "GIVE" button





Hartland United Methodist Church
10300 Maple Street
Hartland, MI 48353

WHAT IF YOU WOKE UP TOMORROW



ONLY WITH THE THINGS YOU
THANKED GOD FOR TODAY?

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