



Heavenly Notes

"Having Conversations about God"

August, 2014

Volume 8, Issue 8

Hartland United Methodist Church

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Pastor:
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

Sunday Worship:

Adult Sunday School:
8:45 a.m.

Service:
10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School:
10:15 a.m.

Coffee Hour:
11:15 a.m.

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FINDING
YOUR STORY
IN GOD'S
STORY.

THE
STORY



To better understand
the Bible
you must know this!

There is an upper story -
God's story.

There is a lower story -
Our story

Beginning
September 7, 2014

RALLY SUNDAY

September 7th

Breakfast served by our United Methodist Men
from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Kick-off of The Story at 10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School Resumes, 10:20 a.m.

Important tools to better share your faith
See page 5

↻ Pastor's Message ↻



If you had the chance [to listen to Josie Limburg on July 20th](#), you heard the wonderful story of her faith journey... her coming to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. I am amazed at how God, the Holy Spirit, works to draw each of us to know Jesus as our Savior. In her story, one Christian at college had a negative influence on her while two other Christians played instrumental roles on her coming to Jesus.

What the two Christians, who helped her to find Jesus, did well was they lived their relationship with God openly with her. The one girl in her dorm, would gently ask her questions about prayer or reading her Bible, while the other invited her to a Bible study over a period of two months before she finally accepted. Her negative Christian roommate was very judgmental toward her and was not a positive influence on her becoming a Christian.

An aspect of telling your conversion story (*how you became a Christian*) is how God uses it to influence others to consider their own relationship with God. For instance, if I already know Jesus as my Savior, I can rejoice with you in your story. If I am more of a casual believer, I am reminded that I need to be more serious about God. If I am a non-believer, your story might plant another seed of why I need to consider Jesus, or even help me to make the leap to accepting Jesus as my Savior.

What makes telling your story most difficult is this... you are not even sure how to put into words the events which led you become a Christian. To do this you must first determine your story format. The three basic formats are determined by these questions. How did you live your life prior to discovering Jesus? (*The "Before" question.*) What are the events which led you to consider becoming a believer? (*The "How" question.*) What has happened as a result of you accepting Jesus to be your Lord and Savior? (*The "After" question.*)

For some people, they did not make a decision for Jesus until they were an adult. (*Format 1*) If you're like me, you were someone who had an early commitment to Jesus, then made a deeper commitment as an adult. (*Format 2*) Finally, there are those who have always known Jesus and have continued to grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus. (*Format 3*) Regardless of the format of your story, knowing it and sharing it is a powerful way to witness to others.

So if you have never developed your conversion story, you really need to have this important tool to use in helping others to know God's love. The tool to help you to develop your conversion story is found at online at <http://www.resources4discipleship.com/mediafiles/How-to-share-your-testimony.pdf>, or we have copies of this resource at the church. What's important is that you develop your story so that you can share it with others, and I am available to help you.

The Apostle Peter reminds us that we should, "Always be prepared to give the answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." (*1 Peter 3:15*) I have helped others to develop their story and again, I am willing to help you, so that you will be able to share your story with others, for God's glory.

Pastor Paul

Calendar of Events

Meetings for August, 2014

Monday, August 4: Board of Trustees, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 5, 12, 19 and 26: Stewardship Committee, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 13: Worship Committee, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 14: Finance Committee, 6:00 p.m.
Administrative Council, 7:00 p.m.



Upcoming Events in August

Every Wednesday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 7:00 p.m.

Every Thursday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 10:00 a.m.

Every Saturday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 2:

First Annual Ann Arbor District Picnic at Hudson Mills Metro
Park from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 5 and 19 and 26:

Prayers and Squares Quilting at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 16:

United Methodist Men's Love INC Furniture Pick Up and Delivery at 8:30 a.m.



2014 Church Conference Date Set Wednesday, November 19th

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend our 2014 Church Conference on **Wednesday, November 19**. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Mark Spaw, will meet with the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee at 6:30 p.m. and the Conference will begin in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Committees—begin your preparations!



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
- 30- Don & Sue Cornell



August Servants

Greeters

- August 3: Chris & Sherri Rice
- August 10: Cheri Kowal & Beckie Wren
- August 17: Hartland United Methodist Men
- August 24:
- August 31: Paul & Patti Sobonya

Ushers

- August 3: Jim and Mary Jo Malott
- August 10: Don & Marty Hansen
- August 17: Hartland United Methodist Men
- August 24: Randy & Mary Jo Bell
- August 31: Jeff & Darla Jackson

Liturgists

- August 3: Pat Harton
- August 10: Sue LaRoy
- August 17: Darla Jackson
- August 24: Shelia Daniel
- August 31: Jo Campbell

Multi Media Specialist

- August 3: Jeff Jackson
- August 10: Christian Muzo
- August 17:
- August 24: Renee Zimmerman
- August 31: Gary LaRoy

Acolytes

- August 3: Joshua Archer
- August 10:
- August 17:
- August 24:
- August 31:

Nursery Workers

- August 3: Cheri Kowal
- August 10: Pat Schleh
- August 17:
- August 24:
- August 31:



Save the Date Saturday, September 13th



Our next mission opportunity at Cass Community in Detroit is Saturday, September 13th. Sign up sheets will be posted soon for food/money donations and volunteers. Please, watch the bulletin boards. Please be in prayer for the people we serve, the mission of the Cass Social Service and for our own hearts to be open to God's calling to serve His people!

If you have any questions, please see Sue LaRoy or Jo Campbell.

Thanks, in God's name, for all you do!

Sue LaRoy

Tools to Better Share Your Faith

The most important aspect of witnessing is clearly communicating your faith. The following tools are being looked at on Sundays through August.

August 3rd - How to share your testimony...see the Pastor's Message in this newsletter for a link.

August 10th - How use the law so people can see their need for Jesus...
"Hell's Best Kept Secret"

August 17th - Leading others to faith using..."The Four Spiritual Laws"

August 24th - Leading others to faith using..."The Bridge Illustration"

August 31st - Putting it all in perspective.



Summer Special Music

While our Choir and The Master's Minstrels are off for the summer (through Sunday, September 7th), you have the opportunity to provide the Special music for our Sunday Worship Hour. You can get a group together and sing or play a musical instrument(s) - or both.

Please sign up for the Sunday that you would like to provide the Special Music on the bulletin board.



THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

The Story is a book of selections from the Bible, arranged chronologically, that reads like a novel. During this unique 31-week experience, every member of the family reads one chapter per week of their own version of *The Story*. Come discover together how our story is found in God's story!

JOIN US FOR A JOURNEY THROUGH *THE STORY*!

Our journey begins on
Sunday, September 7th, 2014
during the 10 a.m. worship service
at Hartland United Methodist Church
For more information please call 810-632-7476

There will also be small group opportunities (for all age ranges) throughout this series in which further explorations and discussion will take place.

Dear Pastor Paul and Hartland UMC,

Thank you so much for welcoming me to share my story and for your generous contributions to support my ministry. I know that the lord will use your investment in a mighty way to help students come to know Him. I pray for God's blessing on your church and that He would use you to share His love in Hartland. Hope to see you soon!

*In Christ,
Josie Limburg*

Gas Card Ministry

People who call Love INC, are often in desperate need of gas, so they can get out to look for work, go to a doctor appointment or bring home the few groceries they can afford. We have joined with other Livingston County churches in supplying prepaid gas cards for Love, INC to give to those who need them.

39 cards have been given out so far in 2014. Since becoming a part of the Gas Card Ministry in 2012, we have given out 191 cards to those less fortunate.

THANK YOU as you keep paying on those pledges as we continue to make a real difference in the lives of our neighbors.



Mission Team

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

John 12:12

As the church, we are called to love one another. The way to do is by helping others. Do you know that HUMC is active in helping others in many ways - Cass lunches, the Quilt Ministry, the Furniture Ministry, Livingston County Children's Christmas Celebration - and others.

In order to follow God's commandment and to discern what God is calling OUR church to do, we will be forming a Mission Team. If you are interested in helping plan and coordinate our current and future mission work (or is you just have ideas or might want to go on a mission trip), please add your name to the "Mission Interest" sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway or talk with Sue LaRoy. We will then schedule a meeting.

There are many exciting ideas and opportunities to put our live into action. Where will God lead us?

Sue LaRoy



What do you think about paying \$50-\$100 for a card to a store you frequent and \$3-\$16 of that going to the church?

Sounds too good to be true? Read on!

Scrip is a program where gift cards from a variety of companies can be purchased. You pay the full face value of the card. When these cards are ordered, the church just pays a percentage of the face value. There are gas cards, discount store cards, restaurants, department stores and many, many more cards available. Several cards are offered at a table in the Fellowship Hall for immediate purchase.

Thank you for supporting our Scrip program. All money made through the Scrip program goes into the General Fund and helps support our church.

Hartland UMC has been associated with the Scrip program since 2006. Since that time, **over \$14,536 has gone into the General Fund**. So far, in **2014, over \$582 has gone into the General Fund**. This is with an average of just **over 5 families** participating each week! Thank you to all of you who shop our Scrip Table! Your support is appreciated!

Stop by the Scrip table on Sunday and check out what we can do for you and you can do for our church!

Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry, Chapter 1128

Prayers & Squares would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions. Because of your support, we have been able to gift 50 people with prayer quilts since we started *in September, 2013*. Also, thank you to those who have tied prayer knots for each of these people receiving a prayer quilt. Your prayers and contributions have greatly impacted the Kingdom of God.



If you would like to help put quilts together, please join us on Tuesday mornings at 9:00.

If you have any questions regarding this ministry or if you know someone going through a physical, emotional or spiritual rough patch and you think they would like a prayer quilt, please call Shelia Daniel at 810-227-6922.

Automate the important!

To continue your support of God's work during the summer months, Hartland United Methodist Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. AS the vacation season is upon us, 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** lets you go to hartlandumc.org (click on "Online Giving" at the bottom of the page) at anytime to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation 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.

Updating the Email List

The Church Office is sending many items - prayer requests, meeting notices, church news, The Heavenly Notes (our church newsletter) - to our Church family and friends by email.

If you would like to receive these mailing electronically, please send your email address to: secretary@hartlandumc.org

Thank you for your help! *Darcie*



The altar on Pentecost Sunday

Attention All Photographers

The Church Office needs the help of all photographers. Please bring your camera with you to church activities—worship, Sunday School, meetings, potlucks, and gatherings—and start taking pictures of these events. Then please email them to the Church Office (secretary@hartlandumc.org) With the screens in the fellowship hall and sanctuary, we can show everyone what has been happening and what they are missing!

Coming Soon - A New Church Pictorial Directory



The Worship Committee is working with LifeTouch Photography Studios to put together a new Church Pictorial Directory.

We want *everyone in our church family* to be included in this useful tool! Be watching for information on how to sign up to have your photo taken. **Mark your calendars!** Photo dates will be Tuesday, September 23rd, and Wednesday, September 24th.

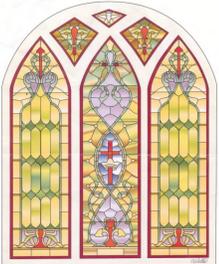
Wifi is now available in our Sanctuary

Wifi is now available in the sanctuary for electronic Bibles and electronic giving.
To connect please go to: HUMC_Guest;
password is: hartlandumc





Hartland United Methodist Church
10300 Maple Street
Hartland, MI 48353



HARTLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Enjoy your Summer!

Open for **Exciting**
Upcoming Events at H.U.M.C.!!

