

Heavenly Notes

December, 2018

Volume 12, Issue 12

Hartland United Methodist Church

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Pastor:
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

Sunday Worship

Service:

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School:

10:20 a.m.

Coffee Hour:

11:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School

11:20 a.m.

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HARTLAND

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

United Methodist Church



Cookie Walk

December 1, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Come early! We sell out fast!

Christmas Activities

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 23, 2018 10:00 a.m.

Advent Tea

Friday, December 7, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24, 7:00 p.m.
Candle light Service

Monday, December 24, 11:00 p.m.
Reflective Service

Advent Sermon Series

**Beginning
December 2nd**



I just finished reading through 15 years of newsletters I have written for the month of December. I started out in 2003 writing about a sidewalk I saw getting poured in front of a new building in town. I've written on how commercialism is running rampant through Black Friday and Cyber Monday's. I've written about volcanos, new laptops, lights in steeples and branding cows (*really?*) I've written about these experiences to help lead people to remember the reason for the season we are now entering... Advent, which leads us to Christmas Day.

Advent is the four weeks leading up to Christmas Day. Advent is about waiting for or anticipating the arrival of someone important... and of course that someone is the baby Jesus. Jesus, who is the light of the world. Jesus, who comes to shine light into the darkness. Jesus, who loves us to death, literally. Jesus, who sets us free from sin (*now*) and death (*later*). Jesus, who shows us how we can live lives with peace and joy amidst the strife and chaos we call life.

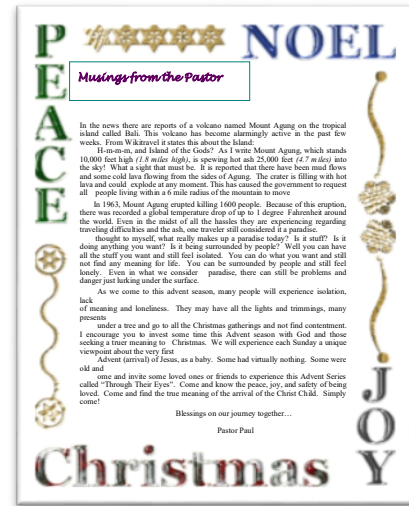
What is really cool about Advent is that it helps us to anticipate the coming of Jesus into the world. God incarnate. God come down and putting on flesh. Emmanuel, God with us. God revealing his fullness to humanity one more time. God coming to live once again with his creation.

This Advent we are going to take some time to discover some of the characteristics of a person who is willing to give up all they are and all they want to make room for God. We are going to look at Joseph, the husband of Mary who gave birth to Jesus. It was Joseph, I believe, who like Mary, gave way to God working in his life so that God could do a major work in the world once again. Wouldn't you want to look back on your life and say, "God really did a work in my life so that he could do great things in this world?"

This Advent season, really set aside some time for God. Each Sunday morning commit to worshipping God at church. Each morning/evening spend a few minutes with God reading the Gospel accounts of Jesus's birth in Matthew and Luke. Read the beginning of John too. Speak to God about who he wants you to spend time with... someone who may not know God well, or at all. Tell them what God is doing in your life. Invite them to come with you to a Christmas Eve service on December 24th (7pm or 11pm). Most people will come if invited. **See you Sunday morning!**

Blessings on our journey together...

Pastor Paul



December Servants

Liturgist

Multi Media Specialist

December 2: Pat Harton
December 9: Terri Preiss
December 16: Jo Campbell
December 23: Becky Toth
December 30: Jerry Weaver

December 2: Charles Kirkpatrick
December 9: Jeff Jackson
December 16: Mary Jo Bell
December 23: Jo Campbell
December 30: Volunteer Needed

Meetings in December 2018

Mon. December 3: Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sat. December 8: Personal Needs Pantry Delivery 9:00 a.m.
Wed. December 12: Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
Thurs. December 13: Financial Team Meeting, 6:15 p.m.
Administrative Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sun. December 22: Personal Needs Pantry Delivery, 9:00 a.m.
Sat. December 23: Whole Church Breakfast, UMM 9:00 a.m.

Weekly Events in December 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.
Knit, Crochet, Pray, 6:00 p.m.
Every Tuesday: Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday: Bible Study, "Holy Spirit" 9:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.
Every Thursday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (December 6,13,20)
Every Saturday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.



“Samaritan’s Purse “Christmas Child”

Thank You HUMC This year, we were able to put together 48 shoe boxes as gifts to some very poor children around the world. They will be blessed by your generosity. Continue to pray for your boxes as they also receive a presentation of God’s love in Jesus. May hearts be changed and souls be saved because you gave !



**Special
Delivery**



Advent Tea Friday December 7, 2018 Hartland United Methodist Church



All Women, Friends, and Family are invited to a relaxing formal tea & music to celebrate the Advent Season.

Scrip Cards

Christmas will be here before we know it. Why not get a jump start on your Christmas shopping and purchase scrip cards as gifts for your loved ones? There are a variety of gift cards available from \$10.00 to \$100.00. Let your Christmas giving do double duty this year by supporting our church and giving a gift that no one would want to return!



December Birthdays

- 6 - Rob Cannaert
- 8 - Megan Kirkpatrick
- 11 - Chris Rice
- 12 - Terri Preiss
- 16 - Alexis Clark
- 18 - Lauri Jerome



December Anniversaries

- 17,1988 - Kip & Tammy Maggert
- 29,1962 - Ron & Fran Warthman
- 29, 1967 - Bill & Jan Martin

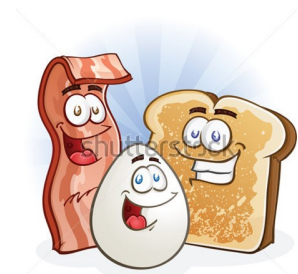


Christmas Breakfast

Sunday, December 23, 2018

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Sheets are up for volunteers to help with the Christmas Breakfast. Please sign up on the bulletin board flyer if you would like to attend this breakfast.



Thank You
Unite Methodist Men
for providing this Annual
Christmas Breakfast for all
of us!!



Prayers and Squares

Prayer Quilt Ministry

It is hard to believe that our Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry began 5 years ago this month. Not knowing where the funds would come from, we trusted in Matthew 21:22 "And whatever you ask for in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith." With some donated fabric and a sewing machine that was picked up off the side of the road our ministry of love began.

Thinking we could probably produce 1 quilt per month, we began gathering on Tuesday mornings to make the quilts that would be tied and prayed over by the congregation after Sunday morning worship services. They would then be delivered to someone who was going through a tough emotional, physical or spiritual time in their life.



By the numbers, over a 5 year period, one quilt per month would look something like this. 60 people would have felt the love and comfort of their prayer quilt. If each person shared the story of their quilt with 10 family members and friends, and we include an average of 50 congregation members tying knots, then 650 people would have felt that same love and comfort. With each quilt containing 45 prayer knots, the total number of prayers would be 2,700.

But God is so much greater than we are! Here are the actual numbers for our 5 years of ministry. Three hundred thirty eight people have received prayer quilts!

15,210	prayer knots have been tied!
1,690	yards of fabric have been used!
3,768	people have been touched by the love and comfort that these prayer quilts provide.

As we enter into a new year may we continue to look to

Matthew 21:22.

“And whatever you ask for in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

FINANCE

We had to ask a bit early this year for your help to “Catch Up” on some bills as we approach the Year End. For those who have given in November, we say THANK YOU! For those who will be giving in December during our Year End push, we say THANK YOU in advance.

We have had nearly \$4000 come in, which has helped us in catching up on some unpaid bills. We need to continue so as to finish 2018 in the black, which includes pastor’s health care and pension commitments. You have always responded with generosity and grace during our times of need. So Thank You once again, and may God bless you as you seek to be a blessing to the Lord.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Christmas Pageant this year is called, “Long Before A Birth” which gives us a glimpse of the prophet Isaiah and what God told him about the coming of Jesus. It includes Joseph and his parents to help us better understand the role they played in Jesus’ birth.

Christian Christmas

Match these clues from the Bible and Jesus’ birth to the answers.
Joy To The World!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>___ Third gift presented by Magi</p> <p>___ King at the time Jesus was born</p> <p>___ Jesus found lying in this</p> <p>___ Town Jesus was born in</p> <p>___ This has a pleasant scent when burned</p> <p>___ “_____ on Earth”</p> <p>___ “O Come All Ye _____”</p> <p>___ This means “God with us”</p> <p>___ Where Holy Family fled to after Jesus birth</p> <p>___ Precious metal given as a gift to Jesus</p> <p>___ Mary with child through the _____</p> <p>___ He is the reason for the season!</p> <p>___ Visitors saw the star from the _____</p> <p>___ Human father of Jesus</p> <p>___ An angel appeared to Joseph in a _____</p> <p>___ Visual representation of the birth of Jesus</p> <p>___ Jesus’ mother</p> <p>___ Another name for the three Kings</p> <p>___ Announced His birth to the shepherds</p> | <p>A. Jesus</p> <p>B. Incense</p> <p>C. Magi</p> <p>D. Joseph</p> <p>E. Myrrh</p> <p>F. Bethlehem</p> <p>G. Angel</p> <p>H. Faithful</p> <p>I. Gold</p> <p>J. Mary</p> <p>K. Dream</p> <p>L. Peace</p> <p>M. Nativity</p> <p>N. Herod</p> <p>O. Egypt</p> <p>P. Manger</p> <p>Q. Holy Spirit</p> <p>R. Immanuel</p> <p>S. East</p> |
|---|--|



Merry Little Christmas

F	J	G	C	R	F	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	D
C	U	P	Z	E	Q	L	V	A	A	P	O	J	Y	F
I	L	E	D	J	C	G	R	E	E	T	I	N	G	S
X	B	A	C	O	G	I	E	Q	J	O	L	L	Y	B
E	U	C	P	I	L	G	S	L	K	P	V	P	T	O
G	Z	E	K	C	A	S	N	U	C	Q	Y	I	C	X
D	N	Q	L	E	D	C	L	O	M	A	P	D	U	O
R	J	I	N	G	L	E	A	L	D	G	R	P	L	A
H	K	Z	G	U	A	Y	S	R	E	G	K	I	D	F
O	C	P	F	N	L	H	L	B	O	B	N	S	M	E
P	B	Y	Q	I	I	E	L	V	L	L	C	I	Q	S
E	O	C	M	N	G	S	P	S	S	F	S	I	D	T
J	N	A	I	N	H	L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T	I
D	F	N	A	Y	T	C	O	M	F	O	R	T	Q	V
R	G	B	L	E	S	S	E	D	Z	H	Q	V	A	E

ANGEL
BELLS
BLESSED
CAROLS
CHILDREN
COMFORT
DING DONG
FAMILY

FESTIVE
GLAD
GREETINGS
HOPE
JINGLE
JOLLY
JOYFUL
LIGHTS

MIRACLE
MUSIC
PEACE
REJOICE
SHINING
SINGING
THANKFUL





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Hartland, MI 48353



Jesus

is the Reason
for the Season.

