

# Heavenly Notes

Volume 14, Issue 2  
February, 2020



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

United Methodist Church



## Hartland United Methodist Church

10300 Maple  
Hartland, MI 48353  
www.hartlandumc.org  
Phone: 810-632-7476  
Fax: 810-632-9860

secretary@hartlandumc.org  
pastorpaul@hartlandumc.org

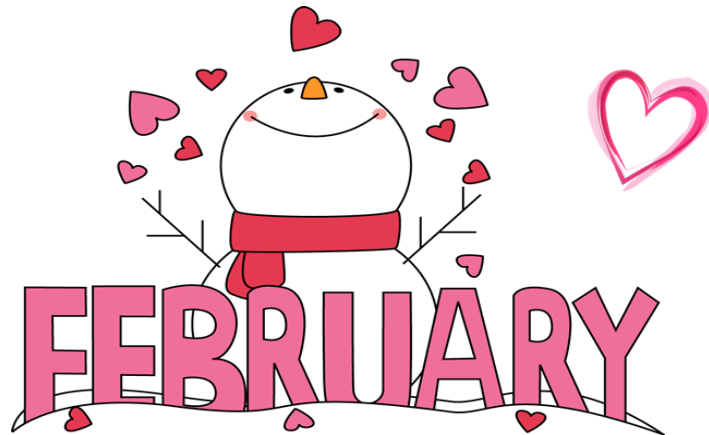
**Pastor:**  
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

### 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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## Ash Wednesday Community Service February 26, 2020

All Saints Lutheran 1:00 p.m.  
Hardy Methodist Church 7:30 p.m.



*Jesus Is My  
Valentine*

## Lenten All Church Group Bible Study

### “It Is Finished”

\* See page 9 for more details

## *~Musings from the Pastor~*

Joe and Pam had just had a little baby boy and were considering what they should name him. The story goes that they went out to a steakhouse, “Kobe Steakhouse”. “Kobe, that would be a unique name for our son. It would work!” Then this little boy was given as a middle name “Bean” for the second part of his dad’s nickname, Joe “Jelly Bean” Bryant. After attending 7a.m. Mass with his daughter, **Kobe Bryant, his daughter and 7 others were killed** in a helicopter accident, weather playing a major role in the accident.

**Coronavirus**, designated 2019-nCoV (*as there are 7 different strains. In 2003 it was known as SARS, in 2012 it was MERS-CoV*). There are now five people in the U.S.A. who have been infected with 2019-nCoV, although there is no vaccines or antiviral drugs for this, it seems to impact mostly the young and the aged in lethal ways. In China, as of 1-28-2020, there have been 4,673 confirmed cases with 106 deaths. It is such a concern that they have quarantined the 11 million residences of Wuhan, of the Hubei province.

These two stories remind me of the uncertainty of life. You can be the most famous of athletes or a common citizen of China and the fact remains, life has a beginning and end and there is no stopping it. We are reminded of this in the Bible, when King Solomon wrote these words from the book of Ecclesiastes, chapter 3:

***There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under the heavens:  
a time to be born and a time to die,***

I’m not so concerned about the death part of life. It will come someday. I’m more concerned about the time between birth and death. If you continue into Solomon’s writing here, there is a time for many activities under the heavens. I know I want to be a part of those activities that bring life, healing, laughter, and peace. I don’t want to be a part of hatred or war or killing.

When I think of these two stories above, I’m reminded of Jesus saying, ***“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*** In reports, Kobe and his daughter went to church and had communion before their final flight. In communion, they would have confessed their belief and need for Jesus. In China, the underground church is huge. I hope all of the 106 who have died knew Jesus.

The funny thing is how we think about eternity in death. Should we not be thinking more about eternity during life?

***Blessings on the journey to know, love, and serve God.***

***Pastor Paul***

## *February Birthdays*

2 William Palmer  
5 Gary LaRoy  
7 Seth Gruenberg  
12 Joyce Eichhorn  
11 Bill Martin  
13 Ralph Wright  
14 Karen Nowak



16 Shelia Daniel  
17 Melissa Sneath  
18 Cheri Kowal  
Linda Gordinier  
20 Bruce Harton  
23 Paige Rodocker  
25 Jim Malott

## Lenten Community Service Schedule

### Ash Wednesday

1:00 p.m. at All Saints Lutheran Church  
7:30 p.m. at Hardy United Methodist Church

### Maundy Thursday

1:00 p.m. at Hartland United Methodist Church  
7:30 p.m. at All Saints Lutheran Church

### Good Friday

1:00 p.m. at All Saints Lutheran Church  
7:30 p.m. at Hardy United Methodist Church

## Meetings in February 2020

- Mon. February 3: Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Wed. February 5: Design Works, 9:00 a.m.
- Wed. February 12: Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
- Thurs. February 13: Financial / Ad. Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- Sat. February 15: Reach Network Meeting  
4-H Meeting, 9:00 a.m.



## Weekly Events in February 2020

- Every Sunday: Service, 10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.  
Adult Sunday School, 11:30 a.m.
- Every Monday: Roots & Branches 8:30 a.m.  
Pre-School  
Knit, Crochet, Pray, 12:00 p.m.
- Every Tuesday: Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.
- Every Wednesday: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.
- Every Thursday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.
- Every Saturday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.



# News from the Frontier

## February 2020

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death, to the other, the fragrance of life.

2 Corinthians 2:14 – 16

Pastor Steve, here in Panama City, told a story of when his son was an infant. Before leaving his house one morning Steve hugged his son then went about his day. When he returned that evening he picked up his son to give him a hello hug and noticed how nice the boy smelled. Steve asked his wife about it and she said it was from the cologne Steve was wearing and the son smelled that way all day. Then he went on to talk about us getting so close to God that His smell rubs off on us.

There are many ways we can get closer to God; reading the bible, praying, memorizing scripture, and obeying His commands are a few. It is good to learn more about God and who He is but we really need to strive for being so close to Him that He rubs off on us. We are created in God's image and I have been told that when people see me they can see God working in my life. Not too bad but I can do better. I would like to be close enough to God that when people look at me they see Him. Then continue that pursuit to the point where when someone is close to me they can smell God because I'm so close to God that His smell has rubbed off on me.

We are nearing the end of our time here in Florida. We will be in Americus, Georgia for the month of February but have been asked to come back for March and April. We have helped a lot of people here over the last three months but there is still so much left to do that we are leaning towards coming back. The people working at the affiliate are great. We love the church we go to here and the people we are helping are so appreciative. Toss in lots of sunshine, many warm days and ocean waves and it is pretty hard to pass it up.

We need you to continue to pray for us and our mission. Also pray for the people in this area who feel abandoned because all the media attention is on the latest disaster, while they are still recovering from a storm that happened 18 months ago.

We are also praying for our home church family in Hartland and for the many church families we have all over the country now. What a great God we serve.

Yours in Christ,

Jeff and Laura Walker

# Lights

# Camera

# Action

## Dinner at 8, Dead by 9

What a great Mystery Dinner Performance by the Hartland Players . The Play was funny, entertaining and personalized to the audience. The food was delicious and the proceeds went to Hartland UMC. Looking forward d to the next production.

*Bravo!* 



# 4th Annual Corn Hole Tournament



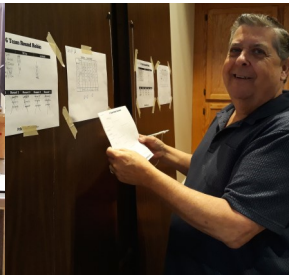
2020 Corn Hole Tournament Teams



Second & First Place Teams



Kitchen Workers



Score Keeper



Semi-Final Teams



## *Scrip Notes*

Hartland United Methodist Church Family,

As a result of your Scrip Card purchases the church received \$599.88 in 2019. Thanks to all who have participated.

Some of you may not be aware of how the program works. Well, let's say you are going to shop at Meijer with a \$25.00 card. You get \$25.00 in merchandise and Meijer contributes 3% to the church.

So when you enjoy a meal out or buy groceries or gas you get the full value of the card and the retailer contributes a percentage to the church. If you are going to buy donuts or cookies for coffee hour at Tim Hortons, Dunkin Donuts or Meijer use a card. When you buy items to bake or donate something for a funeral dinner or a church function, use a card.

You are going to shop anyway so why not let the church benefit from it. Let's see if we can't surpass the \$599.88 this year with more participation.

Thank you,

Jeff and Linda Gordinier



### **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.



### **Automate The Important Electronic Giving Is Available**

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

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 your App Store and  
download a QR reader.**



[www.hartlandumc.org](http://www.hartlandumc.org)

**And click on the  
"GIVE" button"**



# LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

## IT IS FINISHED AN ALL CHURCH STUDY

By Jason Nelson & David Dorn



"Sometimes seeing God at work in the world requires us to see what shouldn't be here but is."

"For our sakes, God went where He had no business to go fix a problem that we had no business asking to be fixed."

"When the power of sin is destroyed, love has no limits."

"The soldiers were playing games in the shadow of the cross. Many people are doing the same today, playing games with their lives."

*It Is Finished* by pastors David Dorn and Jason Nelson from The Woodlands United Methodist Church is a six-lesson study built around the final words of Jesus from the cross. Jesus' last words are powerful teaching moments that if un-

packed, can radically shape our lives as we learn what it means to be human and the limitless love of God. Each lesson dives into the historical and practical significance surrounding each of Jesus' phrases while the study guide gives the viewer different spiritual practices to participate in throughout Lent.



Join a group during Lent, as we explore the final words of Jesus on the cross. Also look to understand and practice various spiritual practices along the way to make this Lent more meaningful in your life.

There will be several groups in which you can join for this series. Several groups are listed below. Study guides will be provided.

- ◆ Sunday after Service
- ◆ Wednesday morning
- ◆ Additional times to be announced

**THIS IS AN EASY INVITE EVENT:** If you have spiritually minded friends, invite them to join you in this Lenten study, and the Lenten services (Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday)



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let us  
**LOVE**  
one another  
for love  
is from  
**GOD**