



Heavenly Notes

“Having Conversations about God”

July, 2014

Volume 8, Issue 7

Hartland United Methodist Church

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

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.

Inside this Issue:

Pastor’s Message	2
Calendar of Events	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries	4
Other News	5-9

Double Blessings Update



The Stewardship Committee sends a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who gave to meet this need and for the way they allowed God to provide through them the money that was raised so we can begin to look more forward toward the future ministry of the church.

The Double Blessing Sunday program set out to accomplish two tasks 1) secure a \$20,000 grant from the Ann Arbor District Mission Board to assist with mortgage payments and 2) raise an additional \$100,000 to pay down the mortgage on Armstrong Hall. We met both goals.

As of this writing we have collected over \$79,000 of the pledged amounts. The committee wants to remind everyone pledge payments are due on June 30, and of course, it’s never too late to make a commitment.

Beginning in July, the Committee will begin developing a General Fund Stewardship Program to ensure the church is able to meet it’s financial needs and remain viable for future generations.

Praise God,
Charles Kirkpatrick



In July and August, we will explore the fears and challenges of sharing our faith in an increasingly hostile world for those who need it most.

~ Pastor's Message ~



“Do what, Lord?”

I had been with a friend who had been raised going to church every Sunday, but into his late teens/early 20's had drifted away. We were both in our mid 20's at the time. God spoke to me and I said, “Do what, Lord?”

Over the preceding two years God had gotten a hold of my life and I was beginning to really grow spiritually. There were several areas which changed over and above regularly attending worship and Sunday school. I was reading my Bible outside of church, spending time with God in prayer becoming more attuned to reaching out to those who seemed distant from God. But probably the biggest aspect of my growth was I learned to engage others in spiritual conversations. A spiritual conversation is simply talking about God or what God is doing in your life. I started having these conversations with those who were in church (*specifically my Sunday school class*), and then people who were outside of church.

Now it might seem a bit odd how my having spiritual conversations inside the church increased. You would think we'd all have regular spiritual conversations with our fellow church attendees, especially in Sunday school. But it is not true. When is the last time you had a conversation with somebody (*not the pastor*) in church which revolved around the topic of God... especially one where you shared how you felt about God or something you learned about God or how you interacted with God? It is interesting to me that for many people, faith still tends to be considered a private matter between themselves and God. Yet, Jesus clearly indicates we should be sharing our faith in God and our hope in Jesus as Savior with all people... family, neighbors, friends and yes, other people of faith.

When my friend and I had some time alone to talk I found myself hesitant to ask “What keeps you from attending church?” (“*Do what, Lord?*”). Like many, I grew up under the notion that faith is a private matter between themselves and God. Yet again... the New Testament. It was almost as if on one hand God was telling me to ask the question, and on the other hand there were other non-godly voices telling me to not ask the question. But, I did ask about where he was at with God. We did talk. He began to regularly attend church again... more than that, he became more active in his spiritual life.

I spoke to this friend the other day and we talked about that night so long ago. He said to me, we as Christians should hold each other accountable, and what I did was right on track with what we should do for each other... it was what he needed back then. I would go further to say we should make it a point to have regular conversations with other Christians about our status with God. Without some accountability, most people tend to slack off in their spiritual life... it's easy to do. Going to church on a regular basis encourages us to keep the faith, fight the good fight, and finish the spiritual race marked out for us by God. True growth in sharing your faith comes in simply sharing your faith. So start with another believer and have a conversation about God.

Pastor Paul

Calendar of Events

Meetings for July, 2014

Monday, July 7: Board of Trustees, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 9: Worship Committee, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 17: Administrative Council, 7:00 p.m.
July 24: Finance Committee, 6:00 p.m.



Upcoming Events in July

Every Wednesday:

Bible Study in the Church Library at 9:30 a.m.
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.

Tuesday, July 8 and 22:

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

Saturday, July 19:

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

Tuesday, July 22:

Ladies Tea at Secluded Celebrations Tea Room at 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 26:

Cass Avenue Kitchen Helper Day at 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 31:

Worship Workshop at 9:30 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 Saw, 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

July Birthdays

- 1 - Donna Dale
Alec Ruby
- 3 - James Walker
- 4 - Paul Gruenberg
Christopher Walker
- 6 - Brenna Gruenberg
Pat Harton
- 13 - Bob Ruby
Barb Kenel
- 15 - Lindsay Kenel
Jeff Jerome
- 18 - Norma Faulds
Dan Taylor
- 21 - Dave Pollock
- 23 - Ron Warthman
- 28 - Gar Lemon
- 30 - Janice Wright
- 31 - Nancy Sneath



July Anniversaries

- 7, 2007 - Matthew & Karen Wright
- 16, 1983 - Rob & Michele Cannaert
- 17, 1999 - Jeff & Darla Jackson
- 23, 1983 - Chris & Sherrie Rice
- 25, 1981 - Bruce & Darcie
Westbrook



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.!

June Servants

Greeters

- July 6: Michael & Terri Clark
- July 13:
- July 20: United Methodist Men
- July 27:

Ushers

- July 6: Gary & Sue LaRoy
- July 13: Randy & Mary Jo Bell
- July 20: United Methodist Men
- July 27: Michael & Terri Clark

Liturgists

- July 6: Fran Warthman
- July 13: Darcie Westbrook
- July 20: Jo Campbell
- July 27: Shelia Daniel

Multi Media Specialist

- July 6: Jeff Jackson
- July 13: Christian Muzo
- July 20:
- July 27: Renee Zimmerman

Acolytes

- July 6:
- July 13:
- July 20:
- July 27:

Nursery Workers

- July 6: Cheri Kowal
- July 13: Pat Schleh
- July 20:
- July 27:



Summer Help Needed for Cass



Here is a list of what is needed this summer for our friends of the Cass Community:

-Laundry Detergent. I posed the question on what is needed and without hesitation, I was told they are in dire need of detergent. So, please bring in a large container of laundry detergent and deposit it in the box in the parlor by July 25th.

-Kitchen Helpers to join us on Saturday, July 26th - leaving at 8 a.m. and returning at 1 p.m. We will not be serving a lunch that day. (Childcare is now available at the church for those who may need it so that they can go and help. Sign up on the bulletin board so that we will be prepared.)

-Monetary donations. Our Cass fund is depleted!

-Your continued prayers for this mission and the people we serve.

-Preview for Fall: Lunch on September 13th and November 8th. Save the dates.

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

Sue LaRoy

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

FINDING
YOUR STORY
IN GOD'S
STORY.

There is an upper story -
God's story.

There is a lower story -
Our story

Coming September, 2014

THE
STORY



What do you call
a cow that just
gave birth?

Decaffeinated!

Summer Special Music

While our Choir and The Master's Minstrels are off for the summer (beginning Sunday, May 25th 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.

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.

31 cards have been given out so far in 2014. Since becoming a part of the Gas Card Ministry in 2012, we have given out 183 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.



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 *45 people* with prayer quilts. 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. (During the summer we will meet on July 8 and 22 and August 5 and 19.)

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.



Stacie Awon with her quilt

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.



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



Ladies Tea Party

Ladies—Join us on Tuesday, July 22nd, at 12:30 p.m. at the Secluded Celebrations Tea Room, for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as well as great food!

If you will be able to join us, please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway as there is a maximum of 12 guests at each party. Cost will be \$25 per person. If you have any questions, please call Pat Harton at 248-935-0021.

Worship Team Workshop

The Worship Team has rescheduled the June Workshop. We will meet on Thursday, July 31st, starting at 9:30 a.m., with Dr. Marcia McFee. This workshop will help us learn how to design more meaningful worship services. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Lunch will be provided.



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

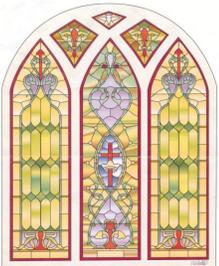
Wifi is now available in the sanctuary for electronic Bibles and electronic giving.

To connect please go to: HUMC_Guest;
password is: hartlandumc





Hartland United Methodist Church
10300 Maple Street
Hartland, MI 48353



HARTLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Happy Fourth of July!

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

