



# Heavenly Notes

*"Having Conversations about God"*

Volume 10, Issue 3

March, 2016

## Hartland United Methodist Church

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**Pastor:**  
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

## Sunday Worship

**Service:**

10:00 a.m.

**Children's Sunday School:**

10:15 a.m.

**Coffee Hour:**

11:15 a.m.

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## Holy Week

### Lenten / Easter Services

March 20<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday 10:00 am Service  
March 24<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. at HUMC\*  
March 25<sup>th</sup> Good Friday 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. at  
All Saints Lutheran Church on M-59\*  
March 27<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday 7:15 a.m. Sunrise Service  
Easter Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Egg Hunt 9:00 a.m.  
Resurrection Service 10:00 a.m.

We will be joining the  
Hardy United Methodist Church  
and All Saints Lutheran Church  
for the services marked with an \*.

These services will begin at 7:00 p.m. each night.  
There will be a second Good Friday .  
service starting at 12 noon.

## ~ Musings from the Pastor ~

He (and I use the term loosely), had to let us know it was not over yet. He? I'm referring to Old Man Winter! Old Man Winter just raised his hand again and we didn't just get some snowflakes... we received a ton of snowflakes! Upwards of 10" or more. But this is what Old Man Winter does, he reminds us of his grasp as we experience more snow, more cold weather, icy conditions and a furnace which seems to run constantly. Living in Michigan, ***this is what we would expect, and to tell the truth, many might be disappointed if Old Man Winter didn't leave without at least one more roar.***

When I look at Christians, like Old Man Winter, I would expect to see or experience some things with them that would indicate to me they are indeed an active follower of Jesus Christ. I don't say to Old Man Winter, "How are you today." when it's 90 degrees outside, the grass is green, flowers are in full bloom and we are in the midst of a baseball pennant race. I say, "Welcome to the summer sunshine!" Like Old Man Winter, there are certain attributes I would expect of someone who says they are a follower of Jesus. Those attributes might include a life which displays kindness or love, language which is uplifting, someone who will pray for you, seeks to know God through the Bible and belongs to a community of faith.

One thing I am reminded of during this time of year is how the Christian community is preparing to celebrate the very reason of its existence. It's just who Christians are! In my opinion, if Jesus doesn't rise from the dead, there is no need for the church. Maybe, some of Jesus' followers might have still formed a small group and said, "I follow the teachings of Jesus", yet without the resurrection I don't think it carries much weight or develops into anything big.

Now the truth is Jesus did rise from the dead and continues to live. Christians will celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday. People who are not believers or are not very committed to God around the world will take notice. Here is the rub...most people who are on the fringe with God would love to learn more about Jesus and why Christianity is important. This is why during these days the History Channel filled with programs about the historical Jesus, movies about Jesus or Christianity are playing at the theaters (*you've got to see RISEN*) or on the television. The best way to help people on the fringe with God is to invite them with you when you go to church this coming Easter Sunday. They want to know more about our God, and about 75% of the time people during this season will go to church if invited by someone.

I believe people who are on the fringe with God, or even non-believers ***would expect to be asked to come to an Easter service, and they would be disappointed in the Christian community if they were not asked.*** So ask God right now, "Who do you want me to invite to come and celebrate Jesus with me this Easter?" I know that if you ask, God will give you a name, nudge you toward someone you know to ask them to come with you. Sometimes you have to move past their initial hesitation... but ask. Then let God do the rest.

Blessings to you and Yours,

*Pastor Paul*



# Calendar of Events

## Meetings for March 2016

- Wednesday, March 2: Design Works, 9:00 a.m.
- Saturday, March 5th, 19th Lay Servant Ministries at Howell UMC 8:30 a.m.
- Monday, March 7: Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 9: Worship Team Meeting, Bring Your Lunch, 12:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 10: 180 Turnaround Church Conference, 8:30 a.m.  
Administrative Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 11, 12, 13, 18 Bowl For Kids Sake (check bulletin board for times)
- Saturday, March 12: St. Patrick's Day Spaghetti Dinner, 6:00 p.m.
- March 12, 26: Personal Needs Pantry Delivery in Armstrong Hall
- Saturday, March 19: HUMM Love Inc. Furniture Pick Up and Delivery, 8:00 a.m.  
Hartland UMC New Membership Class, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, March 24: Maundy Thursday, at Hartland UMC, 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 25: Good Friday Service, 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. at  
All Saints Lutheran Church on M-59 in Hartland
- Sunday, March 27: Sunrise Service, 7:15 a.m.  
Easter Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.  
Egg Hunt, 9:00 a.m.  
Resurrection Service, 10:00 a.m.



## Weekly Events in March 2016

Every Sunday:

Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.  
 Fellowship Hour 11:00 a.m.

Every Monday:

Christianity, Islam and Other World Religions, 10:30 a.m.

Every Tuesday:

Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.  
 Daniel Plan Get Healthy Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Every Wednesday:

“Book of Psalms Bible Study” Small Group 9:30 a.m.  
 Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.

Every Thursday:

Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.  
 Choir Practice, March, 3, 10, 24 Choir will sing the 4th Sunday this month.

Every Saturday:

Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.



### *Easter Plant Order*

I (We) \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily (Lilies)



\_\_\_\_\_ Tulip

\_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth



Cost per plant is \$12.00

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

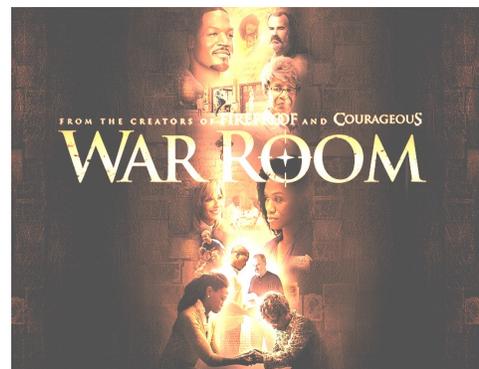
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to the Church Office by March 18th

**For all who desire to  
 learn more about  
 Prayer...  
 Join in an all church  
 study to enhance your  
 prayer life.**

**Movie Night**  
**HUMC at 7:00 p.m.**  
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Saturday, April 2nd**

**Prayer Chain Warriors**  
**This movie is a must see!!**



## Upcoming Events in March, 2016

Saturday, March 5th & 19th:  
Lay Servant Ministries at Howell UMC, 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 10:  
180 Turnaround Conference, 8:00 a.m.

Friday, March 11th, 12th, 13, 18  
Bowl For Kids Sake

Saturday, March 12:  
UMM Spaghetti Dinner, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 24:  
Maundy Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 20: Palm Sunday & Spring Begins !!

Sunday, March 27: Happy Easter!!  
Sunrise Service, 7:15 a.m.  
Easter Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.  
Egg Hunt, 9:00 a.m.  
Resurrection Service, 10:00 a.m.



## Automate The Important!

As we have been enjoying a great winter season, three more people have automated their giving by going electronic. Giving electronically ensures our bills get paid even during our snow and ice storms when traveling conditions are less than ideal.

To support God's work, Hartland United Methodist Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. 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** using the smart code above or if you go to our web site at [www.hartlandumc.org](http://www.hartlandumc.org) (click on "Online Giving" at the bottom of the page). It allows you at anytime to make a one time donation, set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, 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 through your bank's customer service people.

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

# Special Dates

## March Birthdays

- 1 Elsie LaRue
- 3 Michael Warthman
- 5 Jeff Jackson
- 7 Crystal Anderson
- 10 Justin Kirkpatrick
- 13 Ross Olding
- 16 Sara Kenel  
Bailey Mc Pherson
- 17 Beckie Wren
- 21 Lynet Gruenberg
- 22 Rene Muzo  
Fran Warthman



## March Anniversaries

- 7 Bruce & Janice Wright
- 17 Bob Ruby & Shryl Cone



**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.!

# February Servants

## Greeters

- March 6: F. Paletta & D. Webber
- March 13: **Volunteers Needed**
- March 20: HUMM
- March 27: **Volunteers Needed**

## Liturgist

- March 6: Shelia Daniel
- March 13: Jo Campbell
- March 20: Pat Harton
- March 27: Fran Warthman

## Ushers

- March 6: Jim & Mary Jo Malott
- March 13: **Volunteers Needed**
- March 20: HUMM
- March 27: **Volunteers Needed**

## Multi Media Specialist

- March: 7: Charles Kirkpatrick
- March 13: Michael Clark
- March 20: Gary LaRoy
- March 27: Jo Campbell



# God's Treasured Possession



Leprechauns love their pots of gold - you might even say it's their most treasured possession.

But did you know that YOU are God's most treasured possession?

*Deuteronomy 7:6*

"For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be His people, His treasured possession."



## St. Patrick's Day Mix Up



Color the shamrock!



CAOKRSHM

6 8

LYCKU

12 5

GRNEE

HIIRS

10 13

PEARELHUCN

4 1 15

GDLO

14

WIRBOAN

2

TPO

3 7

VEROCL

11 9



1 2 3 4 5

6 7

3 8 7 9 10 11 12

13

14 15 5 !

## Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry, Chapter 1128



Now that we have all this donated fabric we can make a lot of quilts. We once again will be making quilts for The Royal Family Kids Camp and tote bags for the Dixboro United Methodist Church's mission trip to Haiti. If you would like to help with these projects, please join our quilters on Tuesday morning, at 9:00 a.m. in Armstrong Hall We will teach you everything you need to know. Our newest member is two year old Maddux. He is helping to pin the quilt together before the backing, binding and ties are finished.



### On Top of Spaghetti All Covered With Cheese

#### Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Seniors \$8.00

Adults \$10.00

Family \$25.00



All proceeds donated to  
HUMC Emergency Fund

## THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EMPTY TOMB

“Risen” is a movie that just hit the theaters on February 19<sup>th</sup>, and depicts the Top Cop in Jerusalem (*a Roman Tribune*) looking for the body of Jesus after the tomb was found empty. It raises the question many non-believers or even Christians wonder about, “So what is the big deal about an empty tomb?”

For me it comes down to these three answers. First, ***an empty tomb signifies that Jesus is God.***

This is what sets Jesus apart from all others that have claimed to be God or whose followers consider them a God. You see, their bodies can be found in a grave, they are no longer alive, but not so for Jesus.



The second significant aspect of an empty tomb is that Jesus is alive forevermore. He has conquered the grave! Death has no mastery over him. ***There is indeed life after death!*** Jesus tells us that he goes to prepare a place in heaven for all who will believe in him as the Son of God and who died for their disobedience to God (sin). This means that those who believe will also live on for eternity in a place Jesus provides.

The final significant aspect of an empty tomb is Jesus foretold this to his disciples and to the teachers of the law that he would live again. Because he lives, ***I can trust his teachings*** as found in the Gospel accounts of his life. When he tells me I am significant to God, that I am God’s child and that I have worth, I believe him. When he tells me to live a certain way, I know he has my best interest in mind. When he says there is hope for a future, I can live in hope for that future.

So I say, live as one who has hope, who has a future and be ready to share the reason why. There are many people, some who are somehow attached to your life, that live without hope, they see no future which leads to a life of emptiness. We have the knowledge of what an empty tomb means, now go and live it out and share your reason with others!



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