



# Heavenly Notes

*"Having Conversations about God"*

May, 2015

Volume 9, Issue 5

## Hartland United Methodist Church

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Rev. Paul Gruenberg

## Sunday Worship:

Service:  
10:00 a.m.  
Children's Sunday School:  
10:15 a.m.  
Coffee Hour:  
11:15 a.m.  
Adult Sunday School:  
11:30 a.m.

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Join us in an upcoming Sermon Series  
on The Forgotten God.



Some call him the Forgotten God ... who is that I'm talking about? Why it is the Holy Spirit! In my younger adult days, if you asked me who is the Holy Spirit, I would have said, "God". I might have said the third part of the Trinity. On a good day, I might have even said something about the Holy Spirit at Pentecost having been poured out on the disciples. But past that I would not have been able to add much more.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, we will begin a new sermon series on the Holy Spirit. It is not just to know who the Spirit is biblically, but how we can be living our lives with more power from on high. So plan on joining with us on this journey of knowing the Holy Spirit more intimately.

# *♪ Pastor's Message ♪*

Don't you love coming to the end of a project that you started on. You get a sense of completion, a satisfaction of wrapping up something started a while ago. As I write this, we are down to our last week in "The Story", a 31 week journey through the Bible. You would think the last week would be the end of The Story, but if you have learned anything in the last 30 weeks, then you know, the last book in the Bible is really just the beginning.

Now that's a thought... the end is just the beginning. There are many viewpoints to what it means when we say, "the end" in reference to life. Which one best represents your thoughts?

1. For some people, especially those who don't believe in a God who created the world and believe more in an evolutionary beginning, the end is just that ... the end. Annihilation. Nothing. Nil. Zilch. We cease to exist.
2. For other people who believe in a higher power, but cannot adhere to the Bible as real or having any meaning for us today, they might believe in an afterlife, but have no clue what that means.
3. Some people believe in the Biblical view of a God, but have chosen to go their own way when it comes to God's plan of salvation through Jesus. They believe in an afterlife and because they believe in a God in general, or that they are "good people", they believe they will go to heaven when they die.
4. For the last category, it is people who believe in the truth of the Bible, and have faith in Jesus as the Savior of the world. They believe in an afterlife which is about a restored relationship with God, such that God will once again live with his creation on earth for all eternity. There will be no more death. All other people who chose not to believe this, will spend eternity apart from God, and based on biblical writings, it will not be a nice place.

For me, I have discovered beyond a shadow of a doubt in viewpoint, #4 . The meaning and purpose of life can only be found in the one true living God of the Bible. There simply is no other way that comes close to giving life meaning. Since the fall of Adam and Eve, God has been about restoring our relationship with God.

When you truly seek to understand God, the biblical account answers our questions, gives us a meaning for life and gives us hope for a future that cannot be found anywhere else in all of life or through any other God.

May God bless you as you read and re-read the story throughout your life.

*Pastor Paul*

# Calendar of Events

## Meetings for May, 2015

Saturday May 2: All Church Spring Clean Up, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, May 5: Ladies Spring Tea At Secluded Celebrations, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6: Design Works, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, May 12: United Methodist Women Dinner Out, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13: Worship Team, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 14-16: Annual Conference in Adrian, Michigan

Saturday, May 16: HUMM Love Inc. Furniture Pick up and Delivery, 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 17: Hartland United Methodist Men Meeting, 8:00 a.m.  
Whole Church Pot Luck, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 20: Staff / Pastor, Parish Relations Committee, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 21: Finance Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
Administrative Council Meeting, 7:00p.m.

## Upcoming Events in May, 2015

### Every Sunday:

Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.  
Youth Group at 11:30 a.m.



### Every Tuesday:

Prayers and Squares Quilting at 9:00 a.m.  
"Here and Now...There and Then", Small Group at 7:00 p.m.

### Every Wednesday:

The Story Small Group at 9:30 a.m.  
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.  
Alcoholics Anonymous at 7:30 p.m.  
Christianity, Islam and Other World Religions, Small Group at 9:30 a.m.

### Every Thursday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 10:00 a.m.  
Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m. 5/7, 5/14, 5/28

### Every Saturday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 9:00 a.m.

### Tuesday, May 12:

Wedding Dress Rehearsal

### Saturday, May 16:

Wedding, 12:00 p.m.

### Sunday, May 17:

Whole Church Pot Luck, 11:30 a.m.

# Special Dates

## May Birthdays

1 - Ione Bennett  
3 - Debbie Kirkpatrick  
6 - Nicholas Clark  
17 - Hunter Muzo  
18 - Eric Anderson  
22 - Jo Campbell  
25 - Phyllis Peck  
28 - Rosalie LaRue  
29 - Bruce Westbrook



## May Anniversaries

16, 1998 – Christian & Lori Muzo  
26, 1978 - Doug & Shelia Daniel  
28. 1988 – Paul & Lynét Gruenberg



### 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.!

## May Servants

### Liturgists

May 3: Shelia Daniel  
May 10: Jo Campbell  
May 17: Darla Jackson  
May 24: Sharon Infantino  
May 31: Fran Warthman

### Greeters

May 3: Mary Jo Malott & Terri Preiss  
May 10: Volunteers Needed  
May 17: HUMM  
May 24: Paul & Patti Sobonya  
May 31: Harold & Emma Winegarner

### Ushers

May 3: Jim Malott & Randy Melville  
May 10: Jim Malott & Jeff Gordinier  
May 17: HUMM  
May 24: Earl & Jo Campbell  
May 31: Charles & Debbie Kirkpatrick

### Nursery Workers

May 3:  
May 10: Pat Schleh  
May 17:  
May 24:  
May 31:

### Multi Media Specialist

May 3: Jeff Jackson  
May 10: Christian Muzo  
May 17: Gary LaRoy  
May 24: ????  
May 31: Gary LaRoy



# Mission Moments

## Mission Opportunity in Appalachia

The Mission Team is planning a week long trip to Tennessee this coming June. Mountain T.O.P. (Tennessee Outreach Project) is an inter denomination, non-profit Christian Mission affiliated with the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church, dedicated to rural life ministry in the Cumberland Mountains of Tennessee. They seek to meet the physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs of people through the love of Christ. There will be two opportunities to serve. One is on a team for home repair and renovation and the other is in Summer Plus - a day camp for teens consisting of different workshops allowing them to experience a Christian community.

The camp dates are June 21 - 27, 2015. We would carpool and need to leave on the 20th as it is a twelve hour drive. We could return in one day depending on the need of those going. More information about cost, details, etc., will follow.

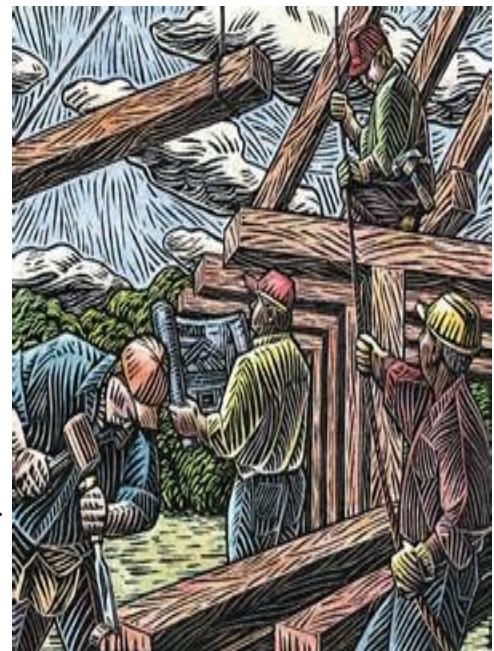
We are collecting new shoes to take to Mountain T.O.P. as part of our summer mission trip. Athletic shoes are needed for school age children and work boots are needed for adults. See the "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE" bulletin posted in the hallway for more details. Please place your donations in the box in the parlor by June 14, 2015.

Talk with me! Please, prayerfully consider this great opportunity to serve Christ.

Sue LaRoy

## Mission Opportunity

We have a unique opportunity to begin a mission project right here in Hartland! Love, I.N.C. has identified a need for a Personal Needs Pantry in our area. It is similar to a Food Pantry but instead of food we would supply things not covered by food stamps – paper products, toiletries etc.. We are currently assessing the interest of the church membership as this would take the ongoing support of the entire congregation. Please take a minute to look at the new Mission bulletin board for a description of the project. We would love to talk to you about it—ask Sue LaRoy or Mary Monroe. We need to determine if this is where God is calling us to serve. Pray!!



## Upcoming Bible Studies

### *HERE AND NOW ~ THERE AND THEN*

This ten week Bible Study explores the book of Revelation with us more. We will begin meeting on Tuesday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the church library, and should conclude around 8:30 p.m. Listening guides are available and the program has only light homework (one weekly assignment). Each session includes a one hour and fifteen minute video by Beth. Beth describes Revelation as “The sparkling, stunning and astonishing finish to what began in Genesis.” Please see Terri Clark if you have any questions about this story.

### Christianity, Cults and Religions

The Wednesday morning Bible study group will be starting a new study on Christianity and World Religions. Join us as we learn about Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormonism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. We will be exploring what we believe and why. The new study begins on Wednesday, May 13th in the church library. We meet from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. Please see Pat Harton if you have any questions about this study.

### Wifi is now available in our Sanctuary

Wifi is now available in the sanctuary for electronic Bibles and electronic giving.  
See the trifold on Sunday mornings for how to log in.

To connect please go to: HUMC\_Guest;  
password is: hartlandumc



### Automate The Important!

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 our web site ([hartlandumc.org](http://hartlandumc.org)) (click on “Online Giving” at the bottom of the page) allows you 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.

## New Craft Table

Please check out the homemade crafts and HUMC items for sale at the new craft table. The table will be in Armstrong Hall during fellowship hour. All proceeds for this month will go to the Parsonage Heating and Cooling Fund. Donations are always gladly accepted. Remember to check back each week for new items for sale.

## Calling All Crafters

Only eight more months until our Annual Cookie Walk. We would like to have a robust offering of bazaar items to raise more money for charities. So, we are asking all crafters to join us in this endeavor.

We have a large stash of fabric, not useful to the quilt ministry, that was donated to the church. If you would like to see if we have something you can use for your sewing projects, please call Jan Martin at 517-5481508 or Pat Harton at 248-935-0021.



Thank you for your help!



## Pastor's Helping Hands

This ministry fund goes directly to help those in Hartland who occasionally need a helping hand with food, bills or other one time expenses. In 2014, we gave \$1,400 to help others as the needs rose in their life. Consider giving an extra donation each month for this ministry above your normal offering.

## 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's 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.

In 2014 66 cards were given out. So far in 2015 19 cards have been given out. Since becoming a part of the Gas Card Ministry in 2012, we have given out 317 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. Consider giving an extra donation each month for this ministry above your normal offering.



# Sunday School

Shelia Daniel, Christian Education Director



Greetings from Sunday School,

On Sunday, April 26th the Sunday School and Youth Group packaged forty five "Birthday Party In A Bag". These were delivered to Gleaners Food Bank for those less fortunate in our area. Thank you everyone for your generous donations to this Lenten Ministry Project.

On Sunday, May 24th we will be having the end of the school year celebration for Sunday School and Youth Group. The classes will meet together in the upstairs classroom for some fun, food and fellowship during the Sunday morning service.



**Scripts Is Not Going Away!!  
Thank you Linda & Jeff Gordinier for  
keeping this wonderful program active at HUMC!!**



You know what this is ... it is the gift cards purchased for various businesses around our area we frequently use. When a card is purchased (say \$100 Meijer card) a percentage is given to the church (between 3% -16%). Over the last 10 years \$15,236.00 has gone into the General Operating Budget. Most of the Script Cards are sold during our fellowship time, with some sold during the week via the church office. We are thankful for Bruce and Darcie spending two Sundays each month helping people purchase these cards. As they leave for retirement, we need some people to help out once a month or two (depending how many people sign up to help) to continue this fundraiser for the church. If you would like to be a part of this team, please see Jeff or Linda Gordinier for more information.

## **Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry, Chapter 1128**

Our Prayer Quilt Ministry has been very busy. In April we donated these 5 quilts to be given to foster children at Brightmore Summer Camp.

While we have delivered 100 prayer quilts, this ministry has touched more lives than we can count. Not only the recipients, but their families and friends lives have also been shown the love of God. Each and every quilt is a wonderful blessing to our prayer quilt ministry members and also to those who have prayed and tied knots.

Please continue to further this expression of God's love by praying for our quilt recipients and tying knots on Sunday mornings.



### **Caring Ministries**

Our Mission Team has been busy discerning how Hartland UMC can best serve others within our community and beyond. The Mission Team focuses on taking the Good News of Jesus Christ to those outside of Hartland UMC. Yet, we do not want to neglect the community within our walls - our church family. Many of you have wonderful ideas on how best to serve our brothers and sisters within the church. Currently we have several Caring Ministries including the Prayer Chain, the Card Ministry, Funeral Dinners and Small Groups. Other needs have been identified such as meals for shut-ins, rides to church or appointments, a prayer group and visits to those in hospitals, nursing homes or home bound. There are many opportunities to serve.

And that is where you come in. We are looking for someone with a passion for caring for others to chair the Caring Ministries Team and for team members who want to serve their brothers and sisters through Caring Ministries.

Please call Pastor Paul to express your interest and how you will be able to serve. Be the hands and feet of Christ within our church.



## Thank You from Cindy Sherwood

The family of Garner Sherwood would like to express their sincere and grateful thanks for your prayers and condolences, and thoughtful actions of support. The food you provided on the day of visitation was delicious. Those who were able to personally visit; we are grateful. (My family within the Hartland Methodist Church is wonderful and I appreciate you more than you know).



## Spring Clean Up



What a great turn out for the spring clean up. It was a beautiful day to get the job done. The men unloaded two trucks full of mulch and spread it around all the church's landscape. They cut down branches and removed a dumpster full of yuck found around the church. They also power washed the outside of the church. The woman raked and weeded and planted flowers outside. They also cleaned the inside church windows, screens, and even cleaned the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Thank you to everyone that donated their time, effort, muscle and elbow grease. The Hartland United Methodist Church Looks Great!



## Hartland United Methodist Men

The Men's Group will meet for breakfast on Sunday, May 17, at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Plans for this Memorial Day Hot Dog Sale and cleaning the fellowship hall chairs and tables will be discussed. Please sign up on the flyer located on the hallway bulletin board if you would like to help sell / clean during this holiday celebration.



## All Church Family Camping Weekend

Date: Friday, June 19th through Sunday, June 21st

Place: Groveland Oaks Campground, Holly, Michigan

Group Site #01 (Cabins also available)



Mark your calendars for this fun-filled weekend. For you non-camping folks, you are invited to join us on Saturday for fun activities, a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m., campfire, and singing in the evening. More information to follow.

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to attend. Cost for a site: \$29.00 per night; \$27.00 per night for Seniors. See pamphlet on bulletin board for cabin rental prices.

Park info: [www.DestinationOakland.com](http://www.DestinationOakland.com)

Wagon Master: Ron Warthman (517-546-4004)    [franron4004@sbcglobal.net](mailto:franron4004@sbcglobal.net)



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