

Heavenly Notes

Volume 14, Issue 5
May, 2020

HARTLAND

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

United Methodist Church



Hartland United Methodist Church

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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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A worried mother does better research than the FBI



OMG
my mother was right about everything..



Mom Pro Tip:
If you're old enough to critique what I put in your lunch, you're old enough to make it yourself.

A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place *no one else* can take.

~ Musings from the Pastor ~

So we can safely say, the Coronavirus has had a major impact on our world, on our country, on our state, on our community, and on our church. I've stated before, this is a time most people will remember for the rest of their lives. In 10 years someone will say, "Remember Covid-19?", and people will nod their heads. We will not soon forget.

When we say it has had an impact on our church, it is broader than just each congregation not meeting together for worship, bible studies, meetings, and other gatherings (although we still worship virtually on Facebook and our website, as well as Bible Study and meetings on Zoom). About 3 weeks ago, the worldwide General Conference of the United Methodist Church postponed their 862 delegates from its every four year gathering, this year in Minnesota from May 5-10. Then about 10 days ago, the Michigan Annual Conference postponed its 1900 or so delegates from gathering in Traverse City at the end of May. Finally, this week all Jurisdictional conferences (they elect and assign Bishops to Annual Conferences) have been cancelled, stating that they will probably meet next in 2021.

Which means any decisions by the General Conference will have to wait until they do meet. The logistics alone to book a venue and get the 45% of the delegates from around the world (rest from the U.S.A.) to this conference (and depending on how each country is handling COVID-19) suggests they might not meet until 2021 either.

So we will as a worldwide United Methodist Church remain united. The Protocol of Grace and Reconciliation Through Separation will wait until they do meet. Despite these times, Pastors who are retiring will retire. Pastors who have been re-appointed will move to new churches. We will continue on in ministry, serving God, our communities, each other, and reaching out to the un-churched with the love of God.

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

Pastor Paul



May Birthdays

- 1 - Ione Bennett
- 3 - Debbie Kirkpatrick
- 6 - Nicholas Clark
- 11 - Richard Nowak
- 15 - Kirsten Eichhorn
- 18 - Eric Anderson
- 22 - Jo Campbell
- 28 - Rosalie LaRue
- 29 - Bruce Westbrook



May Anniversaries



- May 26, 1978
Doug & Shelia Daniel
- May 28, 1988
Paul & Lynét Gruenberg

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On Monday, March 23, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued an Executive Order to slow the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Today, based on recommendations from state health officials, the Governor has extended that order to May 15, 2020. The Executive Order continues to advise all faith communities to refrain from in-person worship and keep church buildings closed. For this reason, Bishop David Bard is also recommending Michigan United Methodist Churches continue to follow these recommendations until at least May 15, 2020.

Executive Order No. 2020-59, requires all Michigan residents and most businesses to stay in their homes, except for essential life-sustaining purposes. The order took effect at 11:01 A.M. Friday, March 24 and remains in effect until at least May 15, 2020.

While the new order recommends that we not hold in-person worship, The United Methodist Church of Michigan continues to be the church every day of this crisis. This Bishop continues to encourage local churches to hold online or telephone-based worship each week, to set up systems to receive electronic offerings that support much needed mission and ministry, and to be in safe connection with those sheltered at home. Bishop Bard has announced he will address the Michigan Conference next week in a video message about this Executive Order and other measures being planned to safely re-open local churches.

Grace and Peace,

David A Bard

David Alan Bard
Michigan Area Bishop



Financial Page

We hope you and your family are safe and staying healthy during these challenging times. We wanted to thank you for being an active and faithful member of our church community and to let you know that you're in our hearts. We have re-formed our ministry into online gatherings over the past few weeks To stay connected, please join us at 10:00am Sundays as we are holding virtual services to stay connected to the gospel. You can join us on Facebook (Hartland United Methodist Church) or by going to the Church website www.hartlandumc.org and click on the box called "Worship Online Service Videos".

As a Church we continue to have on-going financial requirements, The Covid-19 crisis has made giving back to God in support of His ministries, difficult putting a strain on our church. Being that we are not meeting on Sundays, alternate ways of giving are more important than ever. We fully recognize that Covid-19 crisis may have impacted you, and our prayers are with you. But if you are able to give, every dollar helps. If you are able to give, even a small amount will help. We continue to count and deposit all donations every Monday.

If you are used to giving cash or check in the offering, please **mail any checks to:**

**Hartland United Methodist Church
10300 Maple Road
Hartland, Michigan 48353**



Or consider **signing up to give electronically** through our Online Giving at the Church website at www.hartlandumc.org (**see back of letter for information on how to setup and use Online Giving**) Hartland United Methodist has always been a generous church. When the mission has required additional finances, we've all stepped up. We've seen it in our annual Christmas offering. We've seen it in our capital campaigns. We see it in our weekly giving. We trust that God has given us together all the resources we need not to just keep our Church active, but to redirect and even expand our ministry to reach more people for Jesus, to **continue creating environments where we are, Sharing the Journey to know, love, and serve God**. But it will take all of us working together. What financial step or two is God calling you to take this week to help our mission maintain its momentum?

We have applied for the **SBA Forgive-able loan** in the **CARES** package, that if approved covers a couple of months of staff salaries for small businesses and non-profits including faith based organizations. Please put this on your prayer list that we can get approved.

We earnestly appreciate your ongoing support and want to let you know we're here for you. If there's ever anything we can do for you and your family, don't hesitate to reach out. You are a valued member of our church family, and any financial support you can provide will make a difference.

Sincerely,
Finance Committee,

Paul Gruenberg – Pastor
Terrie Preiss – Chair Administrative Council
Charles Kirkpatrick – Chair Finance Committee
Karen Nowak – Financial Secretary
Mary Jo Bell – Chair Pastor Parish Relationships
Randy Bell – Chair Trustees
Becky Toth – Lay Leader
Bert Honor – Member Admin Council



Live!
From

Hartland U.M.C.

Own
Studio

It's Easter Sunday Service



He Has Risen!

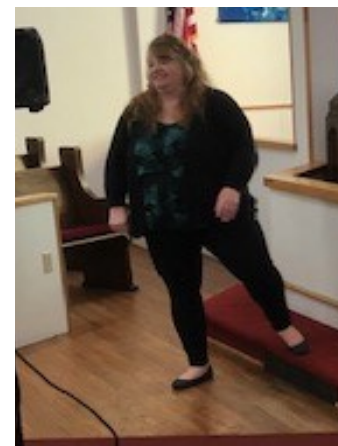
He Has Risen
Indeed!



Easter Sunday 2020 will be a day that we will always remember. Even when we couldn't physically come, we still celebrated Jesus!!!

Thank you to all who made this Easter service possible!

Here are a few pictures of the behind the scenes set-up.



?? Back to Normal ??

With the Governor and Bishop Bard's requests to wait for in-person gatherings potentially ending May 15, it means we've begun to think through what it looks like to be the church, when we can gather again. We are working on many questions. Will people still need to wear masks? Do we continue to have some sort of social distancing in place in the sanctuary? Do we wait to begin fellowship hour for a few more weeks/months? Will we continue some sort of video live streaming? Do we have some sort of testing in place when people come to church? Where do we put the sanitizer and how much to get? There are a lot of questions the church leadership is wrestling with for everyone's safety! Just know, one day in the future it will be normal again.

(Whatever normal means.)

Coronavirus

First three people, to find 4 differences and let's Karen know, will win a prize.





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