



Heavenly Notes

*“Helping Others Find, Experience,
and Share God’s Love Through Christ”*

October , 2012

Volume 6, Issue 8

Hartland United Methodist Church

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Pastor:
Rev. Paul Gruenberg

Sunday Worship:

Service:
10:00 a.m.

Sunday School:
10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour: 11:15 a.m.

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C.R.O.P. Hunger Walk

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2011,

**1:30 p.m. Registration 2:00 p.m. Walk
First Presbyterian Church, Howell**

The Howell area C.R.O.P. Walk to raise money to provide relief to the hungry in Livingston County and across the world will be on Sunday, October 7.

All walkers are asked to meet at 1:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Howell.

If you are not walking, please give a donation to one of our walkers. And—we can all pray for the success of the walk.

World Communion Sunday **Sunday, October 7**

Starting at the International Date Line in the Pacific Ocean and continuing around the world as the day goes on, Christians of many countries and denominations will be sharing the loaf and the cup and reflecting on their oneness in Christ on Sunday, October 7.



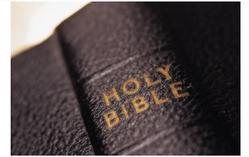
As a way of helping illustrate World Communion Sunday, the Worship Committee asks you to bring any Bibles in a foreign language that you may have. These Bibles will be placed on the Communion Rail for our worship service.



Experience a Half-Day of Prayer

On Tuesday, October 23rd, you will have the opportunity to explore an intentional time of prayer lasting four hours. This is a practical time of learning and growing in your prayer life. Plan now to join one of the three sessions on October 23rd: 8 a.m. to 12 noon, 12 noon to 4 p.m. or 5 to 9 p.m.

~ Pastor's Message ~



Since moving to Hartland, I have been taking walks with our dog, Moses. Moses is a golden retriever and he enjoys our long walks together. While walking, I will often listen to an audio Bible... right now I'm listening to the One Year Bible.

As we were getting ready to walk (*after the Lions lost in overtime on Sunday*), the temperature gauge read 56 degrees outside. So I put on a hooded sweatshirt before leaving so I could cover my head to stay warm. As we were walking along the street a woman and man up ahead were talking by the end of their narrow driveway. She went to a vehicle in the driveway while he went to a vehicle parked on the street. They were going to change the positions of the cars. I thought she probably needed to leave for work first in the morning and needed to be parked closest to the street.

As she backed out of the driveway, I noticed a backup light was not working. So when she had pulled out of the driveway, I approached her while the other vehicle was being moved into the driveway. I waved to get her attention, and smiled when she noticed the dog and I. I then walked up to the passenger door of the vehicle. Then something happened that caught me off guard.

As I got to the passenger window I just assumed she would put it down so we could talk... but instead, she sat there for a few seconds looking at me. And when I signaled to her that I wanted to say something to her, she finally pressed the button for the passenger window. But, she only put the window down a couple of inches... just enough to talk. I informed her that one of her rear backup lights was not working. She kind of acknowledged this and that was the end of the conversation and the window went back up. Moses and I walked on as she pulled into the driveway. I could have become indignant at the way I was treated, but I hoped she understood I was only trying to help.

It struck me how this encounter went down. I noticed a problem, went to inform the owner and felt treated like a hood. Usually with me, there would be some friendly conversation and then I would leave with a smile. Then it dawned on me. What did she see? What was her experience?

As we began walking that afternoon, I put the hood on my head to stay warm and I had put ear buds in my ears to listen to the Bible. Even though I had every good intention, what she probably saw was an unfamiliar guy in a hooded sweatshirt which covered his face, listening to some head banging music walking toward her car as dusk approached. Also, there may have been other things on her mind... work tomorrow, winter is coming, "How could the Lions have lost!"

When I looked at what happened from her perspective, I would have been cautious too.

As Christians, we are called to go into the world and be witnesses to the love of God as found in Jesus Christ. But I wonder how the un-churched see us... do we come off looking as "better than you" because we project ourselves as, "we are right and you are wrong!"? Are we unwilling to admit when we screw up or make mistakes, because even though we are saved, it doesn't mean we are perfect? Do we forget to take into consideration someone's state of mind when we bring up the subject of God's love for them?

Two of the basic ways we can witness to others is to love them where they are at, and to be open to sharing what God is doing in your life. Our love must be unconditional... not so they walk over you, but that you love them despite how they treat you. When sharing about God, just state what God is speaking to you about... doing in your life... it's about being transparent. When you do this, others begin to see you as a real person... someone they can relate to.

The saying goes something like this, "You can only make one first impression." Now I know I've made my fair share of bad first impressions, but by having a loving and genuine attitude, the Holy Spirit will use me, sometimes in ways I am clueless about. The Holy Spirit uses us, sometime despite us, to further the kingdom of God here on earth. I may not have made such a great first impression with this woman, but I'm asking God to give me some more "chance" encounters with her, that I might share with her the love of God. Maybe she can begin to see me for who I really am... a child of God's redeeming. Until next we meet, blessings on the journey!

Pastor Paul

Calendar of Events

Meetings for October, 2012



Wednesday, October 3: Design Works, 9:00 a.m.
Monday, October 8: Board of Trustees, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 9: Online Outreach Project, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 10: Worship Committee, 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 14: Christmas Pageant Planning, 11:30 a.m.
Monday, October 15: United Methodist Women, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 18: Finance Committee 6:00 p.m.
Administrative Council, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 21: United Methodist Men, 8:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday:

Adult Sunday School, 8:45 a.m.

Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Every Wednesday:

Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

Boy Scouts, 7:00 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous at 7:30 p.m.

Every Thursday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 10:00 a.m.

Every Saturday:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 7:

World Communion Sunday

C.R.O.P. Walk, Registration: 1:30 p.m.; Walk: 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 10:

The Master's Minstrels Practice, 8:00 p.m.

Monday, October 15:

Kitchen Training Session, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 21:

Laity Sunday

Tuesday, October 23:

Half Day of Prayer, 8 a.m. to 12 noon, 12 noon to 4 p.m. and
5 to 9 p.m.

Sunday, October 28:

Halloween Hay Ride and Fun Fest, 3:00 p.m.



Special Dates

September Birthdays

- 3 - Sarah Westbrook-Burns
Debbie Taylor
- 6 - Colette Voight
- 8 - Bill Westbrook
- 12 - Noah Campbell
- 14 - Laura Walker
- 16 - Renee Zimmerman
- 21 - Marty Hansen
- 22 - Lori Muzo
- 24 - Shyrl Cone
Chris Zimmerman
- 25 - Patrick Walker
- 26 - Keith Voight
- 30 - Mike Kenel



September Anniversaries

- 3,1963 - Jim & Collene Myers
- 9, 2000 - Chris & Renee Zimmerman
- 19,1992 - Brian & Becky Toth
- 29 - Wayne & Marcie Kanitz



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.!

October's Servants

Greeters

- 7: Marcie Kanitz
- 14: Mary Jo Malott & Terri Preiss
- 21: United Methodist Men
- 28:

Ushers

- 7: Charles & Debbie Kirkpatrick
- 14:
- 21: United Methodist Men
- 28:

Liturgists

- 7: Darcie Westbrook
- 14: Terri Preiss
- 21: Jo Campbell
- 28: Ceci Marlow

Multi Media Specialist

- 7: Jeff Jackson
- 14: Christian Muzo
- 21: Michele Cannaert
- 28: Renee Zimmerman

Acolytes

- 7: Gwen Archer & Bailey McPherson
- 14: Gwen Archer & Bailey McPherson
- 21 :Gwen Archer & Bailey McPherson
- 28: Gwen Archer & Bailey McPherson

Nursery Workers

- 7: Sandy McPherson
- 14: Pat Schleh
- 21: Lori Muzo
- 28: Pat Coleman





2012 Church Conference Date Set

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend our 2012 Church Conference on Sunday, November 18. Our District Superintendent , Rev. Mark Spaw, will present the message during worship that morning. Following worship, we will have an All Church Potluck. Rev. Spaw will meet with the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee at 11:30 a.m. and the Conference will begin at 12:15 p.m. in the sanctuary.

United Methodist Men

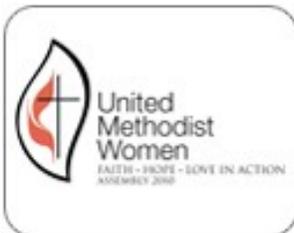
The Hartland United Methodist Men will meet on Sunday, October 21, at 8:00 a.m.

At this meeting, plans for the Halloween Hay Ride and Fun Fest will be discussed.

All men are invited to attend this meeting and enjoy some good food and some good fellowship while serving their church and community.



United Methodist Women



The women and friends of the Hartland UMC will meet on Monday, October 15th, 7:00 p.m. at the Church. Vivian Lemon and Laura Walker will provide the refreshments.

Do you feel like Mary or Martha? We will discuss Luke 10:38-42.

On the agenda: The Turkey Dinner, Cookie Walk and Craft Sale and we will have a lesson on proper use of the kitchen.

I look forward to an exciting journey.

Becky Toth



Cass Community Lunch

Our next opportunity to serve lunch to the Cass Community will be on Saturday, October 27th. There is a sign –up sheet on the bulletin board for food and for volunteers to help serve.

Online Outreach Project

The first fruits of our Online Outreach Project are up and running! The first is our own Facebook page—you can find it at www.facebook.com/harlandumc. This is different from a personal Facebook identity that you become “friends” with. A Facebook page is a place for an organization to post information and activities, and for people to keep track of what’s happening in the organization. Thanks to Brandy Archer and Bob Ruby, our page has become very active with photos, videos, and comments. If you use Facebook, please check out our page and “like” Hartland UMC on Facebook!



We are also now recording the sermons each Sunday and posting them as “podcasts” to our website. You can find them at www.hartlandumc.org/podcasts, or by following the link from our home page. You can also find the sermons on iTunes—just search for “Hartland United Methodist Church” in the iTunes store. This is a wonderful opportunity to share a particularly meaningful message with a friend, or to catch up on a sermon if you happen to miss a Sunday.

Design and development of our new website is in full swing. We are working on a prototype that will enable everyone to test drive the design and fine-tune the organization and content. We’ll do this together on Tuesday, October 9th, 7:00 p.m., in Armstrong Hall. No technical expertise necessary, just opinions, and everyone has at least one of those. Everyone is invited and welcome!



Livingston County Christmas Celebration

The annual Christmas Celebration is a day for our local families in need of assistance to experience the loving embrace of our local churches. The celebration is a fun-filled afternoon for these families with many activities. This will be the third year Hartland UMC has been blessed to participate in this event. What you will give is a little of your time and talents, but what you will receive is a day and a holiday season filled with joy and hope. Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 8!



There will be opportunities to participate in many ways. Please watch for announcements of specific needs. This is a wonderful and fulfilling opportunity to bring God’s Kingdom to our neighbors in need during the Christmas season!

Remembering Our Saints

Sunday, November 4th, is All Saints Sunday. It is traditionally a time to remember the saints that have gone before us to their eternal reward.

We will do as we have done in years past and add new life and color to this traditional time of remembrance. We are inviting everyone in our church family to bring one fresh flower to worship on November 4th for each person they would like to have remembered (and it doesn't matter how long ago they died).



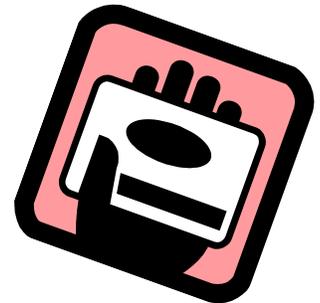
Attention All Photographers

The Church Office needs the help of all photographers. Please bring your cameras with you to church activities worship, Sunday School, meeting, potluck and gathering—and start taking photos of these events. Then, please email them to the Church Office (secretary@hartlandumc.org). With the screens in the fellowship hall and sanctuary, we can show everyone what has been happening and what they are missing! Thank you for your help!

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 ten other Livingston County churches in supplying prepaid gas cards for Love INC to give to those who need them.

To date you have paid over \$2,130 toward the money you have pledged to this ministry and we have given out sixty-three Speedway cards so far. Keep paying on those pledges and we can continue to make a real difference in the lives of our neighbors.





Kitchen News

When using the church kitchen, please make sure that you ***LABEL ALL FOOD TO BE STORED IN THE FRIDGE OR FREEZER.*** There are labels on top of the microwave.

The labels **MUST HAVE YOUR NAME OR ORGANIZATION, THE ITEM IN THE PACKAGE, AND THE EXPIRATION DATE.** **Examples:** *Ham, UMW, use by Nov. 10, 2012* or *Pound Cake, Mary Smith, use for Coffee Hour Nov. 10, 2012.*

Even if an item already has a “sell by” date from the manufacturer, you must still make a label. The next person using that item has no way of knowing whether you opened it yesterday or last year.

ANY AND ALL UNMARKED ITEMS WILL BE THROWN OUT.

If you have any questions or comments, please talk to Fran Warthman. Fran has been trained by the Livingston County Health Department in the correct procedures in handling commercial kitchens (our church kitchen is considered a commercial kitchen by the Health Department).



Scrip News

Scrip is a program where gift cards from a variety of companies can be purchased. You pay the full face value of the card. When these cards are ordered, the church just pays a percentage of the face value. There are gas cards, discount store cards, restaurants, department stores and many, many more cards available. Several cards are offered for immediate purchase.

Hartland UMC has been associated with the Scrip program since 2006. Since that time, **over \$12,493** has gone into the General Fund; so far in **2012, over \$989** has gone to the General Fund. And this is with an average of **just over 6 families** participating each week!

It has been decided to open the Sunday morning Scrip table every other week. The table will be open on Sunday, September 30th, closed on October 7th, 14th and 21st, open on October 28th. You can stop by the church and purchase cards or place an order any time that Darcie Westbrook is in the Church Office.

Thank you to all of you who shop our Scrip table! Your support is appreciated!





Full Service Nursery



September 9th marked the day we returned to a Full Service Nursery. Each and every Sunday, there is a loving volunteer delighted to spend time with your little ones. Please take this opportunity to enjoy the worship service knowing that your children are in loving hands. Thank you for this opportunity to serve our church family.

Thank you to the following for stepping up and volunteering for this special service:

1st Sunday—Sandy McPherson

2nd Sunday—Pat Schleh

3rd Sunday—Lori Muzo

4th Sunday—Pat Coleman

5th Sunday—Dani Toth & Bailey
McPherson

Volunteer opportunity: Like to volunteer in the nursery, but not very month? We are currently looking for substitute/emergency nursery volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sandy McPherson at 810-845-8367 or mcpersons4@comcast.net.

Christmas Program Planning Meeting



The planning will soon begin for the Children's Christmas Program and you can be a part of the decision making.

It would be nice to include singing, special music and any other appropriate presentations. If you have any ideas or would like to be involved with getting the children ready for the season, please join us on Sunday, October 14th, following the Worship Service, for a brief planning session.

Youth Group

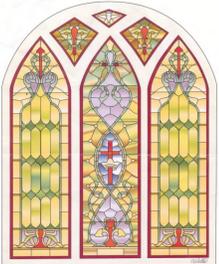
Youth Group for Fifth graders and up will meet on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

There will be opportunities to socialize, Bible teaching and service projects.

Come learn, live and have fun!



Hartland United Methodist Church
10300 Maple Street
Hartland, MI 48353



HARTLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*See YOU at C.R.O.P. Walk
and Halloween Hay Ride!*

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

