Heavenly Notes

November, 2018 Volume 12, Issue 11

Hartland United Methodist Church

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> Pastor: Rev. Paul Gruenberg

Sunday Worship

Service: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School: 10:20 a.m. Coffee Hour: 11:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:20 a.m.

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United Methodist Church

Please Join Us For Our Annual Turkey Dinner Saturday, November 3, 2018 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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All profits will go to various charities local and world wide.

Year End Catch Up

It seems a bit early to write about catching up financially with the church, but it is due to an unexpected change. On page 5 you will find a write-up as to why. So please consider giving an above and beyond year end gift over the next few weeks. Please mark your donation with "Year End" or "Catch Up". Thank you in advance.

»Musings from the Pastor

Can you believe the year-end holiday season is already on our doorstep? Thanksgiving, Black-Friday, Christmas, and New Year's! Where did the time go for 2018? Each of these events has the opportunity to be joyful and joy-filled for many, and yet also a time where many experience a great sense of loneliness.



In proverbs it says, "*The cheerful heart has a continual feast.*" Wouldn't that be nice to always have a cheerful heart despite the circumstances you find yourselves experiencing from day to day. Maybe the questions is, "How can I have this kind of cheerful heart?"

If we were to take stock of what really is important, I think we can always have a cheerful heart. In fact, I think God shows us a way to live into a cheerful heart, especially if your heart is low. The Apostle Paul, who faced all sorts of opposition in life wrote... **"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."** Paul says "with thanksgiving present your requests" to God. Even the many not so joyful things, but the darker, heavier issues of life, present them to God with joy knowing God cares. Someone recently said, "a difficult thing in life shared, cuts the burden in half." Those who are hurting, emotionally, physically, and financially, give it to God. Those with broken relationship within their families, their neighbors, or their work associates... give it to God and cut it by half.

So I, like the Apostle Paul, present them with thanksgiving to God. The rest of the sto-

ry is then next verse... "And the peace of God, which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." When I tell God my concerns, he helps me to experience peace. God the Father reminds me how my heart and mind will be guarded in Christ Jesus. I give it to God. God gives me peace in Jesus.



May God set your sights on Jesus as we enter into these final two months. May you embrace the coming of Jesus, both as a baby, and the conqueror who is to come again!

> Blessings on the Journey! Pastor Paul

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November Servants

Liturgist

November 4: Mary Jo Bell November 11: Jo Campbell November: 18: Terri Preiss November 25: Terri Preiss

Multi Media Specialist

November 4: Charles Kirkpatrick November 11: Jeff Jackson November 18: Mary Jo Bell November 25: Jo Campbell

Meetings in November 2018

Mon.	November	4:	Trustees Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sat.	November	10:	Personal Needs Pantry Delivery 9:00 a.m.
Wed.	November	14:	Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
Thurs.	November	15:	Financial Team Meeting, 6:15 p.m. Administrative Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sun.	November	18:	United Methodist Men Meeting, 8:00 a.m.
Sat.	November	24:	Personal Needs Pantry Delivery, 9:00 a.m.

Weekly Events in November, 2018

Every Sunday:	Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School, 10:20 a.m. Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.
	Adult Sunday School, 11:20 a.m.
Every Monday:	Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
	Knit, Crochet, Pray, 6:00 p.m.
Every Tuesday:	Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday:	Revelation Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
	Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.
Every Thursday:	Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (November 1, 8, 15, 29)
Every Saturday:	Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.



Autumn Tea Party Secluded Celebrations Thursday, Nov. 8th at Noon



All Ladies and Men are invited to the Autumn Tea. Please sign up on the bulletin board flyer if you would like to attend. The cost of the tea is \$30, tip included.

Financial News Update



The Finance Committee wishes to thank Marty Hansen for

her service to the Church as Chair of the Finance Committee. Under her leadership the committee had taken on and overcome many challenges. As the new Finance Committee Chair, I'm excited to be a part of the committee and look forward to working with the team. Fourteen months ago I volunteered to take on the responsibilities of Treasurer. Working closely with Karen, our Financial Secretary, we have greatly improved the daily task associated with tracking and paying all the bills needed to keep the church running as smoothly as possible.

The Finance Committee receives weekly and monthly financial reports allowing them to focus attention on and overcome issues. Going forward the committee is dedicated to providing information to members of the church. The questions are:

What information will benefit members?

How much information is too much?

The Committee members understand we all have various levels of experience. It seems clear to me we all enjoy receiving good news and there are a number of good things occurring. Today the Church enjoys healthy contributions to the Building Fund, Endowment Fund, Food Bank, Memorial Fund, Pastors Helping Hand, Personnel Needs Pantry as well as several other needs. These donations have been used to make a difference in the lives of many. Where we are not doing as well includes donations to support the basic earthy requirements of operating the Church Building and Parsonage and providing for the staff needed to support the Church.

Today I'm asking each of you to consider the questions above and reach out to me or other members of the committee and let us know what you feel is needed to keep you informed of the Church Finances. There is no wrong answer. I can be reached in person or via email at <u>charles.kirkpatrick@comcast.net</u>.

"Catching Up"

As mentioned in the October Newsletter, the Focus Driving School (\$900 a month) is no longer using the Church and paying monthly rent. This loss has caused the Church to fall behind in paying some of the bills. We normally see a reduction in giving during the summer but have not seen the normal giving increase in September and October. The Finance Committee has approved starting the Catch-Up program early this year. We are asking each of you to prayerfully consider giving to the Catch Up program starting now. All giving will be designated to the General Fund. We will use these donations to pay all past due bills and hopefully build a small reserve going into 2019.

The Finance Committee wishes to **"thank you"** in advance *for all your generosity* and continued support of the mission we all accept as members of the Hartland United Methodist Church.

Finance Committee:

Charles Kirkpatrick – Chairperson Terri Preiss – Administrative Council Chairperson Randy Bell – Trustee Chairperson Becky Toth – Lay Leader Rev. Paul Gruenberg – Pastor Mary Jo Bell – Pastor/Parish Relations Chair Karen Nowak – Financial Secretary

Hartland UMC 2018 Hayride and Hotdog Roast

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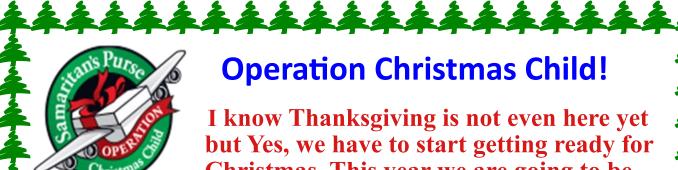




Scrip Cards

Christmas will be here before we know it. Why not get a jump start on your Christmas shopping and purchase scrip cards as gifts for your loved ones? There are a variety of gift cards available from \$10.00 to \$100.00. Let your Christmas giving do double duty this year by supporting our church and giving a gift that no one would want to return!

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Operation Christmas Child!

I know Thanksgiving is not even here yet but Yes, we have to start getting ready for Christmas. This year we are going to be

sharing our Christmas Spirit with children by participating with the Samaritan's Purse "Shoebox" Christmas Child. Special shoeboxes will be available with instructions in the Church office as soon as they arrive. <u>The filled boxes must</u> be returned by November 19, 2018. Thank You In Advance!

Up-Coming Events 2018



Sat. November 3, 2018 Community Turkey Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 7:00p.m.

(Serving our community to raise funds for local missions & ministry)

November 10, 2018 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Fall Clean Up Day**

Please bring rakes, shovels, buckets or whatever you think will help get this task done quickly.





Join us in a Service of Thanksgiving November 18, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. Hartland United Methodist Church Dramatic Presentation

Sat. December 1, 2018 **Cookie Walk** (Helping to provide cookies for the holidays)





Fri. December 7, 2018 **Advent Tea 7:00 p.m.** (A relaxing formal tea & music for ladies of all ages

Mon. December 24, 2018 Christmas Eve **Candle Light Service**

(Celebrating the Birth of Jesus with family and friends)





Fall Clean Up Day Saturday, November 10, 2018 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Did you eat too much at the HUMC Thanksgiving Dinner? Come on out the following Saturday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and burn some calories by raking leaves, pulling weeds, and cleaning up the church grounds before the winter weather sets in. Please try to work your schedule to include helping out next Saturday. The Spring Clean –Up Day was washed out by rain, so, the outside grounds are in dire need of attention. Dress according to the weather; sun in the morning, rain by mid-morning, and snow by noon! Hey it's Michigan, we are shaped like a mitten for a reason.





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