

Heavenly Notes

Volume 13, Issue 12
December, 2019



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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Christmas List "Easy Invites"



Cookie Walk

December 7, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Let Us Do Your Christmas Baking

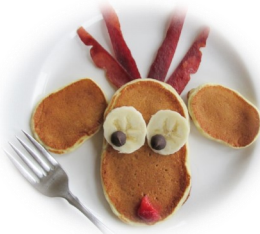
Advent Tea

December, 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.



All women associated with our church family, as well as friends and neighbors are invited to this inspirational gathering. Please sign up on the bulletin board flyer if you would like to attend. Or call the church office. This is an open invitation. You do not have to host a table to attend.

All Church Breakfast & Caroling December 22, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.



Please join us for a wonderful Christmas Breakfast hosted by the United Methodist Men. After breakfast and fellowship, come to Sunday Service at enjoy the Christmas Pageant.



Christmas Eve Candle Light Services December 24, 2019

Family Worship Service 7:00 p.m.
Reflective Worship Service 11:00 p.m.





~ Musings from the Pastor ~

This story appeared in the RGB blog, and is so fitting for our Advent season.

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which read, "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat – spare change from folks as they hurried past.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. Then he put the sign back in the boy's hand so that everyone who walked by would see the new words. Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy.

That afternoon, the man who had changed the sign returned to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." I wrote, "Today is a beautiful day, but I cannot see it."

Both signs spoke the truth. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind, while the second sign conveyed to everyone walking by how grateful they should be to see...

There are a number of ways we can look at this story. The boy was grateful for the man who helped. The people who passed by were grateful for sight. Both point toward leading life gratefully, which we should all do! But what I also saw was this, people are willing to respond when they personally can see why they need to become a part of the story (in this case by helping the boy.)

When it comes to celebrating Jesus' birth this year, how can what we put on our own "personal signs" to help people know to include Jesus on Christmas or Christmas Eve? If we do or say nothing, nobody will know or change their reason for the season. Yet, what we say and do can turn people toward celebrating Jesus' birth this year! What will you put on your sign on the coming days?

"Jesus! The Reason for the Season!"

"Jesus was born that we might live!"

"Jesus' birth leads to Eternal Life!"

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

Pastor Paul

December Birthdays

- 6 - Rob Cannaert
- 8 - Megan Kirkpatrick
- 11 - Chris Rice
- 12 - Terri Preiss
- 16 - Alexis Clark
- 18 - Lauri Jerome



December Anniversaries

If you would like your birthday or your anniversary added to our church list please leave a note in the office with Karen.

- 29, 1962 Ron & Fran Warthman
- 29, 1967 Bill & Jan Martin

December Servants

Greeters

- Dec. 1: Jerry Weaver
- Dec. 8: Volunteers Needed
- Dec. 15: Volunteers Needed
- Dec. 22: Volunteers Needed
- Dec. 24: Volunteers Needed
- Dec. 29: Volunteers Needed

Liturgist

- Dec. 1: Pat Harton
- Dec. 8: Terri Preiss
- Dec. 15: Jerry Weaver
- Dec. 22: Becky Toth
- Dec. 24: Terri Preiss
- Dec. 29: Jim Cleveland

Ushers

- Dec. 1: D. Webber & Mike Sharlow
- Dec. 8: J. Malott & J. Gordinier
- Dec. 15: S. Infantino & J. Infantino
- Dec. 22:
- Dec. 24: C. Kirkpatrick & C Kirkpatrick
- Dec. 29:

Multi Media Specialist

- Dec. 1: Charles Kirkpatrick
- Dec. 8: Jeff Jackson
- Dec. 15: Mary Jo Bell
- Dec. 22 Jo Campbell
- Dec. 24: Volunteer Needed
- Dec. 29: Volunteer Needed

Meetings in December 2019



- Mon. December 2: Trustees Meeting
- Wed. December 4: Design Works, 9:00 a.m.
- Wed. December 11: Worship Team Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
- Thurs. December 12: Financial / Ad. Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- Sun. December 22: Whole Church Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.
Christmas Caroling

Weekly Events in December 2019

- Every Sunday: Service, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School, 11:30 a.m.
- Every Monday: Knit, Crochet, Pray, 12:00 p.m.
- Every Tuesday: Prayers and Squares Quilting, 9:00 a.m.
- Every Wednesday: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m.
- Every Thursday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.
- Every Saturday: Alcoholics Anonymous, 10:00 a.m.

Finance News Update

For 2019 the Church has enjoyed healthy contributions to the Building Fund, Endowment Fund, Food Bank, Memorial Fund, Pastors Helping Hand...as well as several other needs. These donations have been used to make a difference in the lives of many. From January to September the Church had received contribution to the General Fund allowing us to stay current with all bills, maintain a small reserve and pay a small portion of the Ministry Shares Common Apportionments. Beginning in October, giving has declined and the small reserve has been used and some bills may not be paid. In addition we spent a large portion of the Emergency Fund to replace several items within the Rental House including a new Water Tank, Stove and Hot Water Heater. There are several other things that need to be fixed. The Trustees are working on preparing a quote of what is needed and the cost.

Today we need to focus on “**Catching Up**”. The Finance Committee has approved starting the Catch Up program. 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 for use as reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee and Administrative Council. We will use these donations to pay bills and increase the Emergency Fund, and hopefully keep a small reserve going into 2020.

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

Finance Committee:

Charles Kirkpatrick – Chairperson

Rev. Paul Gruenberg – Pastor

Terri Preiss – Administrative Council Chairperson

Mary Jo Bell – Pastor/Parish Relations Chairperson

Randy Bell – Trustee Chairperson

Karen Nowak – Financial Secretary

Becky Toth – Lay Leader

News from the Frontier

One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?” The man answered, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!” The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied with a story ...

We are in Panama City, Florida working with the Bay Count Habitat trying to get their disaster repair program running. Hurricane Michael swept through the panhandle of Florida more than a year ago and there are still many roofs with blue tarps, siding is missing and trees are still leaning on houses.

Many structures will never be rebuilt but we are helping fix what we can. When we arrived, we were given the short list of 21 homes with critical repairs that were already qualified. The affiliate has contracted with a roofing company to re-shingle roofs but needed someone to fix soffit, fascia, siding, doors and windows and that is what we are doing. We spent the first two days visiting the properties and getting material lists. Then looked in the warehouse for materials that were on hand while other things got ordered. We have been here for three weeks now and have finished repairs on a few houses, done partial repairs on several while waiting for materials to complete them. We also did some assessments and turned them in for the affiliate to decide if the project is beyond the scope of what they can handle. Below is one of those:



This house has lost most of its siding, the windows are single pane glass and not fitted in the openings well, there is rot or termite damage in many areas that was not caused by the hurricane but was exposed by it. In our estimation it is a tear-down but the roof was so bad right after the hurricane that it was high on the list to get a new one. That was done before any other evaluation was completed. The second problem is the family that lives here has nowhere else to go and can't afford to move. The house is worth about \$9,000, so how do you decide whether to fix it or not.

Since writing the above, the affiliate has decided to fix this house. We are a few days into the repair and things are going well. We will be working on it for a few more days. Besides this house there is enough work here to keep us busy well into next year. We currently are staying in an RV resort for November and December. We have other arrangements in the area through January. Most campgrounds in the area are full in February so we have plans to go somewhere else for a while. We feel we will need a break from here by then anyway.

We ask everyone to continue praying for us while we are here. We hope that God will use us in a way that brings glory to Him in everything we do. And if anyone needs to get out of the cold and snow let us know, we love company and could use some extra help.

Yours in Christ,
Jeff and Laura Walker

December 2019

Samaritan's Purse

Thank you Hartland UMC for participating in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child. There was 17,323 pounds of toys collected in the 5,385 boxes in the trailer and still more to be packed. As a community of faith we are doing great work with many other Christians.



Scrip Cards For Christmas

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!





Celebration of All Saints Day

In remembrance of our loved ones in heaven, a flower was placed in a basket as their name was announced in church. A beautiful Altar arrangement was created. After service, the flowers were given to help bring cheer to those in need.

Up Coming Easy Invites

December 7:	Hartland UMC Cookie Walk	9:00 a.m.
December 13:	Advent Tea	7:00 p.m.
December 22:	All Church Christmas Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
	Christmas Pageant	10:00 a.m.
December 24:	Family Christmas Service	7:00 p.m.
	Reflective Service	11:00 p.m.
January 11:	C.P.R. Class	9:00 a.m.
January 18:	Dinner Theater	5:30 p.m.
January 25:	4th Annual Corn Hole Tournament	9:00 a.m.

Donate from your smart phone or tablet

Hartland United Methodist Church offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easier for you to give anytime from your smart phone.

Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's Quick Response (QR) code reader!

Don't have a scanner code application?

Go to your App Store and download a QR reader.



Automate the Important Electronic Giving Is Available

Giving electronically is easy and allows you to set up recurring contributions.

www.hartlandumc.org

And click on the "GIVE" button"



Hartland United Methodist Church

Is Hosting A

Mystery Dinner Theater

Saturday January 18th

5:30 p.m.

DINNER AT 8 DEAD BY 9

* Stay tuned for more details and reservation



WINTER WORD SEARCH



W	E	A	T	H	E	R	W	G	S	F	P	S	F	M
O	H	J	V	O	L	J	O	N	J	V	H	N	J	J
K	F	R	A	C	S	M	E	O	K	O	L	O	M	G
D	R	H	B	P	T	T	D	P	V	B	P	W	W	N
I	E	L	J	Q	T	O	I	E	L	J	Q	F	O	I
W	E	P	N	I	W	K	L	I	P	N	S	L	K	T
S	Z	Q	M	W	Q	D	S	D	Q	M	F	A	D	A
N	I	A	K	S	B	I	U	W	A	K	F	K	I	K
A	N	S	L	I	D	E	I	S	S	L	U	E	W	S
M	G	W	J	C	D	L	L	A	W	J	M	D	S	W
W	W	X	I	D	S	N	O	W	X	I	R	B	U	X
O	C	C	U	F	D	D	P	C	C	U	A	D	D	C
N	V	D	O	M	G	G	N	I	D	D	E	L	S	D
S	B	E	P	I	C	C	R	E	T	N	I	W	C	E
F	S	L	I	P	P	E	R	Y	R	T	A	H	H	R

See how many of these words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

- | | | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Snow | 5. Shovel | 9. Slippery | 13. Scarf |
| 2. Snowman | 6. Cold | 10. Slide | 14. Hat |
| 3. Winter | 7. Freezing | 11. Sledding | 15. Earmuffs |
| 4. Weather | 8. Snowflake | 12. Skating | 16. Mittens |





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