

# Heavenly Notes March 2023



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

United Methodist Church



## Hartland UMC

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## Drawing a Blank? It's Not Too Late. We've Got You Covered!

Lent is a special time of reflection and faith, practiced in prayer and by the act of giving up something. That something depends on the person observing Lent, with the main guidelines being that it has to be something that's challenging to give up during this period. (In other words, giving up chores wouldn't fill the bill.)

### 10 Things To Give Up for Lent This Year

**1. Complaining** Philippians 2:14 says it clearly: "Do everything without complaining or arguing." And yet, for many of us, complaining is something we view as a basic right, rather than something to avoid. But Lent is the perfect opportunity to intentionally choose [gratitude](#) over grumbling!

**2. Sweet Treats** One of the most common things to give up for Lent is sugar! And not only will removing sweet treats from your diet help your health, but the sugar withdrawal will also be a good reminder that only God truly sustains us.

**3. Television** While cozying up in front of a new episode can be a great way to unwind, hanging out in front of the TV regularly can take up a lot more time than we might realize. Whether you quickly go through shows by watching multiple episodes throughout your week, or devour a season of TV all in one sitting, giving up the content you usually crave will allow you to stop the small screen binge and start really anticipating growth in your spiritual life instead.

**4. Gossiping** It's incredibly easy to talk about someone else and pick apart their life choices. Whether the subject is someone you know really well, an acquaintance, or a public figure, vocalizing doubts about their intentions, disagreements with a decision they've made, or plainly insulting something they've done can roll off the tongue effortlessly. Meanwhile, Ephesians 4:29 says, "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear." These 40 days have the potential to help tame and transform your tongue in a beautifully biblical way!

## Sunday Worship

Sanctuary 10:00 am

Live on Facebook 10:00 am

or

watch live or archived recordings any time on our website [hartlandumc.org](http://hartlandumc.org)

Coffee Hour 11:00 am

Zoom Meeting ID:

969 9365 4405

Password: 11111111

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# 10 Things To Give Up for Lent This Year (cont.)

**5 Coffee** If one of your goals during Lent is to rely on God more, going through the days [without a cup of joe](#) (or five) is an example of how you might [choose faith](#) over any other thing we tend to depend on—like flavored lattes!

**6. Soda** For those of us who reach for a fizzy soft drink before we even realize we're doing it, cutting out soda cans (or bottles) might be in our best interest. Every time you think about cracking one open, it will be a great reminder to pray instead!

**7. Worrying** While we wish it was possible to stop fears and concerns completely, choosing to go to God with our smaller day-to-day worries instead of spending time thinking through all of the "what ifs" is one Lenten idea that could help you live out your faith (which also relates to 1 Peter 5:7: "Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."). Struggling with deeper [anxiety](#)? This could be the right timing for pursuing therapy and [trusting Jesus](#), our "Wonderful Counselor" (Isaiah 9:6), with taking the first steps to positively address your mental health.

**8. Excuses to Not Work Out** Speaking of positively impacting your mental health [working out](#) helps change your body *and* your mindset! Give up all of the excuses you've been using for pushing off exercising regularly, and clear your head with some push-ups instead. Implementing a new physical habit can go hand in hand with working on beneficial spiritual habits as well!

**9 Social Media** The thing about spending too much time on social media is that it makes you feel like your re-catching up with friends, but you're actually not. Instead of messaging, commenting, and scrolling, rediscover the lost art of talking on the phone (or meet up in person if your schedule allows).

**10. Swearing Bleep!** It can be so tough to break a habit, but if you have been feeling the nudge to quit cursing, the transformative nature of Lent is the perfect time to pass on profanity and try to replace some of those go-to responses while giving yourself a lot of grace in the process.





- 7 Jim Cleveland
- 16 Sara Kenel
- 17 Beckie Wren
- 22 Frances Warthman
- 28 Bill Wyckoff



If we missed your special day,  
 we apologize.  
 Please let us know so we can  
 update our records.



- 7 Bruce & Janice Wright
- 17 Bob Ruby & Shyrl Cone

**Please contact the office  
 If you need a new year packet of weekly offering envelopes.**

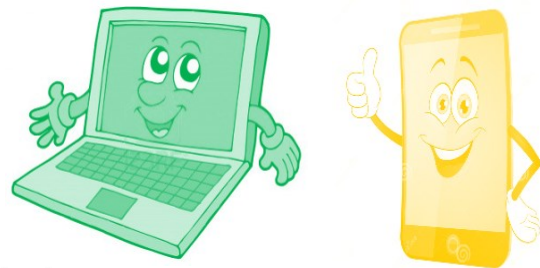
**Donate from your  
 Smart phone or tablet**

**Automate The Important  
 Electronic Giving Is Available**

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

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

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



**Don't have a scanner  
 code application?**



**Go to your App Store and  
 download a QR reader.**

**[www.hartlandumc.org](http://www.hartlandumc.org)**

**And click on the  
 "GIVE" button"**





## Regularly Scheduled Meetings in March 2023

(Chair / Leader will notify members is the meeting is canceled)

### March

Mon	6	7:00 pm	Trustees Meeting
Wed	8	12:00 pm	Worship Team Meeting
Thu	9	7:00 pm	Finance / Ad. Board Team Meeting (Zoom)

### Weekly Regularly Scheduled Meetings in March 2023

Sun	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am	Worship Coffee Hour The Chosen Bible Study
Mon	10:00 am	Knitter's Club
Tue	10:00 am	Quilting Prayers and Squares - Armstrong Hall
Wed	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Praise Team (except Wed after the 2d Sun) Alcoholics Anonymous
Thu	10:00 am	Alcoholics Anonymous
Sat	7:00 am 10:00 am	Alcoholics Anonymous Alcoholics Anonymous

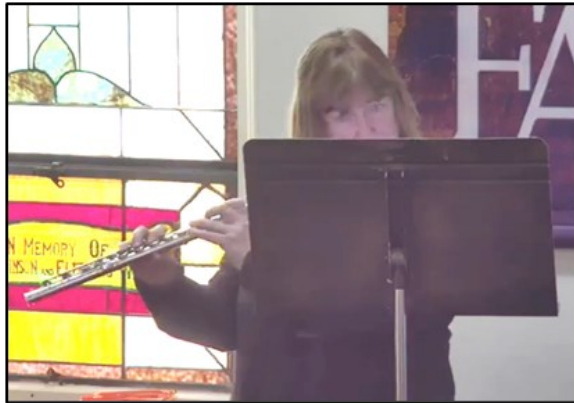
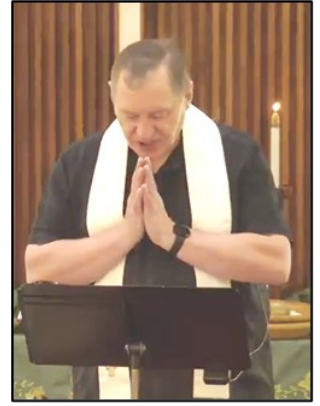
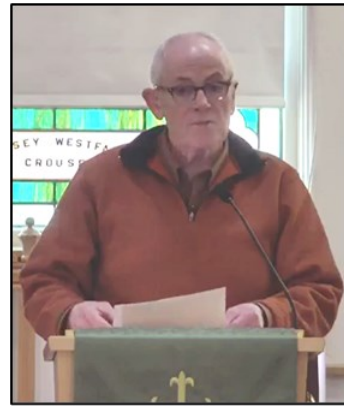
### Newsletter Information deadline is March 20, 2023

If you are not yet on the prayer team, and want to be, please let Pastor or the office know and we will add you the email prayer group list.

If you have a request that you would like the prayer group to pray for, you can email the pastor at [chuckawilla@gmail.com](mailto:chuckawilla@gmail.com) or at [pastor@hartlandumc.org](mailto:pastor@hartlandumc.org) or phone at 906 231 0138



## Recent Worship in Pictures



**Feb 5 - Top Row, L-R:** The picture tries to capture the high *aspirations* to love just as Jesus [who as he looked over the city (at least in his mind) and] “longed to gather the people of Jerusalem like a hen gathers her chicks under her wings”, and his heart was broken because they would not. Charles Kirkpatrick leads the morning’s readings, Pastor leads the Communion liturgy.

**Feb 12 - Row 2, L-R:** Donna Allmond and Kathy Novak give the pre-service, offering, and post service music and accompany the congregational singing, which is led by Mary Jo Bell, The readings are led by Sherrie Rice, and singing and **Row 3 - L:** Pastor Chuck talks about how the body of Christ, when all parts come together in cooperation to work together, can do much more than any parts can do on their own.

**Feb 19 (Transfiguration) - Row 3, L:** Jerry Weaver led the readings, **Bottom Row, L-R** Mary Jo Bell lead the congregational singing and sang a duet with Charles Kirkpatrick, and Pastor spoke on organizing our thoughts that we do know, while recognizing we don’t understand it all, and while we do, we do know enough that Christ can live



God was pleased to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery... which is *Christ in you*, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27 (WEB)





## Recent Worship in Pictures (cont)



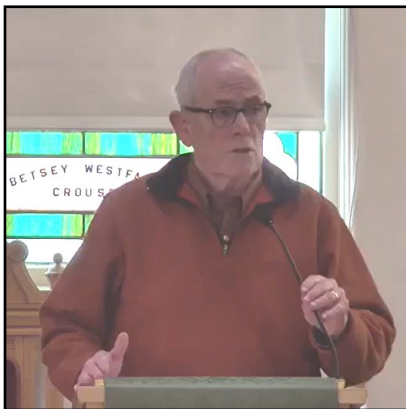
Hartland UMC Altar for Lent 2023 "Journey of Stones"

**Jan 22 -- Ash Wednesday** **Top Left** began the Lent Series and a new series called "Journey of Stones". The first stone asks, "What is our Cornerstone?" (the thing we lean on and guide our life). We looked at people who decided a gold calf would be their priority, but that Jesus is a much more reliable foundation upon which to build our lives.

**Jan 29 -- Lent 1** The banners were added, including the entryway and (**Top right**) a "tomb garden" was added to altar, **2nd row** The Seasonal Singers sang "God, How Can We Forgive" and led us in a prayer preparation song, O Lord, Your Tenderness. **Bottom row L-R** Mary Jo Bell led the congregational music, Sara Williams led the readings, and Pastor Chuck spoke on "the Judgment Stone: Looking Sin Square in the Heart", looking at the Bible story where the religious leaders tried to trap Jesus by judging and stoning a woman, but ended up dropping their stones and walking away. (**Next Page Top**) Pastor asks that we seek more accurate and deeper understanding and offer grace. Then the congregation, after meditating on some questions about our graciousness, dropped their judgment stones at the foot of the cross.



## Recent Worship in Pictures (cont)



**Feb 5 (Left) In an all church Town Meeting** - following worship, Charles Kirkpatrick explains the reasons why the Council feels it is time to attempt to sell the rental property adjacent to the church. A "Q & A" followed. The next step was to schedule a special church conference and vote whether or not to move forward.



**Feb 26 (Left) A Special Church Conference** was led by our Heritage District's Superintendent LuAnn Rourke. The members present unanimously voted to proceed with attempting to sell the rental house.

## Murder Mystery Dinner Theater (Feb 11)

One hundred thirty + attended the Spaghetti dinner in Hartland UMC's Armstrong Hall. The feedback was extremely positive about the both the food and the dramatic presentation of the comedy "Murder at a Banquet". Approximately 1,400 dollars was raised for local programs Meals on Wheels, Gleaners, and a Teen Program.

## The Chosen

The TV Series, The Chosen, is running now: We are meeting in the Hartland UMC Library approximately 20 minutes after the conclusion of worship (there is still time for a quick coffee hour in Armstrong Hall).

Drop in for any episode on any week. The series is based on and attempts to bring to life the people of the Bible surrounding Jesus' life. **Left** is a still shot from the Feb 26th showing of Season 1 - Episode 3 which highlighted Jesus' high opinion of children.

