

# HARTLAND

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



United Methodist Church

October 2024

Save The Date

November 2, 2024



Annual  
Turkey Dinner



Hartland  
United Methodist Church  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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## Sunday Worship

Sanctuary 10:00 a.m.  
Or  
Facebook Live 10:00 a.m.  
Or  
Watch anytime at  
[hartlandumc.org](http://hartlandumc.org)

## Zoom Meetings

Meeting ID: 969 9365 4405  
Password: 11111111  
Or connect by phone  
Call 1 312 626 6799

## THE PASTOR'S PEN Hartland UMC October 2024

God's People,

Now that I have been here for a few months, I wanted to share something with you, just in case you might be wondering why I use the same Pastoral Prayer week after week. As time moves on, you may find yourself knowing it by heart.

I do this because, as I was preparing my very first worship service, I was struggling to develop just the right Pastoral Prayer. I was stuck, sitting at my computer, yet nothing came to me, so I literally looked skyward and said, "Lord, I could use a little help here."

Almost as soon as those words left my lips, I heard, "You've got mail" from my computer. I remember thinking, "I don't have time for emails right now; I'm struggling with a prayer. But I felt the message come to me, "You *want* to read this email."

Although I was busy thinking of a prayer, I glanced at the monitor, to see incoming mail from a distant friend who rarely emails me. The subject line said, "A prayer for you." When I opened the e-mail, there was the prayer I was looking for in answer to a prayer. I have used it in every worship service since then, which is well over 350 times.

To me, it is on the same level as The Lord's Prayer, which we also read every week, to be a reminder to pray sincerely as we connect with the Lord. It hasn't failed me yet, and it reminds me, and now reminds you of the power of prayer.

In His Service,  
Pastor Terry



## Meetings for October 2024

(Leader will notify members if there is a change)

### Monthly Meetings and Special Events

Tues.	1	10:00 a.m.	Trustees, Conference Papers
Wed.	9	10:00 a.m.	Worship Team Meeting
Sun.	13	10:00 a.m.	Guest Pastor Nancy Spalding
Sun.	20	10:00 a.m.	Laity Sunday
Tues.	29	6:00 p.m.	S.P.R.C. Zoom Meeting

### Weekly Meetings

Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship / Coffee Hour
Tues.	12:00 p.m.	Knitters Club
Wed.	6:30 p.m.	Praise Band Practice (except after the 2nd Sun)
	7:30 p.m.	Alcoholic Anonymous
Thurs.	10:00 a.m.	Alcoholic Anonymous
Sat.	7:00 a.m.	Alcoholic Anonymous
	10:00 a.m.	Alcoholic Anonymous

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Communion, Praise Band

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday God Moment Testimonies

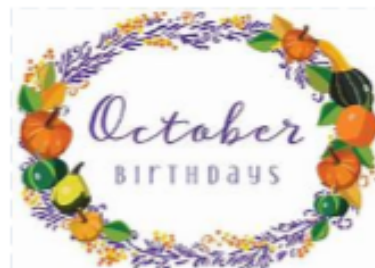
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Praise Band

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Seasonal Singers (Choir) ?

### Prayer Chain Requests

Please send to Karen Nowak  
810-632-7476 or via email at  
secretary@hartlandumc.org

Newsletter Information deadline is October 25, 2024



1 Pastor Chuck Williams  
10 Sylvia Schultz  
14 Laura Walker  
19 Sue LaRoy  
21 Marty Hansen  
22 Pastor Terry Melton  
30 Mike Kenel  
31 Mary Jo Bell



10 Michael & Terri Preiss  
15 Mike Sharlow & Kathy Novak  
20 Jim & Mary Jo Malott

We are sorry if  
we missed your day.  
Please let us know so we can  
update our records.



## Please Join Us

Hartland United Methodist Church  
Annual Turkey Dinner

November 2, 2024

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Adults : 12 years +

\$15.00

Kids: 5-11 years

\$10.00

Under 5 years Free





## Episode 2 "The Long Fall"

I didn't know what to do. I only knew what I couldn't do. Even though she was my mortal enemy, I couldn't leave her.

I was thinking, "Oh, man. Why do I have to be 11? Mom and Dad won't let me have a cell phone until I am 12. Now, I can give them a reason to get me one." But then I focused on the task at hand. What could I do?

A moment ago, I prayed for God to do something, to make something happen, and that prayer was answered, so I prayed again.

I knew it had to be a quick prayer, as I had to act quickly. I asked God for strength and guidance, then climbed down on the wooden beams to get to her.

I called out her name. "Frankie. Are you OK?" She answered, "Go away. Get out of here. Let me be." I tried to reason with her, but she went on, "I'll take you with me. Go on. Beat it."

I asked, "What do you mean, take me with you?" Then things got serious, as if they weren't already. "Are you stupid? Why do you think I was on the bridge?" I answered, "To get me. I'm not stupid."

Frankie answered, "You're more stupider than I thought. The reason I was up there didn't have nothing to do with you. If you must know, I was going to kill myself, and then YOU came by and spoiled it.

I hate you. Loser. Do you think I slipped and fell? I jumped, stupid. I can't even kill myself right. Go away. Leave me alone."

All I could muster up in a response was, "Oh," as I watched her twirling helplessly by the sleeve of her jacket.

Then I moved to try to get closer to her, but she thought I was leaving. She called out, "Don't go. Don't leave me."

I didn't say anything. I climbed over to where her feet were dangling, and pulled them to a point where she could get her footing and pull herself to safety.

Exhausted, she sat on a beam. I sat next to her, not knowing what to expect.

She started to cry. I mean really cry. Then, without saying a word, she hugged me. I started to cry a little myself.

After what seemed like an eternity, I asked her, "Do you want to talk about it?"

She shrugged her shoulders, "What's there to talk about? Life sucks. My teachers hate me. My parents hate me. I even hate me."

"Do your parents love you?" she asked.

"Well, they tell me that they do, so I guess so."

"Well, mine don't. They told me yesterday that they wish I had never been born."

"That must be awful. I thought I had it bad, but for your own parents to say that, is just awful."

She began to confide in me. "I can see why. Look at me. I'm huge. I'm fat. I'm ugly. I'm built like a boy. I look like a linebacker. When I walk into the room, my dad says, 'Here comes Boom Boom.'"

I chuckled, and said, "Do you like football?"

She answered, "Well, yes I do. But girls aren't supposed to like boy stuff, ya know?"

"Oh, ya. Says who?"

Then she said something surprising. "By the way, thanks for saving me."

So, trying to be cavalier I answered, "No problem. Say, If I fell in the river trying to save you, would you have tried to save me?"

"I dunno." She smiled. "I guess if I was going to kill myself anyway, I could have at least looked like a hero trying to save dumb old you."

I asked, "Do you really hate yourself that much?"

She answered, "Everyone else does, so I might as well too. You must hate me too, for all the mean things I've done to you."

I said, "I used to. A lot. But not so much right now."

Then, I opened up and told her, "You know, when you threw my book in the river, I prayed to God that you would die."

She sighed, "I don't believe in God. Besides, what has God ever done for me?" Then I said, "And then, I took it back. I forgive you."

She didn't answer. She just looked at me with a facial expression that I couldn't quite describe. And there we sat, on a beam beneath the tracks on a trestle, over a raging river.

After a while, I asked her, "Do you still want to kill yourself?" She laughed, "Not anymore." She said, "I want to see how this story turns out."

So, I said to her, "This story shall be continued, but not today." The rest of the story is in your hands, and will be continued based on your answers to this question...

What should Chris do?

Be sure to join us for the next episode, same time, same church, when the story continues based on what you have just told me Chris should do. Until then, let us pray.

Oh, Dear God,

As we continue to hear and participate in "The Chris Story," give us the ability to empathize with, not only the characters in the story, but also with the people that we encounter in our daily lives.

Give us the strength and courage to help others who have fallen from grace, and the capacity to reach out for help when we need it.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## On Line Giving

We appreciate your financial support that allows us to continue serving each other and our community. There are several ways to give:

- \* through pew side offerings during Sunday worship.
- \* by bringing or mailing your gift to the church office.
- \* through your online banking service.
- \* or through your computer or smart phone:

### Computer

Go to [hartlandumc.org](http://hartlandumc.org)  
Click "Give" on blue banner.

### Smart phone

Scan the QR Code below  
(you can get a reader from  
the app store on your phone)

Click on the box of your preferred option of where you'd like your gift to be directed and fill out the form.

Online banking, computer and phone giving  
lets you set up recurring contributions.



Please contact the office if you need help, or  
if you'd like a packet of weekly offering envelopes.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



## Hartland United Methodist Church

10300 Maple Road Hartland, MI 48353

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Phone: 810-632-7476

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734-395-3432

[pastor@hartlandumc.org](mailto:pastor@hartlandumc.org)

Secretary Karen Nowak

[secretary@hartlandumc.org](mailto:secretary@hartlandumc.org)

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