



Hebron United Methodist Church
9811 Main Street, P.O. Box 323, Hebron, IL 60034

Catch the Spirit!

www.hebronmethodist.org

JUNE 2020

Pastor's Page

As I thought about what to say in this, my final pastor's column as your pastor, I was reminded of some words from a song by Billy Joel which say, "Life is a series of 'Hellos' and 'Good-byes' and I am afraid this is another Good-bye." Such is the life of congregations and pastors. We are together for a time, and share significant life moments of joy and pain, walk together seeking to be faithful disciples, rejoicing in victories and sharing tears in sorrow and then it is time to say, "Good-bye." We are left with memories and I think memories are a gift God in Christ gives us to make the "Good-byes" tolerable.

When we said "Hello" that July Sunday nearly six years ago, we began a journey together as congregation and pastor. On the way home after that first worship service together, Mary Beth said, "Dad, the Hebron people are very nice people." Our years together has confirmed Mary Beth's initial assessment. You are "nice people" and even more importantly you are faithful people, a kind and generous people, a committed and truthful people, a loving and caring people. I deeply appreciate the kindness you have shown me and my family during our time together.

*****In-person worship remains suspended until further notice. Our online worship services are available at www.hebronmethodist.org*****

ONLINE ACCESS

Do you know someone over 60 who would like to see our online worship service but doesn't have access? Contact Sharon Smith about a free tablet, free internet and a free tutorial. (815) 701-6627.

Building Committee Update

There is nothing new to report this month. We are still waiting for the contractor to begin the work. Steve has been in conversation with him and indications are that he will begin work on our project soon.

Pastor's Page (continued)

I am particularly thankful for the ministries we were able to develop despite facing some significant obstacles. When our sanctuary was deemed unsafe, your commitment and creativity transformed the fellowship hall into an intimate worship space. The building concerns occupied much of our attention. Yet I believe your faithfulness and persistence allowed us to carry on many of our ministries in creative ways. Your welcoming love allowed us to add to our worship participants in ways that were surprising.

I would also want commend you for the integrity and commitment to be the body of Christ in our stand with regard to welcoming those in the gay community in opposition to the actions of the 2016 General Conference. While I regret the decision by some to leave our congregation, I was and continue to be proud to be your pastor in this moment of our history. I will carry with me the memories of the times of our laughter together, our tears together, even our disagreements, but most of all, of a people committed to Christ Jesus and the sharing of the Good News of His love.

Let me leave with my prayers for your continued faithfulness. I am sure that under the guidance of Pastor Char, HUMC will continue to be witnesses in this community and beyond to the Good News and the hope, joy, peace, and justice it announces for all humankind. In closing, let me return to Billy Joel and say "No, I am not afraid this is another 'Good Bye,'" rather it is a fond farewell to all of you. May God in Christ continue to bless you and free you to grow in your faithfulness as disciples of Christ Jesus.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jim



The Hebron United Methodist Church is committed to our vision: ***We will be God's inclusive love.*** We believe that

God's inclusive love doesn't have separate rules for certain people. We are committed to our Mission: *Creating pathways to serve and love God's people.* We believe in creating pathways that bring all people closer to God and closer to each other in love. We do not create pathways that judge, harm and penalize. We at the Hebron United Methodist Church **fiercely love our LGBTQ members.** We stand by our LGBTQ members **present and future**, and we will not support any actions that will cause them harm.



Please continue to make your church offering. We are looking into online payment options but for now, please make your generous giving via mail to: Hebron United Methodist Church, P.O. 323, Hebron, IL 60034 Attn: Kathy



A special thank you for a job well done goes out to Sharon Smith for writing a resolution (unanimously endorsed and approved by our Church Council) which secured for our church a loan/grant payment of \$4,165.00 from the Federal Government's Paycheck Protection Program offered to non-profit organizations due to The Coronavirus Pandemic. The money will be used exclusively for pastoral salaries, paid personnel, and utility expenses. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a reality and again thank you Sharon. Without you this never would have happened.

-Steve Johnson, Church Council Chair

N.O.W. - Nurture

This has been a difficult time not only for our church but also our friends and family. Not being able to gather together as a congregation has been heartbreaking. The good news is that we have phones for which we can call one another, we have computers and smart phones through which we can communicate, we have the ability to write notes to one another, and we have the ability to wave, smile and say kind words to everyone we meet. Even though we still need to wear masks our smiles come through in our eyes. The best blessing to stay connected has been and is our on-line service each week. God bless each and every one who has participated and will be participating in these meaningful services. Job well done!!! At the end of our service there is a notice asking for monetary donations to the Hebron Community Food Pantry, for which they deeply thank you. If you wish to make a donation of food, cleaning supplies, paper products, etc., feel free to either drop the items off at the church (if you have a key or know someone who does) or drop the items off at my house (10100-A Church St.) and I will make sure the items get to the Food Pantry. During this time, when there are more families in need of this service, any and all donations are welcome. We are all looking forward to the day when we can be together again. The words of the song "Think About His Love" by Walt Harrah come to mind, "Think about His love, think about His goodness, think about His grace that brought us through."

"May his blessings and peace be yours." Ephesians 1:2

Shirlee and Alberta
Co-Chairs of Nurture



N.O.W. - Witness

Thank you to everyone who has so willingly participated in our online worship services through their music, call to worship, prose & poetry, witness, clever costuming, photographs, artwork, and stories! While not in a building, our church actively continues her worship and ministry. I'm pleased to announce that we raised over \$800 for the Hebron Food Pantry during our special Mother's Day virtual offering through the month of May. Thank you for your generous donations! The Witness Team is now working to add a Fellowship Cafe time on certain Sundays where our church family can connect face to face online through Zoom. We are also planning to use this online tool to have a real-time farewell to our Pastor at the end of this month. Please stay tuned to our online worship services for more information on this, and if you haven't been on Zoom yet, we encourage you to go to www.zoom.us to get familiar with the Zoom meeting program and contact the Witness Team with any questions prior to our first Zoom.

Stephanie Claussen & Dave Dickey, Witness Co-Chairs

N.O.W. - Outreach



After reviewing our options for virtual VBS, we have come to the decision that our program "Mars & Beyond" would exclude so many great activities and experiences if done online. We have chosen to save this program to enjoy it more fully when we can offer in-person VBS. We will be posting photos and video of previous VBS fun: <https://www.facebook.com/AldenHebronVBS/>

Kate Johnson & Wendy Schaid,
Outreach Co-Chairs

Introducing Pastor Char - Welcome to HUMC!

We look forward to our first worship service with you on July 19th!

Read below to learn a little about our new pastor.



While I officially began ordained ministry in June 1996, I have been serving God and the church for far longer than that. My call to ordained ministry happened when I was in my teens. I chose to ignore it and focus on being a wife and mom as well as a professional volunteer, working in the grade schools and in a hospice program. Glenn and I have been married over 50 years. We have 2 children. Both of them are married and each of them has 2 children. Our daughter Jennifer and her husband Dave and our 2 oldest grandchildren live in Wisconsin. Our son Ken and his wife Julie and our 2 youngest grandchildren live in Lombard, Illinois.

As a lay person, I participated in youth group, prayer group and Bible study. I was Church School Superintendent, UMW President, office staff, led Mostly Men (a men's small group), and served on the Elgin District Education Committee among other things. I started serving as the Chair of the Plenary Ushers at Annual Conference and was on the Local Arrangements Committee for Jurisdictional Conference in 1988. Despite my fulfilling and effective ministry as a lay person, God continued to nudge me until I finally answered the call to be ordained.

I received my M.Div. from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in 1996 and was ordained Deacon a couple days later. I was ordained Elder in 1998. My first appointment was to Emmanuel UMC in Polo, IL (DeKalb District). I moved from the cornfields to the city for my second appointment to First UMC in Evergreen Park (Chicago Southern District). My third appointment found me back in the burbs at River Forest UMC (Chicago Northwestern District).



I currently serve the United Methodist Church of Antioch, but will retire June 30, 2020. I continue to Chair the Plenary Ushers and am currently the Chair of the Elgin District Committee on Ordained Ministry. At various times I served as the Chair of the Chicago Southern District Council on Ministries, Chair of the Nurture Team of the NIC Program Council, and was Co-Community Spiritual Director for the Walk to Emmaus, and Weekend Spiritual Director on Chrysalis Flights, among other things. I am a mentor for candidates seeking ordination. I am currently the Clergy Advisor to the Northcentral Jurisdiction Men's Ministry group.

In the community, I served as the Treasurer for the Class of 1971 30th reunion, Treasurer for the River Forest Service Club, a mentor for Elmhurst College, and various groups in Villa Park. Glenn and I bought our retirement home in Ringwood, IL. We enjoy vacationing. Together we've traveled to all sorts of places in the world. We've taken the grandkids all over the country. We also enjoy bicycling and walking. During my spare time, I completed my D. Min. in Preaching in 2013. Faith and family are of utmost importance for us. Those seated at the Hoffmann table come in all shapes, sizes, colors, ethnic, religious, and racial backgrounds, and physical abilities. For some of us, English was not our first language. Openness and celebration of diversity are part of our core values.

Grandson Alex, me, Glenn Son Ken, Daughter Jen, Son-in-law Dave, nephew David, sister Paula, brother Chuck; Grandson Matthew, granddaughter Laila, Peyton (Neshia and David's daughter); Julie (Ken's wife) Neshia (David's fiancée) Veronika (Chuck's wife); Stew & Cyndie (Glenn's sister and husband); My oldest granddaughter Syd was away at school - Montana State U. I have 2 other sisters, and several nieces and nephews.



In our thoughts and prayers...

Luella Tibbitts

Nora Winn

Kate Johnson's grandpa & grandma are recovering from Covid-19. Their names are Barb and Ed Goodwin.

Dave Moore & Luke Moore

Anita Landry & her son-in-law, Emil, who has a very serious lung problem. He is on oxygen 24/7.

Ron Petty is asking for prayers. He fractured his fibula.

Our former Pastor Paul and Lynn

Our new Pastor Char's husband, Glenn, was in the hospital for cellulitis (no virus) but is home now.

Jeanne Johnson

LaVerne Schmarje

Dorothy Peterson's family

Betty Garrett's family

Roy Bailey and his family

Pastor's friend Omar Logan and Pastor's family

Arlyne Mummer

Denise Staten

We pray for everyone who has the coronavirus to recover and we pray for the friends and families who have died from this virus and for wisdom and faith that it will go away forever!

We pray for our church, our village of Hebron, our leaders, local, state & national. We pray for our church leaders in Hebron, our Elgin District Sup't., our Bishop and the entire UMC.

We pray for our police, fire & rescue men & women, please keep them safe while they are protecting us!

We pray for all doctors & nurses & medical personal who are serving faithfully through this pandemic.

We pray for the victims of shooting violence everywhere and for the victims of weather disasters — flooding, earthquakes!

We pray for family & friends of George Floyd in Minneapolis who died 5/25 while handcuffed in police custody. Violent protests, rioting, & looting have broken out across St. Paul & Minneapolis. Lord, in your mercy, help them!

We pray for family & friends of victims of the Pakistan Airplane that crashed 5/22.

During a mental health crisis, anyone can call the 24-hour National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

We pray for all the names in our hearts that they will keep safe from all harm. God bless us all. Amen.



Looking for the Calendar Page?

All events and church activities have been postponed so our calendar has been cleared!

Check our website www.hebronmethodist.org for the latest updates and for our weekly online worship service.

Happy Birthday!

June Haines 6/20

Happy Anniversary!

Stephanie & Bob
Claussen 6/26

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON-LINE!

www.hebronmethodist.org and find us on 

Plan for Worship

June 7

Genesis 1:1-2; 4a; Matthew 28:16-20 - "From Whence?"

June 14

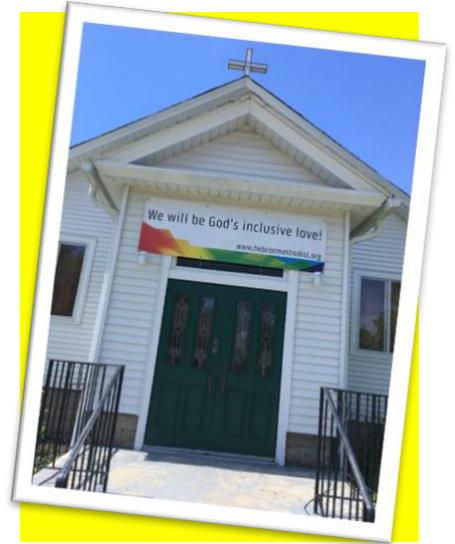
Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 9:35-10:8 - "The Last Laugh"

June 21 (Father's Day)

Genesis 21:8-21; Matthew 10:24-39 - "The Other Son"

June 28

Genesis 22:1-14; Matthew 10:40-42 - "The One Who Provides"



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

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