



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

Catch the Spirit!

www.hebronmethodist.org

SEPTEMBER 2020

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

The Pastor Ponders...

...When in your life was it important to know that someone was praying for you?

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. Ephesians 1: 15 -16

A friend of mine on Facebook asked that question and then published some of the top answers: 1) Every day. 2) When I'm making tough decisions. 3) When facing a health crisis or long illness. 4) When I lost my job. 5) When I couldn't pray for myself. My guess is that most of us resonate with some or all of these answers. And my guess is also that we could add at least 5 more occasions when we have truly appreciated the fact that others are praying for us.

Jean Bush, held several leadership positions in the NIC over the years. She retired in 2010 and is not always able to attend Annual Conference from year to

Building Committee Update

There are currently no updates to report on the building project. We are waiting to receive materials to complete the roof which we expect to receive and install this month.

Mark Your Calendar

- The Church Council will meet (wearing masks) at the church on Sunday, September 20th at 9:00 a.m.
- We are putting together a virtual choir! Contact Dave or Stephanie if you are interested in participating!



The Pastor Ponders (continued)

year. However, beginning in 2011, and every year since that time (with the exception of this year), Jean has blessed me with a letter or an e-mail or a phone call saying that she will miss me at Annual Conference, affirming the gifts I have and the work I will be doing at Conference, and telling me that she will be keeping me in prayer throughout the event. My heart is always warmed.

When I know others are praying for me, my burdens are lightened, especially when I'm in a crisis situation. These are often times when I can't pray, or at least pray in a way that I think is effective. Now, I know that God hears my prayers, understands them, perfects them, and acts on them whether I am eloquent or not. There is just an extra touch of comfort when I know that someone else is interceding on my behalf. I feel more like I'm not in the situation alone.

It is always an extra special blessing when someone tells me that they are praying for me "out of the blue." Sometimes it feels good because I am dealing with something that I may not have told others about and it gives me the "boost" I need, kind of like an affirmation from the Holy Spirit. Sometimes it's just because it feels good to know that someone is thinking about me and caring for me "just because...."

Why not take a few moments to RAP (Random Acts of Praying) right now for a friend, a relative, someone God brings to your heart. And, if God puts it in your mind, maybe write them a note. I'm sure both of you will be especially blessed.

~ Pastor Char



N.O.W. - Nurture

During these times of separation, it is important to remain in contact with one another. It has been difficult to not be able to attend church together, see each other face to face nor be able to shake hands or hug one another. That's why it's important to reach out to one another either through a phone call, an e-mail or a note or card. Our Directory hasn't been updated in quite some time so in the near future we will be sending out an information sheet so we can start working on an updated one.

With the passing of Kathy, Nurture will now be distributing The Upper Room. If you didn't get one for Sept/Oct please let me (Shirlee, 815-648-5009 or offqueen@aol.com) know so I can get one to you - OR, if you received one and wish not to in the future please let me know. For anyone not familiar with The Upper Room it's a publication, printed every two months, with a daily inspirational story, supporting Bible passage, thought for the day and prayer focus. May all of us during these trying times remain true to God and true to ourselves.

Make the most of your chances to tell others the Good News. Be wise in all your contacts with them. Colossians 4:5

Shirlee and Alberta
Nurture Co-Chairs



N.O.W. - Witness

Effective Witness Begins with Knowing Yourself!

What's your faith story? It's an important question. In our baptismal covenant when we become members of the United Methodist church we are asked this crucial question: *"As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?"* Witness??? That's in there??? I mean it's the last thing on the list. Can't be all that important...can it?

The fact is that it's vitally important. It's not too far-fetched to say that hundreds, if not thousands, of U.S. UM churches have closed their doors due to witness failure. It is a significant problem. One way to proclaim the Good News of Christ (and many believe the best way) is by telling our own story in our own words, but that can be intimidating. Most of us would rather share stories about our favorite restaurant, movie, book, sports team, or travel destination ... well anything other than our faith. We'd rather leave it up to the pastor. Maybe the church lay leader. Perhaps the witness team.

But here's the truth. Growing, vibrant congregations have a bunch of people who tell their stories. How they became a Christian. Why they attend their church. How has Christ worked in their lives. In what ways have they been blessed by God. *(continued on next page)*

N.O.W. - Outreach/HUMC Kids

We have wrapped up our Sunday School Mission project for the 2019-2020 year. Our mission focus was Building Safe and Supportive Spaces and the organization we chose to raise money for was [The Night Ministry](#). The Night Ministry has been around for decades and while it does a variety of things to address displaced people, it has a special focus on Youth with unstable or no housing. For many years they have operated out of a church in Chicago, but just this spring they were able to move into a brand new facility. I am proud to announce that we were able to give \$518.00 for The Night Ministry. The kids and I want to thank everyone who donated and contributed to this mission! We are grateful for the opportunity to teach children about different social issues and ways they can get involved!

Kate Johnson, Outreach co-chair & Sunday School Teacher

HUMC KIDS - Sunday School

We are still in planning mode for Rally Day for our 2020-2021 Sunday School year. We know that many things continue to be uncertain, and we are planning for both virtual and in-person elements for our celebration. Stay tuned to our online worship services for more information and updates!

Kate Johnson & Stephanie Claussen, Sunday School Teachers



N.O.W. - Witness (continued)

The exciting thing is that everybody's faith story is different and unique and it's constantly being written. Now you might be thinking *my story*???? I don't have one....I can't really say. But you do. Lots of Christians haven't really looked at their faith journey. They may not even see a journey: "I've been in church since I was born." But you do have a journey. Over the next month your witness team is inviting you to begin to reflect on your unique story. To help you we suggest you do a little drawing:

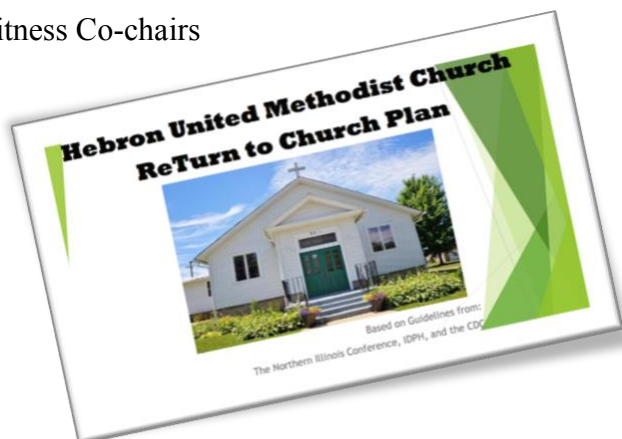
On a piece of paper draw a timeline from birth to present with decades indicated.

On the top of the timeline mark your life milestones, both positive and negative. Things like graduations, marriage, the birth of children, relocations and career changes, deaths, and divorces. On the bottom of the timeline mark milestones in your relationship with God and Christ. Things like baptism and confirmation. But also inward moments when you felt God very present or absent. Times of grace and times of doubt.

Take some time to reflect on your unique timeline. What do you notice. Are there patterns? Are there surprises? What do you think your timeline shows you about God and your faith journey? Hold on to your timeline. We'll explore it some more in future newsletters. Happy story discovery!

David and Stephanie,

Witness Co-chairs



Happy Birthday!

Steve Johnson 9/10

Evie Johnson 9/16

Happy Anniversary!

Harold & Juanita Bailey 9/16

Grant & Kate Johnson 9/8



HEALTH TEAM

Just a reminder that the Church Council will be reviewing a final draft of the HUMC ReTurn to Church Plan at the end of September. The Health team welcomes your thoughts and feedback! The presentation is available on our website here:

<http://hebronmethodist.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/ReTurn-to-Church-plan.pdf>

Any questions/comments, please contact Dave at dadickey1@gmail.com or Kate at 815-529-8043/ Katherine.eileen.johnson@gmail.com.

The Health Team

(Kate Johnson, Dave Dickey, Kris Bottlemy, and Pastor Char)

Dear Lord, please hear our prayer for the following...

The Elverman family on the passing of Bill's grandfather

Shirlee Correll's mother-in-law, Donna, hospitalized with respiratory problems

Alberta Austin who still has problems with her hip

Kris Bottlemy's aunt, Lorraine Davis, who needs healing of a leg wound

Richard Tibbitts who is in the Geneva Manor Rehab facility

Nora Winn who is in the Fair Oaks Nursing facility

Luke Moore

Anita Landry & her son-in-law, Emil. Because of lung problems he is on oxygen 24/7

Our former Pastor Jim and Char

Our former Pastor Paul and Lynn

Jeanne and Marlo Johnson

LaVerne Schmarje

Dorothy Peterson's family

Betty Garrett's family

Arlyne Mummer



With the unrest we're experiencing we pray for protection and safety for all those who defend and protect us.

We pray for the victims and families of all who have been affected by and from violence. We also pray for the return of goodwill among all people

We pray for all those affected by COVID-19 and their families; and we pray for the safety of all medical staff and personnel during the care of all patients.

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

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

If you wish to have someone added to our Prayer List please contact Shirlee on our Nurture Team at (815) 648-5009 or at offcqueen@aol.com.

During a mental health crisis, anyone can call the 24-hour National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. Veterans crisis line is 800-273-7255.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ONLINE!

www.hebronmethodist.org and find us on 

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.

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: Dawn



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

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