



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

# Catch the Spirit!

[www.hebronmethodist.org](http://www.hebronmethodist.org)

FEBRUARY 2021

## The Pastor Ponders...

### What Shall We Do About Ash Wednesday?

*Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.*  
Joel 2: 12 - 13

These are the familiar words that we hear every Ash Wednesday as we gather for worship at the beginning of the Lenten season. Oftentimes, they are followed by other scriptures, prayers of confession, hymns about Christ's love, forgiveness, and sacrifice for our sin, and the imposition of ashes on our foreheads as a mark of our sin and repentance. For many of us, this tradition holds much meaning for us as we seek to live out our lives in love and service to God and our neighbors.

However, this year is not like years past. It is probably not a good idea to gather indoors as a church family for worship on Ash Wednesday. Oftentimes, the ashes which were placed on our foreheads were made from the leftover palm branches that adorned our sanctuaries and were part of a wonderful



### \*\*\*Mark your Calendar\*\*\*

#### IN-PERSON COMMUNION THIS MONTH

We will have an in-person Holy Communion Service at the church on February 7th at 10:30 a.m. Please review our [social distancing guidelines](#) on our website if you plan to attend.

#### INFORMATIONAL MEETING - February 9th

You are invited to join an informational meeting and open discussion regarding various designation options for the recent large donation received by our church. This meeting is to give our church family the opportunity to share thoughts and ideas with the HUMC Church Council for financial planning, mission work, building improvement, outreach, etc. This meeting will take place in-person at the church and through Zoom on Tuesday, February 9th at 7:00 p.m.

#### ASH WEDNESDAY - February 17th

An online worship service for Ash Wednesday will be available.

#### NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

February 21st at 9:00 a.m.

### ***The Pastor Ponders (continued)***

celebration on Palm Sunday of the previous year – only we did not celebrate Palm Sunday in our worship space last year due to COVID restrictions. In addition, we are discouraged from touching each other or even pronouncing the typical words: *From dust you are to dust you shall return. Repent and believe in the gospel* anywhere closer than 6-10 feet from each other which sort of takes away the solemn intimacy of this ritual. It is one more thing to grieve.

There were times when God’s people had forgotten God and all that God had asked of them. For many of them, the consequence was to be separated from the land that God had promised them, separated from the ability to worship at the Temple, separated from loved ones, separated from familiar cultural practices and life as they knew it. Yet in the midst of this separation, the word of the Lord came to them, a word of hope for the future, a promise that this was not the end, that relationships, and land, and a place to worship, and prosperity and good health would be restored. Until that time, folks were to wait with expectation and with an intentional search for God – scripture, prayer, fasting, worship, acts of kindness and service. This year kind of makes us identify with our biblical ancestors a little more closely, doesn’t it?

Hope is being given to us in the form of COVID numbers in our area dropping and a vaccine becoming available. There will come a time when we can gather safely again. The ability to draw closer to God in an intentional way remains a possibility. The Bible, worship, prayer, and fasting are easily accessible to us as are ways we can treat each other more kindly or serve each other more faithfully. There will be some sort of Ash Wednesday worship service on-line, and there may even be some other suggestions for how you and your family and friends can participate in some meaningful rituals. Stay tuned. Watch the website.

In the meantime, I invite you to observe a holy Lent in preparation for a grand and glorious Easter!

Blessings, Pastor Char



## **BUILDING UPDATE**

The work inside our church sanctuary continues. All the electrical wiring modifications are now complete which will allow us to add 11 new ceiling lights to blend with the 6 existing pendant lights that have been in use for over 60 years. Also 14 electrical outlets were added to accommodate the new audiovisual sound system with its speakers and cameras, and to allow for special lighting on each one of the eight stained glass windows and on the altar if desired. With the wiring in place we can now insulate the sanctuary. Our contractor, Astro Insulation are scheduled to complete the job the first week in February. What's next on our agenda for February? Drywalling and floor refinishing!





## HEALTH TEAM UPDATE

While we all are experiencing hope in this new year, and anxious to pray and worship together, it is more important than ever that we continue safe practices as we work to vaccinate our county. Fight the good fight! Show your love for each other by wearing a mask and social distancing!

We do plan to offer a communion service February 7, as the County moves out of Tier 3 mitigations. Please follow all church and county guidelines when attending in-person worship. Masks and social distancing are required!

### Vaccine update:

**McHenry County:** Gov. Pritzker announced that the state moved into Phase 1B of vaccinations starting January 25<sup>th</sup>. All adults 65 and older qualify for this phase of vaccination! You can enroll for a vaccine if you qualify in Phase 1B. Please enroll here <https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=W9ENTNFW9E9> and you will receive an additional email when it is time to make an appointment. The county is also planning to launch a phone line for older adults to call to receive a vaccination appointment.

*We will continue to share this and other information via email, phone calls, and social media as we learn more.*

We encourage everyone to receive the vaccination as quickly as possible. While there has been some discussion/planning for a vaccine clinic in Hebron, it is likely that you will also be contacted by your primary care provider. Please take the earliest vaccine opportunity offered to you!

For more information, please visit the MCDH website at: <https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-a-i/health-department/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/vaccine>

**Walworth county** has begun vaccinating Phase 1B, including adults 65 and older. If you have a health provider, it is likely that you will be able to get your vaccine with them. The county is also accepting vaccine registration for those 65 and older. You can register with the county here: <https://www.co.walworth.wi.us/FormCenter/Public-Health-Division-4/COVID19-Vaccine-Inquiry-Phase-1a-63> For more information, please visit their website at <https://www.co.walworth.wi.us/896/COVID-19-Vaccine-Information> or call the county at 262-741-3200 to receive help registering.



### N.O.W. TEAM

We would like to say thank you to everyone who participated in our online worship services during Advent! A special thank you to our HUMC Kids for their hard work and creativity for our online Christmas Program! One last big thank you to everyone who donated to the Hebron Food Pantry, the Red Bird Mission, and the A-H Secret Santa Program this holiday season. We received \$350 for the Hebron Food Pantry, \$235 for the Red Bird Mission and provided several gifts to children in our community. The Nurture, Outreach and Witness Teams are working on more opportunities in the future for participation and opportunities for giving. Stay tuned!

## Apportionments Update

A vote was taken at the Church Council meeting on January 3rd to address our action to withhold apportionments due for the 2020 year. In view of the preliminary efforts Northern Illinois Conference has taken to move toward a more inclusive church, our Church Council voted to resume apportionment payments. Apportionments from our church will be sent in with notification that we would like apportionments to be kept within the Northern Illinois Conference as they support continued efforts to move the General Conference to full inclusion of our LGBTQ+ family.

## HUMC KIDS

Here at HUMC, we continue to “Dig-In” to God’s message of love using our new curriculum—specially designed for remote learners! This month, we are exploring the idea that “We need God!”

We learned about the story of Gideon and his army, and how God can make us stronger to face difficulties and challenges in our lives. Then we learned that we need God’s guidance, just like David asked for and listened to God’s guidance when he battled the Philistines.

We will continue to offer Sunday School every other week (February 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>) as we enter the season of Lent. Interested in joining us? Just click on the link in the “Ready for Church?” emails. For more information or assistance, email [churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org](mailto:churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org) or call Kate at 815-529-8043.



## Happy Birthday!

- Nora Winn 1/8
- Alice Johnson 1/16
- Wendy Schaid 1/26
- Lucas Moore 1/28
- Nick Moore 1/28
- Brooke Maule 2/3
- Charlene Wilson 2/10
- Roy Bailey 2/10
- Betty Garrett 2/14
- Shannon Moore 2/17
- Tallulah Johnson 2/23

## Happy Anniversary!

- Nick & Shannon Moore 1/18
- Natalie & Bill Elverman 1/22
- Dr Dan & Denise Staton 2/14



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

Alice Johnson, Dawn Nelson and their families on the passing of Alice's sister, June Haines

Jeanne and Marlo Johnson as Jeanne is undergoing chemo

Debbie Arnold's dad, Dick Border, experiencing health problems

Dawn Nelson's nephew, Donnie, diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma and undergoing chemo

Dave Dickey experiencing health problems

Alberta Austin who is starting therapy for her arm

Pastor Char & Glenn's daughter-in-law, Julie, as she deals with effects MS

Jack Proesel at Burr Oak Manor

Nora Winn at the Fair Oaks Nursing facility

Luke Moore

Anita Landry, her son-in-law, Emil, on oxygen 24/7, & her daughter, Cora, as she takes care of both

Our former Pastor Jim and Char

Our former Pastor Paul and Lynn

Dorothy Peterson's family

Betty Garrett's family

Arlyne Mummer

We pray for all who have suffered as the result of natural disasters.

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 pray for the return of goodwill and unity 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 the names in our hearts that they will be kept safe from 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 [offqueen@aol.com](mailto:offqueen@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.

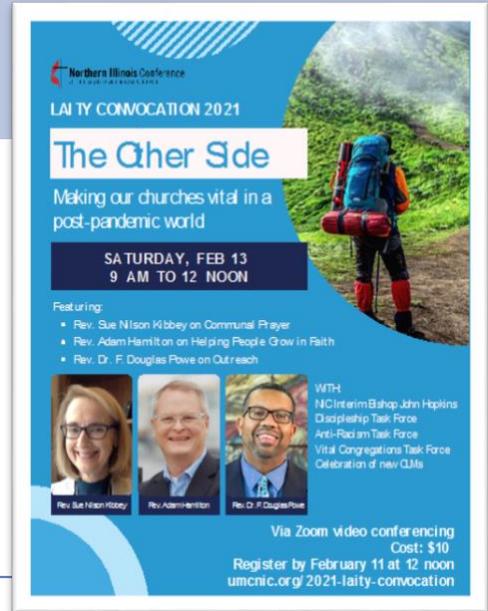


Thank you everyone for all the prayers, thoughts, calls, notes and cards during this time of illness and difficulties it presented. Dad and I are on the mend and consider us blessed by God's healing presence.  
Bless you all, Roy Bailey & Family

# JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ONLINE!

[www.hebronmethodist.org](http://www.hebronmethodist.org) and find us on 

You are invited to attend this year's virtual Laity Convocation on Saturday, February 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Below, please find a link where you can find all the details for Laity Convocation including flyer, registration & donation links. [Registration](#) is now open & ends February 11th at 12:00 p.m. <https://www.umcnic.org/calendar/2021-laity-convocation>



*Please don't forget to send in your offering to HUMC, P.O. Box 323, Hebron, IL 60034 Attn: Dawn*

*For updated information on Covid-19 vaccinations from our Health Team, go to our website and click on Health Team News. click on*



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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE