















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

# Catch the Spirit!

www.hebronmethodist.org

**OCTOBER 2023** 

#### The Pastor Ponders...

# ...How Do You Know When God Answers?

Now write what you have seen, what is, and what is to take place after this.

Revelation 1:19

How do you know when God answers? Have you ever noticed that there are many places in the Bible where God tells people to write things down? God told Moses to write down the 10 Commandments. Moses told the people to write them on their doorposts and tie them around their foreheads. God informed the prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah that they should write the words God would give them. God's instructions to John in Revelation were to write down what he heard and saw.

Putting words on paper (or on rocks, papyrus, a computer) makes them more real, permanent, in a way. It gives us a record of what literally was said. It helps us to remember what actually transpired during a particular situation. It assists us in analyzing and in remembering. It provides a reference and can be used as a tool for evaluation. *(continued on page 2)* 

## Mark your Calendars

#### September 28th, 29th & 30th

Final Work Days at Church Property Contact church if you would like to help

#### Sunday, October 1st

World Communion Sunday

Mondays October 2nd, 9th, 23rd & 30th Productive Aging Matter of Balance 9:30 a.m.

Tuesdays October 3rd, 10th, 24th 7:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Team

#### Sunday, October 15th

Laity Sunday 10:30 a.m. Repair the Harm to Children Campaign HUMC Field Trip after worship to the Valley of the Kings animal sanctuary!

Thursday, October 26th 6:00 p.m. NARCAN Training at St. John's Lutheran

Sunday, October 29th - Noisy Can Sunday

Next Council Meeting will be November 5th

#### The Pastor Ponders (continued)

No wonder God asks us to write. God wants us to remember what God said, what God did, and what God is going to do. God wants us to be able to analyze and evaluate our actions in light of God's will and actions.

However, I think it goes beyond that. I keep a special box filled with love letters from my husband, wonderful pictures drawn by my kids and grandkids, encouraging notes from friends, and various awards I've received throughout the years. Sifting through those mementos, reading them, looking at them, touches not just my mind. It touches my heart deeply. On days when I'm feeling downtrodden, it provides a pick-me-up. On days when I feel alone, it reminds me that there are people who care. A box filled with God's love letters would be even more powerful! (It's called The Bible!)

The clergy were lunching the other day and one of the topics of conversation was Church Conference. One person asked, "Do you really think anyone reads all those reports we have to write about the profile of our church, our goals, and so forth?" Most agreed that they would be surprised if someone actually read them. "Then why should we do it?" was the next question.

My answer is that when I sit down to think about our goals for 2023 and 2024, I realize that we have been involved in some pretty awesome ministry. We may not have completed some of our goals, but we've gone above and beyond in others. When I watch the video Stephanie made for 2022 (check out our website) and imagine what 2023's video will look like, my heart is warmed. God has blessed us in so many ways. Without a record, we tend to forget all of those wonderful things. And, without a road map of things we want to accomplish in the future, we tend to scatter our resources, wander in circles, and miss out those things that, with God's help, we could manage to complete. Without a record (written or video), we might miss the answers to prayer that God has given us in tangible ways.

So, instead of viewing Church Conference as reports to write and hoops to jump through, let's look at it as a way of listening to God's "well-dones" and "let me help you with thats" a little more, and then celebrate the way God has been speaking to us, present in our midst, and answering our prayers.

Blessings!  $\sim$  *Pastor Char* 



#### **Hebron Fall Fest 2023!**







We had a great time sharing stories and memories about HUMC with the Hebron community at Hebron Fall Fest in the Hebron Community Park on September 16th. We also shared information about all the programs that are being offered by HUMC. Cookie decorating, bracelets and stickers were all a part of the fun at our booth! A bounce house, DJ, classic cars, motorcycles and food trucks rounded out the fun!

### **Cultivating Health Ministries**

Our Productive Aging Matter of Balance class is off to a great start! We are learning a lot about fall prevention and making changes in mind and body to lessen our risk and our fear of falling. We start exercising in the month of October!

On September 26th, Cultivating Health Ministries provided CPR/AED training. Our new AED machine, also provided to us by CHM, is being installed and is almost ready to go. We are very proud of all our community and church members for taking the time to learn how to save a life.

Our next FREE health event is on Thursday, October 26th at 6:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church where we will learn about the signs and symptoms of an overdose, and how to use Narcan to save lives. Everyone will receive a free

NARCAN kit. Register now - call/text 815-355-5554.



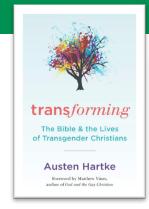


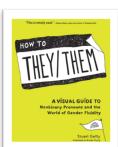




## **RMN Working Group**

Our RMN Book Club will meet (day/time TBD) to discuss the following books: *How to They/Them* by Staurt Getty (a "quick read" that uses fun graphics to teach the hows and whys of using they/them pronouns) and *Transforming* by Austen Hartke (a "longer read" about the Bible and lives of Transgender Christians). These books are available online or you may borrow a copy from the church. Check back on our website for our next meeting date.





## **HUMC Youth & Kids**



Rally Day was such a fun kick off for our Church School Year! On September 10th we celebrated "All God's Creatures" through music, scripture and storytelling. The HUMC Kids & Youth led us in singing "All God's Critters" and we enjoyed hearing about everyone's furry or feathered friends who have touched their lives and taught them about God's love. We collected a variety of pet food, toys and supplies which fully stocked Hebron's Pawsitively Purrfect Pet Pantry for local pets in need. After the worship service, we had pawsitively purrfect pizza party with crafts, games, and fellowship. Thank you to everyone who shared this beautiful day of celebration!

#### **HUMC Kids**

HUMC Kids meet during the 10:30 a.m. worship service after the Children's Chat. Our first few classes have explored the story of Abraham and Sarah and what it means to have faith in God's promises! We have also been focusing on prayer and having faith that God hears our prayers and answers our prayers.

We have welcomed a new student into our group this year which is a great blessing for us! A huge welcome to Morgan who received an Action Bible and is eager to learn! We are so glad to have you join us!









# **HUMC Youth**

HUMC Youth meet every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for Church Works and/or for Confirmation Class. In Confirmation, we are exploring our own Baptism stories and in Church Works we are studying the Book of Philemon and the difference between doing the right thing and doing the righteous thing.

The HUMC Youth jumped into action to update the outdoor bulletin board! Their next challenge is to compete in Hebron's Scarecrow Decorating Contest on behalf of HUMC. Share your creative ideas, make a donation for supplies (thank you to those who have already donated), and cheer them on as they create an HUMC inspired entry!

# **Important Dates:**

Laity Sunday - October 15th HUMC Kids & HUMC Youth will help lead this service. HUMC Field Trip to Valley of the Kings Animal Sanctuary after worship!

Confirmation Classes:
October 1st & October 29th

Haunted Hebron 5K Run/Walk info is coming soon...

#### N.O.W. Team

We're coming upon that time of year again. It seems as though from Spetember1st through January 1st there are a multitude of activities going on. Our church isn't much different!! September was our Sunday School kick-off AND we participated in the annual Hebron Fall Fest - what a great time we had! We found the best way to inform people about our church is through cookie decorating!! Starting the 1st of October the Village is having a Scarecrow Decorating Contest involving decorating the light poles. Since we have a light pole located on our property it's the perfect opportunity to use our creativity. The only requirement is part of the decorations must be a scarecrow. Also in October we'll be meeting with the Alden-Hebron Schools to get information for the Secret Santa program. Please think about being a sponsor of either a family or child. If you'd like to donate money we also donate tins of popcorn to each family. If you have any questions feel free to contact Shirlee. November has the Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday (November 12th) where we collect tissues of varying kinds, i.e. toilet paper, kleenex, paper towels, feminine products, etc. This year, after talking with the members of the Food Pantry, cash donations would also be welcomed. The items purchased and given out by the Pantry have increased in price and any extra help is greatly appreciated.

In the words of John Wesley, "Do all the good you can; By all the means you can; In all the ways you can; In all the places you can; At all the times you can; To all the people you can; As long as ever you can." God bless all of you for your kindness, caring and generosity; and remember, "Make the most of every opportunity you have for doing good." Ephesians 5:16.

Shirlee Correll & Alberta Austin, Nurture



Please consider giving to this important campaign during our October 15th worship service.

As you may know, the Boy Scouts of America recently settled a lawsuit related to accusations of sexual abuse of children. Many churches, including United Methodists, have chartered BSA troops or packs over the years. We have heard the cries and painful stories of those abused while in the Boy Scout program, some in troops chartered at local NIC churches. Our Christian faith calls us to have an obligation to children – past, present, and future – to do no harm to them and to repair the breach when harm is done. The Repair the Harm to Children campaign was created to address the needs of the survivors in three ways; listening and providing healing to the survivors, contributing our fair share to the survivor fund established by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, and working to create safeguards against harm in the future. We care for the survivors financially by contributing our fair share to the survivor fund established by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Of the \$30 million committed by the United Methodist Church, the amount allocated to Northern Illinois is \$754,348. The amount is payable over the next three years, but no reparations will be paid to survivors until all United Methodist annual conferences have paid their fair share.

The NIC has encouraged all churches, including ours to make a pledge to meet this goal. The HUMC Church Council is discussing the NIC suggestion to make a pledge of \$1350 per year for the next 3 years. We are asking for donations to be made for this campaign on October 15th and to prayerfully reflect on how we, as a church, can take a role in restoring faith in a safe children's ministry at HUMC.



# HUMC FIELD TRIP! VALLEY OF THE KINGS ANIMAL SANCTUARY OCTOBER 15, 2023 after Worship



As an extension of our Rally Day mission "All God's Creatures," the HUMC will be taking a field trip to the Valley of the Kings Animal Sanctuary in Sharon, WI after our Laity Sunday worship service on October 15th. We will have a sign-up sheet at the church the Sunday before to set up carpooling. If you would like to bring a donation for the animals at the Valley of the Kings, they are in need of the following items:



Carrots and/or Apples
Fresh or Frozen Chicken Drumsticks
Dry or Canned Dog or Cat Food
Paper Dinner Plates and Bowls
Paper Towels
Bleach
Antibacterial Liquid Dish Soap

Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather! See you there!



#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

HUMC CHARGE CONFERENCE November 12, 2023 at HUMC SPRC meets 6:00 p.m. Charge Conference 7:00 p.m.



Reconciling Ministries Network Convocation will take place October 13-15 at First UMC in Charlotte, NC. For more information go to

 $\underline{rmnetwork.org/convocation 2023}.$ 

Pastor Char is planning to be in attendance for part of this convocation!

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



Alberta Austin; and her son, Donny, experiencing health problems

Erin Englehardt's friend, Dan and his wife Beth, as he deals with the effects of Parkinson's Deidre Burgar's friend, Sharon's 2 year old son, Kian, who is now cancer free! He remains in the hospital for another month or two as he builds up his immune levels.

Marge O'Halleran in recovery from cancer James Hampton and his family as they make a decision re their mother's well being Karen Vipond's nephew, Mark, recovering from cancer; Ron Dedina, recovering from open heart surgery; John Button, experiencing health problems; Mystee VanDan, experiencing health problems

Roy Bailey

Harold and Juanita Bailey; and their daughterin-law, Tami, recovering from hip surgery Dick & Jeneil Border and their friend, Holly, diagnosed with cancer

Dave Dickey experiencing health problems Joan O'Halleran; and her niece, Heidi, for successful cancer treatments

Katelyn Winter Sampson

Pastor Char & Glenn's daughter-in-law, Julie, and her family, as they deal with the effects of MS

Nora Winn at Fair Oaks Nursing Facility

\*\*\* Anyone wishing to send a card see below
Luke Moore

Our former Pastor Jim & Char and their daughter, MaryBeth, experiencing health problems Our former Pastor Paul & Lynn Dorothy Peterson Betty Garrett

Bob and Patty Garrett, both recovering from surgeries

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 peace between Ukraine and Russia. Surround those affected by this and all conflicts with your precious love.

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 illness; 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 Prairie Central 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 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.

\*\*\*Nora Winn, c/o Fair Oak Health Care Ctr. 471 W. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake, IL 60014

# JOIN US FOR WORSHIP SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M Sunday School during Worship/Confirmation and Youth meet at 9:00 a.m.

# Opportunities to Give

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously and worked so hard to support our missions in the month of September! Our Rally Day mission for the Pawsitively Purrfect Pet Pantry stocked the pet pantry in Hebron! Thank you! Here are the upcoming ways you can give this month:

- 1) Special Sunday World Communion Day (Oct. 1)
- 2) Repair the Harm to Children (October 15)
- 3) Local Giving Valley of the Kings Animal Sanctuary (October 15)
- 4) United Voices For Children/Noisy Can (October 29)
- 5) Local Giving Hebron Community Food Pantry (baskets in back of church)
- 6) Local Giving Haunted 5K Run/Walk for Vacation Bible School

**Click here** to give to any of these missions through HUMC.



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