

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

Catch the Spirit!

www.hebronmethodist.org

SEPTEMBER 2023

The Pastor Ponders...

...How Important Is *Going* to Church?

Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples....

Matthew 28: 19 (CEV)

One of my friends posted the following on her Facebook page: We will never change the world by going to church. We will only change the world by being the church.

It's true. It is important for us to go to church. After all, that is where we learn about God, ourselves, God's creation, and the way we are all supposed to be in relationship with each other. Jesus said, "Love God and love others." As we worship together, study together, pray with and for each other and our world, work, play, eat, and talk with each other, we are transformed and empowered for the special tasks that God has given us. And that's a good thing. But, if everything we do takes place inside a building, we are missing out on greater opportunities to be and do all that God intends for us. At HUMC we are working on that! (continued on page 2)

Mark your Calendars

Tuesdays in September 7:00 p.m.Praise & Worship Team

Sunday, September 10th 10:30 a.m. RALLY DAY!

Bring a photo of your pet and a donation of pet food or supplies as we kick off our school year by celebrating All God's Creatures!

Monday, September 11th 9:30 a.m. Fall Program for Productive Aging begins

Saturday, September 16th 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Hebron Fall Fest - see Stephanie if you would like to help out with HUMC's booth at this event

Sunday, September 17th

HUMC Kids & HUMC Youth School Year Begins!
9:00 a.m. - Middle School/High School aged students & parents meet to review Confirmation & Post-Confirmation curriculum and schedule
10:30 a.m. - Elementary aged students will meet during last half of worship after the Children's Chat

Sunday, September 24th 9:00 a.m. Church Council

The Pastor Ponders (continued)

The reality is that we have all sorts of good things going on. We have several groups of faithful, and caring, and fun, and interesting people. We have a tremendous support system – people really take care of each other at HUMC. But, most of our community has yet to come to know that. The "good news" appears to be confined within our 4 walls, and no amount of signage, landscaping, and advertising will be able to change that dynamic. But, at HUMC, we are working on that!

In scripture we discover that Jesus has the "Plan" for growing the church and making disciples. Jesus said, "Go." He didn't say, "Sit in church." He said, "Go ... into all the world." Now, the first Christians carried God's message of forgiveness, acceptance, and love by preaching and teaching. But they soon discovered that folks were a little more apt to listen to them if they addressed some of the physical needs of those who were listening. After all, as he taught, Jesus healed and cast out demons. Jesus also told us to feed the hungry, give a drink to the thirsty, clothe and shelter those who were in need. And so, the mission of the church became not only a sharing of God's Word but also humanitarian efforts to improve economic development, literacy, education, healthcare, and housing.

As I said, we are working on it! The several weeks of our Productive Aging Program were successful in that we had a lot of fun participation by both Seniors and Youth. Yummy food, intergenerational activities to strength our bodies and minds, and access to the many resources available to seniors and others in our community were available every other week. We had such a "productive" time that we are going to run the program weekly beginning in September!

So, while we are inviting you to *come* into the HUMC building, I am also inviting you to *go* and invite your friends, neighbors, and strangers to join us. Posters are great, our website is fantastic, but the most effective way to help others come through our doors so they can experience the love, healing, and strengthening power of Jesus Christ, is to personally ask/accompany them to Productive Aging, Sunday worship, Church School, or other activities. Another opportunity would be to help HUMC staff a booth at Hebron Fall Fest on Saturday, September 16.

We CAN change the world by going out and being the church! ~ *Pastor Char*



Our floor was refinished in the Wesley Room this past month!



Renovations on the church rental properties are complete!





The HUMC congregation was invited to walk through the church rental properties on Sunday, August 27th. So much effort by so many has finally brought us to the completion of this renovation project. Thank you all! An extra special thank you goes out to James Hampton, Steve Johnson, Lucas Burgar and Sharon Smith for the many hours of time and talent put into this project. We can't thank you enough!



Cultivating Health Ministries

Our Productive Aging Summer Program was such a success! Thank you to the Youth who participated in this program as stretch class helpers, trivia teammates, chefs, servers and set-up and clean-up crew! This was a great multi-generational program that educated and connected us in so many wonderful ways. We had such positive feedback that we will be continuing this program in the Fall. The Youth will be back in school and unable to participate this season, but we are happy to announce that we will be meeting weekly! We'll be providing a weekly "Matter of Balance" strengthening class, an educational program, and a healthy snack every Monday beginning September 11th at 9:30 a.m. through October 30th. We look forward to seeing you there!









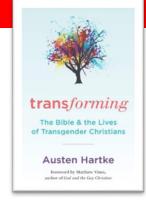




HUMC & St. John's Lutheran Church hosted another A1C Screening on August 29th with our partners at Cultivating Health Ministries. We'll announce our next health event soon!

RMN Working Group

Our RMN Book Club will meet in October 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 date/time and more details.





HUMC Youth & Kids



Join us for RALLY DAY during our 10:30 a.m. worship service on September 10, 2023

Let's kick off our HUMC Kids & HUMC Youth School Year by celebrating All God's Creatures Great and Small!

Bring a photo of your pet (past or present) and **bring a donation** of pet food or supplies to be donated to Hebron's "Pawsitively Purrfect Pantry" for Hebron pets in need. Come for Fun, Food & Games after worship in Fellowship Hall!





HUMC Kids

Our first day of Sunday School is on September 17th. To accommodate our two different age groups this year, Sunday School (elementary age) will meet during the last half of the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

HUMC Kids will participate in the service as before as greeters, acolyte, liturgist, special music, etc. They will also participate in the Children's Chat, after which they will exit to the Fellowship Hall for Sunday School class.

We will continue with the Celebrate Wonder curriculum for the 2023-24 school year and incorporate storytelling, games, discussion, music, video, video-making, crafts, puppetry, and of course, the WonderBox. We look forward to a great year of growing and learning!





HUMC Youth

Our HUMC Kids have grown into HUMC Youth! Our Middle School and High School age youth will participate in a new program called *Church Works*. *Church Works* includes both Confirmation and Post-Confirmation education, Bible Study, and Service. We are so excited to see this program develop and nurture our Youth as they explore their God-given gifts and calling.

Our first day of *Church Works* will be on September 17th at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. At this first meeting, we are asking that **parents and students attend** so that we may go over the details and schedule of this new program and answer any questions anyone may have. We are very excited for this new adventure!



N.O.W. Team - Outreach

Saturday, August 12th was the Hebron Area Garage Sale Day and HUMC Bake Sale at Shirlee's house! Thank you Shirlee and everyone who helped raise over \$600 for these and other important mission projects:

GRACE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL & PEDIATRIC CLINIC #418520

In the early 1960s when International Child Care's founders Jim and Virginia Snavley first visited Haiti, they witnessed the shocking sight of children dying in the streets from tuberculosis, malnutrition, and other illnesses that were practically unheard of in the US at the time. They felt God's call to come to Haiti and open a small clinic, and thus Grace Children's Hospital was born. Approximately 80% of Haitians live on less than \$1 a day. Children who are seriously ill are admitted to the inpatient ward, where they receive constant care from the hospital's all-Haitian staff. Both children and adults can be treated at one of Grace Children's Hospital's many outpatient clinics. People living in the slums around the hospital receive vaccinations, prenatal care, and other basic health services from specially-trained community health workers and volunteers. Grace Children's Hospital cares for hundreds of children a year at the hospital's inpatient ward. During their stay, which averages three months, Grace Children's Hospital & Pediatric Clinic provides a place of healing and solace to these children. Once a child is on the road to recovery, he or she can also attend school at the hospital. For some, this is the first and only time they will ever experience a formal education. No one is ever turned away because they are unable to pay.

GLOBAL REFUGEE/MIGRATION RESPONSE #3022144

"I sat down and wept," said José during his interview. The immigration officer had just asked him what he thought after learning he was a wanted man by the national army of his beloved country, Venezuela. He had to flee to escape from retaliation and, most probably, death. His pain and suffering were palpable. When we think of José and the thousands of other migrants across the globe, we may wonder if there is anything we can do. UMCOR partners with churches that assist migrants of all types with the right to stay, the right to safe passage, the right to welcome and the right to return with dignity. More than 25 global missionaries and Global Mission Fellows are engaged in migrant and refugee ministries around the world. Now more than ever, the church needs to act boldly not only to welcome the stranger but also to change the structures and systems of power that seek to exclude and divide. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY NIC#772

The fund was originally established in 1872 by Methodist Church Sunday Schools as the Children's Fund. Today, United Methodist Student Day Sunday has the same purpose: calling upon the denomination to support their students as they prepare for life by adding knowledge to their faith. Every year, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry awards an average of \$5.5 million in financial aid to students. The offering taken on United Methodist Student Day is one opportunity to support these scholarships. 100% received goes towards supporting and educating a new generation of principled Christian leaders for the church and the world. Currently, there are over 70 scholarships available for undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral United Methodist students. Financial support for all scholarships come from five primary sources: 63% from endowments; 22% from wills and annuities; 13% from United Methodist Special Sundays and 1% from online gifts and fiduciary income. We are blessed to support thousands of students through scholarships, but we would like to do more. Our funds are limited, and every awards cycle we end up with a large pool of qualified candidates who we are unable to help because there was no money left to give. You can help us change that! Donate now and help more students answer God's call to higher education. (continues on next page)

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WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY NIC#774

On World Communion Sunday - United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. This universal and inclusive connection is the foundation of the special offering for World Communion Sunday. Your donations support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities. Your generosity continues to provide scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development. The needs exceed what we can fund and gifts further growth your can and success. Fifty percent (50%) of the offering provides scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. Thirty-five percent (35%) supports racial and ethnic scholarships for students pursuing ordained ministry (deacon or elder) and includes a mentoring program. Fifteen percent (15%) funds Ethnic-In-Service Training Grant for leadership development, recruitment, training, and retention of ethnic United Methodist persons in leadership positions in every level of the church and its ministry. The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Now, perhaps more than ever, we are called to extend healing and hope which will guide us to becoming a new creation in Christ







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



Roy Bailey; and Roy's friend, Vicki and family on the passing of her Dad, Mike.

Alberta Austin, who is home from the hospital and doing physical therapy; 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 Kris Bottlemy's Aunt Raynie recovering from a

Sharon Smith's brother, Mike

fall.

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; Mary Dade, diagnosed with cancer;
Ron Dedina, recovering from open heart surgery;
John Button, experiencing health problems;
Dawn Lombardo, experiencing health problems
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 Garrett, recovering from surgery

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

We raised \$35.98 during our Noisy Can collection for United Voices for Children and \$613.00 during the Hebron Area Garage Sale Day and Bake Sale on Saturday, August 12th. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously and worked so hard to support our missions! We have used the Garage Sale proceeds to support the following missions: \$100 (\$200 with matching funds) will go to Grace Children's Hospital & Pediatric Clinic, \$100 (\$200 with matching funds) will go to Global Refugee/Migration Response, \$250 will be divided equally between our upcoming Special Sundays (UM Student Day & World Communion Sunday) and the remaining will go toward the Repair the Harm to Children campaign. Here are the upcoming ways you can give in the coming months:

- 1) Rally Day Pet food/supplies for Hebron's Pawsitively Purrfect Pantry (Sept. 10)
- 2) Special Sunday United Methodist Student Day (Sept. 17)
- 3) Special Sunday World Communion Day (Oct. 1)
- 4) Local Giving Hebron Community Food Pantry (baskets in back of church)

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



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