



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

# Catch the Spirit!

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

APRIL 2021

## The Pastor Ponders...

... What does Hebron United Methodist Church Do Better Than Any Other Church/Organization in This Geographic Area?

Last month a group of HUMC-ers gathered in person and ZOOM to discuss what to do with a substantial financial gift the congregation had been given. Reports of this meeting appeared in last month's newsletter, so I don't think that I want to reiterate all the ideas. What I do want to comment on is all the enthusiasm and the positive spirit that everyone brought to the table. Much was said about moving forward, making mission and outreach the focus of our resources in the near, as well as, the distant future. We didn't always agree on every idea, project, or exactly what we wanted to prioritize, but we listened, learned, and contributed in a graceful manner. And, ideas and projects abounded. We're getting ready to move forward.

As many have pointed out, returning to "normal" isn't going to happen. We can't go back to the way things were a year ago. That's not a "bad" thing. In fact it gives us an opportunity to do some evaluation. We have been asked to consider the following:

Happy  
EASTER!

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

### IN-PERSON PALM SUNDAY

We will have a brief in person Palm Sunday Service on March 28, 2021 **at 10:30 a.m.**

### IN-PERSON EASTER SUNDAY

We will have a brief in person Easter Service on April 4, 2021 **at 9:00 a.m.**

*(please review our health safety guidelines for in person worship on our website)*

ONLINE WORSHIP - Join us online during Holy Week. Online services will be available for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

### NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 18th at 9:00 a.m.



## The Pastor Ponders (continued)

*What did/does HUMC do that we don't need to do in the future?* What do we need to let go of in order to move forward in where God is leading us? Kate and Shirlee have been doing an awesome job of getting rid of some of the unnecessary paperwork and other items that have been cluttering up cabinets, closets, and countertops. But what about traditions and practices that may have been meaningful at one point, but are no longer helpful for our current situation? *What have we started doing that we would like to continue to do in some manner as we move into the future?* Stephanie and team have been doing a super job of on-line worship which has kept us connected as a congregation, helped to touch base with our "shut-ins," and allowed us to reach out to other folks that haven't been a part of a worshiping congregation before. As we transition into in-person worship, to continue to do on-line programming in the manner we have been doing it and in-person as well, is going to be a significant drain on resources. However, we want to continue to be a quality on-line presence to folks who are finding this beneficial. What's the best way to do this? *What would we like to add to our ministry in order to share God's grace and to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?* This last year has required us to learn new ways of doing things and to discover new places to be in ministry. It has taught us that we are capable of CHANGE (gulp)! Where is God asking us to stretch into something new?

So often, we like to offer up the excuse that we are a "small" church with limited resources and therefore can't be expected to do all those things large churches do. True. But, those who study church growth have pointed out that the near future could see a surge in the growth of small churches. There are people who are tired of being a "small fish in a big pond." They are looking for a more personalized service, a quality, more customized product (as opposed to a wide variety of merchandize), authenticity, and a comfortable, cozy atmosphere. That is not to say that the smaller churches shouldn't offer a high-quality selection of learning, growing, and mission activities, they just don't need to be everything to everybody. And they do need to communicate that everybody is somebody, somebody very special.

As we get ready to open our doors again, move forward, be who God intended us to be, I offer up all of the above questions as something to ponder and to pray about. And soon, very soon, we'll talk.

Blessings! *Pastor Char*

## Online Lenten Bible Study

Our online Lenten Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 on Zoom. We have been exploring Adam Hamilton's book "24 Hours That Changed the World" and we've been watching videos which take us to Jerusalem for a deeper understanding of Jesus' last moments on earth. Email [churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org](mailto:churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org) if you'd like the Zoom link to join us!



We are pleased to hear our church family and community members are continuing to get vaccinated! If you need help registering (even if you don't have an email address) please **call 815-334-4045 for assistance**. If you have online access, you may email [health@mchenrycountyil.gov](mailto:health@mchenrycountyil.gov).

## BUILDING UPDATE

We continue to make some wonderful progress on our church sanctuary! The drywall was installed and completed this past week and we have scheduled the sanding and staining of the posts and beams to match the millwork this week. We have chosen the paint color for the sanctuary and have scheduled Nor Decorating to begin painting in mid-April.



## N.O.W. Team - Outreach

Last newsletter, we launched our year of mission giving with a return to the Rainbow Covenant...only to discover that the Northern Illinois Conference has totally revamped missional giving! Oops! We will now be using a new model: "Mission Links: Living the Beatitudes". The Beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount will serve as a guide to giving in the new book (which is due to be released any week). Many of the same missions will be featured in the new book, including UMCOR. **During March and April, we will continue to ask you to consider giving a little extra each offering to support the work of UMCOR.**

We are in the process of launching online giving. Until we are ready, please continue to send your checks to Hebron United Methodist Church Attn: Dawn PO Box 323 Hebron, IL 60034. Please let Dawn know what amount you wish to pledge to UMCOR and our orange "link".

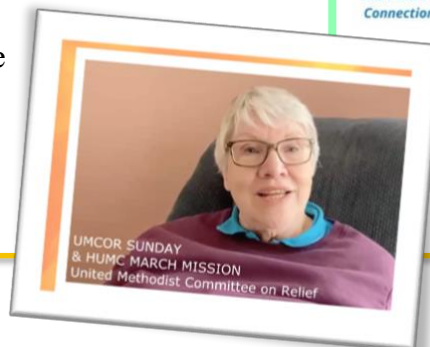
Thanks in advance for all your support,  
-Kate Johnson, Outreach committee

*We are still creating a mixed media mural in our Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend the in-person Palm Sunday and Easter services, consider bringing something orange to add to our UMCOR "link". This could be a scrap of fabric, paper, magazine clipping, feather, etc. If you can stick it on a wall, then it will work perfectly!*

**MISSION LINKS** Living the Beatitudes  
A Call to Action and Connection

Mission Giving Opportunities  
2021-2024 Advance Projects and  
Connectional Giving

Northern Illinois Conference



## NIC 2021 Virtual Annual Conference

The Northern Illinois Annual Conference will take place virtually this year on July 16-17 via Zoom. The theme for this year is "Jesus Makes A Way". If you are interested in virtually attending the annual conference as a lay member please contact us and let us know so that we may register you. Email us at [churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org](mailto:churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org).

## THANK YOU HUMC!

Hebron United Methodist Church,  
Thank you for your food donation  
to the Food Pantry. We appreciate  
your continued support. It is  
great to see our shelves full.  
Hebron Community Food Pantry

Dear members & friends  
Thank you for your  
memorials.  
Sincerely  
The Bob Schroeder Family

Hebron United Methodist Church,  
Thank you very much for your  
generous \$350 donation to the  
Food Pantry. We appreciate your  
continued support in helping us  
put food on the table for our customers  
in the Hebron Community that need the  
extra help. There have been hard times  
for many people.  
Hebron Community Food Pantry

Thank You  
For your donation  
to the  
Hebron Public Library  
It is most sincerely appreciated.  
The Library Board  
Candace V. Sufo  
Secretary, Library Board



## HUMC KIDS!

Join us for a special Easter Sunday School!  
We will be releasing this special Holy Week  
Sunday School on Palm Sunday. We will  
continue to offer a bi-monthly, interactive  
remote Sunday School through May and we  
look forward to returning in-person in the  
fall! For the link to our online Sunday  
School class email us at  
[churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org](mailto:churchoffice@hebronmethodist.org).



## Happy Birthday!

- Ron Coulman 4/1
- Dale Walker 4/1
- Nick Nelson 4/2
- Adam Garrett 4/7
- Myrna Hoeft 4/8
- Rebekah Reins 4/20
- Erin Engelhardt 4/21

## Happy Anniversary!

- Steve & Chela Johnson 4/5
- Dee Moore & Luke Bugar 4/21



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



James Hampton recovering from shoulder surgery

Harold and Juanita Bailey's daughter-in-law, Tami, recovering from back surgery; Juanita's cousin, Gerald, who has gone to be with God; Harold's sister-in-law, Regina, experiencing health problems; and Harold experiencing health problems - pray the specialists are able to make a diagnosis

Wendy Schaid's father, Bill, while recovering from spinal fusion surgery is now experiencing pneumonia, sepsis, blood clot, just to name a few of the complications. He is recovering at home.

Jeanne and Marlo Johnson as Jeanne is undergoing chemo

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

Dawn Nelson's nephew, Donnie having a PET scan this week May it be a clear scan!

Dave Dickey experiencing health problems

Alberta Austin at Crossroads Care Center

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 [offcqueen@aol.com](mailto: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](http://www.hebronmethodist.org) and find us on 



*You are encouraged to read this Psalm and Prayer daily during the season of Lent.*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. *Psalm 51:10-17*

*Lenten Prayer*

Gracious God, you have brought us to this season of Lent, this time of preparation for crucifixion and resurrection. Give us courage to examine ourselves, to be honest about who we are and to what we are called, that, on Easter morning, we might meet our Savior with joy; to whom with you and the Spirit, one holy God, be honor and praise, now and forever. Amen. (Thomas Harding, 1990)

Give thanks for blessings and pray for: the worldwide church, the HUMC congregation, leaders and those in power, those who are hurting (sick, injured, grieving, depressed), those who care for us and keep us safe, teachers and students, our enemies, other joys and concerns, ourselves.



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

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