



Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UM Churches

Through God's love and in community with one another, we welcome you!

October, November, December 2021 Newsletter

Delaware Headwaters Parish

Rev. Kwang-il Kim & Pastor Paul Moller

Parsonage (Rev. Kim) & Parish Office (Thursdays)
607-538-9691

Rev. Kim's email: rev.kwangil.123kim@gmail.com

Pastor Paul's cell: 607-287-2462

Pastor Paul's email: Paulwmoller@gmail.com

Bloomville United Methodist Church

35 Church St.

PO Box 3

Bloomville, NY 13739

Worship: 10am

607-538-9440 or 607-538-9691

Hobart United Methodist Church

204 Maple Avenue

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

Worship: 10am

607-538-9691

Stamford United Methodist Church

88 Main St. PO Box 133

Stamford, NY 12167

Worship: 8:30am

607-538-9691

Township United Methodist Church

3835 Town Brook Road

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

Worship: 8:30am

607-538-9691

www.delawareheadwatersparish.com
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Welcome to the Delaware Headwaters Parish!

The Delaware Headwaters Parish has brought together Bloomville UMC, Hobart UMC, Stamford UMC, and Township UMC under the direction of Rev. Kwang-il Kim and Pastor Paul Moller. We are happy to have you as a member or a visitor to our churches. The worship services take place in person on Sundays at 8:30am [Stamford and Township UMCs] and 10:00am [Bloomville and Hobart UMCs]. You may also find us online on our website.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please keep in mind that we are following current Covid19 protocols set out by CDC, DOH, NYAC and the Bishop. Due to the changing nature of this virus and our understanding of the guidelines, things will continue to change. New guidance is always coming along. Please see the rules we must follow listed in our website. Thank you Pastor Paul and Steve Tucker for organizing our online service that is available on our website

CHANGES

The message and goal at each church remains the same - come together as a community of faith. The desire to be together as a church family is our driving factor. But COVID-19 has given us permission to change things.

We are rethinking almost every aspect to make sure it works for now. We went from online/virtual for worship to in-person services while continuing to stream the worship. We have decided to publish our newsletter quarterly. Sunday School resumed. Our Charge Conference was redesigned. Meetings are held. Fund raisers are successful. Buildings are maintained. Staff changes occur. Friends and family moved. New neighbors have moved in. Faithful congregants are now with the Lord.

God empowers his people to survive and thrive in difficult times. The Bible is overflowing with people that God empowered to overcome adversity. A pandemic may have brought about changes, but the Holy Spirit and God's will for his church will not change.

Welcome

Welcome Florence Dixon as our new Parish Treasurer.

VBS News



Vacation Bible School, a favorite summer staple for the Bloomville United Methodist Church, was back in 2021. It was a success. It was exciting to offer a great opportunity to reach our community and share Jesus with those that could join us.

We met inside and outside. Each day we had our opening and closing and activities with Niki, Emma, Laurie, Janis, Pastor Paul, Diana, Maria, Karen and Bev. The sanctuary was festooned with the Rocky Railway theme.

Children and adults experienced VBS as a church family. Kids saw the church taking on a program that they loved and enjoyed so much. We made new friends. VBS helps us see the family that we have in God. VBS is important for our communities because it relays a message of hope, faith, and God's faithfulness.



From Rev. Kim

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel. Which means "God is with us." [Mt. 1:23 NRSV.]

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

For me, as our Thanksgiving season draws near again, my deepest thanks to the Lord is nothing other than my own existence here and now because it was not I myself who has originated or caused me to exist here and now in this shape. It is truly a mystery which I have no idea whatsoever to understand and explain. One thing clear, though, is: I myself didn't intend, plan and design my present existence and shape in this specific way of time, place, culture, color, race, ethnicity and nation etc.

Martin Heidegger (1889-1976), a 20th century German atheistic existentialist, concerning this mysterious state of our being here and now likely described with his term, **Geworfenheit**, translated to English, **Thrownness**. For him, we humanity is just a being/state of *thrownness*. We are simply thrown into this world with no relations of my own/our free wills and choices whatsoever.

However, Our Scriptures likely clarifies our true identity and lifestyle as God's precious beloved ones: "So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." [Gen. 1:27] Matthew also in his Gospel likely proclaims who I am in this God, the Author of my being and becoming: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a

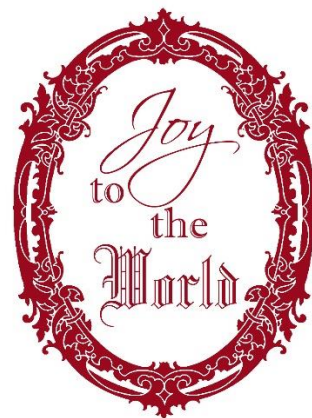
son, and they shall name him **Emmanuel** - "**God is with us.**" John the Gospel writer also likely proclaims who I am and who you are: "The Word became flesh and lived among us!" which means "Emmanuel - God with us."

Therefore, we are not alone... We are not orphans nor Island since we are not just thrown by chance into this world like Martin Heidegger said but created in God's image and likeness. We are God's "Thou" - God's Purpose, not God's "It" as Martin Buber proclaimed in his Book, "I and Thou." (Ich Und Du, 1923)

This is the very most meaningful and happiest news which we are invited to fully accept, enjoy and be dignified as God's beloved ones. This is our deepest and highest Thanksgiving in, with and by which we are called to live out our daily existence here and now and eternally in the presence of God, our Source of being and becoming. way of time, place, culture, color, race, ethnicity and nation etc.

Have a deeply Blessed Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas - "**God with us.**"

Amen!



THERE
IS
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
THANKFUL FOR

We realize it's hard to give thanks this year with all that's going on in our lives but that's what God desires of us - look at all we do have, be thankful daily and just give Him thanks.

Our congregations gives thanks . . .

For being able to worship the one true God

For being part of loving congregations of committed Christians who care about each other and who look out for each other

For worship services

For our church leaders

For having tech-savvy folks in the congregation who are able to bring us together

For dedicated volunteers who teach, plan, write, construct, clean, maintain, paint, mow, plow, fund raise, drive, make calls, get the mail, take minutes, work behind the scenes

For renovations and upkeep

For music and our talented organists

For the dedicated folks keeping facilities running and our finances straight

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. Psalm 100:4

A Note From Pastor Paul

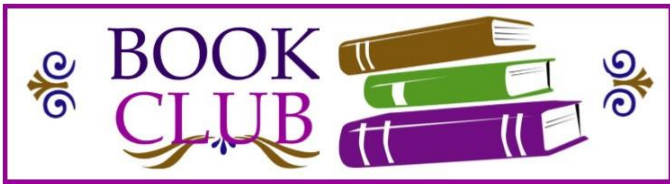
As we embark into the fall of 2021, the question of identity rises up in my mind. Throughout the pandemic, many people have learned a lot about themselves. Many have learned that they have a spirit of fear that often keeps them from making decisions or changes, whereas others are content to go with the flow attitude or a rebel at heart.

This time of isolation, a time spent primarily separated from others has stirred in us a new understanding of how we see ourselves and life around us. Maybe we have started to ask ourselves questions like, "Where do we go from here? What does our church life look like? What do our goals and dreams look like?" I feel that I have personally developed a deeper understanding of what it means to be a son. Romans 8:15-17 says, "*The Spirit you received does not make you slaves so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him, we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*"

Christ's sacrifice for us gives us the opportunity to be sons and daughters in Christ; this is truly amazing! If you have been blessed to have admire your kids' successes. When I make the correlation between being a parent and God being the father, I wonder what I have done that has made God proud. I often struggle to see my own successes, so taking time to think about it has been a challenge, but this is what I have learned: by the grace of God, I have been adopted into Christ's family and have become an heir in all that God has, and yet I am still blessed to suffer in all that Christ endured.

Accepting the idea of suffering with Christ as a blessing from God has been something I am still trying to fully comprehend. I hope you too are able to grow in your own understanding of adoption in Christ, and know that even in your suffering, you are in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen**

Pastor Paul



Join Rev. Kim for the Fall Book Club Wed., Oct. 6 -Nov. 10, for six weeks from 4:30 -5:30 pm at the Hobart UMC. Please bring your own copy of the Book Title: *“Being the Church in a Post-Pandemic World”*

“We are not going back to Normal.” - Gideon Litchfield



With all the fixings.
Bloomville United Methodist Church

October 30, 2021

Take-out Drive Thru only

More information will be available on our Facebook page or on the Parish website.



November 7th



The annual decorating of the Bloomville UMC for Advent and Christmas will be November 28th after our 10am service. Those wishing to help are encouraged to stay.



To Be Announced

Please check our Facebook pages or the Parish website for updates.

ADVENT

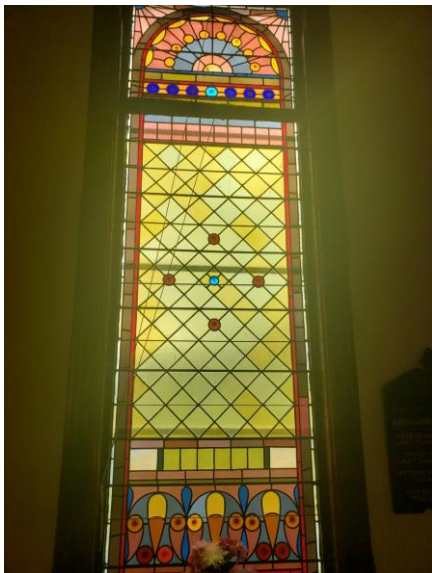


Maintaining Our Church Facilities in Light of COVID-19

Many thanks for your generous donations to the Bloomville UMC stained glass window restoration project. BUMC families and friends have kindly organized and participated in projects that support this worthy venture. Donations have been mailed in. Dedicated volunteers have also donated their time and expertise helping with the construction. Doug Hallberg has expertly completed three windows!



As you are aware the windows in this historic building are in need of restoration/renovation. This lengthy project will be expensive and very involved. If you wish to donate, your monetary gift will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be mailed to the Bloomville United Methodist Church, PO Box 3, Bloomville, NY 13739.



Churches are so much more than buildings. They are places of worship, community, and connection. They have great meaning beyond simply floors, walls, and windows.



Work continues on the exterior of the Hobart United Methodist Church under the expert Aiello Painters. We appreciate their expertise and the fresh look of our church.



WORSHIP through GIVING

The Holiday Season is upon us.

Please remember that your financial support is absolutely instrumental in this unprecedented time.

Near or far,

Thank You for your continued support!

Please mail your tithes, offerings and donations to:

Bloomville UMC: c/o Beverly Rockefeller, 191 Scotch Hill Road, Bloomville NY 13739

Hobart UMC: c/o Ralph Beisler, PO Box E, Hobart, NY 13788

Stamford UMC: c/o Carol Beierlein, PO Box 133, Stamford, NY 12167

Township UMC: c/o Ginny Austin, 16385 County Highway 18. Stamford NY 12167

Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB) says *"The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives."*

In our hearts



The friends and families of the Delaware Headwaters Parish extend our condolences to the families of:

*Melissa Collins, Frances Darrah,
James Kelly, Clifford Mott Sr.,
Roger Sackett, James Shortell Jr.
Tom Truesdell, Ruth Wheeler*



As winter weather approaches, just a reminder that Delaware Headwaters Parish churches will be open for worship on Sundays, regardless of the weather - except in very extreme conditions. Always use good judgment and err on the side of safety when inclement weather hits the area. Phone a friend or check the church's website or Facebook page when in doubt.




There are many ways to stay informed about our Parish and the news that might affect you.

- Visit our website at www.delawareheadwatersparish.com
- Follow us on Facebook. Facebook pages can be found by searching for *Bloomville United Methodist Church, Delaware Headwaters Parish, Hobart United Methodist Church, Angels' Attic.*
- Enjoy our newsletter. Notify us by email to get added to the newsletter mailing at- pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER



 Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

Delaware Headwaters Parish
PO Box 205, Hobart, NY 13788
Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township
United Methodist Churches
Rev. Kwang-il Kim & Pastor Paul Moller..

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