



# Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UMC Churches

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

## November/December 2019 Newsletter

### Delaware Headwaters Parish

*Rev. Kwang-il Kim & Pastor Paul Moller*

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

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Pastor Paul's cell: 607-287-2462

Pastor Paul's email: [Paulwmoller@gmail.com](mailto:Paulwmoller@gmail.com)

#### **Bloomville United Methodist Church**

35 Church St.

PO Box 3

Bloomville, NY 13739

Worship: 11am

607-538-9440 or 607-538-9691

#### **Hobart United Methodist Church**

204 Maple Avenue

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

Worship: 11am

607-538-9691

#### **Stamford United Methodist Church**

88 Main St. PO Box 133

Stamford, NY

Worship: 9am

607-538-9691

#### **Township United Methodist Church**

3835 Town Brook Road

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

Worship: 9am

607-538-9691

[www.delawareheadwatersparish.com](http://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 on Sundays at 9:00am [Stamford and Township UMCs] and 11:00am [Bloomville and Hobart UMCs].

God has been doing wonderful things in our communities . . . we invite you to come, share in the fellowship, take root, and grow with us. If you would like to speak with one of the pastors, please, let us know.



FROM THE  
*Pastor's Desk*

*Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; Though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; Though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls. Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. Habakkuk 3:17-18 NRSV.*

My dear sisters and brothers in the coming Christ, I have loved the above verses from the days of my youth because of its ridiculous paradoxical Thanksgiving. It sounded outrageously ironic when I read it for the first time. How could it be possible for anybody on earth to be that joyful and thankful in such an extreme life situation as this?

In our nation's history, we also face this sort of Thanksgiving in Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> President. President Lincoln, at the height of the Civil War, proclaimed such an ironic and paradoxical Thanksgiving in his Proclamation of Thanksgiving: "The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the Source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful Providence of Almighty God. ..." [Abraham Lincoln, Proclamation of Thanksgiving, Oct. 3, 1863]

For me, Lincoln's Thanksgiving is truly an authentic and paradoxical confirmation of the identity of the Americans as the people of God in a sense that it came out in the deep midst of the Civil War which was our Nation's chaotic moment of physical and spiritual brokenness between the South and North.

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ!

Our life of Thanksgiving is the very paramount act of proclamation of our identity, dignity and value as the people of God made in his image and likeness. Our Scriptures likely clarifies such high identity and value of ours as this: "***The Word became flesh and lived among us***" - This is **who we are** and this **who our God is!** This is the very ground of our life filled up with the Spirit of Thanksgiving. God has already come to us and been dwelling in the midst of us in Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior! This is why we are called out to shout out, "**Happy Thanksgiving**" and "**Merry Christmas!**" God is with us and we give our deepest Thanks to our God, the Author of our Life here and now and beyond.

May the Lord's never-failing and never-ending grace and blessings be upon each and every single one of you throughout these blessed seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas.

*Have a Happy Thanksgiving and  
Merry Christmas!!*  
*Rev. Kim*



"The primary responsibilities of the charge conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church, receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council that are in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church," *The Book of Discipline*, paragraph 247.3.

Our Charge Conference met on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> to direct the work of the parish, give general oversight to the church councils, review and evaluate the mission and ministry of the parish, sets salaries for the pastors, elect the members of the trustees and meet our new DS, Rev. Karen Monk.

Thank you to all who came out to support our Parish on this important day.



## Thanksgiving Food Drive

November 24<sup>th</sup>

Please bring nonperishable canned goods to Sunday Service.

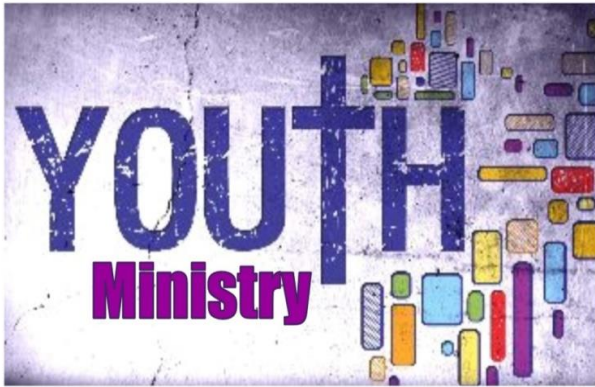


## Please join us to Celebrate Christmas:

Township – Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm  
Stamford – Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 9am  
Bloomville – Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm  
Hobart – Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm



**November 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**at the Township UMC**



## CALENDAR of Events

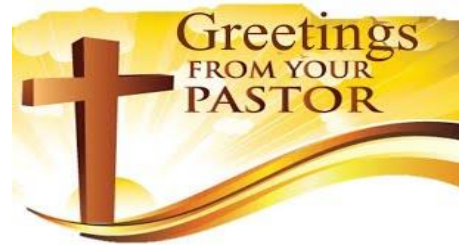
We had a small turn out as we kicked off Kids' Sunday this fall. In October, we gathered and had fun playing games and learning how God cares for all, not just for humans, but all of God's creation. We ended our time together gathering in Hobart for the animal blessing service. It was a blast to see the kids' passion for the animals. In November we will gather at the church on November 17 from 12-3 PM. In December, we will go out caroling and pass out church baskets on December 22. Families - please plan to join us for the caroling event in December.

We look forward to you joining us each Sunday at 11am at the Bloomville UMC for Sunday School and again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday from 12-3pm for Kids' Sunday with Pastor Paul.

- Nov. 3 – Communion, All Saints Day, Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Nov. 5 - Hobart UMC Council, 7pm
- Nov. 7 - WIC, Stamford Baptist Church, 9-2pm
- Nov. 9 – Hobart Community Movie Night, 7pm, Community Center
- Nov. 11 – UMW, Hobart UMC
- Nov. 16 - Pancake Breakfast, 8-12pm, Bloomville, UMC
- Nov. 17 – Kids' Sunday, Bloomville UMC, 12-3pm
- Nov. 17 – Friends of Music, Stamford UMC, 3pm
- Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Celebration Service – Collecting non-perishable canned food
- Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Eve Parish wide service, 7pm, Township UMC
- Dec. 1 – Hanging of the Greens, Advent Begins, Communion
- Dec. 1 – Friends of Music Holiday Concert, Stamford UMC, 3pm
- Dec. 3 – Hobart UMC Council, 7pm
- Dec. 5 – WIC, Stamford Baptist Church, 9-2pm
- Dec. 7 – Community Chorale of the Catskills Concert, 7:30pm, Margaretville UMC
- Dec. 8 – Community Chorale of the Catskills Concert, 2:30pm, Gould Church, Roxbury
- Dec. 14 – Christmas Celebration, Township UMC, 8pm
- Dec. 15- Kids' Sunday, Bloomville UMC, 12-3pm
- Dec. 16 – Bloomville UMC Council, 10am
- Dec. 22 – Christmas Celebration – Stamford UMC, 9am
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Celebration – Bloomville UMC, 5:30pm
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Celebration – Hobart UMC, 5:30pm
- Rev. Kim's vacation, Dec. 25-31. Please contact Pastor Paul for pastoral needs.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>, Hobart UMC @ 10am
- Parish Council – January 15, 2020



# Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



As we move into the holiday season and in particular, Thanksgiving, there are lots of things to be thankful for. As I write this, there are only 39 days until Thanksgiving, and 60 days until the celebration of Christ's birth and the New Year.

This year has gone by fast. This upcoming year we will have a lot of work ahead of us with new ministry ideas being discussed and old ones continuing.

Life can keep us so busy and then you volunteer in church activities as well. I wanted to take a moment to say thank you. Thank you for serving as trustees of the church. Thank you for serving on the PPR committee. Thank you for being on the church board. Thank you for serving in kids' ministry. Thank you for serving in missions like Blissful Baby Bottoms and Angel's Attic. Thank you for being part of the music ministry, for organizing and cleaning. And thank you for being available for special events and using your individual special talents. Above all thank you for being part of the body of Christ. You are a blessing to the body and needed in the ministry of the church.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 says this: "*Christ's body is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink. Certainly the body isn't one part but many.*"

***Blessings –  
Pastor Paul***

At DHP, our volunteers continually make a meaningful difference in the lives of our churches and communities. We couldn't do it without you! From all of us, thank you for giving selflessly of your time and resources. *Our church volunteers are the unsung heroes of our church and the lifeblood of our ministry. Volunteers give of their energy, skills and time because they are passionate about the mission of the church. Unlike any other organization in the world, the church is completely dependent on volunteers. The truth is that the structure and workings of a church are only as good as the church's volunteers. We serve an incredibly amazing God, but He builds His church with people who are willing to love and serve others. Your tireless devotion to our congregation and extended community is such a blessing to all.*

## How We Make a Difference?

**Be Theatrical and musical and creative**  
**Garden**  
**Drive**  
**Call, visit, arrange, type, greet, clean, fundraise**  
**Teach, write, sing**  
**Share your warm smile**  
**Take pictures**  
**Organize, Research**  
**Donate**  
**Cook or help out in the kitchen**  
**Perform maintenance**  
**Build, replace, mow, buy, plow, set-up, tear-down**  
**Meet and make decisions**



## What is the "Hanging of the Greens?"

Our churches are preparing for Christ's coming, which includes hanging greenery traditionally associated with everlasting life. Greens such as cedar for royalty, fir and pine boughs for everlasting life, holly symbolizing Jesus' death and ivy representing the resurrection are used.

Bloomville UMC will have a Hanging of the Greens set-up day on Dec. 1 following service. This will include a pot-luck luncheon. We hope you will join us this holiday season!

## Training Opportunity -

Our next Safe Sanctuaries and Sexual Harassment training will be  
April 21, 2020

Delaware Headwaters Parish believes that scripture instructs us to care for the children and adults brought into the church. We are committed to their protection, and in doing so to represent God's justice and mercy in the world.

Our goal is to protect our children, youth and vulnerable adults, protect

our volunteers and staff and safeguard our resources for mission and ministry.

We will offer Safe Sanctuaries and Sexual Harassment training on April 21, 2020 from 6-8pm at Hobart UMC for all employees and volunteers.

Safe Sanctuaries® is the name commonly given by United Methodist Annual Conferences and local churches to their individual efforts to make church programs welcoming and safe for children, youth and vulnerable adults and the adults who work with them. Training is mandatory for all employees and volunteers.

The United Methodist Church is committed to preventing misconduct and addressing it when it occurs. Even if you have not been directly affected by sexual misconduct, every member of every congregation must get involved to eradicate sexual harassment and misconduct in The United Methodist Church. Each of us needs to know what constitutes sexual misconduct and how prevalent the problem is.

All New York State employers must provide employees with sexual harassment prevention training upon hire and on an annual basis. It is the opinion of our UMC leaders that all church volunteers have this training also.

## Clean-up day

Clean-up day at the Bloomville United Methodist Church was a huge success from start to finish. We began this event with a delicious pot-luck luncheon. Following a

wonderful meal, we divided and tackled. Some of us cleaned in the parsonage, while others cleared out the office to make a nursery. A few tackled the cold storage room and the storage closet. The kitchen needed cleaning too. And not to be left out were the workers who took down the old sign and a dead tree. We are grateful for the dedicated help of our faithful volunteers.





# Fifth Sunday

## 2020

March 29 – Bloomville UMC @ 10am

May 29 – Stamford UMC @ 10am

August 30 – Township UMC @ 10am

November 29 – Hobart UMC @ 10am



Together Growing Stronger Families



WIC (Women, Infants and Children) is a group that meets at the Baptist Church in Stamford on the first Thursday of each month. Our mission is to provide mothers with clean used kid clothes, crib sheets, blankets, books, and toys for babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

One of the favorite items we provide is disposable diapers for our babies and children. The diapers are



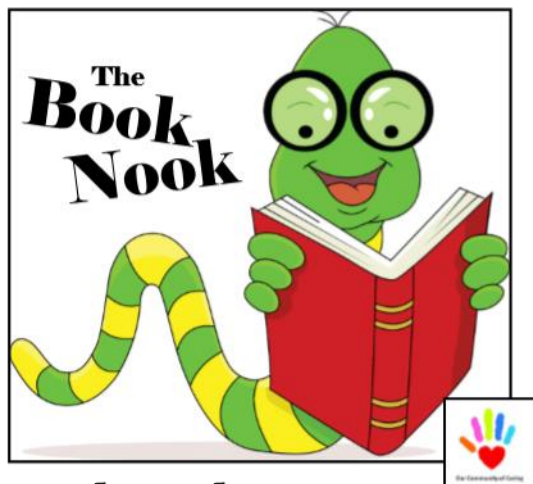
purchased with our mission offering for Blissful Baby Bottoms. Anyone can donate diapers or coupons for diapers.

Along with the kindness and generosity of the Stamford Baptist Church we have an opportunity for families to share with other families items of clothing they no longer need or fit their children.

A big Thank You to Jane McIntosh-Martin and Kristen Milne for their huge donation of clothes they dropped off. We also want to thank the anonymous donor for the large box of wonderful toys and books they dropped off at the Hobart UMC. All have been very useful and very much appreciated by our families.

Your donations can be dropped off at any church in our Parish or see Carol Beirlein or Joan Joedicke.

With Great Gratitude,  
*Carol & Joan*



**Thank You!**

After three seasons within the shelter of the Hobart Methodist Church, The Book Nook is ready to

move out on its own. Our new location will be on Main Street in Hobart, opening to the public in June of 2020.

I am grateful to everyone in the Delaware Headwaters Parish and Hobart UMC. Without your kindness and encouragement, the library would not have come into existence.

Thank you,  
*Julie Rockefeller*

## **Alain & Katherine Niles' Update**

Dear Friends,

We want to give you some highlights from the last two months and look ahead for you to know how to better pray for us.

### **Speaking**

Alain has stepped in to help cover preaching at our Home church while our pastor is on sabbatical September-October. It has been great to teach through the Word in Psalm 119 to people we love. Our church is small and out in the country, yet it cares deeply about missions throughout the world

### **School**

The kids are doing well in school at home: Camille in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Caleb in Kindergarten (and Mia-Joy in potty training:>). Alain is finishing up his last two prerequisite science courses.

Applications are in to physician assistant schools and we wait to see whether God opens that door in the next year or so. We'll keep you posted on any progress.

### **Visiting Georgia**

We will be making a trip down to Rome, GA, in October. We will be sharing with friends at First Baptist in Rome on Oct 13th. Alain will only stay a few days because he has to get back to classes, but Katherine and the kids will be staying in Rome for 2 weeks to soak up time with her grandmother and parents. Let us know if you would like to connect while we are in the South this month.

### **Togo Return**

As Alain completes his prerequisite studies and our furlough comes to an end, we are planning our return to Togo for the end of December. It's always a daunting task to wrap up life in one place and focus on transitioning to the next. Returning to Togo means focusing on speaking French with the kids, getting all our vaccinations, renewing passports and visas, juggling all the details of a move, and finishing well on this end. These transitions don't get easier with time. Even though we both grew up overseas and have gone back and forth living in the US and overseas our whole lives, each transition has new challenges to navigate –especially as our children are continually growing and changing too. These include the challenges always present of letting go of your stuff, packing the necessities, reprogramming your brain to live cross culturally, and mentally preparing for the heat and the challenges of Africa. But....these are times when we always experience God's faithfulness and provisions! We are excited to get back to serving in Togo and we are thankful

that as we leave our friends here in the US, we return to dear friends in Togo whom we love –friends we minister with and friends we get to share God's love with.

### **Our next phase of ministry**

As we head back in December, we will be jumping back in to ministry at the Hospital of Hope. Our colleagues who oversee the chaplaincy outreach will be going on furlough and we will step in to cover for them and invest in our chaplains that we trained back in 2014. We are eager to step in and help our team at the hospital in many different capacities.

### **Thanks for praying**

- For our last few months in the US, that we might finish well
- For our upcoming transition, that God will give us peace and stamina
- For a response from PA schools, that God will open or close doors for further education
- For our team at the Hospital of Hope and the continued medical ministry.

Blessings,

*Alain, Katherine, Camille, Caleb & Mia-Joy*



Angels'  
Attic



Angel's Attic will be open for the first two Mondays and Tuesdays of November (Nov. 4-5 and 11-12). We will close for the season after Nov. 12th and re-open in May (2020). Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you in 2020!




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 such as a hurricane, "100-year" flood, sub-zero temperatures, high winds, icy roads, blinding blizzard conditions, power failure, etc. . . (you get the idea)

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.

★  
For  
unto  
you is  
born this  
day in the  
city of David  
a saviour, which  
is Christ the Lord.  
Luke  
2:11





 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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