



Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UM Churches

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

May/June 2019 Newsletter

Delaware Headwaters Parish

Rev. Dee Stevens & Pastor Paul Moller

Parsonage (Pastor Dee) & Parish Office (Thursdays)
607-538-9691

Rev. Dee's email: pastordeestevens@outlook.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: 11am

607-538-9440

Hobart United Methodist Church

186 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

pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com

Welcome to the Delaware Headwaters Parish!

The Delaware Headwaters Parish has brought together Bloomville UMC, Hobart UMC, Stamford UMC, Township UMC under the direction of Rev. Dee Stevens 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 community . . . 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.



This is the day the
LORD has made;
We will rejoice and
be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24





To Pastor Dee

May

- 5 – Communion
Native American Sunday
UMW 5 Star Sunday @ Hobart UMW
- 8 – UMW @ Hobart UMC
- 12 – Mother's Day
Last day of Sunday School @ Bloomville UMC
- 17 – UMW Sub Sale @ Hobart UMC
- 19 – Kids' Sunday @ Bloomville UMC, 12-3pm
Friends of Music @ Stamford UMC, 3pm
Retirement for Rev. Tim Riss @ Catskill UMC
- 27 – Memorial Day Parades

June

- 2 – Communion
 - 4 – Book Nook reopens, Tuesdays, 2-8pm
 - 6-9 – NY Annual Conference, Hofstra University
 - 12 – UMW @ Hobart UMC
 - 14 – Flag Day Parade, Stamford, 6pm
 - 16 – Father's Day
Kids' Sunday @ Bloomville UMC, 12-3pm
Friends of Music @ Stamford UMC, 3pm
 - 29 – Graduation
 - 30 – 5th Sunday
-



A fond farewell to all I have had the opportunity to work with in the Delaware Headwaters Parish. If I started to thank people individually for our time together the list may run too long. So I simply say thanks to the Parish Committee and head off into the sunset.

May all God's Blessings be with You,

Rev. Dee Carol Stevens, Pastor



Our God has sent you to this place
To lead us in the way
That He would have us work and think
And live from day to day.

No matter the hour; whatever the need,
You went the extra mile -
Always ready and willing to share
A comforting thought and a smile.

We're grateful that you were here with us
To teach us from His word,
And we will try to do our best
In service of our Lord.

We thank you for your ministry,
Your guidance and your care.
His greatest blessings for your life
Is our most humble prayer.

Congratulations on your retirement.
May your days be filled with peace.
We hope you find your greatest joys,
And your ministries never cease.

Author Unknown



A Brief Story about My Journey as a Servant of Christ Jesus - **The Rev. Kwang-il Kim**

Happy Easter to all of you!

I am deeply thankful to all of you and to our risen Lord Christ Jesus for our ministerial journey together to proclaim and expand the kingdom of God amid our local, national and global communities.

Our lovely Pastor Paul in Christ sent me an email for me to write a short article about myself. I hope this short one could help you to get to know me a little bit better as we are about to take our first step together toward our precious and bold life-saving and God's kingdom-building ministry ahead.

I was born in 1953 in South Korea and immigrated to the United States in 1989 to study Theology at Drew Theological School in Madison, NJ. Before I arrived at Drew, I worked for the Seoul City Government as a public servant for 11 years from 1978 until 1989. I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in the Department of English Language and Literature from Kyonggi University, Seoul Korea. At Drew, I finished the Master of Divinity (M. Div.) program in 1993 and completed the Coursework for the Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) program in 1994.

Here I would like to share my version of *Moses' Burning Bush Experience*:

On a Wednesday evening in Mid-August 1976, I was attending a prayer service at my church. All of a sudden, during the sermon, the pastor began to touch upon a topic totally unrelated to his sermon. Here is my paraphrasing of what he said:

"Congregation! Please be wary of people who assert that they have received the power of prophesying prayer from the Lord and tries to administer that kind of prayer for you because many of them are liars and are actually thinking more about your money than they are about your well-being. They are like covetous wolves who devour and destroy the many naïve souls of the laity in many churches!"

As I was listening to him, I could not understand why the pastor suddenly mentioned this kind of unpleasant message. After the service, I asked several church members about what was going on in the church and why the pastor would mention that kind of topic in his sermon.

Here is what I found out: Hyoja Mt. Retreat Center stood a mile away from our church. At that time, a laity named Mr. Oh, of whom I knew nothing about, had been praying at the retreat center for several days. This man asserted that he received the power of prophesying prayer from the Lord and was administering such prayers for our church members. The pastor was so worried and uncomfortable about the situation that he tried to lead his congregation away from Mr. Oh's influence.

Immediately, I called a Young Adult Group Meeting, which I was chairing at that time. We selected four members, including me, to investigate the situation with the objective of validating this man's authenticity, especially the contents of the prayers he was administering for the people.

In about a week later, we, the delegates, went up to the retreat center. The moment we entered the room, he took a look at us and said, "Why do you guys try to test me? You know, when you come up here, you should have a pure and believing heart!" Wow! The moment I heard him, I was momentarily appalled by this comment and said to myself, "What is this? Does this guy have the power of mind-reading? Or is he a true servant of the Lord, with the power of prophesying prayer?"

He continued to say, "All right! Any way, you guys are here, why don't you sit down so that we may pray together!" So, to evaluate his prayers, the four of us sat around him. He laid his hands on us and prayed for each of us. I was the last one to receive his prayer. Here is what he prayed for me:

"You will go abroad to study Theology some time later and come back after study to teach the seminarians as a professor."

"Wow!" This prayer was just an unimaginable explosion to me. I was merely a 23-year old high school graduate. To tell you the truth, I was aimlessly struggling amid an abyss of spiritual wandering. In such a helpless situation as this, his prayer for me was like electricity surging through my entire body, mind and spirit. It reshuffled the paradigm of my way of being and thinking, and powerfully thrust me toward that clear and vivid goal for my future. Silently, I said to myself: "Yes, this is it!" The moment Mr. Oh finished his prayer for me, his true identity and authenticity did not matter to me any longer. Instead, I firmly grabbed the contents of his prayer, came down from the mountain and headed immediately to the church sanctuary. I knelt down in front of the pulpit and began to pray: "O Lord, please help me to study theology and become your faithful servant. I want to spread your Word of eternal life and hope in order to build up your kingdom in this broken and wounded world!" This same prayer continued day

and night for thirteen full years until August 1989 when I finally arrived at Drew Theological School.

In 1994, I started my first ministry as a local pastor at the Kenoza Lake Cooperative Parish, which was composed of Kenoza Lake, Fosterdale and Jeffersonville United Methodist Churches. After my deacon ordination in 1996, I served Faith United Methodist Church on Staten Island, NY from 1996 until 2001. Then, I was ordained Elder in 2001 and was appointed to the Woodland Circuit Parish: Phoenicia, Lanesville and Shandaken United Methodist Churches in Ulster County, NY. I served there for three years until 2004. From July 2004 until June 2007, I served the First United Methodist Church in Middletown, CT. From July 2007 to June 2010, I served the First United Methodist Church of Brewster and From July 2010 until June 2013, I served the Lakeville and Sharon United Methodist Churches. Then, I was appointed to the Goshen United Methodist and served there from 2013 to 2014, Goshen, NY. From July 2014 until June 2017, I served the High Ridge/Stamford Korean United Methodist Church and From July 2017 to the present, I have been serving the Rock Hill/Woodridge United Methodist churches.

I am truly proud of my vocation as a servant of the Lord. I live with clear purpose and appreciate the meaning of my life in this journey by relying on the Lord 101%. My wife Young Jwa Cho lives with her daughter in Fairfax, VA, to help her to complete her college course. My son, Seong-Min lives in Union City, CA and my daughter, Deborah J. Kim lives in NJ with her mom. I enjoy playing golf, singing, traveling and attending professional/Ministerial Development Seminars etc.

Here I am fully excited with our journey together toward our *Christian perfection and God's Kingdom life*. May the Lord's never-failing grace and love embrace all of us and our God's kingdom—building ministry together. See you all on the first Sunday of July.

In the risen Christ,

The Rev. Kwang-il Kim,
Pastor



Note from Pastor Paul

I can't remember the last time I longed for summer, but this year I am eager for its arrival and it's almost here. It feels like ages since we have had the summer breeze and warm sun on our faces.

All this wishing for warm weather and sunshine makes me think of our relationship with God. It was a summer night many years ago that I found myself in awe of God for the first time. For me, one of the places I see the beauty of God is in the creation that God made for us.

At Easter service in Bloomville, a youth came up to me after service and said we should have had service outside on the lawn. This is something that I have been thinking about for about a year. What a great place to worship. Perhaps we will be inspired to worship this way in the coming year.

This summer, I am looking forward to having lots of summer fun from VBS, to baptisms, church and family outings, picnics, hiking, bonfires, and most of all seeing us all grow in Christ.

On a sad note, Pastor Dee is retiring. It truly has been a blessing to be in ministry with her. I enjoyed every communion that we shared together, every Fifth Sunday gathering, bouncing ideas around and creating services together. Thank you, Pastor Dee, for working with me.

Blessings,

Pastor Paul Moller

Kids' Sunday

In March, we had two great events. The Binghamton Devils Faith and Family night was a blast! 15 adults and kids enjoyed the hockey game this year. It was a blast to see the kids and adults getting into the game, and to have a family night out with everyone. It would be great to do more "family and friends" nights throughout the year. Let Pastor Paul know if you have any ideas. On the third Sunday, we learned a lot about forgiveness from the parable about the unforgiving servant. We constructed great crafts together, thanks to the Ogborns' creativity.

In April we gathered on Palm Sunday and had lots of fun discovering how God makes us new when we align our life with God. We decorated stones to be placed in our yards and homes that help us to see ways that God makes things new.

As summer comes near, I am happy to say that we will continue on our journey every third Sunday at the Bloomville UMC. We are hopeful that we can spend a lot of time outside this summer, and we are hoping to do some hiking as well. Big thanks to all the adults that have been able to support the kids as we gather each month. Please join us!



The last day of **Bloomville UMC** Sunday School will be on May 12 during the 11am service. Join us as we also celebrate Mother's Day. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mark Your Calendar —



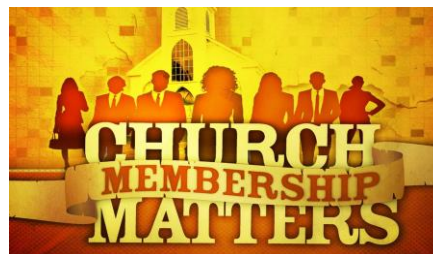
Looking ahead to the summer, don't forget: The **Bloomville UMC** will be hosting VBS again this year in the first week in August.



Angels' Attic will be **closed** until further notice. The Hobart UMC will make a final decision in the upcoming months. We thank all who supported, contributed, volunteered and shopped. Please do not drop off any more items. Please continue to support our neighboring Thrift Shops.



The **Bloomville United Methodist Church** is currently updating its membership lists. We are in the process of contacting standing baptized and professed members we have on file asking for updated information. Letters have been sent out using the info and addresses we have. Please send the form back to the church ASAP if you received one. If you or an immediate family member are a baptized and/or professed member of the BUMC and did not receive a form and wish for us to be notified, please call and leave a message at the church (607-538-9440) or email us at: pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com with names, dates, address, ministers officiating so we may verify. Thank you for taking the time to help us be better stewards of God's blessings and more accurate in our record keeping.



Rev. Karen A. Monk Appointed as the District Superintendent of the Catskill Hudson District



About Rev. Monk

The Reverend Dr. Karen A. Monk has been appointed as the District Superintendent of the Catskill Hudson District beginning July 1, 2019, replacing The Reverend Timothy J. Riss.

Rev. Monk has spent most of her pastoral career serving within the bounds of the Catskill Hudson District, most recently serving as the pastor of the Kaaterskill/East Jewitt Charge for the past sixteen (16) years. She has also served at Kingston: St. James, Olivebridge, and Samsonville.

Karen understands the unique nature of life in rural Appalachia and brings expertise in representing mountain life and the people who make up the Catskill Hudson region. She has faithfully served the Annual Conference on the Commission on Native American Ministries and for the last several years as a member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

Karen graduated from Southwestern University and then earned her Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Theology, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

Pastor Dee wishes to remind us . . .

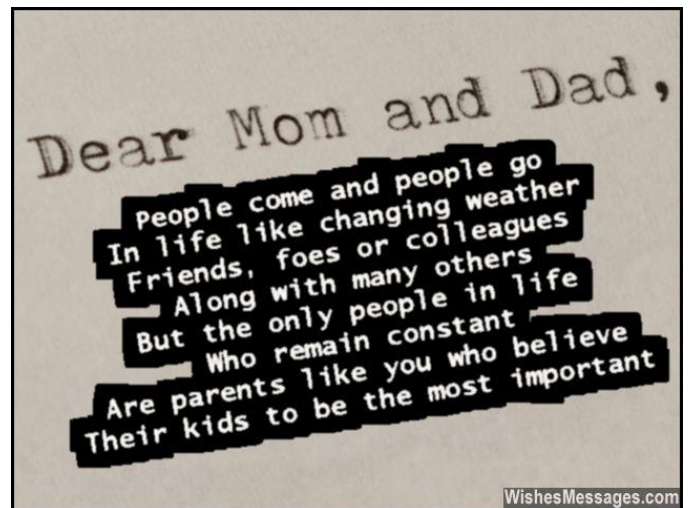
"I went golfing recently with a buddy who refused to wear sunglasses. He kept insisting that the sun didn't bother his eyes. I explained that UV rays damage the cells in your eyes the same way they do your skin. Over time, the repair process can lead to problems like cataracts and macular degeneration as well as eyelid cancers. And that's at any age: I have a patient in her 40s who developed cataracts due to sun exposure, and pterygium — or surfer's eye, one of the most common sun-related conditions — can occur as early as your 20s. It's a growth that can spread from the corner of the eye, impairing vision.

So **please** always wear sunglasses. They don't have to be expensive, but they do have to provide 100 percent UVA and UVB protection. When you're in a boat, on a beach, by a pool, or in the snow, your eyes are especially vulnerable, because the sun's rays reflect off water and snow. But even city streets and sidewalks are risky." —
Keith Walter, M.D., Professor of Ophthalmology at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, NC




AROUND THE PARISH







	<p>Reopens on June 4th! 2 to 8 p.m.</p>
<p>Free Lending Library and Community Space</p> <p>Open to the public Tuesdays June 4th to October 29th, from 2 to 8 p.m. Books for infants to young adults plus free WiFi. Summer film series begins June 11th. Located upstairs in the Hobart Methodist Church, 186 Maple Avenue, Hobart NY 13788.</p> <p>spyingheart@hotmail.com / 845-282-6397</p>	

 <p>Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors. The people of The United Methodist Church®</p> <p>Delaware Headwaters Parish PO Box 205, Hobart, NY 13788 Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township United Methodist Churches Rev. Dee Steven & Pastor Paul Moller</p>
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