



Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UM Churches

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

January/February 2021 Newsletter

Delaware Headwaters Parish

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Hobart United Methodist Church

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PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

607-538-9691

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There are moments in history when the world is shaken to its very core. 2020 felt like one of those moments. From this painful disruption, new ideas have emerged.

The familiar routines of worship on Sunday morning have a new companion - computer and/or phone links. Our Parish took on this sudden, pandemic-induced demand for online worship. We are now offering what people need, such as access to worship and discipleship on demand.

Pastors and volunteers are working in uncharted waters becoming producers, camera and lighting operators, sound technicians and editors. Faithful people doing faithful work.

These new ways are leading to growth. Communication is a critical outreach ministry. We are reaching and creating disciples of Jesus Christ. God has given us the tools and the gifts to grow the Kingdom. Are you following?

We have a robust website, social media presence, and online and in person worship to serve you and the communities around us.



The Holidays Were Different Last Year

Like everything in 2020, the holidays were extremely different. As families reconsidered traditional gatherings to embrace safe and healthy holidays, new ideas emerged. This also gave our Parish families a chance to be creative.

Some of the creative ideas Parish members tried: *adding extra decorations, organize a food exchange, Zoom talks, baking cookies every Friday night, making holiday cards instead of actually buying gifts, getting exercise daily, window visits, daily texts, play a game via Zoom, weekly take-outs, made a secret family recipe, helped someone decorate, supplied a meal, took special photos, watched holiday movies, kept track of Rocky the owl, donated, cleaned, re-gifted, crafted, donated blood, kept the Elf on the Shelf busy, tried DIY gifts, made bird feeders, volunteered and planned church events, made and delivered masks, shopped local, got out old family photo albums, looked through old school yearbooks, read Christmas stories, shopped for others, sent cards, made phone calls.*

Well, that's the way we heard it!

Wow, what resilient and creative people!

Let's keep up the good works!

These are difficult times, and all of our crystal balls are cracked and cloudy. COVID-19 is changing the way the world interacts. Predicting what our needs will be, or what our resources will be or even what lies ahead is impossible at this time. All of us are struggling.

Through this, our churches are able and willing to step-up because of your generous support. We will continue to plan and use tithes and offerings in ways that benefit the churches and our missions. We hope and pray that they will continue to be received. Indeed, your tithe does matter!

In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" - Acts 20:35

So, keep being the best you can be during this trying time. Continue to remember the faithfulness of the Lord by returning our tithes and offerings. **And again, accept our heartfelt gratitude for your blessings in all shapes and forms.**

Please mail your tithes and other offerings to:

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

Hobart UMC: Ralph Beisler, 107 Sheffield Lane, Hobart, NY 13788

Stamford UMC: Debbie Coager, 290 Roses Brook Road, South Kortright, NY 13842

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

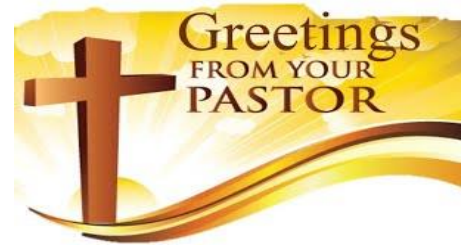
Counting Our Blessings

Through it all, we experienced tremendous blessings in 2020! Here are blessings from some of our Parish friends and families.

- We're Americans – strong & smart
- We can make wise choices
- Food and shelter
- Our health
- Technology, science news
- Volunteers & helpers who step-up with their skills
- Excellent therapeutics and dedicated health care
- Medicine, vaccines
- Strong economy
- Schools and medical offices opened
- Our protectors - Fire departments, EMS, police, health care, military
- Each other
- Jesus
- Food on the table
- School staff, students and parents dedication to education and their ability to adapt to unusual learning environments using the technology at hand
- Ingenuity and innovation
- Local businesses
- Adapting to take-out and curb-side pickup
- Our churches that lift our hearts to find renewed strength
- All essential workers
- Support and trust of hardworking people
- Facetime/Zoom with family
- A message/card from a thoughtful neighbor
- Getting through this, in spite of a mask
- A cuddle with comforting arms or soft paws
- Service workers who keep us going/connected
- All delivery services
- Saved money – less work travel
- Receiving good advice
- Good friends and loving family members
- Snow removal by friends and family
- Grandchildren
- The rail-trail
- My pets, my rescue puppy
- I stuck to God
- Our garden, more time outside
- Mail delivery and pick-up in spite of our Post Office closing
- Job updates – retired, started a new job

"I count my blessings every day, quite honestly, because I take nothing for granted."

Mario Andretti



My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*Behold, we know not anything; I can but trust
that good shall fall*

*At last - far off - as last, to all, And every
winter change to spring.*

*So runs my dream: but what am I? An infant
crying in the night:*

*An infant crying for the light: And with no
language but a cry.*

These unforgettable lines (4th and 5th stanza) are part of section LIV of the famous poem titled In Memoriam A.H.H. written by Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-92), a poet laureate in the Victorian age. It took 17 years (1833-50) for him to complete this poem (Total 724 stanzas). Tennyson wrote this as a form of Elegy to mourn, cherish, and honor his deeply beloved friend, Arthur Hallam, who died unexpectedly during a trip to Vienna with his father in 1833.

These lines remind me of my two-year-old son, Seong-Min, who was sleeping in the dusk of the evening 35 years ago (1985) when we got a phone call from my mother-in-law for a dinner invitation. Her home was just about 300 feet away from my place. Although we hesitated to accept the invitation since Seong-Min was in a deep sleep at that time, we made a decision to eat quickly with the intention of returning before he would wake up. During the whole dinner, we couldn't relax knowing we left our sleeping baby home alone. About an hour or so later, we rushed home. When we

got closer to home, we heard the sound of Seong-Min's crying sound all the way out to the main street. Upon arriving, we couldn't believe what we saw. This little baby was standing on the high and narrow windowsill with his small, tear-filled face pressed against the dusty screen of the window. Oh Lord...!

How could this tiny two-year-old boy climb up such a narrow high windowsill after passing through all the huddles placed between him and that window in such darkness? It was truly unbelievable! How could he reach a place so high up, without touching a single item from the densely piled up stuff on the table and desk right next to the window?

In order for him to reach that high windowsill, he definitely had to first climb up the small table placed right next to the bigger desk standing against the window. On that small table, many things were piled up and some of those items were even fragile. The worst thing is there was no spot for him to find actual safe footing without knocking any of those things over. But not even a single tiny item had dropped to the floor while he was maneuvering through that adventurous and dangerous path to reach the high and narrow windowsill in the night.

He was desperately crying for the light - a dim stream of light barely reaching him from the house across the window. That alley was pitch black since there were no streetlights outside. When we left the house, we had shut off all the lights to help him enjoy his deep sleep....

An infant crying for the light. An infant crying in the night: Like Alfred Tennyson and Seong-Min, we are all infants crying for the light, "the Light of the World," Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. This light is our eternal meaning and ultimate hope during our earthly life journey in the midst of such darkness.

What am I? Who am I? John the Gospel writer likely answers: "In Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." [John 1:4-5]

May the light of Christ Jesus walk with you, me and all humanity on earth in this new year of 2021 and beyond.

In the light of Christ,

Rev. Kim

In our hearts



On behalf of The Delaware Headwaters Parish,
we extend our heartfelt sympathies to the
families of:

*Cedar Eagle Road, Fred Hitt,
Art Smith, Marge VanValkenburg*



Many thanks to Ken Brockway and Jim Quarino for
updating the current events bulletin board at the Hbart
Post Office, which will now be maintained by the
Hbart United Methodist Church.



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

The Rules We Live By

Wear a face covering.

Watch your distance.

Wash your hands.

Wait on gatherings.


Stay Strong

We Can't Say It Enough!

We really can't say Thank You enough. Your generosity has been overwhelming. Thank you for touching so many lives and helping to meet so many needs. Thanks for all you do! We couldn't get this far without you. You are a blessing! We love our supporters and volunteers!





 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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