



Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UM Churches

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

March/April 2021 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

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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 Associate Pastor Paul Moller. We are happy to have you as a member or a visitor to our churches. The in-person worship services take place on Sundays at 8:30am [Stamford and Township UMCs] and 10:00am [Bloomville and Hobart UMCs] during the pandemic.

Our churches have learned lessons from the hardships of the pandemic that have made us stronger and more effective for the years ahead:

- We are highly resilient and capable of finding creative solutions to problems.
- Social engagement and corporate worship are irreplaceable.
- Fund raisers are possible
- We can still meet in person
- Creativity and flexibility are important
- Everyone has a strength or gift that makes our Parish thrive
- Mission and outreach can be accomplished
- Online offers great potential for expanding our reach into the community.

Please keep in mind that we are following Covid19 protocols and, due to the changing nature of this virus and our understanding, things may and will continue to change.



As one of the most significant holidays of the year in the Christian calendar, Easter completes the circle in the life of Jesus. Easter Sunday is a very joyous symbol of rebirth and of hope. We acknowledge Jesus' death, as well as His resurrection. Our savior Jesus died to make up (and atone) for all the sins that have happened in the world. With these Lent and Holy Week events, Jesus brought people closer to God.

With Easter egg hunts, a bunny mascot and chocolate galore, it's easy to see why Easter is an exciting time for kids! Yet how many of them actually know why we celebrate Easter or where our Easter traditions come from? These are some details to share.

- 1. The date of Easter changes every year.** Easter falls on the first Sunday after the full moon following the March equinox. However, this always occurs on or between 22nd March and 25th April.
- 2. Easter is the Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.** It is the oldest Christian tradition. It is also considered to be the most important date on the Christian calendar.
- 3. Easter marks the end of the 40-day period of Lent,** which is a traditional time of fasting that begins on Ash Wednesday.
- 4. The week before Easter is known as Holy Week.** This begins on Palm Sunday and includes Maundy Thursday (the day of the Last Supper), Good Friday (the day of Christ's crucifixion) and Holy Saturday (the time between the crucifixion and resurrection).
- 5. Eggs (along with milk and meat) were once forbidden during Lent in some cultures.** Any remaining eggs would be used up on the day before Lent, Shrove Tuesday, which is also known as Pancake Tuesday. The eggs

accumulated during Lent would then be eaten at Easter.

6. Eggs are also associated with Easter since they are a symbol of fertility and rebirth, linking them with springtime and with the celebration of the resurrection.

7. Decorating Easter eggs first began with the custom of staining eggs red to symbolize the blood shed by Christ during the crucifixion. .

8. Hot cross buns were one of the earliest Easter treats, and were made by European monks to be given out to the poor during Lent.

9. The word 'Easter' comes from Ēosturmōnath (meaning Easter month), an Old English name for the month of April, which was named after Ēostre, the Pagan goddess of spring and fertility.

10. The idea of the Easter Bunny originated among German Lutherans in the 17th century as the Easter Hare, which was said to carry a basket and deliver sweet pastries and other candies to village children.

11. Easter is celebrated in different ways around the world. In **Bermuda**, people fly homemade kites on Good Friday. In areas of **Northwestern Europe**, ancestors lit large bonfires called Easter Fires on Easter Sunday and Monday. They began as a way to chase the winter away — but now they bring communities together. In **Sweden**, children dress up as Easter witches and wear old clothes. Similar to our Halloween, the kids walk around their neighborhoods trading their artwork for candy. Residents of **Haux, France**, serve an enormous omelet on Easter Monday to feed up to 1,000 people. Easter bonnet parades take place in **Australia**, the **United Kingdom**, and the **United States**. The basket was even replaced with a bonnet by pioneers. A young girl's bonnet could handily be used as a nest for the Easter Bunny to place treats in.



In our hearts



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

Grace Robertson
of the Bloomville
United Methodist Church

KORTRIGHT
Invites
You Back



Artwork By Jill Tannone
Compiled By Margaret Kenyon

It's ready!

My new book will be available at Sal's in Bloomville, Hobart bookstores, my house, and the county historical building in Delhi. A suggested donation of \$15 and this can be yours.

Thank you for your interest.
Peg Kenyon



After closing its doors amidst the coronavirus global pandemic, Angel's Attic is working on reopening at some point this spring. However, it all depends on volunteers. There is so much to do before reopening. Your help is needed. We are appealing for volunteers to help us as we prepare the store for this exciting event! If you are a past volunteer or are looking to devote a few hours a week to a new venture, please call **Dorothy Wetmore at 607-538-9988**. This is a great opportunity for students to earn community service credit hours.

Hours of operation and dates open have yet to be determined. We've missed having our awesome customers in our store. Drop-off donations are not accepted yet. Please watch for news on the Facebook page. Thank you for your patience and understanding. To ensure that customers and volunteers remain safe, we have a lot of preparation to complete. Keep us in your prayers!



Join us on April 4th
either in person or online.

Bloomville UMC – 10am
Hobart UMC - 10am
Stamford UMC - 8:30am
Township UMC – 8:30am



WORSHIP through GIVING

Please Continue Tithing

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

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

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

Lent – A Journey of Birth Pang to the New Life of Resurrection By - Rev. Kim

I still remember vividly the day when my daughter Deborah was born (April 23, 1991) at the Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown, NJ. We had to rush to the hospital because my wife’s birth pain had already started. When arrived at the hospital, her nurse informed us that her water had already burst and immediately moved her to the Delivery Room. The nurse asked me to come in and be present there during the whole time of her delivery of the baby. I still remember her continued screams during nearly two and a half hours. The nurse who helped her finally told me that they would implement a C-section after a few more minutes’ trying.

My wife’s on-going screams along with the urgent voices of the nurse shouting,

“Push! Push! Push! a little bit more ...yes, more... yes, yes, more ... push... push... and push!” are still lingering to my ear. In about 10-15 more minutes(?) later, we could see the tiny head of the baby slowly coming out of her mom’s body.

Hallelujah! What a new life! What a long suffering of birth pang!

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ! Our Lenten journey is like this birth pang to give birth to a new life, that is, our resurrection life in Christ Jesus, our Lord of Resurrection. Christ himself experienced his birth pang on his cross to give birth to his new life – His resurrection life and our resurrection life in Him.

This is why we are solemnly called to begin our 40-day lengthen journey. This journey is that of repentance, self-denial, fasting and prayer etc. – our journey of birth pang to give birth to our new life in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

As we know, our Lenten journey has already started on the last Ash Wednesday, Feb 17 and will end on Holy Saturday, April 3. The total number of days between this Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, April 4 is 46. Since we celebrate Sundays as the Lord’s Day – the Lord’s Resurrection Day, the six Sundays in-between are subtracted from these 46 days to make our 40-day Lenten journey.

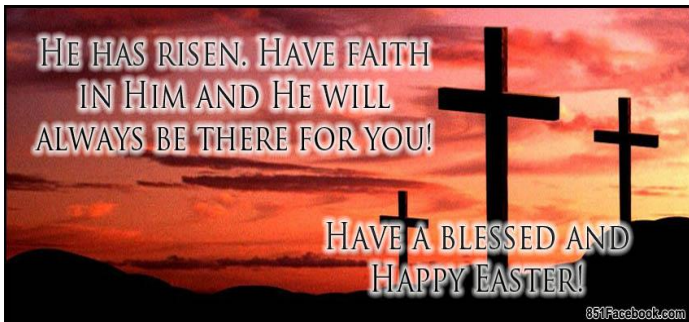
Now, our important question is: How can/will we make this self-denial/repentant journey of Lent truly meaningful to reach the glorious morning of Easter? John Wesley, the founder of Methodism taught the people called Methodists the following essential ways of self-denial and Christ-like lifestyle which also called God’s means of Grace pouring out upon us. Those ways are Bible Study, Prayer, Holy Communion, Fasting and Christian Conferencing like public worship, fellowship

etc. For Wesley, these are the very sings and means of God's grace as the most powerful and effective tools for all the followers of Christ to imitate Christ's self-emptying and self-denying lifestyle shown on his cross.

My dear sisters and brothers in Chris! Let's listen to Christ Jesus' teaching for our authentic Lenten journey saying, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." [Mt. 16:24-25]

Have a deeply Blessed and Happy Easter!!

Rev. Kim



Alain & Katherine Niles' Update

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We are thankful to be in Syracuse as we enter into another year of studying and training to help at the Hospital of Hope. Alain is 7 months into the Physician Assistant program and is enjoying the courses. It's intense and full of long days, but he is excelling in his studies.

The University Hospital where he attends has been overwhelmed by COVID in the last few months, like many other facilities around the US. The staff is overworked, the ICU beds are full and the patients keep coming.

Many would say this is a desperate situation. The reality is that our team in Togo functions similar to this almost every day since we've opened the Hospital of Hope in 2015. This is what gives us the motivation to

keep studying and stay focused on getting trained to help our teammates in the long run. We are grateful for our health, for a great local church to get involved with and for our supporters who have stood by us during this pandemic. 2020 has reminded us that God is faithful always and God's people are generous in the good times and bad.

Our kids just started school up again. They've been sleeping in during their break, so the other morning we woke them up earlier to jump right into school. It was like waking the dead...Caleb wanted to know why we were up at midnight and how we could have breakfast while it was still dark out. They may not be morning kids, but we're so proud of how they're growing and learning.

Our friends back in Togo are doing well. Our team has restarted the leadership training for our house church leaders and we have gotten good reports of ministry in the villages. One of our chaplains helped coordinate a friendly soccer tournament in a village called Koumongoukan where they have been studying God's Word with a number of former patients. The outreach was a real success and connected with many of the youth in the area. We are so proud of our chaplains and our teammates. Please keep praying for our team in Togo, God is at work!

We trust you get off to a great start in 2021!

Blessings,

Alain, Katherine, Camille, Caleb and Mia-Joy



March 14, 2021



*Thank You
for your support*



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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