



# Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UM Churches

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

## November/December 2020 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

607-538-9440 or 607-538-9691

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

204 Maple Avenue

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

607-538-9691

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

88 Main St. PO Box 133

Stamford, NY 12167

607-538-9691

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

3835 Town Brook Road

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

607-538-9691

[www.delawareheadwatersparish.com](http://www.delawareheadwatersparish.com)

[pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com](mailto:pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com)

### 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.

Thank you for your faithfulness and patience as we navigate these uncertain times. Here are the in-person service times at DHP: **Stamford & Township UMC @ 8:30am, Bloomville & Hobart UMC @ 10am.** Rev. Kim and Pastor Paul are on a two week alternating schedule. You may also join us at 10am online or by phone **by calling 1-646-558-8656 (meeting code 972-7232-3222)**

Our online presence will continue, especially for those in the congregation who feel not as comfortable coming to in-person service. We thank you for your patience, support, and your cooperation in following our promise to wear face-coverings and be seated in places that you may not have sat before. Please see our guidelines on the website for the other protocols.

This year has been interesting, to say the least. We are all adapting to a different, hopefully temporary, way of life. We are grateful for the technology, Pastor Paul and volunteers that allow us all to be together, even when we're physically apart. Thank you for being an important part of DHP.

# Memories

Are special moments  
that tell our stories. . .

Here is a short story written by a  
member of our congregation. . .

## *Heavenly intervention. . .*

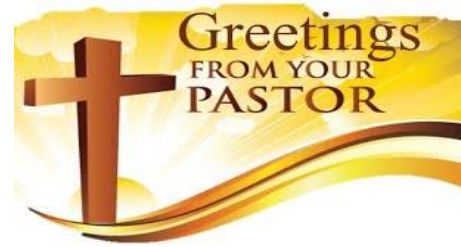
A few years ago our close friends lost their son to cancer. He was a beautiful, kind and gentle human being. A big man with a big heart. He loved to fish, was a loving devoted father to his daughter.

I decided to make him a quilt. Something to wrap up into after his treatments. Some of his friends decided to have a Chinese Auction to raise money for his medical bills. So I decided to donate the quilt instead because he needed the money.

I went to the auction and God must have been there too. Why? Because when they drew the number for the quilt, it was my number and I was able to give it to him myself after all.

*By-Barb Ackerley*

## *Definitely Divine Intervention*



**My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,**

*“The Word became flesh and lived among us.”* John 1:14a

This proclamation of John must have sounded so strange and ridiculous to most of the then Greek thinkers and the public who were deeply saturated with their dualistic Gnosticism. According to this belief system, our material world including human body is evil, corrupt and worthless in which our good human spirit is imprisoned. Thus, it was impossible and unthinkable for the true God to take such an evil human body in Jesus Christ. Accordingly, they couldn't believe that Jesus the Christ suffered on the cross. If Jesus was truly divine, then, he could/should not suffer on the cross. For them, God cannot get involved in our daily human sufferings, pains, and problems etc. because God is impassible.

The very central message of Advent and Christmas in our Judeo-Christian Scriptures is: God the Creator became like one of us by taking our human form in Jesus Christ. This God experienced our own physical, emotional, mental and spiritual sufferings and pains in Jesus the Christ on the cross. Therefore, we Christians cannot explain our God without the scene of Nativity and the scene of the cross on Calvary. We cannot explain our God without the message of healing for the wounded and broken-hearted humanity on earth. We cannot explain our

God without the message of new beginning, new meaning and new life here and now and beyond. We cannot explain our God without looking to tomorrow and eternity.



Here, we stand based on this God of “Immanuel” – **God with us in Jesus the Christ** - the Son of God our Messiah and Lord. This is the very basis of our lifestyle of Thanksgiving here and now. This is why John Wesley, the founder of Methodism finished his earthly journey saying, “**The best of all is, God is with us!**”

Happy fall!! Sunday School is in full swing and we are having a wonderful time together! I have been so pleased with the weekly attendance so far this year. We have had up to eleven children at a time on Sunday mornings!

We have embarked on our journey to begin figuring out who we are in Christ and what plans God has for our lives.

The first couple of weeks in September we talked a lot about how God feels about us and how He uses us. The children discovered, through scripture, that we are all beloved children of God and that He has made each one of us unique. We also learned that God can use absolutely anyone at any point in their lives, to do His will, and to spread His word!

The children participated in bible stories and discussions about the Apostle Paul and how God intervened in his life, while he was on the road to Damascus. We all learned that even when we make poor decisions and mistakes, God still loves us and wants to use us.

The children recently learned that how God views us is often different than how others sometimes see us. We had a wonderful discussion (and played some fun games, too) that all related to the various negative things that others often say to us, and how our own thoughts and actions can even be hurtful towards ourselves. Through these activities the kids discovered that amidst any negativity, the thoughts of God are nothing but positive, loving, and supportive, and that it is His view of us that we need to focus on. One of our memory verses that we will continue to focus on throughout this year is: “*How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand*” (Psalm 139:17-18). I encourage you to ask your

*Blessed Thanksgiving,  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year!!*

Rev. Kim



**Township UMC**, Dec. 24, 7pm  
**Stamford UMC**, Dec.20, 5:30pm  
**Hobart UMC**, Dec.24, 5:30pm  
**Bloomville UMC**, Dec. 24, 5:30pm, New and unique Drive-thru outdoor service. Families will remain in their cars as they enter in the upper driveway for a journey through the Christmas story.

children about the verses that we have learned so far, as the lessons from the scripture are providing us with some great insight into ourselves and how we feel about our lives!

During the next couple of months we will continue to participate in discussions and activities relating to: the various talents and gifts that God has given each of us, gratefulness and how being grateful can drastically change our lives, and of course the birth of Jesus, what that means to us, and how we can be a light for Christ in our lives.

We will be continuing our monthly challenge, which has become a scavenger hunt for scripture, and will also be choosing our holiday giving goal for Heifer International. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this program, it is a nonprofit program that focuses on eliminating hunger and poverty worldwide through providing livestock and agricultural education to impoverished families. A portion of our weekly Sunday School offering will be going to aid in the purchase of livestock that the kids will pick out from the organization's catalog!

As we enter into the holiday season I always start thinking about what I am grateful for and how God blesses our lives every day. I want to take a minute to say thank you for sharing your children with me every Sunday...their laughter and enthusiasm are infectious and they make me continually remember and appreciate just how special our young people are. I love to see their reactions to the bible stories and discussions of individuals within the bible. It truly amazes me when I can catch the moment that they make the connection between the stories/lessons and how that impacts their own lives.

I pray that the upcoming season is full of wonderful memories, health, and many blessings for you and your family. If you have any questions feel free to contact me: 607-538-1856 or [dibble2330@gmail.com](mailto:dibble2330@gmail.com).



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

- Visit our website at [www.delawareheadwatersparish.com](http://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](mailto:pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com)

## Please Continue Tithing

Many of you have contributed to our churches these last months. Your faith is showing and your desire to please God is great. **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

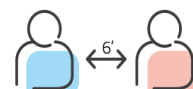
**Township UMC:** Ginny Austin, 16385 County Highway 18. Stamford NY 12167

If you leave home, know your Ws!



**WEAR**

a cloth face covering.



**WAIT**

6 feet apart and avoid close contact.



**WASH**

your hands often or use hand sanitizer



# Connecting with God ~ Connecting with Others

So very thankful -

- We have been able to return to worship in our beautiful sanctuaries even if are all masked and spaced out for safety. Glad you have joined us online too.
- For your continued financial support.
- For the resilience and adaptability of our families of faith. The people of DHP have remained faithful and supportive.
- For unsung heroes who make each of our churches function. They bless us by their time, expertise, deeds, resources.
- For the heavenly sounds of the chimes as they echo through the treetops playing familiar hymns.
- For the masks, cards, phone calls, porch visits, rides, garden goodies, farmer's markets, baked goods
- For the maintenance and expertise needed to keep our buildings up and running and open.
- For the creativity of our congregation as they provided resources we need to care for others.
- Folks have supported local businesses.
- We will support and encourage one another and we will be there for each other during this journey.



**Please see our Facebook pages and/or website for updates and protocol for entering the buildings.**

# The Holidays Will Be Different This Year



No doubt, the holidays will take on a new appearance as compared to years past. A pandemic-era holiday will look and feel different for many.

With so many typical events canceled, you'll have time to really slow down and create new family traditions. Start with the Bible. Then get out those recipes, puzzles, board games, and make homemade gifts. Get creative. Share a family story. Write that story down. Wear your favorite outfit, play your favorite music, bake, cook, decorate, get crafty, and set your table for your family. Take family photos and mark the day as a celebration. And as always, support our local businesses and our churches.

"Pay it forward" by purchasing something for someone in need, as well. Giving back has always been the best way to spread holiday cheer. Everyone needs love during the holidays, but especially amidst this pandemic.

This year our churches will need to alter their traditional Christmas Eve services. Don't be dismayed, we have some very creative folks who have ideas in mind while working with the NYS capacity limit rule and following recent protocol. **Notice the Christmas announcement on p. 3 and please watch our Facebook pages and website for future details.**

Christmas is going to come; it's going to be here one way or another. Some traditions may need to fall by the wayside, but if you truly have the spirit of Christmas in your heart, it will shine over that mask.

## Season's Greetings



Well, winter is almost here. It is hard to imagine that fall is almost over. Life is starting to feel normal again for many, but there are still many who are struggling and we need to keep them in our prayers.

The restrictions the state has put in effect limit our contact with loved ones. It is hard for those who have people we want to see but can't due to the restrictions. I hope we are still sending cards and calling to stay in touch. Let us continue to encourage each other during this time. In our parish, we have been blessed to be COVID-19 free: Reverend Kim and I are praying that this continues.

It is so great to see people getting out and back into our church buildings. We have started Sunday School again in Bloomville and Nikki is doing a great job with the kids each week. As we continue to take precautions, may God keep us safe, healthy and well. I am looking forward to Christmas as we celebrate Christ's birth. It is important that this Christmas season we keep each other lifted up in prayer. Please continue to communicate the needs that arise and keep the faith! May God bless and keep you and those we love.

*Philippians 4:6,7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Holiday Blessings to all!

*Pastor Paul*

## In our hearts



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

**James Barr Sr., Gordon Churchill,  
James Fuller, Dorothy Hinkley,  
Gertrude Kathmann, Susan Mattice,  
Betty Mauger, Rev. John Stephenson,  
Michelle Stickle**

*Please keep these families in your prayers.*



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.

## Alain & Katherine Niles' Update

Dear Friends,

### News of our family

What's the best thing to do during a pandemic? Study and learn medicine!

We are thankful that despite the pandemic, the Physician Assistant program that Alain is in continues without many glitches. Face masks and face shields and some hybrid learning, but overall things are moving forward.

We have enjoyed a beautiful summer as we've settled in Syracuse for this extended time of education in the US. We are not on a regular furlough but a time focused on getting the training needed to help more at the Hospital of Hope in Togo.

We did get a few fun family moments in to enjoy Upstate New York. We tried camping as a family for the first time. It was restful, clean and comfortable....no of course that's a lie! It was mosquitoes, sticky smores, sleeping on hard ground and all of us packed into a little tent. What could be better?

We also enjoyed a great time in Alexandria Bay out on the river with a good family friend and have had many days exploring the myriad of parks in Syracuse.

Overall, we are so thankful for this special place as we plug through an intense medical program and Katherine and the kids take on a new year of Homeschooling.

### News of the Hospital of Hope

As usual, the hospital continues to see thousands of patients. Apart from the closed borders, many of the COVID restrictions have been lifted and our colleagues have been putting in long hours to care for our West African friends. Pray for their stamina as short-term relief has been severely limited during the pandemic.

They continue to add new pediatric cancer patients to their growing list of kids receiving chemotherapy at the Hospital of Hope. Check out their journey on Facebook as they post updates to their "Surviving Takes Hope" page. We continue to pray for healing for these kids and for them to



experience the love of Christ at the hospital. Pray for them and if you are interested in contributing towards the cancer patient fund check it out: <https://www.abwe.org/work/projects/hoh-togo-pediatric-care-peds-oncology>.

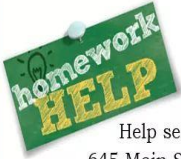


Updated info - Unfortunately lightning struck the power line to the hospital compound just recently, blowing the city transformer, damaging the hospital generator and forcing them to rely on a small generator. After several days a new transformer was installed, but the hospital's main generator needs repairs, which mean parts have to come from the States. The lightning hit will cost more than \$15,000 in parts and repairs. If you'd like to help cover the cost of these electrical expenses you can contribute using this link: <https://www.abwe.org/work/projects/hospital-hope-mango-togo>

Thanks for lifting up the Hospital of Hope and all our studying/learning in prayer!


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

## We have moved. . .

 	<p><b>Free Lending Library for Children of All Ages</b></p> <p>645 Main Street, Hobart NY (845) 282-6397 booknookhobart@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Now Open</b> <b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday 2 to 6 p.m.</b> <b>Saturday &amp; Sunday 11 to 5 p.m.</b></p>	Follow us on Facebook @HobartBookNook for information about programs & services.
--	--	--

	<p><b>Reading &amp; Homework Help*</b> <b>Free of Charge</b> <b>Grades Pre-K to 8</b></p> <p>Help sessions will take place in the library, 645 Main Street, Hobart NY, by appointment only. Contact Julie Rockefeller for details: booknookhobart@gmail.com / (845) 282-6397.</p> <p><small>*Please note that homework help is not academic tutoring.</small></p>	 
--	---	--



 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..*

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
Hobart, NY 13788-0205  
Permit No. 5

Address Service Requested