



Delaware Headwaters Charge

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

Fall 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to the Delaware Headwaters Charge!

The Delaware Headwaters Charge has brought together Bloomville UMC, Conesville Chapel, Gilboa UMC, Harpersfield UMC, Hobart UMC, First Presbyterian Church/Stamford UMC, and Township UMC under the direction of Pastor Dawn Richards and Pastor Peggy Laemmel. We are happy to have you as a member or a visitor to our churches. God has been doing wonderful things in our communities . . . we invite you to come, share in the fellowship, take root, and grow with us.



There are two ways to stay informed about our Charge.

- Visit our website at www.delawareheadwatersparish.com
- Follow us on Facebook. Facebook groups can be found by searching for
 - *Bloomville United Methodist Church*
 - *Delaware Headwaters Charge*
 - *Angels' Attic*
 - *Conesville UMC-Conesville*
 - *Harpersfield United Methodist Church*

Pastor Contact Information

Pastor Dawn Richards

20 So. Delaware St
Stamford, NY 12167
dawnmarie.richards@yahoo.com
405-808-4407

Pastor Peggy Laemmel

PO Box 315
Hobart, NY 13788
margaret.laemmel@nyac-umc.com
914-584-5221



Our wonderful thrift store run by the Hobart United Methodist Women in Faith is now open. Thank you for donating, shopping and helping. Please drop off your treasures any Thursday or Saturday during our open hours. Emergency requests 607-538-9691. **Volunteers are desperately needed.**

From Pastor Dawn

Minekill Worship

What a great worship we had on July 20th with good participation and a lively and meaningful worship. Music was provided by Mike Richards and Donna LeRoy and the Conesville Sunday School sang a song for us. Dave Ogborn, Janine Ware and Russ Bedford were our speakers. We had beautiful weather, and of course a yummy potluck. Can't wait until next year! Pastor Peg did the Children's sermon and a craft. All the pastors participated in leading worship.



Speaker: Janine Ware

Speaker: Russ Bedford



Speaker: Dave Ogborn
Pastor Peg leading crafts



Conesville Sunday School singing "If I Were a Butterfly"

Delaware Headwaters Charge Bible Study to Begin

September 8th at 10a at Stamford and 6p at Harpersfield, we will begin a new Bible Study based on Adam Hamilton's Book: Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple. This book covers Peter's life with Jesus and his leadership of the church. However, it does not mince over Simon Peter's flaws. The book reminds us that flawed though we all are, God can use us in powerful ways. You do not need to buy the book. Bring your Bible and be ready for study and discussion.

Blessing of the Animals

The Mountain Beacon Parish is sponsoring another Blessing of the Animals on Sept. 14th from 12-3p at Stamford Tractor Supply. Gilboa will hold a bake sale in connection with this event. We will have a donations jar for an animal rescue. Come and join us as we fellowship, meet community members and their fur babies. If you want your animal blessed, but can't bring it, pictures will do. We bless all kinds of God's creatures!

Ministry at the Senior Living Center in Stamford

Along with providing worship twice a month, the first and third Tuesday at 3p, we have several other ministries. Dianne Langer of Gilboa heads up these ministries. She does crafts with them and provides a "Soup's On" experience at the facility. If you are interested in assisting with either of these, please contact Dianne at 607-652-2197. The residents also love it when people come and join them for worship, if you haven't come to a worship yet, we highly encourage you to do so!

The Ladies are working hard on their craft!



Pictures of the "Soups On"



A Word from the Heart.....

What does it mean to be the church today? We live in a time in which sporting events, vacations and other activities take the place of regular church attendance. It used to be that everything shut down on Wed. evenings and Sundays so people could go to church. That is not the world we live in now. Statistics indicate people are hungry for "something spiritual", but that they don't see that happening in a church. Which means that we have to be more creative in how we reach people.

I would love to have you brainstorm ideas with me on what you think would be a good way to reach people for Jesus Christ. Our new mission statement for the UMC is: *The UMC forms disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, **love boldly, serve joyfully and lead courageously** in local communities and worldwide connections.* So, what are ways in which our churches are forming disciples by loving boldly, serving joyfully and leading courageously?

Please email me your ideas at dawnmarie.richards@yahoo.com. Or call and we will talk about it: 405-808-4407.

Blessings! Dawn

From Pastor Peggy

United Women of Faith: Our organization is founded on the premise that we will do mission work that supports children and families in need. So it was with great excitement when on August 26 members from the United Women of Faith went on a field trip to the Children's Home in Binghamton, NY. In 1912 a deaconess of the Methodist Church noticed three children on the side of the road. She asked them where their home was and found out

that they were orphans and had no place to live. With the women of her Methodist Church, she founded the Children's Home by purchasing a small farm outside of town where the children and their caretakers could live. At first it was meant to be an orphanage but soon also became a place to foster children who were having a difficult home life. Over 100 years they have expanded into family education programs and even have an elementary school and a middle & high school for at risk youth. They also work with families all over the middle of New York state, including a presence in Delaware county. The ladies of the UWF presented a check for \$2,000 for their work. We are so pleased to be able to support organizations like this through the sales of items from Angels' Attic, our thrift store.

Angels' Attic: Thursdays from 10-3 and Saturdays from 10-2. We sell used clothing, shoes, jewelry, kitchenware, small household items, and books. (No electronics or large pieces of furniture.) All the proceeds go to funding mission work of the United Women of Faith, which focuses on children and families in need. We also offer our items to those in emergency need. Thank you to Wanda Palmatier and Dorothy Wetmore who work each week keeping our items sorted and displayed. Angels' Attic is in need of volunteers to help with sorting, cleaning and selling our goods. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pastor Peg at 914-584-5221 or call the church office at 607-538-9691.

Township UMC Picnic: On Sunday, July 27, Township UMC celebrated its 202 birthday with its annual summer church picnic. Thank you everyone who came and celebrated with us! A wonderful time was had by all.

YOUTH GROUP

Vacation Bible School: Unfortunately due to conflicts with summer sports schedules the Bloomville church's summer Vacation Bible school was not able to be held. But fear not! We are looking at our school schedules and planning to do a VBS come spring time. Stay tuned for further information.

Youth Sleep-Over @ Jane's Lake July 16 & 17:

Once again we want to thank Jane Macintosh-Martin for the use of her house and property for our Youth Sleep-Over. Youth from both our Junior and Senior Youth Groups participated over two days in a Prayer Paddle (Pastor Dawn), a Bible Scavenger Hunt (Karen Ogborn), and created Wind-Chimes to remind them of the Holy Spirit (Pastor Peg). The kids had a great time kayaking, and swimming as well as marshmallow roasting around a campfire. Those who couldn't make it we hope to see you next year!!



Youth Group Meetings will Start up Again in Fall:

We would like to start the Youth Groups in September. For the first meeting we would like to have both groups meet at Skate 88 in Oneonta as a fun way to kick off our year. The two dates that we have in mind are Sept. 13 or Sept. 27, 5 pm -7 pm. Please let us know which date is best for you so I

can make arrangements ASAP. We will also need permission slips for this event.

In October we would like to have the two groups meet separately. We were wondering if the Seniors could meet on Sat. Oct 11 from 5-7 pm, and the Juniors meet on Mon Oct 13 from 2-4 pm.

To make sure that both the parents and youth are on the same communication page we would like to start a text thread with BOTH parents and youth phone numbers. For safety purposes the youth would not be able to be on the thread without one parent being on as well. We felt that this would fill in any communication gaps.

In the meantime, Pastor Peg and Pastor Dawn will be posting information on both the BUMC chat and the Bloomville Kids Fellowship Facebook page. If you are not on the Facebook page please let Pastor Peg know and she will put you on it.

COMMUNITY POT-LUCK: We are starting our suppers up again. Here are the dates for our up and coming fellowships. All suppers are from 4:30 - 6:30. We hope you can join us.

September 6: Harpersfield Grange Hall; 170 Wilcox Rd; 13786

Mission: The Christmas Feeling Fund

October 4: Jefferson Community Center; 1333 Main St, Jefferson

Mission: The Stamford Wellness Center

November 1: Hobart & Township @ The Hobart Church; 204 Maple Ave; Hobart

Mission: TBD

BLOOMVILLE UMC TURKEY SUPPER

Mark your calendars - Our annual turkey dinner will return October 25. We will continue our tradition of drive-thru, 3pm until sold out.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Meets every third Thursday from 1:30-3:00 at the Presbyterian Church in Stamford. All welcome.

CHARGE CONFERENCE: Our Mountain Beacon Charge Conference will be Nov. 8 at Hobart UMC.

Pastor Peg's Letter

Hello everyone. Many of you know that I have a peach tree in my front yard. Now the thing about peach trees is that they are dependent on a lot of factors to bear fruit: Weather, soil, rain and sun. The first year we were here (2023) we had no peaches because of the horrible frost that knocked out all of the blossoms in the area. The second year (2024) was a perfect spring and we had an over abundance of peaches. In fact we had so many that the tree didn't bloom this year (2025) because it had been over laden the year before. But I am not worried. This year we pruned the tree, weeded out under it, put down new soil and fertilizer and planted thyme as a ground cover. Will it bloom next year? We hope so but we don't know. But even through my tree didn't have fruit this year it still grew!

Sometimes a church (and life) is like that. You have a year that seems incredibly productive but then a year when you seem to rest. But even though on the surface it seems like you're standing in one place things are still happening.

Our churches are doing amazing things within our churches but also with our greater charge and cooperative parish. When we work together, we find out that love multiplies and that we can accomplish great things. I am really looking forward the 2025-2026 year with excitement and hope as we see what will come from what has been started with our seven churches.

Pastor Peg



FRIENDS OF MUSIC of Stamford NY, Inc.

3rd Sunday April – November at 3pm
1st Sunday of December at 3pm

First Presbyterian Church
96 Main St. (NYS Route 23)
Stamford, NY 12167

