

Hartford United Methodist Church

Hartford United Methodist Church • 425 E Main Street, Hartford, MI 49057
Pastor Ronald Hansen • 269 621-4103 Church • 269 621-3796 Parsonage



2007 Newsletter

♥♥♥February♥♥♥

From the Pastor A story is told about a trial that was getting underway in a small town. The prosecuting attorney called his first witness to the stand — a grandmotherly, elderly woman. He walked up to her and asked, “Mrs. Jones, do you know me?”

She responded, “Why, yes, I do know you, Mr. Williams. I’ve known you since you were a young boy. And frankly, you’ve been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat on your wife, you manipulate people and talk about them behind their backs. You think you’re a big shot when you haven’t the brains to realize you never will amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes, I know you.”



The lawyer was stunned. He didn’t know what to say or what else to do, so he pointed across the room and asked, “Mrs. Williams, do you know the defense attorney?”

She again replied, “Why, yes I do. I’ve known Mr. Bradley since he was a youngster, too. I used to baby-sit him for his parents. And he, too, has been a real disappointment to me. He’s lazy, bigoted, he has a drinking problem. The man can’t build a normal relationship with anyone and his law practice is one of the shoddiest in the entire state. Yes, I know him.”

At this point, the judge banged his gavel, demanded silence, and called both of the lawyers to the bench. In a very quiet voice, he said with menace, “If either of you asks her if she knows me, you’ll be jailed for contempt!”

What if God were to give testimony about you or me? I don’t think any of us would be real comfortable with such heavenly honesty, because God knows us so well!

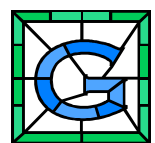
Last Sunday we went back to one of the truly great chapters in Scripture: Psalm 139. The author, King David, talks about God knowing everything about us. Everything. David said such divine knowledge was too much for him to comprehend. His temptation was to run from God, but there was no place to hide. He ends the Psalm on a note of surrender.

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting” (Psalm 139:23-24).

In this month of Valentine’s, pray the prayer of David. God knows your faults and loves you more. Be thankful you are not accountable to grumpy old Mrs. Jones.

Pastor Ron

Three more Sundays about friendship.



Feb. 4 **Our Dilemma** (God forgives & accepts us.)

Feb. 11 **Two-Way Street** (God communicates with us.)

Feb. 18 **Keep Growing** (We’re designed for a growing friendship with God & others.)



February Events



Sunday Feb 4	9:15 am 10:30 am 9 am – Noon	Sunday School Worship Service Child Care	Tuesday Feb 13	7:00 pm	Coordinating Council
Sunday Feb 4	4-5:30 pm	Elementary Youth	Saturday Feb 17	6:00 pm	Sweetheart Dinner ♥♥
Tuesday Feb 6	6:45 pm	UMW at the Church	Sunday Feb 18	9:15 am 10:30 am 9 am – Noon	Sunday School Worship Service Child Care
Wednesday Feb 7	7:00 pm	Worship Committee	Sunday Feb 18	6:00 pm	3 rd Sunday Youth
Friday Feb 9	6-9:00 pm	Parents Night Out Childcare	Wednesday Feb 21	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Sunday Feb 11	9:15 am 10:30 am 9 am – Noon	Sunday School Worship Service Child Care	Sunday Feb 25	9:15 am 10:30 am 9 am – Noon	Sunday School Worship Service Child Care
			Monday Feb 26	7:00 pm	SPPR

Birthdays

♥♥♥ February ♥♥♥♥

- 3 Jan Smith
- 4 Alexie Anchor
- 5 Betty Blanton
- 6 Bill Jackson
- 11 Greg Greenman
- 12 Gale Weberg
- 14 Angie Guinta Mireles
Kendra Sieveking
- 15 Brian Peterson
- 16 JoAnn LaVanway
- 18 Marcie Whitney
Kendall Kling
- 22 Mike Colegio
- 23 Jason Arndt
- 26 Jerry Birmele
- 28 Jack Gale

United Methodist Women

- Next meeting – Tuesday, February 6, 2007
- Meet at 6:45 pm at the church
- Hostess: Shirley Cochrane
- Devotions: Del Troutman
- Program: Pastor Hansen – Bible Study

Youth

Confirmation and Youth Group Schedule

A number of meetings are being scheduled to help prepare youth interested in joining our church. We are looking forward to a **“Confirmation Sunday” on Mother’s Day, May 13.**

This opportunity for full membership is open to all middle school or high school students.

Our theme will be **“Looking for Answers...the BIG WHY’S.”**

What are the questions?

Are these the questions to ask?

Why join the church?

Why do we do it this way?

Who is God? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?

What’s with the Bible? Is this stuff true?

What do other people say?

Should you listen?

Our first meeting will take place on **“3rd Sunday,”** February 18 at 6:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Ron for more info.

Missions

DECEMBER MISSION OFFERINGS

Haiti Hot Lunch	\$4,482.62	Birthing Kit	10.00
Substance Abuse	10.00	Methodist Guest House	200.00
Child to Child Health	10.00	Justus House	10.00
Lions Club	10.00	Mother Child Survival	10.00
Salvation Army	45.00	People Central Institute	10.00
Indian Cemetery	10.00	Ana Gonzaga Ecological Center	10.00
Water Development	5.00		

FEBRUARY MISSION FOCUS:

Our February mission focus will be here in our own church with the Cooperating Ministries Food Pantry. The hand of Christ is extended to many people throughout the year in the way of providing food to feed individuals as well as families. God has blessed us tremendously to have this mission available so please uphold this service in your prayers and support it with your gifts.



2nd Annual Sweetheart Dinner

You are invited to a Sweetheart Dinner on **Saturday, February 17th at 6 p.m.** Cost of the dinner will be \$20 per couple, and will include a **delicious meal** along with **entertainment** and **door prizes**. Last year we had a great time at our Sweetheart Dinner and look forward to repeating that experience. You may sign up in the office with Connie or see Del Troutman, Jessica Mullauer, Cindy Kent, or Kathy Anchor. Checks should be made payable to HUMC. Please sign up by Sunday, February 11th.

POTLUCK:

Sunday, March 25th we will have a potluck at 5:30 p.m. with a special guest. **Susie Henry** will join us for dinner and provide a program of her missionary service. We have supported Susie for many years while she served in Bolivia and now at the General Board of Global Ministries in New York City. Susie plans to retire in June so this will probably be our last time to fellowship with her. Please mark your calendars and join us for dinner



▪ **February 21 at 7:00 p.m.** Come a little early and enjoy a Paczki

- 30 minute service is the right way to begin Lent and good for your soul.



Cooperating Ministries Food Pantry Annual Report

Cooperating Ministries Food Pantry						
2006						
Month	Families Served	Adults	Children	Bags of Groceries	Other	
January	22	29	23	40		
February	14	16	17	26	Cash	\$20
March	19	24	34	38	Gas	
April	17	19	11	34		
May	40	51	45	80		
June	19	20	24	38		
July	23	45	35	51		
August	25	33	35	49		
September	29	41	32	57		
October	32	39	27	64		
November	42	61	59	86		
December	35	53	41	69		
		431	383	632		
Total Families	317	Total Individuals	814			

Donations of money food, and toiletry items are gratefully accepted. You may bring donations to church on Sunday or drop them off through the week during regular office hours of 9 -1 pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

We always need cereal, crackers, peanut butter, tuna, toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, and shampoo. We have a good supply of canned vegetables but soups and other food items that are easily prepared are helpful.

Support our church

with a Harding's

eScript Community Card

Harding's Markets will contribute up to 4% of your purchases to our church every time you shop and swipe your card.

Pick up a Harding's eScrip Community Card at Hardings Markets today!

Register your card by calling 800.931.6258 or visit www.escrip.com/Hardings.jsp.

It's Free, It's Easy, It's Powerful

Marissa Monroe Benefit



Abbie, Lexie and Sarah helped out



Marissa's mom Tracy and big sister Makenzie



These Boy Scouts helped clear tables



Hartford United Methodist Church

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Bring your prayer requests to worship on Sunday, or call Del Troutman or Mary Arnsman at 621-3663 to add them to our prayer chain.

If you would like to be a participant in this praying ministry give Del or the office a call.

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9 am – 1 pm
HUMC Office Hours



Sweetheart Dinner

February 17, 2007

REMINDER: Mail your used inkjet cartridges and old cell phones in the prepaid postage envelopes available in the narthex. The money received from the recycle center goes to the kitchen remodeling.

COOKBOOKS:
HUMC cookbooks are available in the church office or call Del at 621-3663. Cost is \$10. Proceeds at this time benefit the kitchen renovation fund

We Continue to Collect! Cancelled stamps - Pop can tabs - Spartan UPC Codes - General Mills Educaion Labels - Campbell's Soup Labels

These items are all collectible items for many mission groups who are then able to cash them in for cash and/or material goods. The canisters are in the fellowship hall for collection.

HUMC Budget 2006 Spending and 2007 Proposed

Account Description	2006 Spent	2007 Proposed
Pastor's Salary	\$42,761.00	\$44,056.00
Support Staff Salary (Secretary, Custodian, Child Care)	\$19,940.30	\$24,273.00
Pension/ Pastor Disability (Conf. Treas)	\$7,217.54	\$8,335.00
Health Ins Saving/ Pension (Gn Bd of Pension)	\$5,000.04	\$5,000.00
Health Insurance (Conf. Treasurer)	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Personal Medical Reimbursement	\$400.00	\$400.00
Special Guest/Programs	\$50.00	\$200.00
Office Supplies	\$1,334.61	\$2,000.00
Equipment Repair/Maintenance/Purchases	\$1,668.78	\$1,500.00
Literature (Books, Sub, Reference)	\$438.98	\$400.00
Church - Building Supplies/Maintenance	\$3,637.63	\$5,000.00
Parsonage Maintenance	\$638.99	\$500.00
Church Utilities	\$10,844.22	\$12,320.00
Parsonage Utilities	\$3,276.48	\$4,250.00
Travel Expenses	\$2,734.50	\$3,500.00
Pastoral Ministry Expenses	\$150.00	\$250.00
Continuing Education	\$139.23	\$400.00
Music	\$331.70	\$400.00
Insurance (Buildings)(Work.Comp) Church Mutual	\$5,701.00	\$5,800.00
Worship	\$331.05	\$400.00
Education Curriculum	\$1,324.52	\$1,000.00
Special Events/ Senior Gifts	\$461.99	\$350.00
Outreach Ministries	\$0.00	\$100.00
Cooperative Ministries	\$0.00	\$300.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$285.29	\$300.00
Annual Conference Member Expense	\$421.99	\$300.00
Miscellaneous	\$2,681.60	\$300.00
Subtotal	\$112,971.44	\$122,834.00
Conference Ministry Shares	\$19,066.00	\$16,639.00
Grand Total	\$132,037.44	\$139,473.00

- The proposed budget for 2006 was \$137,310; the total spent in 2006 was \$5,272.56 under budget.
- The miscellaneous category reflects money that was collected for various events (summer youth group trip, retirement, gifts, etc.) and then paid out.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, or worked on the benefit dinner for Marissa Monroe on January 12th. What a blessing it was that \$3,733.14 was raised to help the Monroe family

We would like to thank everyone for their help with the benefit dinner last Friday night. There were a lot of people that donated their time & effort to make this happen. It sounds like there was a great turn out. The money will come in very handy, especially when we are in Ann Arbor for Marissa's cell transplant. We do have some good news to pass along, we got the results of Marissa's CT scan from Monday (Jan 21).....**80% of the tumor in Marissa's body is gone! God is working his miracles on our little angel.** Please continue to keep all of us, especially Marissa, in your prayers. Thank you so much. We love you all.

Randy, Tracy, Makenzie & Marissa Monroe

Community Outreach

In October the Coordinating Council of our church voted to purchase a new sign for the school.

Hartford Public Schools has provided this sign, located in front of Kellogg Hardware, for community use for many years,

We noticed that it was showing a lot of "wear and tear" and in need of replacing.

The school has expressed its appreciation.

