

# 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



2006 Newsletter

February/ March



## Condolences to the families of:

Carol Williams  
Alice Rush  
Michelle Austin  
Bill Manning  
Dora Kaucher



I am very pleased to pick up where Bonita left off as your church secretary. I retired from my teaching position on January 20 and have been in the church office since January 23.

Please call or stop in if I can assist you in some way.

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Connie Kilburn

## From the Pastor

The price of gasoline went up today. Again! So, what else is new? What is another 15 cents a gallon after it went up 20 cents last week?



How ironic that on the same day I write this Exxon Mobile Corporation announced world record profits. This one oil company alone had profits in 2005 of over \$36 billion. That's a lot of dollar bills in the bank. Someone figured out that it means they make a profit of \$1,146 every second!

A few decades back there was an old tongue-in-cheek slogan that went: "What's good for General Motors is good for the USA." Today GM is near bankruptcy and the oil companies and OPEC have all the money. Every day the news reports tell us about more factory closings and more job cuts.

One national columnist wrote a recent article about our nation entitled a "State of Illusion." The column spoke of no optimism and ended with these words sad words. "Confident. Strong. Stronger than ever. Do you feel it? Do you feel it? Nope, me neither."

Is there any good news in the land? Is there any reason to look forward to a better tomorrow? Yes! Absolutely, yes! But our personal or national salvation will never be found in Washington or Lansing or at any corporate headquarters. It will not come out of Hollywood or be found on the internet.

Pay attention to what your Bible tells you. Listen closely to what is going on in your church in the education classes and in the worship services. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is still "good news" and the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Before you see the price of gas go up again next week, I pray that you will be in church first. This Sunday don't miss the best news you will hear all week long. God knows you need to listen.

Pastor Ron

Web Page coming soon!  
[hartfordmethodist.org](http://hartfordmethodist.org)



**Birthday Note:** We are missing some birthdays, so please call the office and leave your name and birth date.

**Soup Kitchen** On Sunday, January 29, individuals representing our church served a warm meal to approximately 130 recipients at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen in Benton Harbor. Thanks to all who provided money or food. We offer a special **Thank You** to those who worked to prepare the main dish and those who served it on Sunday. The Saturday and Sunday workers were: Del Troutman, Marcia Kelley, Bob Kilburn, Jamie and Stephanie Rockey, Shannon Empson, Larry Squires, Steven Bauer, Brian Casey and Nancy Hathaway. We will serve another meal on Sunday, April 30, 2006.



**Thank You**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the expressions of appreciation and love I received on my retirement as church secretary. I am overwhelmed and grateful. Hebrews 10:25, one of the many scripture in the Bible that lets us know that Christians are to be part of Christ's church, says, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Everyone's part in letting Christ be known through our church is important, and my role as secretary was made possible by the encouragement I received from Pastor Ron, the Staff Pastor Parish Committee, the Coordinating council and all of the other wonderful people in our church family.

With love in Christ,  
Bonita Markillie

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you all for the kindness that you have shown to my family. Bill's death took us all by surprise but your prayers, food, cards, gifts and phone calls have helped us all to heal. Continue to keep us in your prayers as we go into the new part of our life. Thank you all.

Kathy, Korey, Jeremy, Jess and Jack Manning

*New address:* 4724 Woodland Ct., Coloma, MI 49038 *phone* 269-468-7394

# Missions

## November, December Mission Offerings

Rio Social Action Program	\$240.00
People's Central Institute	30.00
Babyfold at Old Matare Hospital	10.00
Haiti Hot Lunch	243.17
Misc. Christams Tree offerings	130.00

## February Mission Focus:

Our February mission focus is to help provide healthy birthing kits for women in third world countries who lack the necessary items for a safe and healthy birthing experience. Your offerings also help to provide midwife support during the birth as well as immunizations for the baby through the first year. Please keep this mission in your prayers and support it with your gifts during February.



## March Mission Focus:

The LaSaline Clinic is located along near the seaport terminal in one of the worst slums of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Sister Paulette Holley has run medical and educational opportunities to residents of the surrounding slum. There has been much unrest and rioting around the slum these past couple of years. Please keep Sister Paulette in your prayers as well as the LaSaline Clinic and support them with your gifts in March.



Help us out please!

## Church Use & Borrowing Church Equipment

If you need to use the church facilities for an event we ask that you complete a **Building Use Request** form that you may obtain from Connie in the church office. If you need to borrow church equipment (coffee pot, roaster, etc) please reserve the item ahead-of-time and check it out and back in with Connie. We ask for your cooperation so that the items and facilities will be available when you need them. Office hours are from 9 am – noon Monday through Friday.

# Birthdays

## February

3 Jan Smith  
 6 Bill Jackson  
 11 Jennifer Greenman  
 12 Gale Weberg  
 15 Brian Peterson  
 16 JoAnn LaVanway  
 18 Marcia Whitney Kendall Kling  
 19 Bernie Hockelberg  
 22 Mike Colegio  
 23 Jason Arndt  
 26 Jerry Birmele  
 28 Jack Gale

## March

2 David Faile  
 5 Emily Greenman  
 6 Korey Manning  
 7 Bill Moore  
 8 Sharon Van  
 11 Pat Freundt  
 12 Louise Engle Erma Williams  
 13 Bonnie Jones Chad Bedwell  
 Iris Troutman  
 14 Pam Bench Bob Kilburn  
 15 Laura Gale  
 17 Cathy Randall  
 19 Jim Brummit Joyce Carmichael  
 21 Jan Fulford  
 22 Bob Wilcoxson  
 24 Anne Rockey  
 25 Donna Anderson  
 28 Cindy Howard  
 29 Kathryn Rolback Poirier  
 30 Myra Weberg

### Lent/Holy Week

March 1	Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins
April 9	Palm Sunday
April 13	Holy Thursday
April 14	Good Friday
April 16	Easter



## From the: Library Corner



Rediscovering The Charismata (original)  
 Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts (revised)  
 By Charles V Bryant *(both copies in library)*

Did you know you are a “gifted” person? According to the Bible, the Holy Spirit gives Spiritual gifts to each and every one of us for the purpose of building up and supporting the Church. Once we know what our gifts are, we can then work in the area of our strengths and our ministry to others will be much more effective.

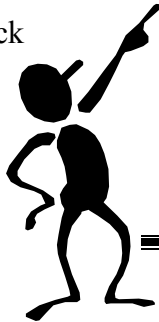
In this very practical book, Dr. Bryant looks at 32 Spiritual gifts found in the Scriptures. He gives excellent descriptions of each gift and examples of how each one can be used for the good of the Church.

This book also includes a “Grace-Gift” inventory for helping to discover your own Spiritual gifts, The more we know about our own Spiritual gifts, the more effective we will be in our Christian discipleship. Discover your Spiritual gifts today!

## Youth Group

### Monthly Meetings

- Elementary Youth meet on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday
- Older Youth meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday



Watch the Sunday Bulletin or call the office for details!

### Hartford United Methodist Church



425 East Main Street  
 Hartford, MI 49057

Rev. Ronald W Hansen  
 Church: 269 621-4103  
 Parsonage: 269 621-3796

### Non-Profit Organization

US Postage

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Hartford, MI 49057

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## Cookbooks




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



# Coming Soon

February 19	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Youth</b> meeting 6 pm at Lawrence UMC
February 27	7 pm <b>SPPR</b> meeting
March 1	6:30 pm Paczk's before service 7 pm <b>Ash Wednesday</b> Service
March 5	<b>Elementary Youth Group</b>
March 6	7 pm <b>Worship committee</b> <i>(note date change)</i>
March 7	6:45 pm <b>United Methodist Women</b> meet at the church
March 14	7 pm <b>Coordinating Council</b>
March 19	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Youth</b> meeting
March 27	7 pm <b>SPPR</b> meeting

## Want to do some collecting?

- Cancelled stamps 
- Pop can tabs 
- General Mills Education Labels
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Spartan UPC Codes 
- 

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.

*Connie is the new editor of the newsletter – please submit all articles to the office.*



## What's happening on Sundays?

In January our worship theme focused on living with “the bears” in our world.

In February we are letting the Super Bowl and the Olympics set the stage for “Living Beyond the Hype.”

**February 5** – “Moments of Destiny”

**February 12** – “Going for Gold”

**February 19** – “The Appearance of Underdogs”

**February 26** – “Closing Ceremonies”

Our Sundays in Lent will extend an invitation: “Come Thirsty: Receive What Your Soul Longs For.”

Sometimes life can leave you burned out and burdened. The “Come Thirsty” series is built around a book of the same title from best-selling author Max Lucado.

**March 5** – “The Well is Deep”

**March 12** – “Five Pillars of God's Grace”

**March 19** – “God Didn't Leave Us Powerless”

**March 26** – “Father Knows Best”

**April 2** – “Five Life Changing Questions”

**April 9** – “What Would a Celebration Be Without Gifts”