

HOPEWELL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

'A Place to Find Hope and Be Well'

*20220 Hopewell Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050*

*Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ
and minister to the needs of others in His name.*

July-August 2013

Transition -- *Pastor David Havens*

The time of transition and change is often difficult to say the least. A time of mixed emotions. A time of stress and strain. A time of questions and uncertainty regarding the future. Pulling up roots is not easy. And losing a beloved leader is difficult. Therefore, transition and change is a time of tears and joy, sadness and happiness, apprehension and excitement.

There are some keys that assist a smooth transition. One is acceptance. Another is understanding. A third is patience. And a fourth is prayer. "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly as I should." (Colossians 4:2-4) It is also interesting that each of these keys helps open the door to unity in the Holy Spirit!

Robin Steen, who has served as a missionary to Mexico writes, "All of us form mental pictures of most everything that we hear of. Usually those mental pictures are faulty because of preconceived ideas and a limited supply of data with which to formulate our concepts. How many times have we actually gone to see that certain something and have said, 'That's not anything at all like I had imagined it to be.'"

Perhaps each of us can identify with these words. Sometimes mental pictures are fairly accurate. At other times they need to be adjusted as additional information is received and contacts are made. Acceptance, understanding, a good supply of patience and prayer can help build strong relationships.

We want to thank all of you who have helped us thus far in this time of adjustment. We need your assistance. We need your prayers. We need your encouragement. And we certainly want to prayerfully assist and encourage you in this process of transition from one leader to another leader.

So let's lift one another to the throne of grace! May God's blessings in Jesus Christ be sought continually as we work together as co-laborers in God's vineyard.



Pastor' Joe's Ponderin's: One Last Time

Thank you for your tolerance and warm treatment. Y'all are great!
Man, oh, man! I truly pray that this is not good-bye. I know that Hopewell will remain in my heart. I assure you that you will be in my prayers as well.

Focus on the promises of God. Wellness thru Hope! We covet your prayers and know that Pastor David and Karen will shepherd you to wonderful things.

Shalom!

Pastor Joe Beran

Meet Pastor David and Karen Havens -- Linda Joseph

Hopewell's pulpit has been filled in recent years by a jazz organist, a college professor, and a former police chief. Now we welcome a singing, motorcycle-riding, softball-playing pastor to lead us in making and maturing disciples of Christ. Hopewell welcomes Pastor David R. Havens and Karen to our family.

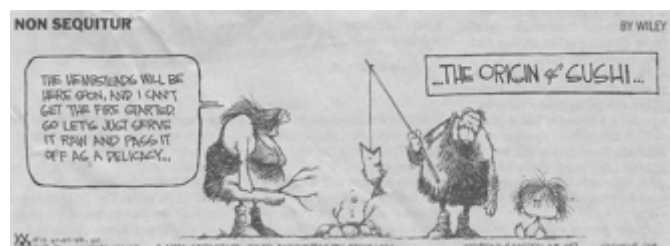
Reverend David R. Havens was born in 1946. He graduated in 1964 from Lakota High School in Kansas, Ohio, and from Bowling Green State University in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. He graduated with a Masters of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in 1977. After serving ten years as a Local Licensed Pastor and three years as a Probationary Member, David became a deacon in 1975 and a full elder in 1978 in the West Ohio Conference. David and Karen have been in ministry for forty-eight years! They served congregations in the West Ohio Conference until retirement in 2007. From 2007 to 2012, David's retirement allowed him to work with "Say a Good Word for Jesus Ministries" and pass the word of Christ. Most recently he has served as an interim pastor at Nellie Chapel and New Guilford in the Three Rivers District. His traditional preaching style encourages spiritual renewal, growth and accountability with relational effectiveness. He believes that all are called to serve, whether in roles of leadership or according to their gifts, but all for the building up of the body of Christ for the work of ministry.

Karen is a kindergarten teacher in the Licking Valley School District. She and David have five adult children and fifteen grandchildren. David and Karen enjoy music and share their vocal talents with the churches they serve. Karen is a pianist and organist, also.

David enjoys gardening, running, and softball. Karen is a reader and a walker. David and Karen also enjoy motorcycle rides.

Administrative Council Chair's Comments -- Don Russell

Saying goodbye to the Berans was difficult, but the words of Pastor Joe's last sermon stand out: "We must have faith in the will of God--He has a plan for the Hopewell Church." David and Karen Havens are His disciples and are major principals in his plan. We all know that David and Karen are very committed to Christ and are aware of our top three objectives for church vitality. Together, we will continue to help make our church all that it can be, for we are all believers in the words of Paul, we can do everything through Him who gives us strength!



Meet the Wolfe Girls -- *Marsha Clayborne*

Annika Katherine, 13, will be an 8th grader at Mount Vernon Middle School. Annika likes to sing at church while her father John plays the guitar. She begins our worship service with the lighting of the candles. Annika has been in many plays at school and enjoys acting, singing, and dancing. Her hobbies include cheerleading, reading, drawing, photography, and collecting jewelry.

Rylanne Faye, 9, will be a 4th grader at Wiggin Street School. Her job at church on Sunday morning is to help take up the offering. She has done this for several months and does a great job. She likes to bring some of her dolls and stuffed animals to church. Her hobbies are singing, dancing, swimming, playing tennis and other games, and baking with Annika and her mother. She collects stuffed animals, rocks, and tea cups.

Both girls enjoy the Children's Chat on Sunday morning. This year Annika is taking a photography project and Rylanne is taking a cake decorating project in 4-H. Rylanne and Annika are the daughters of John and Erika Kanuckel-Wolfe.



New member Donna Lybarger is welcomed by Rev. Don Newland on 6/23.



Rylanne Wolfe is baptized on 6/23. Godparents are Joe & Katie Beran.

Saying Farewell -- *Marsha Clayborne*

The Hopewell United Methodist Church has experienced many changes in the last couple of years. The changes include not only saying goodbye to our pastors and wives but also to loved ones and friends who have been dear to us. I admit that I do not like change. We get comfortable with a lifestyle and think that it will be that way all the time. The minute that we are born, changes occur each hour, month, and year.

I have been with the Hopewell Church for 26 years, and I feel that we have grown closer together as a church family. The healing begins with us as soon as we can talk and comfort each other. We need to trust in God that, no matter what comes our way, He will strengthen our church. We are a strong congregation, and God hasn't let us down yet.

We all want to wish the best for Pastor Joe and Katie and thank them for all they have done for us and for sharing with us the message of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

THANK YOU!



Isaac Lee Hartney, born 5/29/2013 to Jessica (Butler) and Adam Hartney. Happy grandma is Barb Butler. Photo taken on 6/24 on "Monday Jammie Day."

Meet a Member: Eleanor Doup

Eleanor Steinmetz was born and raised in a Hopewell Road home about 2 miles west of the church. Her mother Edna and father Lawrence met at a Hopewell church function...and worshipped there all their lives. Her father taught Sunday school, farmed, ran a sawmill, and was a carpenter (who built the large cupboard in the Sunday school room...and their family home in Centerburg). In summers, Eleanor helped her mother feed the hungry threshing crews and canned foods; she exhibited her 4-H sewing work (with Rose Wolfe and Jean Riley) at the Knox County Fair and occasionally visited Buckeye Lake, swam at Sunset Pool, and went to movies...but she notes the family never ate at restaurants. During her school years (grades 1-12)

in Gambier, she liked English and spelling much better than algebra. One winter, she recalls, when the bus got stuck in the snow, she (without boots) and the other students had to make a long, cold walk to safety. Here are some recollections...in her words:

My earliest memory of the awareness of God is when I was about six years old. We had this huge family Bible, and my sister, brother and I would sit on the floor and look at the beautiful, colored pictures in it. It had Bible stories for children that Mother would read to us. We tore some of the pages, so we taped them back together...not too neatly, I suppose, but we could get that big Bible off the stand and onto the floor whenever we wanted to.

My religious events were just going to church and Sunday school. Nothing major, but a lot of memories. I think I watched the people instead of paying close attention to the minister. We had "Childrens' Day" [*when each child 'performed'*], and I sang "I'm a Little Sunbeam." *She'll not repeat that for us now.*

After marrying, she taught Sunday school at Centerburg UMC and served meals for evening meetings of the Lions Club...and moved about 15 times.

I think I felt closest to God the day [daughter] Joan came home from the hospital. She was two weeks old and so tiny. It was a Sunday in December, and the trees and bushes were covered with ice. With the sun shining on them it was such a beautiful day. Many prayers were answered, and we were all so thankful.

There were down times, too, as when brother Gary's young wife died. Eleanor was going through a divorce, so she and Joan lived with Gary and his two young children for a year. Eleanor says, "It was such a sad time for all, but with God's help we made it through."

She came back to Hopewell UMC about 25 years ago after marrying Jack Doup, a PPG retiree who passed away in 1990. Where is she in her relationship with God?

I need to have more faith and trust. God's always there, but sometimes I'm missing. I need to remember the Serenity Prayer.

Although she's not fond of committees, Eleanor continues to beautify the church with seasonal decorations and general sprucing up. And you can count on her to prepare delicious food for church events. She also shares inspirational quotes and humorous notes for the newsletter. Thank you, Eleanor!



Eleanor with her Cradle Roll Certificate from Hopewell Methodist Episcopal Church.

Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.



Members and friends at the Scioto Ridge Boys concert on 6/9



The Scioto Ridge Boys love singing in "This Old House"



Pastor Joe Beran auctions treasures at the picnic, 6/11

Picnickers enjoy food and fellowship at Gambier Community Park on 6/11



Hopewell children enjoy the potluck lunch on 6/23.



Children's chat with Katie Beran on 6/23.

United Methodist Women Report -- *Marsha Clayborne, UMW Secretary/Treasurer*

On Tuesday evening, June 11, the UMW church picnic was held at Gambier Community Park. A total of 23 attended the picnic including our new pastoral family, David and Karen Havens. Ellen Kaiser led the group and asked our new minister if he would say the blessing. The weather cooperated for the evening and the group enjoyed food, fellowship and fun. A silent auction was held after the meal, and everyone placed a bids on the craft items and various treasures. Pastor Joe Beran was the auctioneer, and Ellen Kaiser helped distribute the sold items. Everything was sold, and the bidders donated \$155. A big THANK YOU to everyone who attended to help out Hopewell United Methodist Church.

Trustee Report -- *Cary Purcell*

I recently spoke with one of the attorneys handling the bankruptcy matter associated with the farmland across from the church. As many of you know we are trying to secure a rental or ownership interest in a small portion of either the east or west corner for parking and other purposes. The bankruptcy proceedings at one time were supposed to conclude prior to the end of 2012. Obviously, that has not occurred. At this moment the debtor and creditors are involved in ancillary litigation and maneuvering that is slowing the process considerably. I will continue my efforts and continue to monitor and report on the situation with the hope that the matter will be resolved by the end of this year so that we may present a proposal for consideration.

Financial Statement as of 6/23/13 -- *Barb Butler*

Beginning balance 3/31/13	\$3,923.84
Receipts (April,May,June)	\$8,940.00
Disbursements	<u>(\$9,580.72)</u>
Balance 6/23/13	\$3,283.12

Bldg Fund Savings and Certificates \$20,931.52

Financial Note: Weekly contributions continue to fall short of our monthly expenses. Thanks to our fundraiser (CES Credit Union Annual Mtg.), we cleared about \$1,600.00. This amount is reflected in our receipts.

We continue to look for additional ideas to subsidize our weekly Offering.

Kroger Rewards Program -- *Linda Joseph*

Do you shop for food at Kroger and use a Kroger Rewards card? If you do, you can be a part of a fundraiser program for Hopewell UMC. Once Kroger provides an ID number for the church, we can begin registering our cards online. Linda Joseph will enter rewards numbers for those without online access. There are some items, e.g., alcohol, stamps, and gas purchases, that do not generate rewards points, but your purchase of most everyday grocery items will benefit Hopewell UMC.

The greatest happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved.-----
Loved for ourselves, or rather,
Loved in spite of ourselves.

-- Victor Hugo (submitted by Eleanor Doup)

Vision Update -- Bob Joseph

The Vision group has expanded in size and met twice in May-June.

Following are summary comments and ideas from the **May 21** meeting:

Barb has the letter that Kroger requires for church participation in their rewards program.

Invite local high school talent to add to the worship music.

Consider HUMC participation in the Truth Project at Fredericktown UMC.

Consider holding a confirmation class.

Invite guests to the church picnic on June 11.

Visit new neighbors who move in nearby (based on realty activity).

Consider taking a pie or bread loaf to first time visitors.

Plan for centennial celebration of the church building (1915-2015).

Clean area in front of church; modify plantings/signage so Pleasant Township can mow in front.

Advertising in MV News is not thought to be cost effective

On **June 25**, 16 Visioneers (including Pastor David and Karen Havens) met to refine and add ideas to be forwarded to Admin Council:

*Improve communications:

Prayer chain is in use and was published in the newsletter. Update regularly.

Recommend that the pastor review briefly all bulletin announcements in the service.

Copy and forward the newsletter to others.

Keep posting on the HUMC Facebook page (Bob is now account manager) .

Need to update HUMC Web site (John Wolfe may be able to help).

Restart Bible study.

*Attract and retain children:

Continue Children's chat; the Havens will take the lead and involve others.

Continue small gifts for children; use individual donations and change jar.

Hold a Children's Day, when children recite/sing/read for the worship.

Children's church (separate from adult worship)? Ask the parents (and kids).

There may be enough children to hold Bible school in the future.

*Improve financial stability:

Determine what it would take for HUMC to be 'financially stable' and evaluate proposed efforts as to how they will help meet the goal.

Promote weekly giving; set goals.

Promote individual/family 'savings jars' with proceeds going to HUMC.

Hold fundraising activities, e.g., compile/sell a cookbook; hold a Tastefully Simple party.

Don N. reported that conversion to natural gas heat would cost ~\$10K.

*Increase HUMC visibility:

Invite to church the people you meet in your everyday context.

Advertise in Apple Valley "Cider Press" to reach 2500 homes for \$48/year.

Do more things at HUMC in the evenings.

Please visit with Bob Joseph if you have questions/ideas or want more detailed information about the group and its efforts. Also, please feel free to join the discussion at the **next meeting on July 30, 6-8PM** at Bob & Linda Joseph's home, 241 Valleybrook Circle in Apple Valley.

Social Media Alert: If you have a Facebook account, be sure to 'friend' Hopewell United Methodist Church. If you have an e-mail account, please contact rjoseph4@columbus.rr.com

Annual Conference Report -- Katie Beran

This year's Annual Conference was truly a wonderful experience!

When John Wesley strongly suggested that all Methodists meet once a year for "holy conversation," this is exactly what I think he was talking about. There was a fresh spirit of cooperation and openness as we explored the theme, "Jesus Is Calling."

Morning worship was a rousing start to each day, with a different style of music and preaching each of the 3 days--we can cooperate and learn to appreciate each other's ways of praising the same Holy God, and calling us to do His work.

Bishop Hopkins presided with a spirit of humor and collegiality as we considered resolutions and heard reports on what we, our church, is called to at home and abroad. It made me proud to be a United Methodist as I learned about the wonderful work we are doing all over the globe. Who knew that we are feeding and teaching children in Russia as well as preaching God's word in country churches?

While there was disagreement as to the content of the several resolutions proposed, the discussion was always respectful and thoughtful, seeming to have the best interests of Christ's church in mind.

The conference closed with a charming concert by the 120 children who had been attending VBS all week--they really sang their little hearts out, and then formed a procession following the Christ candle out into the world!

I strongly recommend that anyone who has not attended an annual conference do so next year!!

July and August Birthdays

July	2 Mickey Gourley, Jr.	August	15 Gina Lawhon
	2 Ellen Kaiser		16 Linda Joseph
	20 Katie Beran		18 Irma Newland
	21 Ryan Rupp		27 Mary Smith
	29 Barb Butler		27 Wayne Clayborne
			29 Mike Dumbaugh
			30 Bill Lawhon
			31 Seth Lawhon

Contacts:

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Hopewell Church Council -- 2012-2013

Council President - Don Russell, 740-587-7376

Secretary - Ellen Kaiser, 392-3607

Treasurer - Barb Butler, 397-7424

Lay Leader - Ellen Kaiser, 392-3607

Trustee Chairperson - Cary Purcell, 614-519-2430

PPR Chairperson - Barb Butler, 397-7424

Lay Leadership Development Chairperson - Jean Riley, 392-6171

Lay Member to Conference - Anne Russell, 740-587-7376

UMW Representative - Marsha Clayborne, 501-5841

Newsletter Editors - Bob & Linda Joseph, 614-565-1102 rjoseph4@columbus.rr.com