



# HCC Connections

...to inspire people with love for truth, passion for righteousness, and enthusiasm for service.

September 2009



### Special points of interest:

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- Re-member Thank You - p8

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## Pastor's Corner

### Turning to God Movement

*(Seventeenth in a series on connecting with God in the ordinary)*

*"Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God."*

Acts 3:8

**As** I suggested in my last article in this series, summertime travel offers characteristic ways to draw us closer to God. Implied in any travel we do is the movement of our bodies and summertime, with its added warmth and sun, provides daily invitation and encouragement apart from any travel to, as King Julian sings in the movie, *Madagascar*, "move it, move it, move it". In our life with God, we can be specially blessed if with that unique film character we also learn to "like to move it, move it, move it". In colder times of the year it's so easy to be inactive, to get all stiff, tight, sluggish, and slow. But in the summer balm, thank God, we're boosted again to loosen up, stretch out, and get moving. In doing so, we can ex-

perience once more the wonder of this divine gift that we usually take for granted.

Walking, climbing steps, bending over, throwing a ball, swinging a golf club, casting a fishing line, picking up a bag of groceries, turning a steering wheel, swinging a paint brush, moving a pencil, lifting a phone, fingering a musical instrument, making strokes on a keyboard, pushing a lawn mower or a wheelbarrow- these are among countless movements we can make that we hardly notice much less appreciate UNTIL we can't do them anymore or only with pain because we've suffered a muscle strain or a broken limb or the increasing physical limitations of older age.

These movements, however, remain a part of the repertoire of daily miracles God performs in and through us. They're part of the everyday routine of graceful action our bodies can do because of the complex arrangements which they are of muscle, nerve, bone, and sinew fed by a steady supply of blood and oxygen pumped by a heart that's directed by a brain which itself is such an extraordinary marvel. Consider this basic fact: when we're only a few months old, as a matter of course, we learn to crawl, walk, lift, push up, run and even swim. By the time we're of early childhood age, we're leaping, climbing, jumping, diving, spinning, and swirling.



**Members  
in  
Ministry**

**Psalm 100**

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord,  
all the lands!*

*Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into God's presence with  
singing!*

*Know that the Lord is God! It is  
he that made us, and we are  
his;*

*we are his people, and the sheep  
of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him, bless his  
name!*

*For the Lord is good; his steadfast  
love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all  
generations.*

This summer HCC has experienced fantastic, "joyful noise" in the music we heard each Sunday morning. These musical gifts are wonderful illustrations of serving the Lord with gladness.

I am beginning to understand myself serving the Lord with gladness after serving as a reader for two services now...so far. I have found something I can do that fills my heart with gladness without straying too far out of my "comfort zone".

The people that serve as ushers and greeters also fill my heart (and many others). The warm greetings, the handshakes, the smiles are all it takes. These gifts are also illustrations of serving the Lord with gladness.

Helping with a Sunday School class, volunteering in the nursery, preparing food for an event or a funeral dinner...how can you serve the Lord with gladness? Your name on a sign-up sheet or a response to a survey or a "Yes, I can" to a phone call may be just the beginning.

Donna Ellis  
Members in Ministry  
Coordinator

**SEPTEMBER 2009**

**SEPTEMBER 6**

READER:  
USHERS:  
GREETERS:  
COFFEE HOSTS:

**SEPTEMBER 13**

READER:  
USHERS: Liz & Rich Newport  
GREETERS:  
COFFEE HOSTS: Steve & Barb Decker

**SEPTEMBER 20**

READER: Donna Ellis  
USHERS:  
GREETERS:  
COFFEE HOSTS:

**SEPTEMBER 21**

LOAVES & FISHES DINNER, 831 N. SYCAMORE, LANSING, MI.

This Monday night (Monday) event still needs volunteer hosts. A meal to serve 15 people with main dish, hot vegetable, salad and dessert. Details and location directions are near the HCC inside entry doors.

**SEPTEMBER 27**

READER: Laura Clark-Roumpz  
USHERS:  
GREETERS:  
COFFEE HOSTS:



**Commendations to...**

*Thanks to these individuals who have recently served the church in special ways:*

- To **all those who provided cookies for this year's General Synod** meeting in Grand Rapids and especially to **June Peabody** and **Nancy White** for their work in coordinating the whole effort.
- To **Romi Chaffee** for providing emergency pastoral care this summer while Kurt Kirchoff was away on vacation and sabbatical.
- To **Cheryl Edwards** and **Dave Fry** for their special contributions in arranging and executing the refinancing of our church's mortgage.
- To **Darrell Brown** for his supervision and management of the rental of our church's parsonage over the past six-and-a-half years.
- To **Barry Sedgwick** for his continued work with the reorganizing of the library.





## Children's Program

Welcome Back!

Before I start looking forward to a wonderful, exciting school year at HCC – I want to reflect on the summer for a moment. I want to thank all the Sunday school teachers that have helped this summer. We have had an interesting time learning about the 12 disciples. I know that I have learned a lot!

We start another school year with a wonderful addition to our new children's program: Erin Heisler! Erin and I will be working together to give your children a meaningful and fun Sunday school experience! You will be receiving a letter soon outlining the school year and upcoming events. I stress the importance of filling out the forms and returning them as promptly as possible – it helps us tremendously to know a little bit more about the people whom we are serving.

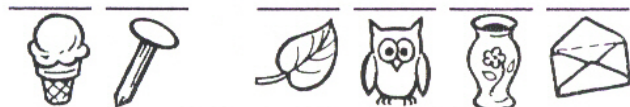
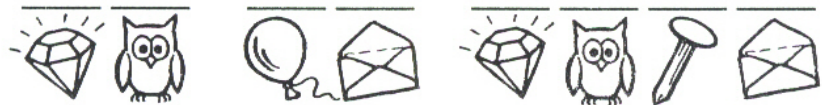
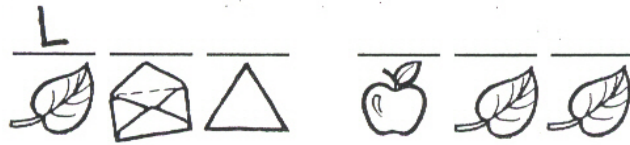
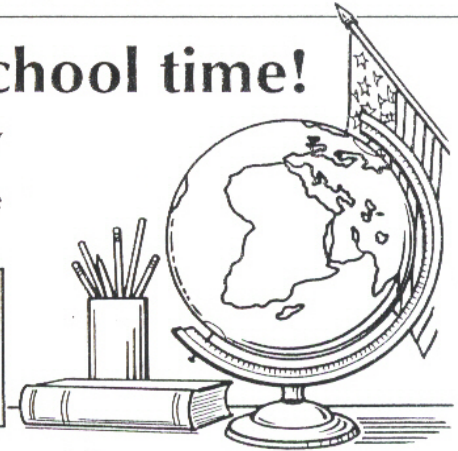
I hope everyone will be able to join us on September 6th as we begin the fall program with a "Give and Serve" day. Please bring a canned donation to the food pantry and all the kids will be stuffing backpacks with school supplies for needy children.

## Just for Kids

### It's back to school time!

This is a time to make new friends and do new things! Below is a special Bible verse to help you every day!

To find this helpful verse, write the letter that begins the word for each picture on the line above it.



1 Corinthians 16:14

Answers:

Let all that you do be done in love.

Please put September 12th at 6 p.m. on your calendar! We invite you and your family to join us at church to watch the movie *Evan Almighty* (rated PG). This is a modern-day retelling of the Noah story to get us ready to journey with Noah

in our first unit starting September 13th.

Thank you for all your support! I enjoy your children and it is a pleasure and an honor to serve them!

With Him in Mind,

*Susan C.*



This column is left blank intentionally to protect the privacy of our members.

## *Spiritual Life*

### Opportunities for Adults

The adults of the congregation are invited to join in these many activities sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee. You are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities for personal and spiritual growth.

#### **This Fall**

Many programs have been discussed by the Spiritual Life Committee as possibilities to be offered over the next year. Rather than list them here, we will be displaying these possibilities after worship on **Sundays, September 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>**. Take a moment to stop by our table and see what could be offered and let us know what might interest you for Adult Education.

#### **Sermon Discussion**

Beginning on **Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**, Kurt Kirchoff will lead a discussion of the previous weeks' sermons. This once-a-month discussion will occur after worship in the Sanctuary. Questions can be addressed to Kurt at 339-8383.

#### **PeaceCircle**

PeaceCircle was begun as a way to get to know our neighbors, especially those from different religious and ethnic backgrounds. The premise is that by

beginning peace gestures on our local scale, the ripples can be felt globally. Already, those coming to PeaceCircle have met many new friends and have learned much about other religions. World Peace is an awesome goal and PeaceCircle is reaching towards that.

On, **Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm**, PeaceCircle will attend a program for the International Day of Peace. This program is being sponsored by the local United Nations Association at the Hannah Center in East Lansing. In October, PeaceCircle will visit Nokomis Learning Center for a session focusing on the spiritual practices of Native Americans. All are invited to join PeaceCircle in attending these events.

#### **Men's Group**

The Men's Group has been meeting for breakfasts, book discussions, barbeques, and a fishing trip up north. Dave Vietti is constructing an email list of all those interested in the Men's Group. Contact him at 339-5731 or [vietti@msu.edu](mailto:vietti@msu.edu) to be included on this email list or to ask questions.

### **Social Calendar**

**September 12th**

*Family Movie night*

**September 27th**

*12:00 Noon Chicken BBQ*





**W**hile most of you are probably sad that September is here because it means back to school, I have to say that I am quite excited that it is *finally* September. Now, I'm not just excited that it's September because I LOVE shopping for school supplies (which I do), but more than that I am excited because September means the start to our youth group year!!

I appreciate all of you who took the time to fill out the surveys that were sent out in August. Your responses were very interesting & helped me as I was planning for this year. If you haven't filled out a survey, it's not too late; email me and I'll get you a copy. I just want to say again that I hope the surveys are just one of the many ways that we will all work together in this coming year!

Parents, youth, & church members are always welcome to contact me with any questions, concerns, ideas & thoughts. Later this fall I will be holding "office hours" at a coffee shop in Okemos, but please know that you are welcome to stop by my office at church anytime!

At the first youth group meetings I will be providing everyone with a calendar for the year. The calendar will include

when youth group is meeting as well as most of the special events (overnights, fundraisers, retreats, etc.) I tried my best to plan events around what I was able to find on school calendars, but there are bound to be conflicts. If a scheduling conflict arises, please let me know and we might be able to change our plans. Nothing is set in stone quite yet!

#### YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>  
6-8pm on the church lawn.

### **Bible-Trivia Baseball Youth vs. Parents**

Middle-school youth, high school youth, & parents are all invited to attend! The youth will take on their parents in a fun twist on baseball.

The evening will be complete with hot-dogs, cracker-jacks & peanuts, so come sporting your favorite baseball team gear.

Middle School Youth Group will meet every *Sunday from 4-5:30pm*. The parent & youth surveys suggested that we switch it back to Sundays, saying that weeknights often filled up with sports & school activities. We will give Sundays a try for the fall-evaluating in January if it is working.

High School Youth Group will continue to meet every *Sunday from 7-9pm*. Come for pizza, service projects, discussion and fun fellowship building activities!

#### Erin's contact info

Church phone: 339-8383

ext. 19

Email: erin.heisler@att.net

Cell phone: 230-8713

#### "FaithSpeak"

This is the name of the new curriculum that we will be using for Middle School Sunday School. Its intent is to help youth grapple with the language of faith, to build their faith vocabulary.

#### We are in need of teachers!

You need not consider yourself a creative person, an expert, or someone with teaching experience- all you need is a willingness to explore these words & issues alongside our middle school youth! It is my hope that many members of our congregation will volunteer to teach- offering a wide-range of voices for our youth to enter into conversations with! Contact Erin if you're interested!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### **Mission Trip 2010**

**June 20-26<sup>th</sup>!**

stay tuned: destination to be announced soon . . .

**"ALL GOD'S CHILDREN GOT A PLACE  
IN THE CHOIR"  
(some sing low and some sing higher)**

### Adult Choir



You are invited to give the **Adult Choir** a try this year. It is open to anyone who would like the opportunity to sing. There are no auditions, just come and give it a try. We meet

on **Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30** in the choir room. This group is open also to middle and high school students as well as those of us who are a bit past that age level. Additional practice sessions are offered on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 for those who would like a chance to polish up their skills.

**Our first rehearsal will be on Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 at the home of Barbara Freeman.** We will have a potluck dinner followed by a chance to tune up those voices after a long summer. Please let Judy or Barbara know if you would like to attend. As a special incentive, all new members will be our guests and will learn what good cooks the regular choir members are. Please consider joining us this year - you will find a wonderful group of people who love to sing waiting to welcome you.

Choir for students in Middle School will begin on



### Youth Choir

**Thursday afternoon, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30.** There will be opportunities for singing, ringing and drama as we learn new ways to participate in the worship services. Snacks will be provided.



**CHILDREN** will have to opportunity to have a choir rehearsal **every Sunday for 20 minutes immediately following the morning service.** While parents enjoy a time of fellowship and coffee, children are invited to remain downstairs to prepare music to sing once a month. Don't worry kids - we'll make sure you also get some of what is being served upstairs!!!! We're going to give this a try for awhile and see if more children will be able to participate. Please encourage your child to give it a try. This will begin September 13<sup>th</sup>.



## Chicken Barbecue

### HCC Annual Chicken BBQ

Labor Day is almost here, days are getting shorter, school will be starting before you know it AND.....the Social Committee is planning our annual Chicken BBQ for Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. It is always a great time when we share this potluck meal out on our church lawn. We provide the chicken (BBQ'd and not), rolls, drinks and ice

cream sundaes. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for youth 12 years and younger. We will have games to play and as always there is time for great conversation and fellowship. We ask that you please sign up on the Social Committee board in Friendship Hall and let us know how many people you will be bringing.....bring a friend, too, if you'd like! ALSO, please bring a dish to pass that will serve twelve. So, mark Sunday, September, 27<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and we will see you then!! OH..... please let Kim Carnes (339-8183) or Karla Hiller (339-8502) know if you would be willing to be one of our master grillers!! Thanks!!

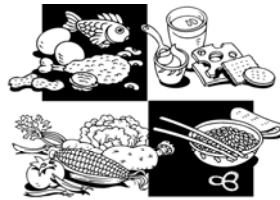
Pastor's | Cont. from page 1

We can do all of this without conscious thought or effort. We can do it because of the incredible dexterity, flexibility, and energy our bodies afford to us. It's all so stunning, wondrous, amazing, and stupendous if only we take the time to notice and appreciate it.

This is true even in those winter months when we become too much the couch potato, too much the slug-a-bug whose most strenuous movements might be to get dressed, lift food to our mouths, and operate the remote. But no matter the type or degree of movement, the sheer and ordinary fact of it can lead us back to God, take us back to the One who makes it all possible. It can connect us again to our Maker who has created us as movers and shakers, and not only us, but the heavenly spheres, too. They, too, have been ordained by God into their own "move it, move it, move it", and the study of that only adds to the sense of marvel we can have.

Come to think of it, if we take all of these ordinary miracles freshly to heart we might find ourselves bowing again. Bowing is such an ancient and often beautiful movement, but it's one that's become so rare in our time and place. Yet who knows? It might be worth trying again. The boldness and reverence of it might give our God connection a charge that we've not felt in a long time.

Wondering along with you,

**Kroger Community Rewards**

The Haslett Community Church Food Bank is now enrolled in the Kroger's Community Reward Program. All you need to do is go online to the Kroger's website and enroll under their Community Rewards Program. Enter #84566 for our organization number. Each time you use your Kroger's Plus Card for a purchase, a percentage will be returned to the food bank quarterly. If you do not have access to a computer please pick up a form with our scan bar on it on the door of the church office. That can be scanned once at the store and you will be enrolled.



**SEPTEMBER 11**  
*Remembrance*



Have you lost anything recently? If so, check with the church office; two different styles of pierced earrings were found, plus a nice scarf, which was found a few months ago, and is also in the church office. Provide a description of your lost items to re-claim them.

September 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



At this point in 2009 we need \$4458 each week to remain current in our pledged giving receipts. As of the end of July we're \$9737 behind in the amount of those gifts we've received. Any effort we can make to keep our pledges current, especially during the summer time when traditionally there's a slump, is a major help to our church's cash flow and to the ministry that everyone's giving makes possible. Thanks to all!

Dear Haslett Community Church,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of Re-Member, thank you for your kind donation of \$2251.22 to support our projects. By your giving to Re-Member for our projects with the Oglala Lakota people, you have chosen to stand with us as we work together to address the terrible poverty on Pine Ridge. We are helping the handicapped and elderly through our "Wawokiye" project of light home repair, painting and cleaning. Re-Member is also involved in home repair and is collaborating with other non-profits and agencies on the reservation. We are excited to be working together towards our goal of new home construction.



Our country's history with the indigenous people of our continent is indeed unfortunate and it represents a part of our world that is broken. Yet in spite of that history, our Lakota friends continue to hope and pray for a day when all races of the world will live in peace, respecting each other's traditions and values.

That is what we strive for at Re-Member; to put back that which is broken and build hope for a better world. Your walk with us is a step in that direction. "Re-Member is about building relationships" and you help us do that by supporting each project we work on with our Lakota friends.

Mitakuye Oyasin,  
(We are all related)  
Thomas J. McCann Executive Director



## A Church Garden

First, plant five rows of peas:

Presence  
Promptness  
Preparation  
Purity  
Perseverance.



Next to these, plant three rows of squash:

Squash gossip.  
Squash criticism.  
Squash indifference.

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for meetings.  
Turn up with a smile.  
Turn up with new ideas.  
Turn up with determination to make everything count for something good and worthwhile.

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HCC Connection

September 2009

## Worship for September 2009

Sermon titles and Scripture readings include:

**Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:25 am**

Kurt Kirchoff, preacher

"What Is He Doing?!"

Psalm 146 & Mark 7:24-37

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:25 am**

Kurt Kirchoff, preacher

"Dreams of Greatness"

Psalm 1 & Mark 9:30-37

**Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:25 am**

Kurt Kirchoff, preacher

"Using Our Words"

Psalm 141:1-4 & James 3:1-17

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:25 am**

Kurt Kirchoff, preacher

"When We Can't Speak of God"

Psalm 19:7-10 & Esther 7:1-6, 9-10 & 9:20-22

### Haslett Community Church

Church Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00, M–F    PHONE – (517) 339-8383    Fax (517) 339-8526

[www.haslettcommunitychurch.org](http://www.haslettcommunitychurch.org)

Contact us: [hcc1@att.net](mailto:hcc1@att.net)

**Pastor Kurt** - [pastorkurt53@att.net](mailto:pastorkurt53@att.net)

**Children's Ministry** - Susan Witkus - [susanwitkus@peoplepc.com](mailto:susanwitkus@peoplepc.com)

**Beverly Wegener** - [bev.wegener@att.net](mailto:bev.wegener@att.net)

**Youth ministry** - Erin Heisler - [erin.heisler@att.net](mailto:erin.heisler@att.net)

Worship and Church School, Sundays at 9:25 a. m.