



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 17, 2023
10:00 AM

We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings, and humbly explore God's love.

haslettcommunitychurch.org

P.O. Box 217 · 1427 Haslett Rd.
Haslett, MI 48840

517.339.8383

hcc1@att.net

We strive to ensure that all are comfortable worshipping with us. Therefore, we:

- Offer three ways to worship: in our Sanctuary, from your car in our south lot (radio to 88.7 FM - turn up your volume) and via livestream (see website for details).
- Provide large print worship bulletins and hearing assist receivers in the sanctuary upon request – an usher would be happy to help you
- Have a building that is barrier free with accessible restrooms. Gender neutral bathrooms are downstairs and are accessible by stairs and elevator.
- Are an Open & Affirming Church which means we welcome and affirm persons of every gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, age, race, nationality, economic status, faith background, marital status, or family structure.

Three Ways to Worship
Sundays at 10:00 am

1. In person
2. Parking lot (car radio on 88.7FM)
3. Remotely (via YouTube)

The church office is open for On-site Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 10:30am - 1:00pm.

Pastor Betsy is in the office Tue-Fri. Appointments recommended, or come for her drop-in office hours on Wednesdays from 11:30am - 1:00pm.

We love to see you, so please stop by!

Your staff continues to be available to serve you by email and phone outside these on-site hours as well.

We welcome families and households of every size and age and want children to know they are welcome here. Therefore, we:

- Don't mind when children wiggle and make noise in church-your whole family is welcome here! We also have nursery care downstairs staffed by safety-trained volunteers.
- Have preschool through 5th Graders begin each week in worship, and then offer Sunday School following the Children's Moment most weeks
- Have vibrant and active middle and high school youth groups for 6th-12th graders

Our Vision:

*We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings,
and humbly explore God's love.*

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023 10:00 am

*When you see an *, you are invited to stand as you are able. When text is in bold, you are invited to speak aloud.*

For Your Meditation *"In the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter and sharing of pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed."* – Khalil Gibran

Gathering Music

Welcome

Choral Call to Worship

"Enter, Rejoice and Come In"

Psalm 100
Ruspini

Call to Worship (by Joanna Harader)

As Abraham welcomed the strangers

So God welcomes us.

God greets us with joy

and says, "rest here for awhile."

God brings out water to wash our dusty feet.

God prepares a meal to nourish our weary spirits.

So let us receive the gracious hospitality of our God.

Let us rest in this holy place

where there is shade and water, food and laughter.

* **Hymn #402**

"De colores (Sing of Colors)"

Mexican folk song

Prayer of Approach

O Great Laughing God,

We come into your presence with joy and longing to be surprised.

We thank you that you have given to us the gift of laughter and delight.

These things give hints as to the nature of your purpose for us and for all the earth.

May we find that in giving up to laughter there is healing and hope and abundance and blessing.

Tickle our souls with the brush of your Spirit to renew our worship and our living. Amen.

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Hymn Response #286

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”
(Refrain only)

Manley

6 Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the
14 wil-der-ness call ing and free. Spir - it, spir-it of rest-less-ness
stir me from pla - cid-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

First Scripture Reading

Genesis 18: 1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹ They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ¹⁰ Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹² So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?” ¹³ The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ ¹⁴ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁵ But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

Anthem

“Think on These Things”

Courtney

Children's Moment

Preschool through 5th graders are invited to Sunday School.

Second Scripture Reading

Genesis 21: 1-7

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. ² Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. ⁴ And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." ⁷ And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Sermon

"Laughter is Sacred, Too!"

* Hymn #4

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

Schiller
Beethoven

Announcements

Invitation to Fully Fund the Church We Love

Offertory

"I Will Come to You"

Haas

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Christ all creatures here below; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Benediction

Postlude

"Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory"

Zimbabwe



After worship, you are invited to join us for Coffee Hour in Friendship Hall.

We worship every Sunday at 10:00 am, and you are welcome to join us.

**Wednesday Wisdom and Wondering
Presents**

**Mortal and Marvelous:
real talk about dying**

Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.

September 13 – October 11, 2023

We love to have you in person.

**For Zoom option use:
Meeting ID: 832 2757 3032
Passcode: 48840**

Let's talk about death and dying in a safe, comfortable, faithful way.

Some topics include:

- Hospice, A Closer Look
- Conversations to Have Before You Die
- Leaving Behind "Left Behind": Scripture and What's Next
- And more.

This 5-week series is for adults of all ages and stages.



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Save the Date

**Sunday October 8, 2023, at
5pm**

**Malinda Barr's Barn
1867 Lake Lansing Rd,
Haslett**



Social Committee's Pick-a-Party for October is a Bonfire (hot dogs and s'mores). Music will be furnished by Mark Garrod and friends. Social Committee will furnish hot dogs, buns and fixing's, marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers. We ask that you bring a chair, beverage and your appetite!!



This will be a fun event for everyone in the church. Sign up is online [HERE](#) and on the wall by the church office.

Everyone Welcome!

Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We receive your gifts with gratitude. We have some no-touch options to help make your giving easy and safe:

- Use your phone camera to scan the QR code to access our Online Giving.
- Text GIVE to our secure giving number:
517-200-3995



We are so grateful for your generosity!

Ministry Connections
Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community
September 17, 2023



We heartily welcome all to our service of worship.

May the comfort and challenge of God's loving presence renew and inspire you this morning and throughout the coming week.



Follow us on Facebook
 Haslett Community Church

CHURCH CALENDAR (September 17 - September 24)

Sunday 9/17/2023	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	11:15 AM	Inquirer's Class (S)
	11:20 AM	Member Caring Meets (L)
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR)
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR)
Tuesday 9/19/2023	NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE <i>email hcc1@att.net</i>	
	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
	7:00 PM	Green Team Book Club (FH)
	7:00 PM	Safety Team (L,Z)
Wednesday 9/20/2023	11:30 AM - 1PM	Betsy Onsite Ofc Hours (Ofc)
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Wisdom & Wondering (FH)
	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal (CR,S)
	7:00 PM	YOUTH: Culver's Night
Thursday 9/21/2023	9:00 - 9:45 AM	Sermon Preview Bible Study (Z)
	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Saturday 9/23/2023	9:00 AM	Men's Campfire & Breakfast <i>Rich Newport's house</i>
Sunday 9/24/2023	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	11:15 AM	Coffee With Jesus (L)
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR)
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR)

Legend: CR=Choir Rm; **Edge**=Edgewood UCC; **FH**= Fellowship Hall; **Fr** = Friendship Hall; **L**=Library; **OD1**= Door1; **Ofc**=HCC Office; **K**=Kitchen; **PL**=Parking Lot; **S**=Sanctuary; **SS**=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); **YR**=Youth Rm; **Z**=Zoom

Haslett Community Church welcomes You!

If you are visiting, please take a purple dove cup with a sweet treat and helpful information on your way out!

We worship every Sunday at 10:00 am.

If you have been visiting, are new to our church, or would like to explore becoming a member, Inquirer's Class is for you!



Inquirer's Class is **TODAY, SUNDAY, Sept. 17, 11:15 a.m.** in the Sanctuary with Pastor Betsy. Questions? Ask Betsy: 517.339.8383 x11 or aho.betsy@att.net

NEW GREEN TEAM

BOOK CLUB!!! We will be having an organizational meeting (**our first meeting**) **this Tuesday, September 19, at 7pm in Fellowship Hall.**

At the 2nd meeting in October, the book for discussion will be: "*Bringing Nature Home*" by Douglass Tallamy. The book demonstrates in a fun way the importance of native plants to insects, birds, and other animals. How can we create an easy and sustainable habitat in our yard? I'm looking forward to learning ways to be a better steward of God's creation! Please contact kimahuston@gmail.com if you are planning to come or with any questions!



We are hoping to add one team of two to our team of nursery volunteers this year! Teams work on a ro-

tating basis from October-May, serving for two Sundays, then off for 8. Please let Erin know if you are interested please contact Pastor Erin (erin.heisler@att.net)

The Staff:

Rev. Betsy Aho	Pastor	aho.betsy@att.net	517.339.8383 x11
Rev. Erin Heisler	Minister for Youth & Children	erin.heisler@att.net	517.339.8383 x19
Barbara Freeman	Church Musician		517.881.9976
Landon Black	Choral Conductor Intern		
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this morning to:

Reader:	Cheryl Edwards
Greeters:	David & Nancy Ferguson
Ushers:	Jim Gornick & Jewell Muller-Gornick
Coffee Hosts:	Pam & Todd Maxwell
Audio/Visual Techs:	Helen & David Jones
Tellers	Jim Gornick & Cheryl Edwards

Sanctuary flowers today are donated by Kris Belonge.

Permission to reprint music and words from sources other than The New Century Hymnal is granted under CCLI License # 1340749 or by special permission.

Thank you for worshipping with us! If you are visiting, or would like to know more about Haslett Community Church, you are invited to:

- Take a “Purple Dove Cup” for your household on your way out – it has some helpful info and a treat inside.
- Fill out a “Welcome!” card available in the seat in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher so that we might be in touch with you in the ways you indicate would be helpful.
- Ask questions if you have them; our Pastors, ushers, and the people sitting around you are great sources of information and are happy to help you feel comfortable here.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome at Haslett Community Church where we strive to welcome everyone with the same unconditional hospitality demonstrated by the love of God in Christ for all people.

haslettcommunitychurch.org

hcc1@att.net

517.339.8383

De colores

(Sing of Colors)

Mexican folk song

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1995

A A7 D

1 De co - lo - res, de co - lo - res se vis - ten los
 1 Sing of col - ors, sing of col - ors that o - ver the
 2 Sing, re - joic - ing! Ev - ery crea - ture that breathes raise a

Em

cam - pos en la pri - ma - ve - ra. De co -
 hills in pro - fu - sion are spring - ing; Sing of
 song to the God of cre - a - tion. Sing, re -

A7 A9 Em7 A7(#11) A7

lo - res, de co - lo - res son los pa - ja - ri - tos que vie - nen de a -
 col - ors of the birds that fly out - side my win - dow their can - ti - cles
 joic - ing! Sing to God who so ear - nest - ly cares, who has of - fered sal -

D D A7 D

fue - ra. De co - lo - res, de co -
 sing - ing; Sing of col - ors, in the
 va - tion. Sing the good news! Sing the

This Mexican folk song is known by many Mexican-American churchgoers, and has also been popular among the United Farm Workers.

Tune: DE COLORES
 Mexican folk song
 Arr. Alfredo Morales, F.S.C.

(Next pg)

D7

G

lo - res es el ar - co i - ris que ve - mos sa - lir, Y por
rain-bow's bright col - ors God's prom - ise of hope we re - call; Sing of
love of the Sav - ior re - flect - ing the col - ors of all. Man - y

Em7 A9 F#m7 B7 Em A7

e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co - lo - res me gus - tan a
col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who cre - at - ed us
col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that tell us God's love to re -

D D7 G A9 F#m7 B7

mí, Y por e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co -
all. Sing of col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the
call. Man - y col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that

Em A7 D

lo - res me gus - tan a mí.
God who cre - at - ed us all.
tell us God's love to re - call.

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

1 Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore you, God of glo-ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re-lect your rays,
 3 You are giv-ing and for-giv-ing, ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blessed,
 4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan;

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore you, open-ing to the sun a-bove.
 Stars and an-gels sing a-round you, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, o-cean depth of hap-py rest!
 Bound-less love is reign-ing o'er us, re-con-cil-ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, drive the storms of doubt a-way;
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Lov-ing Spir-it, Fa-ther, Moth-er, all who love be-long to you;
 Ev-er sing-ing, move we for-ward, faith-ful in the midst of strife,

Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth-er, by that love our joy re-new.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us on-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759-1805) that inspired Beethoven.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
 Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846

(Back)



Happy Heart Helpers Needed!

Have you ever wondered who makes Sunday mornings go so smoothly? YOU DO! Join the Happy Heart Team, and just see what smiles you can bring to people.

Being a Happy Heart volunteer is a great way to serve the church when you're already here on a Sunday morning! We hope to have enough volunteers that you would not need to fulfill a role more than about once a quarter!

See the back of this flyer for descriptions of all roles, and know that we are always happy to train you or have you shadow someone until you are comfortable. Every effort is made to work around your schedule, and if something comes up substitutions can be made.

Fill out the form below and place it in the basket during offering, or give to a Pastor, or email hcc1@att.net to tell us which role(s) you are interested in and we will be in touch.



You are invited to fill out the ways you would be interested in serving the Happy Heart team in 2024. Return it to the HCC office, place in the offering plate, or email the church office at hcc1@att.net to sign up.

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

I am interested in these Happy Heart Team roles (check all that apply):


- | | |
|---------------|---|
| _____ Greeter | _____ Coffee Host (training video avail.) |
| _____ Usher | _____ Audio Visual Tech (training provided) |
| _____ Reader | _____ Teller (training provided) |

I would prefer to shadow someone on my first time as _____.







Happy Heart




Greeters: Our Greeters are the first to welcome folks into the building. They're encouraged to stand in Friendship Hall, near door #1 and the church office (this prevents too much of a bottle neck where the nametag table is now, near the sanctuary doors).




Ushers: Ushers distribute worship bulletins before the service. They also count everyone in attendance, as well as close/open the sanctuary doors. During the offering, they pass the offering plates and a basket for prayer requests, placing the offering plates on the communion table during the Doxology.



Scripture Reader: This person will do the first Scripture reading of the Service. The church office emails you the reading for the week so you are able to become familiar with it and practice it prior to Sunday morning.




A/V Techs: Our Audio/Video Techs work in pairs to run the livestream camera and sound system during worship. This role requires a little extra training, so our friendly, current A/V techs will work with you until you're comfortable.



Coffee Hosts: Coffee Hosts host our time of fellowship following the worship service. The coffee materials and instructions are posted in the kitchenette in Fellowship hall. Hosts are encouraged to arrive 45 minutes prior to worship to get the coffee started. Treats are not a requirement, but are enjoyed by the congregation when offered. Juice or punch (non-red) is nice for the children & non-coffee drinkers. There are also usually GLUTEN FREE options to use in the freezer in the HCC Main Kitchen.

Two recommended changes that we're making for our coffee hosts:

1. You can now **CHOOSE** which method of making coffee you are most comfortable with: brewers & air pots or the traditional percolators. Directions and supplies will be provided for both.
2. You can also **CHOOSE** whether to use one- time-use cups or washable mugs and cups.



Tellers: Tellers are specially-trained to count the offering. They are on a rotating schedule. If this is something you are interested in doing, and aren't already on the team, please contact the office.

