

Haslett Community Church



HCC Connections

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

August - September 2021



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Do you not know that you are God's sanctuary and that God's Spirit dwells in you? - 1 Corinthians 3:16

sanc-tu-ar-y /'saNGk(t)SHə,wərē/

1. a place of refuge or safety.

Welcome home.

Welcome over and over again to your home – your church home – Haslett Community Church, United Church of Christ.

Dear ones, the long-awaited time has come to offer indoor in-person worship on Sunday mornings! I very much look forward to gathering again within our beautiful and familiar sanctuary.

This feels like a new beginning. Eighteen months ago, we knew the most responsible thing we could do was close the church doors, "two weeks to flatten the curve." But it has gone on so much longer than we thought it would. And we have adapted in more ways than we thought we could.

It is now time to open our doors to worship in the Sanctuary once again. We have learned so much. We have learned how to worship and participate in church programs apart but not alone. We have learned to make the most of outdoor spaces. We have learned COVID-19 mitigation strategies to help keep us safer. We have learned that it is hard to be away, even though we've made great strides. We have learned the blessing and struggle of doing things "remotely." We have learned that we are, through all things, united by the Spirit of God.

We have also learned that some are at higher risk of severe illness than others, or feel safer staying remote, or are joining us from far away and the remote option is best for them. And we have learned that is OK.

If the sanctuary doesn't feel like a place of safety and refuge, or is hard for you to get to, I honor that. Remote access to the service will continue. You are God's sanctuary, God's spirit dwells in you wherever you worship.

This edition of HCC Connections is PACKED with information about the start of our 2021-2022 program year! Some of the information is about returning inside for things that have not been inside for quite some time. Some information is about trying new things. Some information is about familiar things in new ways. You are invited. You are invited to participate in person or remotely or indoors or outside. You are God's sanctuary. Welcome home.

Yours in the Journey,

Pastor Betsy Aho

Phone: 517.339.8383 x11

Cell: 517.282.7443

Email: aho.betsy@att.net

We welcome you to Worship with us!

Beginning Sunday, September 5, we will once again offer worship indoors in person in our Sanctuary! In the spirit of inclusivity and welcoming, we offer two additional ways for you to worship with us as well.



Three ways to worship with us:

1. In the Sanctuary! We are looking forward to throwing wide the doors. Here are some ways we are lowering risks as we gather inside to keep our community safer:
 - Currently, masks are required in the building, this includes during worship as we have young worshippers who cannot be vaccinated, and worshippers in higher risk categories.
 - Chairs will be spaced out, and you will be able to put an open seat holder on either side of your household to keep some distance.
 - Bulletins will be distributed, or you will have the option to access a digital version on your phone if you prefer.
 - An offering will be collected, but without passing the collection plates.
 - Music is one of the many important elements of worship at Haslett Community Church and will be part of our services. Congregational singing will take place outdoors after the service as part of our fellowship and coffee time. Masks are not required for outdoor activities.
 - Please worship remotely if you answer 'yes' to any of the questions on the health checklist **on page 3**.
2. In the Parking Lot! Want to be present at church, but you aren't quite ready to come inside? Join us in the parking lot!
 - Park near the sanctuary (south side is best) and turn your FM radio to 88.7
 - From the comfort of your car, you will hear everything that our sound system picks up.
3. Remotely! Continue to find the service each Sunday morning at haslettcommunitychurch.org or on our [YouTube channel](#) or [Facebook page](#). Bulletins/Orders of Worship will also be available on the website and in video descriptions.
 - Enjoy the service wherever you are. And if you want to worship while wearing bunny slippers and sipping cocoa with too much whipped cream, no one will know!



Outdoor Worship at Lake Lansing Park North on Sunday, August 29

It has been a tradition at Haslett Community Church to enjoy an Outdoor Worship Service at Lake Lansing Park North. We look forward to continuing that tradition in August!

We will meet at **Lake Lansing Park North** at **10:00 am on Sunday, August 29**, in the **Main Shelter** (This is different than last year; it's the shelter we've traditionally been in), which can be found by going straight, then left after the entrance fee gate.

Light refreshments will be provided by Spiritual Life following the service.

Please bring a lawn chair if possible.

There is an entrance fee for Lake Lansing Park North...\$3 for Ingham county residents, \$5 for non-residents. Annual passes are also available. **If you are unable to pay this fee, there is a hardship pass** that can be filled out at the entrance gate, allowing you to enter without paying the fee.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Coffee Fellowship and Hymn Sing after each service!

Join us on the lawn after worship each weather-permitting Sunday for coffee fellowship!

We will also take some time during fellowship to sing a couple of familiar hymns together (song sheets provided), until congregational singing becomes safe indoors again.

Chairs will be provided, and you can also mingle or bring your own camp chair. Outdoor Coffee Fellowship is open to any and all who would like to join us, regardless of how or if you participated in worship. Let's get together!

Look for details about a special Social Committee event on Sept. 5 (p 14) and a School Year Kick-Off on Sept. 12 (below) during Coffee Fellowship!



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Readying for Our Return!

Preparing for our program year takes extra effort this season, because our church use has been so different the last 18 months. From some organizational tasks, to some minor moving and lifting, **we could use your help to get the church ready for fall.**

We will have a check-list of tasks prepared for you to choose from, and you can stay for as long or as little as you like. Please wear a mask indoors and consider helping during one of these times:

- Thu., Aug. 26, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Sat., Aug. 28, 9:00 a.m. - Noon
- Sun., Aug. 29, Noon - 3:00 p.m. (after outdoor worship)



IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE, BEFORE YOU ATTEND ANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES, PLEASE REVIEW THESE QUESTIONS.

IF YOU ANSWER YES TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS, WE ASK THAT YOU REFRAIN FROM ATTENDING THE HCC EVENT THAT DAY.

<p>IN THE PAST 24 HOURS HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> NEW OR WORSENING COUGH <input type="checkbox"/> SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR DIFFICULTY BREATHING <input type="checkbox"/> LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL <input type="checkbox"/> FEVER OF 100 OR HIGHER <input type="checkbox"/> CHILLS <input type="checkbox"/> MUSCLE ACHES <input type="checkbox"/> SORE THROAT <input type="checkbox"/> DIARRHEA <input type="checkbox"/> NAUSEA OR VOMITING 	<p>ARE YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD CURRENTLY WAITING FOR COVID TEST RESULTS?</p> <hr/> <p>HAVE YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAD A POSITIVE COVID RESULT IN THE LAST 14 DAYS?</p> <hr/> <p>HAVE YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD BEEN WITH A PERSON WHO HAD A POSITIVE COVID RESULT IN THE LAST 14 DAYS?</p>
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THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND COOPERATION!



On Sunday, September 12th join us after worship for Popsicles & Popcorn to help officially kick off our new school year!

Popsicles and popcorn will be available on the church lawn during coffee hour.

Whether you worship with us in person, from your car in the parking lot, or virtually at home, **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



We want to begin with a HUGE thank you to EVERYONE who helped to make Vacation Bible School possible! We had a beautiful week of learning about how God KNOWS us, how God HEARS us, and how God LOVES & CHOOSES us! We felt truly treasured, not only by God, but also by our GENEROUS congregation who helped to provide almost all of the supplies that were needed for our crafts, games and snacks!

Thanks to our helpers: Pastor Betsy, Kelly Flagg, Becky Leefers, Sandra Porter, Stefanie Zin, Dane Hatch, Morgan Fisher, and Brennan Kildea! Thanks to Sally Heisler for her help prepping crafts prior to the VBS week. Thanks to Becky & Larry Leefers, Jon Lineberry, & Sandra Porter, Chloe Pennoni, Ashley & Nate Holcomb, and Joey Schaubroeck for help setting up the tent! And to everyone who helped take down the tent at the end of VBS!



This fall, in an effort to keep our preschool-5th graders as safe as possible, we will be having SIDEWALK SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Here's how Sundays will look for our preschool-5th graders:

- Children will begin in worship.
- When there is a Children's Moment, children will be able to participate from exactly where they are - we won't be gathering on the front sanctuary steps yet.
- Following the Children's Moment or the Passing of the Peace, preschool through 5th graders will leave worship.
- On weeks the weather allows, we will head outside (out the north door #2).
- We will gather, masked, on the sidewalk for a Bible story and activity (craft or game).
- When weather doesn't allow for outside, children will gather, spaced out in Friendship Hall for their Sunday school time.
- Following worship, families will be asked to meet us at door 2 to "pick up" the students before heading outdoors for coffee hour. Adult pick up helps ensure that all of

our children are safe outdoors, especially given our proximity to the parking lot.

- Students are welcome to bring a water bottle with them. We won't be eating together at this time.



Families with young children (newborn-3 years old) are welcome to keep their young ones with them in the sanctuary for worship. We welcome them and all their joyful noises that they make! For families who are more comfortable, we will be bringing toys from our nursery into Fellowship Hall (the space "behind" our sanctuary, next to the kitchen). Families with young children are also welcome to be in this space so toddlers have more room to move and play. This space is equipped with speakers so you will still be able to hear every moment of the service!

We will use the three compartment sink in the kitchen for regular toy cleaning at the end of the service.

We ask that this space be reserved for children ages 0-3 only and that older children be in the sanctuary space, so that the toys in Fellowship Hall remain clean for our littlest ones.

If families would appreciate having a nursery volunteer or two in this space as well, please reach out to Pastor Erin! We want you to be able to worship!



Every year we choose a word to be our youth group word of the year. Past words have included hope and embody. After all we've been through over the past year and a half, it seemed impossible to choose just one word for the year ahead. So, without further ado, I share with you the TWO words that will be our words of the 2021-2022 school year:



The phrase "one another" is derived from the Greek word allelon which means "one another, each other; mutually, reciprocally." It occurs 100 times in the New Testament. Approximately 59 of those occurrences are specific commands teaching us how (and how not) to relate to one another.

So each week at youth group, we will spend time learning about all of the different ways we are called to treat (and how not to treat) one another!

Weekly Youth Group Meetings will begin on SUNDAY, SEPT. 12TH!
Middle School (6th-8th grade) 5-6:30pm
High School (9th-12th grade) 7-9pm

Safety remains our top priority, so the following guidelines will be in place:

1. We will be meeting in the youth room in our regular groups: Middle school (6th-8th grade) from 5-6:30pm. High school (9th-12th grade) from 7-9pm.
2. When Ingham County is in the substantial or high risk range, everyone will be asked to mask. When our county moves back down to moderate or low risk, vaccinated high schoolers will be allowed to attend unmasked. The entire middle school group will remain masked until a vaccine is approved for the younger students.
3. For the time being there will be no food provided at youth group meetings, but students are welcome to bring their own snack, water bottles, etc.

A DETAILED calendar and a parent letter will be coming out specifically to youth families, so please watch the mail and your email inbox for this important information. We won't be sharing our usual year-long calendar, because we hope to add more of our favorite traditions as health risks decrease. We will share some important save the dates for special events and the 2022 mission trip(s) for all students!

Above all, please know that I am committed to thinking creatively for us to reconnect and maintain our close family-like feel, and to get back to our youth group normal! Call, text, or email me anytime.

Peace & prayers,
Erin
erin.heisler@att.net
517-230-8713



While the details of our summer mission trip(s) are still being worked out, there will for sure be a summer mission trip option for BOTH our middle school AND our high school group in 2022!

The dates will be announced in early September!

Two trips in '22, combined with a lack of fundraising over the last 2 years, means that our mission trip fundraisers will be EVEN MORE IMPORTANT than ever! We need help from youth AND their families, not just to work the fundraising events, but to help us brainstorm some *new* and *different* ideas!

We will have a FUNDRAISING meeting for parents (youth are certainly welcome to come and bring ideas as well) on Wednesday, September 1st at 7pm.

We also need help from ALL YOUTH FAMILIES for our FAST APPROACHING Youth on a Mission Golf Outing! Join us Sunday, September 19th at Meridian Sun for this fun event! We need your help recruiting golfers and finding sponsors! Additional information is available in this newsletter and will be sent to all youth families! Help us spread the word and kick-off our fundraising in a big way!



SAVE THE DATE:
Annual Pumpkin Sale will be
October 16th & 17th!

Brown Bags & Beliefs Returns!

Our mid-week program is back after a spring and summer hiatus. Pastor Betsy will kick us off with a six-week series digging into some commonly misinterpreted scripture passages, as we learn together the importance of context in Biblical interpretation and hear some passages with new ears.

You are invited to join us in person or remotely. Brown Bags & Beliefs is designed for participants to come without any preparation needed, and to feel comfortable coming whatever weeks they are able. You are always welcome at BBB!



Brown Bags & Beliefs Presents:
OUT OF CONTEXT;
Understanding Commonly
Misinterpreted Bible Passages



WEDNESDAYS, 6:00 – 6:57 p.m

This popular mid-week study & discussion returns with in person and remote access.
 Come to the sanctuary or Zoom in to join us.

This series runs Wednesdays, September 8 – October 13, 2021

Pastor Betsy leads a discussion around some Biblical passages that are commonly taken out of context, and commonly misused or misinterpreted. Together, we will seek to broaden and deepen our understanding of Scripture.

No preparation needed. Come when you can!

To join by Zoom use Meeting ID: 829 3489 3729 Passcode: *usual HCC code*



Haslett Community Church
 United Church of Christ

**Save the Date: Friday, October 1st**

Since "Community" is our middle name, we want to help our community celebrate their Homecoming this fall!

We hope to have a float in the Haslett Homecoming parade on Friday, October 1st!

Don't want to be IN the parade, but want to still gather to enjoy it together? Plan on meeting at the church that evening and then walking the one block south, on the southside of our property to Franklin Street to enjoy the parade! We will be handing out bags of popcorn to parade watchers!

How you can help:

- Do you have a truck or a trailer we can use for the parade?
- Help us design, build, and decorate our float or make signs about HCC!
- Purchase candy for the parade participants to throw.
- Help hand out HCC bags of popcorn to parade watchers around the corner of Franklin Street and Monterey Avenue.

Watch our weekly emails and Facebook page for more information!

Haslett Community Church Youth On A Mission Golf Outing



at Meridian Sun Golf Club 1018 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840

Event Details:

Sunday, September 19th

Check-in: 12:15-12:45pm

Shot-gun start: 1:00pm

Cost: \$180/team (\$45/golfer)

Includes: 9 holes of golf with a cart, sleeve of golf balls and a boxed lunch.

Space is limited to 18 teams! Register ASAP!

Register Your Team:

Attendee #1 Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Attendee #3 Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Attendee #2 Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Attendee #4 Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Please send registration form & team payment
 (checks can be made out to HCC-
 "golf" on memo line) to :
Haslett Community Church
Attn: Rev. Erin Heisler
1427 Haslett Road
Haslett, MI 48840

Not a golfer? That's okay!
We are looking for sponsors!
Sponsor a mission trip scholarship \$500.
Hole Sponsorship is \$100.
Cart Sponsorship is \$50.
Golf Outing Patron is a \$25 donation.

Haslett Community Church Youth On A Mission Golf Outing



at Meridian Sun Golf Club 1018 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840

On Sunday, September 19, Haslett Community Church is partnering with Meridian Sun Golf Club to host a golf-outing to benefit our youth mission trip fund.

We are looking for individuals, families & businesses to help sponsor this event.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Golf Outing Patron (\$25)

Name will appear on a list attached to the score-cards.

Cart Sponsor (\$50)

Name will appear on a sign on the cart.

Hole Sponsor (\$100)

Name will appear on a sign at the tee-box.

Ask about the opportunity to sponsor a mission trip scholarship!

All golfers will be given a complete list of all sponsors.

Feel free to send in your business' logo with your registration for it to appear on the sign as well. (or send logo electronically to erin.heisler@att.net)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name to Appear on Sign: _____

Artwork? (please circle yes or no) YES NO Email: _____

Receipt? (please circle yes or no) YES NO

Please make checks out to HCC & write "sponsor" on memo line. Send registration form & payment to:
Haslett Community Church, Attn: Rev. Erin Heisler
1427 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840

Our Church Family



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

- To Dave Vietti for helping with prep and setup of the July Red Cross blood drive.
- To the Loaves and Fishes team for August: Kelly Flagg, Carol Cramer, Carolyn Solomon, Heidi Dalton, and Paula Fry.
- To everyone who helped make VBS possible! From donating supplies to volunteering their time. A full list of thank you's is on the children's page.
- To our Property Team for going above and beyond, putting in extra hours and efforts to make sure floods are cleaned up and hopefully prevented in the future; from over-seeing the south side, to sprucing up the parsonage, and prepping for parking lot repaving. We are thankful!
- To the audio video techs who have learned new skills to improve livestreaming: Rich Newport, Kirk Riley, Patrick Homminga, Jon Lineberry, Helen Jones, and David Jones.
- To Malinda Barr and Jon Lineberry for keeping the HCC Summer Concert Series running smoothly while Pastor Betsy was on vacation.



Church Open for On-site Office Hours!

Have some church business you'd like to take care of in person? Have a question that's easier face-to-face? Just want to remember what the inside of the church looks like and say hello? Grab a mask and stop by for office hours!

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

Beginning Sept. 7, Michele Booher, Office Manager, will be on-site in the office during those times to assist you.



Pastor Betsy will also continue outdoor office hours on weather-permitting 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.



CROP Hunger Walk: October 10, 2021!

More information will be available soon, but we want you to **Save the Date** for the annual Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Walk!

We have great participation and generosity for this cause every year and look forward to continuing the tradition.



Church Meetings of Up to 25 People!

Church committees, teams, and groups, of up to 25 people can now meet in the Sanctuary. We are beginning to open up to some of our outside community groups as well.

To schedule your HCC group meeting in the building, please contact Michele, our Office Manager. Michele will work to ensure there are no conflicts with building use and will share safety protocols.

We are also happy to set up a virtual option if you would like to continue meeting remotely, or if your group members prefer a hybrid remote/in-person model.

Our Church Family continued...



Over the past 18 months, we have lost members of our church family whose lives, due to COVID, we were unable to celebrate as we would have liked. As our building opens up in September, there are plans to gather together to honor them.



Mary Nelson

Sept.10, 1936 - April 10, 2020

There will be a Memorial Service for Mary Nelson on **Saturday, September 18, 11:00am at HCC**, with visitation one hour prior.

A luncheon is being planned after the service.

If you prefer to attend this service remotely, please contact the office for livestream information.



Suzanne K. Rock

May 5, 1943 - September 21, 2020

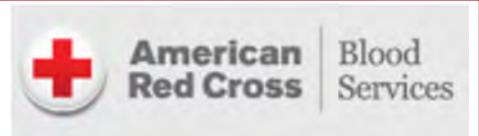
There will be a Celebration of Life service for Suzanne Rock on **Monday, September 20, Noon at HCC**.

A luncheon is planned following the service.



Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross has an immediate urgent need for blood donations.



There will be a blood drive at HCC Friday, September 17, from Noon - 6pm

Red Cross already has stringent safety protocols, and they've implemented additional **COVID safety protocols** as well, including:

- Donation **by appointment only** (NO WALK IN appointments). Visit www.redcrossblood.org/give. then scroll through the Drives listed in the left panel to find Haslett Community Church and an appointment time that works for you.
- Face masks required
- Physical Distancing (NO guests with donors)
- Health screenings/temperature checks upon entering building
- Hand sanitizer use before and during donation process / sanitization between donors

Meet Our New Members

At our Outdoor worship service on July 25, we were thrilled to induct and welcome in new members to our HCC family! Get to know them a bit better on the next couple pages. A huge welcome to the Bullock, Higgins, McKinley, and Tafel families!



The Bullock Family:

After moving to Michigan from New York six years ago, the Bullock family went on a hunt to find a church. After trying many, they were invited by friends to Haslett Community Church and felt welcomed and comfortable from the start. Now that they have their son, Ethan, Rachel and Ben thought it was time to become official members!

Rachel has been a Spanish and ESL teacher for the last 11 years but is taking some time off to stay home with Ethan. She enjoys reading, playing Fortnite, and camping! Ben is a Mechanical Engineer at FRIB/MSU and enjoys camping and being outdoors. Ethan just turned 1 on

July 7, and he enjoys playing outside, snuggles, music, and snacks!

Rachel has started playing in the chime choir, and the whole Bullock family loves attending functions like the camping trip and the ski trip! They're also looking forward to the opportunities for Ethan once he is a bit older.

Fun fact: Rachel and Ben started dating in 11th grade and were high school sweethearts! They got married on December 20, 2014, after almost 10 years together and have been together half their lives!

The Higgins Family:

The Higgins family likes that HCC is an open and affirming church that accepts everyone, as they are. They attended in person a few times right before everything closed because of COVID, and really liked it.

The family moved to MI in summer 2019 and like to take road trips to explore their new State! Alan and Holly love architecture and love to find cool old (Holly) and new (Alan – mid-century modern) buildings on their travels.

Holly is a musician and would like to share her talent by joining the chime choir and possibly providing music for a service. The kids, Ewan, Cecily, and Cameron are excited to become involved in Children & Youth programs.

The Higgins family is excited to finally meet new people and form new relationships and community!



Meet Our New Members *continued...*

At our Outdoor worship service on July 25, we were thrilled to induct and welcome in new members to our HCC family! Get to know them a bit better on pages 11 and 12. A huge welcome to the Bullock, Higgins, McKinley, and Tafel families!



The McKinley Family:

What attracted the McKinleys to HCC was interacting with Pastor Betsy on the Church & Ministry Committee, the Youth Group, our support of the LGBTQ Community, and our welcoming environment.

K'Lynne, Sarah, Noah, Lyrik, and Salem live in Ypsi, and hope to be able to become involved in the life of our church through community weekend events, mission trips, and youth activities.

The McKinleys love the outdoors and enjoy family camping, hiking, paddle boarding, biking, and reading.

Fun Fact: They have two frugs (Frenchie-pugs) who are part of their family... Clarke (3yrs old) and Charley (7 weeks old), both girls. 😊

Jenn Tafel:

Jenn was attracted to HCC through Pastor Betsy always welcoming her whenever they met. "The sanctuary has lots of good vibes, the messages are affirming, and you all rock a good potluck/reception."

Jenn is a California girl living in MI. She is an artist (acrylic on canvas) and makes things for gifts. She is also a holistic practitioner. It's been 10-ish years since she's had her own garden space, and she's having a good time this summer trying new things and learning along the way.

Jenn plans to participate at HCC by attending worship and has already been enjoying the summer concert series! She's not sure she's ready to join a committee, but maybe help at an event. She's also looking for some good crock pot recipes!





We have been having chime choir meetings at 7:00 pm on Wednesday evenings at the church, and we hope to continue that whenever the Choir isn't rehearsing. There is still time for anyone to join this group.

The choir will be having an OUTDOOR rehearsal, weather permitting, on August 25 at 7:00pm, to get our voices warmed up. All are invited to come: longtime singers and anyone new that would like to join. Then, in September, choir rehearsals are scheduled for Wednesday evenings OUTSIDE the main door (Door 1), as there can be no group singing indoors at this time.

In case of rainy weather, choir will be cancelled, and the chime choir will meet indoors during that time instead. Be ready for some late cancellations, as decisions are constantly changing. Please check your emails.



A big thanks to all the Worship hymn leaders, who have been meeting with Barbara to prepare and record for our Sunday services. We are hoping the choir is able to take back that job sometime this year.

We're also putting together another Virtual Choir of "Irish Blessing" with choir members, HHS choir graduates, and others, so stay tuned!

Thanks again to Kirk Riley for the choir recordings he made in the past years that we can share again during our recorded services. Other music in July and August has been provided by Aly Homminga, Joyce Bischoff, and Gwen Dease. A big thanks to all.

~Judy judy58connelly@earthlink.net

Simply Give at Bath Meijer



The Haslett Community Food Pantry has been selected once more to be the recipient of the fall **Simply Give** campaign. The campaign will run in the **Bath Meijer only through Saturday, Oct. 2, 2021.**

Meijer will **double Simply Give donations** made at the Bath store on:

- **Saturday, August 28, 2021**

On that day, for every \$10 donation card purchased, Meijer will provide an additional contribution of \$20, resulting in a total donation of \$30 that comes to our food pantry.

While other days are not double-matched, a Simply Give donation on any day is welcome, as the total campaign produces valuable food pantry assistance!!

Thanks to generous customers and Meijer Foundation support, the Simply Give campaign generated over \$57 million in food donations for more than 430 food pantries throughout the Midwest since 2008.

HCC Generosity

Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We are still The Church with a mission and a staff, and we receive your gifts with gratitude.



DONATE

There are several options to make giving more convenient:

1. You can mail checks, which are accounted for weekly.
 2. You can also PayPal us at: HCCgenerosity@gmail.com.
 3. Online Giving, Text Giving, and Giving via Mobile App are all available to help make your support of HCC even easier! Visit www.haslettcommunitychurch.org/giving for more information, or use the QR code above to access our Giving page.
- **Online Giving** - is available through our relationship with easyTithe™ and is accessible through our website.
 - **Mobile Giving** - utilizes the easyTithe™ Giving App which you can download from [The App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).
 - **Text Giving** - Just text GIVE to our secure giving number: 517-200-3995

Thank you for your generosity & support!



Social Committee is here to guide and encourage us to stay connected. The members of the Social Committee keep our minds a-brewing with ideas for creative ways to bring us together. Many of these events are weather and restriction dependent. Please keep a lookout for fun events we are trying to bring your way. We are looking forward to seeing you this Fall. **Call or text Kim Carnes at (517) 331-3586** if you'd like to be involved, or have ideas. **We meet at 7:30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month.**

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 7:30pm at Lake Lansing Park North.
This meeting also has a Zoom option: Meeting ID: 330 584 4904,
 Passcode: 48451

ice cream social



ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO WELCOME YOU BACK!

We want to celebrate the start of our 2021 program year, as well as mark the sweetness of making worship in the Sanctuary one of our options on Sunday mornings again.

So, join the Social Committee for an **ICE CREAM SOCIAL during outdoor coffee fellowship on Sept. 5, 2021!**

There will be plenty of ice cream and lots of toppings served up by Social Committee volunteers.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Food, fellowship and fun is all happening on **October 3, at Noon, outdoors @ HCC!**
It's Chicken BBQ Fun time!

Bring a dish to pass if you can, and enjoy games on the lawn, plenty of barbecued chicken, and more, all hosted by the Social Committee. This event will take place outdoors.

Please sign up so we are sure to have enough for all. There are multiple ways to sign up:

- Sign up electronically any time [HERE](#), or
- Add your info to the physical sign-up sheet at church starting September 5, or
- Contact Michele, Office Manager, for help signing up (hcc1@att.net or 517.339.8383).

Women's Group

Our group meets most months on the **first Tuesday, at 10am**. In August, we were so grateful to be able to get together outdoors in person and to be hosted so generously by Carol Cramer, in her beautiful gardens!

We plan to meet **next on Tues., Sept. 7, via Zoom** (see info below). At that meeting, we're hoping to plan for the rest of the year, so we hope you can join us! If you can't join us but would like to get involved, email hcc1@att.net. We'd love to have you!

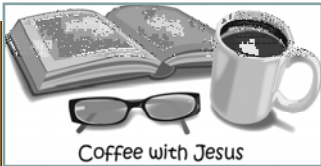
Meeting ID: 872 9362 4318
 Passcode: usual HCC code





The various groups sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee help us reflect on, and grow in, our spiritual life, as well as foster closer ties between us. The committee currently consists of Donna Ellis Cornell, Don Flagg, Karen Klein, Carolyn Lucas, Katie Riley, and Angie Wilson. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions you might have, to get involved, or with your ideas for other groups or events we might sponsor.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 24, @ 7:00pm, in the HCC Sanctuary



Coffee With Jesus

(Exploring our Questions about Faith, Life, and Spirituality)

Coffee with Jesus is excited to resume monthly meetings in person this fall, provided of course that the virus doesn't keep that from happening.

We are currently seeking to decide what focus of sharing and study we will be pursuing. We have continued to meet with the intention of welcoming, sharing, and witnessing our journeys as Christ seekers.

Our first in-person meeting will be September 19, following worship. This will be a “reunion- type” of meeting, to form the group once more in person.

By the October Newsletter we should have more specifics to share. The group is open to anyone exploring connection for the journey.



Men's Group continues to meet regularly in different ways, including **online Zoom meetings on Saturday morning at 9:00am.** Zoom info:

Zoom Meeting ID: 416 360 920
 To Call In*: 301.715.8592
 Passcode: usual HCC code
 *Long distance charges may apply

Please **contact Dave Vietti** if you're interested in connecting with this group:

517-339-5731 vietti@msu.edu



A Note about UCC General Synod 2021

For being able to participate in our United Church of Christ General Synod 2021 July 11-18, A Heart-felt thank you to Pastor Betsy and Church Council!

In mid-May of this year, I received an e-mail from Pastor Betsy wondering if I'd be interested in representing HCC at the UCC General Synod, the global gathering of the denomination that meets every two years. Valarie Kaur, the activist and author whose work our Coffee with Jesus group has studied this past year, was scheduled as the first keynote speaker at the event. I felt honored by the invitation and a little overwhelmed, and Betsy, in her usual way, gave me permission to get involved as the spirit led.

Attending a Synod? What's that about? I could imagine, from my experience of other biennial congregational meetings in the past, the people, places, events, the sense of being together as Christ-follower: called together for seeing the larger business of Christ's call in this time. But this, of course, is not a normal year. This Synod was all orchestrated in a virtual space. Those who designed and implemented this Synod are truly to be appreciated, for all was delivered with expertise, style and centered spirit. You can access many of the worship services and materials [HERE](#).

The theme of the Synod, **Rooted in Love**, based on Psalm 1, was faithfully carried through in powerful, inspiring, beautifully artistic, and well-integrated worship services highlighting many different worship styles and ethnic groups. That our denomination is inclusive, diverse, and seeking to ground our faith in active love was consistently apparent. The Rev. Phiwa Langeni, who many of us

continued on page 16...



Continued from page 15...

here at HCC had the delight of hearing as guest preacher on June 13, was one of the key designers of the [opening worship service](#), which included virtual choirs from across the denomination, including our sister church Edgewood United! And, speaking of music, I especially enjoyed *Rooted in Love* by Ken Medema, *Bring us Peace* by Michelle Hecht, and a favorite of the convention, *I'm Surrounded*, sung by the Rev. Mia McClain from [the closing worship service](#). That service focused on breathing again, breathing through targeted issues, and highlighting how we can help those that can't.

Keynote speaker and activist Valarie Kaur challenged us with the questions: *What if every congregation became a pocket of Revolutionary Love? ...What if we thought of every choice we make as a part of revolutionary love? If we joined others in this process? (Look up ValarieKaur.com for resources).* The second Keynote speaker, Adam Russell Taylor, new president of *Sojourners*, spoke about the compelling world vision of the

Beloved Community where all lives are valued, where the common good is key to actions and policies. He spoke of how racism and toxic polarization is undermining the beloved community and said "until we have a common understanding of our story, we'll be unable to unite around a common world view in which we cast out the belief that some lives are worth more than other lives."

Outside of worship together, Synod committees worked hard on many different areas of concern and passed many important resolutions providing suggested direction for our communities of faith. These included concerns for our environment, issues around equity, racism, and racial justice, and our callings as a 21st century church.

Once again, I am grateful to have experienced a sampling of the work, worship, and inspiration at Synod, and am grateful to be a part of a great cloud of witnesses, the beloved community which seeks to embody with growing revolutionary love "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

~ Carolyn Lucas

Safety Team meets next on:

Tuesday, Aug. 31 @ 7pm

The group plans to meet in the Sanctuary and also offer a Zoom option:



Meeting ID: 826 2826 2157
Passcode: usual HCC passcode

Please contact Sally Heisler for details about this group: 517-230-4043 or sally.m.heisler@gmail.com



Mission Outreach meets next on **Monday, August 30, at 7pm, at HCC.**

To join, or for info on this committee, contact Mary Trebilcock:

517.974.7142 trebil.jm@att.net



HCC Green Team meets next on:

Monday, September 13, at 7pm via Zoom:

<https://msu.zoom.us/>
Meeting ID: 973 6919 6742
Passcode: usual HCC code

the world needs
what you've got.



It's that time - when we start our new program year at HCC! That means more activity in the building and in most of our committees. Some of them are looking for some help and new members.

Are you looking to share your talents and get involved? We have a place for you here.

Below is info on some of our HCC teams, including those who are starting up or who are looking for new members to help out. You'll find a more comprehensive table of HCC groups, when and how they meet, and contact info for getting involved [HERE](#).

(paper versions included for mailed newsletters)



Member Caring members have been helping provide the monthly Loaves and Fishes meals over the last 16 months. During the

regular year, their members perform other duties like coordinate receptions for Funerals, Memorials, and Remembrance services, and also coordinate receptions and other celebrations. The committee also coordinates meals for members of the congregation in times of need.

The team is resuming activities in Sept., and could use some new members to help out!

If you'd like to get involved with this busy team who cares for our members in so many ways, please contact Kelly Flagg: 517.256.8392 or kj.flagg@icloud.com



Church Growth is ready to take on this new year with a new energy!

We're looking for people

who want to help us work on new ideas to engage, encourage and entice the community to be a part of the amazing HCC Family!

If you are interested in brainstorming with us and getting involved, **our Kickoff Meeting is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 20 @ 5:30pm** at the BARRN, 1867 Lake Lansing Rd. in Haslett. We'd love to see you there!

You can contact chair, Malinda Barr for more details about directions or with any questions: malibarr339@gmail.com or 517-749-5278



Church Council meets on the second Tuesday of most months.

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 14, at 7:15 pm.

If you would like to join us, please be in touch with Michele, Office Manager, for details: hcc@haslettcommunitychurch.org or 517-339-8383

Audio Video Techs



You've probably noticed the tech crew hard at work at the back of the Sanctuary during our Sunday services. They help make sure the service runs smoothly and the tech needs are met. Interested in joining them?

Kirk Riley, chair of the sanctuary committee is **seeking volunteers to help with the audio and video tech during Sunday services.** This would be a once a month activity and would be done in two-person teams. We will provide training.

(Next training: Aug. 30, 7pm, Sanctuary)

For more information, please reach out to Kirk Riley at rileyki@msu.edu.



Summer/Fall 2021 Property Update

Finally, the day has come where we can gather at our beloved church safely; thanks be to God.

The HCC Property Committee Team has been busy since we last worshiped in person together on March 15, 2020. As of the day of our return-to-worship, September 5, 2021, our team will have accomplished A LOT, with the generous gifts from our community (time, treasure, & talent), during our 539 days apart (but, who is counting?).

Following are lists containing over 30 items of the many completed off our checklists, in addition to the drain work (AKA "south-side drain project"), a HUGE endeavor:

CHURCH BUILDING

- 1) broken windows replaced
- 2) flood restoration in the Tent & Temple and Kid's Gym areas, including new flooring
- 3) repaired men's bathroom plumbing
- 4) security cameras installed (thanks to the help of the Safety Team & Michele Booher-Purosky)
- 5) ceiling tile replacement and repair
- 6) fire and tornado route sheets are added to each room/area in case of emergency
- 7) cleanout of French drains on the east side of building, installed new pump and drain lines
- 8) installation of new fire/smoke alarms (thank you Men's Group & the Dixons!)
- 9) upgrade of electrical wiring from the parsonage to the Haslett Road church sign
- 10) south steps to basement repaired with yellow warning paint reapplied
- 11) south steps to basement railing repainted
- 12) south porch completely re-done, new drain and sidewalk also installed
- 13) south side above-ground railings for porch and window well areas installed
- 14) tree cutting/trimming completed
- 15) replaced parking lot with new asphalt (hopefully will be completed by 9/5/2021)
- 16) roof checks to monitor any possible leaking (pro-active measure)
- 17) North-side bike rack installed (thanks to the Green Team!)
- 18) installation of safety doors for Sunday school and Youth room areas in process
- 19) new AED/Defibrillator installed in lower level (thanks Safety Team)

CHURCH PARSONAGE

- 1) new kitchen backsplash
- 2) repaired and painted kitchen cabinets
- 3) installed two new cabinets and painted
- 4) dining room wall repair
- 5) plumbing repair in bathroom
- 6) house-to-drain repair
- 7) small kitchen counter addition
- 8) fix and paint basement door
- 9) new refrigerator
- 10) new oven/stove
- 11) new microwave
- 12) new paint on front shutters and door (thanks Pastor Erin for the help!)
- 13) new kitchen/dining light fixtures installed
- 14) updated ungrounded plugs
- 15) upgraded gas line for new stove

Summer/Fall 2021 Property Update continued...

These pandemic-era efforts were truly a team effort. Our primary team members are as follows:

Laura Clark-Roumpz, Property Committee Chair
 Mike Parent, Property Committee Council Representative
 Pat Dalton, Vendor Relations Expert
 Ann Pierce, Walk-through and HCC Liaison
 Rich Newport, Active Member and Past Chair
 Sally Heisler, Safety Team Representative



Other friends of the committee are Don Flagg, Dave Vietti, Jack Lennemann, the Men's Group, and the Boy Scouts.

The property committee thanks all the staff, committees, and special groups at HCC that assist us in maintaining our structures, inside and out. Special thanks to Kyle Carnes, Finance Chair, and the Finance Committee for their assistance during the last year.

As we move forward in the remainder of 2021 and into 2022, our team will be reaching out to members of other HCC committees & groups that have a direct link to the inside and outside of our buildings to discuss future plans and provide a process to request new fixes and/or additions; more to come. We will continue to strive to find ways to keep/make HCC safe, welcoming, beautiful, clean, well-maintained, eco-friendly and as maintenance free as we can.

Thank you for your generous donations via the Foundations and Flowers campaign! Also, thank you for showing up when the call was made for assistance over the last 18 months! Many hands really do make light work! We have the best community of people ever! We are all blessed.

Dear Lord, lead us through the ventures ahead; let us all keep our Faith & Courage during these challenging times. Be with us to keep us healthy and safe. Amen!

Laura Clark-Roumpz
 HCC Property Chair
 517.712.0976 (text or call anytime)
Laura_roumpz@hotmail.com (email anytime)

**Information for the October 2021
 Newsletter is due to Michele on
 the 3rd Tuesday of the month -
 September 21, 2021**

*Please send to:
 hcc@haslettcommunitychurch.org*



Did you know Meridian Township is a Green Community? Go Green with recycling, eco-friendly, and waste reduction initiatives in Haslett, Okemos, and the surrounding region.

You can get the latest in eco-related news, events and ideas for residents, volunteers, and visitors in the Township by signing up for the Green Gazette newsletter, Green Neighbors Network email list, or listening in on Wednesday mornings to the Green Dialogue beginning at 9:00am. Topics have included Native plants, Granger recycling rules, etc.

To be in the know contact LeRoy Harvey, Environmental Programs Coordinator, 517-853-4466, harvey@meridian.mi.us or visit the [Meridian Township website](http://www.meridian.mi.us) to sign up.

Meridian Township Green Fair

Discover recycling opportunities, zero waste resources, wetland preservation, pollinator/rain gardens, volunteer opportunities, local youth activities, pollution prevention, solar initiatives, and more at the Green Fair on **Saturday, August 28 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm** at the Marketplace on the Green pavilion (1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos) during the **Meridian Township Farmers' Market**.

Visit the various Green Group booths including the Meridian Green Team, Meridian Conservation Corps (MCC), Ingham Conservation District, Absolute Solar, Climate Reality Project Green Scouts, Green Businesses, and more.

For more information, contact LeRoy Harvey, Environmental Programs Coordinator at 517.853.4466.

For more information: <https://www.meridian.mi.us/Home/Component/Calendar/Event/9072/1301>

Hope Amid the Climate Crisis

Record high temperatures, severe drought, and devastating forest fires are evidence that we are in a climate crisis. While these issues cause great concern, *Kiss the Ground*, a 90-minute documentary gives hope. It shows a real-life example of how the use of agricultural practices that regenerate the soil can make it possible to stabilize our climate, replenish the water reservoirs, and produce ample food supplies.

The HCC Green Team invites you to view *Kiss the Ground* at a time of your choosing. You can stream it via Netflix or rent it for \$1 via Vimeo. Links to both formats are available at: <https://kissthegroundmovie.com/#watchonnetflix/>.

Leah Potter-Weight, David Weight's daughter, will moderate a **discussion of *Kiss the Ground*** (after we view it on our own) **on Tuesday, September 7, at 7pm**. This will be a follow-up to the coffee hour presentation Leah gave last spring on sustainable agricultural and social justice.

Watch Pastor Betsy's weekly email for details on how to participate in the discussion.

Electronics Recycling Event

A collection event for the proper disposal of old/unused electronics is being held on



Saturday, September 18, from 9:00am-2:00pm at Chippewa Middle School, 4000 Okemos Rd, Okemos.

All residents in the Capital Area can safely recycle their unwanted electronics.

Volunteers are needed!

For more information contact: Ellen Dillman 517-339-2015 or LeRoy Harvey 517-853-4466.

For more information: <https://www.meridian.mi.us/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/9068/1301?npage=2>

What's Happening at HCC

Our building is starting to open up more and get busier. The activity only increases with us coming back to in-person worship on September 5. Because of the increased level of activity in committees, this What's Happening no longer shows individual committee meetings. Instead, you can find specific committee meeting information on pages 14-17 of this newsletter and **HERE**.

Because more groups are using the physical space, please remember to check with Michele in the office to coordinate building and grounds space use for your group (hcc@haslettcommunitychurch.org or 517.339.8383). She's also happy to continue to setup virtual meetings where desired.

Here is a list of special events scheduled, online and other, so you can stay connected.

WEEKLY

[Worship Service](#) (p2)

Sundays, 10:00am – (*Outdoor Worship Aug. 29 @ Lake Lansing Park North; Indoor In-person Worship Sept. 5 @ HCC*)
Facebook & YouTube

[Sidewalk Sunday School](#) (p4)

Sundays during worship, beginning Sept. 5
Outdoors @ HCC (using Door 2)

[Coffee Fellowship and Songs](#) (p3)

Sundays, after worship, beginning Sept. 5
(*special Sept. 5 and Sept. 12*)
Outdoors @ HCC

[Youth Group](#) (p5)

Sundays, beginning Sept. 12
MS: 5:00-6:30pm; HS: 7:00-9:00pm
Youth Room

[Onsite Office Hours](#) (p9)

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30am-1:00pm
HCC Office

[Outdoor Office Hours - Betsy](#) (p9)

Wednesdays, 11:30am - 1:00pm
Outdoors at HCC

[Brown Bags & Beliefs](#) (p6)

Wednesdays, Sept .8 - Oct. 13, 6:00pm
HCC & Zoom

[Choir Rehearsal](#) (p13)

Wednesdays, 7:00pm
Outside Door 1 @ HCC

[Men's Group](#) (p15)

Saturdays, 9:00am
Zoom

[Church Growth Kickoff Mtng](#) (p17)

Monday, Sept. 20, 5:30pm
BARRN
1867 Lake Lansing Rd, Haslett

ONCE THIS MONTH

[HCC Clean Up Days](#) (p3)

Thursday, August 26, 5:00 - 8:00pm
Saturday, August 28, 9:00am - Noon
Sunday, August 29, Noon - 3:00pm

[Audio Tech Training](#) (p17)

Monday, August 30, 7:00pm
Sanctuary

[Ice Cream Social](#) (p14)

Sunday, Sept. 5 during Coffee Fellowship
Outdoors @ HCC

[Women's Group](#) (p14)

Tuesday, Sept. 7, 10:00am
Zoom

[Popsicles & Popcorn](#) (p3)

Sunday, Sept. 12 during Coffee Fellowship
Outdoors @ HCC

[Church Council](#) (p17)

Tuesday, Sept. 14, 7:15pm
Sanctuary

[Red Cross Blood Drive](#) (p10)

Friday, Sept. 17, Noon - 6:00pm
HCC Sanctuary

[Mary Nelson Memorial Service](#) (p10)

Saturday, Sept. 18, 11:00am
HCC

[Coffee With Jesus](#) (p15)

Sunday, Sept. 19, 11:00am (after worship)
Choir Room & Zoom

[Youth On A Mission Golf Outing](#) (p7-8)

Sunday, Sept. 19, 1:00pm
Meridian Sun Golf Club

[Celebration of Life: Suzanne Rock](#) (p10)

Monday, Sept. 20, Noon
HCC

HASLETT COMMUNITY CHURCH
PO Box 217
1427 Haslett Road
Haslett, Michigan 48840-0217

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



HCC Connections

August –September 2021

Haslett Community Church

Worship: Sundays, 10:00am (In person, in parking lot, & remote). All are welcome!

**Onsite Office Hours: Tue. & Thu., 10:30am - 1:00pm (indoor)
Wed., 11:30am - 1:00pm (outdoor)**

Email: hcc@haslettcommunitychurch.org Phone: 517-339-8383

www.haslettcommunitychurch.org

Pastor:	Rev. Betsy Aho	aho.betsy@att.net
Minister for Youth & Children:	Rev. Erin Heisler	erin.heisler@att.net
Office Manager:	Michele Booher	hcc@haslettcommunitychurch.org
Choral Director:	Judy Connelly	judy58connelly@earthlink.net
Organist/Pianist:	Barbara Freeman	bff7@comcast.net

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