

Haslett Community Church



HCC Connections

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

July 2023



Special points of interest:

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A digital version, with working links, can be found at: haslettcommunitychurch.org



The Fifth Gospel: Isaiah Steps Out of Advent and Into Summer

Dear Haslett Community Church,

Summer is a great time to explore the world in a new way. What are your favorite ways to explore in the summer: Looking up at the stars? Going to the HCC Summer Concert Series ([see pg 2](#))? Spending time on or near water? Camping with your HCC friends ([see pg 6](#))? Seeing birds (and squirrels) at the birdfeeders? A night at the ballpark? Welcoming new plants to your garden? Worshiping outdoors ([see pg 7](#))? All great summer pursuits!

July is also a great time to explore scripture together in a new way. I love the Lectionary (the schedule of Bible readings that we use in worship from September through Pentecost) because it challenges the preacher to use passages they may not choose, it is set up in a way that makes sense, there are resources for study and worship readily available for preaching and worship planning, and honestly if the Lectionary dictates the passages it is just one less decision to make!

But in summer we get to choose some different themes or reading schedules, and that can be interesting and challenging, too!

In June, we focused on our United Church of Christ identity, in preparation for Erin and I to participate in General Synod, the biennial national gathering of our denomination. Synod takes place this year in Indianapolis from June 30-July 4, but we will return on July 2. We can't wait to tell you about our experiences and learnings when we return!

Beginning on July 9, we spend four weeks studying themes of the prolific prophet Isaiah. The Old Testament book of Isaiah has been called "the Fifth Gospel" because it contains themes

of brokenness and judgement, but also restoration, healing, redemption, and community. We only get a couple of weeks with Isaiah in the Lectionary each year, and often around Christmas. By spending time in Isaiah during the summer, we will hear the Prophet with new ears. Each Isaiah passage will be paired with a Gospel passage, too, so we recognize the echoes of the prophet in the life of Christ.

I hope, however elaborate or simple your summer plans, you explore the world in a new way, even from a window. And, I hope you join us in exploring scripture, too! We are designed to be in community, and I'm so glad you are part of Haslett Community Church, United Church of Christ.

Yours in the Journey,

Pastor Betsy

Phone: 517.339.8383 x11
Cell: 517.282.7443
Email: aho.betsy@att.net

Pastor Betsy will be at the UCC General Synod June 30-July 2, and on vacation July 5-7. There will be no Office Hours Wed., July 5.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE JULY, 2023: We worship every Sunday at 10 a.m. We love to welcome you in person, and provide a livestream on our [YouTube channel](#) and [website!](#)

July 2, 2023 Scripture: Jonah 3:10-4:11, Acts 17: 16-33
Sermon: "Bigger Than A Whale?!?"



Welcome Rev. Chad O'Neil, Guest Preacher! While your Pastors are at General Synod, we are thrilled to welcome Rev. Chad O'Neil to the pulpit. Chad is an Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ and a full time Chaplain at Sparrow Hospital. Rev. O'Neil's home church in our neighbor, Edgewood United Church. Please show that warm HCC hospitality to our guest!



July 9, 2023 Scripture: Isaiah 6: 1-8 and Luke 5: 8-10
Sermon (titles subject to change):
"We Have A Problem"

July 16, 2023 Scripture: Isaiah 9: 1-7 and John 8: 12
Sermon: "Light Among Shadows"
*Joys & Concerns will be shared in worship today.

July 23, 2023 Scripture: Isaiah 40: 1-11 & Mark 1: 1-4
Sermon: "Comfort, Comfort My Community"

July 30, 2023 Scripture: Isaiah 61: 1-11 & Luke 4: 16-21
Sermon: "Redemption Work"

*JOYS AND CONCERNS is an HCC tradition that consists of folks in the congregation sharing their personal prayer requests and praises aloud in worship. As we balance confidentiality with personal sharing, in a time of increased livestream participation, the livestream will be muted during Joys & Concerns. However, those spoken prayer requests and praises will be added to our Prayer Chain (a list of prayer requests from our church community that is updated and emailed weekly). If you would like to be part of the Prayer Chain email distribution, email Michele Booher, Office Manager, at hcc1@att.net



Bring a lawn chair and friends
Relax with your favorite drinks/snacks
Enjoy Michigan Musicians
Rain or shine · Free
Restrooms available
All are welcome

June 29: Ellis & M.E. · eclectic-acoustic, all the way from Kalamazoo & Brighton! With vocals and a variety of strings, you won't want to miss this crowd pleaser!

July 13: School of Rock · local music students showcase their rocking talent!

July 20: Becky Leefers · One of HCC's own leads a singalong with songs you won't be able to resist joining in on!



haslettcommunitychurch.org
1427 Haslett Rd · Haslett, Michigan

The poster features a vibrant space-themed background with a purple and blue nebula. At the top, four cartoon celestial characters are smiling: a yellow sun with a face, a green planet with a blue ring, a yellow star with a face, and a blue planet with a face. Below them is a large, metallic, oval-shaped logo containing the word "STELLAR" in large, 3D, metallic letters. Underneath "STELLAR" is the phrase "SHINE JESUS' LIGHT" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The main title "HASLETT COMMUNITY CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL" is written in large, bold, white letters with a blue outline. Below the title, the dates "AUGUST 1ST - 3RD" and the time "5 - 7PM" are displayed in large, white, sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner, a dark purple box contains white text describing the activities and age range. In the bottom right corner, a pink, glowing cartoon planet character with a face and arms is flying through space, leaving a trail of pink and purple light.

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

**HASLETT COMMUNITY CHURCH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

AUGUST 1ST - 3RD
5 - 7PM

**KIDS WILL EXPLORE BIBLE
STORIES THROUGH GAMES,
CRAFTS, MUSIC AND SNACK.
NEW TODDLER CLASS
THIS YEAR!
OPEN TO ALL KIDS AGES
ONE THROUGH FIFTH GRADE!**

Our Church Family

Thank You



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

- To Erik Ferguson for hosting the Art Film & Conversation on June 11.
- To Malinda Barr, Rich Baumgartner, Jean McIntyre, and Mary Anne Dillingham for helping with the Stolz funeral, and to everyone who helped with the Lee MacGillivray memorial service.
- To Mark and Sally Garrod for removing the diseased bushes by the North door. And to Sally & helpers for placing flowerpots in the location.
- To the Loaves and Fishes Team for July: Nancy White, Carolyn Solomon, Carol Cramer, Kelly Flagg, and Paula Fry.
- To all of the mission trip chaperones: Kelly Hammerle, Anna Porritt, Nate Sestak, Katie Sloan, Courtney Stolicker, and Brett Meteyer. HUGE thanks to Sandra Porter and Steve Decker for feeding us so well all week! And extra thanks to Lynn Wilson, Ted Wilson, and Eileen Lovett for traveling with our luggage!

Thanks to everyone at HCC, from Pastor Betsy on down, who made Denny Stolz's memorial service so special, and allowed his life journey to come full circle and end where it began.

~ Stolz family & Sylvia Davis



Many, Many, Many Thanks To All Of You

The Jubilee was wonderful!!!!How marvelous it was to be celebrated for doing a job that I absolutely loved. I so appreciated Betsy, Erin, Barbara, and Becky for the leadership they provided in pulling the event together.

Everything was just perfect! Becky took over the management (accompanied by her "go fer" husband Larry). Barbara gave so much energy to the choir to prepare some of my favorite anthems in a fantastic manner. It was so great to see how many former choir members returned to perform. Also, I was so surprised to see how many of my former Haslett teacher friends attended.

Thanks for the great still photos from Dave Ferguson and to Rich Newport and Ambrose Meteyer for recording the service for my lasting memories. Thanks to chef Steve for his help organizing the delicious food and to all who helped in the preparation, setup, and serving, and to those who brought the super desserts.

Many thanks, too, for your gifts and cards, those who shared on the video, the beautiful flower arrangements, the many hours of time that so many of you provided, and your attendance. It was wonderful to see friends from the past.

To my dear choir members, my thanks especially to you. These last 53 years have been so special. I have loved singing, rehearsing, conducting, performing, and being with you. The great comradery we have experienced will never be forgotten. I loved your willingness to experience some of my crazy ideas.

Love to all,
Judy

American Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross has an immediate need for blood donations.

There will be a blood drive at HCC on Friday, July 21, from Noon - 6pm

- 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.

* Please use hand sanitizer on the way in and out of appointment



Thank You!

Dear Friends,

I want to thank all of you for your support of the World Vision Global 6k for Water. I know you have a lot of choices when it comes to donating, and I am so grateful that you chose to support World Vision and the Haslett Water Warriors in their efforts to bring life-changing, clean water to those in need.

It was such a busy time, but you found ways to support clean water in many different ways; in person, virtually, the day before/after and financially. With your support, Haslett Water Warriors raised \$2,100, bringing life-changing, clean water to 42+ people. That is truly amazing. You are all heroes!

Thank you,
Cathy Rowe



HCC participated in the Michigan PRIDE Rally at the Capitol again this year!

Haslett Community Church, UCC, had 17 people attend the Michigan Pride Rally at the Capitol on June 25! We passed out many Pride pins with our church info, courtesy of Liz and Jay Youngquist.

It was an afternoon of learning from the LGBTQ+ community through informed speakers and empowering music. We were reminded that as states and lawmakers across the country seek to remove rights from LGBTQ+ people, it is important to amplify the voices of those affected and to remain active as members of the community and as allies. For more reflections on the event by the organizers, check out [THIS ARTICLE](#), in which Pastor Betsy is also interviewed.



(from left to right: Hope the Dog, Todd and Pam Maxwell, Jay and Liz Youngquist, Cambria Decker-Larkin, Skyler Larkin with Addy, Dave and Nancy Ferguson, Susan Turney, Ann Pierce, Rich Baumgartner, Betsy Aho, David and Regula Arnosti) (Not pictured: Rebecca Reagan and Susan Schwaderer)

(Thank you to the Youngquists for providing 200 of these pins and cards!)



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 dependent. Please keep a lookout for fun events we are trying to bring your way. We are looking forward to spending time with you!

Call or text Kim Carnes at (517) 331-3586 if you'd like to be involved, or have ideas. **We usually meet at 7:30pm on the 2nd Monday** of each month. **NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 14, @ 7:30pm** in HCC's Friendship Hall.

HCC Camping

Our annual HCC camping trip is scheduled for **August 10-13, 2023** at Pioneer County Park near Muskegon. We have 15 camp sites reserved and the cost for three nights is \$110.00. Mark your calendars!



If interested, sign up [HERE](#) or on the wall outside the church office.

Contact Kim Carnes with questions.

Looking Ahead...

- Camping Planning Mtng August 7, 7:30 pm
HCC
- All HCC Camping August 10-13,
Pioneer County Park - Muskegon
- Social Committee Meets Aug. 14, 7:30 pm
Friendship Hall
- Chicken BBQ September 10,
Noon, HCC
- Bonfire and Music October
- Thanksgiving Dinner November 12,
Noon, HCC



The church office will be closed on July 4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day.



Pastor Betsy will be on vacation July 5-7 and July 21-24. Please note: This means no drop-in office hours on July 5.



We worship together each Sunday at 10 AM.

Services are in person with a live-stream option on our website: haslettcommunitychurch.org and

YouTube channel youtube.com/HaslettCommunityChurch

Consider following us on Facebook facebook.com/haslettcommunitychurch for activity photos, up-to-the-minute updates and reminders, and more!



Spiritual Life’s members, Don Flagg, Cambria Decker-Larkin, Carolyn Lucas, Katie Riley, Jenn Tafel, Kris Belonge, and Jon Lineberry meet each month to envision ways of carrying out our three-part mission: supporting our clergy and staff in liturgical activities, creating and enhancing individual spiritual growth opportunities, and facilitating spiritual connections among our community. Our committee expresses appreciation for the hard work of our pastor and staff for the many details attended to (e.g., implementation of new nametags, and many other details) as well as overall planning and direction of our worship and programming! Anyone interested in our group’s activities, please contact current chair, Carolyn Lucas.

Plans in the Works:

- We plan to meet **on August 6, in the afternoon**, to deepen our relationships as a team and to determine our focus and plans for the coming year. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome. If you plan to come, please contact Carolyn Lucas or Cambria Decker-Larkin for further information.
- **Outdoor Worship in the Park will take place Sunday, August 20, 2023.**

We usually meet on the third Tuesday or Thursday each month. **Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25, @ 7:15 pm.** If you would like to attend, please send your request to Carolyn Lucas at csrlucas@aol.com or text her at 517.881.4241.



Coffee With Jesus

is a group sponsored by the Spiritual

Life Committee to help us reflect on and grow in our spiritual life, as well as foster closer ties between us. We continue with a focus on our journey of prayer and support for the journey in a difficult world.

We usually meet on the third Sunday each month, **after worship in Mary & Martha’s room** (next to Youth room downstairs).

Our next Meeting will be: Sunday, July 16, at 11:15 am.



Men’s Group continues to meet regularly in different ways, including **online Zoom meetings on most Saturday mornings at 9:00am** (see info below).

**** On Saturday, July 8, we will be meeting in-person for breakfast at Blondie’s Restaurant in Haslett, at 9am.**

Please **contact Dave Vietti** if you’re interested in connecting with this group: 517-339-5731
vietti@msu.edu

Zoom Meeting ID:	416 360 920
Passcode:	48840
Call In**	301.715.8592

Mary L. Nelson Memorial Food Pantry

Food Pantry Participation!

Beginning this summer, the Mary L. Nelson Memorial Food Pantry at HCC will invite donations of specific items each month that can be used throughout the year. Most months, the request will be for non-food items, and in July, we’re requesting:

small packs of child and adult toothbrushes
(packs of no more than 4 toothbrushes, please!)

You can bring your donations to church on Sunday mornings – there will be a cart near the sanctuary. If you bring your donation during the week, you can use the wooden box by the Food Pantry on the north end of Friendship Hall.

The Food Pantry now has a new phone number: (517) 339-8430



Happy Heart Schedule for July 2023

Sunday, July 2 – Guest Preacher	
Ministry	Name(s)
Reader	Carolyn Lucas
Greeters	Dave & Nancy Ferguson
Ushers	Sylvia Davis & Jean McIntyre
Coffee Hosts	
A/V Tech	Helen & David Jones
Tellers	Sylvia Davis & Rich Baumgartner

Sunday, July 9	
Ministry	Name(s)
Reader	Lynn Wilson
Greeters	Joanne Ricks & Kathleen Rogan
Ushers	Barb & Mike Szkotnicki
Coffee Hosts	Russ & Lynn Wilson
A/V Tech	??
Tellers	Barb Szkotnicki & Cambria Decker-Larkin

Sunday, July 16	
Ministry	Name(s)
Reader	Rachel Bullock
Greeters	Cindy & Brett Meteyer
Ushers	Lucretia Hildabridle & Mary Trebilcock
Coffee Hosts	Carol & Dan Reid
A/V Tech	Kirk Riley & Jon Lineberry
Tellers	Dave Ferguson & Rachel Bullock

Sunday, July 23	
Ministry	Name(s)
Reader	Alice Whiren
Greeters	Rebecca Reagan & Susan Schwaderer
Ushers	Becky & Larry Leefers
Coffee Hosts	Steve & Barb Decker
A/V Tech	Kirk Riley
Tellers	Larry Leefers & Jim Gornick

Sunday, July 30	
Ministry	Name(s)
Reader	Carolyn Lucas
Greeters	Malinda Barr & Cambria Decker-Larkin
Ushers	Tom Nelson & Sylvia Davis
Coffee Hosts	Pam & Todd Maxwell
A/V Tech	Jim Gornick & Ambrose Meteyer
Tellers	Sylvia Davis & Jim Durr



WEEDING HELP: If you are willing to take on weeding one of the small garden plots this summer, **please be in touch with Kelly Flagg**. Call or text: 517.256.8392.

You can just stop by at your convenience, and it sure will help keep the grounds looking beautiful! Thanks for all who have signed up, or who have helped with weeding already this summer!





Thank you to our special music providers in June: Mary Trebilcock and Jordon Smith. Please continue to enjoy more special music over the summer, and if you'd like to contribute your talents, please be in touch with Barbara: (517-881-9976, text is best).

Choir will return in September, and you are welcome to join us when we do!



Knitters, Crocheters, & Wannabees

Our Next Meeting will be **Sunday, July 9, at 11:15am** after worship, in the Library.



HCC Green Team usually meets the 2nd Monday each month. We will take a break in July, and our next meeting will be:

Mon., August 14, at 7pm, in Fellowship Hall.



HCC Property Committee usually meets the 2nd Monday each month. Our next meeting will be: **Mon., July 10, at 7pm, via Zoom**

Safety Team is attending a special training: Security in Places of Worship on July 10. We will then be moving our July meeting to **Tuesday, Aug. 1 at 7pm** at HCC. Please contact Sally Heisler for details about this group: 517-230-4043 or sally.m.heisler@gmail.com



Church Council meets on the second Tuesday of most months. We do not meet in July -

Our next meeting will be: Tues., August 8, at 7:15 pm

If you would like to join us, please be in touch with Michele, Office Manager, for details: hcc1@att.net or 517-339-8383.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Information you'd like included in the July 2023 Newsletter **is due to Michele no later than July 18,** (the 3rd Tuesday of this month)

Please send to: hcc1@att.net

Simply Give at Bath Meijer

The Haslett Food Pantry be the recipient of the **Fall Simply Give campaign from Sunday, July 2, through Saturday, September 30, 2023.** The campaign will run in the Bath Meijer only.



Meijer will **double Simple Give donations made at the Bath store on Saturday, August 12, and Saturday, September 9.** On those two days for every \$10 donation card purchased, Meijer will provide an additional contribution of \$20, resulting in a total donation of \$30 that comes to the 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.

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!

Church 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 say hello? Stop by for office hours!



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

Pastor Betsy is usually in the office Tuesday - Friday. You can make an appointment or swing by during her drop-in office hours on Wednesdays, 11:30am - 1:00pm.

Pastor Betsy will be at UCC General Synod June 30 - July 2 and will be on vacation July 5 - 7.

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.



There are two different ways that YOU can help with Vacation Bible School!

1. **Help bring supplies!** Sundays in July, we will have supply cards available. Take a card, purchase the supply listed and return it to the church by July 30th. If you don't want to wait until July, you can shop our Amazon wish list anytime! Link available on the Children's Ministry page of the HCC website (picture at the right is linked as well).
2. **VOLUNTEER at VBS!** Before VBS we need decorators (either work on projects at home or come to VBS when we decorate)! Whatever works for you! Then during VBS we need adult helpers to help in each of our rotations: CRAFTS, SNACK, MUSIC & GAMES! New this year, we could also use helpers in our Toddler Time class! If you're interested in helping, please contact Erin!



What's Happening at HCC in April

What's Happening no longer shows individual committee meetings. Instead, you can find specific committee meeting information on [pages 6, 7, & 9](#) of this newsletter and [HERE](#). Please remember to check with Michele in the office to coordinate building and grounds space use for your group (hcc1@att.net or 517.339.8383).

WEEKLY

Worship Service (p2)

Sundays, 10:00am

*Sanctuary, parking lot via 88.7 FM, [YouTube](#)

Sunday School

Sundays, during worship, Downstairs

Coffee Fellowship

Sundays, after worship, Friendship Hall

Onsite Office Hours (p10)

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

Pastor Betsy's Drop-In Office Hours (p10)

Wednesdays, 11:30am-1:00pm, *except July 5*
(She is also available by appointment Tue-Fri)
HCC Office

Summer Concert Series (p2)

Thursdays July 13 & July 20, 7:00-8:00pm
Outdoors at HCC (*inside in inclement weather*)

Men's Group (p7)

Saturdays, 9:00am
Zoom (except July 8 - in-person @ Blondie's)

ONCE THIS MONTH

Independence Day - Office Closed (p6)

Tuesday, July 4

Men's Breakfast (p7)

Saturday, July 8, 9:00am
Blondie's

Knitters, Crocheters, etc. (p9)

Sunday, July 9, 11:15am
Library

Coffee With Jesus (p7)

Sunday, July 16, 11:15am
Mary & Martha Room

Newsletter Items Due (p9)

Tuesday, July 18, 10:00am
Email to hcc1@att.net

Red Cross Blood Drive (p4)

Friday, July 21, 11:00am - Setup
Noon - 6pm Drive
Fellowship & Friendship Halls & Sanctuary

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



HCC Connections

July 2023

Haslett Community Church

Office Hours: Tue. & Thu., 10:30am - 1:00pm (HCC Office)
Wed., 11:30am - 1:00pm (Betsy Office Hours)

Email: hcc1@att.net 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	hcc1@att.net
Church Musician:	Barbara Freeman	bff7@comcast.net

3 Ways to Worship Sundays at 10:00 am: In the sanctuary <> Via 88.7 FM <> [YouTube](#)

A digital version of HCC Connections, with working links, can be found at: haslettcommunitychurch.org

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