



## Hawley UMC Fall Newsletter: September is Suicide Prevention Month Stay Another Day.

Dear Hawley UMC Friends,

As the crisp air of fall settles in, we enter a season filled with change—shorter days, cooler nights, and the beginning of a new rhythm in our lives. While many find this time of year refreshing, it can be particularly difficult for some. That's why, as September is recognized as **Suicide Prevention Month**, I want to take a moment to speak from the heart and remind each of you: **stay another day**.

In the **United Methodist Church**, we believe in the power of grace, the ever-present love of God, and the enduring hope we have in Jesus Christ. We also understand that mental health struggles are real, and they often come with feelings of hopelessness or isolation.

The journey may be tough, but **your life is precious**—to God, to those who love you, and to us as a community of faith. When everything seems too much to bear, I encourage you to take it one day at a time. **Stay another day**, and let us help carry your burdens together.

If you or someone you know is struggling, I urge you to reach out for support. There are resources available:

- The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** is a 24/7 service that you can call anytime at **988**.
- The **Trevor Project** (for LGBTQ+ youth) offers immediate help and support at **1-866-488-7386** or via their website.
- Sign up to be a **sheep** as part of our Care Team's new **Sheep and Shepherd Program**. Sheep receive extra care and prayer from the Care Team! (Contact Rev. Rebecca or the Care Team for more information)
- You are also welcome to reach out to the church office for a list of trusted therapists in our area who can offer care and counseling.

Our faith calls us to be people of hope, and I believe that hope is not a distant dream—it is present, even in the darkest times. Together, we can support each other, reach out to those who are hurting, and extend God's love to those in need of healing. As we move through this season of change, let us remember that **God's grace is always enough** and that with God's help, we can make it through **another day**.

If you ever need a listening ear, prayer, or support, please don't hesitate to reach out. You are part of a church that cares deeply for you.

With love and hope,

***Rev. Rebecca***



# **\*NEW\*: Shepherd and Sheep Program**



Our Care Team is starting a new program here at Hawley UMC called the “Shepherd and Sheep Program.” This "buddy system" is designed to ensure that no one in our church family feels forgotten whether you are homebound, going through a tough time, or simply in need of extra prayers, our Shepherds are here to walk with you.

## **How It Works:**

**Shepherds** are volunteers who are assigned to keep in regular contact with their Sheep. They offer prayer, support, and encouragement during difficult times and comfort those in need.

**Sheep** are those who may be homebound, experiencing challenges, or needing extra prayer and care over the long term.

## **Want to Get Involved?**

**Become a Shepherd:** Help care for and pray for someone in need.

**Become a Sheep:** Receive support and encouragement.

**Nominate** someone who could use extra prayer and connection during a challenging time.

## **How to Sign Up:**

Contact Rev. Rebecca or the Care Team to join the program or to let us know of someone who could benefit from this loving ministry.



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## Disability Awareness Sunday & Welcoming New Members

*October 20th at Hawley United Methodist Church*



Join us on **Sunday, October 20th** for a special **Disability Awareness Sunday** as we celebrate the diversity of the body of Christ and welcome new members into our church family! Our worship service will include a **reaffirmation of faith**, a time to thank our church leadership for their faithful service over the past year, and prayers for those who will be taking on new leadership roles.

We'll also take a **special offering** to support the **Disability Ministries of the United Methodist Church**, a vital outreach that helps ensure that all people, regardless of ability, are fully included in the life and ministry of the church.

The overarching theme for this day is that the body of Christ **needs all people, with all types of gifts and graces**. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful truth together as we welcome new members and reaffirm our shared commitment to love and serve one another.



**THANK YOU** so much to  
**everyone who donated**  
**School Supplies!**

Your generosity is greatly appreciated and has already made a positive impact on the students and teachers of Wallenpaupack School District. Thank you for helping to spread Christ's love to local children in need!

## Sojourners Café

Thank you so much to everyone who continues to support our Sojourners Café Ministry. It is a joy to provide a free lunch to the community. During these lunches, we enjoy wonderful fellowship and delicious food. Please help us spread the word and be sure to join us on the first Sunday of every month at 11:30 AM!



## We are hiring a pianist for our 8 AM Worship Service!

We are currently searching for a pianist to provide music for our 8 AM Worship Service. Pay will be provided based on experience. If you (or someone you know) are interested in the position, please contact the church office for more information.

## Thank you to our youngest Liturgist, Chris!

Chris is our youngest liturgist and he does a great job reading on Sunday mornings. You can be like Chris and sign up to help lead worship! We need readers, communion stewards, people to help with coffee hour, and people to work the PowerPoint. You can sign up in the Memorial Walkway or by contacting the Church Office.



**WE ARE**  
*hiring*

Pianist Needed for 8:00 AM  
Worship Service!

Hawley United Methodist Church  
(315 Church St. Hawley PA 18428) is seeking a  
skilled and dedicated pianist to join our worship  
team for our 8:00 AM service every Sunday  
morning. Contact the church office at  
570-226-3875 to apply!

# Staff & Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

On Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, the PPRC hosted “Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Sunday.” During worship, we honored and gave thanks to the many people who work “behind the scenes” to help our church thrive. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to support



## Welcome to our New Bishop!

Bishop Hector Burgos-Nunez began serving as the Bishop of the Susquehanna Conference on September 1, 2024. He also serves as the Bishop of the Upper New York Conference. In October, Bishop Burgos Nunez will be touring our Conference. Stay tuned for more information!



## Congratulations on the Baptism of Madison Rae!

On Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, Madison Rae (Granddaughter of David & Brenda Zeiler, daughter of Erica & Chris Molaro) was baptized at Hawley United Methodist Church during our 10 AM Service. Welcome to the family of God, Madison!



# Mustardseed Malawi

By: Janice E Lee

Thanks so much to everyone who donated to the Mustard Seed as the special offering for the month of August. As many people were on vacation or absent from church, I took the liberty of mailing the annual newsletter that the Mustard Seed puts out at the beginning of our school and fiscal year each September, not only to reach missed persons but also to keep donors informed about the school. A donation of any size is much needed and greatly appreciated!

Yours truly, Janice E. Lee.



## Help Support Edwin's Education!



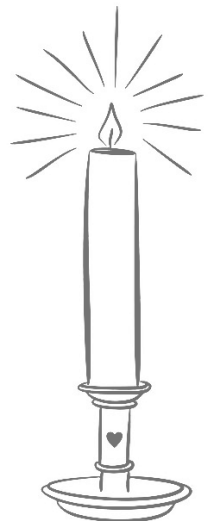
For the past ten years, our church has been blessed to support Edwin, a bright and determined 14-year-old boy living in Honduras. We've watched him grow, and through your generosity, he has been able to attend school and pursue his dreams. Education means everything to Edwin, and he's determined to stay in school.

This year, Edwin needs \$600 to continue his studies. We invite you to be a part of this important journey, ensuring he has the opportunity to learn and build a better future. Every donation makes a difference—together, we can help Edwin achieve his dreams. Please mark your special gift as EDWIN!



## All Saints Sunday: October 27, 2024

On the Feast of All Saints, we will read aloud and remember the names of our family, friends, and loved ones who have gone home to be with God over the past year. If you have a name you would like to read aloud during our service, please complete this form with as much information as you are comfortable sharing so that we can create our All Saints List for 2024 by Oct 18.



# Membership Audit Underway

## *Help Us Update Our Records!*

Dear Hawley UMC,

Grace and peace to you in the Name of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. I am writing because we are currently conducting the important sacred work of a **membership audit**. **We are updating our records**, which haven't been reviewed in nearly a decade. Over time, some members have passed away, others have moved, and others have made the decision to worship at other congregations. **Membership is more than just a name on a page**—it's a sacred vow and covenant between members and the church.

### What does it take to be a Church Member at Hawley United Methodist Church?

- 1.) You vow to **pray** for the Church.
- 2.) You vow to **attend worship when possible**. (If you are ill and unable to attend worship, please contact the Care Team or Rev. Rebecca to receive pastoral care.)
- 3.) You vow to support the church through your **gifts** (such as time spent volunteering, musical ability, or monetary gifts).
- 4.) You vow to support the Church through your **witness**. (Tell people about Jesus!)
- 5.) Simply attending Church does not make you a member. You must make a **profession of faith** or **officially transfer your membership** from another congregation.

### What Do I Get By Being a Church Member?

- 1.) Church Members have the right to vote at Special Church Conferences.
- 2.) Church Members are stakeholders within the congregation.



- 3.) Church Members in good standing can be elected to serve as delegates to Annual Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, and General Conference.
- 4.) Church Members in good standing can serve in leadership positions.
- 5.) Church Members are entitled to receive pastoral care, including pastoral visits and the delivery of the sacrament of Holy Communion.
- 6.) Church Members receive a discount when renting the Great Hall.

### **Why Did I (or someone I love) receive a postcard?**

As part of our membership audit, the membership secretary and I sent mail to people we have not heard from in quite some time. Please do not be offended—we are simply trying to update our records. Church records are legal documents and it is our sacred duty to do our best to keep them as accurate as possible.

### **Why is Church Membership Important?**

Membership comes with the **right to vote on important church policies and entitles you to pastoral care**. But too often, we take our membership for granted. Our Membership in the United Methodist Church and the local congregation of Hawley United Methodist Church is **a sacred vow and covenant**.

The membership audit is not intended to offend anyone—**everyone is welcome to be part of our church family**. However, we at **Hawley UMC take membership seriously** and we hope you do, too. We rely on the active engagement of our members to keep our records accurate. **Neither Rev. Rebecca nor the Membership Secretary can know your current status without your help**, so we kindly ask for your cooperation in updating your information. Thank you for helping us fulfill this important task with care and professionalism.

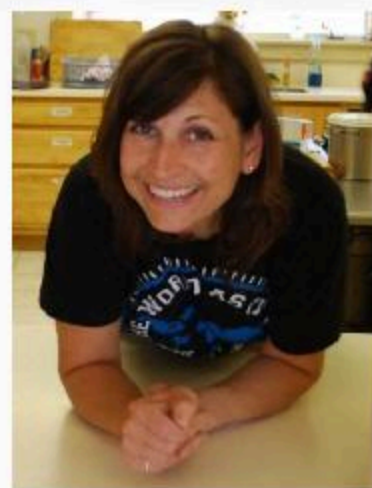


**We're back!** Join us on Tuesday evening at 7 PM for Bible Study on 1 Corinthians in the church library.  
Hope to see you there!



# Donate Blood In Memory Of **Barbara Boogertman**

Celebrate life and make a difference by giving blood. Blood is needed for many different kinds of patients. It could be a young child with a rare blood disorder, a family member fighting cancer, or a friend involved in a car accident. Please schedule an appointment to donate at this special blood drive. You'll feel good knowing you've helped change the lives of patients in need.



## **Community Blood Drive** **Hawley United Methodist Church**

The Great Hall  
315 Church Street  
Hawley, PA 18428

**Friday, October 11, 2024**  
**12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: Barbara Boogertman to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

**Treat yourself: Come give blood in October for a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. PLUS, automatically be entered for a chance to win a \$5,000 gift card, there will be three lucky winners! Terms apply: [rcblood.org/treat](http://rcblood.org/treat)**



**American Red Cross**

**[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767**

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## Honduras Mission Team

### Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, September 21st,

4 PM-6 PM,

Hawley United Methodist Church

\$10/meal



## American Red Cross

Memorial Blood Drive for  
Barb Boogertman  
Friday, Oct 11, 12 PM- 5 PM

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

### Birthday List

#### *September*

Cindy Wright Sept 9  
Celia Traves Sept 11  
Janet Tigue Sept 16  
John Tintle Sept 23

#### *October*

Ben Hogg Oct 8  
Joy Stebbins Oct 12  
Ken Ziegler Oct 12  
Grace Frisbie Oct 24

#### *November*

Cathy Fennell Nov 4  
Brenna Kelly Nov 7  
Dave Boogertman Nov 9  
Richard Betz Nov 9  
Lauren Tintle Nov 10  
Mary Kipp Nov 16  
Rich Wright Nov 16

#### *December*

Holly Maurer Dec 5  
Cathy Kelly Dec 16  
Shannon Pugh Dec 24  
Brenda Zeiler Dec 25  
Carol Ulmer Dec 29

*Happy Anniversary*

### Anniversary

#### *September*

Rex & Marci Brand Sept 6  
Cindy & Rich Wright Sept 10  
Dave & Shannon Pugh Sept 12  
Barb & Bob Luciani Sept 17

#### *October*

Tom & Cathy Kelly Oct 10

#### *November*

Tom & Jeannette Bates Nov 11  
John & Bonnie Carney Nov 30

#### *December*

Lauren & John Tintle, III Dec 1  
Kathy & Joe Faubel Dec 2

# Upcoming Events at Hawley UMC!



**Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>: Sojourners Café** at 11:30 AM (we are hosting twice in the month of September)

**Saturday, September 21: Honduras Mission Team** Spaghetti Dinner from 4-6 PM. Take out only. \$10 per meal

**Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>: Sojourners Café** at 11:30 AM

**Friday, October 11: Memorial Blood Drive for Barb B.** at Hawley UMC

**Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>: Disability Awareness Sunday & Welcoming New Members** (at both 8 AM and 10 AM services)

**Thursday, October 24: 6 PM Leadership** and 7:15 for PPRC

**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>: The Feast of All Saints**

**Thursday, October 31st: Candy & Invitation** after the parade.

**Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sojourners Café** at 11:30 AM

**Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: Consecration Sunday!** ONE Combined Service at 9 AM followed by a luncheon. Special Guest Speaker: Rev. Clarrisa Holland

**Saturday December 7th: Sojourners Cafe**

**Sunday, December 15: Winterfest Joyful Ringers Concert** at 2 PM at Hawley UMC

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM**