



A Note from the Pastor

Expecting the Unexpected!

*"He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come see the place where he lay."
Matthew 28:6 NRSV*

I have frequently pondered what it must have been like on that very first Easter morning. The women had gathered the spices to embalm their teacher and friend. On Friday they witnessed his crucifixion. They saw the pain and agony as Jesus hung on the cross. Soldiers and others hurled insults at him. They spat upon him. They cast lots for his clothing. The women saw Jesus die. There was no question about it.

Jesus was quickly laid in a fresh tomb. There was no time to prepare his body for burial. The Sabbath was quickly approaching. Joseph of Arimathea secretly volunteered his new tomb for the burial.

The women were worried about who would remove the heavy stone which sealed the entry to the tomb. They were expecting to finally prepare Jesus' body for its permanent burial. They had forgotten what Jesus had prophesized to them. They forgot his promise that the Son of Man would be raised from the dead on the third day.

I cannot even imagine what went through their minds as they approached the tomb. Matthew tells us that there was a great earthquake. The stone was rolled away. The guards became like dead men as they feared for their lives. Yet, the angel gave the women the unexpected news..."Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." (Matthew 28:5-6 NRSV)

To the women's amazement, they entered the tomb to find that there was no need for their embalming spices and oils. The tomb was empty! Now what were they to do?

The angel then instructed them. "Go quickly and tell his disciples, he has been raised from the dead!" (Matthew 28:7) When you have good news you have to tell someone. The angel told the women to share the news with the disciples. The disciples shared the news with the world. How exciting! How Amazing! God is still at work in the world!

As our time in Havana and Oakford unfolds, I pray that each of us will find the love of God in unexpected places. Just as the women found joy in the empty tomb, may we find joy in living each day with God.

And when we experience the joy, let us heed the advice of the angels. "Go and Tell" so that the whole world may know the grace and love of God.

May God bless you and fill your life with the joy of Jesus Christ!

I'll see you in church!

In Christ,
Pastor Bob



Welcome Picnic/Potluck For Pastor Bob and Juliana August 10, 2025

Following Worship in the Fellowship Hall
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Drink & Paper Products Provided

Bring a covered dish to share

Help us welcome our new Pastor and wife!!!

The Messenger

United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
August 2025

2025 Mission Trip Highlights



2025 OAKFORD VBS Highlights



2025 HAVANA VBS Highlights



Oakford UMC New Arrivals

Emma Lou Schirding
Born 6/20/25
Parents are Daniel & Erica Schirding
Siblings are Harris & Macie
Grandparents are JK & Jill Kaylor, Kerry & Ashley Trueblood, and Hal & Jane Schirding



Corinn Kay Schulte
Born on 6/20/25
Parents are Kyle & Rachel Schulte
Siblings are Reagan, Kendra & Madeline
Grandparents are Jerry & Nancy Brooks and Kevin & Kelynn Schulte

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Havana FUMC

Birthdays

Aug 1 Melissa Dillinger
 Aug 1 Jim Easley
 Aug 1 Sophia Reavley
 Aug 1 Brady Dietsch
 Aug 1 Nate Turner
 Aug 2 Madison Walker
 Aug 3 Teri (Vaughn) Markley
 Aug 4 Pastor Carol
 Aug 5 Sadie Rhinehart
 Aug 6 Rod Yetter
 Aug 6 Juliet Lozano
 Aug 8 Madison Hofreiter
 Aug 8 Tiffany Southwood
 Aug 9 Hugh Friedrich
 Aug 10 Steve Waterworth
 Aug 13 Kate Badger
 Aug 13 Fred Ray
 Aug 14 James Lozano
 Aug 15 Allison Lozano
 Aug 18 Sandra Collins
 Aug 18 Paul Morgan
 Aug 21 Andee Brown
 Aug 22 Dominic Gamble
 Aug 23 Kim Brewer
 Aug 23 Jackson Stadsholt
 Aug 25 Ryleigh Clements
 Aug 25 Melanie Daniels
 Aug 26 Graham Curtis
 Aug 26 Owen Walker
 Aug 26 Cindy Welker
 Aug 27 Rick Bearce
 Aug 28 Richard Bonnett
 Aug 29 Polly Hofreiter
 Aug 31 Tad Yetter
 Aug 31 Kayla (Johnson) Miller

Anniversaries

08/10/1998 Mike & Michelle Walker
 08/17/1969 Frank & Judy Hofreiter
 08/19/1989 Dean & Ramona Pfeiffer
 08/23/1980 Dru & Vanessa Bergman
 08/24/1974 Robert & Sara Williams

Oakford UMC

Birthdays

Aug 2 Jennifer Pavlisin
 Aug 4 Pastor Carol
 Aug 5 Bart Bailey
 Aug 5 Doug McGinnis
 Aug 8 Emma Stone
 Aug 8 Katie Stribling
 Aug 9 Tucker Hamblin
 Aug 9 Lilly Shelabarger
 Aug 11 Charlie Todd
 Aug 14 Christopher Kelley
 Aug 15 Tom Robinson II
 Aug 16 Jillian Lounsberry
 Aug 17 Nicholas Laird
 Aug 17 Audrey Brown
 Aug 18 Brett Brown
 Aug 19 Kerry Bagby
 Aug 19 Amari Clark
 Aug 19 David McHenry
 Aug 19 Reese Ann Claussen
 Aug 21 Trevor Cook
 Aug 26 Devin Whitley
 Aug 27 Kay Higginbotham
 Aug 28 Rev. Dennis Smith
 Aug. 29 Carmen Jackson

Anniversaries

08/02/1997 Bruce & Barb Shanle
 08/02/1980 Andy & Susie Winkelmann
 08/03/1985 Roy & Kelleigh DeMonbrun
 08/14/2008 Tracy and Judy Anderson
 08/16/1968 Rev. Dennis & Sandy Smith
 08/17/1970 Larry & Cathie Smith
 08/24/1974 Allen & Janice Thomas



MYF/JAM Kick-Off

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Pizza Party & Meet Pastor Bob

Volunteers still needed

- *Help with MYF
- *Help prepare light meals
- *Shop for groceries
- *Lead teacher for JAM



The Messenger

United Methodist Church
 Havana/Oakford
 August 2025



United
Women
in Faith

The United Women in Faith PURPOSE is to be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in global ministries of the church. All women are invited to be a part of this Christian Fellowship.

- UWF will host a potluck on Wednesday, August 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The unit will provide the chicken. Bring a dish to share. The program "Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children" will be presented by Amber Sarnes, Coordinator for Mason & Menard Counties and Jessica Bullard, Coordinator for Brown, Cass & Schuyler Counties

All women of our church and their friends are invited to join. This is a great organization providing a lot of excellent services to our church.

Pastor Carol's Last Sunday Retirement Celebration



CHRONOLOGICAL READING OF THE BIBLE IN A YEAR August 2025

August 1 2 Samuel 23–24 Psalms 25:1–15
Proverbs 20:13–14
August 2 1 Kings 1–2 Psalms 25:16–22
Proverbs 20:15
August 3 1 Kings 3–5 Psalms 26:1–12
Proverbs 20:16–18
August 4 1 Kings 6–7 Psalms 27:1–6
Proverbs 20:19
August 5 1 Kings 8–9 Psalms 27:7–14
Proverbs 20:20–21
August 6 1 Kings 10–12 Psalms 28:1–9
Proverbs 20:22–23
August 7 1 Kings 13–15 Psalms 29:1–11
Proverbs 20:24–25
August 8 1 Kings 16–18 Psalms 30:1–12
Proverbs 20:26–27
August 9 1 Kings 19–20 Psalms 31:1–8
Proverbs 20:28–30
August 10 1 Kings 21–22 Psalms 31:9–18
Proverbs 21:1–2
August 11 2 Kings 1–3 Psalms 31:19–24
Proverbs 21:3
August 12 2 Kings 4–5 Psalms 32:1–11
Proverbs 21:4
August 13 2 Kings 6–8 Psalms 33:1–11
Proverbs 21:5–7
August 14 2 Kings 9–10 Psalms 33:12–22
Proverbs 21:8–10
August 15 2 Kings 11–13 Psalms 34:1–10
Proverbs 21:11–12
August 16 2 Kings 14–16 Psalms 34:11–22
Proverbs 21:13
August 17 2 Kings 17–18 Psalms 35:1–16
Proverbs 21:14–16
August 18 2 Kings 19–21 Psalms 35:17–28
Proverbs 21:17–18
August 19 2 Kings 22–23 Psalms 36:1–12
Proverbs 21:19–20
August 20 2 Kings 24–25 Psalms 37:1–11
Proverbs 21:21–22
August 21 1 Chronicles 1–2 Psalms 37:12–29
Proverbs 21:23–24
August 22 1 Chronicles 3–4 Psalms 37:30–40
Proverbs 21:25–26
August 23 1 Chronicles 5–6 Psalms 38:1–22
Proverbs 21:27
August 24 1 Chronicles 7–9 Psalms 39:1–13
Proverbs 21:28–29
August 25 1 Chronicles 10–12 Psalms 40:1–10
Proverbs 22:1
August 26 1 Chronicles 13–16 Psalms 40:11–17
Proverbs 22:2–4
August 27 1 Chronicles 17–19 Psalms 41:1–13
Proverbs 22:5–6
August 28 1 Chronicles 20–23 Psalms 42:1–11
Proverbs 22:7
August 29 1 Chronicles 24–26 Psalms 43:1–5
Proverbs 22:8–9
August 30 1 Chronicles 27–29 Psalms 44:1–8
Proverbs 22:10–12
August 31 2 Chronicles 1–4 Psalms 44:9–26
Proverbs 22:13

August Missions

Adult Mission Offering



Our August Adult Mission Offering will go to support UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend relief and recovery to people in need in the United States, Africa, Asia, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe. Our work with affected communities helps them build the capacity to meet the needs generated by an emergency. Our goal is to assist the most vulnerable persons affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. We believe all people have God-given worth and dignity.

Children Mission Offering

The **Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House** is a United Methodist Community Center whose mission is to improve the quality of life for residents of all ages by providing quality early childhood development services, comprehensive youth services, individual and family support services, services to older adults, and housing economic development services which will help move individuals and families out of poverty.

OAKFORD & HAVANA
Sunday, August 10th



Blessing
of the Backpacks

Bring your Backpack to Worship

Sharing Our Blessings with Others for June 2025

Havana

**Total mission giving was
\$1,305.65**

Adult Mission:

Liberia Scholarship \$270.00

Children Mission:

Cunningham Children's Home
\$408.92

MYF Mission Trip:

\$626.73

Thank you for your generosity throughout the year to support our Mission Projects!!

Mary's Office Update

Please notify the church
office at: 309-543-4725
or e-mail

office@havanaumc.org
of any person or persons whom
you would like placed on or
removed from the prayer list.

**Newsletter deadline
August 22nd**

Community Food Pantry August Item of the Month: Canned Tuna Fish



Please help us re-supply our Food
Pantry by donating the above
product.

(Box located outside of Sanctuary)

August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

www.printable-calendar.com

Upcoming Calendar of Events

for **Both Churches**

Every Sunday:

8:30 a.m. - Oakford UMC

10:30 a.m. - Havana FUMC

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Weekly Events</u>
8/4	6:30 p.m.	Mission Committee
8/6	6:30 p.m.	UWF Potluck/Program
8/10		Blessing of the Backpacks During Worships
	11:30 p.m.	Potluck to Welcome Pastor Bob & Wife, Juliana Havana FUMC
8/12	6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
8/16	10:00 a.m.	"Crochet 4 Christ"
8/21	1:30 p.m.	Cancer Support Group
8/23	TBD	Oakford Pictures
8/24	TBD	Oakford Pictures
8/26	6:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting

Save the Date!
Oakford UMC Church
Directory Pictures

August 23 & August 24
Hill Prairie Winery

More details to follow!

2025 West District Charge
Conference

Sunday, October 26th
1:30 p.m.

Rushville UMC

Weekly Prayer Topics

- Aug 3 May we find new ways to help the underemployed in our communities. We know minimum wage is not enough to pay the bills.
- Aug. 10 Economic growth in our small county towns – tourism, special events, utilizing what we have better, help us to see with "new" eyes.
- Aug. 17 Safety of our children as they return to School
- Aug. 24 Blessings and encouragement upon our teachers and school support staff
- Aug. 31 Open the minds of our children so that they may learn to think, to understand, and to comprehend.

August Acolyte Schedule

August 3rd: Mason Dietsch
August 10th: Madelynn Snedeker
August 17th: Emma Strauman
August 24th: Davis Snedeker
August 31st: Mason Dietsch

If you are unable to Acolyte, please trade with someone and let the church office know either by calling or sending us an email!!



Havana FUMC
"Crochet 4 Christ"
August 16th

Remember Our Shut-Ins



Clayberg Nursing Center
625 E Monroe St, Cuba 61427
Rosie Moore

Lodge at Manito
1303 S. East Ave, Manito 61546

Bette Lynn Apt. 102
Shirley Lynn Apt. 30
Mary Lou Stephens Apt. 129
Glendora Stout Apt. 128

Independence Village
1201 W Northmoor Rd., Peoria IL 61614
Portia Brown Apt. 327

At Home

Karen Short
PO Box 228
Oakford, IL 62673

AUGUST USHERS

Mike & Phyllis Hedden
Rich Walker

Thank you to our church family for recognizing the work we do for the church and honoring us with a generous gift. We greatly appreciate it and serving with you. It takes all of us.



God bless you,
Michelle & Eric (Scot) Tibbs



In Our Prayers

Havana: Gloria Bess; Annette Brown; Lynn Coots; Kay Curtis; Dick Davidage family; Kerstin & Ron Davis; Renee Downing; Debbie & John Duitscher; Joe Elks; Chrissy Fitzpatrick; Don Graham; Jame Hahs; Buddy Hedden; Dale Heye; Robert & Carol Himmel; Judy Hofreiter; Lisa Johnson; Beverly and Murray McKenna; Petra Nolan; Clarice Oest; Kennedy Parsons; Jo Pedigo; Janet Roper; Kevin & Connie Roper; Ben Showalter; Shawn Sievers; Mary Ellen Simpson; Fred Stadsholt; Craig Stephens; Jesse Stufflebeam; Angie & Jabrea Vorties; Rosemary Watson; Texas flooding victims; People with Mental Health Issues

Oakford: John Bell; Ron Burn; Renee Downing; Kenny Fortney; Lisa Johnson; Rodney King; Betty Lynn; Doug McGinnis; Myra McGinnis; Carol McHenry; Greg Matthis; Katie Nichols; Carolyn Parker; Kennedy Parsons; Joe Rumler; Linda Sandidge; Leann Shoemaker; Karen Short; Ben Showalter; Scott Smith; Jesse Stufflebeam; Sally Sutton; Susan Upton; Tim Welch; Lisa Wilhoit;

Bishop David Bard; Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai; The People of Turkey, Syria & Israel; The Church; Our Country; Those Grieving.....

Please notify the church office of anyone you would like placed on our prayer list or of any changes that should be made. Thank you!



Get Ready for Oktoberfest

Save the date
September 5th, 6th, & 7th

We need your help.....

The Messenger

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Havana/Oakford
August 2025

The Messenger

First United Methodist Church
101 S. Broadway St.
Havana, IL 62644

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The Messenger

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Pastor's Cell Phone: (309) 252-1136

Mary Layton - Administrative Assistant

Published to keep the members and friends of Havana First United Methodist Church and Oakford United Methodist Church informed about its ministry within the world community. Please consider "sponsoring" a particular month by covering the mailing cost for that month. Sponsorship is \$60 per month.

***August Newsletter
Sponsored by:***

Marla Ford

