



A Note from the Pastor

Lemonade from Lemons

"Then Jesus said to him, 'Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. But they all alike began to make excuses. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.'" Then the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.'"
Luke 14: 16, 18, 21b-23 NRSV

Sarah Cummins' big day had been meticulously planned. The church and reception hall had been booked. Counseling sessions had been scheduled and completed with the pastor. The dresses and tuxedos were purchased. A live band had been booked and \$30,000 had been spent on the reception. Everything was planned, except for the breakup of the bride and groom one week before the ceremony, and the reception costs were non-refundable. What do you do?

The Indianapolis Star newspaper reported on the wedding that was not to be. You may ask why. Couples break up every day. Caterers have no refund clauses in their contracts so they do not lose money. The reason the newspaper picked up the story is that even though the wedding ceremony did not happen, the reception did.

Sarah and her former boyfriend debated what to do with their reception since they would not get their money back. What they decided was to approach the homeless shelters and social service agencies to invite their residents to a reception held in their honor at the Ritz Carleton!

But the fun did not stop there! When word got out about what they were doing, tuxedo and dress companies donated suits and dresses for the homeless to attend this once in a lifetime event for them! The evening came and everyone had a wonderful time!

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus tells a story about a King who throws a wedding feast for his son, but none of the invited guests attend. So the King sends his servants out into the streets to bring the poor and downtrodden. Strangers are invited off the streets and the palace is filled! This is what I envision the Kingdom of Heaven to be like. It is a place of celebration where all of God's children are invited. The best part? As Christians, we get to be the servants who go out and invite people to the banquet! We get to bring the Good News to the world that God has remembered and invites them to his home for a feast! So I ask you this question: Who are you going to invite?

I'll see you in Church!

Pastor Bob

JAM/MYF UPDATES

February 4th 5:00 p.m. Dinner & Activity

February 8th **WINTER Jam** permission slips due

February 11th NO JAM/MYF

February 12th Winter Jam 2026 Peoria, IL Meet at church at 4:00 p.m.
Bring money for concessions. (MYF only)

February 18th NO JAM/MYF— Ash Wednesday Services

February 25th 5:00 p.m. Dinner & Activity

The Messenger

United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
February 2026



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.

United Women in Faith will meet Wednesday, February 4th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Debbie Nielson and Carol Power, West District Secretary of Program Resources Coordinators will present a program on the UWF Reading Program. Hostesses for the meeting are Pat Thompson and Ruth Anne Beaty.

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.

UWF Scholarship

The Havana United Women in Faith are offering two \$500.00 Scholarship to HHS graduating seniors for college or technical school education beyond high school. Application forms may be picked up from the Counselor's office. Deadline to submit an application is May 1, 2026.

**2026 Newsletter Sponsors for July, August & September are available.
Reserve Your Month Now!**

You can sponsor a month **in honor of a loved one, for a special celebration, or simply to support the ministry.**

Cost \$60.00

Contact the church office to reserve your month today.

CHRONOLOGICAL READING OF THE BIBLE IN A YEAR February 2026

2/01/2026 *Ex 39-40*
2/02/2026 *Lev 1-4*
2/03/2026 *Lev 5-6*
2/04/2026 *Lev 7-9*
2/05/2026 *Lev 10-12*
2/06/2026 *Lev 13*
2/07/2026 *Lev 14-15*
2/08/2026 *Lev 16-17*
2/09/2026 *Lev 18-20*
2/10/2026 *Lev 21-23*
2/11/2026 *Lev 24-25*
2/12/2026 *Lev 26-27*
2/13/2026 *Num 1-2*
2/14/2026 *Num 3*
2/15/2026 *Num 4-6*
2/16/2026 *Num 7*
2/17/2026 *Num 8-10*
2/18/2026 *Num 11-13*
2/19/2026 *Num 14-15*
2/20/2026 *Num 16-17*
2/21/2026 *Num 18-20*
2/22/2026 *Num 21-22*
2/23/2026 *Num 23-25*
2/24/2026 *Num 26-28*
2/25/2026 *Num 29-30*
2/26/2026 *Num 31-32*
2/27/2026 *Num 33-35*
2/28/2026 *Num 36; Deut 1*



Pastor Bob and Juliana will be traveling to Israel February 18-26, 2026 for continuing Education. Please keep them both in your prayers as they travel.

February Missions

Adult Mission Offering

A special offering for Golden Cross Ministries will be taken during the month of February. This offering supports Health & Welfare Ministries in our Conference. More than \$10,000,000 of benevolent care is given by these ministries and more than 30,000 individuals are served each year. Please give generously to this special offering.

Golden Cross Ministries Support

Alton Memorial Hospital
The Baby Fold
Chaddock.
Evenglow Lodge
Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood
House
Methodist Medical Center
Sunset Home
UM Children's Home, Mt Vernon
UM Village, Lawrenceville
Wesley Village, Macomb

Children Mission Offering



The Children's Mission offering for the month of February will support the Fulton-Mason Crisis Center. This center gives support to everyone regarding domestic abuse/violence. Whether you are a child, an adult, a female, a male, or an older adult, you have a right to be safe in your own home with those you live with and who may be responsible for caring for you.

Sharing Our Blessings with Others for December 2025

Havana

Total Mission \$3,895.30

Adult Mission
Red Bird Mission \$350.00

Children Mission
Liberia Scholarships \$508.30

Christmas Eve \$1,597.00

Liberia Scholarships \$290.00

Toy Give Away & Emmanuel's
Closet \$1,150.00

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

**TOTAL 2025 GIVING
\$55,858.77**

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
February 20th**

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Lenten Schedule

February 18th 6 p.m. Ash Wednesday service at Havana First UMC No JAM or MYF
February 22nd First Sunday in Lent
March 1st Second Sunday in Lent/ Communion Sunday
March 8th Third Sunday in Lent
March 15th Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 22nd Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 29th Palm Sunday/ Choir Cantata "Come Walk With Me"
April 2nd 7 p.m. Maunday Thursday Communion Service at Oakford
April 3rd 7 p.m. Good Friday service at Havana
April 5th 7:30 a.m. Oakford Sunrise Service at cemetery. Breakfast at the church following
 8:30 a.m. Oakford Easter Morning worship Service
 9:30 a.m. Havana Breakfast in the fellowship hall
 10:30 a.m. Havana Traditional Easter worship



Community Food Pantry



February Item:
Spaghetti & Jar of Sauce

Please help us re-supply our Food Pantry by donating the above product.
 (Box located outside of Sanctuary)

Lunch Bunch

February 15, 2026
Countryside Family
Restaurant in Lewistown

RSVP to Robert or Sara Williams

Thank you

Thank you for the Christmas gifts and cards! A special thank you to the United Women of Faith for their contribution to a new tree to be planted this spring at the parsonage. You have made us feel like family during our first Christmas season in Havana and Oakford!

Sincerely,
 Pastor Bob and Juliana

2026 Havana
Church Directories
2026 Offering
Envelopes
and
2025 Contribution
Reports
Available now!!!

Oakford United Methodist Church, Baby Jesus Birthday Party held on January 4th was enjoyed by the youth. All items are donated to Menard County Families.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Havana FUMC

Birthdays

Feb 1 Megan Herrman McGinnis
 Feb 1 Aiden Southwood
 Feb 1 Jim Ludwig
 Feb 1 Ryan Dietsch
 Feb 2 Zachary Marshall
 Feb 3 Cynthia Caggiano
 Feb 7 Savannah Parsons
 Feb 8 Davis Joseph Snedeker
 Feb 9 Taylor Pherigo
 Feb 11 Cathy Haage
 Feb 11 Ron Brooks
 Feb 12 Jill Duel
 Feb 12 Brylee Burgess
 Feb 13 Joy McDaniel
 Feb 13 Carson Price
 Feb 14 Beverly McKenna (1935)
 Feb 14 Phyllis Bell-Hedden
 Feb 14 Kaley Meyer
 Feb 15 Nicholas Welker
 Feb 19 Marla Ford
 Feb 19 Cody Walker
 Feb 21 Robert Dunton
 Feb 23 Kay Curtis
 Feb 24 Cassidy Lynn Roberts
 Feb 25 Phil Jenkins
 Feb 25 Jaylyn Sarnes
 Feb 25 Marte Williams
 Feb. 26 Michelle Tibbs
 Feb 27 John Lynn, Sr.
 Feb 28 Brant Bastien
 Feb 28 Madelynn Snedeker



Anniversaries

02/20/2010 Mike & Teri Markley
 02/29/1980 Keith & Cindy Friedrich

Oakford UMC

Birthdays

Feb 1 Sara Dever
 Feb 1 Windsor Whitley
 Feb 2 Tim Wright
 Feb 6 Levi Cook
 Feb 6 Cassie Laird
 Feb 6 Robin Clark
 Feb 8 Sarah McGinnis
 Feb 8 Bill Whitley
 Feb 9 Ali Todd
 Feb 9 Dylan Vaughn
 Feb 9 Ron Raikes
 Feb 10 Eric Lounsberry
 Feb 13 Rick Boensel
 Feb 13 Carol McHenry
 Feb 13 Nic Atterberry
 Feb 13 Beck Elwood Sanert
 Feb 15 Landon Lounsberry
 Feb 16 Amy Todd
 Feb 17 Logan Bryant
 Feb 18 Erik Raikes
 Feb 20 Tyler Vaughn
 Feb 20 George Atterberry
 Feb 22 Julie Norris
 Feb 24 Dee Vaughn
 Feb 25 Amy McMahan
 Feb 25 Kristyn Watkins
 Feb 27 Michael Cory
 Feb 28 Cora Lee Watkins

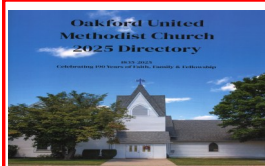


Anniversaries

02/03/2023 C.J. & Sarah Oglesby
 02/07/1981 Ron & Carmen Jackson
 02/13/2010 Matt & Lora Puckett

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**2025 Oakford United Methodist
 Church Directory**
Cost: \$8.00

Available on Sunday mornings

You may also mail payment to the church office at P.O. Box 227 Oakford, IL 62673. Please add \$2.50 for postage if you would like your copy mailed.

FEBRUARY 2026

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



Upcoming Calendar of Events

for **Both Churches**
Every Sunday:

8:30 a.m. - Oakford UMC
10:30 a.m. - Havana FUMC

Day	Time	Weekly Events
02/01	7:00 a.m.	Oakford Church Council
02/02	6:30 p.m.	Missions Committee
02/03	6:30 p.m.	PEO
02/04	1:00 p.m.	UWF Meeting
02/12	4:00 p.m.	Winter Jam
02/12	6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
02/15	12:00 p.m.	Lunch Bunch
02/18	6:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service
02/19	1:30 p.m.	Cancer Support Group
02/21	10:00 a.m.	"Crochet 4 Christ"
02/22	4:00 p.m.	enTrust Praise Team Practice
02/24	6:00 p.m.	Trustee Committee

Choir Practice

February 4th, 11th, & 25th at 6:00 p.m.
18th at 6:30 p.m.

MYF & JAM

February 4th & 25th at 5:00 p.m.



Havana FUMC
"Crochet 4 Christ"
February 21st



FEBRUARY USHERS

Steve & Collin Wilcoxon
Melanie Daniels

The Chosen Study Season 2

Mondays at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

January 26

Episode: Homecoming
Title: The Poor in Spirit and the sons of thunder
Read: Matthew 5:3, Luke 9:52-54, Isaiah 66:1-2, Matthew 13:24-30,
Ephesians 1:3-6, Hebrews 10:19-22, 1 Corinthians 4:20, 2 Timothy 1:7, 2 Peter 1:3, Romans 8:34-39, Hebrews 7:35, John 14:16-17, 26, Romans 5:1-5

Feb 2

Episode: Two by Two
Title: Those who mourn and the God who sees
Read: Matthew 5:4, John 1:43-48, Isaiah 61:1-3, Psalm 3:3,
Psalm 34:18, Zephaniah 3:17, Romans 8:28, John 14:16-18, 2 Corinthians 1:3-7, Romans 12:15, Philippians 1:21-24, Luke 6:21, Revelation 21:4 Revelation 7:16-17

Feb 9

Episode: Physician, Heal Yourself
Title: The Meek and the motherload
Read: Matthew 5:5, Mark 15:40, 1 Corinthians 1:27-35, Matthew 4:24,
Matthew 5:44-48, Psalm 37:21-22, Matthew 5:38-42, Matthew 6:31-33, Matthew 19:29-30, Psalm 3:3, Luke 1:50-52, Luke 14:7-11, 1 Peter 5:5, Exodus 14:13-14, Proverbs 20:22, Luke 18:1-8, Romans 12:17-21 Philippians 2:5-11, Romans 8:29-30, 1 Peter 2:21-23

Feb 16

Episode: Clean Part 1
Title: Those who hunger and the ones who cease
Read: Matthew 5:6, Matthew 10:1-5, 2 Timothy 2:22-26, John 5:2-9,
John 1:14, John 6:35, John 14:6, Acts 4:12, Isaiah 51:6, John 4:13-14, Matthew 6:19-21, Mark 13:31, Isaiah 58:11, Joel 2:25-26, Matthew 11:28-30, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Psalm 16:11, John 14:27, Romans 15:13

Feb 23 No Study, Pastor Bob and Juliana will be in Israel

February Acolyte Schedule

February 1st: Davis Snedeker
February 8th: Madelynn Snedeker
February 15th: Emma Strauman
February 22nd: Davis Snedeker

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

Remember Our Shut-Ins



Arcadia Care at Havana

609 N Harpham, Havana 62644

Colleen Wolters

Clayberg Nursing Center

625 E Monroe St, Cuba 61427

Rosie Moore

Lodge at Manito

1303 S. East Ave, Manito 61546

Shirley Lynn Apt. 109

Mary Lou Stephens Apt. 129

Independence Village

1201 W Northmoor Rd., Peoria IL 61614

Portia Brown Apt. 327

At Home

Beverly & Murray McKenna

629 E. Washington, Havana, IL 62644



In Our Prayers

Havana: Ryleigh Clements; Ann Funkenbusch; Buddy Hedden; Carol & Robert Himmel; Janet Roper

Oakford: John Bell; Ron Burn; Renee Downing; Lisa Johnson; Rodney King; Betty Lynn; Doug McGinnis; Greg Matthis; Katie Nichols; Carolyn Parker; Joe Rumler; Scott Smith; Tim Welch; Lisa Wilhoit;

Bishop David Bard; Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai; The Church; Our Country; Those Grieving; and.....



Easter Cantata

March 29th

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service

"Come Walk With Me"

Through the Passion and
Resurrection of Christ

By: Pepper Choplin



Our
thoughts
and
prayers
are with

the family Elouise Hahs who passed away on December 25, 2025, Karen Short who passed away on January 4, 2026, Rick Reavley (Harold Reavley's father) who passed away on January 9, 2026 and Bette Lynn who passed away on January 12, 2026.

Weekly Prayer Topics

February 1

Please pray for all of our church volunteers as they seek to be servants of God's love.

"Whoever wants to be first must be last, and whoever wants to be the greatest must be the servant of all." Mark 9:35

February 8

Pray for a spiritual awakening in our country and community.

"I tell you the truth; only someone who experiences birth for a second time can hope to see the kingdom of God." John 3:3

February 15

Pray for hearts to soften and be open to change.

"But the people of Israel refuse to listen to Me, they are hard-headed, stubborn-hearted people." Ezekiel 3:7

February 22

Pray for those healing from trauma and childhood abuse.

"As soon as her fingers brushed His cloak, the bleeding stopped. She could feel that she was whole again." Mark 5:29

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First United Methodist Church
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Havana, IL 62644

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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

***February Newsletter
Sponsored by:
Beverly and Murray
McKenna***

***In Celebration of Bev's
91st Birthday on
February 14th***

