



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, accept 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

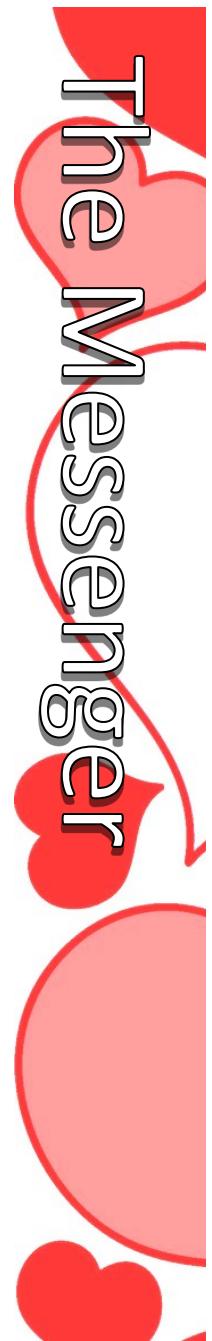
February 8th **WINTER** Jam permission slips due

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



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 Co-ordinators 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

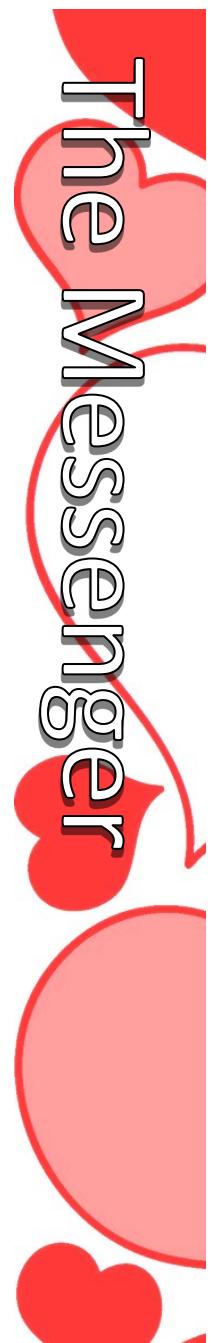
Thank you for your generosity
throughout the year to support
our Mission Projects!!

**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**



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 Sonrise 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



Oxford 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

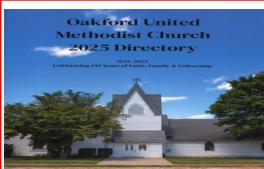


Anniversaries

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

Anniversaries

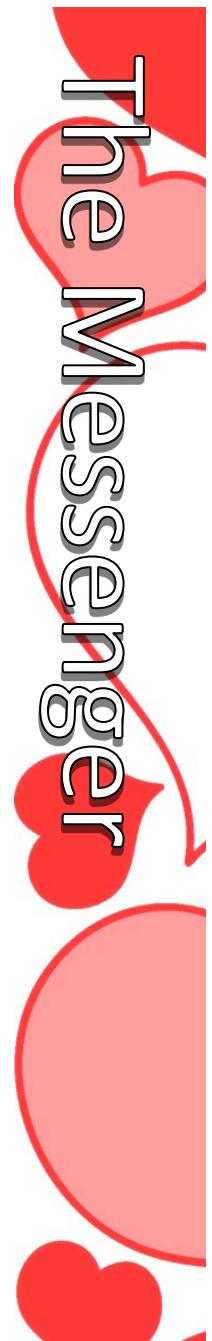
02/03/2023 C.J. & Sarah Oglesby
02/07/1981 Ron & Carmen Jackson
02/13/2010 Matt & Lora Puckett



2025 Oxford 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 Oxford, IL 62673. Please add \$2.50 for postage if you would like your copy mailed.



United Methodist Church
Havana/Oxford
February 2026

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. - Oxford UMC
10:30 a.m. - Havana FUMC

| Day | Time | Weekly Events |
|-------|------------|------------------------------|
| 02/01 | 7:00 a.m. | Oxford 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 Wilcoxen
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 Corinthi-

ans 4:20, 2 Timothy 1:7, 2 Peter 1:3, Romans

8:34-39, Hebrews 7:35, John 14:16-17, 26, Ro-

mans 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, Revela-

tion 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, Ro-

mans 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, Mat-

thew 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



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.



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;

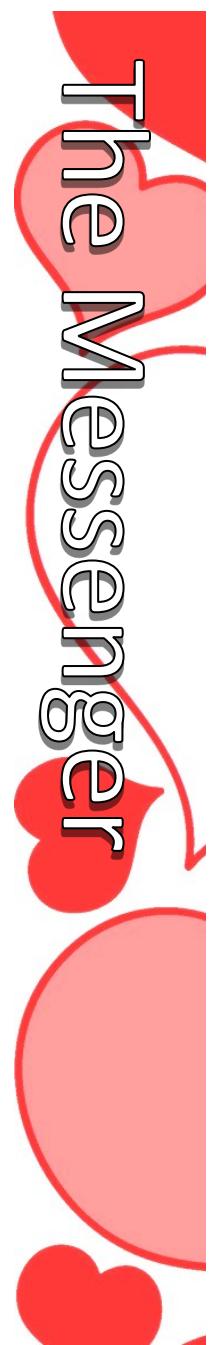
Bishop David Bard; Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai; The Church; Our Country; Those Grieving; and.....



Easter Cantata
March 29th
10:30 a.m.
Worship Service
“Come Walk With Me”
Through the Passion and
Resurrection of Christ
By: Pepper Choplin

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 |



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

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The Messenger

Published by:
First United Methodist
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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

February Newsletter
Sponsored by:
Beverly and Murray
McKenna
In Celebration of Bev's
91st Birthday on
February 14th

