



A Note from the Pastor

Leading by Following

“but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

Lee Iacocca is best remembered for saving the struggling Chrysler Motor Company from bankruptcy in the 1980’s. This former executive from the Ford Motor Company worked hard to improve the Chrysler image and financial situation. He appeared on most of the company’s advertising. His name became synonymous with Chrysler.

I’ll never forget one television ad he appeared in in particular. The commercial was not just for the customer, but it was for the company’s employees as well. On screen he said “in the automotive industry you have to lead, follow, or get out of the way.” Through his words, Iacocca was challenging the Chrysler company to become relevant. He wanted the company to lead. What he wanted least was to get out of the way, which was his way of saying, let’s be a leader in providing quality, world-class cars, or let’s get out of the car business altogether.

There have been many conversations over the years as to the relevance of the Church. We have seen unprecedented membership losses in Europe and in the United States over the past fifty years. We have approached it as a management/administrative issue. When a church does find a way to grow, we criticize it for being too watered down, or entertainment focused.

The question for us is not an administrative or managerial one. It is a spiritual one. Church growth is based upon the question, “How do we lead other people to Jesus Christ?” But in order to lead others to Christ, we must first ask ourselves the question, “What type of follower of Jesus Christ am I?”

You see, in order to lead, we must be equipped and prepared to go out into the world. In order to lead others to Christ, we must first be faithful followers of Jesus ourselves.

We must ask ourselves when was the last time we led someone to a relationship with Jesus Christ? Has it been a week? a month? a year? a decade? ever? Does sharing your faith with other people scare you? Whenever we do something new, it is uncomfortable. But preparing yourself through growing in your own relationship with God can open many doors to sharing your faith with others.

For Christians, we do not have the choice of “getting out of the way.” The love of God shown to us through Jesus Christ is life-giving! The work of the church means the difference between life and death for the world!

So to prepare you to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ, I want to encourage you to participate in these relationship building activities:

1. Make it a priority to attend church every Sunday for Worship and Study.
2. Read your Bible on a daily basis. Upper Room Daily Devotionals are available at the church to assist you.
3. Spend time daily in prayer.
4. Receive the sacraments every time they are offered.
5. Spend time fasting.

If you join me in these activities we will be preparing ourselves, our church, and our community for all the wonders God has planned for us! I’ll see you in church!

Pastor Bob



United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
June 2026

ILLINOIS GREAT RIVERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Peoria Civic Center
June 4th - 6th

Rev. Herath’s father will be remembered at the memorial service at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 4. Michelle Tibbs will be honored for her volunteer work at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, June 5. Anyone wishing to ride with Pastor Bob or carpool should meet at the Havana church at 7 a.m. each day. The conference will also be live streamed online. You may follow the proceedings, including Michelle Tibb’s recognition, by going to www.igrc.org and following the annual conference live stream instruction.



Juliana and I want to thank our church families for your prayers, cards, gifts and messages of encouragement as we grieve the passing of my father. We are truly blessed to be surrounded by such a wonderful group of Christian believers! Thank you.

Pastor Bob

Rev. Herath Vacation

Pastor Bob will be on vacation June 26 through July 8, 2026. He will be camping nearby and will cover any emergencies which arise.

The Messenger



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, June 3rd at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. The program "Happening at Emiquon" will be presented by Christa Christensen. The hostesses are Marla Ford & Mary Hughes.

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.

The United Women in Faith awarded \$500.00 scholarships to Patrick (PJ) Dietsch & Alyssa Blakeley.

P.J. will be attending Western Illinois University exploring science as a major. He plans to participate in WIU Marching Leathernecks & WIU Pep Band.

Alyssa will be attending Lincoln Land Community College studying to be a veterinary technician. She has worked over a year at Prairie Ridge Veterinary Clinic through the Careers Link Program while in high school.

WELCOME

Congratulations to David Burgett, who began serving as our new Church Janitor on March 31st. David retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and enjoys mowing and staying busy with projects alongside his wife, April.

CHRONOLOGICAL READING OF THE BIBLE IN A YEAR June 2026

6/01/2026 2 Chr 29-30
6/02/2026 2 Chr 31-32
6/03/2026 2 Chr 33-35
6/04/2026 2 Chr 36; Ezr 1-2
6/05/2026 Ezr 3-5
6/06/2026 Ezr 6-7
6/07/2026 Ezr 8-10
6/08/2026 Neh 1-3
6/09/2026 Neh 4-6
6/10/2026 Neh 7-9
6/11/2026 Neh 10-11
6/12/2026 Neh 12-13
6/13/2026 Est 1-4
6/14/2026 Est 5-8
6/15/2026 Est 9-10; Job 1-2
6/16/2026 Job 3-8
6/17/2026 Job 9-13
6/18/2026 Job 14-18
6/19/2026 Job 19-23
6/20/2026 Job 24-29
6/21/2026 Job 30-33
6/22/2026 Job 34-38
6/23/2026 Job 39-42; Ps 1
6/24/2026 Ps 2-10
6/25/2026 Ps 11-18
6/26/2026 Ps 19-26
6/27/2026 Ps 27-34
6/28/2026 Ps 35-39
6/29/2026 Ps 40-47
6/30/2026 Ps 48-55

**PAINT PARTY
JUNE 20TH
2:00-4:00 PM
OAKFORD UMC
ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

June Missions

Adult Mission Offering Liberia Scholarships

This month's mission offering will go to the **Liberia Scholarship Fund**. We have been supporting 30 students (\$200 for each student) at the Tubman Gray United Methodist School in Liberia for several years. Each scholarship provides for school uniforms, supplies and teacher salary assistance. You may make a one time gift of any amount, give \$200 for a scholarship or make a pledge and give what you can through the year.

Children Mission Offering

Cunningham Children's Home is an exemplary child welfare and educational services agency located in Urbana, Illinois that provides caring support and therapeutic intervention to more than 807 children, youth, adults and families each year through comprehensive programs including residential treatment, special education and community-based services. Through their residential services, a community converges to give hope to those who need it most—youth who suffer from serious emotional and behavioral challenges and autism spectrum disorders that have been caused by abuse, neglect, mental illness, and more. Our highly-skilled, caring professionals work to provide a therapeutic environment 24 hours a day, every day. Through the generosity of their supporters, Cunningham offers three Special Education programs where youth experience life changing opportunities that help them develop the learning and coping skills they need to complete high school and become successful in our communities. The agency continues to expand opportunities to care for youth, adults and families in our community including counseling expertise, providing linkages to individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, services to help runaway youth and short-term services, interventions and support to children and youth with emotional and/or behavioral problems identified as being at risk of being removed from their current homes.

Sharing Our Blessings with Others for April 2026

Havana

Total Mission \$1,343.00

Adult Mission

Native American Ministries

Sunday \$110.00

Children Mission

Spoon River Pregnancy Center

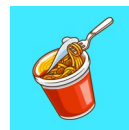
\$278.00

MYF Mission Trip \$140.00

Roof Repair \$815.00

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

Community Food Pantry June Item: Lunch in a Cup



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

(Box located outside of Sanctuary)



JUNE USHERS

**Sue Meisner
Melody Lynn
Cathy & Sophia Reavley**

The Messenger

United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
June 2026



Graduate Recognitions Updates

Havana

Sophia Reavley Daughter of Harold & Cathy Reavley, Masters of Agriculture Science from Illinois State University

Prestyn Meyer Parents Jody Coots & Tom Sanguedolce and Kevin Meyer Associates in Science from Spoon River College

2026 Graduation Sunday

Havana



Prestyn Meyer, Karsyn Layton, P.J. Dietsch & Alison Tibbs

Oakford



Jayden McGinnis & Haylie McGinnis

Finance Team Roof Update

The roof repair project will begin in the coming weeks. The funding of this project will protect our church from further damage. **The total cost of the roof repair is expected to be approximately \$24,000.** The good news is that because of your faithful giving, we are pleased to announce that we have over half of this project funded. We ask you pray that this project goes smoothly, and we also ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to help fund this project fully. If you are moved to make a gift, please designate your gift to the Church Building Fund. Thank you for your generosity, your faithfulness, and your continued commitment to this church and its ministry.



Ruth Arin Yucetas was born on May 4, 2026 to Heather and Ismet Yucetas.

She is welcomed home by big sister Zilan and big brother Augustine. Proud grandparents are Jerry & Nancy Brooks and Kudret Yucetas.

2026 Havana First United Methodist Church MYF Calendar

Saturday, June 20 11-1pm MYF serving Pork Chops at County Market

Saturday, July 25 11-1pm MYF serving Ribeye steak sandwiches at Farm and Home Supply

Sunday, July 26th 10:30 a.m. Commissioning Service for Mission Trip

Thursday, July 30 - Sunday August 2 MYF Mission trip to the Quad Cities. Accommodations will be at Camp Milan

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Havana FUMC

Birthdays

Jun 1 Carol Kolves
 Jun 1 Eli Olson
 Jun 1 Petra Nolen
 Jun 1 Luke Smith
 Jun 1 Justin Crum
 Jun 2 Lexy Meyer
 Jun 3 Amy Kruse
 Jun 3 Mary Layton
 Jun 4 Kelsie Eakle
 Jun 6 Nicole Darling
 Jun 7 Claire Hofreiter
 Jun 7 Maggie Stephens
 Jun 7 Robert Himmel
 Jun 9 Murray McKenna
 Jun 9 Joyce Thomas
 Jun 10 Sydney Marshall
 Jun 10 Eric Morr
 Jun 10 Mike Pedigo
 Jun 10 Josh Yetter
 Jun 10 Peter Michael Fleming
 Jun 10 Zachary C. Fleming
 Jun 12 Michael Herrman
 Jun 12 Scott Hofreiter
 Jun 13 Heather Wilcoxon
 Jun 13 Sandy Ludwig
 Jun 14 Taylor Adkins
 Jun 15 Ann Funkenbusch
 Jun 15 Mary Ann Walker
 Jun 16 David Alan Badger
 Jun 16 Brenda Stadsholt
 Jun 17 Rhonda Eakle
 Jun 17 Don Willett
 Jun 18 Kris Skaggs
 Jun 19 Brylee Richardson
 Jun 19 Bristol Richardson
 Jun 20 Crystal Bohm
 Jun 23 Richard Walker
 Jun 23 Rachel Williams
 Jun 24 Robert Turk
 Jun 28 Kevin Meyer
 Jun 28 Elaina Mitchell

Anniversaries

06/04/1994 Eric & Michelle Tibbs
 06/06/2009 Ron & Jennifer Brooks
 06/14/1992 Jame & Donna Hahs
 06/18/1960 Richard & Shirley Lounsberry
 06/20/1987 Rod & Mary Yetter
 06/21/2004 Chad & Summer Brown
 06/21/2008 Tyler & Tiffany Southwood
 06/21/1970 Ken & Ruth Anne Beaty
 06/21/1997 James & Allison Lozano
 06/22/2004 Eric & Shavonne Parsons
 06/25/1988 Mark & Cindy Caggiano
 06/26/1993 Rick & Leann Bonnett
 06/28/1969 Robert & Camille Turk
 06/29/1970 Kent & Carolyn Johnson
 06/30/2001 Nate & Aimee Turner



Oakford UMC

Birthdays

Jun 1 Sarah Oglesby
 Jun 5 Rachel Chalmers
 Jun 6 Addison McMahan
 Jun 10 Steve Brown
 Jun 12 Lindsey Dyer
 Jun 13 Lainey Stribling
 Jun 13 Ryan Taylor
 Jun 14 Ryan Farris
 Jun 15 Haylie McGinnis
 Jun 20 Lyla Watkins
 Jun 21 Preslee Sherren
 Jun 23 Kirtus French
 Jun 23 Lori Lynn
 Jun 24 Becky Bailey
 Jun 24 Scarlett Watkins
 Jun 26 Matt Puckett
 Jun 26 Lane Sherren
 Jun 28 Julie Atterberry



Anniversaries

06/04/2011 Brandon & Hailey Blair
 06/08/2013 Andrew & Heidi Hiser
 06/14/2014 Landon & Jillian Lounsberry
 06/14/1992 Jame & Donna Hahs
 06/15/2013 Thomas & Melissa Cory
 06/16/2012 Jacob & Blair Claussen
 06/19/1976 Gary & Beth French
 06/25/2022 Stihl & Kaylee Chalmers
 06/26/2010 Gene & Amy Gronewald
 06/28/1985 Jim & Susan Brauer

The Youth Group would like to thank everyone who supported their mission trip by sponsoring an Easter lily or supporting our cookouts at Farm and Home and County Market. Our Next cookout will be June 20, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at County Market. We will be serving porkchop sandwiches. Come and Enjoy.



Havana FUMC
"Crochet 4 Christ"
June 20th
10:00 a.m.

The Messenger

United Methodist Church
 Havana/Oakford
 June 2026

JUNE 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	29	30				

Upcoming Calendar of Events

for **Both** Churches

Every Sunday:

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

Day	Time	Weekly Events
06/03	1:00 p.m.	UWF Meeting
06/07	10:00 a.m.	enTrust Praise Team Practice
06/08	6:30 p.m.	Missions Committee Mtg
06/09	6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee Mtg
06/18	1:30 p.m.	Cancer Support Group
06/20	10:00 a.m.	“Crochet 4 Christ”
06/20	11-1 p.m.	MYF Cook out at County Market
	2-4 p.m.	Paint Party @ Oakford UMC
06/21	9:50 a.m.	Puppet Practice
06/23	6:00 a.m.	Trustees Meeting

Church Lighting Update

Security lighting will be powered continuously in the following areas:

- Broadway Street entrance
- Stairwell from Broadway Street entrance to the second floor
- Main Street entrance

2026 OAKFORD VBS JULY 6th—9th 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Children who've completed Pre-K through 6th grade are welcome!
 Visit <https://www.myvbs.org/oakford-united-methodist-vbs-2026/>



Weekly Prayer Topics June 2026

- June 7 Pray for teachers that they may find rest and renewal over the summer break.
- Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Colossians 3:16
- June 14 Pray for our youth mission trip to the Quad Cities.
- And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9
- June 21 Pray for our Fathers
- Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4
- June 28 Pray for Pastors who are moving to new appointments this week.
- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

2026 HAVANA VBS JULY 13th—16th 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Children who completed Pre-K through 4th grade are welcome!
 Register on line at
<https://www.myvbs.org/havana/>



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

EverTrue Concordia Village
Jean Huber
4101 West Iles Ave.
Springfield, IL 62711

At Home
Beverly & Murray McKenna
629 E. Washington, Havana, IL 62644

If you are a shut-in and would like your name and address listed please call the church office to be added.

June Acolyte Schedule

June 7th: Davis Snedeker
June 14th: Madelynn Snedeker
June 21st: Emma Strauman
June 28th: 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!!



In Our Prayers

Havana: Beth Andrews; Ken Beaty; Lynn Coots; Jim Daniels; Anne Funkenbusch; John Intihar; Sonia Kelly; Kay Curtis; Ashley Schaad; Sue Smith; Brian Taylor; Camille & Robert Turk; Angie Vorties;

Oakford: Rodney King; Doug McGinnis; Katie Nichols; Scott Smith; Tim Welch

Bishop David Bard; Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai; The Church; Our Country; Those Grieving; Those with Silent Prayers; Those not as fortunate; and.....



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Richard Herath (Pastor Bob's Father) who passed away on May 17, 2026 and Velva Fletcher who passed away on May 21, 2026,

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.

Next Newsletter deadline
June 19th

Mary will be on Vacation
June 1st & 15th-19th

The Messenger

United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
June 2026

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

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The Messenger

Published by:

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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 covering the mailing cost for that month. Sponsorship is \$60 per month.

June Newsletter

Sponsored by:

*Family of
Graham & Kay Curtis*

*In Memory of
Elouise Hahs*

