



# A Note from the Pastor

## When a Coin Is More Than A Coin

*“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’”*

I haven’t looked at my change in quite a while. Usually, when the clerk takes my money as payment, I neatly place the bills in my billfold, and toss the coins in my pocket. Juliana usually grabs my coins for either pop money at work or for one of the noisy coin offerings at church.

A while back, I looked closer, at my change. One of the coins made a higher pitched ring when I tossed them into my pocket. As I looked again, I noticed a quarter dated 1946. Now I collect coins so I knew that this quarter was not the usual copper clad coin we see now. This one was made of silver.

As I showed the coin, some children said it was just an old coin. Others said that it was worth 25 cents, the value of a quarter. But being a coin collector, I knew that it was worth more than face value.

Then I began to reflect on the value we place on people. Do we take each person we encounter at face value, or do we look beyond the exterior to the hidden value God places on each of us?

For me, ministry is about finding the deeper value that God places in each of us. John 3:16 reminds us that God so loved the World. He doesn’t love just a few of us. He doesn’t love just those who go to church every week. God loves all. Everyone. Therefore, we should be in ministry to everyone God brings into our life.

I invite you to think about the different people you encounter each day. Some you know, many are strangers. Imagine how much God loves each one of them. Does that change your perception of who they are?

As we look to discovering the value in each person our congregation engages in ministry, I want to invite you to become a Kingdom Builder with me. One person lost is one too many!

In Christ,  
Pastor Bob

*Thank You*

Sara Richardson would like to thank First United Methodist Church and everyone who donates to the Emmanuel’s Closet for helping their family after losing everything in a recent fire. Your kindness, generosity, and support during this difficult time are greatly



**Havana FUMC**  
**“Crochet 4 Christ”**  
**August 15th**  
**10:00 a.m.**



United Methodist Church  
Havana/Oakford  
July 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 not meet in July.** The next meeting will be **Wednesday, August 5th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. **It will be a beach party with games, snacks and lots of fun!!!!**

*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.*

## FREE SWIM

July 16th

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Sponsored by FUMC  
Mission Committee

## CHRONOLOGICAL READING OF THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

July 2026

7/01/2026	Ps 56-63
7/02/2026	Ps 64-69
7/03/2026	Ps 70-76
7/04/2026	Ps 77-80
7/05/2026	Ps 81-88
7/06/2026	Ps 89-96
7/07/2026	Ps 97-104
7/08/2026	Ps 105-107
7/09/2026	Ps 108-117
7/10/2026	Ps 118-119
7/11/2026	Ps 120-133
7/12/2026	Ps 134-142
7/13/2026	Ps 143-150; Pro 1
7/14/2026	Pro 2-6
7/15/2026	Pro 7-11
7/16/2026	Pro 12-15
7/17/2026	Pro 16-19
7/18/2026	Pro 20-24
7/19/2026	Pro 25-28
7/20/2026	Pro 29-31; Ecc 1
7/21/2026	Ecc 2-6
7/22/2026	Ecc 7-10
7/23/2026	Ecc 11-12; Sos 1-4
7/24/2026	Sos 5-8; Isa 1
7/25/2026	Isa 2-5
7/26/2026	Isa 6-9
7/27/2026	Isa 10-13
7/28/2026	Isa 14-18
7/29/2026	Isa 19-23
7/30/2026	Isa 24-27
7/31/2026	Isa 28-30



**THANK YOU  
JULIANA FOR  
LEADING THE  
FUN PAINT  
PARTY!!!!!!**

## July Missions

### **Adult Mission Offering** *Society of St. Andrew*



Our July mission offering will be to help support the Society of St. Andrew. The Society of St. Andrew partners with people of all faiths, and of many organizations, that we might all serve together by feeding the hungry out of the abundance that we are provided.

### **Children Mission Offering** *Heifer Project, International*



The Children's Mission offering for the month of July will support the Heifer International Project. The mission of this project is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the Earth.

#### *The Heifer Way*

*We believe all people deserve dignity, opportunity, and a future free from hunger. We believe we provide the tools of transformation to bring about that opportunity. We believe one cow can transform a life. But we know one animal alone doesn't lead to sustainable change.*

*We believe in equipping our people with the tools, education and livestock to bring about positive transformation. Together, through every small step forward, we're transforming the world for the better. That's real impact.*

*That is the Power Over Poverty.*

### **Sharing Our Blessings with Others for May 2026**

#### **Havana**

**Total Mission \$3,838.32**

Adult Mission  
Peace with Justice Sunday  
\$225.00

Children Mission  
Liberia Scholarship \$280.52

Liberia Scholarship \$490.00

MYF Mission Trip \$1,637.80  
Roof Repair \$1,205.00

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

### **Community Food Pantry** *July Item: Can of Fruit*



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



### **JULY USHERS**

**Dennis & Kris Skaggs  
Collin & Heather Wilcoxon**

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United Methodist Church  
Havana/Oakford  
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**2026 OAKFORD VBS  
"What a Mess!"  
JULY 6th—9th  
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

Children who've completed Pre-K through 6th grade are welcome!

This VBS is about how Jesus deals with our messes; our sins, mistakes, and weaknesses.

All the while, we are going to have lots of messy fun, with messy snacks, games, crafts, and more!

Visit <https://www.myvbs.org/oakford-united-methodist-vbs-2026/>



**CONGRATULATIONS  
MICHELLE TIBBS  
2026 ILLINOIS GREAT  
RIVERS CONFERENCE  
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**



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

Children who completed Pre-K through 4th grade are welcome!

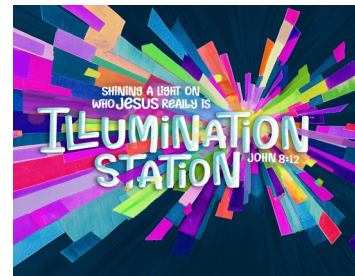
Meet us at Illumination Station for the brightest week of the year and wear your favorite **Neon Shirt!!**

Register on line at <https://www.myvbs.org/havana/>



Join us on Thursday, July 16th from 1-5pm at the Havana Park District Pool for a "Free Swim Day"

If you are interested in donating a food item or a gift card to purchase food items contact the office!



**2026 Havana First United  
Methodist Church  
MYF Calendar**

**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

Jul 2 Beth Raridon  
 Jul 3 Ed Haage  
 Jul 5 Rosie Moore  
 Jul 5 Craig Stephens  
 Jul 5 Colton William Brooks  
 Jul 5 Juliana Herath  
 Jul 6 Mason Andrew Friedrich  
 Jul 6 Elly Bonnett  
 Jul 9 Alison Tibbs  
 Jul 11 Leann Bonnett  
 Jul 11 Cindy Hamblin  
 Jul 12 Judy Hofreiter  
 Jul 12 Taylor Schaub  
 Jul 13 Jeremy Eakle  
 Jul 13 Shelly Wallace  
 Jul 13 Mary Ellen Simpson  
 Jul 18 Sue Clancy  
 Jul 18 Ed Edwards  
 Jul 20 Tony Lippert  
 Jul 20 Noah Silva  
 Jul 21 Annabelle Glesenkamp  
 Jul 21 Mary Hughes  
 Jul 22 Karsyn Layton  
 Jul 22 Mary Rutledge  
 Jul 23 Kynsley Layton  
 Jul 25 Joe F. Burgess III  
 Jul 25 Frank Hofreiter  
 Jul 25 Mary Lou Stephens  
 Jul 27 Chloe Turner  
 Jul 29 Chad Brown  
 Jul 29 Loni Engledow  
 Jul 31 Sheryl Smith  
 Jul 31 Bella Nichole Fortney

### Anniversaries

07/05/2015 Pastor Bob & Juliana Herath  
 07/07/1956 John & Joann Lynn  
 07/22/1989 Jerry & Rhonda Eakle  
 07/23/2011 Will & Jane Baar  
 07/31/1976 Robert & Barbara Dunton



## Oakford UMC

### Birthdays

Jul 1 Macie Schirding  
 Jul 3 Ronda Brown  
 Jul 5 Juliana Herath  
 Jul 7 Melissa Ramsey  
 Jul 11 Katelin Willhoit  
 Jul 12 Courtney Clark  
 Jul 14 Richard Brauer  
 Jul 14 Robert Brauer  
 Jul 15 Lisa Cowin  
 Jul 17 Matt Duncheon  
 Jul 18 Brice Bailey  
 Jul 21 Karlie Hoke  
 Jul 25 Rhiannon Rademaker  
 Jul 26 Penny Glick  
 Jul 26 Bradley Shoemaker  
 Jul 29 Stephanie Owens  
 Jul 30 Evan Cook  
 Jul 30 Brandon Jackson  
 Jul 30 Jake Smith  
 Jul 30 Kenzie Norris  
 Jul 30 Mason Norris  
 Jul 31 Debbie Whitley  
 Jul 31 Brenda Pratt



### Anniversaries

07/05/2015 Pastor Bob & Juliana Herath  
 07/14/1978 Steve & Ronda Brown  
 07/19/1997 Scott & Cassie Laird  
 07/21/2001 John & Jill Kaylor  
 07/28/1984 Jerry & Nancy Brooks  
 07/29/2006 Brett & Brittany Henry

**Thank you for all the prayers  
 during our medical journeys over  
 the past 2½ years. We are truly  
 grateful for our church family.  
 May God bless each of you.**

**Robert and Carol Himmel**

*Thank You!*

The Messenger

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## JULY 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	31	

### Upcoming Calendar of Events

for **Both** Churches

**Every Sunday:**

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

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Weekly Events</u>
07/05	10:00 a.m.	enTrust Praise Team Practice
07/06	7:00 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
07/07	6:30 p.m.	PEO Meeting
07/13	6:30 p.m.	Ministry Team Mtg
07/16	1-5:00 p.m.	FREE Swim Havana Pool
	1:30 p.m.	Cancer Support Group
07/19	9:50 a.m.	Puppet Practice
07/25	11-1:00 p.m.	MYF Cook out at Farm & Home
07/26	7:00 a.m.	Oakford Church Council Mtg
07/27	7:00 p.m.	Havana Church Council Mtg

### VBS

**July 13th, 14th, 15th & 16th**  
**9:00 a.m.— 11:00 a.m.**

### MYF Mission Trip

**July 30th, 31st, August 1st & 2nd**

## Weekly Prayer Topics July 2026

- July 5      Pray for the leaders and kids of Oakford UMC’s Vacation Bible School this week.  
*“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”*  
*Psalm 119:105*
- July 12      Pray for the leaders and kids of Havana UMC’s Vacation Bible School this week.  
*“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”* Proverbs 22:6
- July 19      Pray for those serving in our Armed Forces.  
*“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”*  
*Joshua 1:9*
- July 26      Pray for our Youth and all those working in Missions this week.  
*“No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”*  
*1 John 4:12*



## Havana FUMC 2026/267Scholarship Application Available Now!!!!

For the second year, the Helping Hands Committee is offering two \$500 scholarships to any UMC member, family member or regular attendee pursuing their second year and beyond of college or technical school.

Applications may be picked up at the church office or by request to any committee member. Also available on our website at:

<https://havanaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/HUMC-Helping-Hands-Scholarship-2026-Final.pdf>

Please submit the application to the Church office by **August 3, 2026.**

## 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.*

## July Acolyte Schedule

July 5th: Madelynn Snedeker  
July 12th: Emma Strauman  
July 19th: Davis Snedeker  
July 26th: Madelynn 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; Lynn Coots; Graham and Kay Curtis; Rick Gosch; Sonia Kelly; Ashley Schaad; Sue Smith; Camille & Robert Turk;

**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

Bill Moehring (Diane Bahl's Brother) who passed away on June 9, 2026, Ronda Tippett who passed away on June 14, 2026 and Ann Funkenbusch who passed away on June 18, 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  
July 24th***

# The Messenger

United Methodist Church  
Havana/Oakford  
July 2026

First United Methodist Church  
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## The Messenger

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

## July Newsletter

*In Celebration of  
Mary Lou Stephens's  
97th Birthday on July  
25th and the Countries  
250th Birthday*

