

A Note from the Pastor

Remembering to Give Thanks

"Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?'" Luke 17:17-18 NRSV

It was September 8, 1860. a group of Irish community leaders were aboard the steamship *Lady Elgin* when the schooner *Augusta* rammed the ship. The boats were a few miles north of Evanston, Illinois on Lake Michigan. The *Lady Elgin* began breaking up and the lives of 385 people on board were at risk.

Fortunately, a young student at Garrett Biblical Institute heard the cries of survivors as they clung to floating debris 300 yards from shore. The young student's name was Edward Spencer. Over the next six hours, he swam out into the surf with only a rope tied around his waist and saved 17 lives that night. When he returned to shore after the seventeenth rescue, he collapsed on the beach and asked "Did I do my best? Did I do my best?" To this day these words are the motto of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Edward Spencer's health deteriorated after spending too much time in the cold water of Lake Michigan that day. He soon had to drop out of seminary due to health reasons. He died at the age of 81 in Colorado.

Edward Spencer's story seems pretty amazing, but what's even more amazing is the fact that in his remaining 60 years of life, not one of the seventeen people he rescued ever said "thank you."

It reminded me of the time Jesus healed ten people of Leprosy. Yet of the ten healed, only one, a foreigner, returned to say thank you for what Jesus had done for him. It is a sad commentary on human nature.

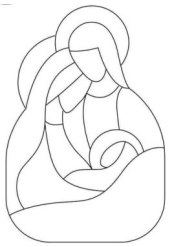
This month we celebrate Thanksgiving. It will be a time when we gather with family around the table and share a huge meal. Some of us will watch football games. Others will sleep off the meal we devoured. But let us not forget that it is one day out of many each year that we are to give thanks. We give thanks to God for all the blessings of life. We thank our family and friends for the love and grace they share with us. And we give thanks that we live in a country that allows us the freedoms we enjoy.

I want to encourage you this year to give thanks to God by sharing an act of kindness with someone else. Perhaps it will be writing a letter or sending a care package to a service man or woman. It may mean visiting someone in the nursing home, or inviting someone who has nowhere to go on Thanksgiving over to your house. Whatever it is offer it up to God as your "thank you."

I'll see you in Church!

Pastor Bob

Paint with Juliana
November 7th
2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
Havana FUMC Fellowship Hall



Come join the fun!!!

Birthday Card Shower
Help Janet Roper
Celebrate her 88th Birthday
November 12th!



Send cards to:
111 E. Washington St.
Havana, IL 62644



United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
November 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 have their meeting on **Wednesday, November 4th at 1:00 p.m**. in the Fellowship Hall. The program is "World Thank Offering" Presented by Ruth Anne Beaty. Members should bring items for the Shut-In Bags and Toy Give Away. Look for information in another section of this newsletter for donations needed. **Hostess is Myrna Rennison.**

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.

IMPORTANT NEWSLETTER UPDATE BEGINNING IN 2027

Beginning in 2027 only individuals that have contacted the church office and verified a current mailing address will continue to receive a mailed copy of the monthly newsletter. We encourage our Church family to consider an e-mailed version to enjoy a full color copy while reducing printing and mailing expenses for the Church. We will happily mail you a paper copy, however you need to contact the Church office at 309-543 -4725 and ask to remain on the paper version mailing list. We also encourage you to contact the church office to provide an e-mail address as an alternative. Paper copies will also be available each month in the sanctuary for pickup. Contact the church office by December 15th!!!

CHRONOLOGICAL READING OF THE BIBLE IN A YEAR November 2026

11/1/2026 Luke 10-11
11/2/2026 Luke 12-13
11/3/2026 Luke 14-16
11/4/2026 Luke 17-19
11/5/2026 Luke 20-21
11/6/2026 Luke 22-23
11/7/2026 Luke 24; John 1
11/8/2026 John 2-4
11/9/2026 John 5-6
11/10/2026 John 7
11/11/2026 John 8-9
11/12/2026 John 10-11
11/13/2026 John 12-14
11/14/2026 John 15-17
11/15/2026 John 18-19
11/16/2026 John 20-21; Acts 1
11/17/2026 Acts 2-4
11/18/2026 Acts 5-7
11/19/2026 Acts 8-9
11/20/2026 Acts 10-11
11/21/2026 Acts 12-13
11/22/2026 Acts 14-16
11/23/2026 Acts 17-19
11/24/2026 Acts 20-21
11/25/2026 Acts 22-23
11/26/2026 Acts 24-26
11/27/2026 Acts 27-28; Romans 1
11/28/2026 Romans 2-4
11/29/2026 Romans 5-8
11/30/2026 Romans 9-11



Havana FUMC
"Crochet 4 Christ"
November 21
10:00 a.m.

YTD they have made 151 hats & 13 scarves!!!

November Missions

Adult Mission Offering

Our adult mission offering for November is The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund. *Just Save One* initiative will address the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. About 900 children are newly infected with HIV per day, over 90% occurring in Sub-Saharan Africa. Only 57% of pregnant women living with HIV received antiretroviral drugs to prevent them from transmitting the virus to their babies. The cost of therapies to prevent the transmission of HIV from a mother to her infant can start at about $10! Yet, every day 900 babies are born with the virus. A small gift can make a big difference.

Children Mission Offering

The November Children's Mission offering will support the Spero Family Services, formerly known as The United Methodist Children's Home, which has been serving Southern Illinois since 1913. Originally located in Creal Springs, the organization moved to Mt. Vernon in 1921 and has since evolved to address the changing needs of children and families.

From its early focus on orphan care, Spero has adapted its services to meet the needs of children and youth experiencing abuse, neglect, and mental health challenges. The organization has expanded its programs and facilities over the decades, including the construction of new buildings and the introduction of community-focused services.

NOVEMBER USHERS



Melody Lynn
Heather & Collin Wilcoxen

Sharing Our Blessings with Others for September 2026 Havana

Total Mission $621.02

Adult Mission:
Gunner Lee Memorial $250.00

Children Mission:
Havana Schools Hygiene Project
$246.02

Pastor's Emergency Fund
$100.00
Roof Repair $25.00

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

Community Food Pantry

November Item:



Canned Chicken

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TOY GIVE-AWAY (December 12th)

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR LISA DIETSCH FOR DETAILS ON HOW YOU CAN HELP!!!

Items needed are all types of eye make-up, boys Axe body wash, flavored lip balm, make-up pouches, tractors, trucks, craft sets, Lego's and baby dolls.



The Messenger

United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
November 2026

Oakford UMC Advent

Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, November 29, 8:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker James Fielder, DS
December 6, 8:30 a.m.

Children's Choir
December 13, 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve
Thursday, December 24
8:00 p.m. Candlelight
Communion Service &
Live Nativity

Baby Jesus Birthday Party
Epiphany Sunday
January 3, 2027, 8:30 a.m.

Havana First UMC Advent

Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, November 29, 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Cantata & Guest Speaker James Fielder, DS
December 6, 10:30 a.m.

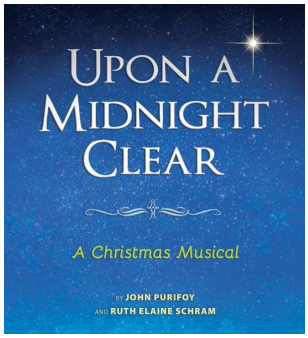
Christmas Eve
5:00 p.m. Baby Jesus Birthday Party
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

Havana November Acolyte Schedule

November 1st: *Emma Strauman*
November 8th: *Davis Snedeker*
November 15th: *Ella Strauman*
November 22nd: *Madelynn Snedeker*
November 22nd: *Emma Strauman*

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 Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 6th 10:30 a.m. Worship Service



The Cantata will be live streamed!!!

JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE OCTOBER 4, 2026

Young people and "The Young at Heart " playing the bells at the Joint Church Service



CLOTHES NEEDED FOR EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

- Girls-Kid's Size 5-8 Tops and Pants
- Boys-Kid's Size 6 Shirts and pants
- No Adult Clothes Needed

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Havana FUMC

Birthdays

Nov 2 Kyle McDaniel
Nov 2 Eddie Ray
Nov 5 Jacob Caggiano
Nov 5 Cassy Friedrich
Nov 6 Drake Daniel
Nov 6 Michael Markley
Nov 7 Leo Mitchell
Nov 8 Christina Oney
Nov 9 Clayton Markley
Nov 9 Harold Reavley
Nov 10 Mason Dietsch
Nov 12 Alicia Layton
Nov 12 Kevin Troutman
Nov 12 Janet Roper
Nov 13 Pastor Bob Herath
Nov 14 Diane Bahl
Nov 14 Lyn Pedigo
Nov 14 Vicky Harbison
Nov 14 Nolan Miller
Nov 16 Billy Thornton
Nov 17 Mary Yetter
Nov 18 Keith Friedrich
Nov 19 Janice Fisk
Nov 19 Jill Snedeker
Nov 20 Jace Pedigo
Nov 22 Kim Mitchell
Nov 22 Ben Daniel
Nov 22 Marshall Markley
Nov 23 Laikyn Showalter
Nov 24 Stevan Hofreiter
Nov 24 Jill Adkins
Nov 25 Henry Isaac Baar
Nov 26 Roger McGrew
Nov 27 Desiray Meyer
Nov 29 Jordyn Markley
Nov 30 Zack Miller

Anniversaries

11/01/1997 Brian & Mary Ann Walker
11/07/1987 Phil & Cindy Jenkins
11/08/2004 Jason & Andrea Stadsholt
11/08/1997 Harold & Catharine Reavley
11/14/2004 Michael & Christine Fleming
11/21/1998 Stuart & Sheryl Smith
11/24/2002 Randy & Mary Rutledge
11/26/1976 Paul & Becky Morgan
11/26/1977 Jim & Sandy Ludwig
11/28/1998 Michael & Phyllis Hedden



Oakford UMC

Birthdays

Nov 2 Jill Hoke
Nov 2 Brenda Watkins
Nov 3 Matt Lounsberry
Nov 3 Amy Gronewald
Nov 6 Lana Grothe
Nov 7 Barb Lakin
Nov 7 Becky King
Nov 9 Adrienne Brauer
Nov 9 Maria Brauer
Nov 9 Paul (Duke) Blair
Nov 10 Scott Laird
Nov 12 Hannah Hobbs
Nov 12 Shelbie Pratt
Nov 12 Brian Vaughn
Nov 13 Megan Sanert
Nov 13 Pastor Bob Herath
Nov 16 Miles. L. Lounsberry
Nov 18 Aaron Raikes
Nov 19 Luke Cowin
Nov 20 Lora Puckett
Nov 21 Doug French
Nov 25 Mary Ann Duncheon
Nov 25 Barb Moss
Nov 26 Lisa Taylor
Nov 26 Candi Bryant
Nov 27 Alex DeMonbrun
Nov 27 Jerry Brooks
Nov 28 Janice Thomas
Nov 28 Wryn Whitley
Nov 30 Jeanne Hogg
Nov 30 Kobe Pratt

Anniversaries

11/18/2023 Lane & Katie Stribling

2027 Newsletter Sponsors
Reserve Your Month Now!

- You can do so in honor of a loved one, for a celebration or simply to support the ministry.
- Cost: $60.00
- Contact the church office to reserve your month today!



United Methodist Church
Havana/Oakford
November 2026

NOVEMBER 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					

SunCatcherStudio.com

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
11/03	7:00 p.m.	PEO Meeting
11/04	1:00 p.m.	UWF Meeting
11/05	10:00 a.m.	SPPRC Meeting
11/07	2:00 p.m.	Paint with Juliana
11/09	6:30 p.m.	Ministry Team Mtg.
11/19	1:30 p.m.	Cancer Support Group
11/21	10:00 a.m.	"Crochet 4 Christ"
11/23	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
11/26		Church Office Closed

CHOIR

November 4th, 11th, & 18th @ 6:00 p.m.

IGNITE (MYF)

November 8th , 22nd& 29th @ 4:30 p.m.
Meeting @ Church
November 15th 11:45 a.m.
Shopping in Canton for Hygiene Products & Lunch at Dairy Queen



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Linda Chalmers who passed away on September 18, 2026, Robert Dunton who passed away on October 3, 2026, Mark McGrew who passed away on October 9, 2026, Greg Turk who passed away on October 18, 2026 and Tina Clifton who passed away on October 19, 2026

Weekly Prayer Topics
November 2026

November 1	Pray for our saints. *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" -Ephesians 6:18 KJV*
November 8	Pray for our veterans. *"The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace." – Psalm 29:11*
November 15	Pray for the homeless as the weather begins to turn cold. *"Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy." – Proverbs 31:9*
November 22	Pray prayers of Thanksgiving. *"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."- Colossians 3:15*
November 29	Pray for those children and youth waiting to be adopted. *"I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him." – 1 Samuel 1:27*

Veterans Sunday
Sunday, November 8th

We will recognize those who have served our country through the armed forces in worship at Oakford and Havana





The Messenger

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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

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

All Saints Day
Sunday November 1st



We will remember the saints of the church who have entered into God's eternal kingdom during worship on Sunday, November 1st

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
November 20th



In Our Prayers

Havana: JoLynn Adkins; Beth Andrews; Lynn Coots; Graham and Kay Curtis; Patrick Dietsch; Carol Himmel; Debbie Howerter; John Intihar; Eric Parsons; Ashley Schaad; Rosemary Watson

Oakford: Rodney King; Doug McGinnis; Rev. Murriel; Brenda Nance; Katie Nichols; Scott Smith; Tim Welch; Bill Whitley

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

IGNITE Youth Ministry! Grades 5 through 12

We want to IGNITE our Faith in Jesus Christ!
We want to IGNITE our Passion to serve others in Jesus' name!
We want to IGNITE our Interests in reading and understanding the Bible!
We want to IGNITE our Desire to spend time with God in worship and in prayer!

New Day and Time!

IGNITE will meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month during the school year from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the church. On the 3rd Sunday of the month we will plan to do something off campus so those times will vary. Watch the newsletter for when those activities are scheduled.
IGNITE will not meet the 1st Sunday of the month so that youth may have a Sunday evening with their families once a month.
Although a meal will not be a part of the plan for most gatherings, snacks and drinks will be provided each week unless specified.

IGNITE November Schedule

November 1: Family night. No Ignite.

November 8: 4:30 to 6 p.m. Ignite meeting at church Devotion: Spiritual Growth

November 15: Following Church we will travel to Canton, Il Dollar Tree to shop for hygiene products for the schools. We will stop by Dairy Queen.

November 22: 4:30 to 6 p.m. Ignite meeting at church Devotion: Joy

November 29: 4:30 to 6 p.m. Ignite meeting at church Devotion: Making an Impact

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

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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.

November Newsletter Sponsored by:

Paul & Becky Morgan
50th Anniversary
November 26th

