



# Delaware Headwaters Parish

Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township UMC Churches

Through God's love and in community with one another, we welcome you!

## January/February 2020 Newsletter

### Delaware Headwaters Parish

*Rev. Kwang-il Kim & Pastor Paul Moller*

Parsonage (Rev. Kim) & Parish Office (Thursdays)  
607-538-9691

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Pastor Paul's cell: 607-287-2462

Pastor Paul's email: [Paulwmoller@gmail.com](mailto:Paulwmoller@gmail.com)

#### Bloomville United Methodist Church

35 Church St.

PO Box 3

Bloomville, NY 13739

Worship: 11am

607-538-9440 or 607-538-9691

#### Hobart United Methodist Church

204 Maple Avenue

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

Worship: 11am

607-538-9691

#### Stamford United Methodist Church

88 Main St. PO Box 133

Stamford, NY 12167

Worship: 9am

607-538-9691

#### Township United Methodist Church

3835 Town Brook Road

PO Box 205

Hobart, NY 13788

Worship: 9am

607-538-9691

[www.delawareheadwatersparish.com](http://www.delawareheadwatersparish.com)

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### Welcome to the Delaware Headwaters Parish!

The Delaware Headwaters Parish has brought together Bloomville UMC, Hobart UMC, Stamford UMC, and Township UMC under the direction of Rev. Kwang-il Kim and Pastor Paul Moller. We are happy to have you as a member or a visitor to our churches. The worship services take place on Sundays at 9:00am [Stamford and Township UMCs] and 11:00am [Bloomville and Hobart UMCs].

God has been doing wonderful things in our communities . . . we invite you to come, share in the fellowship, take root, and grow with us. If you would like to speak with one of the pastors, please, let us know.



## *From your Pastor. . . Rev. Kim*

“No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.” [Mt. 9:16-17, NRSV.]

When I was young, my mom and dad always gave us - their children new clothes for the New Year's gift several days before the New Year begins. Thus, all the children in my house, on the very first morning of the New Year, used to change our clothes with those brand-new clothes as we were entering into the New Year. Definitely, on my parents' side, these new clothes for us on the very first morning of the New Year meant a lot. It didn't simply mean new clothes but did mean new resolutions from our new minds and new hearts for the New Year ahead of us. Even though my parents never mentioned the reason why they kept giving us the new clothes at the end of the year for the newly coming year, while I was grown up, I (We) came to understand the inner meaning and message hidden in those gifts to us. I, certainly, believe that such custom steadily practiced in my house was a powerful and wise teaching to us so that we may face the New Year with brand-new hearts and spirits. Our brand-new clothes on the very first morning of the New Year were a powerful symbol and guidance for us to move into the New Year with new attitude and heart. I never forget such a nice and meaningful tradition which was continued over and over again year after year in my house. It was just like putting new wine into fresh wineskins so that both may be preserved as the above word of the Lord tells us.

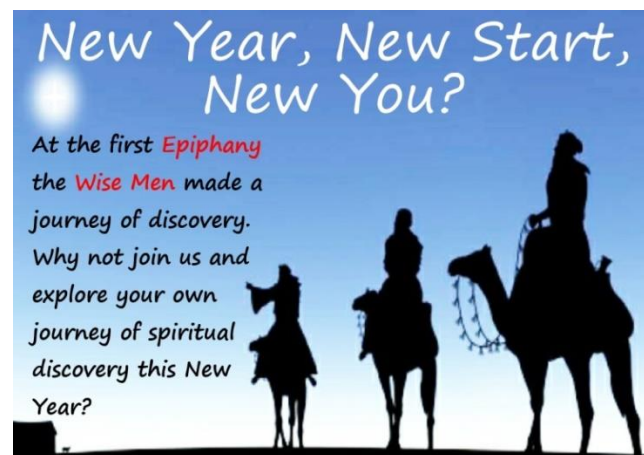
January reminds us of a Roman god called Janus, the god of gates, doors, beginnings and endings. He has two faces and heads facing in opposite directions. This name has its beginnings in Roman mythology, coming from the Latin word for door *janua*. January is the door to the journey of New Year of 2020. Thus, whenever January comes, we face a critical challenge to stop for a second in order to take a close and careful look at these two directions. We need to seriously browse our old

memories in order to mull over the new from the old for the New Year ahead of us. Confucius likely said, “He who by reanimating the Old can gain knowledge of the New is fit to be a teacher.” –“溫古以知新 온고이지신.” [The Analects of Confucius, Book II:11]

Therefore, in January, we, the disciples of Christ, are called to reflect upon the past pilgrim journey already traveled and left behind us and to simultaneously look into the coming New year full of God's grace and holiness in the here, in the now and in the beyond toward the Lord, our Perfecter.

May the Lord's ever-present grace and guidance be upon each one of you and me as we move into our sacred journey of the year of 2020 and beyond.

Have a deeply joyful, meaningful and blessed New Year



## Calendar of Events

### January

3- WIC, Stamford Baptist Church, 9-2pm

5 – Communion, Epiphany Sunday

7- Hobart UMC Council, 7pm

15 – Parish Council, Hobart UMC, 7pm

19 – Kids' Sunday, Bloomville UMC, 12-3pm

### February

2 - Communion

4- Hobart UMC Council, 7pm

6- WIC, Stamford Baptist Church, 9-2pm

16- Kids' Sunday, Bloomville UMC, 12-3pm

17 – Bloomville UMC Council, 10am

# Memories

**Are special moments  
that tell our stories. . .**

**Here are three special stories.**

The story that I am going to tell you is a true story. My friend was telling me about a family who had an amazing experience at their home. They owned a double wide home with a crawl space under it. Their water would freeze some of the time during the winter. The husband put a heater under the home to keep the water from freezing when it got real cold. He checked the heater everyday it was being used to make sure it was safe. They also kept pans of water on the counters in case the water did freeze and they would have water to cook and clean with.

Well, one day when the husband was in the crawl space, a fire started with the heater. He was trapped under the home. He yelled to his wife to come with the water to throw on the fire. It did slow the fire enough for him to get out, but the home burned to the ground. They lost everything.

The wife had a family Bible that had been handed down through the generations. She was so worried and saddened about the Bible. They found it burned to a crisp. They picked it up to look it over and saw one page was not burned at all. It was a picture of Jesus standing with his hands reaching out to them. They felt so blessed to find this page and thanked God for saving them from the fire that could have been fatal to them.

Miracles do happen in different ways. God did bless this family.

Fondly – *Mary Brockway*

## Story #2:

We don't find time. We make time. I was asked to write about my piano playing experience in Township Church. I wondered when I would find the time to do so. I didn't. So I made it.

Here is my story. . .

It was more than twenty six years ago when the pianist opted to leave and attend her church in Grand Gorge. I don't recall if I was asked to take her place or just realizing there was no one else, just began playing. You inquired if I was nervous during those beginning years. Yes! I was and still am. Large congregations, other musicians present, difficult compositions all contribute to a less than perfect performance.

Flash back to the 1940's college years. An instrumental music major and later teaching the band instruments, I had no instruction in piano. An easy answer to your question about my feeling of gaining confidence through the years is yes, as long as the sanctuary is empty.

The zenith of my years of playing was the rehearsing by myself the most difficult and challenging accompaniment I ever attempted. This was in preparation for a granddaughter to sing "The Lord's Prayer" as a lyric soprano solo. I'm sure other musicians can have similar experiences.

And they will. . . I will be resigning from playing the piano in Township Church, December 31 of this year.

With love and fond memories – *Ruth Many*

## A Testimony to God's Healing Touch

### Story #3

This is my story about God who healed me when I was 18 years old. In my youth days, I had a hard life since there was nobody to support or help me especially from the 14 years of my age and up. So, in order to survive, I had to work all kinds of hard labors, back-to-back in places like chicken farms, horse farms, resort facilities and even house clean-ups in people's homes etc. In the middle of those works, I had to frequently lift up heavy things like machines etc.

As a result, I got serious back pain and was severely suffering from my nerve, muscle and bone pains etc. from when I was 16 years old and on. In the middle of such crucial pain day after day, I could neither comfortably sit, nor lay down, nor walk and even can't sleep well at night for about two years or so. I had to be relying on various medications and needles which my doctor prescribed. Also, I had to be hospitalized almost every three months again and again.

After a series of hospitalization, one day, my doctor came to me and said, "I don't think we can help you anymore. We have done all what we are able to do to fix you until now. We have to let you get out of the room!" All of them surrounding him nodded to show their agreement. The doctor kept saying, "So, we would like you to turn to God for His help now." I told him that I didn't know how to pray. He briefly taught me how to pray. So, I started to pray to God as the doctor taught me and used to go to bed almost every night after praying.

One night which I can never forget, I prayed to God before going to bed as usual and something unbelievable happened in the middle of sleep. I believe, in hindsight, God must have put me in such a deep sleep for the first time since my severe pain started. In the middle of sleep, I heard a voice calling my name 4 times in a row, "Peggy!... Peggy! ... Peggy! ... Peggy, Sit up!" When the voice called me 4<sup>th</sup> time, I suddenly woke up from the bed and stood up straight and walked here and there around the bed ... What a mystery! I found myself walking around the bed with no pain whatsoever. My body was so light and so comfortable just like a little feather of a bird flying freely in the air here and there. No pain, no ache whatsoever any more... No nothing whatsoever.... even until this very day.

God spoke to me on that night, "Peggy! Sit up! He called me 4 times in a row and healed me perfectly. Thank God! He healed me completely.

### **Thank God!!!**

*Ms. Peggy Lane*, Member of the Stamford United Methodist Church



Will re-open in May (2020).  
Volunteers needed



There are many ways to stay informed about our Parish and the news that might affect you.

- Visit our website at [www.delawareheadwatersparish.com](http://www.delawareheadwatersparish.com)
- Follow us on Facebook. Facebook pages can be found by searching for *Bloomville United Methodist Church, Delaware Headwaters Parish, Hobart United Methodist Church, Angel's Attic.*
- Enjoy our newsletter. Notify us by email to get added to the newsletter mailing at- [pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com](mailto:pastordelawareheadwatersparish@gmail.com)



Our church volunteers are the unsung heroes of our church and the lifeblood of our ministry. You often give of your energy, skills, talents, time and special donations because you are passionate about the mission and vision of each church.

This is a special thank you to everyone who has helped each church in 2019. The list is long, your contributions so great. Remember the saying that says "we're better together", which basically means that even though each one of us is gifted in some way, we chose to offer up our help to the greater good of each church.

Saying thank you never gets old and your help means more to us than you may think.

# Fifth Sunday

## 2020

March 29 – Bloomville UMC @ 10am

May 29 – Stamford UMC @ 10am

August 30 – Township UMC @ 10am

November 29 – Hobart UMC @ 10am



Together Growing Stronger Families

WIC meets at the Baptist Church in Stamford on the first Thursday of each month. Volunteers and contributions of children's clothing and/or toys are always needed. Delaware Headwaters Parish supports WIC with its mission, Blissful Baby Bottoms, and your generous donations of diapers is greatly appreciated.





As winter weather approaches, just a reminder that Delaware Headwaters Parish churches will be open for worship on Sundays. . . except in very extreme conditions as decided by the Pastors.

Always use good judgment and err on the side of safety when inclement weather hits the area. Phone a friend or check the church's website or Facebook page when in doubt.

## ***Alain & Katherine Niles' Update***

Dear Friends,

We are winding down our time in New York as we finish up classes, pack up our home and prepare for heading back to Togo at the end of the month. You can pray for all of the exams Alain has the next 2 weeks before finishing all his prerequisites!

We had a wonderful time in Rome, Georgia, this fall being with family and seeing many friends.

We were able to share in a few more local churches this last month and celebrated Thanksgiving with Katherine's entire family in Washington D.C. What a special time for our kids to connect with their cousins before heading back to Togo.

And....how could we forget...Caleb turned 6 years old!

We continue to pray that God will open the door for further medical studies to be able to help our teammates at the Hospital of Hope in a greater capacity.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to returning to celebrate New Year's Day in Togo with

all of the hospital employees. (In Togo, you celebrate New Year's Day, not New Year's Eve.)

Alain will be jumping in to cover for our colleagues by walking alongside our chaplains and maximizing their potential in ministry to patients. Pray for this great team that gets to pray, counsel and love on patients and their families.



This year, would you help us love on our patients at the Hospital of Hope? Consider giving a gift to the Hospital to help pay for kids who are going through Chemotherapy or to our snake anti-venom fund to help cover the cost of snake bites. Check out all the ways you can give by going to <http://www.abwe.org/give/online> and typing in one of the account numbers below.

0763833-002 Pediatric Cancer Care

This fund assists children who are in the process of being treated for cancer. The chemo bills are frequently too expensive for families to pay.

0763823-001 Hope Patient Care Fund

This fund was established to help subsidize the Hospital of Hope as it provides care to very poor patients.

0763953-013 Snake Anti-venom Fund

This fund is in place to help patients with the cost of their snake antivenom as most could not afford to pay the full cost of treatment, as it is very expensive.

Thanks for partnering with us,

*Alain, Katherine, Camille, Caleb & Mia-Joy*



## Kids' Sunday

*From Pastor Paul*

Kids' Sunday had a great time last month. Thank you to all who attended the Christmas giving event and caroling. Thank you Jane, for picking up all the basket ingredients and planning for deliveries. We spread Christmas Joy to over 16 homes in our community. It was so great to see the families of the church working to bring Christmas love and joy to the people.

I can't wait to see what else we can do together. I would like to have a spring outreach day where we help someone out in the community, perhaps do a little spring cleaning.

As always, we will see you on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 12 PM – 3 PM. Be sure to watch the parish calendar for special family events. All youth are invited to join the fun!



Welcome to the New Year! 2020 is here! There will be a lot of that happens this year! You might notice a few more wrinkles on your face (or a few more gray hairs), your hairstyle may change, you may end up with a new job or pick up a new hobby. You may

end up in a new relationship. The world is your oyster! 2020 will likely bring joy, or it may bring grief. There will be a battle for political power. We all know that lot can happen in a year.

As I look back at 2019, I recall all the fun I had this year - the family trips, everyday events, and the time spent with the body of Christ. I remember all those that have passed on, and are dearly missed, especially through the holiday season. It reminds me to ask you to be sure you have a will and a plan for your celebration of life services. While not everyone's favorite topic, it is a crucial one to save additional pain and heartache during times of grief.

We never know where God will take us. This is the beauty that comes with each new day, and each New Year. Through all the changes that can take place this year, remember that God is with you in it all. **Joshua 1:9** says, "*Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*"

Blessings for the New Year!

*Pastor Paul*





MOVING  
*forward*  
TOGETHER

*Your Commitment Counts!*



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

**Delaware Headwaters Parish**

PO Box 205, Hobart, NY 13788

**Bloomville, Hobart, Stamford, Township  
United Methodist Churches**

Rev. Kwang-il Kim & Pastor Paul Moller..

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