



Delaware Headwaters Charge

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

Fall 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to the Delaware Headwaters Charge!

The Delaware Headwaters Charge is changing. DS Rev Karen Monk has recently brought 9 churches into the DHC. We are the Bloomville UMC, Conesville Chapel, Gilboa UMC, Harpersfield UMC, Hobart UMC, First Presbyterian Church/Stamford UMC, Township UMC, West Fulton and North Blenheim under the direction of Pastors Dawn Richards, Peggy Laemmel and Michael Gebhard. We are happy to have you as a member or a visitor to our churches. God has been doing wonderful things in our communities . . . we invite you to come, share in the fellowship, take root, and grow with us.



There are two ways to stay informed about our Charge.

- Visit our website at for news and updates:
www.delawareheadwatersparish.com
- Follow us on Facebook. Facebook groups can be found by searching for
 - *Bloomville United Methodist Church*
 - *Delaware Headwaters Charge*
 - *Angels' Attic*
 - *Conesville UMC-Conesville*
 - *Harpersfield United Methodist Church*

Pastor Contact Information

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Our wonderful thrift store run by the Hobart United Methodist Women in Faith is now open. Thank you for donating, shopping and helping. Please drop off your treasures any Thursday or Saturday during our open hours. Emergency requests 607-538-9691. **Volunteers are desperately needed.**

Office hours

***Delaware Headwaters Charge
Office Hours
with
Pastor Peggy and Alice Tucker
9-3pm, Thursdays
at Hobart UMC
607-538-9691
Or you may contact the Pastors
directly for their assistance
Subject to change as needed***



Soup's On will return this fall.

Oct 3 @ Harpersfield

Nov 7 – TBD

Feb 6 @ Bloomville

March 6 – TBD

April 3 – TBD

May1 – TBD

From Pastor Dawn

Ministry Plan

The Conference has asked that each Church (if on their own), or Charge or Parish, come up with a Ministry Plan. Why, you might ask? The purpose of the plan is to help us focus our resources and energy on goals in the plan that will help us meet our mission to make disciples. Sadly, too many churches across the country are just “winging it”, rather than trying to focus on what they can do most effectively to reach people for Jesus. In the Ministry plan we will present at Charge Conference; we have two goals. One relates to senior ministry, the other to bringing Jesus to people in the community. Not every church in the charge has to do each part of the plan. Rather, it is like a compass directing our ministry. It gives people ways to serve. It is also a way for us to evaluate how we are doing in our ministry. Copies have been given to each Ad Council to examine and edit if they feel like it. It recognizes that each church has their own ministries and includes those. I hope and pray that you will look at the plan and if you also have feedback, please let your pastors know. This is not an evaluation tool for the conference, it is a way of directing our ministry.

Minekill Community Worship

In the District Newsletter, we were able to share pictures and an article about the Minekill Community Worship we held in July (see pictures). It was a beautiful day and everyone who came enjoyed themselves. There were children's activities, a youth speaker and two adult speakers, a children's sermon and lots of good singing and worship. The potluck following was a good opportunity for people to fellowship with those from other churches in our Parish. A special shout out to Emma Smith, Russ Bedford and Kim Moree for being our speakers. This is a wonderful way for us to be together in worship as well as have our laity speak.

A Word from the Heart.....

I love the seasons in New York. It is always such a blessing in Spring when the snow melts and things begin getting green again. Spring is a time for new life. Spiritually, spring is my time of immersing myself in creation again as it is warm enough to walk. Summer is a time of flowers blooming, crops growing and wonderful produce from farm stands. It is a time of vacations and renewal as my spiritual life is revived and gets set for the business of the school year. Fall is a time of beautiful colors and the last of the crops being brought in. Spiritually fall is a time of deep breathing as Charge Conference looms and meetings are scheduled and I have to breathe to keep up. Winter for me is a time of digging in my roots, as the trees lose their leaves, I try to focus on letting go of what holds me back from God. Each season brings new spiritual growth opportunities. How do you plan your spiritual growth for the year? How can the seasons help you grow deeper in your walk with God?

Fall Bible Study on the Psalms

After surveys were put out at the churches on different books of the Bible people might want to study, the Psalms got the most votes. In this study we will look at the types of Psalms, what was going on around the time they were written and how we can use the Psalms in our spiritual devotion time. The study begins on Sept. 14th and will meet at 10a at the Stamford church and 6p at Harpersfield. All are welcome! A zoom link can be provided if you are unable to attend in person.

Senior Ministry Opportunities for Volunteers

Do you enjoy visiting homebound members or those in the nursing home or Senior Living? Do you enjoy doing crafts? Do you enjoy cooking? Would you like to be part of the United Women in Faith which meets at the Senior Living? Do you like to visit and worship with those who are in senior living? If so, come and be part of our Senior Ministry. The pastors would be more than willing to have you come and visit the homebound or nursing homes with them, or train you to do it on your own. Dianne is always looking for people to help with the crafts she leads at the Senior Living. Dianne and Lynn would love for you to help with their quarterly

Soup's On meals at the Senior Living. And all are welcome to join us for the United Women in Faith meetings or our twice a month worship services. When I was in high school, I worked as an aide at a nursing home. It was from that experience that I came to appreciate the gifts that seniors offer. They are so appreciative of the time you take with them, they have great stories about their lives that give you glimpses into the past and they are just as in need of God's love as anyone. You will be blessed by this ministry, so come and join us!





News from Pastor Peggy

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all had a great summer. I had a wonderful vacation. I was able to finally go to some local places that I hadn't been able to go to because of past foot injuries. We went to Hanock Mills, Howe's Cavern, and the Delaware County Fair. I love county fairs because you get to see and celebrate all the hard work that our neighbors have done. Also, we saw a lot of people who we know who we got to chat with outside of church. I feel very blessed to be living and serving in an area of such friendly people. But that's the wonderful thing about walking around with Christ in your heart. You see all of people as your friends and neighbors, and it's fun to be doing stuff with them.

We've got a lot of stuff coming up this Fall and into the Advent and Christmas Season. Start to mark your calendars so that we can all participate in the events of our parish. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

With Love in Christ,

Pastor Peg



United
Women
in Faith

United Women of Faith

Last year the United Women of Faith tried something new. We started to hold our meetings at Robinson Senior Living so that women at the home could join in with our programs. This year we're going to try to continue that ministry, but before we do we need to have our opening meeting of the 2026 – 2027 program year.

September 9, at 2:00 pm, we will meet at Nancy Beisler's house (107 Sheffield Ln, Hobart) for our first meeting of the year. This is a very important meeting to decide what we will be doing in the coming year so please attend if you can.

September 30, at 2:00 pm, we will have a meeting and program at Robinson Senior living.



Angels' Attic

Store hours: Thurs: 10 am-3 pm & Sat: 10 am-2 pm

This summer we decided to launch a Facebook advertising scheme. The ladies decided each week what our special offering would be. All items in the special were listed at half-price. We listed lamps, garden and house decorations, shoes, purses and backpacks, and children's clothing. This feedback has been good and we're hoping that more people are aware of our little shop. All proceeds go to the United Women of Faith mission and ministries of children, women, and families in need. Let your family, friends, and neighbors know about us, and stop by to see the items that we have. Let the Angels at Angel's Attic help you find what you need.





Bloomville Youth Group

Youth at the Lake: Once again the youth group joined together at Jane MacIntosh-Martin's lakeside for a two-day retreat. On Tuesday Pastor Dawn took our youth out on a prayer paddle where we lifted up our prayers for everyone in our communities and the world. On Wednesday Pastor Peg lead a Bible study based on the Beatitudes, asking them to consider who they might have been in Jesus' time and what Jesus' message might mean to them then, and what his message means to us know. We also did a craft based on the Corinthian passage of looking through a mirror darkly. Swimming, boating, wiffle ball, campfire s'mores, and watching part of the world cup, were part of the activities. We thank Jane and Steve for opening their home and hope to see everyone next summer.

Youth Group 2026 – 2027:

We are beginning to make plans for the youth group this year. We hope to begin with an All Youth Meeting on September 26, at the Bloomville church from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Dinner will be included. Because Pastor Peg will be away at a wedding on October 10, and there are other Saturday events we will schedule an All Youth Day on the October 17. We hope to continue our separate junior-high and senior-high meetings in November on the 14th and 28th. More information will follow.

We distribute information through the Facebook page Bloomville Kids and a group text. To be admitted to the page please contact Alice Tucker and Pastor Peg for more information about the group text.



Blessing of the Animals

September 13, 2026; 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Tractor Supply

65384 St. Hwy 10; Stamford, NY

ALL ANIMALS WELCOME!

Please leash your dogs and put all small animals in baskets or containers.

We are also going to provide a goodie basket for the employees of Tractor Supply to thank them for all of their support over the years. If you can contribute some of the following items that would be helpful. Tea, coffee, and hot cocoa packets; snack packages of nuts: post-its and fun pens; hard candy; or small hand wipe packets. All items should be able to be distributed among individuals. Please get your items to Pastor Peg or dawn by September 11th.

Family Fun Day

On July 25, from 10 am – 1 pm, the Mountain Beacon Parish sponsored a Family Fun Day in the Hobart Park, with the theme Soaring with Hope. The event started out with families, adults and children, making kites to fly and flags to wave. Then the kids were led through a fun obstacle course that was set up across the park while their families cheered them on. We led the families in song and then Horace the Dragon, that puppet of many talents, made an appearance and we helped

him find a treasure, the wings of hope, that everyone could share. We ended with a lunch of hotdogs, veggie burgers, chips and fruit salad. A wonderful time was had by both volunteers and participants. Thank you to everyone who contributed who made this first time event super fun!

Township Picnic

On July 26 the Township church hosted their annual Community Picnic. Many members of the community and from our churches joined for lunch under a tent on the Township Church back yard. Good cooking, desserts, and fellowship was shared by all. Looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

Bloomville Fall Events

Let us know if you can assist at any of our upcoming events. We need prep cooks and people to work on the day.
Come for fun, fellowship, and good food.

Turkey Supper

October 24, 3pm until sold out

Take out only

Hunter's Breakfast

November 21, 8 am – 12 pm



Mountain Beacon Parish Charge Conference

Sunday October 18 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Stamford Presbyterian/Methodist Church

We would like each church to bring some cookies, or a fruit and cheese platter to share

Advent & Christmas

Advent begins November 29th

Mountain Beacon Christmas Celebration, Saturday, December 19, 2:00 pm Stamford Presbyterian/Methodist Church

If you would like to sing a song, read a poem or story, or play an instrument please let Pastor Peg or Fred Nelson know.

We would love to see you perform.

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24

Missionary News

Alain & Katherine Niles' Update

Hi Friends,

These are highlights of great things God has done in the past few months. Of course, where there are highs, there are also lows. We don't often share all the struggles, but we appreciate you praying for us. The hospital just entered full blown malaria season, which means we are stretched thin and often overwhelmed with the number of cerebral malaria children brought in seizing. This is often a tough time mentally as I have multiple children die each shift. Three days ago I ran 4 codes, resuscitated 4 babies after C-Sections, admitted 10 patients, and held 22 patients in our ER.

INVESTMENT

In June I completed a 6-month investment in bringing our colleague and friend, Paul, up to speed in managing our emergency room. He is a quick learner and has done an incredible job. Praising God for his ability now to carry a heavy load of patients.

I have been investing in the life of my Fulani translator for years. God continues to be softening his heart. He recently lost his younger brother in our hospital. In fact, he stood by my side as I did chest compressions on his younger brother who died of bacterial meningitis. It was a hard moment, but a great opportunity to contrast the hopelessness of Islam with the hope filled future of a child of God. I also care for Dicko's father whenever he

comes for checkups and this last visit had the opportunity to pray with them. We continue to see an openness. Pray for this man and his family to turn to Jesus.

AWESOME EUROPE TRIP

I've wanted to attend the Gospel Coalition conference in Geneva, Switzerland, for a number of years, so when the dates came out, I had the idea of bringing along two of my closest friends and colleagues. Miraculously, our friends got their visas after being denied a couple times, and we got to take them on an incredible trip to Europe. It was good to be with family, to share in 3 churches all about the Hospital of Hope, and to see a number of dear friends who we hadn't seen in a long time. Introducing our Togolese friends to Europe was fun. They had never experienced cold, snow in the mountains, nicely paved roads, enormous grocery stores, overpriced foods, etc... They took it all in and had a blast.

MILESTONES

We quietly celebrated 20 yrs of marriage and 18 yrs since we arrived in Mango, Togo. We are thankful for God's faithfulness to us over the years and the 3 great kids he's given us. We are blessed!

It was also a blessing this last month to have some of the Dekryger boys out in Mango again. 10 years ago, their dad, who pioneered the Hospital of Hope, died serving Jesus. Now all these years later I got to work alongside his sons in the hospital. God is equipping each of them to serve in amazing ways.

SUMMER

Katherine and the kids are enjoying the summer break and the change of pace from the school year. Katherine is teaching the Sunday school group in our house church, where she and the kids learned the “I AM” statements of Jesus in the gospel of John and are now beginning a chronological Bible study beginning in Genesis. Katherine continues to handle the logistics for volunteers coming to the hospital. We are thankful that many keep coming and investing in the ministry here! Keep praying as government requirements continue to be our greatest challenge to running a busy hospital.

TEAMMATES

We are thankful for a great, diverse team. Over the years our team has had many different dynamics. Currently, we are blessed to serve with missionaries from Congo, Burundi, Cameroon, USA, Togo, etc... and we are excited to welcome a number of new missionaries to our team. Due to the insecurity in Niger, many medical colleagues had to leave their hospital and exit the country. By God's leading, they have decided to join our team. In the next 2 months we have 4 new families joining us here at the Hospital of Hope. God is providing for our needs!! Pray for their integration into the ministry here.

With Gratitude,

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



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INTERNATIONAL