

2020 is gone! Hip Hip Hooray!

But... what will 2021 bring? That's the question, isn't it?

Well, it seems likely that 2021 will bring the vaccine to our neighborhood. We keep hearing promises that by summer, everyone who wants a vaccine can get one. That will bring the spread of the virus under control, and go a long way toward allowing everyone to get back to "normal."

We all hope 2021 brings the resumption of every week in-person worship, as well as the resumption of all our normal activities. We hope that our community, always so active with events at the fort and events commemorating our history, can get back to its normal level of activity. We hope that no more of our folks gets sick with the COVID-19 virus, that school children can resume their normal schooling, and that workplaces can get back to their normal pace.

But we have a little further to go. Masks are still the must-have fashion accessory, as well as little bottles of hand sanitizer. Hugs are still going to have to be virtual, at least for a little while longer. And as we watch the COVID incidence map, Mercer county is (as of this writing) still "red," meaning that our incidence rather is above 25 cases per 100,000. Once it consistently dips beneath the red level, we can resume our every-other-week in person worship schedule.

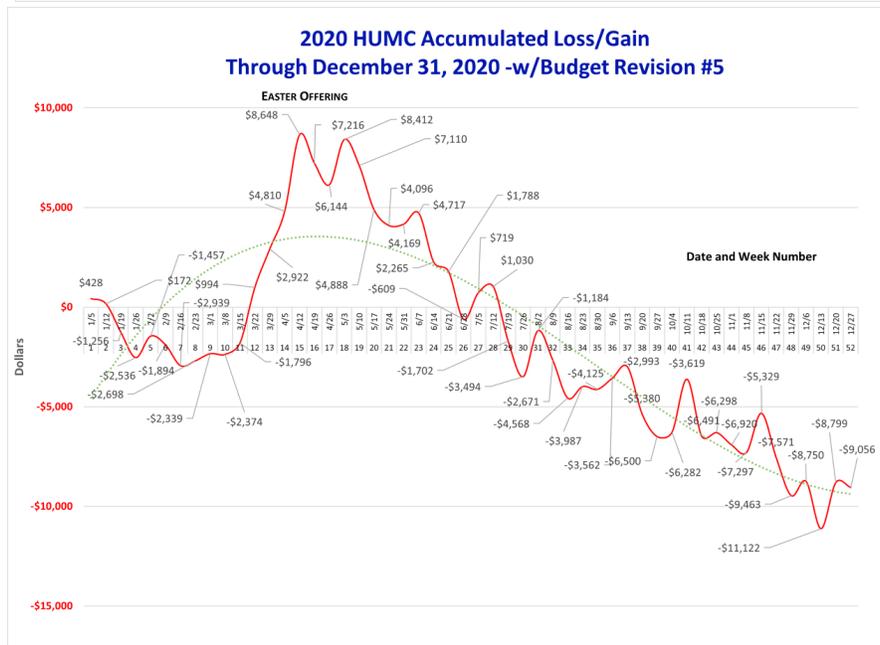
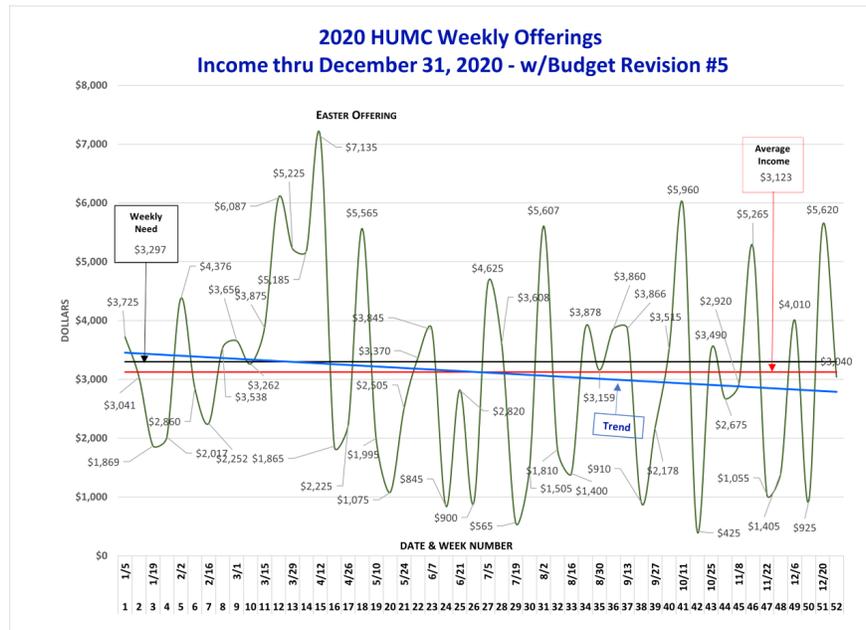
One of the real bright spots this year is the discovery of Facebook as a location for our outreach ministry. For example, our hanging of the Green service online has reached more than 2,400 people and has been "interacted with" 420 times. (These interactions include viewing, clicking "like" or some other emoji reaction, or making a comment.) It is a regular occurrence to have more than 100 such interactions with our weekly services as well, meaning that we reach 2 times the number of people who normally attended our in person services in the time before the pandemic.

So, hang in—there's light at the end of the tunnel. Just a little further, and we'll be able to enjoy an unfettered life in Harrodsburg.

On a personal note—Lori and I want to thank all of you for your kindness this Christmas season, and for your ongoing support every day of the year. It has been the most unusual year I think I have lived through, and I have been amazed over and over at the acts of kindness and community that our people have extended to others. Harrodsburg UMC is truly a unique church filled with loving people, and we feel blessed to be serving as your parsonage family.

Blessings! Allen





Well, despite all of the problems caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, we close the year with only a \$9,056 loss for the entire year of 2020. It is a small loss compared to last year. Included in this is the repair of the gas leak and plumbing costs, having the stove professionally cleaned, inspections on the stairlift, and the change out of the fire extinguishers. The music and custodian departments have helped reduce the budget by foregoing paychecks. As a church family, we need to remember their sacrifices and thank them. Overall we end the year in the black as we had set aside funds for rainy days and will use those funds to start the new year balanced. I wonder how many churches can say that?

Our church remains financially sound because of the efforts of the Lead Team to make decisions quickly when necessary and staying on top of things to keep us safe and keep us going. The Lead Team met by Virtual Meetings every week for most of the quarantine period. This helped to keep us on task, looking closely at finances, staying in touch with each other, and communicating problems. Undoubtedly, Pastor Allen has led us through the maze of restrictions and quarantines with our Virtual Sunday Services, including a remarkable remake of 2019 Hanging of the Green and a Christmas Eve Service. Thank the Lord for sending us the right man for the job.

Here is hoping that 2021 will be a time to demonstrate our resilience and grow our church presence in Mercer County.
 John Moffett
 Finance Chair
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New Year Food Traditions

As the new year arrives around the world, special cakes and breads abound, as do long noodles (representing long life), field peas (representing coins), herring (representing abundance) and pigs (representing good luck).

1. Hoppin' John, American South

A major New Year's food tradition in the American South, Hoppin' John is a dish of pork-flavored field peas or black-eyed peas (symbolizing coins) and rice, frequently served with collards or other cooked greens (as they're the color of money) and cornbread (the color of gold). The dish is said to bring good luck in the new year.

Different folklore traces the history and the name of this meal, but the current dish has its roots in African and West Indian traditions and was most likely brought over by slaves to North America. The dish reportedly got its name in Charleston, South Carolina, and it is a veritable staple of Lowcountry cooking.

2. Twelve grapes, Spain

The people of Spain traditionally watch a broadcast from Puerta del Sol in Madrid, where revelers gather in front of the square's clock tower to ring in the New Year..

Those out in the square and those watching at home partake in an unusual annual tradition: At the stroke of midnight, they eat one grape for every toll of the clock bell. Some even prep their grapes -- peeling and seeding them -- to make sure they will be as efficient as possible when midnight comes..

3. Tamales, Mexico

Tamales, corn dough stuffed with meat, cheese and other delicious additions and wrapped in a banana leaf or a corn husk, make appearances at pretty much every special occasion in Mexico. But the holiday season is an especially favored time for the food. In many families, groups of women gather together to make hundreds of the little packets -- with each person in charge of one aspect of the cooking process -- to hand out to friends, family and neighbors. On New Year's, it's often served with menudo, a tripe and hominy soup that is famously good for hangovers..

4. Oliebollen, Netherlands

In the Netherlands, fried oil balls, or oliebollen, are sold by street carts and are traditionally consumed on New Year's Eve and at special celebratory fairs. They are doughnut-like dumplings, made by dropping a scoop of dough spiked with currants or raisins into a deep fryer and then dusted with powdered sugar.

5. Marzipanschwein or Glücksschwein, Austria and Germany

Austria and neighbor Germany call New Year's Eve Sylvesterabend, or the eve of Saint Sylvester. Austrian revelers drink a red wine punch with cinnamon and spices, eat suckling pig for dinner and decorate the table with little pigs made of marzipan, called marzipanschwein.

6. Soba noodles, Japan

In Japanese households, families eat buckwheat soba noodles, or toshikoshi soba, at midnight on New Year's Eve to bid farewell to the year gone by and welcome the year to come. The tradition dates back to the 17th century, and the long noodles symbolize longevity and prosperity..

7. King cake, around the globe

The tradition of a New Year's cake is one that spans countless cultures. The Greeks have the Vasilopita, the French the gateau or galette des rois. Mexicans have the Rosca de Reyes and Bulgarians enjoy the banitsa.

Most of the cakes are consumed at midnight on New Year's Eve -- though some cultures cut their cake on Christmas or the Epiphany, January 6 -- and include a hidden gold coin or figure, which symbolizes a prosperous year for whomever finds it in their slice.

8. Cotechino con lenticchie, Italy

Italians celebrate New Year's Eve with La Festa di San Silvestro, often commencing with a traditional cotechino con lenticchie, a sausage and lentil stew that is said to bring good luck (the lentils represent money and good fortune) and, in certain households, zampone, a stuffed pig's trotter.

The meal ends with chiacchiere -- balls of fried dough that are rolled in honey and powdered sugar -- and prosecco. The dishes find their roots in Modena, but New Year's Eve feasts thrive across the country..

9. Pickled herring, Poland and Scandinavia

Because herring is in abundance in Poland and parts of Scandinavia and because of their silver coloring, many in those nations eat pickled herring at the stroke of midnight to bring a year of prosperity and bounty. Some eat pickled herring in cream sauce while others have it with onions..

10. Kransekage, Denmark and Norway

Kransekage, literally wreath cake, is a cake tower composed of many concentric rings of cake layered atop one another, and they are made for New Year's Eve and other special occasions in Denmark and Norway.

The cake is made using marzipan, often with a bottle of wine or Aquavit in the center and can be decorated with ornaments, flags and crackers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

IN SERVICE WORSHIPPING

The Lead Team has been working hard to decide what is best for all its participants in what to do for worship. It knows that people are wanting to be with other worshipers and be in the house of the Lord. It appears at this time that we WILL NOT be having in-person services till Mercer County is out of the red. If that changes you will be notified by email and snail mail. The following will be enforced.

1. In the sanctuary with a mask and social distancing
2. In the basement at a 6 foot table with a mask and social distancing
3. In your car and listening on your radio (you can also sit outside your car and listen on your radio (No mask required but social distancing still required)

In all three options communion elements will be provided.

All In-Person Services are dependent on the Covid numbers and the recommendations of the Health Department and the Governor's Recommendations so make sure you pay attention to all updates of the Pastor. Lead Team will continue to monitor numbers and be in contact with congregation.

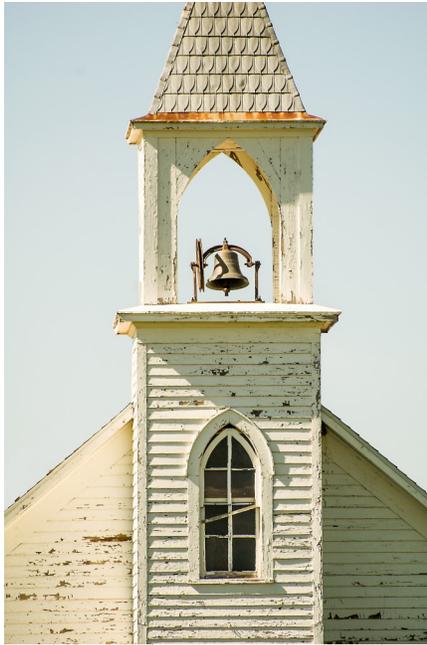
To My Church Family and Friends --

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year of 2021. Thank you for your support you have given me this past year.

Thank you for the Christmas Love Gift, it was very much appreciated.

In Christian Love and Friendship, Wanda

thank you!



RING your bell at home on Sunday and EVERY morning at 10 AM to join throughout the Commonwealth . Will McGinnis is our bell ringer at 10 AM when he is home. Thanks Will!



UPPER ROOMS are ready to be picked up or sent out. Contact office for more information.



Nursery

Use nursery as needed, not staffed at this time.

Birthday

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------|
| January 2 | Will McGinnis |
| January 10 | Bailey Angel |
| January 16 | Missi Stith |
| January 19 | Lori Gibson |
| January 21 | Patricia "Trish" Gabehart |
| January 22 | Rachel Gabhart |
| | Bibb Landrum |
| January 23 | Betsy Sale |
| January 26 | Sharon Price Pedersen |
| January 27 | Carolyn Hollar |
| January 29 | Kristen Noel |
| | Mark Botts |
| January 30 | Jeff Blankenshio |
| January 31 | Martha Gabhart |



Anniversaries

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| January 1 | Allen and Lori Gibson |
| January 16 | John Wayne and Rhonda Peavler |

Children's Church Leaders

Will return when we are face to face



IN NEED OF PRAYER—Prayer is a privilege to do in the name of others...

Concerns: Mike Barnard, Jeff Blankenship, Naomi Derringer, Gail Hawes, Laverne McArthur, Betty Milam, Howard Nichols, Karen Peavler, Addie Price, Wanda Small, Mason Summers, Melissa Votaw, Triple Cross Arena Cowboy Church, health care workers, those traveling, those victims of natural disaster, and first responders.

Missionaries:

Shelby Gillespie, Hanak Family, Jamie and Lisa Williams; Mike and Sherry Morrisey, Bill Copeland (Nephew of Sandra Holladay)

Serving in the Military:

Jared Prather



College Students:

Bailey Angel, Drew Angel, Savannah Barnett, Jae Blankenship, Alex Bosse, Dylan Carss, Jackie Cheng, Lily Rogers, Holly Hurt, Nathan Phillips, Mary Kate Pridey, Hunter Sims, Jenny Sutherland,

Please update the office with changes to the Prayer list

NOTICE—Anyone having a lockbox key for the lockbox at First Financial for the Foundation please see John Wayne or bring to the office

“Faith does not make things easier, it makes things possible” Luke 1:37



Doris Davis Circle

Face to Face Meeting cancelled till further notice



January 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|---------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|-----|
| | | | | 1 New Years Day | 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 Mountain Mission Truck | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |





Harrodsburg United Methodist Church

128 South Chiles Street
Harrodsburg, Ky 40330
859-734-3704

Pastor—Rev. Allen Gibson

If you feel sick stay home. Do not go out or to work
If your children are sick keep them at home
If you are an older person, or have underlying health condition, stay at home and away from other people.
If someone in you household has TESTED POSITIVE keep your entire household at home.
Work or study from home.

Avoid social gathering of groups of more than 10 people

Avoid eating or drinking out-use delivery or pickup

Avoid Discretionary travel, shopping or social visits

DO NOT VISIT nursing homes or hospitals

Practice good hygiene

Wash hands after touching any used items (mail, purchased food, handles, door knobs, etc.)

Avoid touching your face

Sneeze or cough in a tissue or your elbow

Disinfect often used items and surfaces as much as possible

Governor’s Guidelines—Wear a Mask when out of house, small groups, 6 ft apart, Use hand Sanitizer

Regular Worship Times

Worship on line with the Pastor and music—
Check out Facebook link-
Contact office for information if you need to
know how to connect



Security Update

REMINDER:

All doors are locked during the day,
Ring the bell to have someone open
the door.

These measures have been implemented for the safety of our members.

Unless someone is in the building it will remain locked



Harrodsburg United Methodist Church

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Office Email humcoffice@gmail.com
Allen Gibson, Pastor
HUMC Website
<http://www.harrodsburgumc.org>

Office Hours

Monday..... 9 am to 3 pm
Tuesday..... 9 am to 3 pm
Wednesday....9am to 3 pm
Thursday9 am to 3 pm
Friday.....9 am to 12 pm
Office closed 12-1 lunch