

HINCKLEY UPDATE

*A free monthly newsletter provided by the Hinckley First
United Methodist Church February -Volume 2- 2024*



In the last month I personally have officiated funerals for two people who died far too soon. One a 27 year old and the other a 58 year old. On top of that my wife had a family friend who died while still in her 50s, and I have seen the obituaries of several other relatively young people in our local news.

It's not like I, personally, needed a reminder of the reality that life is short and that we never know when our time on this earth will be done, after all my own father died at 40 and my stepfather was 58 when he passed on. As I approach my own 40th birthday in a little under two years, I can't fathom that I have lived nearly as long as my own dad.

But all these untimely deaths have me thinking of the Psalm that says, **“Lord, teach us to number our days, so that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (90:12).**

I believe this is an important reminder for all of us, because learning to number our days does indeed give us wisdom. When we truly embrace the reality that life is short, it helps us to gain perspective on what really matters in life. To use a title of a book that has become a sort of cliché, it helps us to “not sweat the small stuff” so much. When our days are numbered we prioritize the people and the things that we love. It should cause us to reflect on the things we spend our time doing... does this matter? Above all, when we number our days, we enter each new one with a sense of sheer gratitude.

I'm not saying that we should morbidly dwell on the truth that any moment we could kick the bucket. But more so that we should make our lives, and all of our days, count.

Who are you loving well?

What impact are you having on the world?

Are you making the sphere around you a better place?

For what will you be remembered?

How are you making your days count?

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Derek Rogers



CHURCH AND VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Hinckley Update Publication Guidelines

The Hinckley Update is published on the first of each month by the

Hinckley First United Methodist Church as a free service to the community.

The Update is a strictly informational publication which is published to disseminate information or to promote area events to the public for local churches, the library, local non-profit groups, and service organizations.

Following the guidelines stated above, no for-profit business information, advertising with a personal bias will be published.

Due to limited space, personal announcements for publication cannot be included.

Deadline for submissions to the March 2024 Update is due by Thursday February 15, 2024.

Submit info to:

hinckleyumcupdate60520@gmail.com

For further info, contact HFUMC at 815/286-7102 Tues- Fri from 9am-1pm

Contributions are always welcome. Thank you.

Village of Hinckley website:

<http://hincklevil.com>

Village of Hinckley Board of Trustees

Meetings are held on the second & fourth Monday of each month at 7:00pm at the Hinckley Village Hall, 720 James Street. If that Monday falls on a holiday, the Board meets the following Tuesday.

Hinckley Public Library District

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Hinckley Public Library, 100 N. Maple Street.

Squaw Grove Township Board

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Hinckley Community Building.

Church Information

Hinckley First United Methodist Church

801 N. Sycamore Street Phone: 815/286-7102

Services: Sunday - 9:30 am with Children's Church during Worship

Fellowship - 10:30 am

Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am

Office hours: Tues - Fri from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

AA Meets every Tues. at 6:00 pm. Website: www.hinckleyfirstumc.org

Covenant Restoration Church

181 N. Sycamore Street Phone: 815/286-7131

Services: Sunday - 9:30 am

Sunday Prayer & Praise Service - 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 pm Friday Prayer Service - 8:00 pm

Grace Fellowship Church

17081 Owens Road Phone: 630/318-6420

Service & Children's Church: Sunday - 9:45 am

2nd Sunday of the month is Family Sunday.

Community Groups begin quarterly. Website: www.gracefc.com

Immanuel Lutheran Church

12760 Lee Rd. Phone: 815/286-3885

Sunday Worship Times: Sept - May 10:15 am, June - Aug. 9:00 am

Men's Bible Study: Every Saturday except 1st Sat. of the month 7:00 am

Website: www.immanuel-hinckley.org

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

324 West McKinley Street Phone: 815/286-3391

Sunday Service: Sunday Worship Service - 9:30 am

Coffee fellowship immediately following Sunday Service.

Website: www.stpaulshinckley.org



HINCKLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY
"NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS"

HAFP is located at 190 W. Lincoln Hwy Waterman, IL

HAFP serves the people in Hinckley, Big Rock, Maple Park and Waterman. If you or someone you know can benefit from receiving food, please bring 2 forms of identification including one with a photo ID on the distribution day.



Financial donations can be mailed to:
HAFP, PO Box 463, Hinckley 60520.



Every \$1.00 donated can provide approximately 20 meals for the hungry. Please call or text our number at 815-286-7275 for any questions or more information. Thank you.

Need more information?

<http://www.hinckleyareafoodpantry.org/>

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/HinckleyAreaFoodPantry>

Hinckley Lions Club News



Mobile Food Pantry Here February 6

There's no reason to go hungry in Hinckley. The Lions Club doesn't want anyone to be hungry or shy about accepting free healthy food. The club will be hosting the DeKalb County Grow Mobile in the United Methodist Church parking lot on Tuesday February 6. There will be all types of groceries and healthy vegetables available from 4 to 5 p.m. No verification is necessary and everyone is welcome at 801 N. Sycamore St. The Mobile pantry will again be available in Hinckley on the first Tuesday of April.

The Grow Mobile features fresh, locally grown vegetables during the summer and a selection of vegetables from the Northern Illinois Food Bank at other times. There are always groceries and other necessities offered on the Grow Mobile. Invite others who are hungry to take advantage of this mobile food pantry. The Hinckley Area Food Pantry is also open on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Lions are willing to help connect you with food pantries and the Grow Mobile at other times.

The Lions Club had a work day at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva recently to help prepare food for distribution in Northern Illinois. Reducing hunger is one of the major goals of Lions Club International.

Scholarship Breakfast March 3

Hinckley Lions will again be serving breakfast on Sunday March 3 to raise funds for HBR scholarships. Join us from 7 until noon at the HBR high school cafeteria. There will also be free eye screening. This exam takes less than five minutes to detect if a more complete eye examination is necessary.

Continuing education beyond high school is critical for today's graduate. The scholarships provided by the Lions Club pay for tuition of two-year programs at community colleges, trade schools and apprentice programs. Come enjoy a delicious breakfast while you're supporting the continuing education of our graduates.

Refurbished Lions Collection Box Ready

The mailbox looking collection box outside of the library has received new paint and decals; it's ready to receive your items for recycling. The former mail box itself was recycled years ago by the Lions Club for the public to deposit old eye glasses for recycling and tattered flags for proper retirement. Since then, the Lions have found uses for lots of other items to recycle.

The Lions send their gratitude to two local businesses that helped with the refurbishing. Big Rock Auto Rebuilders prepped and applied a new coat of paint with the unique Lions colors. Strypes Plus More created the decals that identify the box and explain the items for recycling.

Don't trash items that can be recycled for the benefit of others. The local Lions have partnered with Lions of Illinois Foundation to sort and repurpose certain items that can be used somewhere else in the world. Drop off your used eye glasses, hearing aids, and cell phones. The Club will continue to respectfully retire tattered flags.

On the Prowl for the Queen of Hearts

The popular "Queen of Hearts" card game in Hinckley recently paid out a huge jackpot so a new game has started. The Lions thank all who participated in the game which not only benefits the winner, but also supports club community projects. Drawings are held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. at J&K's Half Moon.



If you want to join our efforts to serve the community, contact Lion Secretary Mark Bernhardt (mark.bernhardt@gmail.com) for more information. Lions meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the backroom of J&K's Half Moon.

HBR CUSD #429 Updates and Highlights

Greetings Community~

2024 sure came in making a statement! The snow and extremely cold temperatures resulted in alternative teaching and learning days just as we returned from break. The instructional staff did an excellent job flexibly planning instruction and our students and families were also great at adapting. The delayed start and asynchronous learning, balanced with synchronous live instruction and class meetings, allowed students to engage in the “traditional snow day play” while also learning and reviewing content. There was also spontaneous student-led learning, such as an impromptu virtual trip to Paris for one 3rd-grade class. The Buildings and Grounds crew worked hard, along with our road commissioners and the Viland/Bish plowing crew, to keep our roads, lots, and walkways clear. Such a great reminder that #TogetherWeAreHBR!

If you have been following the Board of Education meetings, you know we have some exciting renovations happening in our buildings this summer. We are updating the middle school parking lot by adding parking spots and a designated traffic flow to improve safety. Additionally, we are creating a second hallway entrance to the middle school gym on the north side to alleviate the bottleneck in and out of the gym. The middle school gym floor will be updated and refinished and the bleachers will be replaced. The cafeteria will be opened up to create a multi-use space when not being used as a cafeteria, similar to the elementary and high schools. The high school main entrance at door #1 and the west entrance at door #10 will be renovated to create secure entrances. The elementary school cafeteria will have noise absorption baffles and wall panels installed to help manage sound levels in the open space to keep from disrupting learning and create a multi-purpose meeting space. All three of the buildings will undergo improvements to reduce moisture and control noise between the classrooms as well as repair and replace needed HVAC units. All work is planned to be completed over the summer break. You can follow the progress and read updates about the project on our website

www.hbr429.org/o/hbr-429/page/facilities-improvement-project-update.

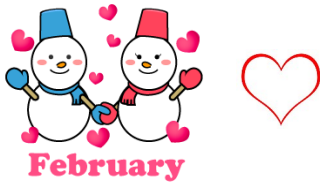
We are already thinking about and planning for the 2024-2025 school year! Please continue to contact me with questions, comments, ideas, and concerns. Your voice and your actions matter as we work together to #BeTheChange that we want to see in our students, our staff, and our community.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

~Jessica Sonntag, Superintendent



HAPPENINGS AT THE LIBRARY



Have questions? Reach out! Call the library at 815-286-3220, message us on Facebook, or send an email through our website at www.hinckleylibrary.org.

What is going on with the library building project?

We're happy to answer this question frequently as things are always changing. Here's where we are as of this writing:

Our architect and construction manager are working on the final plans and detailed budget.

We have received \$802,500 in grants and \$123,453 in donations toward our estimated \$2,250,000 total need.

We are working on several more grants and still welcome any level of donation, which can be recognized in your name or in honor of a loved one.

We appreciate your patience as we work to create a welcoming, accessible new library for the Hinckley community. For a public entity working with federal funding, this process is a lot slower than for private businesses. No matter how long it takes, we are looking forward to an amazing new community space.



Story time meets weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30.

Ages 0-8+ are welcome to join in stories, songs, crafts, rhymes, and more. Story time is a crucial part of early literacy. Please contact the library to register.

The DeKalb Public Library shares three big events with the Hinckley community each month.

Check out the fantastic offerings at www.hinckleylibrary.org/events for your opportunity to catch more activities in the surrounding community.



We welcome your suggestions!

As a public library, we try to meet the needs of the whole community with enriching programs, materials, and services.

If there's something we're missing, let us know!

Join us most mornings beginning at 8AM located at Hinckley First United Methodist Church for **Fitness at First.**

Everyone can work at their own level. We welcome you, your friends and exercise partners to join us. You may also just walk the building during this time if you prefer.

There never is a charge and no reservations are needed. Come and join us as this class is a great way to jump start your day!

We look forward to seeing you. **Call Mary Pritchard at 815-751-3033**



Hello from Hinckley Parks and Recreation!

**** Classes and programs started in January! ****

We are offering open gyms, art classes, dance classes, and senior game days to begin. We will be adding more classes and programs as Parks and Recreation grows. Please refer to the village website (**hinckleyil.com**) and the Hinckley Parks and Recreation Facebook Group for additional information.

I am in the process of creating classes and programs for the Spring/Summer. If you are interested in teaching a class, lessons, camp, program, etc, please email me and I will help you get started! For any questions, concerns, or suggestions please email Stephanie at parksandrec@hinckleyil.com.

Stay warm!



Who Wants Fresh Strawberries?



Hinckley Big Rock FFA Alumni is excited to be holding our 3rd Annual **FRESH FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FUNDRAISER!!!!**

These berries will be picked, cooled and put straight on the truck, for delivery to HBR High School AG Shop.

We will sell these in full or half flats **ONLY!**

Full Flat - 8 /1 Quart Containers for \$27.00

Half Flat - 4 /1 Quart Containers for \$18.00

Send your orders to Nan Long via text 815-693-7214 or email nlong62@gmail.com

Name, order and contact number required.

Email requested for updates...

DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDERS IS FEBRUARY 16TH, 2024

Keep in mind this will be a pay and pick up, on delivery day!

Expected delivery end of February or early March.

****we must have a contact number with each order ****

WE WILL BE CALLING ALL CUSTOMERS FOR IMMEDIATE PICK UP FOR OPTIMAL FRESHNESS.

Proceeds will benefit the Ag Education Building Project and scholarships for HBR FFA students.



The Value of Recording Memories

Working at the Historical Society, soon proves the most valuable and often used artifact in our collection are the weekly newspapers. Hinckley has been blessed since 1878 to have had someone collecting and printing local news, personal stories, and events important to others. A huge hole in the ability to answer questions about Hinckley developed on January 25, 2000 when the paper closed its doors.

HHS is trying to fill that hole by recording interviews with people about their memories. Some of these interviews and memories may not be interesting or relevant to others for 20, 30 or more years in the future. Chances are that someday, these recordings will help in someone's research about their family, or house or event in Hinckley.

We appreciate the HBR high school students in Mr. Nick Sullivan's class and their interviewees who took time to record memories this past semester. It was a great learning experience for the students and invaluable addition to the HHS collection of our history. Hopefully students in the future will continue this experience.

If you would like to help record memories for the HHS collection, send a note, call, or email us. The contact information is listed at the bottom of this article. We appreciate your help in preserving history for future generations.

Don't miss Our Next Newsletter

The first issue of HHS newsletters in 2024 is ready for delivery to members. Join or renew your membership so you won't miss any of the interesting stories. Annual membership is just \$15 for individuals, \$25 for families, and \$30 for businesses. You can mail payment to the Historical Society at 141 E Lincoln in Hinckley or pay by credit card at www.givebutter.com/aqXHTo.

Membership in the Hinckley Historical Society helps support the mission to preserve and bring to life the history of our community. As a member you will receive five newsletters, free access to the museum with its new exhibits, and help researching genealogies and house histories. Your donations also support our programs and band concerts for the community. Plans for this year include three different types of bands, impersonators of historic characters, background on some new businesses, and a walk among our ancestors in another cemetery. Thank you for your support.

Let us Borrow Your High School Yearbook

Hinckley and HBR high school yearbooks are valuable research tools at the Historical Society. While we have about half of the yearbooks since 1924, we would like to find copies of yearbooks from **1932 to 1949, 1966, 1998 to 2003, and 2013 to 2016**. If you have any of these yearbooks we are missing, please call HHS or send us an email. Our volunteers will digitize the yearbook and return your original copy. Thank you for helping complete our collection.

Our museum, located at 141 East Lincoln Avenue, Hinckley, IL 60520, is closed for the winter until April 6. However, if you have out-of-town visitors who want to tour the museum, call Bob (815-761-4058) for a special opening. You can follow us on Facebook, Email: Hinckleyhistoricalsociety@gmail.com and visit our web site: HinckleyHistoricalSociety.com.

Message to Community from Hinckley Parks & Recreation.

As we have now started so many wonderful classes and programs we wanted to give you an update on a **change in Adult Open Gym Times** through the end of March 2024.

Each class will take place at HBR High School.

Classes are from 7:30 - 8:30 PM.

Anyone can attend from High School and up!

The fee is just \$5.00 a person for each hour class.

The dates we are open and looking forward to seeing you are:

January 31

February 14

February 21

February 28

March 6

March 13

March 20

March 27

PLEASE NOTE



HINCKLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY



Just a reminder that every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month our Hinckley Area Food Pantry is open from 8:00 - 9:00 AM located at 190 W. Lincoln Hwy in Waterman.

The 2 dates we are open in February are:

Saturday February 3

Saturday February 17

Please bring 2 forms of identification and call 815-286-7275 with questions or if you or someone you know is in need of more information. Thank you.



Just a quick message to let you know that the Community Grief Support Meetings at Hinckley First United Methodist Church on Wednesday evenings **will be open during the winter months.**

Meetings will meet at 7PM on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month as normal.

There has been such a great turnout and the program really is beneficial to all who are attending. Everyone is welcome.

Please feel free to reach out with questions or comments at lbbhealthandwellness@gmail.com or call/text 815-520-0026.