

The year 2024 is written in a stylized, 3D gold font.

HINCKLEY UPDATE

***A free monthly newsletter provided by the Hinckley First
United Methodist Church January - Volume 1- 2024***



Every new year brings with it this sense of excitement and opportunity. We have this chance to look forward to the months ahead to see where we want to go, who we want to be by this time next year. We make resolutions to lose weight or save money, to quit smoking or get a new job, to volunteer more or be less critical of others.

But honestly, how long do those resolutions usually last? I saw a statistic once that only about 8% of New Year's resolutions are successful to the end of the year, and nearly one quarter have been broken by the second week of January.

If I'm honest, as much hope as I'm usually filled with at the start of a new year, as determined as I usually am to set out on a new course, I also always am acutely aware that as much as I desire change it probably won't last. Because it's just not easy to change.

So what are we to do? We recognize that something in our lives needs improvement, something needs fixing, needs changing. But within weeks, we're usually back to where we were the year before. Our past catches up to us. We get caught in old habits. Our hope for a new beginning fades. So what do we do?

The biggest challenge I think we need to overcome in order to change, is to believe we actually can change. Donald Miller, who's an author I love to read, said that for the longest time in his life he believed this lie that "Life is something that happens to you, not something you can steer and alter."

"It's a crazy lie to believe," he says. But one that's so pervasive. We're not convinced we can actually change. We're set in our ways. Always tripping over the same obstacles. No matter how hard we try, we're always the same. Life just keeps on coming, and it's never any different.

But the truth of the matter is, that's not the way we were made. "Every healthy thing God created changes. God designed the world so that it is in constant motion, never sitting still, always dying and being reborn. Everything is changing, all the time."

It's the way of life. Soon, hopefully in a few short months, it will be spring again, for the millionth time. But it will be all new to us. And then summer and then fall, the world—life itself—is always changing, always starting over.

We're created to do the same. "Every night we lie down and go to sleep, go into an odd kind of coma for about 8 hours, and then we wake up and start another day." It's a mini-do-over, every 24 hours. The whole earth, each one of us, is starting over each and every single day.

Friends, you are not a fixed being. You are created to change. The whole world is created to change. Each day is a chance at a new beginning.

Do you believe that? That you can push the reset button, have a do-over, a fresh start? Not just because it's January, but because it's simply a new day.

Here's to a new year of change,
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 February 2024 Update is due by Monday, January 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



“SEEING IS BELIEVING”

Among the core missions of Lions Club International is our duty to provide quality programs for the detection, treatment, and rehabilitation of those with visual impairments. The Hinckley and Big Rock Clubs have focused on K-12 students with limited economic resources who have been identified by the school district with vision issues. The clubs jointly pay for the student’s eye evaluation by a licensed optometrist and the recommended glasses to improve their vision and ability to learn.

When you support a Lions Club fundraiser, you are helping in our mission to serve our community. The club also collects used eyeglasses and recycles them with the help of Lions of Illinois Foundation for people around the world. Our collection box is located outside of the Hinckley Public Library. It’s not uncommon to collect a hundred glasses over a couple of months. Thank you for your participation in these vision programs.

Young Artists Share Vision of Peace

As we enter a new year in our troubled world, the Lions Club was delighted to see the local entries in the 2024 Lions Peace Poster Contest. This international program encourages youth to dare to dream about peace, and create posters that are shared globally.

Nine HBR sixth-graders entered works-of-art with the encouragement of HBR Art Teacher Amy Decker. Lion Holly Hubert reports the poster of Nathan Kriesch won first prize with his poster titled “You can dream of anything, so dream of peace.” Runner-Up artists were Piper Spencer and Collin Hellebrand. The club congratulates all of the young artists for their ideas and creative artwork.

Food Insecurity is Not Just at Holidays

We heard a lot about the needs of food pantries over the holidays. Unfortunately, food insecurity is a year-round issue for well over a million people in Illinois including many in our community. The Lions Club has found about 13 percent of DeKalb County residents lack reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. The Lions Club has joined in efforts to donate to the Hinckley Area Food Pantry and encourages members to sort food for distribution at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva and pack meals at the Feed My Starving Children locations in North Aurora and in Sycamore.

The Lions Club will again be assisting with the distribution of free groceries in Hinckley on the first Tuesday of even-numbered months. The food items are supplied by the DeKalb County Community Gardens and Northern Illinois Food Bank for anyone who stops between 4 and 5 p.m.

The next visit is February 6. The Mobile will be parked in the First United Methodist Church parking lot, 801 N Sycamore St. Share the news and join in the effort to eliminate food insecurity.

When Will the Queen of Hearts Game Payout?

As of this writing, no one has found the missing “Queen of Hearts” in the Hinckley Lions card game and the jackpot is currently over \$80,000. The rules state when the jackpot approaches \$100,000, a winner must be chosen, a payout made, and the game starts over. Come and watch the excitement! The Lions Club card raffle has created a lot of interest as participants guess where the Queen of Hearts may be in the deck of cards. Lion Jerry Bahl is camped out by the Queen sign at J&K’s Half Moon to explain the rules and where to look for the Queen. You can follow the game on the Hinckley Lions Club Facebook page. Drawings are held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. at J&K’s Half Moon.

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.

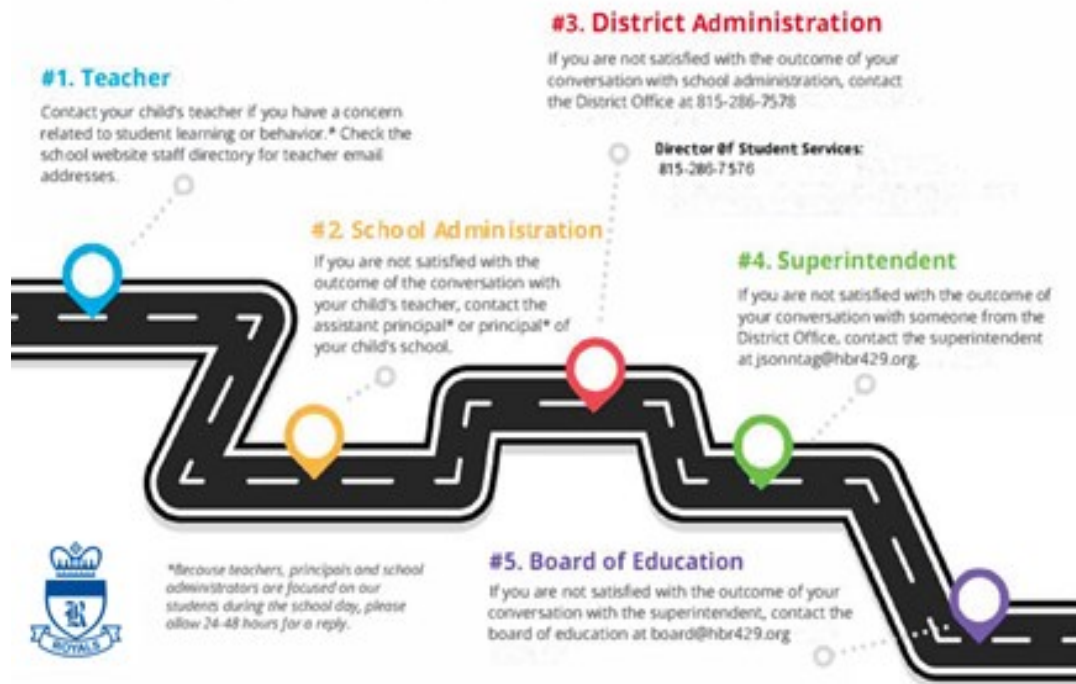
HBR CUSD #429 Updates and Highlights

Greetings Community~

Ring in the New Year is always filled with hope and encouragement, a sense of renew and endless possibilities! As we launch the start of 2024, I want to invite you to participate in a community engagement opportunity with the school district. We are launching a Portrait of a Learner this month and we want you to be involved! During this process, together we will revisit our philosophy, vision, and mission as a school district. We will define the characteristics and skills we want to see in our students, both while they are in school and beyond. We have two evenings set aside for this: January 23 and February 6 from 5:30-8:00pm. Dinner and childcare will be offered. I'm really looking forward to the discussion and hope you can join us! You can RSVP [here](#) or from the link on our website by January 16.

If you can't make it, but want to share your feedback, you can email me directly at jsonntag@hbr429.org or send ideas to suggestionbox@hbr429.org. If you have questions about a classroom or building level issue, please follow our chain of communication. This provides the people most closely involved the opportunity to support you and your child(ren).

Hinckley-Big Rock Community School District #429 Family/School Communication



Happy New Year!

~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.



Our next teen after-hours event is Thursday, January 4th from 6-8pm. Once the library closes at 6pm, ages 13-19 can stay for pizza, games, crafts, and more. This popular event only happens a few times a year. Don't miss it!



Winter break activities at the library continue through January 5th.



Kids can get free snacks daily and watch movies on Tuesday and Thursday at 1pm.

Story time starts January 10th!

Bring your 0-6-year-olds each Wednesday at 10:30 for stories, songs, crafts, rhymes, and more.

Story time is a crucial part of early literacy. Please contact the library to register.

Register Today!

Did you know that the library accepts donations of materials? If your New Year's resolution is to clean out your book shelves, bring your books, DVDs, CDs, and magazines to the library. They may find a new home or even get made into a craft project. To protect the rest of the collection, we cannot accept items that smell like smoke or mold.



The annual Giving Tree served 53 children in 19 local families this year. Thank you for your generosity!



Grief Support Group :

Our Community Grief Support Group held at Hinckley First United Methodist Church on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month will be suspending meetings through the winter and will reconvene again in April.

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

PLEASE NOTE



Welcome to a New Year



This is the time of year to renew your membership in our society and make a donation for its operations. Your support makes possible our programming, newsletters, summer concerts, and museum exhibits. We are excited to begin a new year of programming and stories about our community.

Dues are just \$15 for individuals, \$25 for families, and \$30 for businesses. Payment can be made by check to HHS at the address below or by credit card payment through the website www.givebutter.com/aqXHTo. Your additional donations this past year helped us expand, remodel, and build news exhibits in the museum. Then during the summer there were four band concerts to remind the community about the history of music in Hinckley and its importance as a part of the school curricula. Finally, there were programs about past businesses, the film made in Hinckley, another cemetery walk among our ancestors, and five newsletters full of recent stories about the community.

The Board of Directors is setting its budget and planning interesting programs for this year. Our efforts to preserve the past and bring history to life depend upon our members and donations. You are invited to join in this effort.

Museum Winter Hours

The museum is closed for the winter until April 6. However, if you have out-of-town guests who want to tour the museum, call Bob (815-761-4058) for a special opening. The Board of Directors is using this time to plan new exhibits and organize our artifacts. We welcome volunteers to help in these efforts to bring our history to life. Just call or email us and we will help guide you in interesting and productive support of preserving our history.

Looking for High School Yearbooks

Our collection of Hinckley and HBR high school yearbooks go back nearly a hundred years. 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.

Ways You Can Help Preserve our History

The museum invites your help with any of our ongoing projects. You don't need to be an expert to help with updating records, researching historic houses, or gathering information. Just send an email, note or call with your areas of interest and available time. You will enjoy meeting people and learning more about our community.

***** Our museum, located at 141 East Lincoln Avenue, Hinckley, IL 60520, will be closed for the winter until April 6. *****

If you have out-of-town visitors who want to tour the museum, call Bob (815-761-4058) for a special opening. Follow us on Facebook. Email: Hinckleyhistoricalsociety@gmail.com and visit our web site: HinckleyHistoricalSociety.com.

Copies of Village Comprehensive Plan Available



The 2023 Hinckley Comprehensive Plan has been approved by the Village Board and copies are now available on the village website (Hinckleyil.com) and at the village office. The plan is an introduction to Hinckley for new businesses and residents, and provides an outline of goals and strategies the Village Board can use for improving our community.

The ideas and recommendations were drawn from public discourse, review of documents, and discussion by the Village Planning Commission over the past year that suggest a blueprint for managing growth and quality of life issues in the community.

The document consists of three parts: a history that includes an inventory of businesses; goals for improvements and tangible steps to realize that vision; and a land use map that details the preferences for land development as the community grows.

Village 2024 Budget Approved and Tax Levy Set

Action at the December 11 Village Board meeting approved the village budget for the year ahead and property tax levy that was within guidelines set by state law. **The County Treasurer has established a property tax helpline to answer questions at 815-895-7337.**

Hello from Hinckley Parks and Recreation!

We will be starting some of our programs and classes in January 2024.

We will be 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.

Winter fliers can also be found at the Hinckley Library, Jack and Jina's, Hinckley Methodist Church, and the Village Hall. For any questions, concerns, suggestions, or if you would like to teach a class please email Stephanie at parksandrec@hinckleyil.com.



Business Support

The Hinckley Lions Club appreciates and thanks the following businesses for their coupons which were included in our Christmas gift bags for senior residents of our community:

Family Farm Meats, Hinckley Fresh Market, Hometowne Barber Shop, J&K's Half Moon, Midwest Sportsplex, South Moon, and The Pub.



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

We are excited as we have recently added 3 new members to our fitness group.

Everyone can work at their own level. There is no charge or reservation needed, and we welcome you, your friends and exercise partners to join us. You may also just walk the building during this time if you prefer. We look forward to seeing you.

Call Mary Pritchard at 815-751-3033 with questions.

Thank you.



HINCKLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY



**In 2023, The Hinckley Area Food Pantry celebrated our
30th anniversary with an Open House.**

**We want to thank our founders. Pastor Kate Feeney-Bastian, Nan Long,
Vicki Langer & Kim Franzen.**

It is their vision that created the Hinckley Area Food Pantry and we hope to continue their mission as long as we are needed.

HAFP would also like to thank all of our donors and supporters over the past year. We consider ourselves lucky to have such wonderful support. Because of you we were able to serve over 85 families!

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering, donating or receiving assistance, please visit our website, HinckleyAreaFoodPantry.org.

2024

