

G I F T

The

November
2021



Hudson United Methodist Church

*Great Inspiration for
Thought*

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PASTOR'S PAGE

"I the Lord am your God; follow my statutes, and be careful to observe my ordinances, and hallow my Sabbaths that they may be a sign between me and you, so that you may know that I the Lord am your God." Ezekiel 20:19-20 NRSV

We move into November, the heart of our autumn activity. Leaves evacuate their tree perches, grass stops growing, and crisp, cool days and nights invade our senses. We think of pumpkins and harvest, cider and doughnuts, Thanksgiving feasts, and kindling the fireplace. We begin to enjoy quiet evenings snuggled up in the comfort and peace of our homes. We increasingly move indoors to keep out of the cold, and when that happens, I can't help but think of God's command to keep Sabbaths.

This command speaks volumes about the God we serve. God created a day of rest. God created a day set apart from all of the others to be used for worship, praise, and thoughts of the Kingdom. This is a much needed "refresher" for those of us breathing heavily in the bustle of to and fro of daily life. I hope we remember that the command to keep Sabbaths is not merely a command to rest and rejuvenate, but that it is also intended to serve as a reminder that God is God.

It is often in the "down" time of R&R that we open up to others and dare to share hugs or moments of silence together. Quiet conversations in non-threatening places, the colors of fall moving all around us on the lift of gentle breezes, the ever onward movement toward closure in the cycle of seasons, all play on our senses.

This month also holds our celebration of All Saints Day. It is a day when we remember those who have been close to us in our life's journey. We remember that they have moved on to be fully in the presence of God. Whatever that means to us, it pains us to be left behind. Yet we are reminded that our own lives cycle on, just as the leaves fall to the ground to be covered by the cold and snow of winter. All of this is beautiful in its own way. I believe the time to think about it comes in Sabbath. So please, keep your Sabbath time.

I have learned the hard way recently that time is all too precious. There is no reclaiming it. It is expended, whether we take the time to realize it or not. I pray you find Sabbath time. I pray that you are aware of your surroundings. I pray you take the time to observe the beauty present around you each and every day. I just pray for you. Please pray for me.

Harvest blessings,
PC

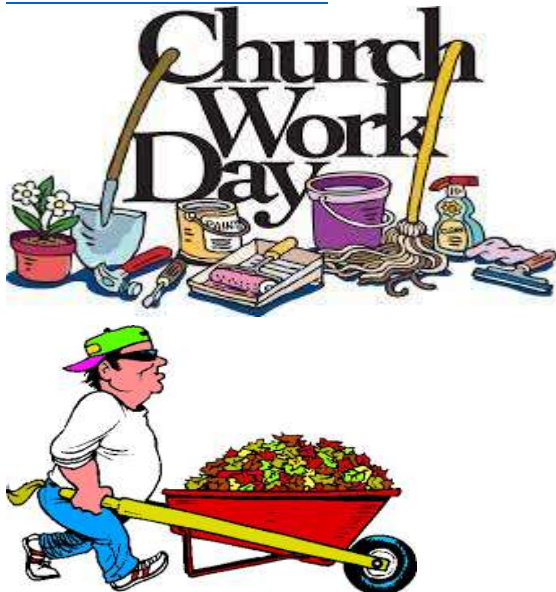


Great Inspiration for Thought

SAVE THE DATE!!

The HUMC Fall Garden Blitz is just around the corner. Saturday, **November 13th** at 9am. This is a great way to be in fellowship in a responsible physically distant manner. Many hands make light work... Please don't leave it to the trustees alone, we need your physical support. Bring you smiling spirit, work gloves, garden tools, and helping hands. We will be clearing gutters, making sure our gutter heat tape is functioning, putting things away for winter, organizing the storage closet, cleaning up the leaves at the parsonage, tending to some minor trimming and tidying up a few loose ends. There will be something for everyone. Just show up or sign up via sign-up genius

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040848AFA62BA5FD0-fall1>



Acme Community Cashback is here! Don't forget to save your receipts and put them in the drawer by the pastor's office. If you are unable to do that, you can email the cashback total at the bottom of the receipt to Sandy Bernert at s1bernert@aol.com. The program started August 5 and runs till **December 25**. The money that we get back from this program goes to various missions.

OPEN M HOLIDAY BASKETS

Our church will be supplying 200 boxes of individual oatmeal packets for OPEN M families in need. Either purchase the oatmeal and bring it to church or you can donate money. Please mark your check "OPEN M Oatmeal." Donations are due by **November 28**.





Bible Workshop & Presentation

Hudson United Methodist Church traditionally presents Bibles to our students in third grade and to children who are new to our church or were not able to attend the Bible Workshop in the past. This year, we would like to invite ALL children in 3rd - 5th grade, whether they have received a Bible in the past or not, to participate in this fun workshop. The Bible Workshop will take place on Saturday morning, **November 13**, from 9:30 am until 1 pm. There will be lively games & activities that help our children learn and review the books of the Bible followed by a (socially distant) pizza lunch. Workshop participants that have not received a Bible in the past will receive a New Revised Standard Version Bible inscribed with their name on Sunday, November 14th, at the 9 am service. A reception will follow in Sunday school.

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The Christian Education Committee (CEC) believes it is very important that each child learn how to use their Bible. If your child is in 3rd - 5th grade, we strongly encourage them to participate in this year's program. If you are interested in participating but have not registered for this event, please contact Kerrie Book at kerrievansbook@gmail.com.



Sunday School Classroom Refresh Day

The Christian Education Committee invites everyone to help refresh our Sunday school classrooms on Sunday, **November 7** from 11:00-12:00 p.m. (after Sunday school). With some of the classrooms not being regularly used the last year and a half, many need restocked & cleaned up. The rooms need cabinets cleaned & organized, items removed that do not belong in the space, and supplies restocked. Many hands will make light work! Please contact Kerrie Book if you have any questions.



Youth Group

Youth group is meeting! The Youth Group meets on Sundays at the church. We will mostly be meeting outdoors for Bible study & fellowship, but are also planning some events for fall. Youth group is open to all students in grades 6-12. If you do not currently receive the emails for events, please contact Kerrie Book at kerrievansbook@gmail.com to be added to the list.





LOOK AT THE WORLD

Our gut response to the phrase “Look at the World” is likely to be one of despair and frustration. 2020 and 2021 has wreaked havoc on most of our lives. However, there are things of God that exude goodness and beauty which no amount of darkness can hide or take away. It is difficult to look at the wonders of autumn and not have our hearts filled with thanksgiving to our Creator. My heart fills with the same kind of joy when I look at the faces of the members of our Bell and Chancel Choirs as we unite to offer up music to God for the first time in nearly two years. It is one of those holy and beautiful things that has the ability to illuminate our souls, even in the darkest of times. The words of composer John Rutter describe it perfectly:

Look at the world, everything all around us: Look at the world and marvel every day.

*Look at the world, so many joys and wonders: so many miracles along our way.
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share, and every blessing. All things come of thee.*

*Look at the Earth, bringing forth fruit and flower;
Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain.*



Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, valley flowing river, field and plain.

*Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share, and every blessing. All things come of thee.*

*Think of the Spring, think of the warmth of Summer
Bringing the harvest before the Winter's cold.*

Everything grows, everything has a season, 'til it is gathered in the Father's fold.
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share, and every blessing. All things come of thee.

Sandra Simpson

NURSERY SCHOOL



October was a blur, we had so much fun celebrating Halloween. We also had a visit from fire fighter Kevin. He talked to us about all the rules of fire safety. We did many activities revolving around apples as well. We are now off to November and will be talking about Thanksgiving and all that it brings. We are really all adjusting to our new normal and the kids are so excited to be back in school. We are all doing a great job of social distancing and keeping our areas clean. We wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving and lets all be thankful for each other during this difficult time.

Lisa VanBuskirk
Director





Trustees

While we have not been in Christian fellowship in a traditional sense over the past 20 months, we have found new ways to connect and stay connected. We understand that the building is not the church, but it is our greatest asset and largest tool in full filling the mission of the church and spreading the love of Jesus Christ out into the world. The Trustees have done many things over the past year to lessen the number of hands needed on a regular basis, with the hiring of our church care taker and the implementation and management of many preventative maintenance initiatives. We continue our mission to be good stewards of all that God has blessed us with and be ever ready for continually changing conditions here and around the globe.

Last month you saw a summary of all the things we have accomplished in the past 6 months, we couldn't have done many of these things without your support. As we have always done as a congregation, we have bound together to accomplish great things. Over the past 20 months we have had very few opportunities to come together in fellowship which has altered our ability to reach out in concern for one another's welfare.

The Trustees would encourage you to pray & fully consider participating in some of the upcoming activities for fellowship as we have our fall Garden Clean-up on the 13th (rain date the 20th) and the hanging of the greens on the 27th.

We encourage you to take notice of some of our latest improvements with the completion of the rear step of the parsonage, installation of new handicap and visitors signs in the parking lot, AND coming soon new carpet in the Sunday school wing hallway. We also recently replaced, after 17 yrs. of selfless service, the hot water tank in the Aurora wing addition. So, even though we are not using our building as we have in the past or how we might have envisioned, it is still ready and waiting for us as soon as we are ready.

We strive to continue to maintain our house of worship in readiness for the new ministries of the future and look forward to everyone's support. As we enter the season of Stewardship, please don't forget about Care and Repair, but also Stewardship in terms of our time and talents. Have you ever thought about tithing not only your riches but also your time?

In Christ,
Dave, Jim, Wayne, Christopher, Bob, Keith, Dan



UMW FELLOWSHIP EVENTS



Hudson United Methodist Women's Board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 1, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the church.**

Mary Martha Circle will be volunteering at Heart4The City on Thursday, **November 4. (Please note the change of date.)** Drive separately with

arrival at 9:00 a.m. to

954 Eastland Ave., Akron. No lunch planned.

Mary Martha meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:30 am. Questions contact Cheryl Maimona at ctm2949@roadrunner.com

Priscilla Circle will meet on **Wednesday, November 17**, at 6:00 pm at the church in Room 109. Our new Director of Music, **Sandy Simpson**, will be the speaker. Bring your own bag lunch and beverage to enjoy.

Priscilla Circle meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm.

Questions contact Ann Ingling at anningling@gmail.com, or Marty Hannah at marty2uin@windstream.net

Novels at Night will notify members by email/phone when they are ready to resume meetings. Novels at Night usually meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at 5:30 pm. Questions contact Debby Fabian at debrah.fabian@gmail.com

Books for Breakfast

Books for Breakfast will meet on **Thursday, November 18** at 9:30 am on Zoom. The book for discussion is *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrel.

Books for Breakfast meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 9:30 am. Questions contact Michelle Novosel at novandkoz@yahoo.com

We are on Facebook - check us out at: Hudson United Methodist Church Women- be sure to "Like" us to get current updates.



MISSIONS

CWS - Blanket Sunday Thank You!

The Hudson United Methodist Women would like to thank everyone who supported Church World Service - Blanket Sunday!

Thanks to your generosity, we raised **\$575** which will help in providing **57** blankets to those in need.

Church World Service Blanket Sunday is an annual mission project that UMW supports. When difficult times or disasters happen, a kind and loving response of a warm blanket can make all the difference and remind them that they are not alone and that someone cares.

Thank you for your continued support of Blanket Sunday and the Hudson UMW.

