

*May G.I.F.T.
2023*



Great Inspiration for Thought
Hudson United Methodist Church
2670 Hudson Aurora Rd
Hudson OH 44236
330.650.2650

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PASTOR'S PAGE

“ARISE, SHINE”

Easter is celebrated, now what?

Christ followers spent 6 weeks of intentional preparation to open our hearts and souls to God’s redemptive activity in Jesus Christ. Now, Christ followers are called to intentionally live with a Resurrection focus. Easter is more than a day, more than a season, Easter is a way of life!

Join Hudson UMC as we “ARISE, SHINE.”

We will review the creation of light “in the beginning” and witness the expanding presence of light in God’s World; a world where God promises that no darkness shall prevail against the light God created.

*Whereas God speaks and light appears,
there seems to be so little of it around.
What gives?*

Christ followers are challenged to listen to God’s constant message to creation: “Let there be light!” To that end, we reflect the light in the darkest corners of God’s world.



April 23 - Genesis 1:3-5 “Arise, Shine: Let There Be Light”

April 30 - John 8:12-20 “Arise, Shine: Christ, the Light of the World”

May 7 - Matthew 5:14-16 “Arise, Shine: You are the Light of the World”

May 14 - Matthew 25:1-13 “Arise, Shine: Handle Light with Care” (Mother’s Day)

May 21 - 1 John 1:5-10 “Arise, Shine: Walk in the Light”

May 28 - Acts 2:1-21 (Pentecost), “Arise, Shine: Renewable Power”

Great Inspiration for Thought

BICYCLE RODEO AND SAFETY DAY FOR YOUNG RIDERS - MAY 20



In our community we are blessed to have many sidewalks and bike trails that provide safe places to bike and hike. On Saturday, May 20th our church will host a bicycle day to promote bicycle safety. With the help of the Scouts and volunteers, we will have stations set up in the church parking lot to check the inflation of tires, adjust helmets, practice turn signals, and to have some fun riding challenges. This expo is open to youth ages 4 to 10 and the time will be **9:30 to 11:30**. So throw those bikes in the back of the car or better yet ride over to the church and join us. As a church family, please help to spread the word on this event. Volunteers are welcome and should contact Tom and Debbie King at kings7565@gmail.com There will be no rain date.

FEED MY SHEEP-MARCH

Men's Deodorant, Men's XL T-Shirts
Men's Size M Boxer Briefs
Gently used seasonable clothing for men, women and children is requested, together with hotel-sized toiletries.

Once a month HUMC offers a choice of socks, briefs or T-shirt, a toiletry item and hotel-sized toiletries. Toilet paper is offered every week with 130 carry-out lunches.

Blue collection bins are located in the narthex closet, near the hand bell cabinet.

Feed My Sheep is a church-based hot lunch program Fridays from 11:30a to 12:30p at Redeemer UMC (265 Cuyahoga Falls Ave.) in Akron's North Hill neighborhood.

Contact Nancy Kralik at 330 212-7581 or nskralik@gmail.com

FOOD PANTRY

Hudson UMC supports the Hudson Food Pantry by supplying paper towels every month for 50+ families. **Staple food items requested at this time: Canned chicken, canned fruit, canned pastas (SpaghettiOs, Chef Boyardee), pasta sauce, rice sides, shampoo and conditioner.** Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area. Upcoming distribution: **May 20, 2023**
Thank you! Nancy Kralik at nskralik@gmail.com or 330-212-7581



STICKY FAITH



“Sticky faith” is a term I have become accustomed to using when talking about goals for impacting the faith lives of children and youth. We want our young people to leave the time under our influence with a faith that holds fast and that continues to grow and mature along with them. It is also important that they experience a sticky community

within God’s family because research has shown that those who have felt valued and loved in a community of faith will seek to find it again, wherever life takes them. I want 2023 and the years that follow to be significantly “sticky” for our kids.

Part of our strategy toward this end is to provide faith formation experiences targeted purposefully to the specific needs of the young. You read last month about some of the ways this is happening for our preschool and elementary children. On April 30th, a group of committed leaders, parents, and youth will meet to envision together how the most creative and impactful ministry to middle and high school youth might actively play out here at Hudson UMC. There is so much possibility in this arena.

The other necessary piece of this puzzle is to be mindful that the faith community in which our kids are learning, growing, and practicing their faith is not limited exclusively to their own age and stage. They need a comfort zone they will not grow out of, but rather progressively grow into. How might this look?

It looks like kids moving from being mentored in worship by their parents to reading Scripture as worship liturgists...from playing games about sowing seeds of faith to sharing a new perspective on the story alongside adult learners...from visiting Laurel Lake to give away a cross they made to conceiving of their own ministry that depends on using their unique giftedness...from taking part in children’s choir to lending their voices to the multi-generational Daughters of Faith Chorus.

These seeds have already been planted, and there will be more to come.

As their church family at this moment in time, we are tasked with helping our kids’ faith to grow and to become sticky. We can do this as the leaders and teachers who

tell them the story and also as the fellow seekers and servants building relationships, exchanging wisdom, worshiping, and serving faithfully alongside them. My own vision is of a church that flows organically and dynamically between the two. How do you see it? As Rev. Bruce says, "Let's talk."

God Bless.

Elizabeth

Every SUMMER has a Story

Make Camp a part of your story in 2023!

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN for
East Ohio Summer Camps,
Grades 1 through 12**

**East Ohio Camps and Retreat
Ministries** offer you the opportunity to listen for God's whisper among the towering timbers and refreshing waters of our **three unique campsites**.

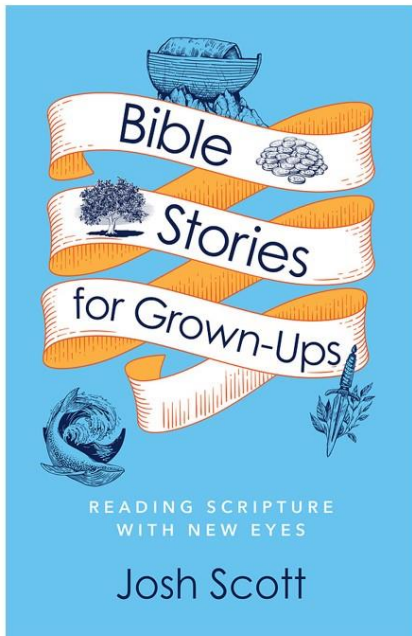
Participants have incredible experiences while they make new friends, try new things, learn about God, learn about themselves, and then take it all home. We invite you to explore God's greatest gift - "the Wonder of Nature" - with memorable summer camping experiences in East Ohio.

Click below for more information and to register.

[EOC Summer Camps](#)

[Watch Why Camp?](#)





Announcing...

a new intergenerational Sunday school class for YOUTH and ADULTS

Sundays, April 16 – May 28

10:45am, CAC

Led by Elizabeth Goodin

Offering new insights and interpretations for understanding familiar Bible stories in our current cultural environment.

All are welcome, anytime!

Save the Date!

Join the Adventure!



Babylon
Daniel's Courage in Captivity

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 24-28
9:00 a.m. to Noon

Hudson United Methodist Church
2670 Hudson Aurora Road, Hudson, OH
www.hudsonumc.com 330.650.2650

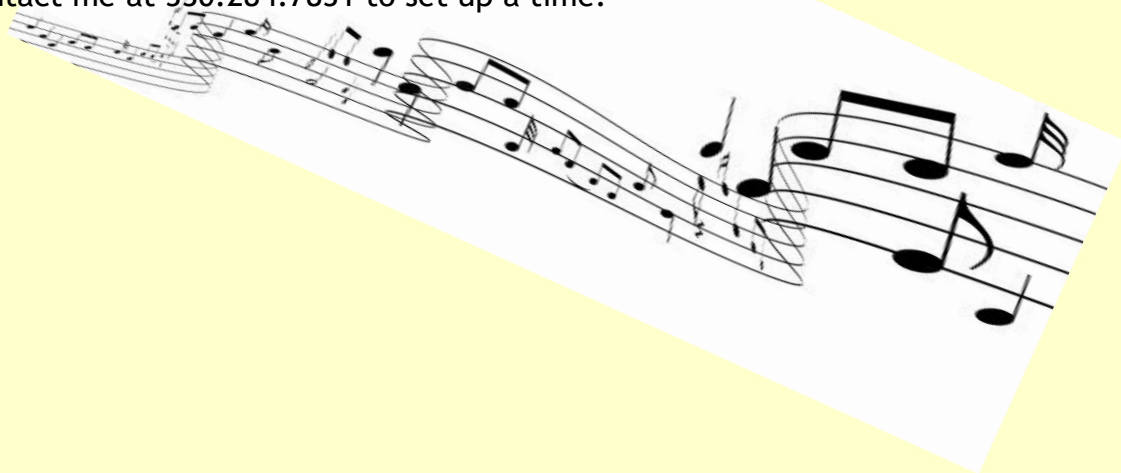


THANK YOU

A note of thanks to the members of our Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Children's Choir and to Jinyang for the hard work, heart and soul they so generously give to our music ministry. It is a major commitment. The passion and spirit within each of these faithful servants brings glory to God week after week, most recently helping us to feel the true sorrow of Lent and the joy of Easter. They are angels among us.

June 4th will be the last Sunday the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir will participate in worship until September. Consider singing or playing an instrument for our summer worship services. Soloists are welcome and we will be forming a few ensembles, as well. There will be a signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the choir room for anyone who is interested.

Throughout the summer, I will be offering help to anyone at HUMC who would like to learn more about music, be it note-reading, vocal technique, bell playing, etc. There will be thirty-minute timeslots between 1:00 and 6:00 PM on Thursdays you may sign up for on a sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the choir room. You may also contact me at 330.284.7831 to set up a time.



NURSERY SCHOOL



April was another great month for the Nursery School. We were very excited to have our annual Art Show. It was a great success! Our theme was the Zoo. We turned the Narthex into a zoo. It is always so exciting to see what wonderful artwork the children do each and every day. We are all very excited for Spring and to be able to get on the playground and run with our friends! We also watched our butterflies grow and then we were able to let them go outside. This was very exciting! We had spring pictures and our parents could see how much we have grown over the school year. It is hard to believe that school is almost over. We were so excited to be able to be in school all year long and look forward to another successful school year. We will say goodbye to some of our friends as they move on to Kindergarten and we will welcome some new families in the fall. We do have a few spots left in the school. If you know anyone looking for a preschool for a 2 ½ through 5 years old please let them know.

Director,

Lisa VanBuskirk



Church Council Meeting

Church Council March 21, 2023 - Highlights

Attendance: Chris Basil, Cheryl Gamble, Jerry Hammar, Rev. Hartley, Debbie & Tom King, Carrie Protivnak, Jim Sherer. Opening Prayer and Devotion: By Tom King
Approval of minutes: The January 17, 2023, Council meeting minutes were approved.
Planning for the Next Big Thing: Tom reviewed the Next Big Thing group - what they are planning to carry on the spirit and promise of the Key of Hope concert with its appeal and faith message for the congregation and community members: A “Tool Box” of pointers and resources to help those organizing events. “Dinners of Eight” to recruit hosts for dinners this Spring for a potluck dinner. The aim is for people to choose a dinner date with the hosts unnamed to randomize church members and their getting to know other members. Ordering newly designed HUMC T-shirts to wear by church members out in the community and doing service projects. A **Bike Rodeo and Bike Safety Day** for new young riders and their families on Saturday morning May 5th in the church parking lot this Spring. Hosting a booth at the **Hudson Farmers Market Community Day** on August 5; and a **Fall Music Concert**.

Dialogue among Faith Communities: Cheryl Maimona is helping host on April 23, a conversation on how Hudson faith congregations can facilitate civility in our community to tone down recent animosity.

Ministry Reports: **Committee on Education and Family Ministries** - Children’s Sunday school classes have been using lessons from the curriculum, *Spark Activate Faith*, by Sparkhouse with Bible stories and hands-on activities. In September classes will begin a year-long curriculum plan and the education budget needs to be re-assessed. Summer VBS is planned for late July. Families are re-evaluating the ways to effectively minister to our youth, including intergenerational programming. The HUMC subscription to *Amplify Media* for video curriculum is available for individuals and adult Sunday school classes with the free access code, and we now have an HUMC Zoom account to enable participants to take part in classes or meetings with no time limit. **Missions** - Alternative Giving - \$1,945 in donations Open M, Akron Food Bank, Hudson Food Pantry, UMCOR, Yarr River Bridge Project in Liberia, ASP, and Heifer Project. One team will be sent on the **ASP mission trip June 11 - 17, our 49th year!**



G.I.F.T.

United Women of Faith - Gifts from the Heart raised \$1800 for the Center of Hope, and Heart 4 the City. The Pancake breakfast raised \$800 for missions.



Nursery School - New playground equipment is being installed with grant money.



Trustees - The Parsonage is rented for \$2800 per month and the tenant moved in on March 27th. A leak flooded the basement again as the sump pumps stopped working in a February rainstorm. Parking and walk repairs will be made in July when Church use is low. **Membership Secretary** - Debbie will work with Sheryl Reynolds to add membership details to the new Realm directory.

Nominations - Council approved the slate of nominations: Church Council Chr. - Jackie Beam (2024); Staff Parish Relations Chr. - Jerry Hammar; Trustee Chr. - Tom King; Nursery School Bd. Pres. - Diana Chatigny; Nominations - Amy Pendergrass, Jill





HUMC Financial Update

As we head into Spring, the Finance Committee wanted to provide an update on Church finances.

The data shown below covers the time period from January 1, 2023 - March 31, 2023. About 40% of our pledged giving for the year has already been received. Thanks to your generosity, and the fact that first-quarter church ministry expenses are running \$3,200 less than expected, the fund that supports the general ministries of the Church now has a positive balance of \$22,247. Our Church Care & Repair Fund has a positive balance of \$27,306. Please keep in mind that your ongoing support of Church ministries is essential, as we are still projecting a \$30,000 deficit by year-end based on current pledged giving and other anticipated income.

Our annual audit of church deposits, expenses, bank statements, and Foundation funds was conducted on February 18th. Records were found to be meticulously kept and financial controls were working as designed. Subsequently, an audit of United Women in Faith records yielded similar results. Thanks to everyone who assisted with these audits that ensure that we are being good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us.



United Women in Faith

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

Hudson United Women in Faith board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 1, 2023** at 7:00 pm at the church.

Mary Martha Circle will be meeting on **Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10:00 am** at the church. They will have a program about mentoring for children. **The guest speaker will be Jonathan Greer, Director of Mentoring Programs, from iC.A.R.E Mentoring.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mary Martha meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. Questions/Information contact Cheryl Maimona at ctm2949@roadrunner.com

Priscilla Circle will meet on **Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm** at **Marty Hannah's home** to enjoy their annual May picnic. The featured main dish will be a green salad with chicken, provided by Ann & Marty. They will also be collecting paper towels for the Hudson Food Pantry and pineapple for OPEN M.

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

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

Books for Breakfast will meet on **Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 9:30 am** at the home of **Cynthia Field**. They will be having their 2023/2024 Book Selection.

Books for Breakfast meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 9:30 am.

Questions/Information 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.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SUNDAY- THANK YOU

Thank you to all the ladies who participated in the United Women in Faith Worship Service on Sunday, April 16. Also, many thanks to Sandy Simpson, Jinyang Tian and the Daughters of Faith Chorus for the wonderful music selections. It was a joy to have Julie Carneal, from Open M as our guest speaker. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to our special offering to Open M. Through your generosity, we collected over \$600 that will continue to help support the many outreach mission ministries at Open M.



Hudson United Women in Faith



Guest Speaker, Julie Carneal

MISSIONS

UWF PRESENTS SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION AWARD

One of the ways United Methodist Women support missions is through the purchase of Special Mission Recognition Award pins. It is also an opportunity for the UWF to honor a special recipient who has distinguished themselves in advancing the purpose of UWF and has also dedicated so much time and effort to service.

Linda Arnold was recently presented the 2023 UWF Special Mission Pin. Linda received a gold lapel pin with a cross. The word **IMPACT** was used to describe Linda: **I**-she is impressive and has been involved with missions since she joined HUMC, **M**-she is mission-oriented, **P**-she is perky and shares her positive energy, **A**-she is active in many facets of our church, **C**-she is committed to making the world a better place, **T**- she is a terrific team player and gives of her time freely. Congratulations Linda!!

