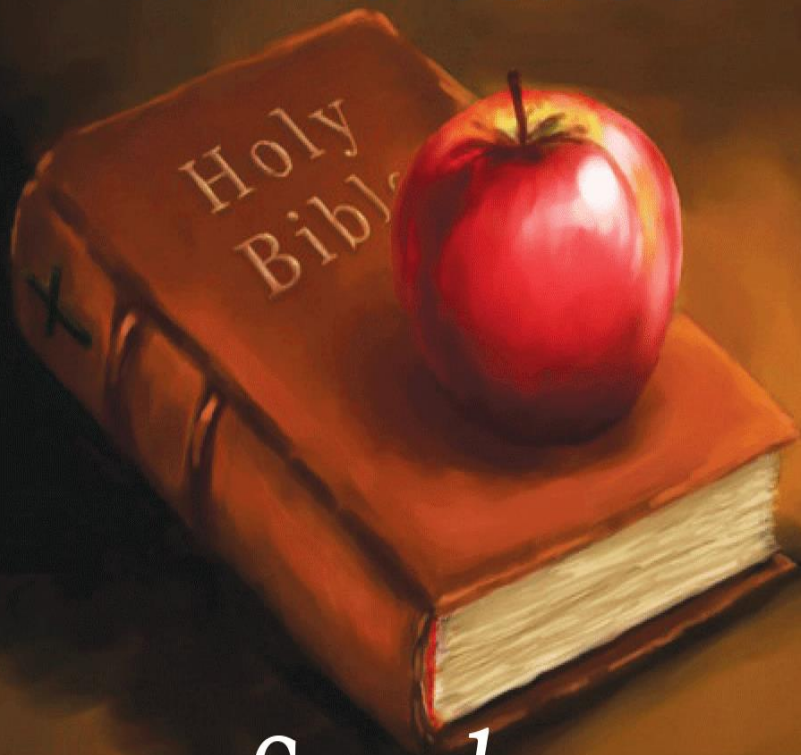


*September* **GIFT**

*"Back to School"*



*Sunday*

**Great Inspiration for Thought**

*Hudson United Methodist Church*

*2670 Hudson Aurora Rd*

*Hudson OH 44236*

R  
E  
V.  
B  
R  
U  
C  
E  
H  
A  
R  
T  
L  
E  
Y



## PASTOR'S PAGE

“To change your life, you need to change your priorities.”  
Mark Twain

Our culture seems to project the priorities we should be about by bombarding us with marketing and social media influencers. Too many discover too late that the priorities they followed while listening to the world leave them empty in the end.

If you want to know what Jesus' priorities are, look at what he did on a daily basis. We witness his priorities/God's priorities by exploring the Gospels. If Christ Followers are to be Christ-like then Jesus' priorities need to be our priorities. Real devotion to Jesus' priorities requires constant attention, action and reflection. When we train ourselves to think differently about the world and we begin to act differently, we will live Jesus' priorities.

Join Hudson UMC, on-line or in person September through October and discover what happens when we “Live Jesus' Priorities.”

Sept 10	Mt. 15:22-28	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Love”
Sept 17	Mt. 22:35-40	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Seeking God's Will”
Sept 24	Mt. 6:5-6	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Prayer”
Oct 1	Mt 4:18-22	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Spreading God's Word”
Oct 8	Mt 15:22-28	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Healing”
Oct 15	Lk 12:15-21	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Treasure in Heaven”
Oct 22	Mk 9:33-35	“Living Jesus' Priorities: Live with Humility”
Oct 29	Children's/Youth Service	

There are times along life's journey when "recalculating" is most helpful to get to the desired end.

Life does not always go as planned or hoped (ask the 3 couples from Hudson UMC who made a journey by bike this summer). Many experience the need to recalculate can save time, eliminate errors, and even take into consideration additional data that is available.

My reflections (noodlings) lead me to pause and "recalculate", "reboot", "regroup." As pastor I am charged to cast vision for this Body of Christ. This is never a small, quick undertaking under "non-crisis" times, but with the disruption of our United Methodist denomination, a clear sense of vision is essential.



Earlier this summer I called for a pause so Hudson UMC could "sharpen the saw" (see June GIFT). This is an intentional time to refocus or recalculate. Elizabeth Goodin, Director of Family Ministries, and I have prayed, studied, conversed with each other and others who have a history with Hudson UMC. Together we have learned much about Hudson UMC and going forward.

We are "recalculating" our effort to fulfill the mission of the UMC and Hudson UMC – "to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." We are not suggesting the mission be changed or dismissed for something new. We are challenging to "Reflect, Realign, Renew and Rally" around the mission, "to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ..." Recalculating is wise as we are living in a post-pandemic and recently splintered denomination. You will read and hear more about, The 4 Rs" leading up to three Sunday afternoons in October.

The goal of these congregational gatherings is to realign with the mission of Hudson UMC and renew our efforts to honor Christ's mission. For the sake of clarity, it is imperative to be clear about what the 4 Rs are NOT.

The design of the three meetings is NOT about sharing information about the "untying" or disaffiliating from The United Methodist Church.

The goal of the three meetings is NOT to debate what the stance of The UMC or Hudson UMC should be regarding sexual lifestyles, same sex unions or gay ordinations.

Furthermore, at the conclusion of the three meetings there will NOT be a vote to remain or untie from The UMC. I am not trying to shirk my responsibility regarding the "hot topic". I will assure you as the 2024 General Conference approaches in April, I will share information about what General Conference is focused on and the results of the global gathering. I am in no position to know with any level of certainty what the outcome of the General Conference will be. I believe in giving the Holy Spirit a wide birth to act.

If you have questions, you would like addressed, email me [pastor@hudsonumc.com](mailto:pastor@hudsonumc.com) and I will collect them to print a FAQ for others to read.

Finally, as Hudson UMC renews our faith journey, Elizabeth and I invite you and your family to RALLY around the mission of making and maturing disciples. On Sunday, September 10, following worship, reacquaint yourself with familiar and new faces at a Rally Day Brunch in the CAC. Watch for more information!

## Great Inspiration for Thought

### T SHIRT SALE

If you pre-ordered a T-shirt, please pick it up in the church office. There are a limited number of shirts left if you would like to purchase one. **Adult shirts are \$17.00 and youth shirts are \$12.00.** Shirts are available in the church office. Please make your check payable to Hudson UMC and write "T shirt" in the memo line. Thank you. Debbie King

### IN PERSON, YOGA MAT CLASS

The yoga mat class will begin in person on **Wednesday, September 6th.** The one-hour class begins at 7:00 p.m. in the CAC. The class is led by yoga instructor, Jodi Fill. A good-will payment for the class is made via check or Realm to Sheryl Reynolds, HUMC Financial Secretary.



## YOU'RE INVITED!

### All-Ages Fellowship Event



## AKRON RUBBER DUCKS GAME

**Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**

**7:05 pm**

*Tickets \$13*

RIGHT CLICK [HERE](#) to *Open Hyperlink* and purchase tickets in HUMC's reserved section.

### Invite a Friend



### Back to Sunday School

I say *Back to Sunday School*, but Sunday school never really stopped for us over the summer; it simply looked different.

I loved the connections our combined children's class made between the stories and themes found in children's picture books and the story and themes of God's nature and will for our world. Our unit provided occasions to talk about getting and giving second chances, turning gratitude to praise, and becoming vessels of God's kindness, compassion, and caring.

Our youth were invited to join adults in viewing and responding to episodes of *The Chosen*, a dramatization of scenes from the life and ministry of Jesus and his followers. This was a rich opportunity to witness the story in a fresh way and to hear and share multiple viewpoints, interpretations, and experiences.

With the coming of Fall, our young people will re-organize into age-specific classes once again and will continue their faith studies using two brand new curriculums. Part of my summer was spent surveying all that the major faith-based publishers offer at this time for use in early childhood, elementary, and youth religious education. I studied their philosophies, beliefs, values, and varied approaches. I took into account our unique mix of children and families, considered our resources and needs, and sifted through each curriculum's "extras" paying



particular attention to enrichment offerings for families. I was very encouraged to have found two Bible story-based, discipleship-focused programs that lend themselves well to classroom interaction and exploration.

More detailed information to come, but here are video introductions to my two selections:

*(Right-click on the images to open the video links.)*



**David C. Cook's *Wonder Ink*  
for Pre-Grade 1 and Grades 2-5**



**Sparkhouse's *Echo the Story 36*  
for Grades 6-12**

My goal for our kids' Sunday school is for them to spend that time forming a "big picture" of what God is doing in the world and also their place in it. I also want them to feel encouraged and empowered to process ideas and seek answers to their compelling questions. I hope that they form significant, caring relationships with each other as well as with their adult leaders. And finally, I want them to enjoy their time here and feel valued in their church.

Our chosen curriculum plan is one element that will help to move us forward in this direction. It forms the essential foundation upon which we will continue to build a comprehensive and effective program of discipleship for kids and families.

See you for our **first day of fall Sunday school on September 17<sup>th</sup>!**

God Bless.

*Elizabeth*

**FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**10:45 – 11:45am**

**OPEN TO ALL**

**CHILDREN**

**Preschool – Grade 1**

Room 113

**Grades 2–5**

Room 112/114

**Grades 6-12**

Youth Room (basement)

**ADULTS**

**Family Ties**

*For individuals and couples at all stages of life.*

Room 116/118

**Amazing Graces**

*Prayer, devotional, Bible study group for women.*

Room 110

**Men's Sunday School**

*Discussion using Christian videos and books, for men young and old.*

Room 109

**Ties That Bind**

*Discussion format using multiple faith-based sources.*

Parlor (next to sanctuary)

***The Chosen Discussion Class***

Watch for announcements about season 2!



# NURSERY SCHOOL



I cannot believe we are back for another school year. It seems, at least as I get older, the summers really do fly! I do miss the children's smiling faces and laughter. The summer was a great time to reflect on the past school year and get ready for another exciting year. We had a great 2022-2023 school year and hope this year is even better! The teachers are relaxed and ready to be back and welcome some old friends and meet some new friends. Nursery School will start the week of September 5th. Our theme for the school year will be Woodland Adventures!

In September we will be learning new routines and classroom rules. For some of us this may be our first school experience and time away from our moms and dads. We are excited to get out on our new playground and explore all the new things. We will also talk about family and apples.

We do have a few openings in our programs. If you know anyone looking for preschool, please let them know. They can call the school at 330-650-4091 ext. 106 or check out our website at [www.hudsonumns.com](http://www.hudsonumns.com).

Nursery School Director,  
Lisa VanBuskirk





**FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:**

**Hudson United Women in Faith** board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:00pm at the church.**

**Mary Martha Circle** meets **Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 9:30am at the Route 8 parking.** A tour of the Akron Civic Theater is planned for 10:00am with a lunch afterwards at 11:45 m at Lager & Vine.

Mary Martha meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 10:00am. Questions/Information contact Cheryl Maimona at [ctm2949@roadrunner.com](mailto:ctm2949@roadrunner.com)



**Priscilla Circle** meets **Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the church.** The guest speaker will be the Hudson Community Resource Coordinator, Jennifer McKinley. Bring your own bag lunch and beverage to enjoy.

Priscilla Circle meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm.

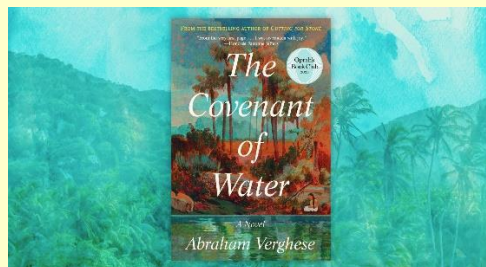
Questions/Information contact Ann Ingling at [anningling@gmail.com](mailto:anningling@gmail.com), Marty Hannah [marty2uin@windstream.net](mailto:marty2uin@windstream.net)

**Books for Breakfast** meets **Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 9:30am.**

The book for discussion is *Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese. (Watch your email for updates on meeting location or Zoom).

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

Questions/Information contact Michelle Novosel at [novandkoz@yahoo.com](mailto:novandkoz@yahoo.com)



**SAVE THE DATE:**

Hudson UWF will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 6:00pm in the Christian Activity Center (CAC). Be sure to mark this date on your calendar, you do not want to miss a delicious Thanksgiving dinner and wonderful fellowship with one another. Watch for more details coming soon. Questions: contact Cheryl Gamble [cgamble1114@yahoo.com](mailto:cgamble1114@yahoo.com)



**HOSTING CANAL DISTRICT FALL GATHERING**

The Hudson Unit of United Women in Faith will be hosting the Canal District United Women of Faith Fall Gathering at HUMC on Saturday, September 23, 2023, from 9:00am – Noon. The Special Guest speaker is Belva Denmark Tibbs. She will be presenting her message: “Being An Emotionally, Spiritually Healthy Woman”. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Fall Gathering, please contact Cheryl Gamble. All Women are invited to attend this special gathering. Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletins as to how you can register to attend this event. Questions, please contact Cheryl Gamble: [cgamble1114@yahoo.com](mailto:cgamble1114@yahoo.com)

**HUDSON CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE**

Thursday, January 18, 2024, at First Congregational Church of Hudson. The theme chosen is “You shall love the Lord your God...and your neighbor as yourself” (Luke 10:27). Watch for more details in the coming months. Questions: contact Cheryl Gamble [cgamble1114@yahoo.com](mailto:cgamble1114@yahoo.com).

