

G.I.F.T.

October *GIFT*



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

REV.
BRUCE
HARTLEY



PASTOR'S PAGE

Thoughts Along the Way...

On July 1, 2022, I wore this button on my person in your presence.

In case you were not present for the Brunch Rally on September 10, I took off my "I'm Optimistic" button. Rest assured, I have not given up on optimism, rather I have focused my optimism. I switched the previous button for this one...



This button publicly shares how I feel about Hudson UMC.



Yes, in the midst of the UMC splintering, the slow return of some after the pandemic, the many activities that compete with faith nurturing, I'M OPTIMISTIC!

I pray you are growing in your optimism regarding Hudson UMC! I'm especially optimistic about what can happen during the congregational gatherings scheduled for **Sundays, Oct. 1, 8 and 15 from 6:00 -8:00p (5p for dinner)**. These gatherings are also called, "**The 3R's Reflect, Realign, Renew**". Our collective discernment will be invigorating and stir optimism, and that will lead Hudson UMC forward. I believe the "3R" experience will affect the vitality of Hudson UMC for generations to come!

Be faithful! Be bold! Be OPTIMISTIC!

Living in Hope and Optimism,

Rev. Bruce

We encourage those who plan to attend "The 3R's" to sign up if you are joining us for a light meal before the work session. 5:00 to eat! 6:00 to meet! (See the link to sign up electronically on page 6). If childcare is needed, share this need on the sign-up.

Note: Although it is encouraged to attend all three gatherings, if you are unable, participate in as many as possible.

Great Inspiration for Thought

THE HUMC MISSION COMMITTEE

invites you to come help at the **OPEN M Mountain of Food**. Mountain of Food is a direct-distribution program of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank hosted by OPEN M. It is a one-day, bulk distribution of foods such as produce, meat, breads, and more. Volunteers help to load wagons of food which are then loaded into the people's cars in a drive-through line in the parking lot.

We can carpool from the church or you can meet us at OPEN M. We will leave at 7:50a. and return when we are finished around 11:00a. Please let me know if you need a ride.

1. Dress comfortably, as there can be lifting and standing involved. If anyone needs accommodations, no problem.
2. Please park across the street in the grass lot.
3. Sign in at the OPEN M main doors.
4. Each volunteer needs to fill out a Volunteer Application on the website [Volunteer — OPEN M](#).

Fridays: October 20, November 17, December 15

For more information or to RSVP, contact Linda Brown at flashknit@gmail.com



FEED MY SHEEP - OCTOBER

Hand Soap (Liquid or Bar) – Lotion – Non-Alcohol Mouthwash, Gently Used Seasonable Clothing for Men, Women and Children, Small Household Items - Travel Size Toiletries

Feed My Sheep is a church-based hot lunch program, **Fridays** from 11:30a to 12:30p at Redeemer UMC in Akron's North Hill neighborhood. **A clothing room with household items is open on Fridays as well.**

Once a month **HUMC offers a choice of socks, briefs or T-shirt, a toiletry item(s) and travel-size toiletries.**

HUMC also supplies toilet paper, and a roll is offered every week with 130+ carry-out lunches.

Blue collection bins are located in the narthex closet. Contact: Nancy Kralik 330-212-7581 or nskralik@gmail.com



PAPER TOWELS

Hudson UMC supports the Hudson Food Pantry by supplying one roll of paper towels every month for 70+ families. We've fallen short of 70 rolls the past few months. The rolls do not need to be individually wrapped.

Items requested at this time:

PAPER TOWELS! canned pasta, canned fruit, sauerkraut and boxed potatoes

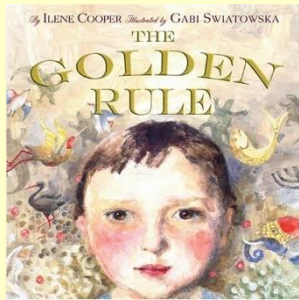
Checks can be made out to HUMC with monies directed to the 'Hudson Food Pantry, on the note line.

Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area. Upcoming distribution: **October 28, 2023. THANK YOU!** Nancy Kralik nskralik@gmail.com 330-212-7581



So Simple, It Shines

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. (Matt 7:12a)



Jesus said that this rule sums up the Law and the Prophets. In the children's story I recently shared with the kids, a grandfather tells his grandson, "This rule is golden because it's so valuable, and a way of living your life that's so simple, it shines." The grandfather goes on to explain how it is at the same time, very small and very big, and though simple, it is not always an easy rule to follow. As our group shared this story together, we focused our attention within these contrasts.

This is some of what the children and youth are talking about when they leave the worship service between the Welcome and the Doxology during the weeks of September 17 through October 22. They are in preparations to lead the Sunday morning worship service that will share this simple but shiny message.

You did read that right. **When you come to church on October 29, it will be to take part in a worship service entirely prepared and led by our children and youth, ages Preschool through Grade 12.**

So much of what happens at Sunday morning worship is in adult language. And though I believe there is much for children to learn from witnessing and taking part in adult worship, I also believe that if we are to truly embrace an intergenerational culture in our church, then we need to hear God speaking through all voices and all ages.



Our kids are learning that worship can take many forms. Over the coming weeks, they will work together to compose their own words and plan their own ways to call you to worship, lead you in song and prayer, and share with you Jesus' teaching around the Golden Rule. I have no doubt that God will use our young ones well to teach, challenge, and inspire – in LARGE ways.

Parents, thank you for encouraging your children and instilling in them the confidence to use their voices in this way. And thank you all, for being a church that provides space in its worship calendar for this testimony and for valuing its children and youth as students, helpers, wise teachers, and leaders.

God Bless.

Elizabeth

Save the Date!



Trunk OR Treat

A safer, less-spooky alternative to traditional trick-or-treating.

October 28

3:30pm

HUMC parking lot

We need volunteers to decorate the trunk of their vehicle in a Halloween-theme and pass out candy or other goodies to the children in our community.

START PLANNING NOW!

Questions? Contact Jackie Beam at jacqueline.beam@gmail.com



REFLECT REALIGN RENEW

REGISTER TODAY!

3 Sundays in October, 6:00-8:00pm...

...Come at 5:00pm for dinner (*5 to eat; 6 to meet*)

OCTOBER 1 REFLECT

Reflecting together on who we are at our best, what makes us unique, and what we are here to do.

OCTOBER 8 REALIGN

Realigning our ministries with the **Mission** of the UMC to *make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

OCTOBER 15 RENEW

Renewing our **Strategy** and developing the NEXT STEPS that will ensure we thrive in accomplishing our mission.

ONGOING... RALLY The 4th R!

Rally around a strategic, mission-driven plan that will help to guide our future!

WE NEED EVERYONE'S INPUT!

Click [HERE](#) to let us know you'll be a part of this important planning event

FALL SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE



We appreciate all efforts to adhere to this schedule to ensure that adult and kids' Sunday school begins and ends together and that all classes have their full planned time allotments.

9:30-10:30am	Worship
10:30-10:45am	Coffee/Fellowship
10:45-11:45am	Adult/Youth Sunday School
10:45-11:30am	Children's Sunday School*
11:30-11:45am	Children's Choir (choir room)*

**Notice change.*

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

LOCATIONS:

Family Ties	Room 118
Amazing Graces	Room 110
Men's Sunday School	Room 109
Ties That Bind	Room 126 (Library)

KIDS' SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

LOCATIONS:

Preschool-Grade 1	Room 113
Grades 2-5	Room 112/114
Grades 6-12	Youth Room (Downstairs through Nursery School hallway)

NURSERY SCHOOL



Well, we had an exciting September. We started another great year of preschool. The children and teachers were very excited to be back. We took a field trip to Guyette Farms. The children were able to get a small pumpkin. We were able to visit the petting zoo. What fun we had! We were very excited to explore our brand-new playground! The smiles, giggles and activity were priceless.

October will be fun-filled as well. We have firefighter Kevin coming to school to teach our 3-year-olds all about fire safety. The 4- and 5-year-olds were able to go visit Kevin at the fire station. This is very exciting for us as we have not gone since before COVID! We also hope to get to go to Hudson Springs Park in early October. At the park, we will have a nature walk and see all the things taking place in the fall. We get to have a snack and play at the park!

At the end of October we will have our Halloween parties which is always so much fun. It is so exciting for the children to dress up, play games and have a special treat. We will also do a small parade for our moms and dads. October sure is busy! We do still have a few openings in all of our classes. If you know anyone looking for preschool, please let them know.

Nursery School Director,
Lisa VanBuskirk

Finance Committee



Stewardship: Our 2024 Giving Campaign begins in October (by Bill Centrello – Finance Committee Chairman)

October is a very important month in the life of our Church. With Fall, comes a return to the normal school schedules, Rally Day, our Nursery School resuming classes, and an increase in activity across the Church. It is also a time of planning, as we as members of Christ's body discern our giving levels for 2024 in support of the mission and ministry of Hudson United Methodist Church.

We are called by God in Matthew 28:9 to "go and make disciples". In his letters to Timothy, Paul suggested that we should be bold and powerful in our efforts "for God did not give us a spirit of (cowardice, fear, timidity), but rather a spirit of power and love and self-control." We accomplished much during 2023, but there is much more of God's work needing to be done in the upcoming year. Understanding anticipated giving levels for the upcoming year aids our staff and committee leaders in planning future ministries for our Church.

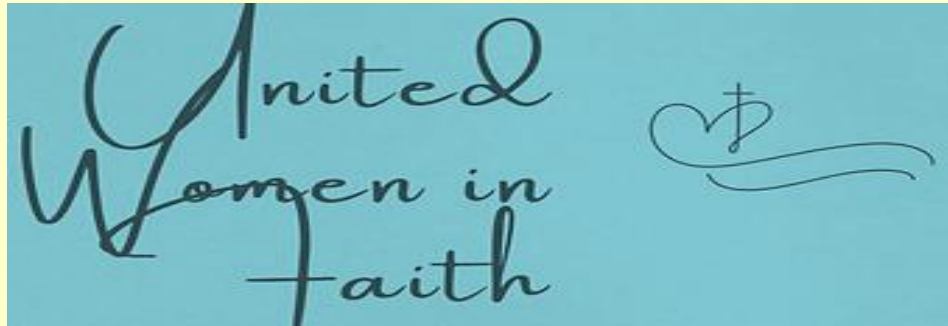
We hope that everyone can actively participate throughout the month of October in prayerful discernment of God's plans for us as a congregation in the upcoming year and how you and your family can support God's plans through your prayers, presence, gifts, and service. During the month of October, you will receive further information in the mail, during Worship services, and during the congregation-wide strategy sessions that are occurring Sunday evenings from October 1st - 15th. **October 22nd will be Commitment Sunday**, where individuals and families will have the opportunity to bring their giving pledges to the altar.

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS

Hudson UMC is building towards our annual campaign to support the Ministry Budget in 2024. Three questions were sent to some in the congregation. Here is one question and an answer. How would you respond to this question?

"What is your greatest joy from your giving?"

"My greatest joy is hoping that our giving will lessen the burden of others and perhaps even bring some joy to their lives." Cheryl Maimona



FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

Hudson United Women in Faith board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 2, 2023 at 7:00p at the church.**

Mary Martha Circle will have two activities this month. They will be volunteering at **Heart4theCity on Thursday, October 5, 2023.** (Please note the date). **Drive separately with arrival at 8:30a Location: 954 Eastland Ave., Akron.** Mary Martha will also be meeting on **Thursday, October 12, 2023 for a hike at the Meadow at Munroe Falls (2 miles)-1088 North Ave. (Rt 91), Tallmadge.** Carpool from HUMC parking lot at 10:00a Lunch at Good Grief! Restaurant in Hudson at 11:45a (Watch your email for any updates). Mary Martha meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00a For Questions/Information contact Cheryl Maimona at ctm2949@roadrunner.com

Priscilla Circle will meet on **Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 6:00p at the church.** They will have fun decorating pumpkin gourds for the Care and Concern Committee to distribute this fall. Bring your own bag lunch and beverage to enjoy.

Priscilla Circle meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00p For questions/information, contact Ann Ingling at anningling@gmail.com, Marty Hannah marty2uin@windstream.net



Books for Breakfast will meet on **Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 9:30a**

The book for discussion is *Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams. (Watch your email for updates on meeting location or Zoom).

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

For questions/information contact Michelle Novosel at novandkoz@yahoo.com

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

SAVE THE DATE:

Hudson United Women in Faith (UWF) will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 6:00p 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



Hudson Christian Unity

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.

Prayer Service:

