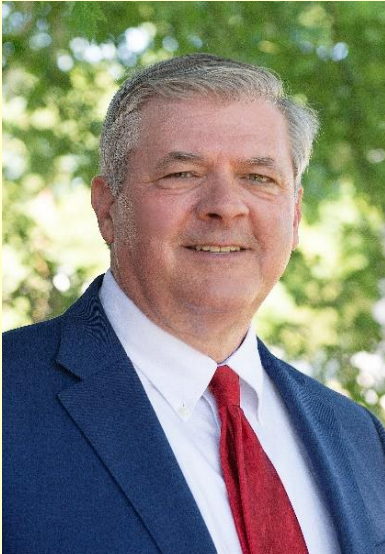


# *November* *GIFT*



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...

**“Clarity dissolves resistance”** I do not recall who said this, but I do understand it to be so. Consider this as an attempt to offer some clarity.

On Rally Day, September 10, the congregation began to hear about “The 3 Rs.” All were invited to Sunday evening gatherings to “Reflect, Realign and Renew.” Although the food was worth coming to the CAC alone, the conversation around tables with established members and newcomers was even more satisfying.

On **October 1** those who gathered **Reflected** on the following:

“Think back to the time when you joined or first visited Hudson UMC what inspired you most?”

“What inspires you to keep coming back?”

“Tell specific stories of when you have felt most proud to be part of HUMC.”

The stories shared around the tables were encouraging and productive as the “Core Values” of Hudson UMC surfaced. The Core Values remind those who gather at Hudson UMC how we will behave.

- **Spiritual Growth**
- **Service**
- **Relationships (within the congregation and the community)**

Oh, and an explanation of why pigeons walk the way they do. (see bulletin board near kitchen)

On **October 8** those who gathered pivoted from Reflecting to **Realigning with the mission of the church**: “Our mission is the make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

“When we’re aligned, the MISSION trumps all!”

Further conversation focused on what can interfere with living into our mission and remain aligned.

- **Individual preferences – this was a fun and revealing exercise.**
- **“This is what we’ve always done”/“...the way we’ve always done it”**
- **Potential to offend – we heard about “Betty’s Library.”**
- **Aversion to risk – an unwillingness to leave your comfort zone.**

On **October 15** those who gathered looked forward to **Renewing** our commitment to a **strategy** that allows us to thrive in accomplishing our mission. We explored, **What things do we need to have in place to nurture people to become more like Jesus?**

Now what? **We Rally!** The Church Council will revisit and identify a strategy as Hudson UMC leaves the harbor for the open sea. It is hoped this strategy will be shared soon and when it is all will be encouraged to **RALLY** around the next step.

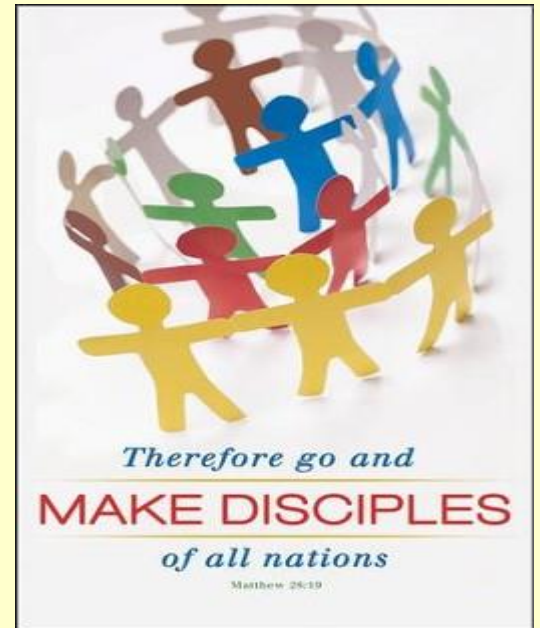
In pursuit of “clarity”, you are invited to stop by the bulletin board near the kitchen and read more. You are also encouraged to contact [familyministries@hudsonumc.com](mailto:familyministries@hudsonumc.com) for summaries of each week’s gatherings.

“A boat is safe in the harbor. But this is not the purpose of a boat.”

Paulo Coelho

Jesus clearly stated, The Church’s purpose is to GO and MAKE DISCIPLES – Let’s set sail!

Living in Hope,  
Rev. Bruce



With much appreciation Janet and I wish to Hudson UMC for the generous and thoughtful gift on “Pastor’s Appreciation Sunday.” We benefit from your grace and support every day and for this we thank God for you.  
The Hartleys



# 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: November 17, December 15**

For more information or to RSVP, contact Linda Brown at [flashknit@gmail.com](mailto:flashknit@gmail.com)

## HANGING OF THE GREENS

Please join us as we decorate the sanctuary and church **on Saturday, December 2, at 9:00.** Enjoy George's Donuts and listen to Christmas music as we beautify God's House for the Advent Season.

With your help, we will take down the Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 13th at 9:00 a.m.

Hosting: Sheila and Jerry Hammar and Kathy and Hugo Sandberg



## 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 (265 Cuyahoga Falls Ave.) 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, near the hand bell cabinet. Contact: Nancy Kralik 330 212-7581 [nskralik@gmail.com](mailto:nskralik@gmail.com)

## PAPER TOWELS

**PAPER TOWELS for the Hudson Food Pantry**

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 fruit, canned pasta, creamed soups, chili, hearty soups, stews & name brand cereals**

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

Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area. Upcoming distribution:

**November 18, 2023. THANK YOU!** Nancy Kralik [nskralik@gmail.com](mailto:nskralik@gmail.com) 330-212-7581

**ACME COMMUNITY CASH BACK**

We are off to a great start with the Acme Cash Back program! The money we get back from this will be used for missions. Please bring your Acme receipts and put them in the green bin by the pastor's office or email the cash back amount on the bottom to [s1bernert@aol.com](mailto:s1bernert@aol.com). Thank you for your help!

**THANK YOU FROM THE SPINELLI FAMILY**

There are no words that can ever express how very grateful my family and I are to so many of this wonderful, unique congregation. The past few years and months have been difficult. Yet I could feel God's presence in the journey. Each time I encountered an issue or faced a hurdle, He provided one of YOU to help me. ALL of you gave so willingly in gracious love. I dare not begin to list names of those who helped for the list would be long and endless. Each of you were instrumental in this walk. From the prayers and cards, the visits with Ken, to the physical giving of being with me or preparing food or assisting in preparing and being a part of the service, I look back and see God through all of you. You are wonderfully made! Please hear the resounding words of thanks from me and my family. Blessings always, Carol Spinelli

**HELP FEED THE WORLD ON DECEMBER 9**

Since 1998, Rise Against Hunger (RAH) has worked to feed hungry people around the world. To accomplish that goal, RAH engages with groups of volunteers to package dried ingredients that can be rehydrated into a nutritious meal. To date, volunteers across the U.S. have packed nearly 600 million meals that have been distributed to 78 countries.



While they were alive, Chris Bolinger's parents – Clyde and Jean Bolinger – sponsored an annual RAH event in Cortland, Ohio. Now, their children are sponsoring an RAH event in Stow. On Saturday, December 9, starting at 9 a.m., volunteers (including Chris and Libby Bolinger) will gather at St. Stephen Lutheran Church (3725 Kent Road in Stow) to pack 10,000 meals in about two hours. Children, teens, and adults are all welcome to participate in this fun and meaningful activity.

To volunteer, or to get more information, please email Chris Bolinger at [chrisbolinger1982@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisbolinger1982@yahoo.com) before December 3.

To learn more about RAH, visit <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>.



I'm Excited...

In a communication I recently shared with a church member, I set about to relay what I was currently excited about in discipleship ministry. This person may have gotten more than they bargained for, but I think the stream of consciousness I sent is worth repeating here as evidence of God's movement in *this* place at *this* particular time, especially as we begin to plan deliberately and intentionally for the future.

I'm excited at the meaning and new understandings that our children are gleaning from the children's sermon time. I'm excited that we were able to offer for the first time, children's summer Sunday school that provided unique experiences and further opportunities to teach about the Kingdom of God. I'm excited for the new children's and youth fall curriculums that will help our kids understand where they fit into God's plan not only for our world but also for themselves as individuals whom God sees and loves. I'm excited for the family component that accompanies these curriculums and the potential opportunity for meaningful all-church events.

I'm excited for the perspective gained from the Saturday retreat I attended in late August on the future of youth ministry. Yes, it looks different, and yes, it is bold and rich. I'm excited about the new intergenerational value that is emerging at Hudson UMC that will help our young people to feel valued, loved, heard, and at-home in God's house. On that note, I'm excited for the children and youth-led worship service happening on October 29<sup>th</sup>, which they designed and conceived of themselves.

I'm excited for the energy behind events that shine a light on Hudson UMC's devotion to its local community: our Easter Egg Hunt, Bike Rodeo, Community Days Farmer's Market booth, and our Trunk or Treat event on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

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*Every kindness we release into the world  
has the potential to touch a life in a lasting  
and profound way*



For its long-term influence on the faith formation and discipleship of anyone who walks through our doors, I'm most excited about the larger mission-focused church-wide strategic planning effort that began on three recent Sunday evenings in October and that will steer Hudson UMC's ministries into the future. I'm excited to "set sail" with our next steps in the work we will do together to build the stage for *making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

These and so many other glimpses continue to give me hope that God's Spirit is alive here at Hudson UMC and working to infect us all with its power. Exciting things will happen and are happening here, and for each of us, that means growing opportunities to play unique and crucial roles.

That's my answer. Now it's your turn. What are you excited about?

God Bless.

*Elizabeth*





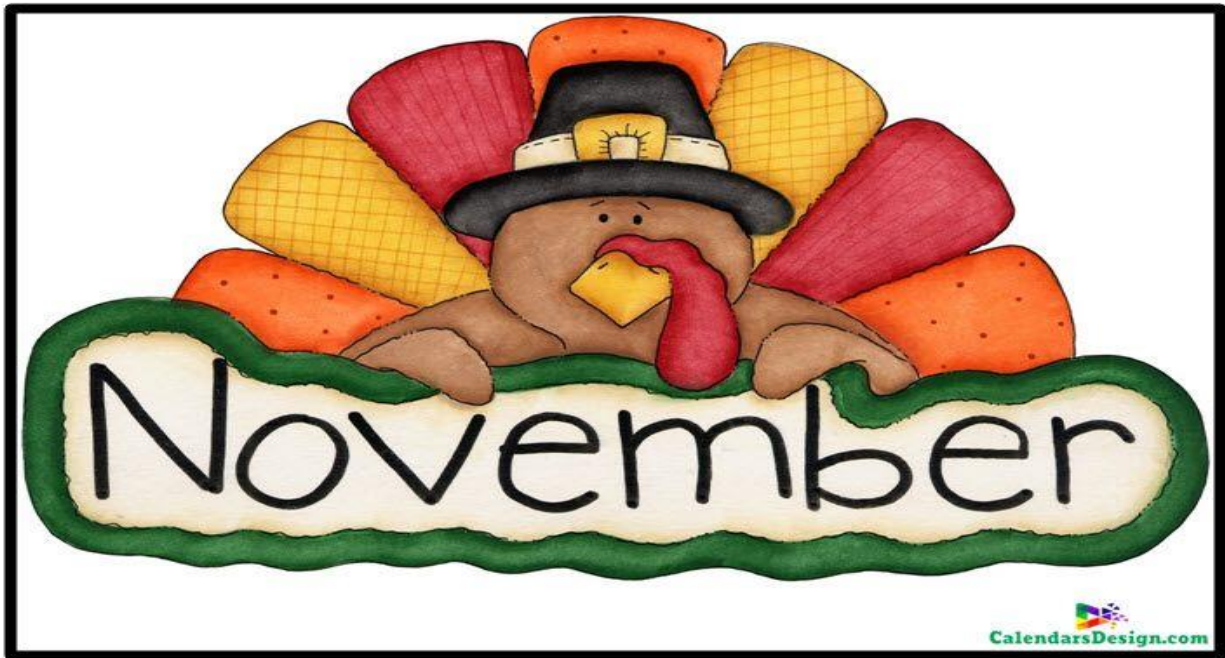
I want to extend a heartfelt thanks for your love, prayers, food and support as I navigate through my health journey. You are family in every sense of the word. You have strengthened me, comforted me and lifted my spirits beyond measure. This Thanksgiving, you are at the top of my list of many blessings.

Our music ministry will soon begin preparation for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Consider joining us to sing and/or ring in the weeks to come. We would love for you to join us for music-making and fellowship. We rehearse on Thursday evenings: The Bell Choir rehearses at 6:15 and the Chancel Choir at 7:30. Feel free to call me at 330.284.7831 with any questions.





# NURSERY SCHOOL



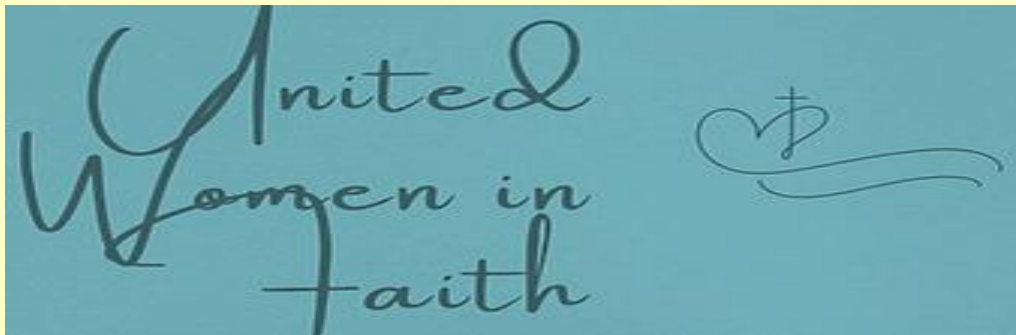
October was a blur. We had so much fun celebrating Halloween. We also had a visit from firefighter Kevin. He talked to us about all the rules of fire safety. The four- and five-year-olds got to go see Firefighter Kevin at the Fire station. We learned so much!

We did many activities revolving around apples as well. The four and five also took a trip to Guyette Farm and boy was that fun and educational. The children got to grind their corn to feed to the animals. We also learned about pumpkins and how they grow. We even got to pull seeds out of playdough! We had a great trip.

We are now off to November and will be talking about Thanksgiving and all that it brings. We will be having our Thanksgiving Feast as well this year. We are very excited to have our parents and or grandparents in the building again. We will sing songs of the season and celebrate the holiday.

We do have openings in our Preschool programs. If you know anyone interested, please let them know.

Nursery School Director,  
Lisa VanBuskirk

**FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:**

**Hudson United Women in Faith** board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.**

**Mary Martha Circle** will have a **speaker from the Cleveland Collaborative to End Human Trafficking on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the church.** Anyone interested in this program is welcome to attend.

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

**Priscilla Circle** will assist with hosting the **Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the church.** The dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Christian Activity Center (CAC).

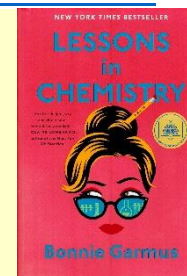
Priscilla Circle meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. For Questions/Information contact Ann Ingling at [anningling@gmail.com](mailto:anningling@gmail.com), Marty Hannah [marty2uin@windstream.net](mailto:marty2uin@windstream.net)

**Books for Breakfast** will meet on **Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.**

The book for discussion is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

(Watch your email for updates on meeting location or on Zoom).

Books for Breakfast usually meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Questions/Information contact Michelle Novosel at [novandkoz@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**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).

**ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER**

The Hudson United Women in Faith will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner. We extend an invitation to all church families and friends to share our blessings with one another by attending the **Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Christian Activity Center (CAC).**

This is a special time to be thankful and to be able to share fellowship. Turkey, Ham, Dressing, Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce and Rolls will be provided, and each family is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please be sure to RSVP on the sign-up board in the Gathering Area.

There will be a Free Will Offering with proceeds supporting local food banks.

Questions/Information contact: Cheryl Gamble – [cgamble1114@yahoo.com](mailto:cgamble1114@yahoo.com)

**Hudson UWF – Church World Service Blanket Sunday**

Hudson United Women in Faith will be offering a Mission Moment for **Church World Service Blanket Sunday in November. Watch the weekly bulletins for updates.** Each year our church shows its caring and compassion by giving generously to the Church World Service Blanket Sunday Mission project. During the past year, there have been many disasters (hurricanes, flooding, wildfires) throughout the world, including here in the United States. Because our neighbors deserve warmth and comfort, and because our God of great love taught us all to be compassionate and share our blessings. Each blanket costs only \$10, but they can bring support, warmth, and encouragement to those who receive them. Through this special offering, you will provide a blessing of God's love throughout His world. We hope you will support this UWF Mission by submitting your check payable to HUMC and note on the memo line: Blanket Sunday. Please place your donation in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Thank you.

