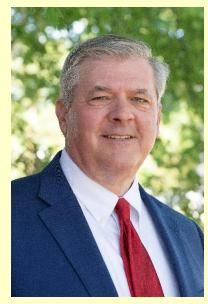
JUNE G.I.F.T.

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





In the last few weeks, as the weather has fewer dips into chilly temperatures, a few of you inquired about my trees.

I am impressed that some remembered the arborvitae trees I planted last summer. But then again after I went on for nearly a month about the attention I was paying to these trees, how could you forget?

I am "over the moon" pleased to share; the trees are thriving! I attribute the well-being of the arborvitae not to my natural green thumb but to the frequent care and attention they received.

- I bore two-inch diameter holes, 16 inches deep below the tree balls to provide water and thus draw the roots down deeper into the soil.
- I sprayed a formula to prevent the local dear population that migrates through our neighborhood every night from dining at the "Hartley Salad Bar."
- I fertilized in the fall.
- I examined about once a week for signs of dear nibbling during the winter.
- I fertilized again this spring and with the use of a device designed by Mark Schmidt, I am again watering below the roots.

The point I was attempting to make last summer was more about seeds of faith, than about how to successfully grow arborvitae. Our faith requires attention to nurture the seeds of faith in our children and into adulthood.

Efforts to grow faith is never a poor use of time or activity. Keep this in mind as summer arrives. Many are lulled into a more relaxed pattern of devotions, worship, service, and study.

Hudson UMC will offer faith-nurturing experiences during worship and during the Sunday School time following worship with our "young disciples." Last summer a consistent number of adults gathered to view and discuss "The Chosen" after worship. The response was so positive, that we are offering season 2 or "The Chosen."

G.I.F.T.

Intentional faith nurturing supports young and those "rich in years" to endure times of crisis, extended trials and times to thrive. Whether you are worshipping with us at Hudson UMC or exploring the woods or a beach - pray, worship and experience God's grace. Be intentional about faith...always.

July 2023





Great Inspiration for Thought

FEED MY SHEEP June Outreach

Men's Deodorant - Women's Body Wash, Toilet Paper - Pant Hangers

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.

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

CHURCH BUILDING KEYS ARE \$ Please turn them in!

Faithful volunteers, do you possess keys to the church building? Are you in active need of the keys? Can't recall if you still have a church key or keys? The cost is \$100 to produce each one as they are high security keys — we have no more on hand. You may be due a refund if you placed a deposit in exchange for the key. Please bring the key that you don't regularly need to the church office and see if you're due a refund. Save the church \$ so we don't have to order more keys!

The Trustees

PAPER TOWELS FOR THE HUDSON FOOD PANTRY

Hudson UMC supports the Hudson Food Pantry by supplying one roll of paper towels every month for 50+ families. The rolls do not need to be individually wrapped.

Items requested at this month: CANNED CHICKEN, Paper Towels, Brand Name Cereals, Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, apricots)

Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area Upcoming distribution: **June 22, 2024 THANK YOU!** Nancy Kralik nskralik@gmail.com 330-212-7581

DINNERS FOR EIGHT ARE BACK

A **Dinner for Eight** is a great way to meet new people at church and to get to know your church family better.



A group of eight people (couples will be kept together) will meet for dinner and fellowship. You do not need to be a couple to join a Dinner for Eight. A group will be available for everyone to join.

If you're interested in HOSTING a Dinner for Eight in your home this summer or looking ahead into the fall, please email Amy Pendergrass at amy.j.pendergrass@gmail.com

If you'd like to ATTEND a Dinner for Eight, watch your email for an all-church invitation to sign up for your preferred date.



*The Jazz Society Big Band is a 19-piece ensemble consisting of current and retired music educators and community professionals based in Northeast Ohio, including our own beloved HUMC Director of Music Ministries, Sandy Simpson. The band performs from a vast repertoire of music in the tradition of the great Big Bands like Buddy Rich, Count Basie, Frank Sinatra, Michael Buble, Maynard Ferguson, and Duke Ellington, as well as jazz ensemble arrangements of modern pop music by artists such as Bruno Mars and Pharrell Williams. Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, Drums, Piano, Guitars, and Vocalists come together to provide an exciting set of music to entertain and inspire!

SAVE THE DATES!

Hudson UMC 60th Anniversary Celebration

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

4:00 TO 6:00 PM

HUMC invites the community and congregation to this celebration featuring *The Jazz Society Big Band**. Bring a picnic blanket or a chair and enjoy live music, food, activities for kids, and time with friends and family.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 9:30 AM TO NOON

Join us for a special service, directly followed by a 60's-themed Rally Day with plenty of treats and memories to share.





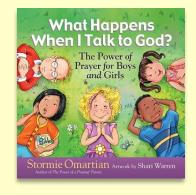
Simple Prayer

If you're familiar with Anne Lamott, who writes with humor and honesty about her journey of faith, then you may have heard what she calls the three essential prayers: "Help", "Thanks", and "Wow". In her book, *Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith*, she amusingly relates the morning and evening prayers of a friend: "Whatever" and "Oh, well."

I love the simplicity of these prayers and the way they guide one to consider so much of what one might want to say to God at any moment. They convey surrender, praise, trust, and a humble dependence on God. To me, that most of all unleashes God's power in our lives.

I thought of Anne Lamott as I began to prepare for our summer-long one-room style children's Sunday school unit on PRAYER. Our kids entering Preschool through Grade 6 will spend time considering how to express four kinds of prayers, using words quite familiar to a child's vocabulary: I love you, I'm sorry, Thank you, and Help.

Using these simple categories, we'll stop and think about all that God is. We'll talk about how God wants us to and helps us to do the right thing. We'll look around and wonder at all that God provides, and then in faith we'll turn to God and ask for blessings on us, on those we love,



and on those we don't even know. We'll conclude our unit with a close look at the Lord's Prayer and discover how Jesus expressed those same ideas. As an added enrichment, the kids will learn to pray the Lord's Prayer in American Sign Language.

We invite all of you to join us on this journey into prayer. Over the next several months, we'll be using a hallway bulletin board as a Prayer Wall. There will be space for everyone to post short prayer requests, as well as prayers of thanksgiving and praise.

Let's fill our board, and pray for each other. Parents, please participate with your children, and teach them about the power of praying in community. I'll go first:

God, my friend, **Thank you** for this community of believers who love each other through prayer. **Help** our children to know you and to experience your presence in those moments of quiet and not-so-quiet. **I love you**, Amen.

God Bless.

Elizabeth

Are you able to help?

I am seeking a second adult to help supervise during the **Children's Sermon Time** or occasionally in **Children's Summer Sunday School**.

If you would like to be a part of what is happening in our young disciples program, please contact Elizabeth at elizabeth@hudsonumc.com

Multiple volunteers may help on a rotating basis.





NOW scheduling Acolytes for June, July, and August.

ALL children and youth, Grades 2 and older are invited to carry the *Light of Christ* into the sanctuary at the opening of worship, and out into the world at the close of the service.

Contact Elizabeth or click <u>HERE</u> to sign up your child to be included on the Summer schedule.

NEW Acolytes welcome. Training available.

ANNOUNCING...

An Intergenerational Summer Sunday school class for youth and adults

Taking a deep dive into Scriptures from the Sermon on the Mount that inspired

The Chosen Season Two

The multi-season TV series chronicling the life of Jesus

Summer Sundays beginning June 2 at 10:45am

Christian Activities Center (CAC)
Led by Todd Bolinger

Participants are invited to tune in to weekly episodes of *The Chosen Season Two* at home and then join in on Sunday for a related Bible study and discussion.

ALL ARE INVITED to attend the introductory session on June 2 to learn more.

The Chosen may be viewed FREE on YouTube and through The Chosen App (links below) OR through the Prime Video subscription service.

The Chosen on the App Store (apple.com)

The Chosen - Apps on Google Play



CLICK to watch Season 1 Recap



CLICK to watch Season 2 Trailer

NURSERY SCHOOL



Another year of Nursery School has come and gone. I cannot believe how fast the year has gone. The children were great troopers with all the weather. Some days we were in the sandbox and in shorts; the next day we may have been in our winter coats! I guess that is what happens when you live in Ohio!!

The Summit Metro Parks came to school, and we learned so much. Our 4/5's and 5 days went to Passions Farm and had a great time with the alpacas and goats!! We had field day and bubble day. We were surprised when the ice cream truck showed up on field day! That was a big hit.

Some of our families will leave us for good and others will return for another round. We look forward to welcoming new families to our Nursery School family in the fall. We ended the year with our annual picnic, which is always a whole lot of fun!

The Nursery School still has several openings in some of our programs. We have openings in our Toddler program which is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ year old program and the child does not need to be potty trained. We also have openings in our other programs. A new class will be starting this fall as well. The class is called Baby and Me. This class is designed for the parent/caregiver to attend with the child who is aged 18 months to $2\frac{1}{2}$. We are looking forward to expanding our classes. Please let everyone know if you are interested or know anyone who is. Please have them call the office at 330-650-4091 ext. 106. Have a great summer!

Nursery School Director, Lisa VanBuskirk