

The G I F T

Great Inspiration for Thought

Hello
January



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HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2670 HUDSON AURORA RD



Every year, millions of people make New Year's resolutions, hoping to spark positive change. The recurring themes each year include a more active approach to health and fitness, improved finances, and learning new things for personal and professional development.

Chances are, more than a couple of the top 10 most common resolutions will look familiar to you:

1. *Exercise more*
2. *Lose weight*
3. *Get organized*
4. *Learn a new skill or hobby*
5. *Live life to the fullest*
6. *Save more money / spend less money*
7. *Quit smoking*
8. *Spend more time with family and friends*
9. *Travel more*
10. *Read more*

Despite the best of intentions, once the glow of a fresh new year wears off, many people struggle to make good on their plans. According to a study published in the Journal of Clinical Psychology, **46% of people who made New Year's resolutions were successful.**

Hudson UMC offers a sermon series in January that is intended to support you to get in S.H.A.P.E.! This is not to suggest we offer an aerobics class or forgo snacks at Fellowship Hour (but maybe more veggies and fruit would be welcomed).

The word S.H.A.P.E. points to five capabilities that equip us to fulfill God's ministry in our setting:

- **Spiritual Gifts:** special abilities God has gifted to us to share love and serve others.
- **Heart:** special passions God has gifted to us that can glorify God on earth.
- **Abilities:** talents that God gives us when we are born, which can be used to impact the lives of others.
- **Personality:** the unique way God wired us to navigate life and fulfill our Kingdom Purpose.
- **Experiences:** experiences in our lives, both positive and painful, which God can use in great ways.

God has ministries for all followers to exercise.

We can be more faithful when we are in S.H.A.P.E.!

Join us beginning January 12, 2025.

Living in Hope of a healthy New Year, Rev. Bruce

Great Inspiration for Thought



2025 ASP Trip June 8 – 14, 2025

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) is an adult and youth mission project that makes homes warmer, safer, and drier for those in need living in Appalachia. The 2025 trip will be HUMC's 51st year of volunteering at ASP!

Our 2025 trip is scheduled for June 8th – 14th. **SAVE THE DATE!**

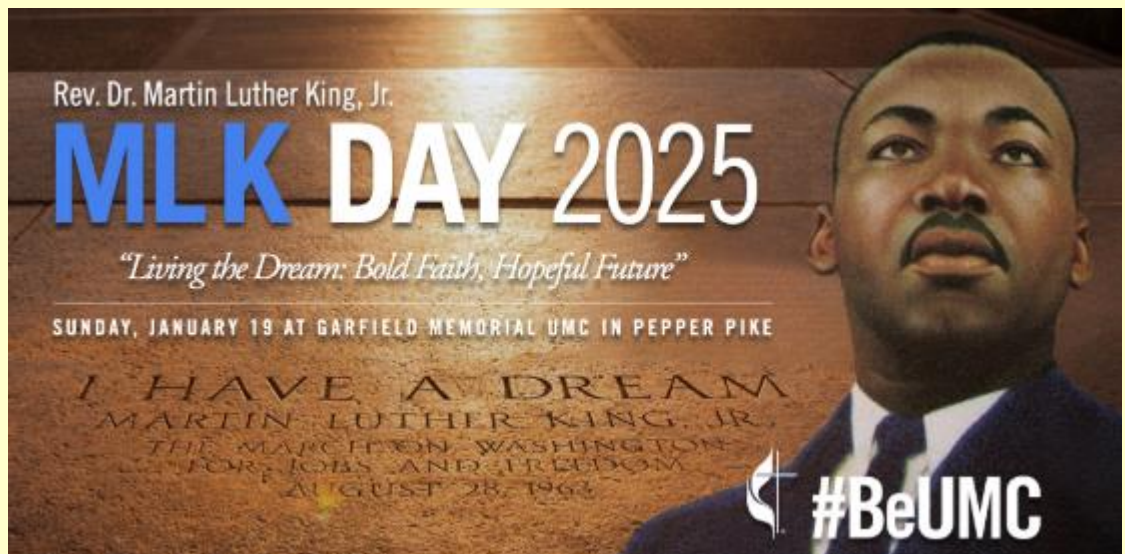
- We would love to have you join us on this experience. Prior construction knowledge is not required.
- We welcome all youth, ages 14 and up that have completed the 8th grade, and adults. Teams are generally 5 youth and 2

adults or adjusted, as needed, based on the count of individuals going. We are currently targeting for two teams to go.

- Cost will be \$200 per person but please do not let cost be the reason you don't go and let us know if assistance is needed.
- If you would like to volunteer for the 2025 trip, are looking for ways to support the trip, or would like additional information, please contact one of us:

Colleen Padgett @ 330.701.8569 or crpadgett@msn.com

Paul Brown @ 330.687.2090 or hrrassetpb@gmail.com





From Committee Work to Teamwork

The CEC (Christian Education Committee) recently came to a realization. As we began to talk more and more about embracing and supporting a discipleship-focused approach to being church, we realized that the way we were organized no longer made sense.

As you may recall from previous communications, making disciples is not simply about education. It also encompasses worship, community that builds relationships, engagement in spiritual practices, and service to others. All these serve the ultimate goal of becoming more and more Christ-like.

As a committee in a church that is positioning itself to support its members' growth as disciples, we decided that in our work, we needed to think bigger and look further than our previously defined structure allowed. We needed to organize ourselves in a way that would make space for new possibilities, while also accommodating the gifts and passions of disciples who are learning to minister in the particular ways in which they are called.



Consequently, the six-member CEC no longer exists. Instead, we plan to organize and lead specific ministries through multiple open- and closed-ended *Ministry Teams*: the Children/Youth-led Worship Service team, the Family Bible Exploration team, the Discipleship Pathway team, the Youth Ministry team, the NEW Messy Church

team, and more. All of these teams would necessarily be open to anyone drawn to serve in those areas. No committee membership card needed!

In his new sermon series beginning on January 12, 2025, Rev. Bruce will teach us about five unique ways that God has prepared each of us to carry out our own God-glorifying ministries. S.H.A.P.E. refers to our Spiritual gifts, our Heart or passions, our Abilities or talents, our Personality, and our life Experiences. These five aspects of ourselves come together to prepare us for accomplishing God's work in ways that are uniquely our own.

Who else but Silvia Gudgel would have so generously equipped us and shown us the potential of bringing people together through the making of holiday gingerbread houses. Who else but Jackie Beam would have been so deeply moved by a young choir from South Africa that she felt compelled to make a concert happen at Hudson UMC, where they touched our hearts as well.

Who else but YOU would do...what?

As you listen, contemplate, and pray through Rev. Bruce's S.H.A.P.E. series, we encourage you to think about what your own S.H.A.P.E. might be and to join or form a ministry team that will serve in a way that makes you and others come alive. As Rev. Bruce stated, "God has ministries for all followers to exercise."

Finding your way in your faith journey and finding your own Kingdom purpose within Hudson UMC and beyond is how we hope your Discipleship will take shape in 2025.

God Bless, and Happy New Year! *Elizabeth*

NEW Adult Sunday school class continues

All are welcome to join anytime!

Considering the Message

Led by Rev. Bruce Hartley and Elizabeth Goodin

Sunday mornings

10:50 to 11:50am

Pastor's Office

Designed to process the morning's message, together with friends, through guided discussion. A time for sharing insights, asking questions, and exploring deeper.

Spiritual Discernment Class scheduled to begin January 9

Led by Guest Spiritual Director Jane Kenneweg-Welch and Elizabeth Goodin

Thursday afternoons

January 9, 16, 30, February 6 (no class on January 23)

2:00 to 3:30pm

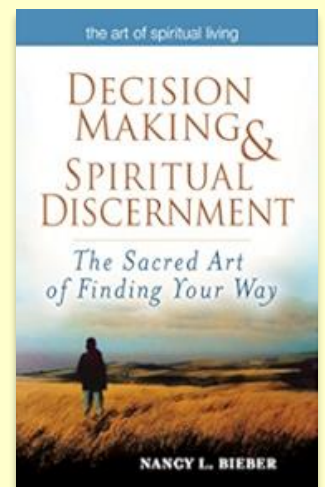
Prayer Room (Rm. 110)

FROM JANE:

Discernment is foremost a gift for our everyday lives . . . God's nudging us to "see with new eyes" the situations around us . . . to see how the Spirit is leading . . . to choose the better ways. Can I grow this skill, develop more understanding and awareness of God's movement in my life? YES!

All are welcome to join us in developing this skill of *seeing God in all things*.

To register for the class, please click [HERE](#).



Click on the image to view and purchase our text.

WinterJam'25 is touring Cleveland

WinterJam is family-friendly evening of live Christian artist concerts plus worship and ministry to encourage believers and share the Gospel.

Let Elizabeth know if you would like to join a youth and parents' group to attend together. familyministries@hudsonumc.com



January 31, 2025
@ 7:00pm
Wolstein Center
\$15 at the door

To watch an excerpt from last year's tour speaker, Zane Black's WinterJam '24 message, Click [HERE](#). (right click-open Hyperlink)



Trustees are the group that maintains our church building and grounds to support our many ministries. Our special thanks to John Kralik for overseeing the complex overhaul of the sanctuary overhead speaker and its installation.

Damaged by lightning strike the repair cost \$5,000 but now it has been acoustically retuned, and configured to our sanctuary. An equivalent new system would have cost more than 3 times as much. Another recent improvement has been the replacement of a collapsed underground storm drain in our courtyard which conveys water away from the foundation (ground repair and reseeded will be in April).

The Trustees have taken the step of creating a separate land parcel which could allow the parsonage house to be sold in the future, however, currently the parsonage is rented bringing in over \$28,000 in yearly income.

The Trustees have received estimates to restore the Youth basement from the August flooding ranging \$17,000 to \$24,000. This would install an epoxy floor coating, but we are holding off this alternative at this time. All of the former carpeting had to be removed after the flood.

Thanks to 11 volunteers for the Fall cleanup, the church and parsonage yards are prepared for winter.
– Tom King, Trustee Chair

NURSERY SCHOOL

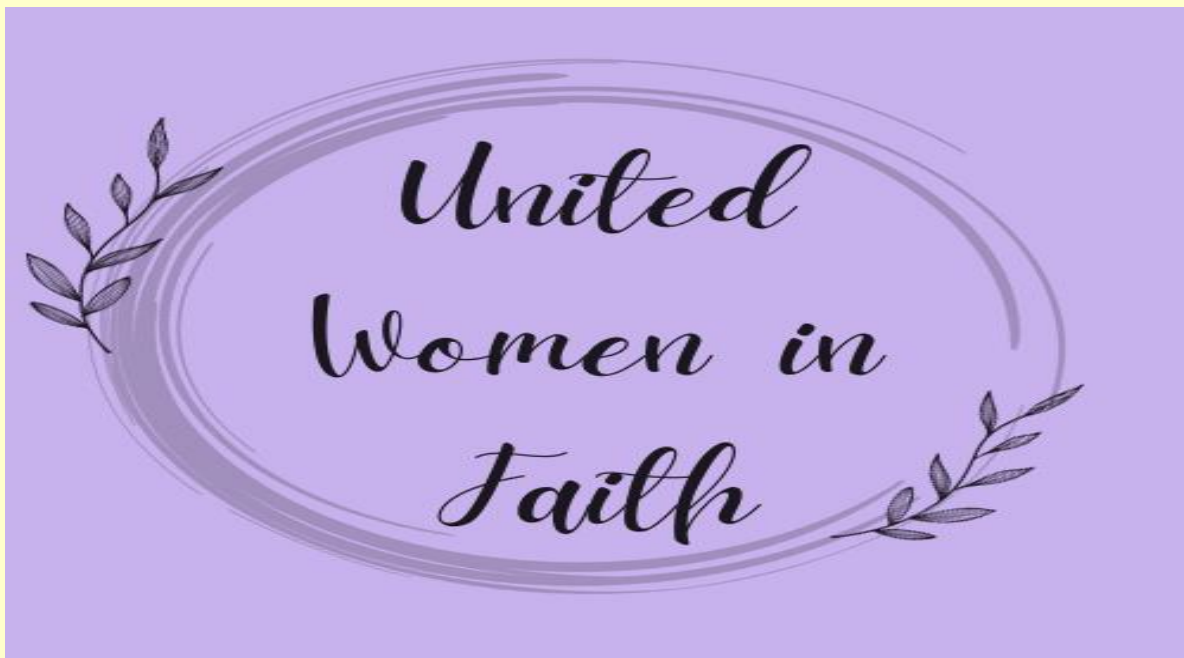


December was a blur! We were so busy making special gifts for our families for the holidays, that it just flew by! We also had fun practicing our songs for our annual Christmas program. That was a great time for all. We got to visit Santa and he brought each of us a special book and we assured him we have all been good this year!

Some of the classes made and decorated Gingerbread Houses. That's always a good time. We get to decorate and of course taste a few candies!

Registration packets for the 2025-2026 school year will be available January 13th and registration will take place on February 8th. The school will hold an open house from 9:00-11:30 on January 22nd. If you know of anyone looking for preschool, please let them know. We also offer a baby and me class that will start up again on January 24th. The class is 6 weeks long and meets on Fridays from 10:00-11:00. The cost is 60.00 for the 6 weeks. This is a great way to get out of the house with the little ones during the cold snowy months. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

Nursery School Director,
Lisa VanBuskirk



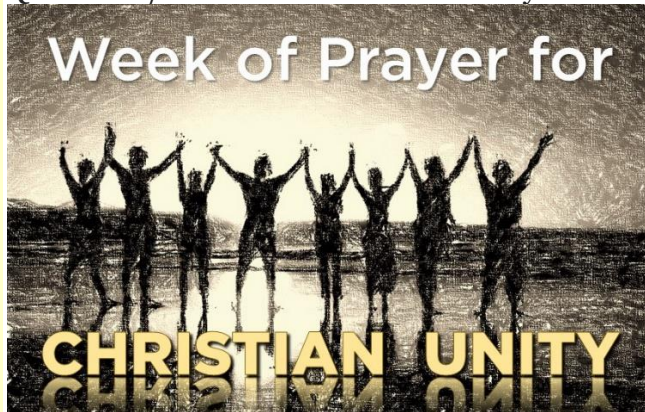
FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

Hudson United Women in Faith board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.**

Mary Martha Circle will join in fellowship with the Christian Unity Prayer Service (CUPS) at St. Mary's Parish in Hudson on **Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

Mary Martha meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

Questions/Information contact Cheryl Maimona at ctm2949@roadrunner.com



Priscilla Circle will not be having a regular meeting in January but encourage all women to attend the Christian Unity Prayer Serve (CUPS) at St. Mary's Parish in Hudson on **Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

Priscilla Circle meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

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

Books for Breakfast will meet on **Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Michelle Novosel.** The book for discussion is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah.

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

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE AND LUNCHEON

The annual Christian Unity Prayer Service and Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, January 23, 2025, at St. Mary Parish in Hudson, located at 340 N Main St. The ecumenical service, led by local clergy, begins at 10:00 AM. It is followed by a luncheon and guest speaker. The service, traditionally held during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, has the theme, "Do you believe this?" (*John 11:26*).

After the service, a box lunch will be served for ticket holders. The box lunches are catered by Nosh's of Hudson.

Our featured speaker after the luncheon is Rev. Joy Fenton-Jones. She will share her faith journey.

Ticket price is \$20.00 per person and may be obtained from Cheryl Gamble (cgamble1114@yahoo.com) Make checks for tickets payable to: Hudson United Methodist Church or HUMC, with CUPS noted on the memo line. **Tickets will be on sale January 5 and January 12, 2025. Reservation deadline is January 12, 2025.**

The prayer service is free and open to all; it does not require a ticket to attend.

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, March 2, 2025 UWF - Fat Sunday Pancake Breakfast – Watch for more details in the coming months



Sunday, April 27, 2025 UWF Sunday Worship Service – Watch for more details in the coming months.

UMW/UWF *Sunday*



FAITH | HOPE | LOVE IN ACTION

Celebrating 155 years of mission work and fellowship!