

The GIFT

April 2025

Great Inspiration for Thought



Hudson United Methodist Church
2670 Hudson Aurora Rd
Hudson OH 44236



Join Us in Our Mission

Your planned gift to Hudson UMC is more than a donation; it is a testament to your faith and commitment to our community. Together, we can ensure that Hudson UMC continues to teach others to love God and others for many years to come.

Thank you for considering Hudson United Methodist Church in your planned giving. Your legacy of faith and generosity will help us continue our mission to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ. As a grateful steward of God's abundance scan this code and share your gift with Hudson UMC. You are making a difference close to home and around the world.



Membership Exploration

If you feel a nudge from God to explore membership at Hudson UMC, we welcome you warmly. Contact Rev. Bruce at [pastor@hudsonumc.com] to express your interest or ask questions. Details will be shared when those interested are identified.

Future opportunities will be available if now isn't the right time.



Holy Week Worship Opportunities at Hudson UMC

April 13 – Palm Sunday Mark 11:1-10 “Donkey Sunday”

April 17 – Maundy Thursday John 13:1-15 “Do We Understand...Yet”

**April 18 – Good Friday services available in Hudson;
First Congregational Church – 7:00pm 47 Aurora Street, Hudson**

Christ Church Episcopal – 21 Aurora St., Hudson

**St. Mary Catholic Church – 3:00 Passion Liturgy 8:00pm Living Stations of the Cross
340 N. Main St., Hudson**

Christ Community Chapel - 6:00pm & 7:30pm, 750 W. Streetsboro St., Hudson

**April 20 – Easter “Does Easter Really Matter?”
Join together singing praises to the Almighty for the hope and joy of life.**

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PAPER TOWELS for the HUDSON FOOD PANTRY

Hudson UMC supports the Hudson Food Pantry by supplying one roll of paper towels every month for 60+ families. The rolls do not need to be individually wrapped.

Items requested at this month: PAPER TOWELS!!!



Canned chicken & canned fruit



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

Upcoming distribution:
Saturday, April 26

THANK YOU! Nancy Kralik
nskralik@gmail.com 330-212-7581

FEED MY SHEEP APRIL OUTREACH

Shampoo, Deodorant, Gently Used Spring, Summer Clothing, Household & Cleaning Items



Feed My Sheep is a church-based hot lunch program Fridays from 11:30p 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, 2 toiletry items and travel-size toiletries. HUMC also supplies toilet paper and a roll is offered every week with 125+ carry-out lunches.

Blue collection bins are located in the narthex closet. Thank you for supporting Feed My Sheep! Contact: Nancy Kralik 330-212-7581, or nskralik@gmail.com





Friends in High Places

You may recall last year when I introduced you all to my dear friend Jane Kenneweg-Welch. This past January, she led a group class where she introduced the practice of **Spiritual Discernment**. She describes this as a way of living where we remain attuned to the daily movements of the Spirit.

Participants in the class were introduced to several practices for developing awareness of God's presence in our lives. Two notable practices were [The Daily Examen](#) and [Centering Prayer](#). I encourage anyone who would like to grow and develop in their own spiritual discernment to follow the links above for further exploration.

Many in our Spiritual Discernment class were quite moved by their discovery of this way of being and were eager to learn more. At our reunion class one month later, Jane introduced two additional practices for deepening our relationship with God and opening ourselves to God's guidance in all aspects of our lives: [SoulCollage®](#) and [Walking the Labyrinth](#).



SoulCollage® is a visual prayer practice founded by Seena B. Frost and introduced in her book [SoulCollage Evolving: An Intuitive Collage Process for Self-Discovery and Community](#). One reviewer describes it as intuitively cutting and pasting images to create “a collage of little bits and pieces of yourself on cards.” The cards are then used to listen and reflect on how God is speaking to you through your selections. Click [HERE](#) to watch Seena B. Frost's video, Invitation to *SoulCollage®*, that demonstrates and explains this process.

My friend, Jane, has another friend, Jennifer who is a *SoulCollage®* workshop facilitator. Jennifer has agreed to hold a workshop in the near future at a reasonable cost for any members and friends of Hudson UMC who might be interested in taking part in this meaningful practice of self-expression and self-discovery. All materials will be provided.

A **Labyrinth** is a single life-size circular path, which always leads to the center. Jane and I have a good friend, Susi, who has devoted much time and travel to learning about and engaging in Labyrinth walking all over the world. She describes this ancient form of prayer this way: “*Walking the Labyrinth* is a type of pilgrimage toward transformation or enlightenment. It allows the mind to relax and become aware. We emerge more awakened, focused and peaceful. We feel more optimistic and more connected.”



Susi, a certified labyrinth facilitator, has expressed **her** willingness to meet with a group of Hudson UMC members and friends for a May gathering at the Federated Church’s outdoor labyrinth in Bainbridge. She will provide a program, along with guidance, prior to walking the labyrinth together. Susi’s Labyrinth Information brochure is linked [HERE](#).

Does it seem like friends are coming out of the woodwork to help us grow in our spiritual discernment? I believe that something significant has begun to happen here at Hudson UMC, and paths are being opened in our mission to make and mature disciples. If either (or both!) of these practices spark your interest, I invite you to join us in experiencing them firsthand alongside knowledgeable and enthusiastic guides. Click on the registration form linked [HERE](#) to express your interest, and Jane and I will let our friends know that WE’RE READY.

God Bless,
Elizabeth



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
Hudson UMC’s Annual
EASTER EGG HUNT
for children through 5th grade
Saturday, April 12 at 2:30pm
HUMNS Playground
(Indoors in the event of rain)

Please register [HERE](#) by April 9.
(right click for hyperlink)

Accepting donations of individually packaged candies and/or small toys.
Any donations may be placed in the container outside
Elizabeth Goodin’s office (Room 117)

QUESTIONS? Contact Silvia Gudgel (rabit_foot29@hotmail.com)

At the Movies...

Announcing a Lenten **ALL-CHURCH** outing to attend a showing of *The King of Kings* (2025)



A FATHER TELLS HIS SON the greatest story ever told, and what begins as a bedtime tale becomes a life-changing journey. Through vivid imagination, the boy walks alongside Jesus, witnessing His miracles, facing His trials, and understanding His ultimate sacrifice. *The King of Kings* invites us to rediscover the enduring power of hope, love, and redemption

Click [HERE](#) to watch the official trailer.

[The King of Kings Parents Guide: Is It Suitable for Kids?](#)

INTERESTED? Click [HERE](#) by April 4 for Elizabeth to reserve your seat at a group discount.

Sunday, April 13 at
3:30pm

B&B Theatres Macedonia 15
8161 Macedonia Commons

Nursery School



March was another busy month for the Nursery School. We celebrated the weather warming up a little bit, we even got to take a few walks outside! We celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a special **green** snack and we all wore our **green** for the day and celebrated! March also brought us Spring break. I think we all look forward to a little time off and spending time with family and enjoying the spring weather.

We will be having our annual Art show. The show will be on **April 30th** Our theme is *Around the World!* It should be very exciting. Look for the Narthex to be transformed into a cool art gallery. This always makes for a jaw-dropping experience.

April we'll talk about butterflies and watch as we have chrysalises turn into butterflies. This is always an exciting time for the children. We will have our pictures taken for one last time. The school year has flown by and we have enjoyed every minute of being able to be in school and socializing with our friends.

We do have a few spots left for the 2025-2026 school year. If you know of anyone looking for preschool please let them know. We will also continue our *Baby and Me* class next fall. Watch for details.

Nursery School Director,
Lisa VanBuskirk



A NEW SEASON BEGINS

After nearly a decade of faithful service to Hudson United Methodist Church, we extend our warmest wishes to Julie Alston as she embarks on a well-earned retirement. Since joining the HUMC family almost ten years ago, she has been a steadfast presence in our church office.

Before stepping into her role at HUMC, Julie dedicated her time and talents to the Stow City Schools. Julie indicates "the people." are her favorite part of the job at HUMC. Seeing friendly faces each day, assisting in any way she could, and working alongside the wonderful "Office Angels" brought her immense joy.

As Julie moves into this next chapter, she has no plans of slowing down! She will be dedicating time to her two home-based businesses while continuing to give back by volunteering twice a week at a therapeutic horse farm. She also looks forward to picking up a morning class and traveling to experience more of God's beautiful creation. In her free time, she will enjoy pickleball, biking, kayaking, camping, dancing, and, most importantly, spending cherished moments with family and friends.

We are grateful for Julie's years of dedication and service.



We are thrilled to introduce Ashley Fox as our new Communications Director at HUMC! Ashley brings a deep passion for serving others and fostering a welcoming and connected community. She is eager to share her gifts with us and to help strengthen the ways we communicate and engage with one another.

Ashley's journey to this role has been guided by her love for helping others and her desire to be part of a church that values faith, service, and community. She is excited to get to know each of you, build meaningful relationships, and be a part of a team that works together to make a positive impact.

Before joining HUMC, Ashley worked as a Teacher Career Coach and owned her own business. These experiences have shaped her heart for service and prepared her well for this new chapter. Outside of work, she enjoys knitting with her daughter, hiking with her pug, and spending time with family and friends. She also loves exploring new places!

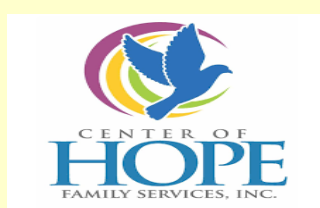
Please join us in giving Ashley a warm welcome! We are grateful for her heart, her talents, and her commitment to our church family. We look forward to seeing how God will work through her in this role.



FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

Hudson United Women in Faith board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the church.**

Mary Martha Circle will be **volunteering at Center of Hope on Thursday, April 10, 2025. Watch your email for more information.**



Mary Martha usually meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Questions/Information contact Cheryl Maimona at ctm2949@roadrunner.com

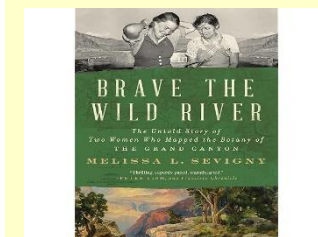
Priscilla Circle will meet on **Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the church.** Program TBD

Please bring your own brown bag dinner.

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 at marty2uin@windstream.net

Books for Breakfast will meet on **Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Karen Kelly.** The book for discussion is *Brave the Wild River* by Melissa L. Sevigny.



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.

SPIRITUAL OUTREACH

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH—SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Attention Ladies: YOU ARE INVITED

All Ladies and young Ladies of Hudson United Methodist Church are invited to participate in the United Women in Faith Worship Service on **Sunday, April 27, 2025.**

If you would like to participate in the Worship Service, **please sign-up on the Board in the Gathering Area** or contact: Cheryl Gamble @ cgamble1114@yahoo.com or Carol Spinelli: kspinelli55@yahoo.com

Please consider joining the United Women in Faith ~ All Daughters Chorus for the UWF Worship Service on **Sunday, April 27, 2025.**

If you would like to be a part of the Choir, **be sure to sign-up on the Board in the Gathering area.**

Choir Practice Schedule

Wednesday, April 2 @ 5:30 – 6:15 pm

Wednesday, April 9 @ 5:30 – 6:15 pm

Wednesday, April 23 @ 5:30 – 6:15 pm

Questions: Contact: Sandy Simpson: ssimpson923@yahoo.com

MISSIONS

UWF PANCAKE BREAKFAST- THANK YOU!

The Hudson United Women in Faith would like to thank everyone who attended our Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday, March 2, 2025! We hope you enjoyed the delicious pancakes, sausage and all the yummy toppings. There were approximately **80** in attendance, and it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying fellowship with one another. We are extremely thankful for your generosity and with your donations, we raised **\$730.00**. Your support will help us continue our commitment to provide funding to missions and projects that help improve the lives of women, children and youth.

The Free Will Offering from the Pancake Breakfast we will be providing funds to UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief) in support of the California Wildfires. Once again, we thank you for your continued support of United Women in Faith.



GIFTS FROM THE HEART- THANK YOU!

The Hudson United Women of Faith would like to thank everyone who contributed to our Mission Outreach Project: "Gifts from the Heart". Through your generosity, we collected **\$1155.00** which will equally benefit Heart 4 the City in Akron, and The Center of Hope in Ravenna. The monetary donations provided will help these programs continue with their food ministries and help to enhance the well-being of the families and individuals in their communities. Thank you for your continued support.