

June G.I.F.T.

Great Inspiration for Thought



A Message from the Pastor

Janet and I recently returned from time away. This time was much needed for our mind, body, and soul. But you know the number of tasks that await you when you return home – restock the refrigerator, mow the lawn, and go back to work. Little did we anticipate an additional concern.

Janet jumped in her car to take her mother to a hair appointment – adjusted the seat and mirrors, buckled up, backed out of the garage – off to Ravenna! She glanced at the dashboard and discovered the "check engine" light was glowing, another light indicated she could not use the cruise control, and the lane departure sensor was not going to work either. What to do… she called me, someone who is not mechanically inclined.

It is important to remember that sensors on the dashboard should not be ignored; they are there for a reason, to warn of potential issues. This made me wonder... what if humanity had a "check soul" indicator? What would it take to set this sensor off?

This message serves as preventative maintenance for the soul. Soul care involves intentionally caring for the most important part of ourselves. Souls are healthier with practices such as participating in community activities, engaging in meaningful work, and taking time for reflection and relaxation.

The summer months indicate a more relaxed schedule. Routines are altered – people camp, boat, and travel to recuperate from work and school schedules. These activities and more are beneficial for wellbeing. Many diligent drivers will ensure their vehicles are prepared for journeys. But what about maintaining the soul along the journey of life?

Here are some suggested practices:

- · Walk a labyrinth.
- Explore your abilities and gifts.
- · Engage in activities wherever you are vacationing.
- · Identify a verse or mantra you could recite as you hike a new or familiar path.
- Ask for advice on more practices.

Intentionally nourishing our souls will help us during challenging times. We should prevent unexpected crises by doing our soul-work. Have a safe and relaxing summer.

Best regards, Bruce



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:

Paper towels!!! Canned Great Northern Beans, Canned Kidney Beans, Tea, Vegetable Oil

Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area. Upcoming distributions Saturday May 31, Saturday June 28.

Thank you! Nancy Kralik nskralik@gmail.com, or 330-212-7581



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

Feed My Sheep is a churchbased hot lunch program on 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. Thank you for supporting Feed My Sheep! Contact Nancy Kralik, 330-212-7581, or nskralik@gmail.com

From Elizabeth Goodin, Director of Family Ministries



Thank you to our children and youth Sunday School Teachers!

I believe that one of our most important tasks as a church is to tell our children, *repeatedly*, about the God who created, saves, and sustains us. Our Sunday school teachers have placed themselves within a crucial time in kids' lives for forming faith. Each week, they thoughtfully prepare their hearts and minds to share the message, and they encourage their kids to explore, question, reflect,...and play. On behalf of our families, I extend our deep gratitude to those servants at Hudson UMC who give of their time to invest in the faith of our young people. This ministry is not possible without YOU!

Please thank our lead teachers and faithful substitute teachers when you see them: Tom King, Steve Hannah, Silvia Gudgel, Marty Hannah, Jackie Beam, Isabel Lee, Sandy Bernert, Debby Fabian, and Paul Brown.



Join us this Summer for *The Chosen,*Season Four
Intergenerational
Sunday School Class.

Sundays, beginning on June 1st 10:50am, Room 112/114 Led by Chris Bolinger

The Chosen is the multi-season TV series chronicling the life of Jesus. Season Four focuses on the last year of Jesus' ministry, beginning with the death of John the Baptist and leading to the events of Holy Week.

Participants are invited to tune in to weekly episodes of *The Chosen* at home. Class sessions will include video clips, followed by a time for discussion. **Visit** *The Chosen* class webpage at HudsonUMC.com (Click on Learn > Summer Sunday School 2025)



Labyrinth Walk Field Trip: Thursday, June 5th at 2:00pm (Rain Date: June 12th)

ALL ARE WELCOME to join Elizabeth, Jane Kenneweg-Welch (our Spiritual Discernment Class leader), and certified labyrinth facilitator, Susi Kawolics, for a labyrinth overview program and walk at Federated Church's outdoor labyrinth and gardens (16349 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, OH).

A *Labyrinth* is a single life-size circular path, which always leads to the center. Susi 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's Labyrinth Information brochure is linked **HERE**.

Let Elizabeth know of your interest in being a part of on this unique opportunity!



Ministry Teams Forming...

Summer at Hudson UMC will be a vital time of planning for a renewed SEASON! Consider prayerfully how your gifts may enrich the ministries of Hudson UMC, and contact Elizabeth with your questions or interest in joining one of these teams.

Discipleship Pathway Ministry Team

Over the past year, we have been sharing about the Discipleship Pathway, a specific way of looking at faith formation and the role of the church. The pathway represents a strategy for growing followers of Jesus, or making disciples, and it has great potential for transforming both individual lives and the life of our church. The task of the Discipleship Pathway Ministry Team will be to create and communicate a plan for integrating the five elements of discipleship (worship, community, spiritual formation, service, Christ-likeness) into the lived experience of Hudson UMC.

Hospitality Ministry Team

The purpose of the Hospitality Ministry Team will be to identify the best ways for creating an inviting and hospitable first impression and follow-up for guests to Hudson UMC. This would include anything from giving attention to our church environment and atmosphere to addressing the information available and ease of navigation for newcomers to our website. Our goal will be to eliminate the barriers that have been shown to discourage visitors and to clear a path to them taking their next step with us. We will prioritize empathy toward the stranger and welcoming and encouraging those who are seeking community and a church home for growing in their faith.

Fellowship Ministry Team

At Hudson UMC, we value nurturing the kind of relationships that validate, lift up, and support. It is within these types of relationships that discipleship happens, as we navigate life together in an atmosphere of faith. The Fellowship Ministry Team will focus on bringing people together for enjoying each other's company, getting to know one another better, and finding community. All varieties of gatherings will be pursued!

Messy Church Ministry Team

Messy Church is a form of all-age church that emphasizes creativity, celebration, and hospitality, often held at times other than traditional Sunday mornings. It's designed to be inclusive and welcoming for people of all ages and stages of faith, with a focus on fun and engagement through activities, games, crafts, music, storytelling, and a sit-down meal together. Messy Church is a global movement with many resources available. This team will work together to bring this unique form of all-age worship, fun, and "mess" to Hudson UMC. To learn more about Messy Church, read *Embracing the Mess* by Stephanie Martin



Recruiting Summer Children's Sermon Adult Assistants

Each Sunday during the sermon portion of the worship service, Elizabeth, along with an adult volunteer, takes the kids to the CAC for a brief lesson and activity related to the sermon topic.

If anyone has ever been curious about what happens during this time with the kids, or would value making some **meaningful connections with our "young disciples,"** then serving as our adult helper might be the perfect volunteer opportunity. No preparation is required, but the kids would certainly benefit from any additional wisdom offered to the conversation.

If you think this ministry is something you would like to be involved in, please take a look at the summer schedule linked <u>HERE</u>, and add your name to one or more upcoming Sunday's slots.



Do you love to organize?

Elizabeth could use your help this summer decluttering the Resource Room (Room 115) and relocating useful resources to other rooms and cabinets. This will serve to free up classroom space for ministry. Let Elizabeth know you'd like to join the crew, and we'll put your gift for organizing to good use.

From Our Nursery School

Well, we finished another successful year in the Nursery School. We will have children leaving us to go onto kindergarten and children returning to enjoy all the fun we have! This year proved to be another exciting year.

We ended the school year with Bubble Day and Field Day. Bubble Day was a blast. We got to try all kinds of different bubble wands and make little and huge bubbles. The most exciting part of the day was a big surprise we got to have ice cream for snack! The children always love this day. Field day was another success. We got to do relay races, the parachute and dance to silly songs. We ended our day with popsicles after all the hard work.

We had our year end picnics at Hudson Spring Park which turned out to be a great day. We got to have snack with our friends and parents. We also got a special treat from the school. We are looking forward to the fall and all it has in store for us! We do still have some openings in our programs. If you know someone who is looking for preschool, please let them know.

We will also have a baby and me class starting in the fall. This class is designed for 18 month to 2.5 year olds. The class is offered on Fridays from 10:00-11:00. The class is taught by Mrs. Piel who is our toddler teacher. The child comes with a parent, grandparent or caregiver. Watch for more details!

From Our Music Director

All of us who participate in the music ministries are deeply grateful for the support you have blessed us with throughout the 2024/2025 season. We hope you will enjoy the special Handbell and Chancel Choir pieces we are preparing for June 1st.

Please consider offering your musical gifts throughout the summer months. Whether it is a solo, duet, trio, instrumental or vocal, you are most welcome to enrich our worship through your musical gifts. I have allotted time on Thursday afternoons to help anyone select and rehearse music, as well as learn about anything musical in which you may have interest.

You are also invited to sing with any of multi-generation ladies, mens and mixed ensembles. Each group will sing one Sunday in late July or early August and rehearse three times prior. Check the **summer choir schedule on our website**. **Click Connect>Music**.

There are sign-up sheets on the choir room desk for all of the above, which have all of the dates and times listed. You can also call or text me at 330.284.7831.



Fellowship Events

Hudson United Women in Faith board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

Mary Martha Circle will be taking a summer break. Meetings will resume in September.

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

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

Priscilla Circle will be taking a summer break. Meetings will resume in September. 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 had their book selection for the 2025/2026 season on Thursday, May 22, 2025. (Details of the book selections will be sent in an email). They will resume meetings in September.

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 <u>Hudson United Methodist Church</u> <u>Women</u>- be sure to "Like" us to get current updates.

UWF SUNDAY- THANK YOU

We would like to thank all the ladies who participated in the United Women in Faith Worship Service on Sunday, April 27. Also, many thanks to Sandy Simpson, Jinyang Tian and the Daughters of Faith Chorus for the wonderful music selections. It was a blessing to have Hannah Howell, of RAHAB Ministry of Hope, as our guest speaker and hear her inspirational message. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to our special offering to RAHAB Ministry.

Through your generosity, we collected over \$800 that will continue to help support the mission of RAHAB in bringing Christ-centered, transformational care to those affected by sex trafficking in Northeast Ohio. We also congratulate Isabel Lee, as our very deserving 2025 Mission Pin recipient. Her leadership with the children and youth has been invaluable in the HUMC Youth's Christian Education Walk throughout the years.

Thank you for your continued support of the UWF.
Cheryl Gamble and Carol Spinelli Co-Presidents Hudson UWF



United Women in Faith Sunday Worship service participants



Daughters of Faith Chorus



Hannah Howell,
Communications and
Engagement
Coordinator for
RAHAB Ministries,
was the guest
speaker for UWF
Sunday worship
service

MISSIONS

The Happy Project

The Hudson's (HUMC) United Women in Faith will be collecting period and incontinence supplies, including – tampons, pads and liners for the Hudson Food Pantry from June 1st, 2025- August 10th, 2025; monetary donations will also be accepted; please contact Marcia Korane at mskorane@windstream.net if you have any guestions.

H: Hudson United Women in Faith

A: appreciates and

P: provides

P: period and incontinence supplies, including – tampons, pads and liners for

Y: young women and all those who benefit from Hudson Food Pantry



An Invitation for Future Leaders of HUMC

Rev. Bruce and the Nominations Committee invite you to explore the possibility of becoming a future leader at HUMC as we pursue a transition to the Simplified Accountable Structure of church governance.

If you know you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out return the Leadership Board Interest Form. If you would prefer to have someone contact you to learn more about this opportunity, please fill in only your name on the attached form and return it. We encourage you engage and shape the future of your Church Family!

