

August GIFT

Great Inspiration for Thought



Read online and access links at <https://conta.cc/3GPrp6l>

A Message from the Pastor

We invite you to view this brief video on [the art of cultivating Japanese square watermelons](#), followed by a thoughtful message from Rev. Bruce below.



Mission Work



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:

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

Donations may be dropped off at the church in the gathering area. Contact Nancy Kralik, nskralik@gmail.com



Feed My Sheep

Feed My Sheep is a church-based hot lunch program on Fridays from 11:30am to 12:30pm 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 sized 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, nskralik@gmail.com



Acme Community Cash Back

The Acme Community Cash Back program is beginning again! This year it will run from 8/1/25 to 2/15/26. Our church will receive 5% back from the purchase of certain items to be used for missions.

You can put your receipts in the collection bin outside the pastor's office, or email the cash back total on the bottom of the receipt to s1bernert@aol.com. Thank you for supporting our missions!



Mountain of Food

Volunteer Opportunity at Heart 4 the City in Akron! Heart 4 the City's monthly 'Mountain of Food' distribution is Thursday, August 7th. Set-up 7:30am; the distribution at or before 9am. Park on the grass, east of the church.

Heart 4 the City, 954 Eastland Ave. Akron, OH 44305
Contact: Tammy Heffernan, 330 322-6952
Future distribution dates: Sept 4, Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4

contact: familyministries@hudsonumc.com

We are excited about the opportunity for Elizabeth, along with other Hudson UMC ministry leaders, to attend the **4 Every Generation Conference** this **November 4-6, 2025**, in Missouri! This gathering will equip us with new ideas and inspiration for building meaningful, faith-centered connections across all ages at Hudson UMC.



If you're able to help, please contact Elizabeth for more details. Thank you for your continued support and for helping us grow in ministry—together!

Discipleship Pathway Ministry Team



DISCIPLE
» BE ONE. MAKE ONE. «

The **Hospitality Ministry Team** will focus on creating a warm, welcoming experience for guests—both in person and online—by improving first impressions, accessibility, and follow-up. Our goal is to remove barriers that discourage visitors and to help them take their next step, with empathy, clarity, and a spirit of welcome.



Messy Church Ministry Team

Messy Church is an all-age, inclusive worship experience focused on creativity, celebration, and hospitality—often held outside traditional Sunday mornings. It engages all through crafts, games, music, storytelling, and shared meals. **The Messy Church Ministry Team** will bring the fun and spirit of Messy Church to Hudson UMC, using global resources to guide the way. To learn more, check out [*Embracing the Mess* by Stephanie Martin](#).
[Text Link](#)



Fellowship Ministry Team

At Hudson UMC, we value relationships that uplift and support—where discipleship grows as we journey together in faith. The **Fellowship Ministry Team** will create opportunities for connection, friendship, and community through a variety of gatherings.



What's Ahead for Hudson UMC Fellowship?

Seeking Dinner for 8 Hosts

We're organizing groups of 8 people to meet for dinner and fellowship in either September/October or January/February. If you're interested in **hosting** a Dinner for Eight in your home, in either of those time frames, please contact Amy Pendergrass at amy.j.pendergrass@gmail.com.

Bike Hikes and Picnics

Join us for Summer and Fall exercise and fellowship. Riders meet in the Giant Eagle parking lot on Norton Road in Hudson for bike rides of either 5 or 15 miles, followed by a bring-your-own picnic at Oak Grove Park. The next bike hike and picnic is scheduled for **Saturday, August 9 at 9:00am**. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Bob Kinsey at rakinsey7723@gmail.com.

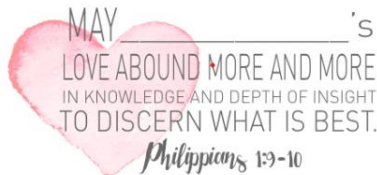
Empty Nesters Life Group

If you are an empty nester who would enjoy the fellowship and support of others in a similar life stage, watch for announcements of future gatherings of Hudson UMC's newly formed Empty Nesters Group. **Do you have an idea for forming another type of life group at Hudson UMC?** [Contact Elizabeth](#).

Plans are underway for a **mid-February Valentine's Day catered dinner**, combined with a fun "Newlywed Game"— style activity. Stay tuned for more details. To join the planning team for this event, please contact Amy Pendergrass at amy.j.pendergrass@gmail.com.

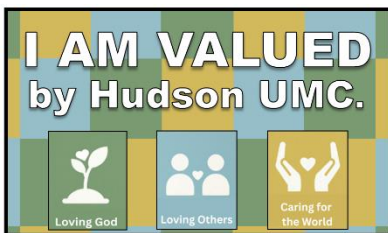
WALKING Hikes

Gordon Mann leads hikers of all levels along our many local trails. The next all-church hike is planned for **Saturday, August 30**. Watch email and the [Hudson UMC website](#) for upcoming details. For information, please contact Gordon Mann [ggmann@msn.com](mailto:ggmenn@msn.com).



Back to School Prayer Cards

Calling on the power of praying parents and grandparents! Pick up a set of these scripture-based prayer prompts to guide you in praying God's wisdom and guidance over your children or grandchildren as they head back to school. These individual cards invite prayers for learning, growth, and good choices each day of their coming year.



"Backpack" Blessing is Sunday, August 10

As students and teachers return to school and others continue in all types of "work", we will take the time during the worship service to offer a blessing over the tools of their trade. ALL ages are invited to bring anything that is symbolic of their work and participate in a special blessing ceremony that will honor the work they do and bless the time they spend living the call on their lives.

Fall Sunday School begins on September 14 for children and adults. Adults, join one of our four existing classes, or start one of your own! Watch email and the [Hudson UMC website](#) for details on fall topics

A Message from our Trustees

In Need of Repair

The Care & Repair Fund has been hit with a string of necessary expenses over the last 2 years. The purpose of this fund is to cover major unexpected replacement and repair costs to protect General Fund from major cuts to church day to day operations. The Trustees seek to have this reserve maintain a balance of over \$20,000. Our building is 57 years old and the Trustees are always prioritizing among needed replacements and critical repairs. The Care & Repair Fund balance is now under \$5,000. So far this year we have needed to tackle over \$24,000 of major expenses: generator replacement; the parsonage's furnace, sump pump, and dishwasher replacements; and \$9600 of church exterior painting (deferred from 2024). Last year flood remediation, electrical replacements and upgrades were undertaken to catch up from water and lightning damage totaling about \$25,000.

Please consider generously adding a regular pledge amount designated to the Care & Repair Fund OR consider a onetime gift to offset these large expenses and prepare our church for the next critical replacement.

<https://onrealm.org/HudsonUnitedMet/-/form/give/now> - specify "Care & Repair" on that page.

(For example, ask me or one of our Trustees sometime about the 5 HVAC units operating beyond their estimated useful life, parking pavement repair, or the church dishwasher!)

Tom King, Trustee Chair