



Hudson United Methodist Church

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September G.I.F.T. Great Inspiration for Thought



A message from the Pastor

Some movies, books, television series are written with such skill, creating characters that are so relatable. What movie or book in your life-experience includes a character that you still relate to after many years?

I have one to toss out to you...the Cowardly Lion, in the movie "The Wizard of Oz." The lion, or Zeke, is known for his famous quote about courage: "Courage! What makes a king out of a slave? Courage! What makes the flag on the mast to wave? Courage!" Who can forget the question he repeatedly asks, "What have they got that I ain't got?" Dorothy and her friends reply, "Courage!"

Hudson UMC will further explore courage beginning September 14th. The series is entitled, "Living With Courage." Our springboard to a life of courage is an Old Testament prophet named Haggai. We will step into one of the shortest books in the Bible but be forewarned this does not mean the message is shallow. The Book of Haggai is deeper than you think!

Maybe this is a time in your life experience when you are discouraged, it happens at some point to everyone. The "happily ever after life" you dreamed of may as well be a million miles away and you feel like quitting. Haggai does not exactly address how to arrive at a life "happily ever after," but he does have a message that can instill "Courage!"

“Living With Courage”

September 14 - Haggai 1:1-11 “We All Need Encouragement”

September 21 – Haggai 1:12-15 “In the Face of Discouragement”

September 28 – Haggai 2:16-19 “Leads to Action”

October 5 – Haggai 2:19-23 “Glorifies God”

If you are burdened by the weight of discouragement, take courage, you are held securely in the hand of God.



**Serving
Others**



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, September 4th. 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: September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19



Habitat for Humanity

With the help from donations and volunteer support, Habitat builds houses for those who are otherwise unable to afford. We are a member of the Hudson Coalition of churches for Habitat for Humanity of Summit County building a house each year.

A contribution toward materials for the house can be made on our Habitat Day of giving planned for Sunday September 28th. Also, a contribution can be made from our Hudsonumc.com home page near the bottom right clicking on [REALM](#) and under the FUND pulldown selecting Missions (Habitat for Humanity).

We had two very productive days building walls on May 27th and adding rafter bracing and cleanup on August 2nd at the Silver Maple Ridge Project in North Hill, Akron. Thank you, Michelle, Don, Libby, Chris, Linda, Paul, Dave, Bob, Sharon, Tom, Mark, Gordon, and Pat, for your support!

Due to delays in the schedule the end date to complete the house extended to December. Habitat Chairperson Rochelle Sibio requested each church in the Coalition to volunteer for more days so the house can be complete in 2025. **In addition to our next scheduled volunteer day on September 27th, we now have two more on October 18 and December 6th.**

Habitat's rules require volunteers to be 18 years and older and a maximum size team of seven.

No specific skills are required, only a willingness to help. All tools are provided by the Habitat supervisor. **To sign up to volunteer or learn more contact John Kralik at 330-283-0326 or jpkralik@gmail.com.**

From Elizabeth Goodin, Director of Family Ministries

contact: familyministries@hudsonumc.com



Mark your calendars for Rally Sunday, September 14.

The Discipleship Pathway Ministry Team will define the **discipleship pathway** for our congregation, introduce the keys to discipleship, and gather members' input on how the church may support them in their own spiritual journeys. We're asking our members to begin to think about church in a new and exciting way, where they are encouraged and enabled to grow in faith and uniquely serve God.



Introducing a new adult Sunday school class: The Bible Project.

This class will view and discuss videos produced by *The Bible Project*, an organization founded by two friends and Bible scholars who love teaching the Bible. Through the production of creative videos and accompanying study guides, *The Bible Project* introduces books and key themes of the Bible in ways that are clear, approachable, and transformative.



This Sunday school class will begin with the series, *How to Read the Bible*, a set of five-to-six-minute animated videos designed to help in understanding the Bible's literary design and how to read it effectively as a unified story. Together, these videos provide a strong foundation for further Bible reading and study.

My hope in introducing this class is to inspire those who do not yet stay for Sunday school and who are looking for an class option that will help them overcome the “hump” associated with beginning to read and study the Bible in earnest.

Join this class on **Sunday, September 21st from 10:50 to 11:50am in Room 113/115.**

To watch an overview of the series, *How to Read the Bible*, visit:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plSNIwhAn5o>

Announcing Two discipleship class opportunities beginning this Fall.

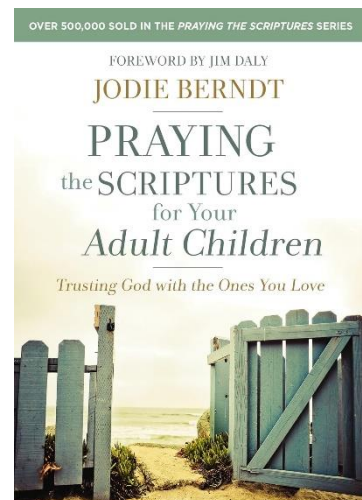
Praying the Scriptures for Your Adult Children

Sunday evenings, September 14 through November 16
7:00 – 8:30pm, Room 109
Led by Kathy Sandberg

This is a 10-week study covering a variety of topics such as praying about a future spouse, jobs, places to live, grandchildren, addiction, and more.

Books are available to order through Hudson UMC for \$8.00. Click on the image to read the first two chapters. To register for the class and to place an order for the book, please visit HudsonUMC.com and sign up on the home page.

NOTE: Jodie Berndt has authored several impactful books in her *Praying the Scriptures* series, helping readers pray scripturally for different stages and areas of life. Anyone who is led to form a group around praying together for children, teens, marriage, or life is encouraged to talk to Elizabeth for help in getting started!



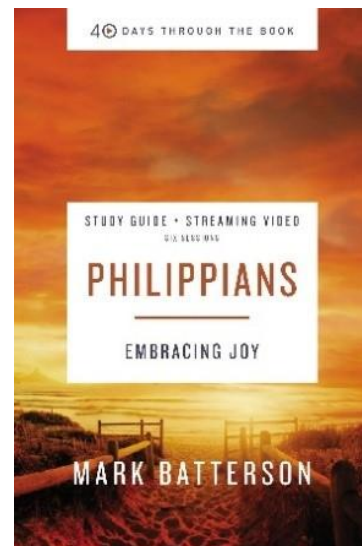


Philippians Bible Study: video and discussion

Thursday afternoons, October 2 through November 13
2:00 – 3:30pm, Room 112/114

Led by Dave and Marcia Rais

Philippians, is a deeply personal and uplifting letter that encourages believers to remain joyful, humble, and faithful, regardless of their circumstances. It highlights Christ as the center of life, the source of strength, and the example of how to live. Notable verses from Philippians include Philippians 4:6-7 – *“Do not be anxious about anything...”* and Philippians 4:13 – *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”*



This study will utilize the guide, *Philippians: Embracing Joy* by pastor and best-selling author Mark Batterson. Books are available to order through Hudson UMC for \$10.00. Click on the image to watch Mark Batterson's introduction to the book of Philippians. To register for the class and to place an order for the book, please click [HERE](#).

Fall Sunday School Begins September 21.

Preschool through Grade 5 Sunday School:

We are continuing with the popular **Wonder Ink**, a Bible-based curriculum designed to help kids discover their identity in God and grow in their faith through engaging lessons, interactive storytelling, hands-on activities, and family engagement.



Each week, children explore Scripture, ask big questions, and connect biblical truths to their everyday lives in a way that's fun, meaningful, and age-appropriate. Wonder Ink empowers kids to see how God is at work in them and the world around them. Our kids are entering their 3rd year of a 3-year cycle that covers major stories of the entire Bible.

Click on the image above to watch a video introduction to this curriculum plan.

Click [HERE](#) to read *Known, Loved, and Led: Helping Children Know Who They Were Created to Be*, an article for parents and teachers that describes Wonder Ink's values and approach.

Youth Sunday School:

NEW this year, Grades 6-12 will be using the **XP3** curriculum from *Orange*, well-respected content creators who are known for partnering the influence of church with the heart of the family to most effectively help kids grow in faith and character.



XP3 is a Bible-based curriculum designed for youth that helps them grow in their faith and apply it to everyday life. Each series tackles relevant topics like identity, relationships, and purpose, using engaging teaching, small group discussions, and practical application. XP3 stands for students experiencing 3 things: Wonder, Discovery, and Passion: **W**onder and awe in **D**iscovering who God is and **P**assion in living out their faith with purpose.

Children and Youth-Led Worship Service scheduled for November 16

All of Hudson UMC's children and youth ages Preschool through Grade 12 are invited to join in planning and leading our worship service to be held on November 16. Preparations will take place during the Children's Sermon time beginning on September 21. Any adult volunteers who would like to help with this project, please contact Elizabeth.



Nurturing Relationships

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 in September/October OR January/February, please email Amy Pendergrass at amy.i.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.

Bike Hikes & Picnic

Join us as we continue with our bike hikes that provide both 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 the Grell Pavilion in Barlow Farm Park at 11am. The next bike hike and picnic is scheduled for **Saturday, October 4th at 9:00am & 10:00am**. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Bob Kinsey at rakinsey7723@gmail.com.



Walking Hikes

Gordon Mann leads hikers of all levels along our many local trails. The next all-church hike is planned for **THIS Saturday, August 30**. We will be meeting at Liberty Park Nature Center (9999 Liberty Road in Twinsburg). Four-mile hike at 9am through scenic woods and ledges, and a two-mile hike at 9:30 with small hills and a nature trail. For information, please contact Gordon Mann [ggmann@msn.com](mailto:ggmamm@msn.com).



NEW at Hudson UMC: Life Groups



Empty Nesters Life Group

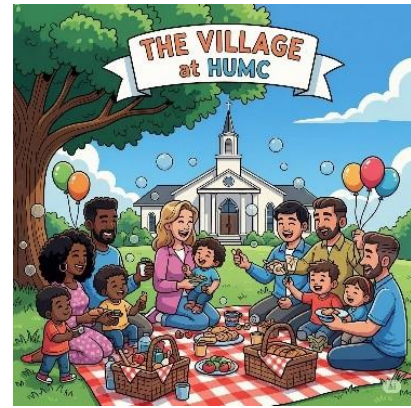
Enjoying fellowship and support with others whose children have grown up and moved out of the family home. **The next gathering is scheduled for Wednesday evening, September 24**. Please watch email for details. For more information about the Empty Nesters Life Group, contact Amy Pendergrass at amy.j.pendergrass@gmail.com.

Loss Support Life Group

Providing support and companionship through the emotional challenges associated with losing someone or something significant. For more information, contact Linda Arnold at lycarnold@gmail.com.

The Village: Building Faith and Community, Together.

"The Village" is a small group designed for families with young children who want to connect with others, grow in their faith, and navigate the joys and challenges of parenthood in a supportive environment. We believe it takes a village to raise a child, and we want to be that village for you—a place where you feel seen, supported, and celebrated.



Our group provides a relaxed, judgment-free space for families to build friendships and share experiences. We gather to discuss faith-based topics relevant to family life, enjoy fellowship, and share in a meal. While the adults connect, the kids have a chance to play and make friends in a fun and safe setting.

"The Village" is more than just a meeting; it's a community. It's a place to find encouragement, pray for one another, and walk together on the journey of faith and family. Join us as we build a legacy of faith for our children and find strength in our shared community. See details below:

You're invited to **The Village!**

First Sunday of each month

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Hudson United Methodist Church.

This is a **potluck-style** gathering, so please bring a dish to share.

Come find your village with us. We can't wait to see you there!

Upcoming dates:

October 5th

November 2nd

December 7th

Bring a friend!

Do you have an idea for forming another type of Life Group at Hudson UMC? [Contact Elizabeth.](#)

United Women in Faith

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:

Hudson United Women in Faith board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.**



United
Women
in Faith

Mary Martha Circle will be having a planning luncheon at Lager & Vine in Hudson on **Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 11:45 a.m.**

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 tour of the Hudson Food Pantry on **Wednesday, September 24. Meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. (Everyone is welcome).**

Priscilla Circle usually 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, September 25, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Amy Pendergrass.** The book for discussion is *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon.

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.

Missions

"On behalf of UWF, I would like to thank Hudson United Methodist Church for all the generous donations for the H.A.P.P.Y. Project. The response was overwhelming! We collected 136 tampons, 209 incontinence supplies and 818 period pads and liners - all very much appreciated! These donations will be delivered to the Hudson Food Pantry." Marcia Korane



KIDS CAPES FOR COURAGE-UPDATE

The United Women in Faith have been lovingly sewing capes for our mission project called Kids Capes of Courage. The number of capes just distributed to the founder of this program is 62! Many thanks to the women who cut and/or sewed these capes! We even had a “mystery” sewer this year who purchased fabric, cut, and sewed seven capes. (We would love to know who you are.). Here are a few pictures of our capes!



SAVE THE DATE

Hudson UWF will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Christian Activity Center (CAC). Be sure to mark this date on your calendar, you do not want to miss a delicious Thanksgiving dinner and wonderful fellowship with one another. Watch for more details coming soon. Questions: contact Cheryl Gamble cgamble1114@yahoo.com

Hudson UWF – Church World Service Blanket Sunday

Hudson United Women in Faith will be offering a Mission Moment for **Church World Service Blanket Sunday on Sunday, October 19, 2025.** Each year our church shows caring and compassion by giving generously to the Church World Service Blanket Sunday Mission project. Watch for more details in the coming months to see how you can participate in this special offering and provide a blessing of God’s love throughout His world.

Questions: contact Cheryl Gamble: cgamble1114@yahoo.com or Sandy Bernert: s1bernert@aol.com



First Serve Annual Day of Service

September 7th, 2025

Join over 500 volunteers to work on transformational projects in the North Hill community of Akron. Hudson UMC has been engaged in the First Serve mission activities since 2018!



➡ **Register at** joinfirstserve.org

8:30-9:00am Interfaith Send-Off Service at 915 N. Main, Akron

9:30am – 3:00pm Volunteer at Project Sites

Choose from half or full day projects. Projects for All Ages & Abilities!

Please note: There will be no regular service at Hudson UMC on Sunday, September 7th.

The First Serve Sending Service at 915 N. Main in North Hill will be livestreamed at 8:30 AM, at the First Congregational Church of Hudson for the volunteers who signed up for the cooking project hosted there. It will be rebroadcast at 10:00 and 11:25 at FCCH. You are encouraged to attend these rebroadcasts if you are unable to make it to the 8:30 service in North Hill.

Other updates:

If you would like to sing in the choir, please register on the [First Serve Site](#).

Projects HUMC members are leading:

915 N. Main: Lunch (all volunteers)- Colleen Padgett

Elizabeth Park: Edge & Mulch Near Pavilion -Bob Johnson

Residential Deck: Stain Front Deck - Marcia Korane

Book Discussion opportunity from 1:00-2:00

915 N. Main: Book Chat- *Rough Sleepers*

Collections for First Serve: Girls and Boys underwear and socks, Family Hygiene Products, Male teen joggers (S/M) and jeans (32" waist or less)

Questions? Ask Marty Hannah!

330-256-1967 or marty2uin@windstream.net