



# Hudson United Methodist Church

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## October G.I.F.T. Great Inspiration for Thought



### A message from the Pastor

*Quiet your mind and soul, read and reflect on the statement drafted following recent shootings across our country. Listen for the ways God may speak to you about the actions of peace you might take going forward.*

#### UMC Bishops Issue "Seek Peace and Pursue It!" Statement

Every day, we are besieged with acts of violence across the globe. From Gaza to Goma to Orem to Evergreen. We grieve with families, communities and nations as they bear the weight of the pain and grief that violence leaves in its wake. The assassination of Charlie Kirk reminds us of the urgent need to address the growing threat of political violence.

We unequivocally condemn this act of violence and all violence. Violence dehumanizes victims and perpetrators. We call upon all people to reject the divisive rhetoric that fractures community. The most recent school shooting in Colorado summons us again to work to make schools safe places, to equip children to manage difference and disagreement nonviolently and to reduce the easy access to guns.

We are guided by the prophetic vision of Isaiah, who wrote, "They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4). This vision of a world where weapons are transformed into instruments of peace and prosperity is a powerful reminder of our calling to be active peacemakers.

As United Methodists gather for worship over the next several days, **we call you to prayer and meaningful action against violence as a means to dispute settlement. We urge United Methodists to actively promote a culture of understanding, respect, and nonviolent conflict resolution. We encourage all United Methodists to work for public policies that foster community and reduce violence locally and globally.**

*This statement was read in the worship service on September 21, 2025.*

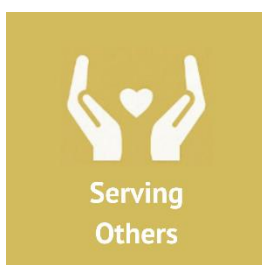
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To the people of God called Hudson UMC, Janet and I want to express our appreciation for your concern and prayers as I waited for answers and then procedures to aid my heart. I am slowly adjusting to life with a pacemaker and multiple medication adjustments to balance my blood pressure.

The grace we have experienced from you during this time, is a gift from God. We love this church!

Living in Hope,  
Janet and Rev. Bruce Hartley

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### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, October 17th. 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

For more information or to rsvp for carpool, contact Linda Brown at [flashknit@gmail.com](mailto:flashknit@gmail.com).

Future distribution dates: October 17, November 21, December 19

## From Elizabeth Goodin, Director of Family Ministries

contact: [familyministries@hudsonumc.com](mailto:familyministries@hudsonumc.com)

### Visitor vs. Guest AND Friendly vs. Welcoming

One of the significant aspects of growing as a disciple involves learning and living in community with others. Helping to create this community at Hudson UMC involves the work of two active ministry teams: Hospitality and Fellowship. Their focus is on welcoming strangers and building relationships here at Hudson UMC.

The Hospitality Ministry Team has devoted themselves to improving the first experiences of newcomers to Hudson UMC. These newcomers are the seekers, who have consciously made the life-changing decision to grow in their faith.

Early in their discussions, The Hospitality Ministry Team contrasted the difference between a visitor and a guest. A visitor is someone who has dropped in and may not be expected. Therefore, there are no thoughts, plans, or actions taken to make them feel especially valued and welcomed.

A guest, on the other hand is invited and expected. Consideration has been taken to anticipate their needs, questions, and comfort. They are received with welcome hospitality and desired to return, similar to the way we would welcome a guest into our own home.

The goal of the Hospitality Ministry Team is to help create an environment where newcomers to Hudson UMC feel like welcome guests rather than unanticipated visitors. You may have already noticed some of the signs of this work. But this kind of welcome also exists on another level and involves not just a small ministry team, but everyone.

Consider something that Hudson UMC's own Amy Lunn recently posted on her Facebook page. It was her recollection of a conversation that took place during a Bible study at another local church. With her permission, I share it with you here:

*I'm thinking this morning about what someone told me is the difference between a "friendly" church and a "welcoming" church. If you attend a "friendly" church, you will be greeted, and people will smile and make you feel welcome to worship with them. If you attend a "welcoming" church, people will ask if they may sit beside you, and they will personally invite you to attend Bible study classes, women's or men's groups, or some fellowship event the church is planning. After a while, you may even be invited to become a member of that church. People will begin to care for you, pray for you when you are ill, and grieve with you, not just send a card, when you've suffered a loss. I wonder what I can do to assure that the church I attend is not just a "friendly" church.*

Many have expressed that a posture of welcome, hospitality, love, and community is one of our church's gifts. I would agree. We are in a God-given position to work together to assure that the seekers who are led to worship with us on a Sunday morning, experience God's invitation to continue on their journey. And may we all be reminded...this is a journey intended not to fill our own kingdom but to join in building God's.

God Bless,

*Elizabeth*

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



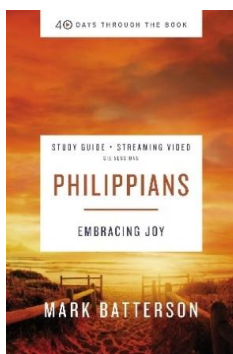
This class will view and discuss videos produced by *The Bible Project*, an organization founded by two friends and Bible scholars who love teaching the Bible. Through the production of creative videos and accompanying study guides, *The Bible Project* introduces books and key themes of the Bible in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

**Our hope in introducing this class is to inspire those who do not yet stay for Sunday school and who are looking for a class option that will help them get "over the hump" associated with beginning to read and study the Bible in earnest.**

Join this class on **Sunday mornings from 10:50 to 11:50am in Room 113/115. WALK-INS WELCOME.**

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## Philippians Bible Study (video and discussion) begins on October 2.

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, look for the sign-up sheet in HUMC’s main hallway, OR link to the sign-up form on our church website [HudsonUMC.com](http://HudsonUMC.com).

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## Announcement for Preschool – Grade 5 Sunday School Families:

We are adjusting our Sunday morning schedule in order to better accommodate the needs of our Preschool – Grade 5 families.

**Beginning on October 19, Preschool-Grade 5 Sunday school will be held from 9:30-10:30a CONCURRENT with our Sunday morning worship. Young Disciples choir rehearsal for this age group will take place during class time.**

NOTE: Youth Music Combo and Youth Sunday school for Grades 6-12 will continue to be held from 10:50-11:50a opposite the adult Sunday school hour. See our complete Sunday morning schedule below.

### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 – 10:30a	Worship
9:30 – 10:30a	Preschool-Grade 5 Sunday school and choir rehearsal
10:30 – 10:50a	Coffee/Fellowship
10:50 – 11:50a	Adult Sunday School
10:50 – 11:05a	Youth Music Combo for Grades 6-12 (Choir Room)
11:05 – 11:50a	Youth Sunday School for Grades 6-12 (Room 110)



PLEASE NOTE: The Children and Youth-Led Worship Service, previously scheduled for November 16, has been postponed until after the Christmas holidays.





### Nurturing Relationships



## Three Upcoming Dinners for Eight have been scheduled!

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.

### **Saturday, October 11, 6-8pm**

Hosts: Kevin and Jennifer Mohr  
1680 Genes Way, Streetsboro

### **Saturday, October 18, 6-8pm**

Hosts: Dave and Marcia Rais  
18 Hudson Commons, Hudson

### **Saturday, October 25, 6-8pm**

Hosts: Mark and Elizabeth Goodin  
34032 Summerset Drive, Solon

Please click [HERE](#) to sign up to attend one of the above Dinner for Eights.

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## Bike Hike and Picnics

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 Oak Grove Park. The next bike hike and picnic is scheduled for **Saturday, October 4 with staggered starting times at 9:00 and 10:00am**. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Bob Kinsey at [rakinsey7723@gmail.com](mailto:rakinsey7723@gmail.com)



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## Empty Nesters Life Group

Enjoying fellowship and support with others whose children have grown up and moved out of the family home. Please watch email for details about our next gathering to take place in October. For more information about the Empty Nesters Life Group, contact Amy Pendergrass at [amy.j.pendergrass@gmail.com](mailto:amy.j.pendergrass@gmail.com).

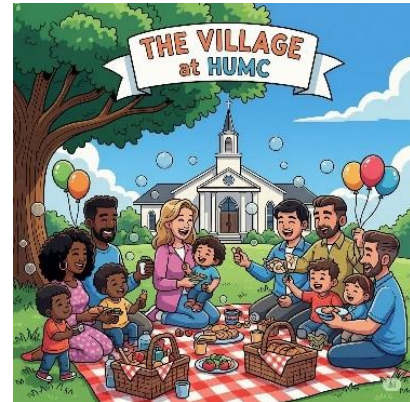


## Loss Support Life Group

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](mailto:lycarnold@gmail.com).

### **The Village: Building Faith and Community, Together – First gathering on October 5!**

"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.

**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.

**Upcoming dates:**

October 5th

November 2nd

December 7th

**Do you have an idea for forming another type of Life Group at Hudson UMC?**

Contact Elizabeth at [familyministries@hudsonumc.com](mailto:familyministries@hudsonumc.com).

## **United Women in Faith**

**FELLOWSHIP EVENTS:**

**Hudson United Women in Faith** board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.**

**Mary Martha Circle** will be volunteering at **MedWish** on **Thursday, October 9, 2025 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Carpool from HUMC parking lot at 8:30 a.m.**

**Lunch at Heinen's.**

Mary Martha meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Questions/Information contact Cheryl Maimona at [ctm2949@roadrunner.com](mailto:ctm2949@roadrunner.com)

**Priscilla Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the church.** They will be decorating pumpkins and gourds at their meeting this month. Bring your own brown bag lunch.

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

Questions/Information contact Ann Ingling at [anningling@gmail.com](mailto:anningling@gmail.com), Marty

Hannah [marty2uin@windstream.net](mailto:marty2uin@windstream.net)

**Books for Breakfast** will meet on **Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Linda Arnold.** The book for discussion is *James* by Percival Everett.

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](mailto: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**

### **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.

When you support the **CWS Blankets program**, you offer more than just warmth—you provide hope and love to those facing challenging times.

Watch for more details in the coming weeks 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](mailto:cgamble1114@yahoo.com) or Sandy

Bernert: [s1bernert@aol.com](mailto:s1bernert@aol.com)



## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Hudson UWF will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. 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](mailto:cgamble1114@yahoo.com)

#### **CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE (CUPS)**

**The Christian Unity Prayer Service will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m. at Laurel Lake Retirement Center.** The theme is "There is one today and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" Ephesians 4:4. Watch for more details in the coming months.

#### **United Women in Faith – 2026**

The United Women in Faith want YOU!

**United Women in Faith** (formerly known as United Methodist Women) is the only official organization for women within The United Methodist Church.

UWF offers all Methodist women opportunities for spiritual growth, leadership development, transformative education and service and advocacy.

We are currently planning for our 2026 Board and invite you to consider being a part of our very active unit of UWF. If you would like to know more about the Hudson unit of UWF, please reach out to Co-Presidents: Cheryl Gamble and Carol Spinelli or any member of the UWF Board

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## **From Our Nursery School**

We're thrilled to invite you to our 50th anniversary celebration of HUMNS, from 1975 to 2025! Join us on October 18th from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM for a fun-filled day. We have lots of exciting activities lined up, including a face painter, a balloon artist, games, and a craft corner just for the kids! Plus, there will be plenty of tasty refreshments and raffle baskets. We can't wait to celebrate with the whole family, so bring everyone along for a fantastic time!

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## **First Serve Annual Day of Service**

We celebrate the support HUMC showed for the First Serve Annual Day of Service! Our help made a lasting positive impact on underprivileged neighborhoods in Akron. There was good fellowship, good partnership at the work sites, good weather, good food, and a wonderful multi-faith sending service. The Sending Service guest speaker, Max Ramsey, gave a moving description of his work with StreetLife Communities in Milwaukee. If you missed the sending service you can still view it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwJRW-59wz8> or at the First Congregational Church Hudson website under the livestream tab.

Thank you to Linda Brown for all of the wonderful pictures she took in the North Hill area. A slideshow can be viewed at HudsonUMC.com. Notice the joy on each person's face! We're working on getting pictures of Edie Taylor, Cheryl Maimona, and Linda Arnold who worked in the kitchen at FCCH preparing meals for Grace House.

And thank you to all who donated items to Cram the Cart. Your donations will benefit the North H.S. Pantry and Clothing Room and the North Hill families served by the Trinity Clothing Room.

