



The Activator

April 2021

A monthly newsletter from the United Methodist Church of Hudson

Mission Statement of the Church:

As followers of Jesus Christ we want to lead our community to a growing faith.

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PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays



Dear HUMC family from Pastor Audrey:)

I always wondered about Joseph of Arimathea and his connection to Jesus that he would publicly and bravely bury the body of Jesus in his own tomb as it states:

“Joseph took the body...and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.” (Matthew 27: 59–60)

Mary Magdalene and the other women are not the only ones who show faithfulness to Jesus in His death. Matthew tells us Joseph was, “a disciple of Jesus.” Joseph is from Arimathea, a town 22 miles northwest of Jerusalem. This Arimathean has secretly followed Jesus (John 19:38), probably because his seat on the Sanhedrin (Mark 15:43) would be in jeopardy if the other council members found him out. The reverent acts of Joseph and the Pharisee Nicodemus, who helps Joseph provide Jesus with a proper Jewish burial, show that the Jewish clergy at the time do not universally oppose our Lord. (Matthew 27:57–61; John 3:1–21; 19:38–42).

It is human nature for us to "generalize" and assume in our statements about a group of persons, that all agree. Of course, that is rarely true. It's certainly not true of the United Methodist Church, especially as it pertains to LGBTQ issues, about which we are still arguing. And now, because of the pandemic and inability for world travel, the General Conference, who decides such changes to the UMBook of Discipline, is not

scheduled to meet until August-September of 2022. Neither was it true in the case of Joseph and Nicodemus both members of the day's high court for political and religious affairs, the Sanhedrin.

Joseph and Nicodemus only have three-hours to accomplish this work before Sabbath begins. Yet there will remain more work to be done, which is why the women return to His tomb on the first day of the week (Mark 16:1). The burial of Jesus' body in a rich man's tomb is yet another fulfillment of prophecy (Isaiah 53:9).

In coming forward to bury Jesus, both Nicodemus and Joseph identify themselves as believers in Christ and risk the Sanhedrin's fury. After years of following Jesus behind closed doors, Joseph makes his true allegiance known. This is an encouragement and model for us today.

Besides the two men's faithfulness in our Lord's burial, note that Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph are also present when Jesus is laid to rest: "Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb." (Matthew 27:56, 61). I pray that during Lent your love of God has deepened and that today your love for Jesus would increase and that neither shame nor fear would keep you from following Him.



Please update your address book for the church, hudumc@gmail.com and Pastor Audrey H Westendorf, pastorahw1@gmail.com.



April

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 – Barb Spates
- 11 – Jason Armstrong
- 12 – Vinny Robbins
- 30 – Molly Ungs



REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR...

**Carol Ann Cowling
Mavis Floss
Health Care Workers
First Responders
Dean Staack**

**Our shut-ins
Mel Bartels
Margaret Mumm
Dee Vandenberg
Lila Epling**



Don't forget to check out the Church Library.

Are you getting weekly worship e-mails? Would you like to get the Activator in your inbox? Be sure we have your current e-mail address by sending it to Mary at hudumc@gmail.com.



MEDIA OPERATORS FOR APRIL



- April 4 – Dave Tolander
- April 11 – Nancy Patterson
- April 18 – Nancy Patterson
- April 25 – Dave Tolander



**Food Bank Sunday
April 4, 2021**

"If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness. -- Isaiah 58:10 (NRSV)

We continue to request your support of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank by donating non-perishable food and non-food items and money through the church. The first Sunday of the month, April 4th, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank partners with a network of food distributors, grocers, farmers, the fishing industry and shipping companies to bring healthy, nutritious food to hungry people in Northeast Iowa. A group of anonymous donors will match all donations made to the Food Bank through the end of April. You can make a real difference in the community.

There is a container in the entryway for your donations of food and non-food items. If you prefer to give a monetary donation, make your check payable to the church with a notation that it is for the Food Bank. Your donation will show on your statement of giving to the church.

For every \$10.00 the food bank receives, they can provide approximately 40 meals. Your donations do make a difference. Can you help this month?





March 2021

Offering:

February	28	200.00	
March	7	3,810.00	
	14	857.00	
	21	225.00	
	28	385.00	
			\$ 5,477.00

Also received:

UMCOR	\$	10.00
Food Bank		100.00
Apportionments		5.00
Easter Lilies		65.00
Rent		1,050.00
TOTAL	\$	1,230.00

Approved 2021 budget:	\$83,214.00
Approved budget through March:	\$20,803.50
Apportionments due for 2021:	\$ 8,226.00
Apportionment payment per month:	\$ 685.50

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving towards budget:	\$ 5,282.00	\$ 10,607.00
Budget Expenses:	\$ 4,973.00	\$ 14,792.00
Giving Apportionments:	\$ 5.00	\$ 605.00
Apportionment Payments:	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00

We are 25% through the year. Our giving is 71% of actual expenses and 51% of budget year to date. Our year to date expenses are 18% of total approved 2021 budget. Our giving last year through the same time period was \$14,799. We are \$4,192 behind last year's giving.

Please send your offering to the church (P O Box 146; Hudson, IA 50643) or use our online giving option on our website (hudumc.org).



HUMC has returned to in-person worship at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Masks are required, hand sanitizer is available and social distancing is encouraged.

If you are uncomfortable returning, worship is "LIVE!" on JUMC YouTube. Hudson UMC enjoys the same service and message as Janesville. JUMC has invested in the ability to offer "LIVE" broadcasting of Worship at 10:30 a.m. Sundays and HUMC is able to worship on-line also. This will allow us to observe the *Sacrament of the Lord's Table* together and Live, as allowed by Iowa Conference UMC policy during COVID. We're sorry for any inconvenience, but are doing our best to offer all viewers the ability to worship "virtually," as it is called.

Regarding Live-Streaming Worship - Go to *YouTube*, in search bar at the top, type in *UMC JanesvilleIA*. This will open the channel which has all JUMC videos. It's even easier when you *subscribe*, at no cost, which is on the side bar, and you don't have to type in every time. Easy peasy and then enjoy!



Watch for and "reply all" to e-mails from church, pastor and leaders: hudumc@gmail.com; deedee2x4@aol.com; dwt9497@aol.com; pastorahw1@gmail.com

Church "business" is being done over e-mail with "reply all" discussions and votes. Please participate to keep our church operating and our members safe while we are not holding in-person meetings.



There will be no Maundy Thursday or Good Friday service or Easter breakfast this year. The JUMC's 2018 Last Supper presentation will be available on Janesville's YouTube channel beginning April 1 at 9:00 a.m. Janesville's Community-wide Good Friday Service will be on April 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Janesville.



Community Church of Hudson has resumed weekly community meals in a “To Go” fashion on Wednesdays, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. and can be picked up at the west door in the parking lot.

Reservations are required weekly and can be made by going to cchoonline.org and clicking on the “To Go” Meals button. Weekly menus are included on the reservation page.



UMCOR - Compelled by Christ

As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Committee on Relief or UMCOR, assists United Methodists and churches to become involved globally in direct ministry to persons in need.

UMCOR Sunday Special Offering serves the Administrative expenses of UMCOR so the 100% of our UMCOR donation reaches your chosen mission project or ministry.

Go to <https://umcmmission.org/umcor/> to learn even more. Donate through HUMC or directly on the website.

Last week’s winter storm—unofficially named Winter Storm Uri—led to winter weather alerts for 170 million people. The state of Texas has been hit particularly hard, resulting in power blackouts, loss of heat and broken pipes. As the snow and ice melts, flooding will be a significant problem.

UMC and other churches are serving as warming shelters and food banks.

Meanwhile, the same storm system spawned tornados in the Carolinas, destroying homes.

UMCOR, working with Conference Disaster Relief Coordinators, is providing immediate funding to assist annual conferences and will provide long-term support once the damage is fully assessed. Your help is needed, today. Please make a gift, today, to UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response.



March 2, 2021

Pastor Audrey Westendorf
Hudson UM Church

Dear Faithful Servants of Christ, The Peace and Joy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

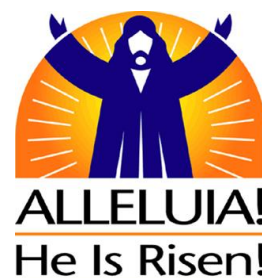
I commend you for your faithfulness to our Lord. I remember the Parable Lesson that when you are faithful to the Lord with what is given you, it is multiplied.

Apportionment remittance has defined faithfulness in the state and global ministries of the Iowa Annual Conference. We are living in difficult times and those of you who excelled in giving must be commended. There was a huge reduction in the Annual Conference budget which should be reflected in the Apportionment assigned to every local church for the year ahead. This is a relief for all churches.

I encourage you to rediscover the promised blessings of God in Malachi 3:10 *“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, ‘says the LORD Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”* Our God is the faithful Heavenly Father who loves and provides for God’s faithful children.

Congratulations for your accomplishment for 2020 and may the year ahead be more fruitful for you through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Rev. Dr. Moody M. Colorado
Northeast District Superintendent





COVID-19 has prevented us from visiting our families, friends, and even neighbors. In this addition, we will be catching up with Wilbur Mumm.

Wilbur was born October 9, 1931, to Charles and Bertha (Mastain) Mumm on the family farm, Maple Hill Stock Farm located near Voorhies, Iowa. He was the seventh of ten children. Brother Garry says their dad used to say, "All the good looking Mumm men were born in October," as Charlie's birthday was in October, also.

Wilbur attended Lincoln #5 County School and graduated from Reinbeck High School in 1950.

"In 1951, Uncle Harry (Truman) sent me a letter asking me to join the army," says Wilbur. "I was stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky; Marburg, Germany; and Metz, France. Upon returning home, I farmed with my dad."

On May 14, 1960, Wilbur married Carolyn Green. Their son Charles was born May 22, 1962.

Wilbur worked for Rath Hilltop Sheep Farm for six years. He then was employed at Williams Brothers Pipeline, Donovan, Nebraska. Following that, he was employed for several years at Growmark Farm Service as a semi driver hauling oil, gas, and fertilizer. He retired in 1995. After retiring, Wilbur was a seasonal employee for East Central Iowa Co-op out of the Hudson Ag Center location.

Wilbur enjoys his garden. Every spring he starts his tomatoes by seed indoors. He still cans tomatoes and beans. (Many of us have enjoyed Wilbur's pickles at church and Lion's Club dinners.) Wilbur likes reading books from the Hudson library and can be seen walking and riding his bike around town.

One who would never draw attention to himself, Wilbur is a behind-the-scenes worker at the church.

Throughout the pandemic Wilbur continued to keep busy.

(Thank you to Charles for interviewing his dad!)



Thank you to those who helped decorate the sanctuary with beautiful lilies on Easter Sunday.


Ken & Marcy Kristensen in memory of their parents, brothers and sister and in honor of their children and grandchildren

Don & Diane Schulz in memory of their dads and in honor of their moms, children and grandchildren

Greg Strayer in memory of Denny, C. Ann, and John Strayer

Dave & Annette Tolander in memory and honor of their parents



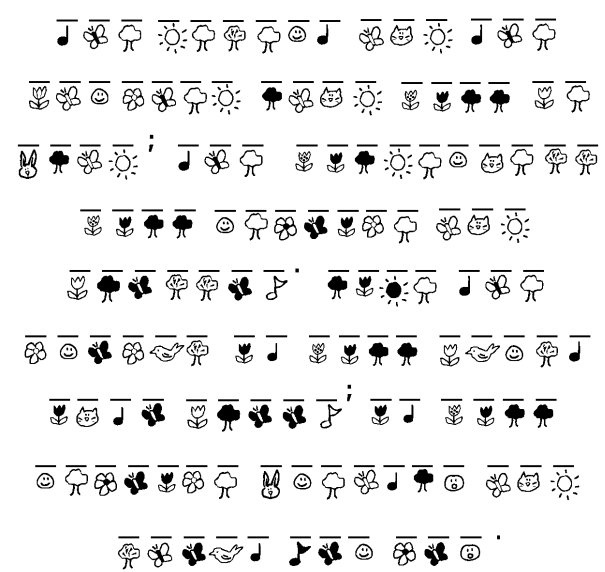


Isaiah 35:1-2

One sign of spring and rebirth is the appearance of flowers and plants in our yards, woods, fields and gardens.

Use the code to find this verse in Isaiah that reminds us of spring and rebirth.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
H	I	J	K	L	M	N
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
V	W	X	Y	Z		



The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.