

# The Activator

August 2020

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 Families,  
Do you have “a person?” On one of my favorite TV shows, *Grey’s Anatomy*, the staff sometimes talk about the “person” they go to in times of trouble or trauma. I hope everyone of the care-givers, rescue personnel and all, have “a person,”

to help them get through this pandemic.

But do you have “a person” to help you through this pandemic? Sometimes it’s a parent or adult-child, a spouse or neighbor. Perhaps yours is a co-worker or best friend from school days. Whoever it is, please remember to give them a frequent call during these days that seem to stretch out longer and longer as they go by. And if you haven’t anyone else to call, my number is 641-840-0119, or look above for other ways.

I often group message with my two older sisters who are retired UM pastors. That gives me family & God, as well as understanding clergy, connections.

We all need connections. We all need “a person,” or two that we can talk with about our emotions as we face each day.

You’re expecting me to mention that you can “have a little talk with Jesus” too, aren’t you? Yes, “He walks with me and He talks with me and He tells me I am His own,” and He’ll do that for you, too. Just pick up your Bible, if you don’t already do so, and began to read the Gospels or the Psalms to hear from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

There’s a meme on Facebook right now that has pictures of Barney Fife, deputy to Andy Griffith in the little town of Mayberry. Barney brought a great deal of comic relief to the stories that TV show presented. Many times Andy could come up with an option that no one else had considered. He is much like Jesus in that way and many other ways, too.

But the meme shows poor Barney at his worst with crazy facial expressions and messed hair. The caption asks which of the Barneys are you feeling like? I want to say, all of them at one time or another in the past five months of this crazy pandemic.



I hadn’t any more than begun to settle into a new normal of single-living here and getting to know you, when the virus hit. *Unprecedented* is the word that really comes to mind for me, even though I often bolster myself with thoughts of having survived losses of loved ones, illnesses, and remember history’s descriptions of other national and world events that civilization have survived.

This pandemic may be new to us, but it’s not new to God who has watched His people suffer through worse. You name it, God has seen it, including the death of His own Son on a cross.

On other pages of this newsletter you’ll find Bible verses to remind you that GOD IS WITH US.

May God speak to you through them, Pastor Audrey:)



**Isaiah 41:10** Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

**Deuteronomy 31:6** Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.”

**Zephaniah 3:17** The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

**Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**Romans 8:38-39** For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Hebrews 13:5** Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

**Psalms 23:4** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

**1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

**John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**Matthew 1:23** “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

**Psalms 27:1** The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**Matthew 6:25-34** “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these...”

**John 14:16-17** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

**Psalms 46:1** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Revelation 3:20** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

**Ephesians 3:17** So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

**Romans 5:8** But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**2 Timothy 1:7** For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

**1 Peter 5:6-7** Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

**Psalms 23:1-6** The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ...

**[Jeremiah 29:11](#)** For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**[Psalm 139:7-10](#)** Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

**[John 14:27](#)** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

**[Isaiah 7:14](#)** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

**[1 Chronicles 16:11](#)** Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!

**[1 Corinthians 10:13](#)** No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

**[Isaiah 40:31](#)** But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

**[1 John 1:9](#)** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**[John 16:33](#)** I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

**[Galatians 2:20](#)** I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**[Psalm 86:15](#)** But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

**[1 John 3:1](#)** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

**[Psalm 73:26](#)** My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

**[Matthew 28:19](#)** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

**[Revelation 21:3](#)** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

**[Ephesians 2:4-5](#)** But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

**[John 14:6](#)** Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**[Romans 8:37-39](#)** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**[1 John 4:16](#)** So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

**[Hebrews 4:12](#)** For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**[John 1:1](#)** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**[Isaiah 9:6](#)** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**[Hebrews 1:3](#)** He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

**[Matthew 18:20](#)** For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

*From English Standard Version, compiled by OpenBible.com*



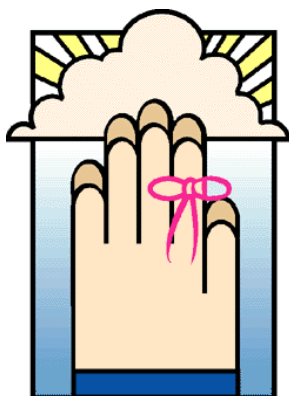
August

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 9 – Marlys Smith
- 13 – Mishayla Robbins
- 14 – Matthew Armstrong
- 18 – Gabe Watts

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3 – Jim & Judie Raymond
- 5 – Robert & Ruth Chittenden
- 8 – Dylan & Catherine Armstrong
- 30 – Taylor & Taylor Calhoun
- 31 – Alan & Jean Clausen



**Carol Ann Cowling  
Carolyn Mumm  
Mavis Floss**

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

**PLEASE REMEMBER  
THESE FRIENDS IN  
PRAYER**

Don't forget to check out the Church Library.



Hudson UMC will not reopen for inside worship as of yet; Black Hawk County COVID-19 cases continue to climb. Watch your e-mail and our

Facebook page for updates.



**Food Bank Sunday  
August 2, 2020**

*"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, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

COVID-19 has had an impact on everyone. The Northeast Iowa Food Bank has served 1.9 million meals in three months. Over 630,000 meals were distributed to agencies in their 16 county service area. The Elderly Nutrition Program distributed over 14,000 meals in over 650 food boxes. Over 35,000 BackPacks were delivered to participating schools, representing over 55,000 meals. The Cedar Valley Food Pantry gave over 690,000 meals to individuals and families through the on-site pantry. Nine Summer Feeding sites have distributed breakfast, lunch and snacks to children over the summer. The Mobile Food Pantries have distributed over 318,000 meals.

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?





July 2020

**Offering:**

<b>July</b>	5	1,415.00
	12	125.00
	19	0
	26	475.00
		\$ 2,015.00

**Also received:**

Apportionment:	\$	200.00
Rent		1,050.00
Trustee Interest		618.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,868.89</b>



Approved 2020 budget:	\$86,154.00
Approved budget through Jul7:	\$50,257.00
Apportionments due for 2020:	\$11,231.00
Apportionment payment per month:	\$ 936.00

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving towards budget:	\$ 2,215.00	\$ 24,544.79
Budget Expenses:	\$ 4,340.00	\$ 32,225.00
Giving Apportionments:	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,808.78
Apportionment Payments:	\$ 0	\$ 0


With 58% of the year completed, our giving is at 70% of actual expenses and 59% of budget year to date. Our expenses are 41% of total approved 2020 budget.

All bills have been paid. However, no apportionment payments have been made for 2020. Compared to last year at this time, giving for 2020 is \$7,896 behind. 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).



**Back to School Staff Breakfast**

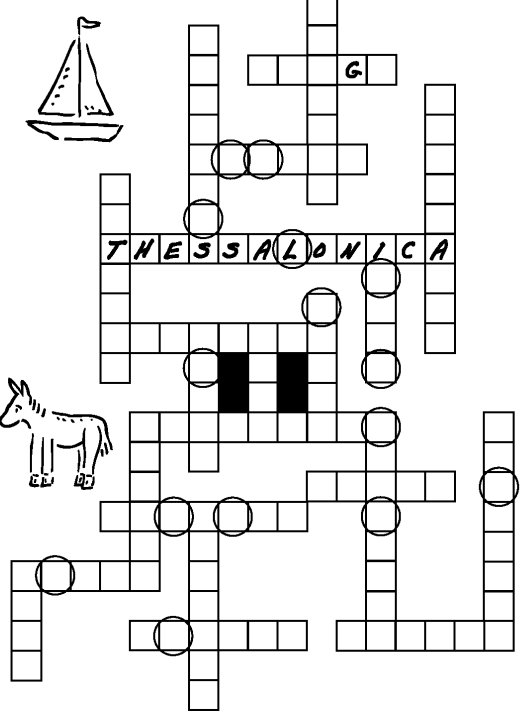
Due to COVID-19, we are unable to host the Back to School Staff Breakfast. We have been in contact with Dr. Voss, school superintendent, about a different way of reaching out to the school staff, but with all the uncertainty of going back to school no definite plans have been made. We will keep you informed as plans materialize.



## Journeys

*The cities below were all stops on someone's journeys. Fit the cities into the puzzle. Then use the letters that are circled to fill in the blanks below. Write them in the order found.*

- Rome
- Tyre
- Berea
- Issus
- Malta
- Perga
- Sidon
- Troas
- Delphi
- Lystra
- Paphos
- Sparta
- Antioch
- Corinth
- Ephesus
- Phoenix
- Caesarea
- Damascus
- Philippi
- Syracuse
- Jerusalem
- Ptolemais
- Thessalonica



----- Journeys

Paul's Missionary Journeys

