



# The Activator

June 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.**

301 Washington Street  
PO Box 146  
Hudson, IA 50643

Office: (319) 988-6040  
e-mail: [hudumc@gmail.com](mailto:hudumc@gmail.com)  
web page: [hudumc.org](http://hudumc.org)

Mary Rekers, Editor  
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**Pastor: Audrey Westendorf (641) 840-0119 (cell) Email: [pastorahw1@gmail.com](mailto:pastorahw1@gmail.com)**

**PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays**



Dear HUMC Family from Pastor Audrey :)

When I came here, I intended to joyfully serve these two churches for 4-5 years, unless my health interfered. It has. Added to my long-term ear tinnitus, this past year, other ear problems have developed, with frequent pain and discomfort leading to continued loss of hearing and other incurable symptoms. Speaking, singing, and visiting on the phone have all become increasingly painful. Rather than serving God and you poorly, I am going to retire in June. Your prayers are appreciated for me, the SPRC as they meet with D.S. Moody Colorado; and our incoming pastor (& family.) I don't currently know the date of his or her first Sunday with us.

This will likely be my last official "letter" to you. It reminds me of all the letters that must have been written in the days of the early church. They make up most of the New Testament under the titles of the receiving churches: *Romans; (1 & 2) Corinthians; Galatians; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossians; Thessalonians; Hebrews* and fellow pastors to whom they were written: *Timothy; Titus; Philemon; James; (1 & 2) Peter; (1, 2, & 3) John; Jude* and even including the *Revelation of John*.

I considered every letter and email I wrote to you an important communication; at least as important as the letters I frequently exchanged with my parents and sisters about our lives when we lived apart and pay-by-the-minute-phone calls were avoided. I was surprised to hear that some of you also expected phone calls during COVID, when I had frequently communicated by email and letter-

writing; with many of you on-line in social media and certainly, through my hour-long messages on Sunday mornings.

Especially since you all know I live alone, I wondered why more of you didn't call to check on me. It's apparently all a huge misunderstanding. Is it true that church members still believe that pastors have built-in intuition as to when a church family member needs a call? 'Tain't so, my Dears.

James 5:11 "You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about for him. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. <sup>13</sup>Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Your new pastor will very much appreciate your calls to him or her and especially being alerted to times you, or someone you know, are in need of pastoral care. This would include *usable* phone numbers. So many folk no longer have land-lines and the church hasn't been able to keep up with all the updates. We even had the wrong church number on our church website for several months! Mary does a fabulous ministry of connecting us, but she can't do it all alone, any more than a pastor can.

Our lives have been forced to change in so very many ways this past year. I hope and pray that

you will do all you can to assist your incoming pastor (and family) in every positive way possible by adjusting well to church family life in our post-pandemic world. It may not be easy, but it will be so valuable. You can always say, "Blame it on COVID!" Then forgive and forget. I leave you with this benediction from the inspired Word of God:

*"May the God of PEACE, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20-21)*



The CDC and the UMC have announced that those who have been fully vaccinated are no longer required to wear facemasks or social distance. We encourage each person to do, or not do, that which makes you COVID comfortable in these unprecedented times.

COFFEE  
FELLOWSHIP



We will begin having coffee and treats after worship again on May 30<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

The 2021 Annual Conference Service of Recognition of Retirement will be pre-recorded and premiered on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. on the conference website, [www.iaumc.org](http://www.iaumc.org).



Retirements of interest, in addition to Pastor Audrey, are Mike Christie and Harry Wach. After the premier, the service will be available to download and share.



There will be a Church Council meeting on Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.



The Joint Hudson and Janesville Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) met with District Superintendent Moody Colorado on Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, to plan for the transition of pastors. Members attending were Diane Schulz, Nancy Louthan, Fay Munchoff and Nancy Patterson representing Hudson and Chuck Immerzeel and Cindy Dobbs from Janesville.



Pastor Audrey's last Sunday in the pulpit will be June 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Chris Eiler will speak on June 13<sup>th</sup> and Rev. Jan Burnett will be in the pulpit on June 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.



Join us on Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to say goodbye to Pastor Audrey. The women's group will provide a light supper.



Hope everyone has had a chance to see the new planters filled with beautiful flowers on the church sign. Many thanks to Ken Kristensen for building the boxes and Marcy Kristensen and Diane Schulz for providing and planting the flowers.

June



**BIRTHDAYS**

- 11 – Judie Raymond
- 14 – Don Schulz
- 16 – Douglas Coonrad
- 17 – Nivan Jeffries
- 22 – Keith Koger
- 29 – Cheryl Bartels

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 13 – Kirk & Pennie Lundberg
- 21 – Steve & Nancy Louthan
- 30 – Don & Diane Schulz



**Carol Ann Cowling  
Mavis Floss  
Health Care Workers  
First Responders  
Sam Strayer**

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

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR...

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](mailto:hudumc@gmail.com).

**MEDIA OPERATORS FOR JUNE**



- June 6 – Nancy Patterson
- June 13 – Dave Tolander
- June 20 – Nancy Patterson
- June 27 – Dave Tolander



**Food Bank Sunday  
June 6, 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, June 6<sup>th</sup>, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

The number of hungry people in our region is growing. The Food Bank sees families where both parents work two jobs, yet after fixed expenses such as utilities and rent are paid, there is nothing left to buy food. Senior citizens living on fixed incomes don't have enough money left for groceries when prescription costs increase. There are children who are afraid that each night will be another night of going to bed with tummies aching from hunger.

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?





May 2021

**Offering:**  
**May**

2	1,230.10
9	470.00
16	870.00
23	644.00
	<hr/>
\$	<b>3,214.10</b>

**Also received:**

Apportionments	\$	200.00
Food Bank		25.00
Blanket Sunday		10.00
Rent		1,050.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,285.00</b>

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Approved 2021 budget:	\$83,214.00
Approved budget through May:	\$34,672.50
Apportionments due for 2021:	\$ 8,226.00
Apportionment payment per month:	\$ 685.50

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving towards budget:	\$ 3,414.00	\$ 19,792.00
Budget Expenses:	\$ 4,818.00	\$ 25,555.00
Giving Apportionments:	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,005.00
Apportionment Payments:	\$ 0.00	\$ 260.00

We are 42% through the year. Our giving is 77% of actual expenses and 57% of approved budget year to date. Our year to date expenses are 31% of total approved 2021 budget.

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



**Return Address Envelopes Enclosed**

It was discovered by many in our church family, that having the enclosed "return address" monthly envelopes on hand, helped them to remember the church and our commitment to our UMC Membership Vows.

1. To renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of their sin;
2. To accept the freedom and power God gives them to resist evil, injustice, and oppression;
3. To confess Jesus Christ as Savior, put their whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as their Lord;
4. To remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world;
5. To be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church and do all in their power to strengthen its ministries;
6. To faithfully participate in its ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness;
7. To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Thank you for your continued generosity to support HUMC and our ministries.





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

What an interesting life Gary Doughty has had, as also the others that have been featured in this little article. I'll try to share a few of his many stories and experiences. This article gives us a glimpse into Gary's life.

Gary's parents grew up in the Fayette area. As he tells it, his parents went to Chicago in 1926 to get married and they stayed there. Gary was born in 1930 and his brother was born 2 years later. His dad was a mail carrier with the railroad. During Gary's sophomore year of high school his parents decided to move back to Fayette. Gary went from attending one of the biggest schools to a small school, but he loved it. Their family lived on about an entire city block. His dad put up a fence for a pasture and moved a garage onto the property to serve as a barn, and Gary bought a cow, Brownie. She was such a gentle creature and soon had twins. Gary started a little business and had nine milk customers. He filled a Calumet baking soda can with his earnings and thought he was rich!

While in high school, Gary joined the Civil Air Patrol in Oelwein. He attended summer camps for two weeks in Illinois and in Omaha.

Unfortunately, Gary's dad became ill shortly after moving to Fayette and died Gary's senior year of high school.

After high school Gary attended Upper Iowa College for two years. His dream was to be an English teacher, but money for college ran out and he needed to find a job.

It just so happened that in high school, the seating assignments were in alphabetical order and sitting right in front of Gary was Barb. Though they dated others, he and Barb became very good friends. This friendship turned into love and Gary and Barb were married on New Year's Day, 1950.

Gary was quite an accomplished accordion player; accordions were popular instruments of the time. During his high school years, Gary had

a little band and played at local barn dances. A friend told Gary to apply at a new music store opening in Waterloo, Music Corner. So, off he went for an interview. He played his accordion for the owner, was offered a job on the spot, and started teaching lessons that same afternoon. During this stint, Gary had up to 50 students and also taught accordion two nights a week at the high school.

Then, Gary heard about an opening at the Waterloo Courier in the press room. When Gary accepted this job, he was offered a five-year apprenticeship, and then he earned his journeyman's card. Gary says this was similar to earning a college degree in printing. His first wages were \$38.50 per week. Every six months he took an exam and received a raise.

The press was quite a machine; ½ block long and three stories tall. There was a crew of nine to operate it, but five workers were necessary to get it started. It sounded like a freight train. It was a dangerous machine as you certainly did not want to get caught in the rollers. Gary worked there forty-two years.

During the early years of their marriage, the Doughtys lived in Waterloo. They moved to an acreage outside of Hudson, and eventually bought the house Gary still lives in from Harry LaFrentz. Four children filled the home: Deb, Jeff, Terry, and Steve. For one year, a friend's daughter lived with them. During the years of having the children still at home, Gary and Barb owned the motel in Hudson. He thinks it helped their children develop responsibility and time management skills.

Barb was a good athlete, playing both basketball and softball. Barb continued her love of softball even after the kids were born. Gary remembers packing up the kids and taking them to watch their mom play on the championship team in Waterloo. Another passion of Barb's was helping to start and continue helping with Humpty Dumpty Preschool in the church basement.

Gary seemed to have a fascination for his grandpa's farm. To him, being a city kid, the farm represented vacation, a place to play and to sit and listen to the robins. Perhaps that's why one


day he went to an auction and bid on an old John Deere tractor. He didn't win the bid, but a man standing beside him said he had a John Deere A tractor for sale...if he could get it started. After calling another guy to help start the tractor, Gary bought it and he and Russ Harberts made the trip to Jesup to bring it home. That led to Gary joining the Two Cylinder Club and also purchasing another tractor, a John Deere B that was in boxes! Yes, the owner had taken it apart, so Aubrey Haight helped Gary put it back together. Gary enjoyed volunteering at Antique Acres.

After retirement, Gary and Barb also enjoyed traveling, visiting Europe and Hawaii many times. Gary and Barb spent many winters in Lakeland, Florida. A highlight for twenty-seven winters was volunteering at Sun and Fun, one of the world's largest air shows. They would continue volunteering at the airport two or three days each week. Gary trimmed palm trees and Barb worked in the gift shop and making business reservations for the next year's airshow. They owned a park model trailer. Toward the end of one winter, Barb recognized that her health was deteriorating and told Gary they should have a yard sale and sell their Florida home. That was their last winter together in Florida.

Now, both Barb and son Terry have passed. Barb died three years ago, eight days short of their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

Gary knows it's important for him to keep involved and busy. He is still a member of Two Cylinder Club and also of Hudson Lion's Club and Cedar Valley Car Club. He still does some traveling with family members and always enjoys a good visit!





### Psalm 98

It's summertime: The earth is blooming, school's out, vacations are here, time to enjoy the world around you!  
Find these happy verses from Psalm 98. Use the code to fill the blanks.

CODE	
	burst
	joy
	sing
	all
	jubilant
	earth
	music
	new
	harp
	rivers
	Lord
	make
	King
	song
	shout
	let
	clap
	hands
	mountains
	together

“ \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_  
 a \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ !  
 \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ to the  
 \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ !  
 \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ !  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_  
with the \_\_\_\_\_ !  
 \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ before  
the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ !  
 \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ f \_\_\_\_\_  
their \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the  
||: \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
for \_\_\_\_\_ !”

"Sing to the Lord a new song! Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth! Burst into  
 jubilant song with music! Make music to the Lord with the harp! Shout for joy  
 before the Lord the King! Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing  
 together for joy!"

## FUN FACTS ABOUT JUNE...

- World Milk Day is June 1
- National Leave the Office Early Day is June 2
- World Bicycle Day is June 3
- World Environment Day is June 5
- Best Friends Day is June 8
- National Corn on the Cob Day is June 11
- Eat all Your Veggies Day is June 17
- National Kissing Day is June 22
- National Eat at a Food Truck Day is June 23
- Take Your Dog to Work Day is June 24
- National Chocolate Pudding Day is June 26
- National Sunglasses Day is June 27
- National Camera Day is June 29