

The Activator

May 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 family,

You are continually in my thoughts and prayers as we wait through the pandemic together yet apart. I've done my best to prepare worship services for online that are helpful in raising your spirits in the living hope of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ. I hope you are finding JOY in the mourning and morning.

I am still sewing masks if you or someone you know are in need, please let me know. In theory, all masks may prevent some sprays of virus-laden fluids from entering your nose and mouth (inward protection). They are also a reminder not to touch your face. And, if you're sick, they may help keep some aerosols inside (outward protection), to protect people around you (CDC).

I recently "attended" by internet the workshop, "After the Quarantine." It offered some good ideas for moving forward after the quarantine. I will be "attending" the online Fresh Expressions Academy.

I'm thinking that even when the governor opens the entire state for gathering again, we folk in Black Hawk, Bremer and surrounding counties may not want to jump on the bandwagon too quickly. As much as we all want to be in worship together inside our church building, let us be wise. Consider how many of our church family are part of the at-risk group. If just one of us would become infected at church because we gathered together too soon, it could be a catastrophe. I would like to ready your opinions, so feel free to e-mail me at pastorayoung@gmail.com.

An Iowa UM Pastor has been in a very long battle with cancer and even though her cancer treatment is over, she is now dealing with months of wound care. She wrote on Caring Bridge:

We had a few intense days of unknown. COVID exponentially increased the difficulty of seeing medical personnel. Waiting is hard without a plan. Patience is difficult when desired outcomes seem out of reach.

All of us are waiting. Waiting for physical distancing to be lifted. Waiting for the media to...well...just turn off the TV. Waiting for supper. Waiting for...each of us is waiting for some kind of miracle. Waiting for hope to be renewed. Psalm 130:5-6 (NLT) I am counting on the Lord; yes, I am counting on him. I have put my hope in his word. I long for the Lord more than sentries long for the dawn.

If you feel you need additional help, you can call 211 United Way Helpline on your phone, which provides a shortcut through what can be a maze of health and human service agency phone numbers. 211 refers, and sometimes connects, you to appropriate agencies and community organizations: for Basic Human Needs; Physical and Mental Health Resources; Work Support; Service in Non-English Languages; and Suicide Prevention which can be reached at these numbers:

1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)
1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433)
1-877-SUICIDA (1-877-784-2432) (Spanish)

Please remember every day
of this unusual season, that
**"It's Friday.
But Sunday's Coming!"**

God Bless, Pastor Audrey :)



May

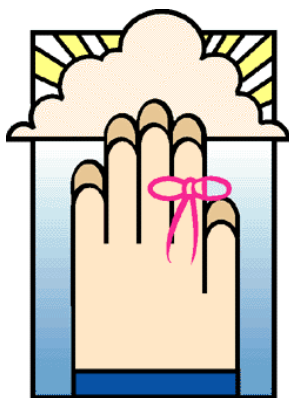


BIRTHDAYS

- 5 – Ruth Chittenden
- 19 – Kayla Watts

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 – Arthur & Millie Mehmen
- 11 – Edward & Marlys Smith



Carol Ann Cowling
Carolyn Mumm
Mavis Floss
LaVonne Kerr

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



Holy Week services had to be postponed, but Easter was NOT cancelled. Watch e-mail and Facebook for announcements when we are able to meet again.



During this time of uncertainty, remember Pastor Audrey is always available by phone, text, e-mail or Facebook. Check your e-mail Sunday morning for the YouTube link and the church Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Hudson-UM-Church) for Pastor Audrey's weekly worship service.

**Food Bank Sunday
May 3, 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, May 3rd, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

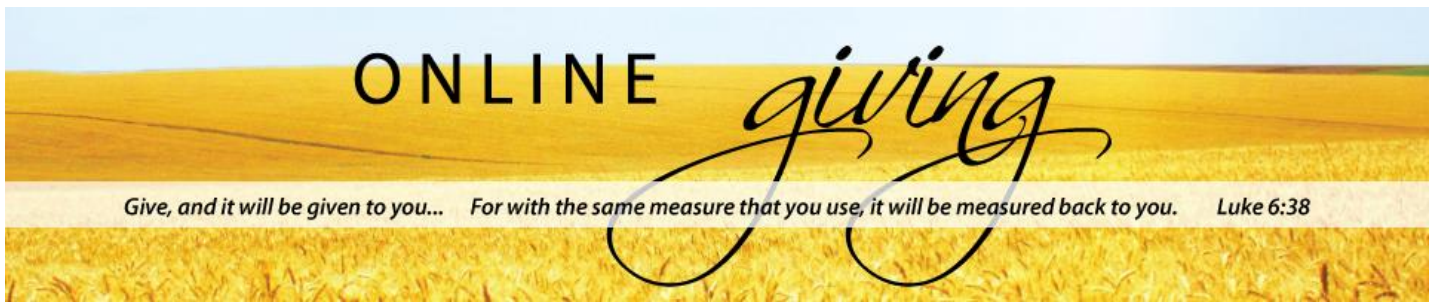
COVID-19 has had an impact on all our lives. But for the Northeast Iowa Food Bank the demand is great. In addition to the estimated 43,000 northeast Iowans already experiencing hunger, thousands more economically burdened and immunocompromised seniors, children, and families stand to be affected. In addition to increased need, product donations and volunteer hours are down. Your monetary donations will help offset the costs of purchasing more food.

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?



A \$200 donation has been made to HUMC by a generous anonymous donor. The couple requested the money be used for our food outreach mission.



Online giving just got easier. You still go to our website (hudumc.org) and click on the Online Giving tab and Donate. We have switched to Iowa UMC Conference. While there are still fees, the Conference is allowing us to use this service for three months without any fees being deducted. After June 30th, there will be a \$.30 transaction fee plus approximately 2.9% processing fee (the amount charged to the Conference) but there is no monthly charge. We only pay when the service is used. The Iowa Conference page is handled through Braintree (a PayPal company) which is a secure encrypted site. At no time does any credit card information stay within the Iowa Conference system. The banking information is securely stored on the bank ACH portal. The church will be notified of your gift and it will be deposited to the church's bank account twice a month.

IOWA CONFERENCE
The United Methodist Church

Local Church Giving

Please enter your giving information and select your church from the drop-down list. If your church does not appear in this list please have your Pastor contact our office at 515-974-8919 to be included.

*First Name

*Last Name

*Address 1

*City

*State

*Zip

*Email

*Please select your church from this list
Local Church Name

Gift Amount
\$.01

Designation
test

I'm not a robot

Total: \$0.01

Steps:

1. Enter your contact information so that the amount may be properly recorded.
2. Click the drop-down arrow to get a list of the churches participating. Click on Hudson UMC.
3. Enter the dollar amount of your gift. You may make a comment (designation) in the box below to apply to a particular program of the church (general, apportionments, food bank...). Any comments will be included in the notification sent to the church.
4. To prevent automated systems from accessing this page we have included a Captcha box. Simply click the "I'm not a robot" box and follow the on-screen instructions.
5. Click "Process my gift". You will receive a confirmation e-mail.
6. You will then be presented with a screen where you will enter your credit/debit card information for the actual payment. You have one hour to enter this information.