



The Activator

September 2018

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: Wednesday beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Mike's Musings

September is a transitional month. Fall is on the way. School is back in session. Fall sports begin (ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL!). Whoops! Sorry. Where was I? Right, transitions, changes. We are going to be making some changes here at HUMC. We are going to be adding some programming and we hope you not only enjoy, it but find it personally and spiritually beneficial.

We have a fall fellowship picnic planned on September 9th that Coonrad's have graciously offered to host. I hope you all can be there. Being together in an informal kind of way strengthens our bonds as a church. It is also a good thing to invite new people to. Seriously, invite someone to this event. It will be fun. Make sure someone brings lawn darts. Or corn hole bean bag toss. Or both. Let's have some fun.

Then on Wednesday, September 26th, we will begin Wednesday night programming. We will have a fellowship meal (something light), programming for children and a Bible study led by Pastor Mike (content of that study to be determined). The meal time will run from 5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. with class time to begin at 6:15 p.m. Class time will be preceded by a quick gathering for prayer and then we will break into our groups. We will be done between 7:00 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

I am excited about this idea because it gives us an opportunity to come together and sit at the feet of Jesus to worship and learn together in an informal atmosphere. It also gives me, as your pastor, an opportunity to do Bible study with you. Bible study is vital to Christian growth so I REALLY hope you make an effort to join us on Wednesdays from 5:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. I know other churches have used this approach to doing Christian Education and it has been very effective for them so I am looking forward to this.

A couple of other things I want to bring to your attention...

First, on September 23rd, at 2:30 p.m., there will be an installation service for our new district superintendent, Rev. Paul Wilcox. This will be at Cedar Falls First UMC. I just wanted to extend the information and inform you that this is open to everyone.

Secondly, Janesville UMC is holding their annual Turkey dinner on October 7th at the Janesville Community Center (The Roose). Serving is from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., however, the pie selection is best if you get there earlier. Carry outs are available. Come on up to Janesville for lunch that day!

One last thing – we are well into our second year of being a parish with Janesville. I really appreciate the spirit of cooperation between the parishes. HUMC consists of really great people and I truly appreciate you all. Let's move forward now together.

Pastor Mike



**& Birthdays
Anniversaries in September**



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Mavis Floss
- 13 - Nancy Louthan
- 19 - Dylan Armstrong
- 21 - Dean Watts
- 30 - Dustin Thorne

ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 - Jerod & Ferren Sadler
- 26 - Douglas & Sharon Coonrad

**Food Bank Sunday
September 2, 2018**

"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, September 2nd, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

September is Hunger Action Month. During this month the Food Bank tries to engage the public in as many ways as possible, in order to educate them on the issue of 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?



**REMEMBER
TO PRAY FOR...**

Becky Lundberg Nook -
treatment for health issues.

- Sue Roberts**
- Carol Ann Cowling**
- Carolyn Mumm**
- Pastor Mike's mother-in-law**
- Lila Epling**
- Steve Louthan**
- Lori Waters**
- Doughty family**

Our shut-ins:

- Mel Bartels**
- Margaret Mumm**
- Barb Doughty**
- Richard & Dee Vandenberg**

Don't forget to check out the Church Library



MEDIA OPERATORS FOR SEPTEMBER



- September 2 – Mavis Floss
- September 9 – Nancy Patterson
- September 16 – Jean Clausen
- September 23 – Nancy Patterson
- September 30 – Dave Tolander



is extended to Barb and Gary Doughty on the loss of their son, Terry, on August 29th. Visitation is Friday, September 7th, from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Locke Funeral Home. Services will be held Saturday, September 8th, at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Parish.





for **August 2018**

Offering:

August	5	\$	1,356.00
	12		540.00
	19		788.83
	26		210.55
		\$	<u>2,895.38</u>

Also received:

Apportionment:	\$	80.00
Men's Breakfast		21.00
Ingathering		170.00
Rent		<u>1,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$	1,271.00

TREASURER'S REPORT

Approved 2018 budget:	\$84,947.00
Approved budget through August:	\$56,631.00
Apportionments due for 2018:	\$12,582.00
Apportionment payment per month:	\$ 1,048.50

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving towards budget:	\$ 2,896.38	\$35,146.31
Budget Expenses:	\$ 4,709.00	\$44,204.00
Giving Apportionments:	\$ 80.00	\$ 2,140.00
Apportionment Payments:	\$ 0	\$ 4,405.00

FROM THE PASTOR

September Preaching Schedule

2	Betrothed by God	Hosea 2:18
9	Striving with God	Genesis 32:22-24
16	Listening to Your Life	Genesis 50:19-21
23	Choose This Day	Deuteronomy 30:19-20
30	Changed into Fire	Matthew 3:11-12

GREET, EAT and MEET

September 5th at 10:00 a.m. will be the first Greet, Eat, and Meet of the fall. The coffee and cookies will be out at 10:00 a.m. Pulled pork, pasta salad and chips will be served at noon. In between, join in a rousing game of dominos or cards or bring a project to work on. There is always great conversation, too. Invite a friend. Hope to see you there!



Doug and Sharon Coonrad are hosting a cookout at their home, 109 Ardis St, on Sunday, September 9th, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. with plenty of time for visiting, playing yard games, billiards, and ping pong along with a cookout complete with hamburgers, chicken, baked beans, green bean and potato salads, bottled water and S'mores. This will take place rain or shine.



Sunday, September 16th has been designated as Blanket Sunday. 2 Corinthians 8:2 says "They are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity."

God has blessed us with so much, and we have much to share. Share this love by providing CWC Blankets to those in need. Each blanket costs only \$10, but these blankets can be a vital resource for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement. To see how blankets have helped neighbors in need, including during the very harsh hurricane season recently, visit: cwsblankets.org/stories-and-reports.

The men will meet for breakfast on Saturday, September 22nd, at 8:00 a.m.



September Meetings

EXCITING NEWS! from church-wide brainstorming sessions



Church Council will meet on Wednesday, September 19th, at 5:45 p.m. and SPRC will meet immediately following.



Joint SPRC will meet at the District Office on Sunday, September 23rd, at noon.

Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday November 4, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Dike UMC. Mark your calendars now!



Check the bulletin board for thank you notes from the school staff who enjoyed an amazing breakfast at the church on August 21st. Thanks to all who helped.

Some of the results of these sessions have been reported in other places in the Activator, but here is the background. Two sessions were held in April and August to discuss ways HUMC can better serve our congregation and community. The first session broke discussions into categories of worship, missions, service, and social activities for the congregation, Christian education and outreach. As a variety of good ideas were shared by the approximately 20 attenders present, it became obvious that some of the categories could be combined and that the focus needed to be narrowed.


Congregational strengths were identified as we

1. genuinely like and care about each other, our faith and our community.
2. want to better know each other in terms of faith, hobbies, and family.
3. want to learn more about the Bible to improve and strengthen our individual and congregational faith journey and relationship with God.
4. are willing and eager to reach out in service to persons outside our congregation and in doing so both share our faith with others and strengthen our own faith.

Three areas were selected to focus on this fall.

1. Sharing our faith through media by expanding our online presence to include Sunday worship video, bulletin, and Activator on Facebook and our website.
2. Establish Wednesday evening Bible study, children's activities and periodic community events.
3. Social engagement with each other to include seasonal events outside the church building to get to know each other better.

Watch the bulletin, media, and future Activators for more details as the planning continues.



Psalm 46:10

Sometimes our lives are so busy that we cannot seem to fit another thing into the day! But there is something very important that we need to do each day.

Find the answer using the code below.

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We must talk to God and listen for God. "Be still, and know that I am God."

