



The Activator

September 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,
The original pandemic plan of the Iowa UM Conference advised us to follow the “**Three Simple Rules**” of founder John Wesley:

1. Do no harm.
2. Do good.
3. Remain in love with God.

Our two churches have been especially careful to *do no harm* simply because the great majority of those who attend worship are in the at-risk-age group including your pastor, leaders and workers at worship. No one wanted to take any chances of the church being responsible for someone contracting the virus and possibly dying by attending in-person worship.

The IUMC policy advised waiting until there had been a 14-day decline in cases in our county before reopening, as long as precautions are taken with disinfecting, distancing, masking, etc.

Black Hawk and Bremer Counties have not even had a 14-day decline during the entire time. As a matter of fact, there were three more deaths this past week. God bless them and their loved ones.

Many of you have expressed your desire to return to worship. Your leaders completely understand, yet feel responsible for *doing no harm*, since our threat remains as high as ever, and may become worse now that other places have opened including schools and universities.

This whole thing is a guessing game with very high stakes when we also consider the increased cases and deaths in our counties and we don't know the after effects of COVID-19. We're not sure it's a one-and-done virus or if it hangs on in the system, for example, like chicken pox to give us, “shingles,” (or something) in the years to come. We do know the anti-bodies remain in the system for only 90 days so there is no

one-and-done. Presumably you can have “it” repeatedly. Vaccination seems the only way to avoid it.

Our church leaders do their best to *do good*. We want to thank Sue Stapleton for her music ministry and Rita Ruth for the many hours with the tech ministry. JUMC has now had fiber optic installed so we are to have faster, more reliable, upload speed for live-streaming on Sunday mornings, (at same cost as before) but that hasn't proved to be true...yet. No system is keeping up with all the online work now.

So...since this pandemic has lasted over five months and many of you are asking to return to worship in our buildings, we are leaning toward a hope of **re-opening World Communion Sunday, October 4, UNLESS** the LOCAL case and death numbers jump significantly (as they did when JUMC tried in August.)

Please continue to watch for emails and Facebook postings from the churches or my personal email at pastorayoung@gmail.com for updates.

Don't worry, GOD IS WITH US.
Pastor Audrey:)



September

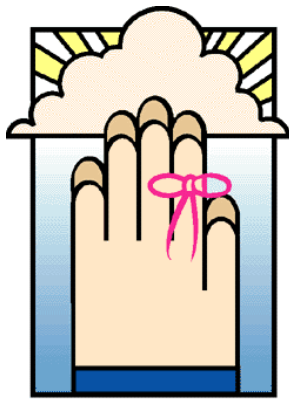


BIRTHDAYS

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

ANNIVERSARIES

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



**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.



Annual Charge Conference for Hudson and Janesville UM Churches is set for Sunday, October 11th, at 2:00 p.m. at Hudson UMC.



**Food Bank Sunday
September 6, 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, September 6th, will be designated "Food Bank Sunday".

Hunger Action Month was established by Feeding America in 2008, when it decided it was time for a nationwide push to get involved with the hunger crisis across the country. September is a time when people all over American stand against hunger. No one should have to go hungry, and Hunger Action Month reminds us that there are those out there who need the help of a kind soul with an open hand.

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?





August 2020

Offering:

August	2	1,900.00
	9	865.00
	16	180.00
	23	500.00
	30	150.00
		<hr/>
	\$	3,595.00

Also received:

Apportionment:	\$	200.00
Rent		1,050.00
Food Bank		10.00
TOTAL	\$	1,260.00



Approved 2020 budget:	\$86,154.00
Approved budget through August:	\$57,436.00
Apportionments due for 2020:	\$11,231.00
Apportionment payment per month:	\$ 936.00

	<u>Monthly –</u> <u>thru 8/24</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving towards budget:	\$ 3,645.00	\$ 28,189.79
Budget Expenses:	\$ 4,530.00	\$ 40,490.00
Giving Apportionments:	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,008.78
Apportionment Payments:	\$ 0	\$ 0

With 2/3 of the year completed, our giving is at 70% of actual expenses and 49% of budget year to date. Our expenses are 47% of total approved 2020 budget.

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).



IOWA CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Ingathering is the mission-gathering event of the UM Churches of Iowa held on the first Saturday of November. Usually the event collects over a million dollars' worth of offerings and in-kind gifts.

Due to the COVID virus many of the Ingathering activities will not be held this year. The event has been reorganized and **WILL ACCEPT mission kits with social distancing precautions.**

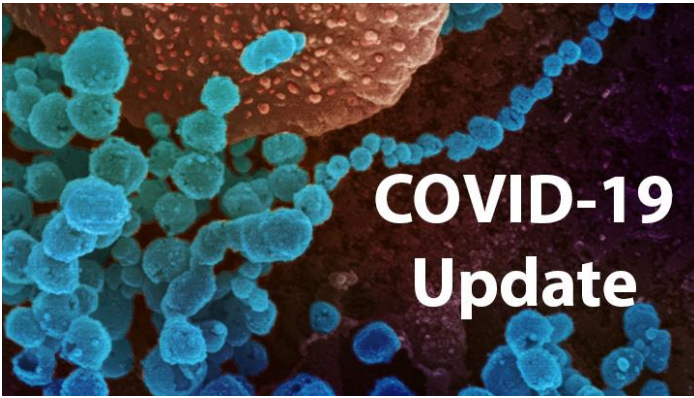
Kits can be taken to the event at Cedar Falls First UMC. Please have your mission kits and/or your check written to the church with "Ingathering" in the memo line, to the church by Sunday, October 25th for consecrating and packing.

Pastor Audrey has been a strong proponent of Ingathering for many years and encourages you to join her in providing school supplies for children here and in the U.S. Last week Menards had everything but crayons which Walmart had for 4 for \$1. Diane Schulz will be putting together 5 school kits - one in honor of each grandchild. Is anyone else interested in putting some together in honor of a special student? She will be sewing bags again, so let her know if she can make any for your school kits.



If you want to know more about it, go to Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Illinois website (www.midwestmission.org) for the numerous items they receive and then deliver mostly in the U.S., but some overseas. There are new packing guidelines this year for some of the kits. Go to <http://www.midwestmission.org/kits-projects-patterns/midwest-mission> for details and a direct online donation opportunity.

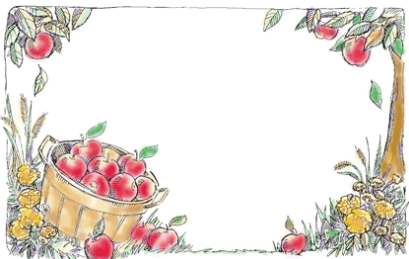
When this pandemic is over, maybe JUMC and HUMC can go on a mission work trip to the Distribution Center.

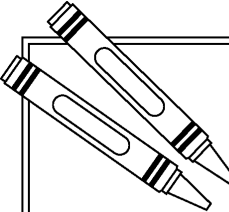


**Just in case you are wondering:
Black Hawk County COVID Statistics**

Date	Totals		Increase	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
8/28	4366	73	122	1
8/26	4244	72	17	1
8/25	4227	71	11	1
8/24	4216	70	25	1
8/22	4191	69	91	2
8/19	4100	67	74	0
8/18	4026	67	17	1
8/17	4009	66	44	0
8/15	3965	66	49	0
8/14	3916	66	24	0
8/13	3892	66	29	0
8/12	3863	66	27	0
8/11	3836	66	8	0
8/10	3828	66	8	0
8/9	3820	66	31	3*
8/7	3789	63	22	0
8/6	3767	63	34	1
8/5	3733	62	26	0
8/4	3707	62	10	0
8/3	3697	62	17	0
8/2	3686	62	17	0
8/1	3669	62	18	0

*1 death in Bremer County
There have been 18 cases in Janesville in the last two weeks





Just for KIDS

2 Timothy 3:16-17

The books and subjects that we study in school prepare us for our futures and our lives. Studying the Bible is important also. Find what Paul wrote to his young helper, Timothy.

First write a word to fit each definition. Then transfer the letters to the lines below.

Printed and bound sheets of paper	1	2	3	4						
They form the alphabet	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
One who is learning	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
A small test	19	20	21	22						
A group of relatives	23	24	25	26	27	28				
To offer something	29	30	31	32						
Glad	33	34	35	36	37					
Group who works together	38	39	40	41						

“ 24 5 27 11 38 10 26 35 7 14 10 6 21 11 29 2 15

1 10 9 24 18 33 6 15 24 17 15 21 12

20 11 40 23 14 27 23 3 10 13 16 24 38 33 21 17 29 ’

39 9 1 14 4 21 17 29 ’ 38 2 10 10 40 38 8 21 17 29

34 17 15 7 10 24 21 17 21 17 29 26 17

39 30 29 33 8 9 3 14 11 17 32 12 11 ”

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”



September