

# Hudson United Methodist Church

APRIL 2024

# Musings

*A Church for all Generations*

1401 Laurel Ave., Hudson, WI. 54016

715.386.3921 [www.umchudson.org](http://www.umchudson.org)

**Hudson United Methodist Church Mission Statement**  
*To accept all people along their spiritual journey.*

**Breakthrough Prayer:** Lord, we know the plans you have for us are all part of your perfect plan. This brings us great peace. Amen. Based on Jeremiah 29:11

**Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

## **Holy Humor Sunday**

We enjoy having a good time at Hudson UMC when we get together. **On Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 & 10:30 am** we will be having more fun than usual. We will be celebrating Holy Humor Sunday with humor and laughter of Jesus' triumph over death. Faith is serious business, but that doesn't mean Christians must always be serious! This is a fun-filled service with Laughter. It is extremely kid friendly and it's a service you don't want to miss.

**You are invited to start collecting your jokes to share with the congregation during worship.**

## **Dose of Humor**

Easter is the only time when it is safe to put all your eggs into one basket.

**Reserve June 30<sup>th</sup> to**

**Celebrate Rev. Dr.**

**Dawn Jeffers-**

**Ramstad's Ministry**

**&**

**Retirement**

There will be a luncheon (Party) to celebrate Rev. Dawn's retirement. Watch for more information!

**Announcing  
Special Music  
Sunday, April 28**

The St. Croix Sacred Ensemble will be presenting a mini-concert of praise at both the 8:30 and 10:30 am services. Don't miss this wonderful event! Invite your neighbors and friends.

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**APRIL Mission of the Month: Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence.**



# APRIL

## Prayer and Outreach

Everyone benefits when people of all ages gather together in prayer. Take a moment to focus on outreach prayer:

**Pray for** our neighbors living in Wards 3 & 4 and for voters in the building on April.2.

**Pray for** opportunities to reach others in our community through the Wednesday Food Giveaway and the Wednesday Night meals.

**Pray for** individuals who are searching for a place to belong that they find answers to what they seek within our doors.

**Pray for** our NW District 10 Churches: River Falls UMC, New Richmond UMC, Hudson UMC, Hammond/New Centerville UMC and Willow River Parish.

**Pray for** worldwide peace and compassion.



**Pray for Future Ministries . . .** for new programs and ministries for two minutes a day:

- *New* Events and Small Groups.
- Groups utilizing the lower level of the church.
- Hudson United Methodist Church growth and leadership.

**Pray for Weekly Ministries . . .**for Hudson United Methodist Church current activities and ministry opportunities:

- Wednesday Food Give-Away
- Wednesday Men’s Coffee
- Wednesday Bible Study
- SEWMUCHNEED
- Sunday Musicians
- Sunday, April 7<sup>h</sup> Holy Humor Sunday
- Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> & 24 Wednesday Night Meals
- Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> All Church Potluck
- Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> Baptism of Jack David Halpern son of John & Emma Halpern, grandson of David & Jan Naegeli
- Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> Special Music at 8:30 & 10:30 am worship services by St. Croix Sacred Ensemble



\*\*\*\*\*

### Holy Hilarity

Did you know the early-church tradition of celebrating the second Sunday of Easter as Holy Humor Sunday, affirming the season’s joy. Here are a few jokes for April 14 to share with friends:

- Knock knock. *Who’s there?* Hatch. *Hatch who?* God bless you!
- What should you do after eating so many Easter treats? *Eggs-ercise!*

# APRIL Accountable Leadership Board Update

## From the Desk of John Duntley, Accountable Leadership Board Chair

June and July will be arriving before we know it and with summer comes changes in our HUMC ministry leadership. We will celebrate Rev. Dawn's retirement with a special church event on Sunday, June 30, recognizing her special contribution to our church ministry and celebrating her step to retirement. Then on Sunday, July 14, Rev. Dan Fahs will begin his service to HUMC and we want to welcome him warmly on his first Sunday. Mark those special Sunday dates on your calendar and watch for further information.

The SPRC and ALB are seeking qualified individuals that can take on the offices of Treasurer and Finance Secretary. As Carol Trainor has stepped down from the Treasurer position after many years of excellent service, we remain extremely grateful for the detailed work that she has provided for HUMC. We have contracted with a church service organization, Clergy Financial, to manage a major portion of the actual bill and payment processing for the church but will still need a Treasurer to prepare invoices for them to process. We also need a Finance Secretary that is charged with overseeing the counting and recording of offerings and payments to the church. Both positions could be filled by church members or by non-members but must be different individuals by the Methodist Book of Discipline. Both positions are part-time requiring approximately 3-4 hours per week. Please watch for more information, or if interested, please inquire at the church office or speak to Rev. Dawn or Jean Gunderson for more information.

March has marked further milestones at HUMC with the long-awaited removal of the church house. The volunteer turn-out to help remove furnishings from the house was outstanding, making a morning's work out of a task that could have taken days. Special thanks to Mike Bebault for all the coordination and planning for completing the house removal.



*Pastor Dan and Jill*

## Getting to Know Rev. Daniel J. Fahs and Jill Fahs

After years of successfully avoiding ordained ministry, Dan Fahs finally gave in to God's calling; he left a successful healthcare career in Minneapolis and moved to Chicago to attend Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. He says, "I had sensed God's direction for many years, finally, in 2002, I had the courage to follow where God was leading." Beginning in 2002, he and his wife, Jill, ministered to congregations in Wheaton, Winfield and Wood Dale in the greater Chicago area. In 2007, Pastor Dan & Jill returned (home) to Wisconsin, first to Hayward, then Oconomowoc, and most recently Whitewater.

Pastor Dan believes that worship is central to our Christian life. Worship refreshes and refills us so that we can reach out to those around us with the Great-Good News. Pastor Dan is passionate about seeing lives transformed in response to a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. He feels strongly that a church fails to be *The Church* if it is not in mission -- putting hands and feet to the gospel.



**Getting to Know Rev. Daneil J. Fahs and Jill Fahs continued from page 3**

He has found life and joy in working with the small Mississippi town of Pearlinton as the churches and the community recovered from Hurricane Katrina (2005). He has also worked with the community and churches of Minot, ND as they recovered from the flood of 2011. While at Oconomowoc, he and the people of the church have worked with Summerfield UMC (downtown Milwaukee) to provide food and other services to those in need. While at Good Shepherd, Pastor Dan oversaw the building of a new church and daycare on the northeast side of Oconomowoc. While in Whitewater, he worked to transition the church into a new future.

In addition to reaching out to those around us (loving our neighbor), Pastor Dan also believes we must grow more in love with God. He enjoys leading small study groups in which knowledge is not only learned, but also applied. He says, "I find that life is transformed in small groups; I like to lead small group Bible studies." I believe that life-with-God is fed by a growing relationship with God and with others. Finally, Pastor Dan believes that lay leadership is the future of the church. He enjoys teaching others so that they may then teach and lead others. He has taught "lay preachers/servants," confirmation youth, and adults.

Prior to working in the ordained ministry, Pastor Dan worked with senior adults as an Executive Director for assisted living communities in Minnesota and Wisconsin. He has a Masters in Health Service Administration from Cardinal Stritch University (1994) and a Masters of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (2005). Pastor Dan serves on the Board of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation (2009-2016 & 2023-present), and on the District Committees of Ministry in the Northwest & now the Southeast Districts since 2007. He chairs the Southeast DCOM. He has also served on the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Jill is learning to be retired. She most recently worked part time in an urgent care setting. Prior to that, she was the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity in Sawyer County. Most of her work history was in finance. She was on the Joint Board of Pensions and Equitable Compensation in Wisconsin and the comparable pension committee in Illinois. She also has numerous trophies from her drag racing career.

Dan and Jill have four children (and five grandchildren) living throughout Wisconsin. Dan enjoys long-distance bicycling, running, photography, and playing the guitar. Jill enjoys reading, gardening, hiking and painting. They both enjoy riding motorcycles (yes, Jill has her own motorcycle).

# APRIL Activities & Events

## Highlighted Events

*Activities and Events are subject to change. Current as of 3/15/24*

Everyone benefits from fellowship. Participating in fellowship enhances your life and brings joy to you and to others around you. Will you share our activities with those in our community? Everyone is welcome to join in church events.

### ZOOM Opportunities

Download the ZOOM App. Log onto <https://zoom.us/>.

*Subject to change. Current as of March 15, 2024*



## Prayer + (plus) You are Welcome Anytime 😊

Are you vacationing in Florida or Arizona and missing worshiping with your Hudson friends?

**Activities and Events continued on page 5**

Activities and Events continued from page 4

### Wednesday Prayer + (plus) continued

Or, are you living in Hudson and the surrounding areas looking for a relaxed service? We might have what you are looking for. You are invited to worship at our 7 pm Zoom Wednesday Prayer + gatherings, anytime. It's the perfect mid-week break. **The meeting id and password is available in the church office.** Drop in once, or as often as you like. We offer you an opportunity to prepare for Wednesday Prayer +. Take a look at the following scripture:

- |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday, April 3</b>  | <b>Scripture:</b> John 20: 19-23 CEB |
| <b>Wednesday, April 10</b> | <b>Scripture:</b> Psalm 23 CEB       |
| <b>Wednesday, April 17</b> | <b>Scripture:</b> John 10: 1-18 CEB  |
| <b>Wednesday, April 24</b> | <b>Scripture:</b> John 15: 1-8 CEB   |



### New Wednesday, 10:30 am ZOOM Bible Study

By Darci Strutt McQuiston

You are invited to our next study. It is called "*Context*" by Josh Scott. It is a six-week book study that includes a video component. Here is the Amazon link: <https://a.co/d/h9hgIuP>

It is a new book and currently on pre-order with an **April 2 release date.** The class will meet after the release date.

Here is a description from Amazon to help publicize it.

"*Context*, looks at verses we know by heart but may not know the people, places, and times that give them meaning. Josh Scott delves into these well-known Scripture verses, exploring their true meanings by examining them in their original biblical context. Through this process, he unveils fresh and enlightening interpretations that are often missed when these Scriptures are taken out of context."

Contact the church office for more information and the zoom meeting ID and password. (715.386.3921)



### Gatherings in April



### Spring Election, Tuesday, April 2

Hudson United Methodist Church is a polling site. On **Monday, April 1** and on **Tuesday, April 2**, the fellowship hall and the multi-purpose room **will not** be available due to set up of polling booths and voting. This is for the Regular Spring Election held on **April 2**.

Exercise your right to vote at a location near your home. For additional voting information, please contact the City Clerk of Hudson at 715.386.4765 ext. 140 or log onto [www.ci.hudson.wi.us](http://www.ci.hudson.wi.us).

Activities and Events continued from page 5

**Every Wed. Bakery & Produce Drive-Thru Give-Away @ 9 AM**



Need a boost to your groceries? We have **curbside delivery of free bread and produce every Wednesday at 9 AM.** Thank you to Ruth Knapp and Nancy Briske who drop off food from the Hudson Food Cupboard and to County Market for their bread and produce donations. Just drive up to the church door and we will place a box of food in your trunk. It is fast, easy and free. Open to everyone.



**Every Wednesday – Men’s Group**

Men, you are invited to enjoy a cup of coffee and a sweet roll every Wednesday morning, at **9:00 AM in the church fellowship hall!** Come to relax, chat, visit and enjoy each other’s company. The atmosphere is friendly and cheery. No reservations! Just drop in any Wednesday. The coffee pot and treats are waiting for you. ☺ Contact Gery Campbell if you have any questions. ☺



**Wednesday, April 4 & 18 H.O.M.E. Meal**

**(H.O.M.E. stands for Hudson Outreach Meals for Everyone and is open to everyone in the community)**

Eight churches take turns on a rotating basis to host the H.O.M.E. meals on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Due to Holy Week there will only be one meal this month. The churches involved in the H.O.M.E. Meal are: St. Patrick Catholic, St. Paul Episcopal, Trinity Lutheran, Beth Immanuel Messianic Synagogue, United Methodist, Redeemer Lutheran, Bethel Lutheran, and Mount Zion Lutheran. The meals have been fully funded by donations from the churches involved and a few extra donations given by some individuals and groups from various organizations.

Our next meals are at **5:00 PM**, at Bethel Lutheran Church, on **Thursday, April 4 & 18. On Thursday, April 18 Hudson United Methodist Church will be preparing the meal along with Mt. Zion. Help is needed to prepare the meal.** Bethel Lutheran Church is located at 920 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Direct your questions to Kim Campbell or Joanne Campbell.

**H.O.M.E. SCHEDULE 2024**

Revised 12-13-23

Apr. 4	Redeemer Lutheran Church	Sept. 5	Trinity Lutheran Church
<b>Apr. 18</b>	<b>United Methodist/Mt. Zion Lutheran Churches</b>	Sept. 19	St. Patrick Catholic Church
May 2	Bethel Lutheran Church	Oct. 3	St. Paul Episcopal Church
May 16	Trinity Lutheran Church	<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>United Methodist/Mt. Zion Lutheran Churches</b>
June 6	St. Patrick Catholic Church	Nov. 7	Redeemer Lutheran Church
June 20	St. Paul Episcopal Church	<b>Nov. 21</b>	<b>THANKSGIVING (ALL CHURCHES)</b>
July 4	NO MEAL Holiday	Dec. 5	Bethel Lutheran Church
July 18	Redeemer Lutheran Church	<b>Dec. 19</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS (ALL CHURCHES)</b>
<b>Aug. 1</b>	<b>United Methodist/Mt. Zion Lutheran Churches</b>		
Aug. 15	Bethel Lutheran Church		

Activities and Events continued from page 6



## Monday, April 8 SEWMUCHNEED

From Connie Nielsen

You are invited to join us on **Monday, April 8th from 9 til noon**. If you are available we have a good group of ladies for you to meet and plenty of sewing projects. Many thanks to Judy Gilbert for making hats and mittens for our schools. If anyone can help donate materials, such as cotton, flannel, denim or corduroy it is greatly appreciated. Please contact Clarice Huehne or Connie Nielsen with your questions.



## Wednesday, April 10 & 24

### “Evensong” In-Person Worship @ 5 PM

Are you unable to attend Sunday worship? You are invited to attend an in-person worship experience on **Wednesday, April 10 & 24 at 5 PM** in the sanctuary. Enjoy a half hour service of music, scripture from the book of Psalms, conversation, and prayer. Many thanks to Ann Stannard for providing a piano prelude, one hymn, and postlude. Vocalists are encouraged to participate.

## 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Meals April 10 & 24



Enjoy a night off from cooking and clean-up! You are invited to join a meal in the fellowship hall at 5:30 pm. If you have never enjoyed a home-cooked meal prepared by our HUMC volunteers, you don't know what you are missing! The cost of the meals are \$5 per adult, or \$15 per family of 4 or more.

If you have any questions or would like to help Rita Nichols prepare dinner, let her know! Contact information is available in the church office.

### \* APRIL MENU

Wednesday, April 10: Tortellini with Meat Sauce  
 Wednesday, April 24: Tater Tot Hot Dish with Roll

### \* MAY MENU

Wednesday, May 8: Taco Night  
 Wednesday, May 22: Surprise Dinner

\* All meals include a salad table, dessert, and drinks.

\* Please reserve your meal on or before Tuesday, April 9, April 23, May 7 and May 21 @ [HUDSONUMC@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:HUDSONUMC@SBCGLOBAL.NET) or sign up on the sign-up sheet at the greeter's table. **Please pre-register to reserve your meal by Tuesday at NOON.** Signing up gives our 'cooks' an idea of the amount of food to purchase.



## April 14<sup>th</sup> All-Church Potluck

Care to join us? Stop by the fellowship hall on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 am for an informal potluck. Please sign up at the greeter's table so we know who is coming and bringing a dish to share. This is informal. Many thanks to Kim Campbell and Janet Johnson who will be in the kitchen setting up, and cleaning up.

If you can help, please talk to Kim Campbell.

Activities & Events continued on pg. 8



Activities and Events continued from page 5



## Newsletter Reminder

The newsletters are reminders of what we are doing in church and in the community. Anyone can submit an article. The next newsletter article deadline for the **May issue**, is noon, on **Monday, April 15**. We would love to read about your information on your groups, meetings, and special events. Send your information to the church office: [HUDSONUMC@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:HUDSONUMC@SBCGLOBAL.NET). If you are not currently receiving a church newsletter, or if you would like to start receiving a newsletter, please contact Kathy in the church office at: 715.386.3921.



## Sunday, April 21 Celebrate Jack Halpern Baptism @ 10:30 AM

You are invited to join in the celebration of the baptism of Jack David Halpern son of John & Emma Halpern, grandson of David & Jan Naegeli at 10:30 am. Hope you can attend this joyous occasion.



## St. Croix Sacred Ensemble



## Sunday, April 28 St. Croix Sacred Ensemble

We are pleased to announce the St. Croix Sacred Ensemble will be providing 20 minutes of Special Music on Sunday, April 28 at both the 8:30 and 10:30 am services. The St. Croix Sacred Ensemble is based in the Twin Cities. The Ensemble believes that sacred music is powerful and uplifting and is looking forward to sharing God's grace, love and light through their vocal gifts.

The choir members come from western Wisconsin, the St Croix Valley and the Twin Cities metro area.



## Aging & Disability Resource Center Updates

### DayAway an ADRC Program

DayAway is a social respite program for older adults who are frail or who have memory loss. DayAway provides a day off for caregivers and a fun morning for the participant in a safe and comfortable environment. The group meets every Monday and Thursday from 9 am to Noon at Hudson United Methodist Church in the lower level and every Tuesday at the United Methodist Church in New Richmond.

The suggested donation is \$45 per session includes morning coffee, snack, and a noon meal is included.. Individuals with limited incomes should inquire about scholarships from the Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program and United Way. Call the ADRC of St. Croix County to find out more about the program at 715.381.4360 or 1.800.372. 2333.





# APRIL

## Happy Birthday!

We wish you a Happy Birthday! We apologize if your name isn't listed. Please inform the church office of your birthday, and your name and birth date will be added to the birthday list. Thank you

### Wishing you a wonderful day with family and friends:

- |                        |                   |                          |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 04/04 Sue Suydam       | 04/18 Sue Warnke  | 04/27 Mary Ellen Paulson |
| 04/11 Frank Huehne     | 04/19 Adele Dolan | 04/28 Evelyn Johnson     |
| 04/15 Delaney McArthur | 04/21 Steve Close | 04/29 Morgan Munro       |
| 04/16 Debbie England   | 04/24 Jan Naegeli | 04/30 Denise Stalker     |
| 04/16 Beryl Wooford    | 04/26 Kathi Wood  |                          |



# APRIL

## Book Club & Discussion Group

By Ruth Knapp

Our group is open to everyone who likes to read and discuss. **We invite you to join the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of April (April 21<sup>st</sup>) for a discussion at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.** We will be discussing "The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride" by Joe Siple. (223 pages) "The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride", won the Maxy Awards "BOOK OF THE YEAR" and USA Today Bestseller. It is a story about 100 years old, Murray McBride, who has outlived everyone he's ever loved. But when he meets Jason Cashman, a 10-year-old boy with a terminal illness, Murray learns something about finding the meaning in life as he helps his young friend fulfill his last five wishes. Together, they race against the limited time each has left, ticking off wishes one by one. Along the way, Murray remembers what it's like to be young, and Jason fights for the opportunity to grow old. "The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride" which can be found in the Hudson Area Public Library, Chapter 2 Books, and on Amazon. Start early on this read and join us **April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm.** Hope to see you! Direct your questions to Carla Bebault or Ruth Knapp.

# APRIL

## Christian Community Homes & Service Update

Spring is near, even though it doesn't seem like it is right around the corner! It's time for the CCH Auxiliary's **"Garden Jubilee Fundraiser"**! You receive top-notch flowers from Gertens Nursery. The Auxiliary receives a good portion of the sales which help them to continue their work at the CCH Campus and for the residents! Order forms are available online at [www.gertensfundraising.com](http://www.gertensfundraising.com) and enter ID #514. The CCH auxiliary receives 30% of all sales!

All orders will need to be placed by **10 PM, April 1st.** The delivery of your flowers is scheduled for **May 14 between 3 – 5 PM at Pine Ridge Entrance!** Direct your questions to Shelly DeStasio @ 715.381.4203.

If you would like to make a donation, complete this form:

### Where flowers bloom so does hope.

Please help us *beautify* our Place for Peace for our RESIDENTS and their families to enjoy for years to come!

To make a kind monetary donation please fill out form.

Auxiliary Donation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email (very important): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Be sure to enclose your check payable to CCC Auxiliary and mail to: 1320 Wisconsin St. Hudson, WI 54016 or return to Pine Ridge business office**

**Thank you for your support.**

Christian Community Homes of Hudson is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and acknowledges that no goods or services were provided to you in return for your donation.





## Family Ministry Updates

### Children’s Sunday School: A Multi-age format: Preschool through 5th grade

By Amy Norelius

You are invited to bring your kiddos to once a month Children’s Sunday School. Children’s Sunday School will meet from 9:30am-10:30 am in the lower level classroom/conference room. The class is facilitated by Amy Norelius and Lynn Watson.

Classes will be held on: Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.



### Support Our Youth

Whenever the church office receives information when one of our youth is playing in a sporting event, band and/or choir concert, or receiving special recognition, we will share the information with you.



## Finance Updates

### Treasurer’s Report

By Nicole Munro, acting Treasurer on behalf of the Finance Team

#### Summary: End of February 2024

YTD 2024

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	% Budget		YTD 2023	% Change
<b>General Fund Income</b>	<b>\$19,826</b>	\$23,967	83%		\$27,673	-28%
<b>General Fund Expense</b>	<b>\$36,117</b>	\$29,072	124%		\$31,298	-15%
<b>Net Profit/Loss</b>	<b>-\$16,291</b>	-\$5105			-\$3,625	

\* As of March 1<sup>st</sup>, all Apportionments, Mission of the Months and bills from 2023 and thus far in 2024 are paid in full with the assistance of the Foundation Account Disbursements.

\* February was the month in which we made these outstanding payments; therefore our Expenses are higher than normal.

## VANCO Online Giving



Hudson United Methodist Church is pleased to offer the option of giving online through **VANCO**. Giving online through **VANCO** is easy and allows you to set up automatic, recurring contributions and to view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. In order to use **VANCO**, you must create a profile. This is for your security and to

insure accurate accounting of your donation or payment.

The **VANCO** option allows YOU to be in complete control of your giving. To take advantage of this option, simply follow the easy steps by going to the **HUMC website @ [www.umchudson.org](http://www.umchudson.org)**. At the top of the page to your right, click on the Giving tab, and the pull down menu will appear. Click on Giving: Celebrating God’s Generosity. Scroll to the **VANCO** link and click.

Finance Updates continued on page 11



Finance Updates continued from page 10

# Finance Secretary Update

By Lisa Lindley

## Hudson United Methodist Church

### Finance Secretary Report as of February 29, 2024

Month	Projected 4005 Fund (Monthly Budget)	Actual 4005 Fund Monthly Giving	Variance to Budget	Projected YTD 4005 Fund (Budget)	Actual 4005 Fund YTD Giving	Variance to Budget	Prior Year Actual 4005 Fund Monthly Giving	2024 Pledged Amount Received	2024 Unpledged Amount Received
January	\$ 22,917	\$ 28,302	\$ 5,386	\$ 22,917	\$ 28,302	\$ 5,386	\$ 28,583	\$ 17,354	\$ 10,948
February	\$ 22,917	\$ 18,648	\$ (4,269)	\$ 45,833	\$ 46,950	\$ 1,117	\$ 26,878	\$ 12,133	\$ 6,515
March**	\$ 22,917			\$ 68,750			\$ 34,452		
April	\$ 22,917			\$ 91,667			\$ 29,516		
May	\$ 22,917			\$ 114,583			\$ 19,185		
June*	\$ 22,917			\$ 137,500			\$ 16,762		
July	\$ 22,917			\$ 160,417			\$ 40,783		
August	\$ 22,917			\$ 183,333			\$ 18,335		
September	\$ 22,917			\$ 206,250			\$ 17,047		
October	\$ 22,917			\$ 229,167			\$ 28,546		
November	\$ 22,917			\$ 252,083			\$ 16,125		
December*	\$ 22,917			\$ 275,000			\$ 24,506		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 275,000</b>	<b>\$ 46,950</b>	<b>\$ 1,117</b>				<b>\$ 300,718</b>	<b>\$ 29,487</b>	<b>\$ 17,463</b>

**Giving Notes:**

Pledged Amount through 2/29/24 was \$28,720, amount received was \$29,487

\*5 Sunday Month

\*\* Easter Sunday

**Annual Pledge Comparison**

Year	# of Pledges	\$ of Pledges	Received
2021	70	\$ 219,106	\$ 227,373
2022	72	\$ 242,432	\$ 359,673
2023	60	\$ 214,245	\$ 218,257
2024	54	\$ 230,378	

# Operational Reserve Update

Sharing with you updated numbers for the Operating Reserve. You can help out with this worthy cause by placing your donation in the provided envelopes at the greeter's table. If you have any fundraising ideas, contact Rev. Dawn.





# APRIL

## Food Cupboard Update

By Ruth Knapp



Thanks for your generosity over the previous months and for the contributions that have been left at church. We have removed the contribution box as the Raider Network needs donations, too.

I'd like you to check your June calendars for your availability to work at the Food Cupboard during June mornings (Monday through Thursday) or Tuesday afternoon. We will be recruiting helpers during May, as my goal is to have a fully staffed Food Cupboard by the end of May. Thanks in advance for all of your help!

The APRIL Food Cupboard's needs include: cereal, crackers, a variety of vegetables (but NOT corn), mayonnaise, variety soups (but not tomato, chicken noodle, cream soups, or ramen), coffee, tea, hot chocolate, taco shells, taco sauce, salsa, pickles, baking items including pie mix, Spam, toilet paper. Thank you in advance! Ruth Knapp

## Annual Post Office Food Drive



The Annual Post Office Drive is on Saturday, May 11. Postal carriers will pick up food left in bags at your mailboxes and transport it to the Food Shelf where the food will be sorted and stored. We will need volunteers to help sort the food when it arrives. Are you available to help? Please contact the food shelf and let them know the times you are free.

# APRIL

## Missions Update

### April Mission of the Month



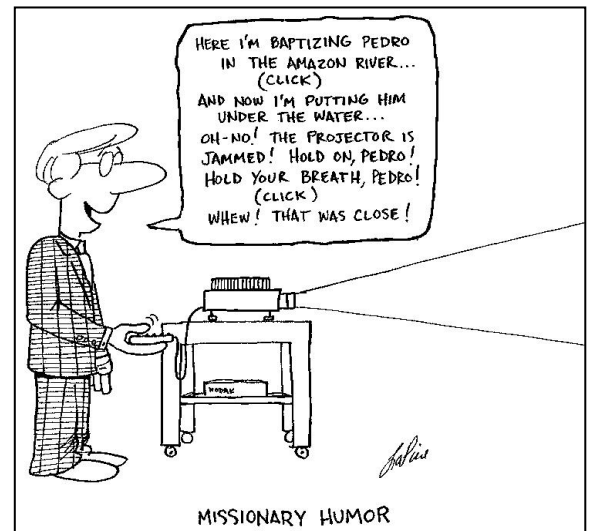
The April Mission of the Month (MOM) loose coin offering will be donated to Turning Point.

**Turningpoint for victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence.** Turningpoint has served Northwestern Wisconsin communities in Pierce and St. Croix Counties since 1979. Support services including shelter, adult and children's support groups, crisis line services, legal advocacy and other programs. They support the Second Chance store. <http://www.turningpoint-wi.org/1-800-345-5104>. Local #: 715-425-6751 TEXT Hotline: 715-821-8626. The Mission of the Month offering tin can be found next to the offering plate in the narthex.

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## Cartoons

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MISSIONARY HUMOR



## Statistics Update

By Jane Dejno, Data Base Coordinator

In this season of rebirth, may you feel your faith renewed and your heart made new with the hope Easter brings.

### AVERAGE TOTAL PER WEEK

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
JAN	131	118	155	177	*165	150
FEB	114	131	164	174	203	163
MAR	129	***155	170	169	182	
APR	155	173	205	222	201	
MAY	115	166	172	190	176	
JUNE	95	116	166	155	191	
JULY	99	167	174	153	164	
AUG	108	167	158	156	152	
SEPT	113	162	154	161	162	
OCT	121	153	171	175	165	
NOV	120	150	172	177	*161	
DEC	107	157	194	*177	176	



\*\*\*COVID 19 began – podcasts included

\* Some services not held due to weather, holidays, etc.

DATE	SERVICES TOTAL	YOUTUBE PODCAST	USPS	TOTAL
2/4/24	73	42	32	147
2/11/24	84	54	32	170
2/18/24	78	46	32	156
2/25/24	78	67	32	177
<b>TOTAL</b>	313	209	128	<b>650</b>

\* Some services not held due to weather, holidays, etc.



## Stewardship Update

### Celebrate Generosity

By Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

It's not uncommon for me to visit a church and hear a financial update from the pulpit stating the dire circumstances of the church's finances and then urging people to give more. While financial transparency is important, doom and gloom stewardship appeals do more harm than good. Even if there is a short-term financial boost from a few people, such messages usually lead people to stop giving.

Stewardship Updates continued on page 14



### Stewardship Update continued from page 13

For your next financial update, take some time to celebrate the ways people have been generous, both to the church and in their lives.

Consider, for instance, the points from this article from Forbes, *‘Wired to Give – How to Make the Most of Your Innate Generosity’*:

**We’re wired to give.** Neurologically, psychologically, socially, spiritually – everywhere we look, the evidence suggests that generosity is one of the hallmarks of humanity.

**You’re already a giver.** You are likely more charitable than you even knew. Do you have any life insurance, for instance? It won’t do you any good personally, but it sure is helpful to anyone who depends on you financially.

Praising behavior that you’d like to see more of goes a lot further than bemoaning what you don’t see happening. It’s a big part of having a mindset focused on abundance rather than scarcity.

## APRIL Thank You Notes



### Thank you!

Thank you for making your church available to the League of Women Voters St. Croix Valley and the people (voters) of St Croix County.

It’s always nice to have a neutral location where we can hold candidate forums.

Churches work well but many don’t want to get involved. I am grateful for Hudson

UMC’s *Open Heart and Open minds* of your congregation! Together, we are “empowering voters and defending democracy”! Lenten Blessings & Easter Joy to you, Carolyn Saunders



### Thank you Congregation!

Dear Members, Clergy and Staffat Hudson United Methodist Church,

Our food cupboard certainly had humble beginnings. In our early days we operated from the trunk of a car. Our first permanent location was the Catholic Church on St.

Croix Street. Our home is now in the lower level of St. Patrick Church on Vine Street

in Hudon. Our space is small, but our hearts are huge! Our motto is “Caring Hearts, Feeding Hope”. The number of people served by our food cupboard has doubled in the last three years. Your gift inspires us in our relentless battle against food insecurity in St. Croix County. Thank you for your donation of \$500.00.

From our board of directors, our incredible volunteers, and most of all our clients, thank you for your kindness and generosity. You are a blessing to families living in St. Croix Valley.

Sincerely, Slater Lampman, Treasurer, Hudson Food Cupboard.

## APRIL Trustee Update

From the Trustees



Thank you to everyone who helped clean up the youth house. We had over 20 people who helped on Saturday, March 9. It’s true that many hands make light work. In fact, we have completed all the work that needed to be done. Appreciate you and the work you did! The Trustees

# APRIL Volunteer Opportunities

## Nursery Help

Lynn Watson is in need of Nursery volunteers. There is a sign-up sheet on the greeter's table if this ministry interests you. You can sign up for either the 8:30 am or 10:30 am time slots. The nursery is located on the left hand side in the hallway leading to the lower level. The nursery is staffed by Lynn Watson and her volunteers.

## Greeter's Needed

Sign up to be a greeter in the entry! YOU are needed to welcome folks and to answer questions! YOUR friendly face is the first impression folks have when they enter the building. When you greet, please arrive thirty minutes before the service. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Warnke, Greeter Ministry Coordinator.

## Usher Help Needed

Would you care to help Usher? Ushers are needed. If this ministry interests you, please talk to either Scott Paulson (Early Risers Head Usher) or Gery Campbell (Rejoice! Head Usher).

## Sunday Morning Coffee Hour Hosts

You are invited to sign up to host a coffee hour or to help on a Sunday morning. Our Kitchen Coordinator, Rita Nichols, will contact you after you sign up and fill you in on how to make coffee, etc.

## Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Potluck at 11:45 AM

Stop by the fellowship hall on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 am for an informal potluck. **Please sign up at the greeter's table** if you can bring either an entrée, veggie tray, fruit, salad, or a beverage to share.

# APRIL WI. Annual Conference Invite

By Rev. Barb Certa-Werner

Dear Wisconsin Conference Leadership,

I invite you to contribute to a "tribute" book for Bishop Jung. Below is an invitation and an opportunity to participate in honoring Bishop Jung's leadership:

*Bishop Jung has been our servant leader, and he has traveled to every United Methodist congregation in Wisconsin, praying at the altar and engaging in "making friends" (building relationships) wherever he went. His intentionality of encouragement, compassion, and grace are values that he embodies.*

*The 2024 Annual Conference will be the last in which Bishop Hee-Soo Jung will be our resident Bishop. In his honor, we will host a "Celebration of Ministry" banquet on Sunday, June 9, 2024. As part of his celebration, we ask clergy, laity, and congregations to contribute to a "tribute" book in honor of Bishop Jung's leadership. A few ideas are a letter, a personal note, a poem, or a collage of pictures.*

Here are some guidelines for your submission:

1. Must be 8.5" X 11" or smaller, single-side, and one-page only.
2. Pictures may be included if they fit the above size parameters.
3. Submissions that are longer or do not meet the guidelines will be shared with Bishop Jung but not included in the tribute book.

There are two options to submit your greeting. You may:

1. Mail it: Rev. Barb Certa-Werner, 750 Windsor St., Suite 303, Sun Prairie, WI 53590;
2. Email it to [wjriedmeyer@wisconsinumc.org](mailto:wjriedmeyer@wisconsinumc.org) with the subject line "tribute."



# APRIL Worship Updates

By Adele Dolan, Worship Team Chair

Easter arrived as early as it could this year. It occurred to me a couple weeks ago that the day after Easter, April 1st, would be what we commonly call April Fools' Day. There are several theories concerning the origins of April Fools' Day. Though you may not recognize the silly traditions of the day, many of us (!) get a kick out of it and some folks even revel in it! National Public Radio's History Department once offered the following words of caution:

“Although we may never know its true origins, April 1st has come to represent a day of joy and comedy as we move out of the darkness of winter and into the spring. And no matter how you choose to celebrate the day, it's best to be wary of what you read and what you hear on April Fools' Day.”

The juxtaposition of Resurrection Day and April Fools' Day piqued my interest, for some reason. Being called a fool is usually considered an insult, suggesting that a person “lacks judgment or prudence”, according to Webster's Dictionary. We see fools and foolishness criticized throughout Scripture. And yet the Apostle Paul called himself a “fool for Christ”. In I Corinthians 3:18, he says “This world's wisdom is foolishness to God.” I'll bet both statements caught the attention of the young church! What was he saying? That the world looks at the way of Christ as foolishness – just as much nowadays as in Paul's time - but God sees how foolish the wisdom of the world can be.

Paul's experience certainly suggested to the world that he “lacked judgment and prudence.” His dramatic confrontation with the Risen Christ on the Road to Damascus led him to abandon life as a persecutor of Christians and to embrace the Good News. He even boasted about, and gave thanks for, travel hazards, loss of status and credibility, painful beatings, exile, threats on his life and imprisonment for the sake of Christ. Who wouldn't be considered a fool for putting up with that kind of life? He knew better. The wisdom of the world seeks comfort, popularity and financial success; the “foolishness” of Christ lifts up eternal standards of justice, truth and love of neighbor as oneself. Paul chose to be a “fool for Christ”.

I hope our worship of the living Christ will bear witness to our desire to be “fools for Christ”. We, like the Apostle Paul, have the ability to turn the insult of “fool” on its head, recognizing that what the world's wisdom calls “foolish” is actually God's true wisdom: a life committed to love, joy and hope.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Sincerely in Christ, Adele Dolan, Worship Team Chair

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## The Cross-eyed Bear

By Anonymous



“Mommy,” said little Heather,  
“Did you ever see a cross-eyed bear?”  
“Why no, Heather,” chuckled her mother, “but why do you ask?”  
“Well, in church this morning,  
we sang about the consecrated cross-eyed bear.”





Worship Updates continued from page 16

## April Worship Schedule *Subject to change*

**Liturgists:** Please contact both Mary Ellen and Kathy in the church office, if you are unable to serve. We want to list the correct name in the bulletin. It is important for you to receive a Friday worship update so you can practice your part in the service.

**Greeters: Would you like to welcome others to church?** Sign up to be a greeter in the entry! If you have any questions, please contact Sue Warnke, Greeter Ministry Coordinator.

**Ushers: Would you like to help others at church during worship?** The Head Ushers are Scott Paulson and Gery Campbell. We would like to add ushers during worship. If this ministry interests you, please contact the ushers or the church office so that we can coordinate an ushers' schedule.

### April 7 Communion Sunday & Holy Humor Sunday

**8:30 am** Greeter: Connie Nielsen; Liturgist: Carla Bebault; Pianist: Jona Hays; Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

**10:30 am** Greeter: Joanne Campbell; Liturgist: Mars Overlee; Pianist: Jona Hays; Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

### April 14

**8:30 am** Greeter: Amy Norelius; Liturgist: Randy & Wesley Dahle; Pianist: Heather Tank; Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

**10:30 am** Greeter: Paul & Kathy Anderson; Liturgist: Randy Stalker; Pianist: Heather Tank; Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

### April 21

**8:30 am** Greeter: Sue Warnke ; Liturgist: Bonnie Sykora; Ministry Moment: Wesley Dahle; Pianist: Jona Hays; Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

**10:30 am** Greeter: Munro Family; Liturgist: Nicole Munro; Ministry Moment: Wesley Dahle; Pianist: Jona Hays; Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

### April 28

**8:30 am** Greeter: Sue Warnke; Liturgist: Adele Dolan; Pianist: Mary Post; Special Music: St. Croix Sacred Ensemble; Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

**10:30 am** Greeter: Glen Warnke; Liturgist: Victor England; Pianist: Mary Post; Special Music: St. Croix Sacred Ensemble; Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Rev. Dr. Dawn Jeffers Ramstad

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## Holy Humor Jokes

1) A woman invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I wouldn't know what to say," the little girl replied.

"Just say what you hear Mommy say," the mother said.

The little girl bowed her head and said: "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

2) Message on the outside sign of Faith Temple Church, Sioux Falls, SD: "We welcome all denominations - \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100."



# APRIL Prayer Requests

*Please support our church, family, and friends with your prayers, cards, and words of encouragement.*

**For those who are or have been in the hospital or receiving care:** Tony Hill, friend of the church; Karen Dahle, wife of Randy Dahle, mother of Wesley Dahle; Kyle, grandson-in-law of Shari and John Thomas; Nancy Stephens, wife of Arvid Stephens; Daisy, granddaughter of Tom and Connie Nielsen.

**Pray for those who mourn:** Family of Judy Scholl, aunt of Linda Hansen.

**For our meetings and celebrations: All month:** Online worship and ZOOM meetings; Sanctuary worship: Early Risers @ 8:30 & Rejoice! @ 10:30 AM; 9:30 AM Wednesday Men’s Koffee Group; 10:15 AM Wednesday ZOOM Bible Study; 5 PM “Evensong” Worship Service; 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Meal; **April 14<sup>th</sup>:** Church Potluck; **April 21<sup>st</sup>:** Book Discussion Group; **April 28<sup>th</sup>:** St. Croix Sacred Ensemble

**For our mission activities: April: Loose-Coin Offering** is designated to **Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence**; **April 8: SEWMUCHNEED April 4 and 18: H.O.M.E. Meal**; **All Month:** Wed. Curbside Food Distribution.

**For our care list folks:** Jennie Hart, & Jane White.

**For those with on-going health or life challenges:**

- Ann, daughter of Craig Gibson
- Asher, grandson of Darci & Mike McQuiston
- Bernie, friend of Mark Dolan
- Carolyn, Auntie of Lynn Watson
- Daughter of Becca Hallock-Wolff
- D.A., friend of Regina Zedell
- David, son of Helen Esmond
- Diane, friend of Amy Norelius
- Edward, nephew of Lynn Barbeau
- Friends of Rev. Susan
- JJ friend of Mars Overlee
- Jill, friend of Kathy Anderson
- Jennifer Chapman, daughter of Barbara Chapman
- Paul, son of James & Phyllis O’Connor
- Greg & Joyce DuBois
- Sarah Atkins Hoggatt
- Leslie Atkins
- Casey Dawson, friend of Joyce Johnson
- Sue Dick, mother of Kathy Anderson
- Gladys Enloe, daughter-in-law of Harriet Enloe
- Nick Enloe, grandson of Harriet Enloe
- Jeff Enloe, son of Harriet Enloe
- Harriet Enloe
- Harry Erb, Jr.
- John and Linda Ewing

- Latayna, daughter of Margaret Smith
- Linda Hansen
- Mel Hermansen, husband of Louise Hermansen
- Laurie and Bill Hilty by Sarah Atkins Hoggatt
- Joyce Johnson
- Jim and Sheila Lutiger, friends of Craig Gibson
- Grace Luhman, mother of Jane Dejno
- John, Ian, Chris McAdams and family
- Bob and Jeff Maki
- Darci Strutt McQuiston, & family
- Tom Meyers, nephew of Helen Esmond
- Charlie Mohs, son of Joyce DuBois
- Sara & Daniel Parrish, by Sarah Atkins Hoggatt
- Becky Olson
- Sean Perkins, cousin of Darci Strutt McQuiston
- Lynn Raymond
- Lori Reichert
- Nicole Ruenter
- Rob, friend of Mars Overlee
- Terri, friend of Kathy O’Brien Schroeder
- Margaret Smith
- Taylor Atkins Tolbert, niece of Sarah Atkins Hoggatt
- Jerry and Ellie Tulgren
- Dorothy Watson, mother of Lynn Watson
- Beryl Woolford
- Kyri Beaulieu, by Sue Warnke

**For our in-church ministries:** Accountable Leadership Board members; HUMC staff.

**For those outside of these walls:** First Baptist Church; Hudson Food Shelf Recipients and Residents at CCH.

**APRIL Calendar 2024**

**Subject to change**

**Current as of 3/25/24**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>March</b></p> <p>Online Sunday Worship  <b>Easter Sunday</b>                      8:30a Sanctuary Worship                      9:30a Fellowship &amp; Coffee                      10:30a Sanctuary Worship</p>	<p><b>April 1</b></p> <p><b>Set-up for Spring Election</b>                      9a ADRC Day Away                      11a Debriefing Mtg                      6p Wiegand Ringers</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>7a Spring Election</b>                      5:30p Music mtg. zoom                      NO Worship Meeting</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9a Food Give-away &amp; Men's Koffee                      10:30a ZOOM Bible Study                      7p ZOOM Prayer +</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      9 - Noon sermon prep                      5p H.O.M.E. Meal                      7p Circuit Meeting</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>1p sermon recording</p>
<p>Online Sunday Worship                      Rev. Dawn, preaching                      8:30a Sanctuary Worship                      9:30a Children's Sunday School                      9:30a Fellowship &amp; Coffee                      10:30a Sanctuary Worship                      11:30a Church Potluck</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      11a Debriefing Mtg                      6p Wiegand Ringers                      will meet  <b>May Newsletter Article Due</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>6:30p Memorial Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9a Food Give-away                      9:30a Men's Koffee                      10:30a ZOOM Bible Study                      7p ZOOM Prayer +</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      9 - Noon sermon prep                      1p PEO-BJ                      5p H.O.M.E. Meal</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>1p sermon recording</p>
<p>Online Sunday Worship                      Rev. Dawn, preaching                      8:30a Sanctuary Worship                      9:30a Fellowship &amp; Coffee                      10:30a Sanctuary Worship                      10:30p Jack Halpern Baptism                      6p Book Discussion Group</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      11a Debriefing Mtg                      6p Wiegand Ringers</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>7p ALB Meeting</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9a Food Give-away &amp; Men's Koffee                      9:30a Men's Koffee                      10:30a ZOOM Bible Study                      5p Eversong Worship                      5:30p Wednesday Night Meal- Tater Tot Hot Dish with a Roll                      7p ZOOM Prayer +</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      9 - Noon sermon prep                      9a Folding and Mailing                      May newsletter</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>1p sermon recording</p>
<p>Online Sunday Worship  <b>Special Music St. Croix Sacred Ensemble</b>                      8:30a Sanctuary Worship                      9:30a Fellowship &amp; Coffee                      10:30a Sanctuary Worship</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      11a Debriefing Mtg                      6p Wiegand Ringers</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>10a Rev. Dawn preaching at CCH</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9a Food Give-away                      9:30a Men's Koffee                      7p ZOOM Prayer +</p>	<p><b>May 1</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      9 - Noon sermon prep                      5p H.O.M.E. Meal                      7p Circuit Meeting</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>1p sermon recording</p>
<p>Online Sunday Worship                      Rev. Dawn, preaching                      8:30a Sanctuary Worship                      9:30a Fellowship &amp; Coffee                      10:30a Sanctuary Worship</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>10a Rev. Dawn preaching at CCH</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9a Food Give-away                      9:30a Men's Koffee                      7p ZOOM Prayer +</p>	<p><b>May 1</b></p> <p>9a ADRC Day Away                      9 - Noon sermon prep                      5p H.O.M.E. Meal                      7p Circuit Meeting</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>1p sermon recording</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>

Please reserve June 30<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Rev. Dawn's ministry and retirement. There will be a luncheon. Watch for additional information.



Hudson United Methodist Church  
1401 Laurel Avenue  
Hudson WI 54016

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