

Musings

JAN. 2026

Hudson United Methodist Church

Mission & Vision Statement.

Mission Statement: To accept all people along their spiritual journey.

Vision Statement: A church where all are loved.

We will grow disciples of Jesus Christ in vital worship and passionate outreach for the sake of the world.

1401 Laurel Ave., Hudson, WI. 54016 715.386.3921

www.umchudson.org

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JANUARY Mission of the Month
noisy can offering will be
donated to the Ukraine Refugee
Relief

2026 Special Dates

January 1: New Year's Day

January 4: Epiphany

January 11: Baptism of the
Lord, 2nd Sunday of the
month Potluck, and De-
Hanging of the Greens

January 14: 5:30 pm Wed.
Night Dinner

January 19: Martin Luther
King Day

Winter Weather Update

Please use your best
judgment about attending
Church activities during a
snow storm.

If there is a blizzard
warning or no travel
advised on a Sunday, we
offer you worship online
on our YouTube, and
Website pages.

Giving Envelopes for 2026

For those who are using
envelopes, the 2026 giving
envelopes have been ordered.
We are expecting delivery in the
first part of January. If you plan
on giving a financial donation,
and your envelopes have not
arrived, please put your donation
in an envelope and the envelope
into the offering.

If you have any questions,
please talk with Steve Close.

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VANCO Giving Online

In order to use VANCO, you
must create a profile. 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 [@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: Scroll to the
VANCO link and click.



January Activities & Events



Highlighted Events

*Activities and Events are subject to change.
Current as of 12/15/25*



Participating in fellowship 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.

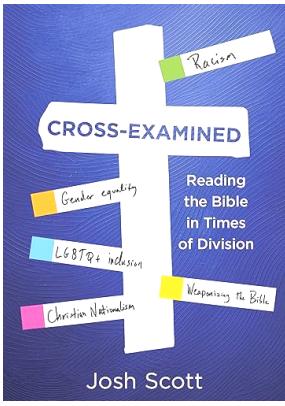


ZOOM Opportunities

Download the ZOOM App. Log onto <https://zoom.us/>.
Subject to change. Current as of December 15, 2025



10:30 AM Every Wednesday ZOOM Bible Study



The next Bible study is a book by Josh Scott called, "*Cross-Examined*". Here is its description from Amazon to those who may want to join this study at <https://a.co/d/ahrroCr>. Incisive responses to society's most pressing biblical questions.

Does the Bible really say that women shouldn't lead in the church or that the LGBTQ+ community can't be included in the church? Does the Bible support racism, white supremacy, and Christian nationalism? Do we have to choose between an understanding of the Bible that has been weaponized for harm and exclusion or not engaging the Bible at all? This book explores what the Bible is and what it does (and, maybe more importantly, doesn't) say about these important questions. The answers might surprise you.

Through thoughtful analysis and personal transformation, Josh Scott invites you to rethink dominant interpretations and uncover new possibilities for justice, inclusivity, and generosity in faith. Perfect for those seeking a deeper connection with their beliefs or grappling with these pressing issues, *Cross-Examined* serves as both a guide and a conversation starter. Open your heart and mind to an alternative understanding of faith, and join the movement toward a future of hope, justice, and unity.

Please call the church office to receive the Zoom link and contact Darci Strutt for additional information on the study.

7 PM Every Wednesday Zoom Prayer + (Plus) You are Welcome Anytime



Are you traveling this January to warmer climate or are you worshipping at home? Consider logging into Zoom and enjoy a half-hour gathering. 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. For more information contact the church office.

The Scripture is subject to change.

Wednesday, January 7	Not Meeting
Wednesday, January 14	Scripture: Psalm 40
Wednesday, January 21	Scripture: Psalm 27
Wednesday, January 28	Scripture: Psalm 15



Activities and Events continued on page 3

Activities & Events continued from page 2

In-person Activities

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



Tell your neighbors and friends we have **curbside delivery of free bread and produce every Wednesday at 9 AM**. Just drive up to the church door and pop the lid of your trunk and we will place a box of food in your trunk or back seat of your car. It is fast and easy. Open to everyone.



9:30 AM at Every Wednesday Men's Koffee Klutch

All are welcome! You are invited to join other men on Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM or whenever your schedule permits for conversation, coffee, bakery treats, & fruit. We meet in the fellowship hall. We are casual, open, accepting, and love to talk and laugh.

9 AM Monday, January 5 SEWMUCHNEED

Hudson United Methodist Sewing Missions Ministry

By Connie Nielsen

The group met on Monday, December 5th from 9 to noon. We discussed the auction and want to thank everyone who donated monies and material throughout the year. We had a very productive year.

Listed below are the items we have made this year for Midwest Missions:

Receiving blankets	2
Baby hats	6
Baby sweaters	1
Diapers	134
Kimonos	77
Book bags	68
Girls outfits	235
Girls tops	126
Boy outfits	37
Wash cloths	<u>50</u>
TOTAL	736

Also made and delivered to the 5 elementary schools in the Hudson District are listed below.

100 quilts 165 hats 95 sets of mittens

13 quilts and 42 baby sweater sets were delivered to Operation Help.

The Hudson Hospital received 90 receiving Blankets, 12 quilts and 38 sweater sets.

WE will meet again in the New Year of 2026 on Monday, January 5th from 9 am to Noon.

If you have a schedule conflict and unable to attend SEWMUCHNEED, we have take-home packets to be sewn. The take-home packets are located across from the kitchen on the tables between the two restrooms. Questions contact Connie Nielsen or Clarice Huehne.

4. The Musings. JANUARY 2026

Activities and Events continued from page 3



11:30 am Sunday, January 11th All Church Potluck

Looking for a quick bite to eat before de-hanging of the greens? Stop by the fellowship hall on Sunday, January 11th at 11:30 am for an informal potluck. If you can bring a dish to share, please sign up at the greeter's table.



12:15 pm Sunday, January 11th De-hanging of the Greens

Please join us, January 11, after the all church meal, for "De-hanging of the Greens". Please watch for a sign-up sheet at the greeters table if you can help putting away the Christmas decorations.



5:30 pm January 14th Wednesday Night Meal

Looking for a short-term volunteer opportunity? We are asking either a group or individuals and friends to cook a meal that everyone can enjoy. If you are interested in cooking a meal please sign-up at the greeter's table. Any food you purchase will be reimbursed by the church. Just save your sales receipt and turn it into the church office for processing.

* January Menu

Wednesday, January 14: Shepherd's Pie by Sue Warnke

Wednesday, January 28: Need cooks or the meal will be cancelled

* All meals include a beverage.

* Please reserve your meal on or before noon on Tuesday, January 13 and on Tuesday, January 27 @ hudsonumc@sbcglobal.net or sign up on the sign-up sheet at the greeter's table.

5 PM Thurs., January 15 Hudson Outreach Meals for Everyone



On Thursday, January 15, a meal is available at 5:00 PM at Bethel Lutheran Church, 920 3rd Street in Hudson. The H.O.M.E. (Hudson Outreach Meals for Everyone) meets every first and third Thursday of the month. The Thursday community meals exist to serve meals, at no cost, to anyone living in the Hudson area.



Thursday, January 15 February Newsletter Articles are Due

The next Musings article deadline is Thursday, January 15 for the February issue. Anyone can submit an article or information to the newsletter. Please send in your articles to hudsonumc@sbcglobal.net.

Activities and Events continued on page 5

Activities and Events continued from page 4



Hudson Hot Air Affair announces the 2026 theme “*Sky Walkers Return to Rock*” for our annual hot air balloon rally and winter festival on the weekend of February 6,7,8, 2026.

On Saturday, February 7, we will be offering the parking lot to the community to use, (donations accepted) and the church building will be available for people to warm up, or to grab some hot chocolate and cookies. Watch for a sign up sheet at the greeters table where you can help with baking cookies, serving cookies and hot chocolate. For more information go to: <https://hudsonhotairaffair.com/>



Coming Spring – HUMC Rummage Sale April or May

By Carla Bebault

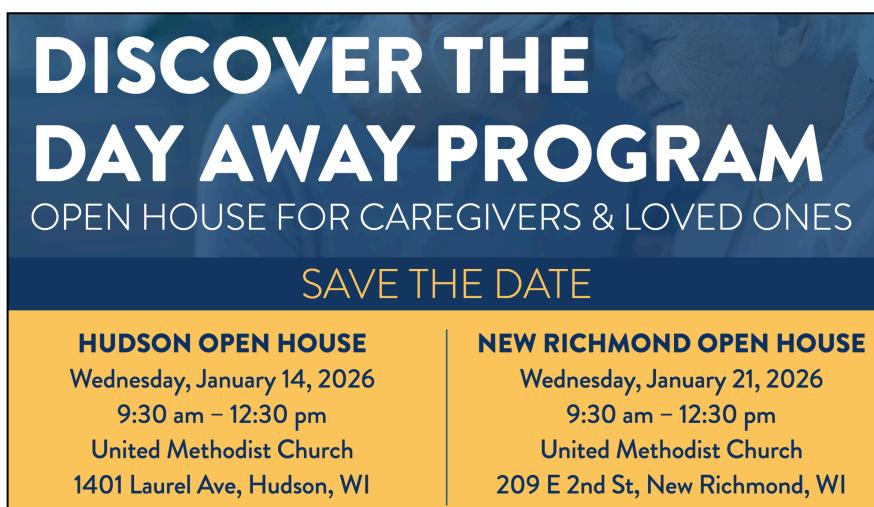
I hope to organize another Rummage Sale once again. I hope not to have a concussion this time around!

Please start to save your surplus of gently used and loved items and clean out your closets this winter when you're snowbound! We will put it to good use for an all-church fundraiser in the spring! The date is to be determined but likely late April or early May! Contact Carla Bebault with your questions.

Aging & Disability Resource Center Update

DayAway an ADRC Program

By Tara Murdzek, ADRC, Caregiver Support Coordinator, Health and Human Services, New Richmond



You are invited to a DayAway Open House, “Come and See”, on Wednesday, January 14 from 9 AM to 1 PM. We would love to meet you!

January Birthdays



Current as of 12/15/25

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

Hope you have a wonderful day with family and friends

01/05	Stephen Frye	01/15	Jane Schaub
01/07	John Wright	01/18	Diane Hallen
01/08	Jean Gunderson	01/18	Amy Norelius
01/08	Patty (Pfeiffer) Gustafson	01/18	Mary Post
01/09	John Amann	01/23	Sarah Atkins Hoggatt
01/13	Joyce DuBois	01/26	John Ewing



Book Club & Discussion Update



Our book group is taking a three-month break. We won't meet in January or February. We are expecting to resume on the 3rd Sunday of March in the fellowship hall. Hope to see you in March! Direct your questions to Carla Bebault or Ruth Knapp.

Education Update

By Amy Norelius

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

Sunday School Dates in 2026 were revised. The new dates are: January 4, 25; February 8, 22; March 8; (OFF 3/15 & 3/22 – Spring Break Week); March 29 (Easter, April 5 – no Sunday School) April 12, 26; May 10 (Last Day of Sunday School & Mother's Day)

*** Note: Sunday School helper sign up sheet** for the new year will be posted at the Greeter's table by mid-Dec. Please sign up if you are able to help. No teaching required.

See you all soon, Amy

Finance Update

Finance Secretary Report.

By Steve Close

There is not a report at the time of printing of the newsletter. If you have any questions, please reach out to Steve Close. Thank you.

Finance Reports continued from page 6

Treasurer's Report

By Nicole Munro, Treasurer on behalf of the Finance Team

Summary: End of November 2025

November 2025

	Nov Actual	Nov Budget	% Budget
General Fund Income	\$20,925	\$22,917	91%
General Fund Expense	\$35,432	\$29,470	120%
Net Profit/Loss	-\$14,507	-\$6,553	

***NOTE:** The General Fund Income total includes Pledges/Envelopes plus other income (i.e. Special Holiday Giving, Loose Coin Offering, Interest Income from Investment Accounts, etc.)

Hudson Food Cupboard Update

By Denise Stalker

The Food Cupboard has never been in greater need. **Here is a list of much needed items:** coffee, miscellaneous baking supplies, Mayo, salad dressing, crackers (any variety) and canned fruit. Thank you.

Missions Update



Loose-Coin Offering

January Mission of the Month

The **JANUARY Mission of the Month (MOM)** noisy can offering will be donated to the Ukraine Refugee Relief. Your coins are greatly appreciated for the humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people. If you have any questions, please reach out to Margie Close.

Missions Update for the January Newsletter

By Margie Close

Happy 2026! We had a very successful “Giving Tree” Christmas gift drive for Operation HELP and Grace Place! Thank you all for your generous gifts and monetary donations. You helped make it a blessed holiday for 14 local children. We also sent Starbucks gift cards with a card of encouragement to eight college students for winter finals.

Hudson High School Raider Network Update

By: Margi Bertelsen Brown

Happy New Year!

The generous donation we received last spring has finally been exhausted. That donation lasted so long because of the food you donated throughout the year. Thank you for helping us help the students at the high school.

Missions continued on page 8

Raider Network Update continued from page 7

From now on we will be relying on just the donations from all of you. Deliveries to the high school will continue until the end of the school year. Everything we have delivered has been greatly appreciated. On a table in the narthex, there are lists and bags for you to use to get the supplies. You will also find the list below. Thank you very much!

SHOPPING LIST HHS Raider Network

Choose **one** item from the list-Individual microwavable cups:

Mac & Cheese, Ramen noodles, Chef Boyardee meals

Choose **two** items from the list-Individual bags or single serving:

Goldfish crackers, Cheez-its, Snack crackers, Cheese or Peanut Butter crackers, Trail mix, Beef jerky, Beef sticks (non-refrigerated)

Choose **one** item from the list:

Fruit snacks, Fruit roll-ups, Fruit leather, Unsweetened applesauce cups-multi pack

Also needed:

Juice boxes, and refillable water bottles

Reconciling Ministries Update

By Margie Close

Happy New Year!

Thank you to those of you who participated in the straw poll on November 23rd on becoming an affirming church. We had 53 total votes, with 86% voting yes, you would be in favor of Hudson UMC committing to be an affirming church. We will bring the results to the church board's (the ALB) January meeting.

Statistics Update

By Kathy O'Brien Schroeder, Admin Hudson UMC

November Attendance 2025

Date	8:30 AM	10:30 AM	Home Mailing	YouTube	Weekly
2-Nov	48	53	24	49	174
9-Nov	53	36	24	40	153
16-Nov	39	36	24	41	140
23-Nov	40	49	24	37	150
30-Nov	30	36	24	52	142
TOTAL	210	210	120	219	759

Thank you!

From Vickie Deal

Thank You!

THANK YOU to all of you who so generously donated funds toward poinsettias and decorations for Advent. They contribute so much to the beauty and joy of the Christmas season. Your kindness is appreciated! The Worship team and Congregation

Thank you notes continued from page 8



Thank you

Thank you for providing live streaming or podcast worship services on YouTube so that those of us unable to attend church, can still worship.

Sincerely, Barbara Wall

*Thanks to your generous donation, we are
able to bring a Merrier Christmas to
hundreds of children and families
throughout the Hudson community.*

Operation HELP is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization. Federal tax ID # 39-1711703. This contribution may be tax-deductible as allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation

Operation Help - 1830 Hanley Road Suite 100 - Hudson, WI 54016
715-386-1300 - www.operationhelpcroix.org



Worship Update

By Adele Dolan, Worship Team Chair

Society says “Happy New Year” on January 1, but the church calendar is still in Christmastide, waiting for the Wise Men to meet Baby Jesus on Epiphany. Since other holiday tasks are more time-sensitive than cards, we often fail to send our family Christmas cards much before Epiphany, but appreciate folks who are more prompt! Last month when we received an early card from a dear friend who regularly includes original inspiring verses or words of encouragement with her family’s annual photo, I told her how much I looked forward to reading what she had written. She responded with, “This year, I have no words ...” My heart ached for her – and for many of us – as I understood that the many painful situations in our world had left her speechless and discouraged, even though she is a woman of deep faith and persistent prayer. At the same time, I know her life is full, she spreads goodness and love daily, and she has faith that she will once again find words to enrich her life and the lives of others.

As you all know well by now, I appreciate the value and power of words. The church focuses on meaningful, encouraging words every time we gather for worship – Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, to name a few you might remember! The deep meanings incorporated in these words provide a firm foundation for another essential word: Faith. Even when events are unexpected or unwanted, when hope, peace, joy and love seem absent, faith in God’s presence through the Holy Spirit, and promises through Jesus Christ, speaks to the triumph of justice, righteousness and life even in the midst of chaos. And putting words to music during worship helps embed them even deeper into our souls:

“Sing them over again to me, Wonderful words of life; Let me more of their beauty see, Wonderful words of life ...”

Happy Epiphany and Happy New Year! Sing and live those Wonderful Words!

Sincerely in Christ, Adele Dolan, Worship Team Chair

Worship Update continued on page 10

Worship Update continued from page 9

JANUARY 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! Please arrive 30 minutes ahead of your service time. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Warnke, Greeter Ministry Coordinator.

January 4 Communion Sunday

8:30 am Greeter: John Wright; Liturgist: Bonnie Sykora; Pianist: Jona Hays
Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

10:30 am Greeter: Russ Hatten and Linda Hanson; Liturgist: Mars Overlee; Pianist: Jona Hays
Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

January 11

8:30 am Greeters Connie Nielsen; Liturgists: Randy & Wesley Dahle; Pianist: Mary Post
Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

10:30 am Greeter: Steve & Margie Close; Liturgist: Craig Gibson; Pianist: Mary Post
Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

January 18

8:30 am Greeter: TBA; Liturgist: Caleb or Ava Lindley; Pianist: Jona Hays
Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

10:30 am Greeter: Joanne Campbell; Liturgist: Nicole Munro; Pianist: Jona Hays
Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

January 25

8:30 am Greeter: TBA; Liturgist: Adele Dolan; Pianist: Jona Hays
Usher: Scott Paulson; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

10:30 am Greeter: TBA; Liturgist: Deb Simonson; Pianist: Jona Hays
Usher: Gery Campbell; Preaching: Pastor Dan Fahs

A NEW YEAR PRAYER submitted by Deb England

God, grant us the grace
as another year starts
to use all the hours of our days,
Not for our own selfish interests
and our own willful,
often-wrong ways –
But teach us to take time
for Praying
and to find time
for Listening to You
So each day is spent well
and wisely doing
What You Most Want Us To Do.

Helen Steiner Rice

January 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 medical care: Dave Schroeder, husband of Kathy; Liz Taylor, member of the church; Benji Glenn, great-grandson of Nancy and Jeff Henderson; Elna and Gary Wettstein, friends of Art and Marilyn Feyereisen; Megan, granddaughter of Linda and John Ewing; Joyce Johnson; Katy and her sister Nikki, friends of Mars Overlee; Sue Dick, mother of Kathy Anderson.

For those who are mourn: Family of Deb Bockus; Family of Roy Acklund, father of Greg DuBois; Family of Patricia Feyereisen, sister of Art Feyereisen; Dorothy Watson, mother of Lynn Watson.

Pray 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; **January 4:** Communion Sunday; **January 11:** 2nd Sunday of the month Potluck and Dehanging of the Greens; **January 14:** 5:30 PM Wednesday night meal.

Pray for our mission activities: All Month: **January Loose-Coin Offering** is designated to **help support** the Ukraine Refugee Relief; Wed. Curbside Food Distribution; **January 5:** SEWMUCHNEED; **January 15:** H.O.M.E. Meal.

Pray for our care list folks: Jennie Hart, & Jane White.

Pray for those with on-going health or life challenges:

Amy, sister of Mike Galloway

Afsaneh Bebault's family, daughter-in-law of Mike & Carla Bebault

Ann, daughter of Craig Gibson

Asher, grandson of Darci Strutt

Ashley Akins, niece of Sarah Atkins

Carolyn, Auntie of Lynn Watson

Dana, relative of Jean Gunderson

Daughter of Becca Hallock-Wolff

D.A., friend of Regina Zedell

Diane, friend of Amy Norelius

Friends of Rev. Susan

Harris brother of Jean Gunderson

JJ friend of Mars Overlee

Jill, friend of Kathy Anderson

Rick, friend of Joel & Grace Merritt

Rod Beavers & family of Margaret Smith

Family of Glenora Berres

Jennifer Chapman, daughter of Barbara Chapman

Greg & Joyce DuBois

Sarah Atkins Hoggatt

Leslie Atkins

Tom Burmood, husband of Sue Burmood

Casey Dawson, friend of Joyce Johnson

Vickie Deal and family

Gladys Enloe, daughter-in-law of Harriet Enloe

Nick Enloe, grandson of Harriet Enloe

Jeff Enloe, son of Harriet Enloe

Harriet Enloe

John and Linda Ewing

Mel Hermansen, husband of Louise Hermansen

Laurie and Bill Hiltz by Sarah Atkins Hoggatt

Joyce Johnson

Maci Larson, granddaughter of Glen and Sue Warnke

Mary Lou Lewis and family

Jim and Sheila Lutiger, friends of Craig Gibson

Darci Strutt & family

Sara & Daniel Parrish, by Sarah Atkins Hoggatt

Becky Olson

Sean Perkins, cousin of Darci Strutt

Lynn Raymond

Wally Riedel & family

Nicole Ruenter

Rob, friend of Mars Overlee

Dave Schroeder, husband of Kathy O'Brien Schroeder

Rev. Don Stannard and Dee Standard

Chad Trainor and family of Carol Trainor

Taylor Atkins Tolbert, niece of Sarah Atkins Hoggatt

Jerry and Ellie Tulgren

Kyri Beaulieu, by Sue Warnke

For our in-church ministries: Sunday School Teachers (Amy Norelius & Lynn Watson), and Nursery Staff (Lynn Watson and Adults); and Accountable Leadership Board.

For those outside of these walls: Our sisters & brothers at Cornerstone Church; Hudson Food Shelf Recipients; Recipients of Hudson Raider Network Program.

Hudson United Methodist Church
1401 Laurel Avenue
Hudson WI 54016

Return Service Requested

For mailing label