



The Congregator: Back to School (yes they meant it) Edition

Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ - September 2021



The HUCS Annual Craft Show will be September 11, 2021 from 9am-3pm and we need your help! There are many opportunities to help out which include:

- Hanging flyers around town 1-2 weeks before the show
- Table set-up on 9/10
- Vendor direction starting at 7am on 9/11
- Helper shifts during the show AM/PM
- Clean up starting at 3pm on 9/11



Contact Angel Dannenberg: doglvr895@gmail.com or 616-498-7727

Grandma's Attic, now renamed **Bargain Shop**, is looking for items to sell. We will accept all good, clean items you would like to donate for the sale EXCEPT clothing and large electronics. Please bring to the back room at the church next to Hand2Hand. We are also looking for a person (s) to co-chair the resale room (as Sandy hopes to retire next year) and we need volunteers to help with the set up and sales floor on that day. **LAST MINUTE CLOSET CLEANERS, LET'S GO!!!!**



Calling All Bakers! We are going to be hosting a bake sale during the craft show to raise money for the building fund! What we need is you! Favorite cookie recipe? Cake? Pie? Dog treats? We will take it! Please bring your prepared items to the kitchen by **Friday, September 10th at 5pm** so that we can get everything sorted and packaged that evening. If you have any questions, please see Lisa Merchant or send her email at lmerchant2616@gmail.com or text her at 616-393-3784.

Upcoming Bible Study: "In the beginning was the Word..." Starting in September we will begin a study on the Gospel of John. We will read together the gospel while studying the meaning of the various signs and metaphors that describe and point us towards who Jesus is. Grow in your faith as we discuss this important book. The study will be after worship in the church parlor. More details will follow, but please contact Pastor Jeff with any questions.



Please Pray

Active Prayers: The family of Larry Byle, Judd Newenhouse, Kendra Simon, and all affected by the coronavirus.

Continual Prayers: Betty Baareman, George Drayton, Joan Edson, Paul Kunde, Delores Wheelock

September Prayer Emphasis: Of our 27 UCC churches in our Grand West Association, this month we will pray for Hart Congregational UCC. Let us remember Hart's mission and ministry in our prayers for September.

With sadness we report the death of long-time member Larry Byle. Please remember the Byle family in your prayers.

Please let the church office know either if you would not like to be listed here or if you would like to be listed here and are not. Please keep all of these folks in your prayers.



WE'RE ON A MISSION!



Our church will be hosting another blood drive on September 22, 10:30-3:45. Sign up at the Red Cross or follow the link on our website. (They REALLY need your blood AND they still give COOKIES!!!)

AND...Come back the next day when Feeding America will be happening on September 23. We will be needing volunteers to help set up, distribution and clean up. Sign up at the Welcome desk.

Still looking for someone to be our Safe Serve coordinator for the church beginning in 2022. Without a coordinator we will be unable to provide food to the community. We typically provide meals at Feeding America, funeral luncheons, and special events. If this is something that may interest you, please reach out to Sue Dykstra or Janet Overbeek for more details.



HAND2HAND: School has started (?!!!) and we, at Hand2Hand, are preparing to begin another year feeding hungry children at South Elementary School. Applications are distributed to all the children and we are waiting to see how many kids and families need our help this year. For all this to happen, we need ALL of your continued support. There are many ways you can contribute. Once we know the restrictions the school is operating under, we will need VOLUNTEERS to get, prepare, deliver, promote, and help in many ways to get the food to the children. Please let Sandy Lyon know if you are interested in working with us in some way. It's time to begin filling the pantry, and we need your DONATIONS to keep us running. This includes food and monetary donations. Our blue bucket will again be located at the rear doors of the Church for food drop off if you are not in Church to bring it. Money can be sent to the Church with the designation "for H2H". Most importantly we need your PRAYERS for our program, our kids, their families, and South School. It would be such a blessing if NO one needed our help, but we know that is not the case. The children will be coming and we hope you will be there, as generous as always, to meet their needs. Here's a list of items we need to get our pantry started: **Small cans of Chicken and Tuna, Child friendly soup, Cake mix and frosting for birthdays, Mac and Cheese, Tuna and Chicken Helper type mixes, Pudding and Fruit cups.** Thank you so very much,
--Your Mission Board and H2H volunteers



A Report from Your Treasurer: As this summer comes to an end I wanted to say thank you for your continued and faithful giving. This summer we have seen outstanding support. Our roof replacement is wrapping up and we are able to cover some additional costs that came up during the project. We are entering the fall without a significant backlog of bills. At the end of September we will have a principle payment in addition to our monthly interest payment. As is typical extra gifts are appreciated so that we can make this payment without affecting our month to month bills. If you are able gifts in addition to your typical gifts are greatly appreciated. As always, every gift we receive is important to us and we are thankful for each and every one.

--David Bendert, Treasurer

September CALENDAR: The More Long-ish Form

- 9/5 - Worship 10am, Bible & Coffee
- 9/10 – CRAFT SHOW SET UP (Help, please!)
- 9/11 – CRAFT SHOW (Help, please!)
- 9/12 - Worship 10am, Council 11:15am
- 9/19 - Worship 10am, Bible & Coffee
- 9/26 - Worship 10am, Bible & Coffee

Happy Birthday!	Happy Birthday!	Happy Anniversary!
9/1 Rachel Fournier	9/25 Rick Dannenberg	9/3 Steve & Sandy Lyon
9/2 Denise Wass	9/27 Lisa Sikkema	9/14 Dan & Katie Clark
9/5 Christa Ferguson	9/28 CJ Dolehanty	9/15 Derek & Veronica Leshan
9/9 Caleb Ferguson	9/29 Karl Kleinheksel	9/16 Jeff & Cindy Vedders
9/14 Dan Furman		9/21 David & Jayme Aubry
9/19 Ashley Perrin		9/22 Matt & Christa Ferguson
9/20 Betty Baareman		9/26 Rocky & Brenda Stilwill
9/22 Angel Dannenberg		9/27 Judd & Lori Newenhouse
9/23 Matt Carlson		9/28 Troy & Janet Overbeek

New folk especially—please let me know if I miss your day or have the wrong date! I'll do better next year!



We're Back! We're Back! Now What?

Boy, have we got ideas for you! For starters, people willing to **run sound and video** are in great demand. Fear not! The tech is not hard to learn (said the girl who can barely manage a cell phone but deals with power point most Sundays). Reserved seat in the back pew just for you! Contact Aron Duby or Ruth Lee. You will be our favorite!

OR....you could teach Sunday School! Hang out with all the cool small folk and a teaching partner one Sunday a month. Lesson book provided. This would be a 2-6 hour commitment each month and would also involve helping with other Christian Ed events (Trunk or Treat! Elf Workshop! Easter Egg Hunt! How cool can it get?!) Contact the office if interested. You will also be our favorite!



OR....you could help keep us all clean and well-fed! We are in need of a few specific items for our coffee hour, as well as cleaning supplies. Needed items include 100% juice boxes, packaged cookies, and toilet paper. Please also remember that we're collecting Family Fare receipts to raise funds for the church. A bag for these can be found at the Welcome Desk.

BRING A NEW FRIEND TO COFFEE HOUR! If you see an unfamiliar face on any given Sunday morning, say hi and invite them to stay for treats after church. It's a great way to Be the Church!



- You can view all previous services online at [facebook.com/hudsonvilleucc/live](https://www.facebook.com/hudsonvilleucc/live).
- You can also find services and Sunday School lessons at <https://www.hudsonvilleucc.org>

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. **Reject Racism.**
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.



CHURCH CONTACT

Phone 616-669-1295 The Rev. Dan Furman and the Rev. Jeff Vedders

Web Site: hudsonvilleucc.org E-Mail hudsonvilleucc@gmail.com

Like our Facebook page for updates -- Follow us on Instagram @ hudsonville_ucc

Emergency Contact while Pastor Dan is on Sabbatical: Rev. Bryan Berghoef 616-218-6529

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