



# The Congregator: A Treat of an Edition!

## Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ - October 2022



**Picture Pages!** As many of you know, our church secretaries Salem and Grace have been working on updating our church records with your current addresses and phone numbers for the purpose of creating an updated church directory. If you haven't filled out a form you may do so by snail mail or email. Contact the church office to find out how.

We have offered times for pictures to be taken in August and September. If you would like to send us an updated picture of yourself or to have us take your picture for the new directory, please contact the church office. There is no cost for the pictures that the church provides.



Youth Group is back and better than ever—meeting every first and third Sunday of the month from 11:30-12:30. High schoolers and middle schoolers will meet with Aron Duby in the Youth Room while 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will meet with Katrina Furman in the Sunday School Room. Come and bring a friend!



**It's the Return of TRUNK OR TREAT!** Pack all your cool junk in your trunk and come to the parking lot Sunday, Oct. 30 from 2 to 4:00. The more trunks the better! Many decorating ideas are available online. We are also looking for candy donations, which can be brought to church--the more candy the better! Or you can just come that day and bring a willing child or two, because, yes, the more kids the better! **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

Happy Birthday!	Happy Birthday!	Happy Anniversary!
10/2 Mya Rivera	10/17 Kayla Winkle	10/3 Dick & Joyce Van Dyk
10/3 Russ Broderick	10/19 Ella Vieu	10/14 Matt & Jodi Carlson
10/4 Lori Newenhouse	10/19 Lilah Vieu	10/18 Mark & Joni Baragar
10/7 Vic Coveny	10/20 Alex Stilwill	10/19 Tracy & Kim Kwekel
10/8 Robert Wolf	10/23 Christina Breen	10/25 Kevin & Cory Boggs
10/10 Pat Haynes	10/28 David Bendert	10/28 Kevin & Kristi Bayko
10/10 Jan Thorsen	10/28 Paul Slotegraaf	10/29 Dale & Kathy VanderMarkt
10/12 Eileen Slagter	10/29 Kiersen Korienek	
10/13 Christian Hennells	10/29 Kim Perrin	
10/14 Jayme Terrell	10/30 Joan Edson	
10/15 Joyce Hessler	10/31 Mike Dykstra	
10/15 Donovan Wass		
10/17 Austin Winkle		

Please let me know if I miss your day or have the wrong date! I'll do better next year! –Ruth Lee  
**WE'RE ON A MISSION!**



**Save the Date!** Our next Feeding America will be December 1 from 5-7 pm. Volunteers are oh so welcome!

**Harvest Table:** Got zucchini coming out of your ears? Bring in any surplus garden produce and we will find a good home for it with anyone feeling the need for some good zucchini bread. The Harvest Table is located in the narthex, next to the coat room. Take what you need, leave what you can, share the abundance!

**Pop Those Tabs!!** We're collecting can tabs and donating to the Ronald McDonald House. The money they earn from the tabs goes to buy new medical supplies and other needed items. You'll find the collection box in the Narthex right next to the Nestlings Diaper Collection. And speaking of diapers...

**Time for a Change!!** The official Diaper Drive is done (thank you thank you!) but our Mission Team continues to partner with Nestlings to collect diapers of all sizes as well as wipes and any other important things babies may need. Gift cards also welcome. Donations can be placed next to the Nestling diaper display in the narthex, or in the blue bucket by the church's back door. Many tiny bottoms thank you!

**Hand2Hand:** Our food deliveries from H2H to South Elementary School have begun! We currently have 31 children enrolled in our program, but we are expecting the number to rise. For the month of October we are asking for donations or peanut butter (16 oz. size), cans of soup (both cream soups and kid friendly soups), and boxes of birthday candles and cans of frosting for the birthday bags. Of course, we will always accept and appreciate any shelf-safe food donations you may want to place in the blue bucket by the back door or collection cart in the Church. We will also be giving each of our children warm hats and mittens/gloves when the weather begins to get cold. We have generous hat makers, but could really use child size mittens and gloves. Thanks for supporting H2H with your help, prayers, and donations. Our kids, families, volunteers, and Mission Board really appreciate you.  
*--Your H2H volunteers and Mission Board*



**Attention, Shoppers!!** Your continued support in collecting and dropping off your Family Fare/SpartanNash receipts is greatly appreciated! Just a reminder to please turn in the entire receipt as the program does not accept partials. Keep 'em coming! We appreciate your help!



### **Calendar**

- Oct. 2 – Worship 10a, Open and Affirming 11:15a, Basketball 5-6:30p
- Oct. 9 -- Worship 10a, Council 11:15a
- Oct. 11 – Ottawa Area Center for Pride 7p
- Oct. 16 - Worship 10a, Mission 11:15a
- Oct. 19 – Summergreen Condo Meeting 7p
- Oct. 21 – Basketball 5:30-7:30
- Oct. 23 – Worship 10a
- Oct. 25 – Birthday Dinner
- Oct. 28 – Basketball 5:30-7:30
- Oct. 30 – Worship (Noisy Sunday) 10a, Trunk or Treat 2-4p

Please join the list of **On Call Nursery Volunteers** – not only do you get to play with all the cool kids, but you just might get to snuggle new babies! Contact Katrina Furman or the office if interested.



## A Report from Your Treasurer:

Friends,

Thank you so much for sharing your gifts with us this month. We had a mountain of bills to work through including several urgent bills. Because of your generosity we were able to pay the most pressing bills. That means we were able to pay the building payment on time and get current with Dan's health insurance. There is still more work to be done and we still need some financial assistance. We are carrying about \$12,000 of bills with us into October. We are also in the process of renewing our loan with West Michigan Community Bank. This is a process we need to go through every three years. I will share additional information with you as we receive it from the bank.

It is so wonderful to share in this ministry with all of you. Our resources are tight but we are able to do so much good with what we receive. I am thankful for all that you are able to share and all that we can do with those gifts.

*--David Bendert, Treasurer*



**And in Other Financial News:** The finance committee of HUCC would like to file an Application for Recognition of Exemption with the IRS. Why? The IRS recognizes churches as tax exempt automatically, but most businesses and grants require official recognition under the IRS to be documented before an organization can use/apply for their non-profit programs. This would bring us several benefits immediately, not the least of which would be decreased fees for transactions with our online giving platforms—meaning more of the money that comes in goes directly toward our goals. We would also be able to have our church added to the charity funds under PayPal and other platforms to potentially receive disbursements and as a searchable organization for people to give to. Once officially recognized, HUCC can begin to apply for grants as well.

Our ask? The filing fee for the paperwork is \$600. Will you consider giving toward this goal?

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Merchant or David Bendert.

*"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot;  
together we can do great things."*

— Mother Teresa



### **Moments in Church History – Problems in 1897**

**In October 1897, Rev. Briggs resigned, but the church voted in favor of retaining him, so he agreed to stay. He was given a salary of \$500. The people vowed to “endeavor to manifest a better spirit of appreciation in the future with God’s help.”**

**During the annual meeting at this time, the young people were admonished for irreverence towards God’s house and for causing disturbances of various kinds. The law was read concerning Sunday observance and the desecration of and punishment for the same. It was hoped that it would not become necessary to enforce it.**

#### **CHURCH CONTACT**

**Phone 616-669-1295 The Rev. Dan Furman**

**Web Site: [hudsonvilleucc.org](http://hudsonvilleucc.org) E-Mail [hudsonvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:hudsonvilleucc@gmail.com)**

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- ***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>***
- ***Church office hours: Mondays from 11am-3pm, Tuesdays from 4-7pm, and Fridays from 2:30-5pm.***

Hudsonville UCC  
4950 32nd Ave.  
Hudsonville, MI 49426