Hudsonville UCC — www.hudsonvilleucc.org The Congregator

April/May 2025



Celebrating 148 Years

Did you know Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ was the first church in Hudsonville? Here are more interesting tidbits in the history of **HUCC:**

- Founded in 1877, our church was originally named the Congregational Church of Hudsonville, Michigan. We became a United Church of Christ on May 21, 1961.
- Worship services started in a school, then shifted to a 30'x42' building constructed from logs and plaster in 1879. Instead of the pews we have today, church members had to sit on lumber set on boxes!
- Members voted to rebuild after a suspected cooking fire destroyed the church building in 1937. The church's Bible, printed circa 1885, was saved from the flames by Ida Edson McEachron. The Bible remains in a glass enclosed case in the narthex.
- On Dec. 29, 1969, members voted to purchase the property where our church now stands. The building was dedicated in 1971.
- Our Congregation voted to become Open and Affirming in 2017, emphasizing that all are welcome here.

Thank you for making our church a bold witness of love and affirmation for 148 years and counting!



Informational **Congregational Meeting**

Sunday, April 27 After Worship

Updates on church mission efforts and financial status

To give now, visit linktr.ee/hudsonvilleucc or scan the QR Code:



<u>Birthdays</u>

Brooklyn Stoner - April 3 Nancy Szymko - April 6 Max Sheerin - April 15 Roger Behrins - April 15 **Taylor Boro - April 17 George Drayton - April 17** Helen Emelander - April 20

Kelsea Perrin - April 20 Janet Overbeek - April 21 Darlene Tigleaar - April 21 Blake Todd - April 24 Steve Lyon - April 25 **Tony Baker - April 25 Ann Winkle - April 28 Brock Kleinheksel - May 2**

Jackson Leshan - May 3 Aron Duby - May 4 Troy Overbeek - May 10 Kate Carlson - May 12 Katrina Furman - May 12 Zach Overbeek - May 13 **Tom Vruggink - May 18** Ruth Broderick - May 20 Matt Ferguson - May 22

Taliyn Merchant - May 23 Alec Vieu - May 28 Nancy Mack - May 30 **Brittany Kleinheksel - May 30**

Anniversaries

Joe and Kim Perrin - May 12 Chris and Ann Winkle - May 20 Jim and Kendra Simon - May 31

Easter Breakfast

April 20 is Easter! The Missions Team will be providing breakfast, starting at 9 am. A donation basket will be out for anyone feeling inclined to donate to our ongoing missions.

Easter Egg Hunt

Here comes Peter Cottontail, and he's hiding eggs for HUCC kids! Join us on Easter Sunday, April 20, for the annual Egg Hunt! All kids and youth are welcome.

Mother's Day Tea Party

You are cordially invited to tea time at Hudsonville UCC on Saturday, May 3, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be serving light refreshments including sweets and finger sandwiches. The suggested donation is \$5 per person, with proceeds benefiting the Christian Education program. All ages and genders are encouraged to attend, and amazing hats are encouraged!

Children's Sunday

The HUCC kids will be leading worship on Sunday, May 18. This service marks the end of the Sunday School year and is a wonderful showcase of the Christian Education program. Be sure to mark your calendars and come support our HUCC kids!

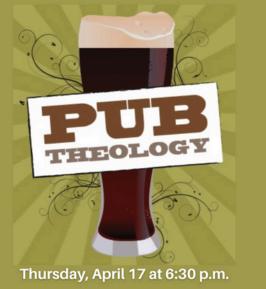


Taize Worship

We will be postponing Taize worship until fall 2025.

Thank you to Linda Missad for her music and to everyone who attended.





White Flame Brewing Co.

Hudsonville

Prayer List

Active Prayers

Kendra Simon, Paul Lidgard and our elderly and home-bound members

Continual Prayers

Alice Perrin, George Drayton, Helen Emelander, Jeanne Haynor, Al Wooton and Darleen Behrens

Grand West Association Church of the Month

In April we are praying for Belding UCC. In May, we will pray for Big Rapids UCC.

In March, our beloved and longest-serving member, Polly Lowing passed from this life to the next. We are ever so grateful for her 79-year witness. Let us be in prayer for the Lowing family.

Please let the church office know either if you do/do not want to be listed here.

Missions Update

Feeding America Food Distribution

Save the date: Our next Feeding America food distribution will be June 5, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Come for a little bit or the entire time - any support is appreciated. With all the changes in our world, the need for food assistance has increased tremendously. For more information or to sign up to help, email missions@hudsonvilleucc.org.



Hand2Hand Pantry Needs

Another way to help fill the cupboards for families struggling to make ends meet is by donating to our Hand2Hand Pantry. Our needs for the month of April include:

- · Cans of frosting
- · Small jars of peanut butter
- · Macaroni and cheese
- Small cans of chicken
- Ramen noodles
- Microwave popcorn



Donations can be dropped off in the tub near the church back door or the shopping cart inside the church. Thank you for your support!

Volunteer Schedule

April 20: Ann Martin Millie Bendert Katrina Furman & David Bendert

April 27: Laura Baker Sue Dykstra Laura Broderick-Baker & Taliyn Merchant

May 4: Rick & Angel Dannenberg Laura Broderick-Baker Laura Broderick-Baker & Christina Breen

May 11: Pat Menkveld Brad Elders Laura Broderick-Baker & Taliyn Merchant

May 18: Ann Martin Angel Dannenberg Christina Breen & David Bendert

May 25: Laura Broderick-Baker Christa Ferguson Laura Broderick-Baker & Christina Breen

Interested in volunteering? Email hudsonvilleucc@gmail.com to sign up!



May 2025 Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|--------|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 Mother's Day Tea 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. |
| 4 Worship 10 a.m. | 5 Finance Team 6:30 p.m. | 6 Election Gym Rental | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Worship 10 a.m. | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Pub Theology 6:30 p.m. | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Worship 10 a.m. | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Worship 10 a.m. | 26 | 27 Parlor Rental 7 p.m. | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |



