

The Congregator



From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Dan's Doctorate Update

Pastor Dan's doctorate is complete!!! He finished writing his 100 page paper in April. He presented his paper to the Seminary via Zoom also in April. And he submitted his paper for publication also in April. All that is left now is for him to go to his alma mater and graduate for a second time (the first was with his Masters of Divinity in 2003), now with his Doctorate of Ministry from Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania on May 4. His new title will then officially be the Rev. Dr. Dan Furman, but you may still just call him Pastor Dan. He is excited to take this official step and then to begin to share his work with the church.

Pastor Dan Vacation

In order to receive his diploma, Pastor Dan is taking vacation time for the 12 hour drive each way. He will then take several days after that to rest. His vacation will start on April 29 and he will be back in the office on Monday, May 13. Please contact Pastor Traci for any pastoral emergencies.

And our children will lead us on Sunday, May 19. Just as the Spirit blew through the church and renewed our faith and ministries so long ago, our children will lead us on Pentecost Sunday. Join us to hear their inspiring words and hopes for the church of the present and of the future!

Prayer List

Active Prayers

Pat Haynes, Kelly Pelon, Liz Vela, our elderly and home-bound members.

Continual Prayers

Darleen Behrens, George Drayton, Helen Emelander, Jeanne Haynor, Paul Kunde, Alice Perrin, Delores Wheelock, & Al Wooton.

Church of the Month

This month, we will be praying for Newaygo UCC. This country church is Open and Affirming and is the only church in the county with such an identity. They have a food pantry and a similar program to our Hand2hand. Let us pray for Newaygo UCC for May.



Bits and Pieces of the Good Stuff

Our home family has grown! We brought home 8 baby chicks last week! New life is amazing. It is the season for growth! I hope you are experiencing refreshment and renewal in your spirit, too!

Exciting Things:

Plans for Pride month are coming along. Our Open and Affirming team has met. After a great time last year, we will again have a table at Holland Pride, June 28. We were also invited to participate in hosting an affirming UCC table at the Grand Rapids festival with some other Grand West Association churches, June 22. We will also host some of our local affirming UCC churches on May 19 (Pentecost) for a chance to share ideas and fellowship. We're looking forward to celebrating and being present in the community! And we need your help! We would love to have volunteers for the booths on those days, and we'd love to have more people to join our O and A team. Let us know if you want to help!

We have a weekly gentle walking group that meets on Tuesdays at noon at Hager Park, which has been a great way to get outside and spend a little time together. We may add an extra day this summer for people with other schedules. We try to stay on flat trails for an easy hike. All are welcome!

Adult/Family Enrichment has a group meeting at 9:00 am on every second and fourth Sunday. We'll meet through May. Right now we are talking about the news and current events. This summer we hope to do a couple of book clubs, and maybe offer some other learning opportunities, too. If you have ideas, let us know!

I will be leading worship on May 5 and May 12, while Pastor Dan celebrates his graduation! If you need pastoral care while he is away, my number is 616-777-7599.

Volunteer Schedule

Offering Counters

May 5: Christina & John
May 12: Katrina & David
May 19: Tali & Russ
May 26: Katrina & Ruth

Lay Readers

May 5: Ali Bendert
May 12: Christina Breen
May 19: Children's Sunday
May 26: Ruth Lee

Greeters

May 5: Angel & Rick Dannenberg
May 12: Pat Menkveld
May 19: Ann Martin
May 26: Laura Broderick & Tony Baker



A Moment in Church History

In 1967, Rev. Eldon Cummings was called as the new pastor. He served as pastor until his retirement in 1981. His wife Tillie was very active in the life of the church she was involved in activities including the choir and church secretary. they had four sons. three of the sons were already married when the Cummings arrived in 1967. two of them were ministers and the third was considering ministry. The fourth son, Jay, was pursuing ministry at that time.

This was to be the beginning of several new programs and traditions in the church as well as the construction of the new church. The first Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service was held: registration pads were put into use for the worship service; junior boys and girls were chosen to act as acolytes. Robes and candle lighters for them were given as memorials by different church members.

Altar Flowers

Did you know you can sign up for altar flowers? There is a poster opposite the coat room on the bulletin board where you may sign up for flowers for any occasion. Select from any of the available Sundays and let us know what or who you are honoring or remembering and we will put a note in the bulletin. Simply add a donation in a pew envelope or by electronic giving for \$25.

May Birthday Dinner

The May birthday dinner will be switching back to the last Tuesday of the month, May 28 at 6pm. As always, bring a dish to pass or just come and enjoy a free family meal. See you then!

HUCC Cookbook

We have started collecting and researching for the next HUCC cookbook. Send us your favorite recipes! It may seem like a small thing, but I've been going through previous cookbooks (thanks to both our UCC church historian and to our library historian at Gary Byker!). They are pieces of history, and of family, and of friends, and of faith, passed down to tell the story of the people here. We're a part of those people today. That's beautiful to me! Please, share a bit of your family with us by sharing something you make in your own home. There are recipe cards on the fellowship tables that can be returned to the basket on the information table, or you can email me, pastortraci@hudsonvilleucc.org.

HUCC Pride!!

May represents 7 years of being Open and Affirming!! We have welcomed so many new families since becoming O&A. For the past several years, our church has had a booth at Holland Pride. This year, we are also considering sharing a booth with other UCC churches at Grand Rapids Pride. If you would like to either help us prepare and/or spend some time in either booth location, please see either Pastor Dan or Pastor Traci. Grand Rapids Pride is June 22 and Holland Pride is June 29.

Euchre Night!!

We had so much fun the first time, we need to do it again! Join us for pizza and Euchre on Friday, May 17 at 6pm. Bring a partner or just join us. It will be great!

HUCC DIRECTORY

On May 5 we will have another "Picture Sunday" after worship service in the parlor. Come with your best smile and sign up for a copy of the new directory after your picture. The directory will be available in Print but also in PDF/Electronic format. If you need to update your address or phone number, please email office@hudsonvilleucc.org and Christy will update it for you.



Birthdays

Evan Vedders - 5/1
 Brock Kleinheksel - 5/2
 Jackson Leshan - 5/3
 Ian Stamm - 5/4
 Aron Duby - 5/4
 Troy Overbeek - 5/10
 Katrina Furman - 5/12
 Zachary Overbeek - 5/13
 Ruth Broderick - 5/20
 Matt Ferguson - 5/22

Amanda Haveman - 5/28
 Alec Vieau - 5/28
 Nancy Mack - 5/30

Anniversaries

PJoe & Kim Perrin - 5/12
 Chris & Ann Winkle - 5/20
 Jim & Kendra Simon - 5/31

Missions Update

Hand2Hand Update

Fourteen delivered with only 3 more deliveries of food to make to complete another school year. Our pantry will be closing down for the summer months. However, we still need certain items to finish these last few deliveries. Please check the two display tables outside the sanctuary or the Friday newsletter to see what we are missing, or make a monetary donation so our food coordinator can purchase these final items. As always thank you for your prayers, support and donations to this mission program. Gratefully, Your Mission Board



Christian Ed

This month we wrap up our year of Bible Stories with a special Children's service on May 19. This service will be led by our Sunday School and Jr Youth Group kids.

May schedule for Sunday School:

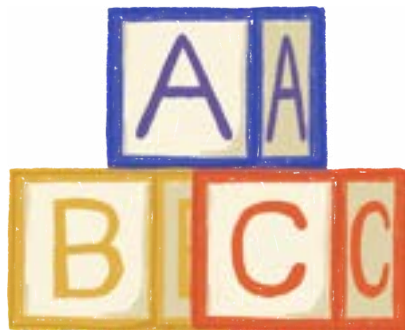
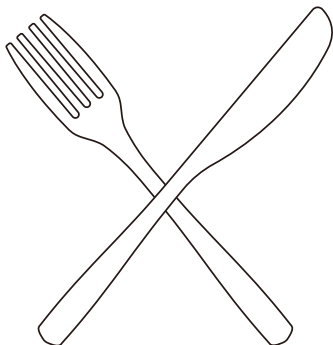
May 5: No Sunday School

May 12: Practice for Children's Sunday

May 19: Children's Sunday.

Summer Nursery Help needed!

We are still looking for nursery volunteers! If you want to hang out with some cute little kids and play games like "Food Truck" and making block towers, we have a place for you! The team is looking for volunteers for any week of the month!



May Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	3	4
5 Worship 10AM Photos, 11:15AM	6 Election Set up	7 Election Staff meeting 2:30PM OVC4P 6:30PM	8 Election Clean up	9 Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	10	11
12 Worship 10AM	13 Pastoral Relations Team 7PM	14 Staff meeting 2:30PM Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	15	16 Pickleball 5:45-7:15PM Basketball 7:30-9PM	17 Euchre Night 6PM	18
19 Youth Sunday Worship 10AM Open & Affirming UCC gathering 3PM	20	21 Staff meeting 2:30PM Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	22	23 Finance Team 6:30PM Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	24	25
26 Worship 10AM Open & Affirming team 11:15AM	27 CLOSED for Memorial Day	28 Staff meeting 2:30PM Condo Assn Meeting 6PM Birthday Dinner 6PM Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	29	30 Hobby Hub 6-9PM Basketball 4:30PM-6PM	31	



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