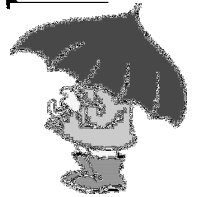


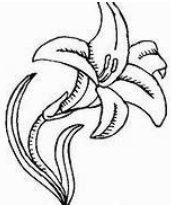


# The Congregator: April Showers Edition

## Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ - April 2022



**Share God's Light!** On February 13, our church Council approved the Facility Team's recommendation for a new digital sign. Our current sign is difficult to change messages and many of the light bulbs no longer work. The cost of a new sign is just under \$40,000. A generous church family has offered to match all donations for the new sign up to half the cost of the sign! So far, we have raised \$34,000! This means we just need to raise \$6,000 in order to Share God's Light with our community. Our goal is to have funds raised by Easter Sunday, April 17. Many first-time visitors to our worship service say they come because of our sign. A new sign will attract even more new people to the life of our congregation. Please prayerfully consider an extra financial donation so we can improve our messaging to the community.



**It's time...** to order **Easter flowers!** This year, we are offering lilies, tulips, mums, hyacinth, cyclamen, and daffodils. Each plant is \$15. Checks may be made out to Hudsonville UCC. To order in person, you may place your order at the welcome desk in the Commons. If you are unable to stop by the church but would like flowers, please contact the church office and let us know how many flowers you would like and if they are in honor or in memory of your loved ones. **All orders are due by April 10.**

**Easter Sunday!!** Easter Sunday, April 17, will begin with an **Easter breakfast** served at 9am. There will also be an **Easter Egg Hunt** for children during the 9:00am hour. Our worship celebration will be at our normal worship time at 10am.



**Birthday Dinners are Back!!** With the return of coffee hour, it only makes sense to bring back our monthly birthday dinner potlucks! Starting in April, we will gather at our traditional last Tuesday of the month, April 26, and at our normal time of 6pm. Join us as we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in April, but everyone is welcome! Bring a dish to pass or just bring your appetite.



### *Please Pray*

**Active Prayers:** Gary Hessler, Kendra Simon, and all affected by COVID or war.

**Continual Prayers:** George Drayton, Joan Edson, Helen Emelander, Paul Kunde, Delores Wheelock

**Monthly Prayer Emphasis:** Of our 27 UCC churches and agencies in our Grand West Association, this month we will pray for Pilgrim Manor in Grand Rapids. Pilgrim Manor is a senior living community that was started by UCC churches and is affiliated with UCC Homes. Let us remember their mission and ministry in our prayers for April.

*(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!



**Mission News!** Love Your Neighbor is looking for 5-10 volunteers from our church to partner with people from other churches and build bonds with our neighbors who are struggling. Volunteers would meet once a week for a meal and skills class to support those in need. If you're interested contact Pastor Dan at [hudsonvilleuccpastor@yahoo.com](mailto:hudsonvilleuccpastor@yahoo.com). **ALSO COME THIS SUNDAY (3/27) TO MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE GRAND RAPIDS NAACP AND HEAR MORE ABOUT THEIR MESSAGE AND MISSION.**

**.Nestlings:** The times are always changin'. We are still collecting diapers and wipes for our wee neighbors. Any and all sizes are needed, but larger sizes (for the less wee) are a particular need. Donations can be placed next to the Nestling diaper display in the narthex, or in the blue bucket by the church's back door.

**Help Needed:** Feel a calling to help serve? Enjoy working or organizing in a kitchen environment? We are still looking for someone to head up the running of our kitchen. If you'd like a few more details, see Sue Dykstra or Janet Overbeek.

**Hand2Hand:** You have been SO generous this past school year that we at H2H are not asking for any particular donated items to finish out the school year. For those of you who are in the habit of picking an item or 2 for our mission to South School, we will still take in donations throughout the summer.

Since we will be using these items to stock shelves for the next school year, it is VERY IMPORTANT that your donations DO NOT EXPIRE until October when they will be used. Any donated foods that we can't use are taken to another food pantry, so nothing goes to waste. A trunkload went to UCOM this past week. Thank you again for your support, and keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

*--Your Mission Board and H2H volunteers*

### **A Report from Your Treasurer:**

Thank you for working with your time and your dollars to support our church. Without your steadfast gifts our church would not be able to impact the lives of those in our community. As we move through this new year we have received gifts in line with last year. This is great news, as last year was a banner year for our church. So far we have been able to meet all of our obligations on time with some cushion. That being said, each month our cushion is a little bit less than the month before. Thank you for your continued faithfulness - we are blessed by every gift. If you are able, an additional gift in the Lenten season would help to continue us on the solid path we currently find ourselves on.

Thank you again for all that you do to show that the Love of God is for everyone.

*--David Bendert, Treasurer*

**Hey, Shoppers!!** Thank you so much for collecting your Family Fare receipts. We have officially passed the half way point - we are at 61,779 of the required 100,000! Please remember to turn in your entire receipt as the program does not accept partials or just the Direct Your Dollars portion and unfortunately those cannot be counted in our total.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Merchant.



**April Showers - come in out of the rain! Volunteer as....A Sunday School Teacher!  
A Post-Service Offering Counter! A SafeServ Kitchen Person! A Treasurer!!!!  
Contact the church office for more information. Together we'll bring May flowers!**

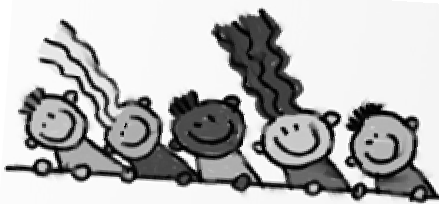
<b>Happy Birthday!</b>	<b>Happy Birthday!</b>	<b>Happy Anniversary!</b>
4/6 <i>Mykenzie Hoezee</i>	4/20 <i>Kelsea Perrin</i>	4/2 <i>Ron &amp; Carol Sovereign</i>
4/6 <i>Nancy Szymko</i>	4/21 <i>Janet Overbeek</i>	4/10 <i>Paul DeYoung &amp; Pat Menkveld</i>
4/7 <i>Chris Kahler</i>	4/21 <i>Darlene Tigelaar</i>	4/24 <i>Maciek &amp; Carolyn Biezunski</i>
4/9 <i>Jan DeYoung</i>	4/22 <i>Leah Hamstra</i>	4/24 <i>Mark &amp; Amy Perrin</i>
4/12 <i>Natalie Wass</i>	4/24 <i>Blake Todd</i>	
4/15 <i>Roger Behrens</i>	4/25 <i>Steve Lyon</i>	
4/17 <i>Taylor Boro</i>	4/26 <i>Justin Hill</i>	
4/17 <i>George Drayton</i>	4/28 <i>Ann Winkle</i>	
4/20 <i>Helen Emelander</i>		

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

### **April Calendar**

- April 1 - Pastor Dan's 8 year anniversary of serving at HUCC!
- April 3 - Worship 10am, Basketball 2:30-8pm
- April 4 - Mission Team 6:30pm
- April 10 - Palm Sunday Worship 10am, no Council, Basketball 2:30-8pm
- April 12 - Ottawa Area Center For Pride meeting 7pm
- April 17 - Easter breakfast 9am, Easter worship 10am, no basketball
- April 24 - Worship 10am, Basketball 2:30-8pm
- April 26 - Birthday dinner 6pm, Summergreen Condo meeting 7pm
- April 30 - Baby Shower 2-4pm

**YO! YOUTH! COMING SOON! YOUTH SUNDAY MAY 22! YOU GET TO BE THE CHURCH! IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE! STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!**



**COMING SOONER...EASTER EGG HUNT AT CHURCH ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17! COME WITH YOUR EYES OPEN AND YOUR BUNNY EARS ON!**

**AND TEENS—DON'T FORGET TO COME GATHER WITH ARON EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH FOR GAMES AND GOOD TALK! BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND COME HAVE FUN!**

# 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

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

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- *You can also find services and Sunday School lessons at <https://www.hudsonvilleucc.org>*

Hudsonville UCC  
4950 32nd Ave.  
Hudsonville, MI 49426