

Congregational Calendar

Your financial support makes all of this happen!

SUNDAY, November 18

9/10:30/11:59 Worship (Sanctuary)
9:00 am Pathfinders (Chapel)
9:00 am The Nine (Youth Room)
9:45 am Friends Class (102)
10/11:30/12:30 Equal Exchange Sale (FH)
10:30 am Breakfast Club (Youth Room)
2:00 pm Thanks & Giving (FH)
2:00 pm Advent Wreath (Activity Room)
6:00 pm Impact (Youth Room & FH)
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
7:00 pm Interfaith Service
(Temple Beth Shalom)

MONDAY, November 19

12:00 pm FYI Luncheon (FH)
7:00 pm Deacons Board (304/Sanctuary)

TUESDAY, November 20

5:00 pm Yoga (Youth Room)

WEDNESDAY, November 21

9:00 am WOW (FH)
11:00 am Hudson Grande VIP Worship

THURSDAY, November 22

THANKSGIVING - Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, November 23

Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, November 24

10:00 am AlAnon-Newcomers (120)
11:00 am AlAnon (102)
11:00 am Alateen (Youth Room)

Coffee Hour during the month of November is provided through the generosity of the members of the Youth Board.

ACME Cash Register Receipts - It is that time of year, again! Look for the words

Community Cashback at the bottom of your receipts along with a dollar value. Bring the entire receipt to the church and drop it in the marked box in the hallway. Register receipts must be current and have the **Community Cashback** notation on them dated **August 9 to December 29, 2018**. Thank you for supporting our Women's Ministries.

NEW 2019 FLOWER CHART The 2019 Flower Chart is now hanging on the hallway bulletin board. If you would like to dedicate sanctuary flowers in loving memory or in honor of a loved one, sign up today!

Today's Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-4

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, November 18, 2018

Wherever you are on your journey... you are welcome here.

Guests are invited to participate in any of the church's varied activities. Contact the Church Office (330) 650-4048 for more information or check off your interests on the back of the Connection Card.

Happy Thanksgiving!

The Tradition of the Five Kernels of Corn

Today, following the service, you are invited to come into Fellowship Hall where you will find a table with kernels of corn. Please fill an envelope with five kernels for every person who will be gathered around your Thanksgiving table. As the table is being set, lay those five kernels of corn in front of every plate. During the meal, have a person share a blessing with the table as they place one of their kernels in the center of the table, until all the kernels are in the center of the table. By the end of the meal, the air will be filled with reminders of all the blessings of your life.

LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) Christmas Luncheon

Thursday, December 6 - 11:30 am

200 Laurel Lake Drive, Hudson

Name: _____ Cost: **\$16.00**

(Make check payable to *FCCH* - MEMO LINE: LIFT Christmas Luncheon)

Reservations and money are **due by Monday, December 3**)

Please bring an unwrapped children's Christmas gift (newborn to 18 years old): toys, hats, mittens, etc. for the children of OPEN M.

Lunch includes Salad, Rolls and Dessert

PAID

CHOOSE ONE

_____ Paid with check

_____ Chicken Crepes w/asparagus

_____ Paid with cash

_____ Ham & Cheese Quiche w/sliced fruit

_____ Vegetable Quiche w/sliced fruit

Bring your reservation and check to the church office or place in offering plate on Sunday morning. Your check confirms your reservation.

Children's Ministry

For opportunities in Children's Ministry, contact Dee Buchanan or Katie Morgan:
(330) 650-4048, ext. 301 or email dbuchanan@hudsonucc.org; kmorgan@hudsonucc.org.

Advent Wreath Making TODAY from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the Activity Room

2nd - 5th graders: join us for a fun day of candle dipping and wreath making!
Please wear old clothes and shoes. **No need to RSVP - just come!**

Thanks and Giving TODAY from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall

Toddler3 - 1st graders: join us for crafts, games, stories, fun - all while learning about being thankful! **No need to RSVP - just come!**

Live Nativity - Help bring the real meaning of Christmas to the Hudson Merchant's Walk!

We are so blessed to be *the* church that creates the Live Nativity on our town green, so come be a part of it! We need Mary, Joseph, the Wise Guys, Shepherds, Angels...the whole gang. Don't miss this wonderful ministry we provide for our community.

When: **Sunday, December 2, 12:00-5:00 pm**

Where: Near the Clock Tower

Sign up TODAY in Fellowship Hall

Can you help us teach the greatest story ever told? We are looking for some incredible people to help teach and spend time with some amazing children this Christmas season! The rotation starts on **12/1** and ends on **12/30**. The open slots are listed below:

9:00 am Toddler-K Teacher and Toddler-K Shepherd

10:30 am	Tabernacle Teacher	Garden of Eatin' Teacher
	Thou Art Teacher	Fun & Godly Stuff Teacher
	1 st Grade Shepherd	5 th Grade Shepherd

Please contact Katie Morgan if you can help (kmorgan@hudsonucc.org).

Children's Mission Project - 2018 Holiday Toy Room Program

Children served by Summit County Children Services need your help! Please donate **NEW** toys or gift cards for a child this holiday season. Through the agency's **HOLIDAY TOY ROOM PROGRAM**, parents, foster parents, grandparents, etc. are able to select gifts for the children in their care. This extra support makes a tremendous difference!

The greatest need this year is for toys and items for tween girls, ages 10-13. Examples are hair-spray, body lotion, nail polish, perfume, hair clips and ribbons.

Donations will be collected downstairs under the Christmas tree in the Children's Center. **Donations must be made by December 16 so the gifts will be available when the toy room opens.**

Volunteer Opportunities in Friends' Class! Our church has supported **Friends** since 1976 and **we need your help** to keep it going!

- We follow the school calendar year, with no classes on the major holidays.
- Music therapy is the first Sunday of each month, October - May.
- Communion is provided by Rev. Hockstra, the third Sunday of each month.
- We have three teams of teachers/assistants who rotate during the school calendar year.
- We meet **Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 am**, each team only teaches a few weeks, twice a year.
- We use children's Bible stories, a craft or art project, music and lots of smiles and hugs.

Please contact Sandy Miller at sandyxd91@gmail.com or 216-310-1489 for more information. Thank you!

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Turkeys Needed - Pastor Michael Starks, based in the Summit Lake Community Center in Akron, has led a Thanksgiving basket give-away for needy families for 14 years. He recently lost the financial sponsor of the program. He has asked our church to help address this shortfall. Please consider donating \$25 to help provide for a needy family at Thanksgiving. Donations will be managed by our church's Finance Office. Checks should be addressed to FCCH and reference "Turkey" in the subject line of checks. Please contact Allen Park (Park44236@aol.com) with any questions.

Holiday Gift Wrapping - In years past we have wrapped Christmas presents for the "Happy Birthday Jesus" party organized by Haven of Rest in Akron. This program provides toys for needy families. The gifts are furnished by the Haven of Rest but need to be gift wrapped prior to giving them to children. We will receive 150-200 gifts so we will need as many gift wrappers as possible. We will hold two gift wrapping parties in Fellowship Hall: **9-12 on Saturday, November 24** and **1-4 on Sunday, November 25**. Please contact Allen Park with any questions.

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Equal Exchange Coffee, Tea, Cocoa Mix and Chocolate Bars - Show your support of Fair Trade by stopping at the Equal Exchange table following all three services. Fair Trade enables farmers to stay on their land, receive a fair price, send their children to school and care for the environment. *All proceeds benefit Family Promise of Summit County.*

Youth Ministry

For Youth opportunities, contact Callie Baylor cbaylor@hudsonucc.org or Amy Baldwin abaldwin@hudsonucc.org.

TPP - Registration is in full swing! Dates for this summer's middle school mission trip to Pittsburgh are **July 8-12**. Total cost of the trip is \$395. To secure your spot, please turn in your registration form and \$50 deposit ASAP. **Registration is due November 28** and spaces are limited!

Breakfast Club/The Nine - Join Steve Hockstra in the Youth Room during the 9:00 and 10:30 am services for donuts and discussions.

Confirmation - Our next meeting is **December 2**. In the meantime, be sure to continue meeting one on one and check out some of our service opportunities - these are a great way for our confirmands and mentors to connect and grow.

Impact - We meet tonight at **6:00 pm** in the Youth Room for fun games and snacks. It's an evening of thanks with Amy B.

D&D - There will be **NO D&D on November 21** as Hudson City Schools are off that day. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Gennesaret - Be sure to join us the first Saturday of each month at our favorite soup kitchen in Akron. Our next visit is **Saturday, December 1**. Contact Jeff Wells to sign up. Every year Gennesaret hosts a 4-mile run on **Thanksgiving morning** called "**Homerun for the Homeless.**" Our church will be staffing a water stop along the way. Come cheer on all the runners and support a great cause. We'll meet at church at **8:00 am** and return about **10:30 am**. What a great way to start Thanksgiving Day! RSVP to Jeff Wells at jeffreylwells@gmail.com.

Music Ministry

Women's Ensemble - Our new pop-up Women's Ensemble will continue, having one more singing opportunity in 2018. Please join us for a short hour of Advent singing and fellowship on **Thursday, November 29** and **Thursday, December 13** from 7:00-8:00 pm. (Note: we will skip December 6), with a performance on **Sunday December 16** for both the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Please be in touch if you need childcare secured for these dates. If you're looking for a way to reconnect with your creative side, meet new people, or try something new, please join us! Can't make all rehearsals? No problem! Email Charlotte at cplank@hudsonucc.org to get involved.

Birthday Party for Jesus - Celebrate Jesus' birthday with games, songs, crafts, and of course, birthday cake!

Who: All Preschoolers - Kindergarteners
When: **Sunday, December 16** during the 9:00 am and 10:30 am worship services
Where: Drop off and pick up in the Activity Room (not the classrooms)
RSVP: **JUST JOIN THE PARTY!** Come help us celebrate!
Email jbarden@hudsonucc.org to volunteer.

If you would like to bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Summit County Children's Services Toy Room (our Children's Ministries Christmas Mission), we would greatly appreciate it!

Adult Ministry

For questions, contact Kathy Yeakley, (330) 650-4048, or kyeakley@hudsonucc.org.

Yoga with Cynthia Field is available every **Tuesday** evening, **5:00-6:00 pm** in the Youth Room on the 3rd floor. This is a gentle class. There is no pressure to do more than you are able to do! Everyone is welcome whenever you can attend. Goodwill donations accepted.

Poinsettia Orders - Due Today!

The Deaconesses are pleased to continue the tradition of offering poinsettia plants for purchase this Christmas season. The price we charge for each poinsettia includes the cost to purchase a mini poinsettia plant for our "Over 85 Ministry". Thank you for making this possible. Please complete the form below and place in the Collection Plate or the Church Office mailbox in the workroom with your check payable to "FCCH" and note Poinsettias in the memo line. **Deadline for orders is TODAY!** If you have any questions, call the Church Office (330) 650-4048.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Number of Poinsettias _____ x \$22.00 Total Payment \$ _____

Please indicate whether you intend to leave your plant or take it after the service
on **Sunday, December 23:** TAKE _____ LEAVE _____

Adult Faith Formation

For opportunities in Adult Faith Formation, contact Steve Hockstra, (330) 650-4048 or shockstra@hudsonucc.org.

Pathfinders - Join us today, **November 18, 9:00-10:15 am** or any week in the 3rd floor Chapel. We are continuing to explore Dr. Andrew Newberg's video series, *The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience*. Contact Marie Libby for more information: mclibby64@aol.com.

Small Home Study Groups - Connecting ... Equipping ... Transforming

- Are you interested in joining or forming a small home study group?
- Do you want to explore the possibility of growing in your faith and connect with others?
- Are you simply curious about what a small home group might be able to offer?

Small home study groups offer social connections, trust, faith, fun and fellowship and are now forming. If you are interested in learning more or have questions, contact Bob Carleton: bobcarleton@adjob.com.

The Bridge Club: Mothers of teens and young adults meet monthly for friendship and support as they transition to a new phase of life. Contact Katie Morgan for more information: kmorgan@hudsonucc.org.

ROMEOs (Retired Older Men Eating Out) will meet at **12:30 pm, Tuesday, November 27** at Lager and Vine for lunch and fellowship. Contact Henry Vigor for more information (hkvigor@windstream.net).

Watch: 2018 Advent Devotional is a unique collection of devotions that includes an insightful scripture verse and prayer for each day of Advent. It begins December 2 (first Sunday of Advent) and continues through Christmas Day. The Advent Devotions will be available beginning Sunday, November 25 in the workroom during the week and on the Adult Ed table after worship.



AmazonSmile - Did you know your purchases can make a difference? AmazonSmile donates to First Congregational Church of Hudson when you do your holiday shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/34-0762813. SmileAmazon is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on smile.amazon.com, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate a percentage of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Outreach Ministries

The OPEN M Bisquick collection is back for another year! First Congregational Church is challenged to donate 210 single boxes of Bisquick (**NOT** large Costco boxes with two sleeves of mix) by Thanksgiving! When you are out grocery shopping for your Thanksgiving feast, please add an extra box or two of Bisquick to your cart. Drop off in the collection area in the main hallway and add your name to the Bisquick challenge wall! OR, drop a check in the offering plate with your donation (\$4.00/box) and write Bisquick in the memo line. Thank you!

Trinity Clothing and Household Mission accepting fall and winter items - *Please place your donations in the blue bin by the coat rack or the wooden cabinet in the stairwell. No food, please!*

Greatest Needs (in good, re-usable condition):

- Flannel or percale sheet sets - Twin, Full, Queen, King
- Blankets, comforters - Twin, Full, Queen, King
- Towels, washcloths, sleeping pillows (new or very good condition)
- Throw rugs
- Pots and pans, kitchen items (no knives)
- Boots, gloves, hats, scarves for all ages and sizes
- Preschool and Toddler clothing, sizes 2T - 5 (we never have enough!)
- Shoes - men, women, children
- Jeans for men (especially smaller waist sizes)
- Sweaters and sweatshirts for adults and children

Questions? Please contact Sandy Miller at sandyxd91@gmail.com. Thank you!

Family Promise - Autumn greetings! As we approach this advent season, please consider giving your time and talents to our Family Promise guests. We are four weeks away from welcoming and providing hospitality to these families. Below, please find a list of volunteer opportunities that are most in need of filling. Thank you.

Evening Hosts: **December 9, 10, 13, 14, and 15**

Overnight Hosts: **December 9, 10, 12, and 14**

Individuals as well as families are welcome to volunteer. Check out the Missions Table after services for additional information and/or contact Beth Sosinski with any questions (bethsosinski@gmail.com or 330-283-6843).