

Congregational Calendar

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SUNDAY, November 25

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)
10:30 am Breakfast Club (Youth Room)
4:00 pm Vespers (Laurel Lake)
6:00 pm Impact (Youth Room & FH)
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
7:30 pm Teen Band/Choir

MONDAY, November 26

7:00 pm Youth Board (Youth Room)

TUESDAY, November 27

12:30 pm ROMEOs (Lager & Vine)
1:30 pm Congregational Conversations (LL)
5:00 pm Yoga (Youth Room)
7:00 pm Music Board (Alcove)

WEDNESDAY, November 28

9:00 am WOW (FH)
3:00 pm D&D (Youth Room & FH)
5:00 pm revoice (Choir Room)
5:00 pm Wonderful Wednesday (FH)
7:00 pm First Connect (304)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
8:30 pm Men's Ensemble (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, November 29

7:00 pm Interfaith Group (301)
7:00 pm Women's Ensemble (Choir Room)

SATURDAY, December 1

9:00 am Gennesaret (off site)
10:00 am AlAnon-Newcomers (120)
11:00 am AlAnon (102)
11:00 am Alateen (Activity Room)

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 have received 150-200 gifts so we need as many gift wrappers as possible to finish the project. If you can help us out, please join us **TODAY** in Fellowship Hall **during coffee hour** and from **1:00 - 4:00 pm**.

Today's Scripture: Ruth 4:13-17

¹³So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. ¹⁴Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! ¹⁵He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him." ¹⁶Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. ¹⁷The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, November 25, 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.

Worship Opportunities During Advent

Sundays in Advent: December 2, 9 and 16 ~ Worship at 9:00, 10:30 and 11:59 AM
December 23 ~ Single Worship at 10:00 AM

Longest Night Service: December 20 at 7:00 PM

December 24 Christmas Eve Services: 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm

December 30: Worship at 9:00, 10:30, 11:59 AM

Advent Breakfast at Laurel Lake: Monday, December 10, 9:00 AM

Advent Event at Hudson Grande: Monday, December 10, 10:30 AM

Advent Event at Maplewood-Cuyahoga Falls: Monday, December 10, 1:00 PM

Advent Event at Maplewood-Twinsburg: Monday, December 10, 2:00 PM

Advent Event at American House: Monday, December 10, 3:00 PM

Christmas Angel Tree - Once again this year, we will have the opportunity to help make Christmas a little brighter for the children at Findley Community Learning Center and SWAG in the Summit Lake neighborhood. Please visit the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall where you can select a tag identifying the age of the student and a few gift suggestions. Unwrapped gifts can be dropped off at the church no later than **Friday, December 14**.

Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given by Tom and Dottie Page in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on December 21 and in memory of their parents, Harlan and Nancy Page and David and Gladys Rendall.

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.

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
1st - 5th Grade Shepherd

10:30 am	Fun & Godly Stuff Teacher	Garden of Eatin' Teacher (12/16 & 12/30)
	Pre-K/K Shepherd	Toddler/K Crafts & Activities 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.**

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!

Many thanks to everyone that participated in our Shoebox Ministry by donating to fill the shoeboxes or by joining us last Saturday to assemble the boxes. We were able to donate 124 boxes! This special effort will bring joy to many children around the world this holiday season. Thank you!

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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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.

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. Your registration form and \$50 deposit secure your spot. Registration is due **November 28** and spaces are limited!

Breakfast Club/The Nine - Hey 6th - 12th graders! Come grab a donut in the Youth Room and stay for Sunday discussions, every week during the 9:00 and 10:30 services.

Confirmation - We meet again next week, **December 2**. Please attend the 10:30 service with your mentor. Afterwards, head right to the Activity Room for lunch. We will finish by 1:00 pm. Please bring your binder and your Bible!

Impact - We meet tonight at **6:00 pm** in the Youth Room for fun games and snacks. Join us for an evening of JOY! Remember, our Christmas Party is **December 9** at Burke Villeneuve's house. Hope you can make it!

POWER UP BREAKFAST for high schoolers is happening this **Wednesday, November 28!** Stop by the Youth Room between **8:45 - 9:15 am**. Callie and Amy are serving up pancakes and smoothies. Grab some breakfast and a quick chat before you head to school.

D&D - We are back in action this **Wednesday** from **3:00 - 5:00 pm** in the Youth Room. Can't wait to see you!

Gennesaret is this **Saturday, December 1**. RSVP to Jeff Wells (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.

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

Outreach Ministries

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 - Greetings! We are three weeks away from our upcoming host week, **December 9-16**. Many volunteer positions have been filled; however, many remain. Our greatest needs are for Overnight Hosts and Evening Hosts. Additionally, we need a volunteer to cover the phones at the Family Promise Day Center on **Saturday, December 15**. Below, please find a list of the volunteer opportunities that still need to be filled. Thank you.

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

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

Please consider giving of your time. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday with friends and family. Enjoy! Beth Sosinski (bethsosinski@gmail.com or 330-283-6843).

Findley School is collecting **Box Tops for Education**. Please place in the marked envelope by the Findley bin near the coat racks. Thank you!

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.

Adult Faith Formation

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

Watch: 2018 Advent Devotional is now available at the Adult Ed table in Fellowship Hall **after services today and Sunday, December 2**. This unique collection of devotions includes an insightful scripture verse and prayer for each day of Advent. It will also be available during the week in the workroom. The Advent season begins Sunday, December 2 and continues through Christmas Day, so pick up your devotional today!

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).

Pathfinders - NO meeting today, November 25. You are welcome to join us at our next meeting on **December 2, 9:00-10:15 am** when we explore Dr. Andrew Newberg's video series, *The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience*. On **December 9 and 16**, we will discuss topics such as "love of hypocrites" and "grouchy givers" from the Advent Devotional, *Come, Lord Jesus*. The devotional is available today in Fellowship Hall. Contact Marie Libby for more information: mclibby64@aol.com.

Women's Short Term Bible Study, Wednesdays, January 9 - February 27: Women of FCCH, we've got the perfect New Year's resolution for you! Resolve now to try an organized Bible Study for the first time, or to get back into regular Bible Study, or to participate in a new Bible Study in 2019! Join us as we dive into God's word together using Kelly Minter's "No Other Gods: Confronting our Modern Day Idols / The Unrivaled Pursuit of Christ." Idols are often obvious – money, power, or fame. Sometimes idols are subtler in the form of sweet loved ones, Instagramable interiors, or busy seasons of ministry. This study will challenge women to evaluate modern-day idols and embrace a deeper, more meaningful relationship with Jesus. Through daily exercises and weekly videos we will explore God's word and strengthen our faith together. All are welcome! Invite a friend and mark your calendars now!

- Daytime: 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. OR Evening: 6:45 – 8:15 p.m.
 - Workbooks provided for all participants
 - Evening childcare available upon request
 - Sign-ups via the Connection Card throughout December
- Questions? Contact Tracy Zappone: pzappone@yahoo.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. We are planning another great winter retreat! Contact Katie Morgan for more information: kmorgan@hudsonucc.org.

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.

Adult Ministry

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

FYI (Feeling Young Inside) luncheon and program on **Monday, December 17 at noon** will feature Detective Kaija Jeantet. The detective's topic will be "Scamming and Internet Safety". Do you know someone, or have you been the victim of a phone or internet scam? Come and listen to tips on ways to prevent telephone and internet fraud. Sign up on the Connection Card on Sunday, call the church office (330-650-4048) or email Kathy.

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.

Need a ride to an appointment? Called to Care is here for you. Just let us know! Called to Care transportation volunteers seek to help people in times of need, like an illness or injury. They provide church members and friends with transportation for occasional needs, like a medical appointment or treatment. **Coordinator Tom Hudson will connect you with a driver (330) 650-1199 or tghudson@juno.com.**



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