

## Congregational Calendar

*Your financial support makes all of this happen!*

### **SUNDAY, December 23**

10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
9:00 am Pathfinders (Chapel)  
9:45 am Friends Class (102)  
4:00 pm Vespers (Laurel Lake)

### **MONDAY, December 24**

3:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant (Sanct.)  
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship (Sanctuary)  
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:00 pm Christmas Eve  
Communion Worship (Sanctuary)

### **TUESDAY, December 25**

**Christmas Day – Church Office Closed**

**ACME Cash Register Receipts** - Register receipts must be current and have the **Community Cashback** notation on them dated **August 9 to December 29, 2018**. Bring the entire receipt to the church and drop it in the marked box in the hallway. Thank you!

### ***Today's Scripture: Luke 1:39-55***

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

### **THURSDAY, December 27**

7:00 pm Interfaith Group (Room 301)

### **SATURDAY, December 29**

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

**Coffee Hour** during the month of December is provided through the generosity of the members of the Mission Board.

## WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*SUNDAY, December 23, 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.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ~ All with candlelight**

- 3:00 PM** *Wonderful Wednesday Children's Pageant*  
"The Great Angel Mystery" Nursery care available.
- 5:00 PM** A traditional service of hearing the story and singing carols. Mixed choir and strings. Nursery care available.
- 7:00 PM** A traditional service of hearing the story and singing carols. Men's Ensemble and members of the Men of Independence with brass sextet. Nursery care available.
- 11:00 PM** *Communion Service* - Bring in Christmas at a service concluding at midnight with the sacrament of Holy Communion. Chancel Choir and instrumental consort.

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

**Offering Envelopes** - If you would like to receive 2019 offering envelopes, please sign up at the table in the hallway outside the Church Office. Questions? Contact Diana Finkes at [dfinkes@hudsonucc.org](mailto:dfinkes@hudsonucc.org) or 330-650-4048.

**SAVE THE DATE** - The annual, interdenominational **Christian Unity Prayer Service and Luncheon** is on **Thursday, January 24 at 10:00 am**. St. Mary Catholic Church in Hudson (340 N. Main Street), will host this year's event which will focus on the theme, "Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:20). Reverend Jon Dodson of Laurel Lake, Hudson, will give the sermon. Ticket holders will enjoy a luncheon catered by Hudson's Restaurant, following the service. Our featured speaker after the luncheon is Sr. Anne Victory representing the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking. The tickets are \$15 per person for the luncheon and speaker portion of the event and will be available soon. The prayer service is free and open to all.

