

Congregational Calendar

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SUNDAY, January 27

9/10:30/11:59 Worship (Sanctuary)
9:00 am The Nine (Youth Room)
9:00 am Pathfinders (Chapel)
9:45 am Friends Class (102)
10:30 am Breakfast Club (Youth Room)
11:30 am Congregational Meeting (FH)
2:00 pm Hoedown (FH)
4:00 pm Vespers (Laurel Lake)
6:00 pm High School Youth (Youth Room)
6:00 pm Handbells (Choir Room)
7:30 pm Teen Band (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, January 28

7:00 pm Choral Rehearsal (Choir Room)

TUESDAY, January 29

1:30 pm Congregational Conversations (LL)

WEDNESDAY, January 30

9:00 am WOW (FH)
12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (301)
3:00 pm D&D (Youth Room & FH)
5:00 pm revoice (Choir Room)
6:45 pm Women's Bible Study (301)
7:00 pm First Connect (304)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
8:30 pm Men's Ensemble (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, January 31

10:00 am Bible Study (301)
7:00 pm Bible Study (Youth Room)

FRIDAY, February 1

6:30 am JourneyMen (Yours Truly)

SATURDAY, February 2

9:00 am Gennesaret (Off Site)
10:00 am AlAnon-Newcomers (120)
11:00 am AlAnon (102)
11:00 am Alateen (Youth Room)

NEW 2019 FLOWER CHART The 2019 Flower Chart is 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: John 10:1-11

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, January 27, 2019

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.

Congregational Meeting

TODAY at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall

Newcomers and Membership Informational Gathering - February 6 and 10

Are you interested in learning more about First Congregational Church and how to become a member? Or do you know someone who might be interested in learning more about membership and our congregation? Then, join us for these *two sessions*:

PART I

Wednesday, February 6

7:00 - 8:30 pm; Youth Room

(child care available)

PART II

Sunday, February 10

5:00 - 7:00 pm; Activity Room & Room 102

(meal provided & child care available)

Come learn about First Congregational Church, its ministries, and the many ways to engage your faith wherever you are on life's journey. Those who choose to become members will do so in worship on **Sunday, February 24**. To sign up, check the back of the Connection Card or call (330) 650-4048. For more information, contact Rev. Jeanette Brodersen at (330) 650-4048, jbrodersen@hudsonucc.org.

New Member Sponsors - Anyone interested in sponsoring a new member into our church - please contact Pat Hoag at (330) 472-2385. This is a small job with large benefits, entails a very short time getting to know our new members and will be very rewarding!

Coffee Hour during the month of January is provided through the generosity of the members of the Children's Ministries Board.

Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given by Tom and Peggy Hudson with thanksgiving for current and past Deaconesses who so joyfully share God's love with our church family and beyond.

Ladies In Fellowship Together (LIFT) - Thursday, February 14 at noon in Fellowship

Hall. We will be serving tea, tea sandwiches, salad, scones and dessert prepared by our very own Pat Hoag. Bring your favorite tea cup and enter our tea cup contest! The tea will include the program, "Wellness Through the Senses" presented by Lynn Hermensky from the Hospice of the Western Reserve and will provide advice regarding the five senses and their impact on combating daily stressors through wellness methods. Cost is \$10 per person; make checks payable to FCCH with TEA in the memo line. Please sign up via the church office or the Connection Card. Reservation deadline is **Monday, February 11**.

Drivers Wanted – Called to Care Looking for a way to make an impact in the life of one of your fellow FCCH members? Then consider joining the **Called to Care Drivers' Team**. Drivers provide rides to the occasional medical appointment or treatment our members may have. It's a great way to touch another person's life, get to know them, and meet an important need. Interested? Please check the back of the Connection Card or let Peter Wiley, Jeanette Brodersen, or Kathy Yeakley know.

Music Ministries

Pop-Up Women's Ensemble - Looking for a way to be creative, meet new people or try something new? Join us for an hour of singing and fellowship on three **Thursdays, February 7, 14, and 21, 7:00 - 8:00 pm** with a performance on **Sunday, February 24** at the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Childcare available upon request. Can't make all rehearsals? No problem! Email Charlotte Plank at cplank@hudsonucc.org to get involved.

Today's Offertory piece - In his book *Akenfield, Portrait of an English Village*, Ronald Blythe records the life stories of the inhabitants of a tiny village in Suffolk County, England. Fred Mitchell, an 85-year old ploughman, recalls his difficult childhood:

"I never did any playing in my life. There was nothing in my childhood, only work. I never had pleasure. One day a year, I went to Felixstowe along with the chapel women and children, and that was my pleasure. But I have forgotten one thing – the singing. There was so much singing in the villages then, and that was my pleasure, too. Boys sang in the fields, and at night we all met at the Forge and sang. The chapels were full of singing. When the first war came, it was singing, singing all the time. So I lie; I have had pleasure. I have had singing."

Outreach Ministries

Trinity Household/Clothing Ministry - Looking for a place to donate clothing or household items? Please visit the Outreach Info Station for a list of needed items and drop off information!

Findley Elementary School Needs - boxes of children's Valentine Cards, boys winter coats (7/8, 10/12), underwear and socks, tennis shoes (size 12-3 youth), women and men's winter coats. Limited space - only the items above, please. Thanks so much!

Adult Faith Formation

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

Pathfinders - Please join us **today, 9:00 - 10:30 am** as we explore Dr. Andrew Newberg's video series, *The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience*. Contact Marie Libby at mclibby64@aol.com.

Clergy-Led Bible Study - "Jesus Changed the World!" on **Thursdays from January 31 - February 28, 10:00 - 11:30 am OR 7:00 - 8:30 pm** - a study of the first book of the New Testament, Matthew, which covers the life, death and resurrection, and ministry of the person who changed the world! Childcare available upon request. Contact Steve Hockstra: shockstra@hudsonucc.org.

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, **March 1 - 3** for all women! Contact Katie Morgan: kmorgan@hudsonucc.org.

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

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

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.

YOU are invited! As part of the Live Well project and the health ministry's preventative health initiative, come to FCCH and "**Walk the Hall**". Fellowship Hall can be used during this inclement weather for walking and some simple exercises. Twenty-four to twenty-five laps around FH is approximately one mile. In each of the four corners, there are activities to break up the monotony. Weights, bands, a foam roller, mat and balance and aerobic exercise suggestions are available. Grab a friend or plug in your music - the space is here to help you stay active!

FYI (Feeling Young Inside) will not take place in February.

Yoga will not be offered at FCCH until further notice. If you have an interest in seeing the program return, please contact Kathy Yeakley.

Seniors, 65 years of age and older who would like to share thoughts on senior citizen programs and services needed in Hudson: a **free luncheon** will be held on **Friday, February 8** in Fellowship Hall from **12:00 - 2:00 pm**. EMS outreach and Danbury Senior Living will sponsor the luncheon. **RSVP by January 31** to Cindy Murphy, Hudson EMS at 330-342-1842. Mayor Basil will be in attendance at this open forum meeting.