

Congregational Calendar

Your financial support makes all of this happen!

SUNDAY, August 25

9:00 am Outdoor Worship (Courtyard)
9:00 am The 9 (Youth Room)
10:30/11:59 Worship (Sanctuary)
10:30 am Breakfast Club (Youth Room)
4:00 pm Vespers (LL)
6:00 pm SALT (Youth & FH)

MONDAY, August 26

7:00 pm ShE (Youth Room)

TUESDAY, August 27

12:30 pm ROMEOs (Lager & Vine)
1:00 pm Walking Warriors (Barlow CC)
1:00 pm OPEN M Cooking (FH Kitchen)
1:30 pm Congregational Conversations (LL)
7:00 pm Adult Ed Board (301)

WEDNESDAY, August 28

9:00 am WOW (FH)
9:30 am Cakes for OPEN M
10:30 am Tai Chi (FH)
3:00 pm D&D (Youth Room & FH)
5:00 pm Camp Wednesday (FH)
5:00 pm revoice (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, August 29

1:00 pm Happy Hikers (TBD)

SATURDAY, August 31

10:30 am Al-Anon Newcomers (120)
11:00 am Al-Anon Meeting (102)
11:00 am Alateen (Youth Room)

Coffee Hour in August is provided through the generosity of members of the Adult Faith Formation Board.

Today's Scripture: Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given by Jane, Katie, and Joan Sauer in loving memory of Thomas J. Sauer, Jr. and Thomas J. Sauer, III.

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, August 25, 2019

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

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

First Serve Blood Drive - Join us at Patterson Park Community Center Dining Hall, 800 Patterson Avenue, Akron on **Sunday, September 8, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.**

Come to donate and receive Free Admission to the Lock 3 Celebration Concert beginning at 4:00 pm on Sunday. Complimentary pizza for donors at the Blood Drive!

To make an appointment, go to RedCrossBlood.org and search for the drive by zip code or contact Kathy Yeakley at kyeakley@hudsonucc.org.

Not enough people donate blood. Only you can fill the #MissingTypes.

ShE is coming tomorrow, August 26! ShE, FCCH's new group for moms with elementary-aged and younger children, is hosting its first meeting **August 26 at 7:00 pm** in the Youth Room. ShE is a place to grow and re-energize with both large and small group discussions and to share concerns and joys. ShE meets **every other Monday** from **7:00 to 8:00 pm**. Childcare will be available for those who need it. Please contact Jen Barden at JBarden@HudsonUCC.org with questions or to request childcare.

Water! We encourage you to **collect water** from a place this summer that has special meaning for you and to bring it to church on **Sunday, September 15**. On that day, we will pour all our water together and bless it as our holy water for the upcoming year. We'll use it in baptisms, confirmation, and other special blessings, adding it to water collected in the last two years. **Pick up your water bottle** from the baskets outside the sanctuary doors and at the Welcome Table by the 2nd floor elevator entrance.

Trinity Household/Clothing Ministry - Looking for a place to donate clothing or household items? Our Outreach Information Station has a list of needed items and drop off information!

Adult Faith Formation

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

Exploring Migration: a Faith Journey - Thursdays, September 12 - October 31,

9:30 am - 12:00 pm or 7:00 - 9:30 pm. Join others to explore the complex issue of global migration through the lens of our Christian faith. This *Just Faith* program includes immersion and action opportunities, as well as readings, and is co-sponsored by FCCH and St. Mary Church. Register or find more information on August Sundays in Fellowship Hall or contact Nikki Wingerson (nikkil@akron.edu).

Dinners for Eight - Meet new people and strengthen connections within our FCCH faith community during three adult dining opportunities **September - December!** After the first "arranged date" each group picks their own time, location and host. Register or find more information on August Sundays in Fellowship Hall or contact Joanna Menolasino (meno1@aol.com).

River of Fire Book Review and Discussion - Sister Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking* and advocate for the poor and marginalized, will discuss her new book "River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey". Please join our group for the author's presentation at the Hudson library on **Thursday, September 19** and then our own group discussion at Aladdin's Restaurant following the presentation. **You must personally register on the library's website** under Programs & Events/Adult Events in order to attend. Registration is on a "first-come" basis and is expected to fill up fast. Also, RSVP to Nancy Gasparovic at nkgasparovic@gmail.com.

Centering Prayer is a contemplative way to pray, offering a deeper relationship with God. Based on Thomas Keating's "Open Heart, Open Mind", Centering Prayer utilizes mindfulness teachings and scripture. Join Kelly Berger and Julie Alexander for a free, introductory session with a certified teacher from The Contemplative Outreach Center of Cleveland, on **Saturday, September 28, 10:00 am - noon**, in Conference Room 301. Register or find more information on August Sundays in Fellowship Hall or contact Kelly Berger: KACBerger@aol.com.

Congregational Conversations - This weekly Bible study, led by Rev. Steve Hockstra meets **every Tuesday** from **1:30-2:30 pm** at Laurel Lake Mixing Place #1. Contact Steve Hockstra (shockstra@hudsonucc.org) for more information.

Adult Ministry

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

Happy Hikers will be hiking the *Wood Hollow Metro Park, Downy Loop Trail*, 2121 Barlow Road, Hudson on **Thursday, August 29** at **1:00 pm**. This is a 1.2 mile moderate trail. **Walking Warriors** walks behind **Barlow Community Center** every **Tuesday** at **1:00 pm**.

FYI (Feeling Young Inside) on **Monday, September 16** at **12 noon** will feature Elaine Marsh, Watershed Specialist, Summit Metroparks. The Cuyahoga River and its recovery from infamy is a tale packed with drama and battles, with ignorance and science, with losses and victories. It features the civic leaders and citizens of watershed in the starring roles. Our burning river had its last fire 50 years ago. This presentation will explore the conditions that led to a century of fires, the consequence of those fires and the river's remarkable recover from them. It will outline the benefits of clean water to northeast Ohio and the river's role in the region's future. Sign up on the Connection Card today or call the church office (330-650-4048).

Volunteers Needed! If you would like to help with the **FYI (Feeling Young Inside)** program for our 55 years of age and older population held on the third Monday of each month, please sign up on the Connection Card or contact Kathy. Enjoy a fun time helping to serve our seniors!

Chair Yoga, a gentle movement class, will be offered for **6 weeks** starting **Wednesday, September 4** from **10:00-10:30 am**. Kristin Keller will be the instructor. This activity is open to everyone - all ages, body types and levels of flexibility are welcome! All equipment will be provided. Sign up on the Connection Card or call the church office. Questions? Email Kathy Yeakley.

Tai Chi, the ancient martial art of combining slow, deliberate movements that represent the art in self-defense, is offered **Wednesdays** at **10:30 am** in Fellowship Hall by Laurence Frese. This class can help to improve blood circulation, posture, and balance. Beginners are welcome! **TIME CHANGE: Starting September 4**, class will begin at **10:45 am**.

Veterans! On **November 12, Tuesday, FYI (Feeling Young Inside)** luncheon and presentation will honor **all** veterans in our church. If you served in any branch of the service at any time, or have a child in the service, contact Kathy Yeakley to provide information on the branch of service, tour of duty, years served and any other pertinent information that you would like to share. Pictures can be brought in (or emailed) and they will be copied - pictures will NOT be kept or damaged. I look forward to hearing from you!

Children's Ministry

For Children's opportunities, contact Dee Buchanan dbuchanan@hudsonucc.org or Katie Morgan: kmorgan@hudsonucc.org.

All Kg-5th graders are invited to join **Camp Wednesday!** Camp Wednesday meets every **Wednesday 5:00-6:30pm**. (Dinner is included!) We play games, sing songs and have an incredible time. Contact Katie Morgan for more information.

Will you join us? We have some incredible opportunities to help with our 1st-5th graders this Fall! Below are the open Teacher and Shepherd spots for the rotation starting on **September 15**.

10:30 am

- Pray-Per-View Teacher (9/15 only): Watching a movie about the Ten Commandments.
- Tabernacle Teacher: Playing Pictionary
- Thou Art Teacher: Making the Ten Commandments
- Psalm of Music Teacher: Singing and playing rhythm instruments
- Our Acts Teacher: Playing the 20 questions game
- 1st grade Shepherd
- 2nd grade Shepherd
- 3rd grade Shepherd
- 4th/5th grade Shepherd

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 8 to December 28, 2019**. Thank you for helping us with this very easy fundraiser for the continued support of the **Women's Ministries of First Congregational Church**.

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.**

ROMEOS, "Retired Older Men Eating Out," will meet at **12:30 pm, Tuesday, August 27** at Lager and Vine for lunch and fellowship. For more information, contact Henry Vigor: hkvigor@windstream.net.

Fall Women's Bible Study - Have you been thinking about trying an organized Bible Study for the first time, or getting back into regular Bible Study, or participating in a new Bible Study group? Joining our Women's Study this fall might be your **Best Yes!!** Do you find yourself living with the stress of an overwhelmed schedule and an underwhelmed soul? Join us as we dive into Lysa Terkeurst's **SIX WEEK** Bible Study: *The Best Yes: Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Endless Demands*. There is a big difference between saying yes to everyone and saying yes to God. Together we will examine how to make better use of the two most powerful words, yes and no. Through short daily exercises and weekly videos, using Biblical teaching and practical insights, this study will help you be more equipped to discern the Best Yes answers for your life. Invite a friend and mark your calendars now. Sign up on the Connection Card. All are welcome!

- Wednesdays, September 11 - October 23
- Morning: 9:30 - 10:45 am **OR** Evening: 6:45 - 8:00 pm (Evening childcare available upon request)
- Workbooks provided for all participants

Questions? Contact Tracy Zappone at pzappone@yahoo.com

James Bible Study - Join Rev. Steve Hockstra for five weeks as we study one of his favorite books of the Bible, James. The study will take place on **Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:00pm** in Room 301 beginning **September 17** and conclude on **October 15**. Sign up on the Connection Card, email the church office (churchoffice@hudsonucc.org) or call the church office (330-650-4048).

Parenting with Love and Logic will be offered again this fall starting on **Sunday, September 15 at 6:30 pm** at the Hudson United Methodist Church, 2600 Hudson-Aurora Road. The class will meet for six sessions and is taught by Joan Sauer, Hugo and Kathy Sandberg, and Pam Vanags. The cost is \$18 which covers the workbook. If you are interested or have questions, contact Kathy Sandberg at ksandbe1@kent.edu or 330-256-4842.

Music Ministry

Come sing with us! Opportunities for every age... no auditions required!

- **Cherub & Explorer Choirs** (grades K-5) – Camp Wednesday program, **Wednesdays, 5:00-6:30 pm.**
- **revoice** (middle school) – **Wednesdays, after D&D at 5:00 pm, starting August 28.**
- **Chancel Choir** (adults) – **Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm, starting September 11.**
- **Men’s Ensemble** (adults) – **Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 pm, starting September 11.**
- **Handbell Choir** (families welcome!), **Sundays, 6:00-7:30 pm, starting September 15.**
- **Teen band & vocalists** (high school), **Sundays, 7:30-8:30 pm, starting September 15.**
- **Pop-up Women’s Ensemble** (high school & up), **Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 pm** as posted.

For more information, please contact Dr. Tom Scott, Director of Music Ministries (tscott@hudsonucc.org), or Charlotte Beers Plank, Associate Director of Music Ministries & Organist (cplank@hudsonucc.org).

Our Wilhelm Organ - This summer, we will be doing some very much needed maintenance on our Wilhelm Organ. The process began on July 1, and will last through the end of August, in the hopes of having the bulk of the work finished by Labor Day. This project has been completely funded by generous donations from church members. We will still be worshipping in the sanctuary, but we will be using the piano and other additional instruments to lead our music in worship. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte (cplank@hudsonucc.org).

Parking Lot Hosts - Are you too busy to commit to a regular volunteer position, but would like to help out? This is your opportunity to volunteer just a few times a year for 25 minutes or less. Volunteers are needed to help direct traffic in the church parking lot, only on extra busy **Sunday mornings** from **10:10 - 10:35 am.** Parking lot hosts guide churchgoers to open parking spots and direct people to additional parking when the lots are full. Interested? Contact Melissa Lawton on Membership Board at mlawton@avestacorp.com, or sign up on the back of the Connection Card.

Project Live Well Wall - In John 10:10, Jesus promised abundant life - but what does it mean to you to live abundantly or live well? We invite you to stop by our Live Well Wall. Share your hopes, dreams, desires ... whatever living well means to you. While there, take a picture and share on social media using #LiveWellWall.

Youth Ministry

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

Breakfast Club & The 9 - Middle and High schoolers, please join us for donuts and discussion in the Youth Room every week during the **9:00** or **10:30** service (including Labor Day weekend). Go directly to the Youth Room when you arrive. Can't wait to see you!

SALT - High Schoolers meet each week, **6:00-7:30 pm** for snacks, games and discussion. This is a great way to connect with friends and clear your head before your week starts. We have an epic game planned for tonight before we spend a little time chatting about "Priorities." See you there! (We will **NOT** meet next Sunday. Enjoy the long Labor Day weekend!)

D&D - Middle Schoolers meet every week from 3:00-5:00 pm in the Youth Room. Hudson Middle Schools students can walk to church as soon as your school day ends. We'll have snacks and fun games, and a lesson and discussion each week. And there's dinner! We hope you can join us!

Confirmation - Eighth graders, please register for Confirmation if you haven't already. Our first meeting is **September 15.** Contact Callie with any questions.

First Serve - If you are looking for a First Serve project to work on with other Youth, check out **Elma Street (#7A-7E)** for high schoolers, and check **Elizabeth Park (#10)** for middle schoolers. Of course, you and your family are welcome to join any project that looks like a good fit for you.

Looking for Mobile Meals Driver - Mobile Meals, an affiliate of Meals-on-Wheels, has served our region for many years. Through the Outreach Board, our church supports this organization financially and with volunteer driver help. The majority of Mobile Meals clients are elderly people with health issues. Many seldom go outdoors. Often the only person they see during the day is the Mobile Meals driver.

We currently have eleven Mobile Meals drivers serving the Stow and Cuyahoga Falls communities. We are in need of an additional driver for the Stow route. The driver commitment is to deliver meals **one Tuesday per month** between the hours of **11:00 am** and **12:30 pm.** Please call Henry Vigor for further information at 330-653-5200.