

Congregational Calendar

Your financial support makes all of this happen!

SUNDAY, November 17

9/10:30/11:59 Worship (Sanctuary)
9:00 am The 9 (Youth Room)
9:45 am Friends Class ((102)
10:30 am Breakfast Club (Youth Room)
6:00 pm SALT (Youth Room & FH)
6:00 pm Handbells (Choir Room)
7:30 pm Teen Band/Choir (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, November 18

7:00 pm Deacons (304)
7:00 pm ShE (Youth Room)
7:00 pm First Serve Meeting (301)

TUESDAY, November 19

1:30 pm Congregational Conversations (LL)
7:00 pm Personnel Committee (304)
7:00 pm Music Board (Alcove)
7:00 pm Doppiebockers (off site)
7:00 pm Adult Ed Board (301)
7:30 pm Youth Board (off site)

WEDNESDAY, November 20

9:00 am WOW (FH)
10:00 am Chair Yoga (FH)
10:45 am Tai Chi (FH)
11:00 am Hudson Grande VIP Worship
3:00 pm D&D (Youth Room & FH)
5:00 pm revoice (Choir Room)
5:00 pm Camp Wednesday (FH)
7:00 pm Council (304)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir
8:30 pm Men's Ensemble

THURSDAY, November 21

5:00 pm Findley Harvest Dinner (FLC)

SATURDAY, November 23

9:00 am Shoebox Ministry (FH)
9:30 am Centering Prayer (Chapel)
10:00 am Al-Anon Newcomers (120)
11:00 am Al-Anon Meeting (102)
11:00 am Alateen (Youth Room)

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

Today's Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." ⁹Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, November 17, 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.

The Findley Family Harvest Dinner is Thursday, November 21!

Findley School families *LOVE* coming together for this dinner! We plan on feeding 600 and hope you will sponsor a Family of 4 for \$25 (or, feel free to sponsor a few families!) *Cash accepted. Checks made payable to FCCH with Findley Dinner on the memo line.* Come to our table in Fellowship Hall to donate and to sign up to help. Many thanks for being that special church that adopted an underserved Akron Public School. Contact Jane Penny with questions: janempenny@gmail.com

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE on **Sunday, November 24 at 7:00 pm** at Christ Church Episcopal, 21 Aurora Street - hosted by First Congregational Church of Hudson, Christ Church Episcopal and Temple Beth Shalom. A service of stories, songs and sacred readings focused on our gratitude for our many blessings.

LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) Annual Christmas Luncheon - All women are invited to the LIFT Christmas Luncheon on **Thursday, December 5 at 11:30 am** at Laurel Lake. Please bring an unwrapped child's Christmas gift for OPEN M.

The cost is \$16.00—your check made out to FCCH (with LIFT in the memo line) is your reservation. Pick up a flyer in the workroom, fill out your luncheon choice and place with your check in the Finance Office mailbox. Deadline to RSVP is **Monday, December 2!** Contact Sue Conley with any questions. (sccnly@aol.com).

NEW 2020 FLOWER CHART The 2020 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 Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given by Angus and Sally McArn in loving memory of their parents and in honor of their children and grandchildren.

ShE Worries - ShE, our fellowship group for moms with children in elementary school and younger, is meeting tomorrow, **Monday, November 18** in the Youth Room at **7:00 pm**. Discussion will center around mom worries. Childcare will be available upon request. RSVP to JBarden@hudsonucc.org.

Dopplebockers (our group for Dads of elementary children and younger) will meet at Kepner's Tavern (88 North Main Street, Hudson) for a night out of fellowship. Join us **Tuesday, November 19** at **7:00 pm!** Please RSVP to Jen Barden at (jbarden@hudsonucc.org).

Live Nativity is almost here! We are so blessed to be the church that creates the Live Nativity on our town green, so please come visit our table TODAY in Fellowship Hall to sign up to be part of the magic of this incredible tradition! The Live Nativity will be on **Sunday, December 8, 12:00 - 5:00 pm**. You can also contact Katie Morgan if you have any questions or want more information.

ShE/Dopplebockers Live Nativity Potluck - ShE and Dopplebockers (our fellowship groups for parents with children in elementary school and younger) are participating in the Live Nativity from **4:00-5:00 pm** on **Sunday, December 8**. A potluck taco bar will follow in the Activity Room at **5:00 pm**. RSVP to Jen Barden at JBarden@hudsonucc.org.

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**.

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.

Children's Ministry

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

Advent Wreath Making - Join us for one of our favorite traditions: Advent Wreath Making! It is a fun day of candle dipping, candle rolling, wreath making, and more!

When: **Sunday, November 24** from **2:00 - 4:00 pm**
Who: 2nd through 5th graders
Where: Activity Room
RSVP: kmorgan@hudsonucc.org by **November 20**

Youth Ministry

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

The 9 and Breakfast Club - Jealousy. Envy. It strikes us all. It can consume our thoughts and actions. No one knew this better than Joseph thanks to his brothers. Join us for this conversation today in the Youth Room during the 9:00 and 10:30 services.

SALT - "Honesty is more than not lying. It is truth telling, truth speaking, truth living, and truth loving." —James E. Faust.

High schoolers: join us in honest friendship and fun **tonight** in the Youth Room, **6-7:30 pm**.

D&D - The gift giving season is almost here. So, let's think about the question - how do we show people how we really feel about them? And do we need to give gifts to do that? Come celebrate your friends this **Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 pm**. Friends are welcome!

Findley Harvest Dinner - Join us in a Thanksgiving celebration at Findley Learning Center on **Thursday, November 21, 5:15-7:30 pm**. Help serve a meal, play games, or do a craft. This is a fun night to celebrate this special holiday. Contact Jeff Wells (jeffreylwells@gmail.com) to sign up.

Simply Christmas - Middle school students are invited for a craft and snacks in the Youth Room on **Sunday, November 24, 2:00-4:00 pm**. Join us for a fun start to the Advent Season. Check your email for more details and be sure to RSVP!

Homerun for the Homeless - Every year Gennesaret holds a **Thanksgiving morning** race to raise funds for the important work they do all year long. You can help by working the water station along the course. You'll be home in plenty of time for your own Turkey dinner! Contact Jeff Wells (jeffreylwells@gmail.com) to sign up.

Children's Ministry

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

Teachers and Shepherds needed! We are looking for teachers and shepherds to teach the Christmas Story from **12/1 - 12/29**. Below are the spots that are still open:

Pray-per-View Teacher (12/1 only)

Psalm of Music Teacher

The Garden of Eatin' Teacher

1st grade shepherd

2nd grade shepherd

3rd grade shepherd

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

The Children's Center is about to **open our new preschool** in North Akron for children with no access to a preschool. We are looking for an assistant teacher to join our special school. Do you have preschool teaching experience or know someone who does? Our assistant teacher would work approximately **six hours** per day, **Monday, Wednesday and Fridays**. We are hoping to be open 5 days a week for the 2021 school year. Please contact Dee Buchanan (dbuchanan@hudsonucc.org) for more information.

The Children's Center is looking for a preschool teacher to teach our new after school care program for the 2020-2021 school year. The program will run five days a week and the hours will be 3:00 pm-6:00 pm. This class will be for Kindergarten and First Grade students. If you are interested or know someone who would be perfect, contact Dee (dbuchanan@hudsonucc.org) for more information! Thank you!

Do you know any two year olds who are ready for their first time away at preschool? Yes? We have the perfect place to start! **Time for Tots**. We have a couple spots left on **Monday or Thursday, 9:15-11:45 am**. It is a 2.5 hour class with a 2:8 teacher to child ratio. Contact the Children's Center for more information: 330-342-3977.

Camp Wednesday Christmas Pageant The children will perform *The Angel Band* on **December 24 at 3:00 pm**. We have about 70 children in our pageant this year! Camp Wednesday is for all children, Kindergarten-5th grade. We meet at the church from **5:00-6:30 pm Wednesdays** for dinner, games and singing! Contact Katie for more info.

Counting Down to Christmas - Sunday, November 24 at 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. We are going to kick off the Advent season with a Counting Down to Christmas celebration. All children, 3 years old through First Grade are invited to join us for crafts, games, stories, and fun to begin the holiday season. Questions? Contact Jen Barden: jbarden@hudsonucc.org.

2020 Financial Giving Commitments - You should have received a letter in the mail regarding your 2020 financial commitment to the church. Thank you to everyone who has communicated their commitment for next year! If you have any questions, please contact Emily Lopick, Stewardship and Communications Director, at elopick@hudsonucc.org or visit her in Fellowship Hall following the service.

Adult/Health Ministry

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

FYI (Feeling Young Inside) luncheon and presentation will take place on **Monday, December 16 at 12:00 noon** in Fellowship Hall. Julia Ellifritt, a licensed social worker and Director of Education at Cornerstone of Hope will talk about "Hope for the Season". Holidays are not always the happiest times for everyone due to several reasons including the loss of a loved one, depression or stress. Join us for meaningful conversation and a healthy lunch. Sign up on the Connection Card or call the church office (330-658-4048) to secure your reservation.

Unused, unwanted or expired medications that you don't know what to do with? FCCH is partnering with the Summit County **Community Partnership** program to distribute *Deterra Bags*. These bags deactivate drugs so that you can safely throw them in your trash. A labeled bin of bags is located above the coat rack near the Health Ministries bulletin board. Help yourself - keep our community safe!

Mat Yoga will resume for 6 weeks beginning Monday, December 2. Bring a mat and foam block if you have one or a towel roll. Relax and breathe while moving through gentle yoga poses. Beginners are welcome! Good will donation accepted.

Chair Yoga, a gentle movement class, continues in Fellowship Hall every **Wednesday** through November from **10:00-10:30 am** with Kristin Keller. Chair Yoga will not meet in December. Donations are accepted but not required.

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 contact Kathy. Enjoy a fun time helping to serve our seniors!

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.**

Cookie Exchange - Thursday, December 12 at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Bring 7 dozen of your favorite home-baked holiday cookies to share. We will offer beverages to go along with the “taste-sharing” before creating our take home plates of delicious goodies. Sign up with your type of cookie (to avoid multiples of the same cookie) and submit the recipe to mkisthardt@hudsonucc.org by 12/5/19. Questions? Contact Debbie Borgos at dborgos@windstream.net. This is a **Connections Ministries FREE** event. All are welcome!

Donation for OPEN M - Please donate a jar of RAGU Spaghetti sauce! We are looking to donate 210 jars to help fill **OPEN M holiday baskets**. Please purchase a 45 oz. PLASTIC jar with the yellow lid and place in the collection boxes in the main hallway. All donations need to be at the church by December 1. Thank you!

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!

Poinsettia Orders - 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 send or bring to the Church Office with your check payable to “FCCH” and note Poinsettias in the memo line. **Deadline for orders is TODAY**. Please fill out the form below and place it in the Offering Plate.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Please indicate whether you intend to take or leave your plant/s after service on Sunday, December 22:

TAKE _____ LEAVE _____

Shoebox Ministry - Operation Christmas Child, Saturday, November 23, 9:00 am

Join us as we fill shoeboxes for children around the world! Come to **Fellowship Hall** on **Saturday, November 23** to help fill and sort boxes for shipping. Until then, you can shop and prepare for the day. Suggestions of what to buy include:

Musical Instrument	Stuffed Animals, small	Dolls
Toy Cars/Balls	Jump Rope	Yo-Yos
Socks	Hats	Sunglasses
Hair Clips	Jewelry and Watches	Flashlights, with extra batteries
Toothbrushes	Bar Soap	Washcloths
Combs	Pencils, Sharpeners	Crayons and Markers
Notebooks and Paper	Coloring and Picture Books	Solar Calculator

DO NOT INCLUDE: Candy; toothpaste; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; seeds; fruit rolls or juice boxes; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers.

You can also make a monetary donation to the church to support the effort and aid in shipping costs, OR you can help by picking up an empty box now and bringing it back filled OR just drop off items to be included by **November 22**. Thank you!

Adult Faith Formation

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

Centering Prayer - Saturdays: 11/23, 12/7 and 12/21 at 9:30 am. Join a small group of congregants and community members who gather on an ongoing basis to practice Centering Prayer (i.e., group meditation) together. No experience required!

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.

Save The Date! 2020 Women’s Winter Bible Study - Wednesdays, January 8 - February 19. Daytime Session: **9:30-10:45 am** and Evening Session: **6:45-8:00 pm**. We will be using Angie Smith’s study - *Seamless: Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story*. Mark you calendars and invite a friend today!

Pathfinders meets on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** of each month. Join us on **Sunday, November 24 at 9:00 am** in the 3rd floor chapel as we study *The Apocryphal Jesus* with Dr. David Brakke, history professor at The Ohio State University. We hope to gain new perspectives on early Christian life and history.