

Congregational Calendar

Your financial support makes all of this happen!

SUNDAY, March 8

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

MONDAY, March 9

7:00 pm Outreach Board (301)
7:00 pm Stewardship Board (304)
7:00 pm ShE (Alcove)
7:00 pm Choral/Orch. Choir (Choir Room)
7:00 pm Mat Yoga (FH)

TUESDAY, March 10

12:30 pm ROMEOs (Lager & Vine)
1:30 pm Congregational Conversations (LL)
7:00 pm Trustees (301)
7:00 pm Youth Board (Youth Room)
7:30 pm Council (304)

WEDNESDAY, March 11

9:00 am WOW (FH)
10:45 am Tai Chi (FH)
3:00 pm D&D (Youth & FH)
5:00 pm Lenten Study (Youth Room)
5:00 pm revoice (Chapel)
5:00 pm Camp Wednesday (Choir Room)
5:30 pm High School Choir (Chapel)
6:00 pm Lenten Dinner (FH)
7:00 pm Lenten Study (304)
7:00 pm Faith & Wine (Youth)
7:00 pm Spirituality of Baking (FH)
7:00 pm Choir (Choir Room)
8:30 pm Men's Ensemble (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, March 12

6:30 pm Family to Family (102)

SATURDAY, March 14

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

Coffee Hour in March is provided through the generosity of members of the Stewardship and Investment Boards.

Today's Scripture: John 3:1-7

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." ³Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." ⁴"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, March 8, 2020

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.

Faith, Food and Wine – Next Session on Wednesday, March 11 - There is still time to join this year's Lenten Experience! For more information on future weeks, please visit hudsonucc.org. Here's what's happening this week:

- 5:00-5:30 pm: "A Taste of Faith" Bible Study
- 6:00-6:50 pm: Dinner and Worship Experience
- 7:00-8:00 pm: Choose from one of three sessions:
 1. "A Taste of Faith" Bible Study
 2. "Spirituality of Baking" - Rev. Mary Kate Buchanan
 3. "Faith & Wine: Fruit of the Vine"

If you would like to take part, please email elopick@hudsonucc.org

Easter Basket Project - Please stop by the Outreach Info Table or Fellowship Hall for a list of needed items. **All items need to be at church by TODAY.** We will fill baskets during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall on March 15! Questions? Contact Patty Hahn: pattyhahn@howardhanna.com.

Second Serve Food Drive - As part of our Lenten Season, we are collecting food items to support the North Hill Community House Food Pantry. Please drop off canned and boxed food items and paper products at the Collection Center in the church's main hallway. Donations will be accepted until **April 10.** (*see inside for a list of needed items*)

Family Promise Stuff the Truck Event! Saturday, April 4 from 10 am – 2 pm - Family Promise will have a truck parked in our church parking lot to collect supplies needed for Glendora House. Cleaning supplies, bathroom and kitchen items needed as well as linens. Please get a complete list of needed items at the Outreach Info Station. We are not collecting items ahead of time. **Please drop off your donations during the time the truck is at the church.** (*see inside for a list of needed items*)

Thank you! Questions? Contact Sue Wimer: swimer@hudsonucc.org.

Today's Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers are given by Lora Eureka in loving memory of her husband, Ron Eureka.

Children's Ministry

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

Teachers and Shepherds needed - Come join the fun on the 1st floor! We are looking for Teachers and Shepherds for the upcoming rotation called Lent & Temptation in the Wilderness (2/16 - 3/15).

- Thou Art Teachers: 10:30 on 3/15
- Fun & Godly Stuff Teacher: 10:30 on 3/15
- 3rd grade Shepherd: 10:30 on 3/15

If you are unable to help this rotation, please consider volunteering in the upcoming rotation: 4/26—5/17! Contact Katie for more information.

Summer Intern - Do you love children and are looking for a summer job? The Children's Ministries team is looking for a summer intern. If you have a strong faith, have completed your sophomore year in high school and have experience working with children, please go to the church website (www.hudsonucc.org) and fill out the application. If you have any questions, contact Dee Buchanan (dbuchanan@hudsonucc.org).

Introducing the Navigators After-School Program at the Children's Center!

The Children's Center is excited to announce a new after-school program for kindergarteners through 2nd graders beginning with the **2020-21 school year**. A licensed teacher will provide crafts, games and activities (indoor and outdoor), homework help, and even some special events - all in our safe, church environment. Contact Dee Buchanan (dbuchanan@hudsonucc.org) for more information or to register your child!

The Children's Center is now enrolling for our Preschool and Childcare classes.

Please contact Dee Buchanan for more information or to schedule a tour.

The Children's Center is Hiring! - The Children's Center is currently looking for an **Afternoon Assistant Teacher**. The hours would be **Monday-Friday, 12:45 - 5:00 pm**, starting this summer. There is also a position available for an **Assistant Cook** starting immediately. The hours for this position are **Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm**.

Please contact Dee Buchanan for more information on these positions.

NEW 2020 FLOWER CHART The 2020 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!

Youth Ministry

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

The 9 and Breakfast Club - Middle schoolers and high schoolers are invited to the Youth Room during the **9:00** and **10:30** services. This week in our Easter series, we'll look at the events leading up to Jesus' death in our lesson, "The Earth Shook." Join us for convos and confections!

SALT - Tonight, 6:00-7:30 pm in the **Youth Room**, it's all about self-control. How long after the ping until you *have* to look at your phone? Can you get up in the morning without hitting that snooze button? Where do **you** rank on the willpower scale?

D&D - Join us this **Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 pm** for the second in a two-part series on our constant companions—our devices. What do you do or say on phone or iPad when you know *everyone* is watching? Do you ever wish you could take something back? Let's chat in person!

LENT - You can sit with us! We'll be here each week for dinner and the speaker (except Spring Break week) and we'd love for you to sit with us! Middle schoolers who come to D&D are welcome to hang out for the hour in between. We'll have a place to play board games and do homework.

OUTREACH- March 12 - Findley Math Night; **4:15 - 7:30 pm**. Join us at Findley for fun games, crafts, and face painting all in the name of math. Contact Jeff Wells: jeffreylwells@gmail.com or Betsy Lockwood: lockwood_bets@yahoo.com to register.

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!

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.**

Adult/Health Ministry

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

FYI (Feeling Young Inside) luncheon and presentation will be on **March 16 at 12 noon**.

“Ten Things Your Physical Therapist Wants You to Know About Aging Well” will be presented by Lynn Czup, PT, DPT from Hudson NovaCare. Sign up on the Connection Card or call the church office for reservations.

Life Line Screening, a provider of community-based health preventative screenings will be in **Fellowship Hall** on **Thursday, April 23**. Ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for cardiovascular disease include: **carotid artery blockage, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral artery disease** or **narrowed blood vessels** due to fatty or calcium deposits, **heart rhythm screening** (an EKG to detect atrial fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an **osteoporosis risk assessment** for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early. **Register online today** at www.lifescreeing.com/communitycircle and receive your “Community Circle” discount and preferred appointment time.

Mat Yoga with Cynthia Field will be continuing **Mondays at 7:00 pm** until **April 6**.

There will **NOT** be class on **March 23**. Beginners are welcome!

Want to walk a mile? It might be icy outside, and the temperature could be cold, but you can keep moving here at FCCH **Monday through Friday!** About 24 laps around Fellowship Hall is a mile. Sound boring? There are four areas assigned to exercises that can break up the monotony. Need to practice balance or do some simple stretches? Use the mat, weights, stretch bands or body roller to work on your core as you travel around the hall. Or grab a friend (you have friends at the church) to walk; 24 laps go faster if you are not alone! Hope to see you soon!

Tai Chi is the practice of controlling movements and breathing. Recent studies have found that the slow, graceful exercise, which originated centuries ago as a martial art, can improve balance and reduce stress. **Tai Chi** class meets in Fellowship Hall on **Wednesdays from 10:45-11:45 am**. Free and drop in!

Deterra Project - safe medication disposal bags, are available above the coat rack next to the Health Care Ministries bulletin board for your use. Bags can be disposed of in your trash.

ShE (our group for *moms* with kids in elementary school and younger) meets every other Monday at 7:00 pm with childcare available. Our next meeting is **March 9 at 7:00 pm** in the **Alcove** (up the few steps just past the elevator across from Fellowship Hall). We would love to have you join us! Contact Jen Barden: jbarden@hudsonucc.org with questions.

Get your roll on with the Doppiebockers! Join us at Stow Kent Family Entertainment on **March 15** from **3:00 - 5:00 pm** for a fun afternoon bowling with your kids. The cost is \$14 per person and includes two hours of bowling, shoes, pizza, snacks and drinks. Contact Jen Barden: jbarden@hudsonucc.org with questions.

Women’s Ministries - SAVE THE DATE! The annual LIFT Luncheon at Noble House will take place on **Thursday, April 30 at 12:00 noon**. Cost will be \$16.00 (the same as last year) which includes your gratuity. Details to follow!

Easter Flowers - The Deaconess Board is selling lilies and hydrangeas for our worship service on Easter Sunday. This project is entirely self-sustaining, funding the purchase of small daffodil plants which are delivered to our over 85 members. Again this year, we are offering a third option: to fund the purchase of cut flowers for our Easter cross outside the church on Aurora Street.

- This year’s double stem lily or blue hydrangea plants will be \$22.00.
- Monetary donations for the Easter Cross flowers are accepted in any amount.

Please make your selection below and submit to the Church Office with your check by **Monday, March 30**. Checks should be made payable to First Congregational Church with “Easter Flowers” in the memo line.

FROM: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

or

IN HONOR OF: _____

Check One: Lily Blue Hydrangea Easter Cross Flower Donation

I will take my plant I will leave my plant

Paid: Check # _____ Cash _____ Amt _____

Adult Faith Formation

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

ROMEOS, "Retired Older Men Eating Out," meets **Tuesday, March 10 at 12:30 pm**, at Lager and Vine for lunch and fellowship. For more information, contact Henry Vigor: hkvigor@windstream.net.

Spring Women's Bible Study - Wednesdays, April 8 - May 6 from 9:30 - 10:45 am.

We hope you can join us for our first Spring Women's Study—*When God Doesn't Fix It: Lessons You Never Wanted to Learn, Truths You Can't Live Without* by Laura Story. Workbooks will be provided! RSVP today via the Connection Card or contact Kris Stoehr at krisstoehr@gmail.com. All women are welcome. We hope to see you there!

Centering Prayer - Saturdays, March 14 and 28 at 9:30 am in the Chapel. Join us for a calm, centering, 20-minute session of Contemplative Prayer (meditation) followed by conversation. Gathering lasts about 1 hour. No experience required.

Stuff the Truck!!

Donate Supplies for Glendora House
Saturday, April 4; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Cleaning Supplies

- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent/dish soap
- Cleaning products
- Trash bags
- Broom/dust pan
- Mop/bucket
- Air fresheners
- Sponges/rags

Bathroom

- Shower curtains/hook
- Floor mats
- Bathroom accessory set
- Hand soap
- Toilet paper
- Facial tissue

Kitchen

- Trash can (13 gallon)
- Dish drainer
- Toaster
- Coffee maker/mugs
- Plastic plates/bowls/cups
- Kitchen utensil set
- Oven mitts
- Pots & pans/cookie sheets
- Cutting board
- Silverware w/organizer
- Mixing bowls

Linens

- Bath towel sets
- Twin sheet sets/twin fleece blankets
- Pillows



Second Serve Food Drive

To benefit the
**North Hill Community House
Food Pantry**

North Hill Community House is located on Howard Ave. in Akron and is led by our First Serve partners, Gary and Patricia Wyatt. Its food pantry serves the people of North Hill.

Dates: Sunday, Feb 23—Friday, April 10

Drop off: At the Collection Center in the church's main hallway

Needed Items:

Boxed Pasta & Pasta Sauce · Boxed Rice · Peanut butter · Jelly · Canned corn · Canned peas · Canned beans · Boxed crackers · Boxed cookies · Pringles · Boxed pancake mix · Syrup · Boxed cake and brownie mix · Frosting · Boxed cereals · Pop Tarts · Boxed granola bars · Paper towels · Toilet paper · Paper towels

Please be sure all individual ingredients are listed on labels and expiration dates are appropriate.

Thank you!

