



HUDSON FIRST UMC

Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the Transformation of the world.

Open hearts. Open minds.
Open doors.



Greetings in Christ! It is the beginning of June which

Church Newsletter, March 2023

Greetings in Christ!

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



I pray that the month of March is off to a good start for you all. Here we are, once again in the Lenten season. What is Lent? Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. For many it is a time for penance, as we reflect on what Jesus went through for us. Lent lasts for forty day which is symbolic to the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness and it

begins forty-six days before Easter. How does that work? Because Sundays don't count in the forty days. They are considered "Mini-Easters".

It is a tradition during lent to acknowledge the suffering of Jesus by giving up something that we enjoy in life. For many, it might seem like the giving up of chocolate is akin to dying on the cross. While I agree that no chocolate for forty days can be torturous, I think most of us can agree that isn't that bad. And yet, it is hard to give something like that up if it is part of our daily routine. How often have we failed at completing a whole lent season without that "slip"? I'll tell you right now, I am guilty.

If we think about it, most of us in this area have been forced into giving up something for Lent. Our electricity! As you know, we just had an epic ice storm that wiped out power for most people in our region. Some were lucky and didn't lose power, but not too many. Many of us didn't have the luxury of generators, so had to live with gas heat from stoves and gas and wood burning fireplaces. What a humbling experience. What a blessing it was to hear about certain places like Sacred Heart Church offering a shelter for those who needed warmth, and the Lenawee Christian Center who provided showers for members and non-members. In the midst of a hard moment, we see the love of God in action. A blessing to us was when the large branch that fell in front of our church laid across the sidewalk, and Pastor John Rath from the Baptist Church called me and asked if he could bring his chainsaw and cut it up. With him doing that and Miss Linda Krasny doing clean up, the church front is accessible and looks so much better. Talk about acts of kindness! That leads to this thought.

You may have heard, but some people have taken to an alternative to giving up something during Lent. Instead of giving up a particular thing or action, they have added something positive to their life. For instance, you can do one act of kindness every day. You can do an exercise every day, maybe sit-ups or pushups. Or, you can contact a friend every day. And, of course, we are doing a Gratitude Project, so you might consider finding someone to be thankful for and sending them a hand written note telling them so. These are just a few suggestions, but the idea is, instead of giving up something and feeling bad for falling short, you can add something positive to your life, and even when you do miss the mark, you still have added something, instead of coming back to the way things were.

Either way, I pray that you are having a most blessed day and that your weeks to come are filled with the remembrance of all Jesus Christ has done for us. Peace and blessings always!

Pastor Brian

PRAYER CHAIN

If you would ever like to notify the prayer chain of a need, please call Linda Hartley at (517) 270-2121 or email her at lkhartley68@gmail.com and she will pass on the information.

THE NURTURE COMMITTEE

We want to make sure everyone stays in touch. If there are people who need a card, call, link letter or visit, please let Pat Reamsnyder know at 517-605-4442.

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

UWF will meet on Monday, March 6 at 6:30 pm. We will be packing care packages for college and trades students and those serving in the military. We ask that each person bring small items such as personal items, school supplies, or snacks. There will be eight packages shipped, in total. Keep in mind, these will be shipped.

Also, a heads up for April, the UWF Salad Supper will be Thursday, April 20. Let Jan Sheely know if you plan to host a table.

We are sharing Lenten services with other area churches. HFUMC will be hosting on March 15 at 6:00pm. We will have a potluck dinner first, followed by service at 7:00. The dates/times for the other services are:

March 8 Clayton UMC

March 22 Weston UMC

March 15 Hudson UMC

March 29 Rollin Center UMC

EASTER EGG HUNT

Hudson United Churches are putting on a community Easter Egg Hunt at the High School on April 1 at 1pm. Our church is in charge of registration, so we will need 2-4 volunteers to come that day around noon to get the kids signed in and then, if needed, to help serve light refreshments afterward. Other adults will be needed to help “referee” the actual hunt. If you are able to help, please speak with Pastor Brian.

Sacred Heart Church will be filling the eggs before the hunt, but donations of candy would be greatly appreciated. They can be given to Pastor Brian or left in the church office.

The Hudson United Churches have taken over the Food Pantry Operations. Our church is in charge of scheduling volunteers. This doesn't necessarily mean that volunteers must attend our church (though certainly HFUMC members are welcome to help!) but we need to make calls/emails to be certain that the pantry is staffed. If you would like to help Pastor Brian with this task, please speak with him.

Need to get in touch?

Church email: FirstUMCHudson@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/HudsonFirstUnitedMethodistChurch

Church/Parsonage phone: 517-448-5891

Pastor Brian's phone: 517-215-8637

Church Address: 420 W. Main St., Hudson, MI 49247

You can also find the church calendar, old newsletters, recorded sermons and more at our website:

www.FirstUMCHudson.com

March 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Lenten Dinner & Service at Springville UMC 6:00pm	Journey to Lose at 9:30 am	AA at 7:30pm	
			1	2	3	4
Choir Practice 9:30 am Worship at 10:30am		Yoga 200 AA at 7:30pm	Lenten Dinner & Service at Clayton UMC 6:00pm	Journey to Lose at 9:30 am	AA at 7:30pm	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Choir Practice at 9:30 am Worship at 10:30am		Yoga 200 AA at 7:30pm	Lenten Dinner & Service at Hudson UMC 6:00pm	Journey to Lose at 9:30 am Endowment Committee Meeting at 6:00pm	AA at 7:30pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Choir Practice at 9:30 am Worship at 10:30am		Yoga at 2:00 pm AA at 7:30pm	Lenten Dinner & Service at Weston UMC 6:00pm	Journey to Lose at 9:30 am	AA at 7:30pm	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Choir Practice at 9:30 am Worship at 10:30am		Yoga at 2:00 pm AA at 7:30pm	Lenten Dinner & Service at Rollin Center UMC 6:00pm	Journey to Lose at 9:30 am	AA at 7:30pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	