

The Congregator

February 2025

Should I Go When it Snows?

Let it snow, let it snow... OK, ENOUGH WITH THE SNOW!!!

As so many of you know, traveling to church during really snowy days can leave us wondering if we will arrive to find out church is closed due to snowfall.

At HUCC, our Sunday worship service is typically only cancelled due to icy road conditions or recommendations from local authorities that travel is unsafe.

Before you make the trip to church on a wintry day, try checking the HUCC Facebook page to see if church is closed. We also share closure information with WZZM 13 and WOOD TV8, so tune into those channels and check the bottom of the TV screen or visit their websites for any closure announcement.

As always, please use your best judgment when deciding whether to come to church. If it is a snowy day and worship is still happening, you can always join us online from the HUCC Facebook page, at facebook.com/hudsonvilleucc/live. Stay safe and warm, everyone!

— **Christina Breen, Church Moderator**
She/Her

Prayer List

Active Prayers

Kendra Simon,
Sandy Lyon and our
elderly and
home-bound members



Continual Prayers

Alice Perrin, George Drayton, Helen Emelander, Jeanne Haynor, Al Wooton and Darleen Behrens

Grand West Association Church of the Month

This month, we are praying for White Lake UCC in Whitehall. Our church helped this church clear-cut lots of tree debris last summer after a storm. Let us pray for White Lake UCC for February.

Please let the church office know either if you do/do not want to be listed here. Please keep all of these folks in your prayers.

Birthdays

Terry Slagter - Feb. 2
Ashlyn O'Hair - Feb. 4
Cathy Hogle - Feb. 6
Ellie Korienek - Feb. 9
Kathy Vander Markt - Feb. 12

Keegan Korienek - Feb. 12
Ellianna Ferguson - Feb. 16
Al Kramer - Feb. 20
Joe Perrin - Feb. 22
Kristine Roberson - Feb. 22

Kevin Boggs - Feb. 22
Shannon Visser - Feb. 22
Howard Perrin - Feb. 25

Anniversaries

Scott & Taliyn Merchant - Feb. 6
Dan & Melissa Huisman - Feb. 11

Group Meetings

Community group meetings led by Pastor Rae are Sunday at 4 p.m. in the church parlor. The schedule is as follows:

- Feb. 9 - Queer Trans + Faith
- Feb. 16 - Healing Church Hurt
- Feb. 23 - Queer Trans + Faith

"Stories with Jesus" Parables Study

Dig deeper into the meaning of the parables during this study, which will take place in the parlor at the following times:

- Sunday, Feb. 16 at 11:30 a.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 23 at 11:30 a.m.

Pub Theology

Our next Pub Theology gathering will be on the third thirsty Thursday, Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m. The location is yet to be determined. Watch the Friday email and Sunday announcements for updates.

Open and Affirming Team

Our Open and Affirming Team is back together! Join us on Sunday, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. as we explore impactful ways to share our O+A values with the community.

Hobby Hub

Fourth Thursday of every month
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Bring a project to work on.
Note: Not a workshop event.



Taize Worship

Our next Taize meditative prayer service is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5 at 7 p.m.

Join us for a quiet, end of day reflective service with candles and contemplation.



Youth and Sunday School Lock-In

HUCC youth - grab your sleeping bags and join us on Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. for a fun overnight event at the church! We are planning to have pizza and follow up with an evening of games, movies and fellowship. Bonus: we will be wearing our pajamas to church the next day! Please RSVP Katrina Furman at hurricanekatrina31@gmail.com.

Adults are also encouraged to wear their pajamas to church on Feb. 23. It's a band Sunday, so be ready to jam in your jammies!

PEACE Garden Meeting

Our first PEACE Garden Committee meeting of the year is Sunday, Feb. 23 at noon! Join us to discuss this year's schedule and volunteer opportunities.

Museum Visit

March 16 is Museum Day! We will be getting a group together to visit the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Join us for a fun end engaging afternoon, highlighting the Nature of Color, Fashion & Nature, and the Streets of Old Grand Rapids exhibits. We may even catch a show in the River B. Chaffee planetarium!

Please RSVP at the church welcome desk, or see Katrina Furman.

Missions Update

Feeding America Food Distribution

Save the date: Our next Feeding America drive-up food distribution is coming up on March 6, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to help organize and cart the food out to vehicles. This is a great opportunity to serve those in our community. For more information or to sign up to help, email missions@hudsonvilleucc.org.



Hand2Hand Pantry Needs

As we begin February, we want to thank you for your continuing generosity to H2H. Because of your food and monetary donations, we are able to provide weekend food for 30 children. The food items we need most this month are posted below. Thank you for sharing the love of our Savior.

- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Chicken Helper
- Chicken Rice Packages
- Granola Bars
- Kid-friendly Soups
- Pop-Tarts
- Fruit Snacks
- Cans of Frosting (for Birthday Bags)



Can Drive

No need to wait until spring: clean out your house now and help Hand2Hand! The Mission Team is collecting empty, depositable beverage cans in support of the program. Please drop off your cans in the white container in the commons area or by the Hand2Hand shopping cart. You can also return the cans yourself and give the deposit vouchers or cash to a member of the Missions Team.

Volunteer Schedule

Greeters

Feb. 9: Pat Menkveld
Feb. 16: Ann Martin
Feb. 23: Laura Baker

Lay Readers

Feb. 9: Paul DeYoung
Feb. 16: Kelly Lockwood
Feb. 23: Laura Pickerd

Offering Counters

Feb. 9: Sandy Lyon and Taliyn Merchant
Feb. 16: David Bendert and Taliyn Merchant
Feb. 23: Taliyn Merchant and Katrina Furman

Interested in volunteering? Contact the church office at hudsonvilleucc@gmail.com to sign up!

February 2025 Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 10 a.m. Mission 11:30 a.m. Open + Affirming 11:30 a.m. Healing Church Hurt 4 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	3 Finance Team 6:30 p.m. Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	4 Basketball 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. OACFP 6:30 p.m. Soccer 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Basketball 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.	5 Taize 7 p.m. Basketball 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	6 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Basketball 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.	7	8 Council Strategic Plan Meeting 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. LemonJello's Coffee
9 Worship 10 a.m. Council Meeting 11:30 a.m. Queer Trans + Faith 4 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	10 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Soccer 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	11 Basketball 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Soccer 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Basketball 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.	12 Basketball 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	13 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	14	15
16 Worship 10 a.m. Stories with Jesus 11:30 a.m. Dissertation Team 2 p.m. Healing Church Hurt 4 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	17 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Soccer 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	18 Soccer 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Basketball 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.	19	20 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Pub Theology 6:30 p.m.	21	22 HUCC Youth Lock-In
23 Worship 10 a.m. Stories with Jesus 11:30 a.m. PEACE Garden Noon Open + Affirming 2 p.m. Queer Trans + Faith 4 p.m. Basketball 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	24 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Soccer 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	25 Soccer 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Basketball 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.	26	27 Soccer 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Hobby Hub 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	28	



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