



Hudsonville

United Church of Christ

Open & Affirming

February 2, 2025

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
+ you are welcome here!*

Rev. Dr. Daniel Furman, Senior Pastor (he, him)

Mr. Rae Mieskowski, Student Pastor (he, him)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

Our musician this morning is Linda Missad (she/her). Thank you for sharing your music ministry with us.

COMMUNION

On first Sundays of the month we celebrate communion. All are welcome to the table. You do not need to be a member of the church to participate.

TEAM MEETINGS

After worship today our Mission team will meet in the Parlor and our Open and Affirming team will meet in the Pride Center. You are welcome to attend either meeting.

TAIZE SERVICE

We are bringing back our monthly Taize worship service on the first Wednesday of each month. Join us at 7pm for this meditative prayer service.

HAND2HAND

For Hand2Hand this month we are requesting peanut butter crackers, chicken helper, chicken rice packages, granola bars, kid-friendly soups, pop tarts, fruit snacks, and cans of frosting.



Jesus tried to change people by loving and healing them. His harshest words of judgement were reserved for those who perpetuated systems of inequality and oppression and who, through religion itself, thought they were sinless and untouchable
-Richard Rohr



PRAYERS

Remember our elderly and home bound, anyone facing illness this morning, the families of Palestine, and all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

Sandy Lyon, Kelly Pelon, Sonny Bailey,
Kendra Simon, Al Wooton, and White Lake UCC.

PRELUDE....."Original Composition"

WELCOME AND SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come, people of God, to the one in whom we all trust.

All: God is our rock, our refuge, our fortress.

Pastor: Hope in God who created you.

All: God affirms us even if others do not.

Pastor: God's Word of love is ours to proclaim.

All: We are here to worship the God who empowers us.

OPENING SONG....."Praise to the Living God"
Hymn #8 (black)

Praise to the living God,
the God of love and light
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns
and set the worlds in flight,
Whose infinite design,
which we but dimly see,
Pervades all nature,
making all a cosmic unity.

Praise to the living God,
from whom all things derive,
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere
the first faint seeds of life,
Who caused them to evolve,
unwitting, toward God's goal,
Till humankind stood on the earth,
as living, thinking souls.

Praise to the living God,
who knows our joys and pain,
Who shares with us our common life,
the sacred and profane.
God toils where'er we toil,
in home and mart and mill,
And deep within the human heart
God leads us forward still.

Praise to the living God,
around, within, above,
Beyond the grasp of human mind,
but whom we know as love.
In these tumultuous days,
so full of hope and strife,
May we bear witness to the Way,
O Source and goal of life.

OUR CHILDREN'S MOMENT.....Ruth Lee (she/her)

PASSING THE PEACE

UNISON PRAYER

God of love, in whose name we have been consecrated for discipleship, encounter us this hour that we might grow in faith and wisdom. Open our minds to new insights. Reset our priorities to make room for hope. Expand our horizons to encompass ideas we have not considered before. Open our hearts that we might trust you as we serve in your name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.....Luke 4:21-30
Hayley Stoner (she/her)

Luke 4:21-30

21 Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?'

23 He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum."'

24 And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town.

25 But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;

26 yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

27 There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.'

28 When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.

29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.

30 But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

SERMON....."Hurling Jesus"
Pastor Dan Furman(he/him)

UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify.

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church, to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto you. Amen.

PRAYER SONG....."We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness"
Hymn #179 (black)

We yearn, O Christ, for wholeness
and for your healing touch;
too long have we felt helpless;
our burdens seemed too much.

Forgetting all pretenses
we make our pleadings heard,
in hope and expectation
await your gracious Word.

We long to have companions
who travel by our side,
strong friends to call and answer
with whom we are allied;

As we lift up each other
when struggles lay us low,
community develops;
our faith and caring grow.

We need your living presence,
O Christ of Galilee,
a presence that revives us
and sets our spirits free.

No longer are we fearful,
your love pervades each place.
Empower us with courage
to claim your healing grace.

PASTORAL PRAYER..... The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine, is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY..... "Original Composition"

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG..... "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" Hymn #347 (black)

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching
out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one,
at his table set the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Open & Affirming Statement

Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming church. We celebrate our human family’s diversity of race, age, cultural background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, family structure, education, faith history, economic status, marital status, spiritual journey, and life circumstances. Aided by this God-given gift of diversity, we strive to reflect God’s unconditional love to all creation, and we affirm that all people are created in God’s image. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ. We believe that God is still speaking and as Jesus prayed, one day we will all be one.

We recognize that the universal church has at times rejected difference and denied God’s promises for itself and others. We believe we can love alike, even though we may not think alike. So, we boldly proclaim, "Welcome, ALL who seek God’s life-giving grace. Come as you are, so together, we will make a world of difference."

| Email | Contact Person | Usage |
|--|---|---|
| pastordan@hudsonvilleucc.org | Rev. Dr. Dan Furman (he/him) | pastoral inquiries, emergency pastoral care |
| pastorrae@hudsonvilleucc.org | Mr. Rae Mieskowski (he/him) | Student Pastor, group support, open and affirming |
| moderator@hudsonvilleucc.org | Christina Breen (she/her) | moderator inquiries, meeting questions, anything needing to be brought to Council |
| treasurer@hudsonvilleucc.org | Taliyn Merchant (she/her) | financial matters, giving, payments, bills |
| facility@hudsonvilleucc.org | Christina Breen (she/her) | building and grounds, maintenance, fixes, inspections, etc. |
| office@hudsonvilleucc.org | Taliyn Merchant (she/her) | general inquiries, bulletin/congregator articles, office matters |
| missions@hudsonvilleucc.org | Janet Overbeek (she/her) | missions matters, Hand2Hand and other program inquiries |
| huccevents@hudsonvilleucc.org | Angel Dannenberg (she/her) Taliyn Merchant (she/her) | Craft Show, Santa Paws |
| WIFI Name: HUCC Password: 6166691295 | | |



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