

The Messenger

*News and Information for the First United Methodist Church, Hudson, MA
August 2021*

Join us this Sunday!

Current Schedule:

11:00am - In-Person / Online Worship Service

Our Online Worship services are broadcast on YouTube.

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9:30am – 1:30pm

Church Phone: 978-562-2932

Email Church Office:

bonnie@hudsonfumc.org

Web Page: www.hudsonfumc.org

Staff Leaders 2021:

Pastor: Kim Gold

Music Director: Lisa Schliker

Organist: Margarita Merriman

Administrator: Bonnie Elman

Newsletter Editor: Lisa Schliker

Sexton: Mario DiMare

Nursery Care: Kerry Mason

Spiritual Lay Leader: Barbara Robinson

Lay Leader: Ada Arenstrup

TV Ministry: The DiMare family

August Newsletter Deadline

All news articles for the September Newsletter are due Monday, August 30. Please send all articles to me at: lpatttonvb@yahoo.com. Early submissions are always welcome!
Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor



A word from our Music Director...

I am excited to announce that rehearsals for our amazing choirs will resume in September 2021:



- **Chancel Choir** rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 9th at 7pm. We will be singing at the Annual Block Party which is scheduled to take place on Sunday, September 12th.
- The **FUMC Handbell Choir** will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 15th at 6:15 pm. We will spend the first rehearsal cleaning the bells and our rehearsal / performance space, so dress down!

Both groups are open to any youth / adult who are interested in joining us! Just drop in to a rehearsal!

Lisa Schliker – FUMC Music Director

From Pastor Kim Gold

Proverbs 21:5a *The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance and advantage...*

One challenge as a Pastor is the work and planning of the events and celebrations of the year. I, like you, are in the middle of this very strange weather fluctuation. Between this summer's heatwaves, cold snaps, and heavy extended rainy periods, I am planning for the fall and even the advent season. The church's ministry may come from divine inspiration, but on occasion it does require some planning. So, as I am looking out the back window of the Parsonage thinking about what the fall foliage and winter snow will be like in place of the deep summer green of the trees, I am also wondering how God will use us for God's work through this season and the seasons to come. I can very easily forget to live in the right now of this moment when I am so excited and eager to work for what ministry, worship, and outreach will be like in the busy seasons.

So, I am stopping to take the time to reflect on what this summer is, what it has given to me, and dwell in the right now. As we all seek the balance of life that is both aware and preparing for what will happen next, allow your heart, body, and spirit to rest in the blessings of summer. Enjoy the warmth, the light, and the outdoors because preparation for what comes next means building our strength now.



I encourage you all to participate in worship on Sunday morning in person or via YouTube. I also encourage the fellowship events of the Wednesday morning Coffee Klatch, Friday morning Coffee with the guys, the Fellowship meals, or the Agape Café. Each is an opportunity to share, learn and build your strength to withstand the rough weather of life.

The church is currently preparing for the Annual Block Party. It is scheduled for September 12th and I am looking forward to the fun and exciting events, especially the outside worship and fellowship of the event. If we haven't had a chance to meet yet, I look forward to meeting you and sharing our ministry and joy.

Blessings for your journey,
Pastor Kim

Editor's Note: *Pastor Kim has asked that everyone, through whatever channels you use to communicate with her, to please indicate "Hudson" in the Subject area. This will make things a bit less confusing for her to try to distinguish which church she is hearing from, us or Marlboro.*

Note: Sunday Coffee Hour has resumed! For those who attend worship in-person, we invite everyone downstairs in Lamson Hall for coffee hour following the service. Come relax, get to chat with Pastor Kim and enjoy the fellowship.

Thank You!

The FUMC of Hudson has so richly blessed me. I must express my appreciation and thanks for the gifts, gift certificates, and vouchers that I received in the wonderful gift basket on my first Sunday with you. Your generosity and kindness have opened my eyes to the beauty and love of this congregation. I look forward to frequenting the truly wonderful business establishments and restaurants of the Hudson area.

I must also express how kind and thoughtful your good wishes and prayers are, and the blessings of God's grace granted through them mean the world to me. As we continue to build the community of faith that we now share, I pray that God continues to bless you, and I thank you for your expressions of care. I am in awe of the love I have received!
Your Pastor & Friend,
Kim

August Birthdays

2	Amanda Wolfe Dry
3	Nathanial Scerra
6	Lisa Comeau
6	Carol Haskell
7	Laurie Brown
23	Shirley Price
25	Erek Latzka
26	Pam Sherman
29	Jason Gour
30	Daniel Grenfell-Lee

Girl's Night Out

Friday, August 20th 5:00pm – Ladies, put this in your calendars!
Restaurant yet to be determined as of the printing of the newsletter.

You Are Invited!

You are invited to attend an **Open House gathering on August 15th** from 3pm until 6pm at the Parsonage. The Parsonage is located at 8 Laurel Dr. in Hudson.



All Are Welcome! Bring Friends! The more the Merrier!

While you are there you will be able to meet some of your Siblings in faith from the Marlborough FUMC. We will get to know each other and learn about each other while we have fun, have some good food, and Pastor Kim Hosts her first gathering together.

Come as you are! Come as a group! Come as a community! Come for fun!

August Anniversaries

12	Steve Albino & Lynn Kerner
16	Jim & Susan Niro
26	Robert & Lynn Spencer



UMW Picnic

Sunday, August 22nd 1:00pm
UMW Picnic at Deb Kauffman's house, 58 Parmenter Rd., Hudson. Please bring a favorite dish!

Caregivers Meeting

**Monday, August 2nd and August 16th,
11:00am in Lamson Hall.**

On the first and third Monday of each month, a small group has been meeting for an hour or so to talk about their experiences, what we're learning and all the feelings that are part of being a caregiver.

Our purpose is to listen and give each other positive encouragement and hope.

There is no obligation to talk if you're not comfortable with doing that but sometimes a listening ear is a big help if we need to air our thoughts or concerns about our tasks.

Weekly Communion Opportunity – Starting in September!

Prior to COVID, Communion was provided after the service for those who were interested in participating. This was paused due to restrictions that were put in place during the pandemic.

Weekly Communion will resume in September for those who attend the in-person service. If you are interested in participating, simply join Pastor Kim at the front of the sanctuary immediately after the service.



Drive-In Movie:

**Friday, August 27th –
7:00pm**

Fun Family Night at First
UMC in the parking lot.

Stay tuned...movie title will
be announced soon.



*Volunteers are needed to assist with lining the cars
up, hanging the screen, and more!*

*Contact Stacey Hartford 978-601-2494 to sign up for
volunteer opportunities*

Friendship Dinner:

**Saturday, August 28th – 4:30 -5:30pm –
Always a hit...why cook?!!**

Adult and Youth Ushers and Youth Acolytes needed!

Are you looking for a way to serve the
church? We have some opportunities for
you!

Adult / Youth Ushers (4th grade and up):

If you'd like to help support collecting the
offering and more during the service, this job
is for you!

Acolytes (4th grade and up):

We are looking for youth to bring the light
into the sanctuary at the beginning of the
service and carry out the light at the end of
the service.

If you or your child is interested in either role,
please contact Bonnie in the church office

Joys and Concerns

Pam's cousin, Linda, diagnosed with cancer.

The Kerner's son-in-law, Joe, Hospitalize for numbness in his legs and back pain.

For family and friends of the Sabourin family over the loss of husband/father Armand.

The joy of communication from young children.

A cousin, Linda; for good biopsy results.

Jan; gratitude that a granddaughter's tumor results are benign.

For all affected by the fires out west and for the safety for those with respiratory issues.

Prayers for Jo & Dennis' nephew, Adam with stage 4 brain cancer. Also for them to find affordable housing.

Ian is incarcerated and in recovery. May God bless and support him in his challenges.

A participant of Agape Cafe whose husband has been ill.

Payton and Kris spending more and better time together.

For July's Friendship Dinner; wonderful fellowship and turnout.

Prayers for all families as the summer begins to wind down. Preparations and stresses of back-to-school time.

Comfortable temperatures for the needy and elderly who may not have the means to enjoy good air quality.

Continued prayers for the families and victims of the building collapse in Florida.

For those struggling with life challenges.

Please do not leave a child or pet in your car during warm summer days.

Gratitude for answered prayers.



Looking Ahead...

Annual Yard Sale

Saturday, October 2nd, 9am – 2pm

Reserve your spot today!

Outdoors unless the weather is uncooperative.

Now is the time to start putting aside those items in your home, attic, basement, garage, etc. that you no longer wish to keep but are too good to just throw away.

Call the office or send email to reserve a table for just \$15.00. It's a fun way to enjoy the day and it makes a little money for the church general fund and for you and makes for a happy customer!

Containers of chicken salad and chili will also be sold.

Annual Block Party

Sunday, September 12

10:45 Hymn Sing

11:00 Worship service outdoors

(weather permitting)

Events all afternoon including lunch and dinner!

More information to come!



CHAOS

If I were to stand up with a can of Tinker Toys held waist high and intentionally drop them onto the floor, I would see chaos. The force of the drop would scatter the pieces in every direction, some rolling, some bouncing, some jumping; maybe some would land flat and stay put, but the point is that they would come to rest only upon contact with another object or until the energy created by the fall burned itself up thereby permitting the objects to come to rest.

I could look upon the chaos forever but I doubt that the looking would be sufficient enough to make some sort of form, some appearance of molding together or better yet, come recognizable construction. I could stamp my feet and create a force that would cause the pieces to move, but that would not create a system of order. I could blow air upon the pieces that might make them move, but still no system or order would occur.

What I would need to do is to bend down and start to physically move the pieces to begin and create a system of order. If I wanted to construct something I could begin to separate the pieces into piles of likeness, all the dowels, all the round pieces, the cardboard pieces, short from long, solid from whole, etc. That would be the beginning of creating a system of order.

Then I would have to physically fit the pieces together in order to create something recognizable. The energy that would be needed to complete the process would be my own energy. I would be the only one able to accomplish the task unless someone else were with me. I would be the “parent” of the completed constructed piece.

Some people would have us believe that huge forces of natural energy created the universe and in the process of time, we too were created by forces of natural energy. I suppose that is true to some extent. The universe was indeed created by an energy but not one of natural force.

I believe that force was God. God the creator of all things. Just as I could not manage to put into order the dropped Tinker Toys without becoming physically involved in the process, – no wind, no stimulation, no energy, no wishing could manage to do it. I needed to use myself.

God bent down. He spoke, He touched. He was the only energy needed to physically place all the pieces into perfect order. He alone was the constructor of all that was and is and will be. He is the “parent” of all that we know. The universe didn’t just happen by chance. We were not created just by chance. We were created by loving, omnipotent God out of love. His breath was the needed energy to give us life. And as Pastor Kim reminds us every Sunday, “God loves you (us) and you (we) can’t do anything about that”

Barbara Robinson