

The Messenger

News and Information for the First United Methodist Church, Hudson, MA
April 2023

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:

HUDSONFUMC@gmail.com

Web Page: www.hudsonfumc.org

Staff Leaders 2023:

Pastor: Pastor Chris Jones

Certified Lay Minister: Susan Niro

Music Director: Lisa Schliker

Organist: Margarita Merriman

Administrator: Bonnie Elman

Newsletter Editor: Lisa Schliker

Sexton: Mario DiMare

Nursery Care: Sarah DiMare

Spiritual Lay Leader: Barbara Robinson

Lay Leader: Ada Arenstrup

TV Ministry: The DiMare family

MASK Update: A Friendly Reminder from our Church Council

We ask you to please take the following precautions.

- If you are sick for any reason, please stay at home.
- If you're not feeling well but are planning to come to worship, please wear a mask
- If you have not been vaccinated, you must wear a mask.

Remember, we need to care for others as well as ourselves. Thank you for your understanding and consideration of this request.

Easter Sunday, April 9th

6:00am Sunrise Service

7:00am Pancake Breakfast

10:15am Easter Egg hunt

11:00am Easter Worship celebration with communion



Good Friday, April 7th

The sanctuary will be open from 12pm to 3 pm for prayer. Ceremonial hand washing will be offered. Every 30 minutes on the half hour, there will be a reading about Christ's crucifixion. Please enter the sanctuary from the handicapped entrance

Good Friday evening service will be held at Marlboro United Methodist Church, 52 Church Street at 7:00 pm

Thoughts on Stewardship by Pam Sherman

Stewardship is living the vows we took when we joined the church; we promised to support the church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. This month I'd like to focus on prayers.

If you're like me then you think, "I want to pray more", but then other things come up and prayer gets shunted to the side. I want to pray daily, but... I plan to set aside a certain time to pray, but... I had the best of intentions to pray today, but... As Pee Wee Herman said in **Pee Wee's Big Adventure**, "Everyone has a big but". How can we get rid of our big butts regarding prayer? How about committing to prayer on one afternoon?



On Good Friday the church sanctuary will be open from noon to 3 pm for prayer. The silence will be broken every half hour when someone will read a passage about Jesus' crucifixion. This is a perfect opportunity for you to come and take a few minutes, or a few hours, to pray. I have done this several times over the years, in different ways.

One year I sat for 15-20 minutes and prayed. That was hard. Another year I sat for the entire 3 hours and prayed. Whew! That was REALLY hard! The next year, I sat for the entire 3 hours, prayed, and journaled. Journaling is when you write down your thoughts. That was much easier and I left with something that I could re-read in the future. Another year, I sat for the entire 3 hours, prayed, and read a book related to Jesus and his final days. All of these experiences were meaningful and helped spur me to pray more often.

If you are able to come to the church on Good Friday, please do so. If you have other commitments during that time, then either set aside time at home before/after work to pray, or attend the Good Friday service at the Marlboro church at 7 pm. Whether you spend 15 minutes or 3 hours; whether you pray, journal, or read; whether you come to our church during the day, the Marlboro church in the evening, or find a quiet place at home; No matter what the situation, commit to spending time with God on Good Friday. Who knows? It may be the start of a daily prayer routine. Don't let your big butts get in the way.

Seder Supper Thursday, April 6th at 6pm

We hope to see you at the Seder Supper when we celebrate parts of the Exodus story where the people of Israel were led from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. This is a formal, sit-down dinner where guests participate with readings and food servings.

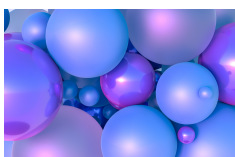
Prayer Cards in the pews



The prayer cards are for you to write your joys, concerns and prayers for Pastor Chris to acknowledge during worship. You will see a place to indicate if you wish your prayer to only be addressed privately by Pastor Chris.

April Birthdays

9 Alan Peterson
14 Kaly Kendrick
15 Carol Stacey
15 Kevin Dunnell
17 Audrey Burney
22 Dennis Gour
22 Rick Hartford
24 Cliff Roberts
25 Becky Berube
28 Jim McGowan
29 Justin Brown
30 Shawna Jean Sniffin



April Anniversaries

1 Joan & John Vincent
19 John & Bonnie DeRusha

FUMC Crafters

Tuesdays from 1:00 – 3:00pm

Join us as we start creating the crafts that we will be selling at the 2023 Christmas Country Fair? The more hands the better!

No experience is required: we'll have plenty of crafts that need different skills – or no particular skills! It's really more about the Fellowship!!

(Oh, and if you have any cool ideas, please feel free to share!!).

Game Night

Friday nights at 6:00pm

Come spend a few hours playing games! We'll provide some games or bring some from home. Invite friends to join you and have some fun. Light snacks provided!

Agape Café

Thursdays at 4:30pm

These free dinners are for everyone; all are welcome to partake. Be sure to check out the table with all the desserts and take what you like!

Prayer Joys and Concerns

Pastor Chris; for his friend whose wife is now in an Alzheimer's unit.

Ada; for continued healing and thanks everyone for their prayers.

Bonnie Mc.; for her recovery from shoulder surgery.

Bonnie's gr.daughter, Brittny, at Mass General; following stem cell procedure. We are so blessed that her brother, Nelson, was the donor.

Healing and recovery for the people of Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

Let love and peace soar, to end violence, acts of hate and injustice.

For all to practice simple acts of kindness to others.



Annual OUTDOOR YARD & CRAFTS Sale

Saturday, June 10th
9:00am – 2:00pm



SIGN UP Now! This is always a fun day for everyone and we hope you'll consider reserving a table. Held in conjunction with Hudson Fest, the sale will be held outdoors, weather permitting, or in Lamson Hall. This might be a good weekend to start gathering and setting aside those items that you no longer want or need but are too good to just toss! The good news is there is NO table fee! All we ask is that you agree to donate a minimum of 10% of what you take in.

We count on your honesty at day's end and feel it's much nicer than paying a "fee". You make a little gas money and with your min 10% "donation" you will help your church's General Fund meet some of its financial obligations.

Come spend a fun day selling your items and meeting folks who won't be able to resist what you're selling! There will be delicious food for sale; all at reasonable prices!

If you're a crafts person, now is the perfect time to put that marvelous creativity you possess, into action and bring those fabulous items for others to purchase!

If you'd like to reserve a spot to set up your table, we have unlimited space for you in our parking lot. We will provide folding chairs or bring your own. Call the office (978-562-2932) or email your request to HUDSONFUMC@gmail.com to reserve your space.

E-Cycle event in our parking lot

Saturday, June 10th
9:00am – 2:00pm

If you have any electric items, anything with a cord i.e. keyboards, computers, appliances, anything metal; bring them to the parking lot. A small fee is charged but you'll finally have a chance to get rid of some clutter! If you have old or unwanted bikes, now you can bring them to our parking lot where a truck will be parked ready to take all drop-offs which will be cleaned, re-cycled and given to youngsters who doesn't have or can't afford to buy one.

Monthly Friendship Dinners

On the 4th Saturday of each month, at 5pm, we host a free homecooked dinner, open to the public

May Newsletter Deadline

May Newsletter submissions are due Monday, April 24 at 5pm. Please send your articles to me at: lpattovb@yahoo.com
Thank you! Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor