

The Messenger

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

***Pastor Chris, at 978-877-9757, now has office hours on Fridays from 1:00-3:00pm
If you need more time, please arrange with the church office.***

*Newsletter articles for the August newsletter are due Monday, August 28. Please send articles to me via e-mail: lpattsonvb@yahoo.com
Thanks! Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor*

Upcoming Activities:

Sunday, August 20th - for all our ladies.....UWF Sponsored BBQ at Deb Kauffman's house - Hope to see you and Deb is asking us to bring a favorite dish or dessert....The main meat course will be done by Deb. Address: 58 Parmenter Rd., Hudson.



Next Friendship Dinner "COOK OUT"be sure to put this in your calendars! Saturday, August 26th, 5:00pm

Come alone or bring friends and enjoy delicious summer eats while relaxing on our back lawn.... bring a blanket or lawn chair for your comfort. Indoors if weather doesn't cooperate!

BLOCK PARTY - September 10, 2024 - One of our favorite community events! This will be our 23rd Annual Block Party so please watch for future details about how you can take part in its success!

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 witness.



If you have been attending church (whether in-person or remotely) during July, then, during the announcement time, you have listened to Elaine talking about Christmas in July. This an effort to allow us all to support the church fair early by soliciting items that can be sold or made into something that can be sold at the fair. Last week, Elaine shared her experience of finding an item at a yard sale and, as she was paying, mentioning to the seller that this would be perfect for upcycling into something for her church fair. To her surprise, the seller responded by pointing out other items that could also be used and then gave those items to Elaine free of charge. What Elaine probably wasn't thinking when she shared this story is that she gave us an example of witnessing.

When you witness, you are letting someone else know that you are a Christian, through your words and/or your actions. Elaine did both. By mentioning her church fair, she let the other person know that she is a Christian. By purchasing the item, she let the other person know that she is active in her church. Isn't that something all of us can do?

Worship Committee Update

This article was printed in the May newsletter and is so important that it is being reprinted this month.



At the Worship Committee meeting in April, we discussed ways to expand our ministry. We talked about our growing connection with the small, but faithful, group of people at the Artisan. We talked about starting another worship service targeted towards unchurched people in their 30's. We talked about ways to expand our on-line presence. During the conversation someone told Pastor Chris that during those times in the past when the whole church was praying about something, amazing things happened. And so, we need your help! When you pray, we're asking you to add this prayer:

"Where can our congregation be of service to others?"

Would you pray this prayer for the rest of 2023? If everyone prays, we believe amazing things can happen again.

August Birthdays

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

August Anniversaries

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



Okay, so “*Christmas in July*” is over, what do we do now?

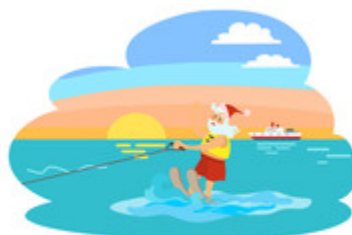
Since our *Christmas Fair* remains the church’s **biggest** yearly fundraiser, and because a successful event requires lots of pre-planning, creative juices, marketing, crafting, & baking, visioning, staging, and church community buy-in ~ we want YOU ALL (and anyone you can bring with you) to stay on-board! Besides, the more, the merrier!

What you do now is continue to share your treasures, i.e. donations, as I keep you up-to-date on what our needs are. (Always keep your eyes open for themed basket items & baskets!) Also, please talk about the *Christmas Fair* with family, friends, neighbors, your waitress & whoever is standing in front of you at the bank. It spreads the word about our event, but it also may garner some *Red Christmas* loot or *Silent Auction* items!

Share your talents, as well. Bakers & goodie makers, I’m coming for you in November. Right now, I am looking for sewers, crocheters & knitters. Talk to me about how you can put your skills to use now. Plant lovers, think about starting clippings now & in the months to come, so we can turn these little clippings into bonafide plants for sale at the fair.

Use your time to read the regular updates on *Christmas Fair* preparations & needs, being cognizant of how you, specifically, can contribute to the success of our fundraiser. And, in your prayer time, ask that God will use this particular activity, to not only bring **us** closer together in community, but, to also draw people from outside of FUMC into our community at a time of year that is not only wondrous and joyful, but also challenging and devoid of cheer for so many.

Many thanks to all of you! Questions? Comments? Ideas? Wondering how you fit in?
Please reach out ~ Elaine Gjeltrema ~ elainegjw@yahoo.com ~ 978-875-5292



CHRISTMAS IN JULY