

The Messenger

News and Information for the First United Methodist Church, Hudson, MA
March 2024

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 2024:

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

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 April 2024 newsletter are due Monday, March 25 by 5pm. Please send articles to me via e-mail: lpattonyb@yahoo.com Early Submissions always encouraged!

Thanks! Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor

March Calendar of Activities

Birthday Sunday - Sunday, March 3rd immediately following worship

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner For Malawi – Saturday, March 9th starting at 5pm

Seder Supper - Thursday, March 28th starting at 6pm

Friendship Dinner - Saturday March 23rd starting at 5pm

Easter Sunday activities – March 31

Sunrise Service – 6:30 am at Tripp's Pond

Breakfast – 8:30am - 10:00 am

Easter Egg Hunt – 10:15 am

Easter Service – 11:00 am



Looking Ahead:

Spud Sunday – Sunday, April 14th immediately following worship

Taco Sunday – Sunday, May 5th immediately following worship

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 presence. We are now in the season of Lent. Many people choose to give up something during Lent, but how about committing to doing something instead, like being present at church? Here are some ways you can be present at church during the Lenten season:

- If you attend church sporadically, commit to attending worship every Sunday
- If you are unable to attend church in-person, commit to attending worship remotely
- Commit to attend one additional ongoing activity at church, like Bible study, coffee Klatch, grief support group, Agape café, or Friendship dinner
- Commit to attend one special activity at church like the Corned Beef dinner on March 9 at 5 pm to support Bridges to Malawi, the Seder supper on March 28 at 6 pm, or the Good Friday time for prayer from noon to 3 on March 29.

If you have never been present at the church, we'd love to meet you. If you haven't been present at church as much as you are able, we'd love to see you again.

March Birthdays

4	Adam Krasinski
6	Janice Owen
6	Frances Wolfe
10	Christopher Jordan
10	Brody O'Leary
11	Karen Wetherell
15	Rosanne Roberts
16	Melissa Sniffin
24	Meaghan Scerra
28	Becky Millbury (nee Kauffman)

March Anniversaries

31 Rosanne & Cliff Roberts

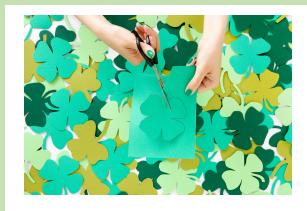


Corned Beef Dinner to support "Bridges to Malawi"

Saturday, March 9, at 5:00pm

Join us for a delicious Corned Beef dinner, an annual fund raiser for "Bridges to Malawi", a Hudson based nonprofit program led by our own Dr. Brian Lisse. The cost is \$15.00 per person with monies raised to help improve the lives and health of the people of the Kasungu east District of Malawi, a nation in southeast Africa and one of the poorest countries in the world.

During the dinner, Dr. Brian will be giving a presentation highlighting the program's current work, challenges it faces, and plans for the future.



Grief Support Group

Thursday, March 7th 11:00am to 1:00pm

If you have experienced loss of any kind and feel alone in your emotions, our newly formed group offers hope and support with what you're feeling. We want to give each other time to speak and sometimes, some of us need to sit in silence collecting our thoughts; then, if you feel like speaking, you are encouraged to share how you're feeling and what's in your heart.

Together, with Pastor Chris, we gather and chat about our thoughts and feelings over loss. Come to as few or as many meetings as you like. All are welcome to share, offer support or just be present and listen. We meet every OTHER Thursday. If you have any questions, please call Margo Coates at 774-279-7818.

Seder Supper

Thursday, March 28th starting at 6pm

Come and participate in our annual Seder Supper and a delicious turkey dinner cooked by The United Methodist Women's Group.

Join us for dinner and Communion. By using all the senses, the Passover Seder tells the story of God's grace in history and calls the participants to experience and share in the story as their own story. Passover is more than a festival. It is a teaching experience, intended to call people to their identity as the People of God. Passover becomes more than simply a service or a time; it becomes a way to confess faith in the One who has acted in history, expressing the hope that God will continue to act in bringing deliverance to all people everywhere.



Easter Day Sunday, March 31st

6:30 am: Sunrise Service Tripp's Pond (off River St.)

8:00 am – 10:30am: Breakfast at the Church

10:15 am: Easter Egg Hunt (in memory of Valerie Mahr who happily filled and "hid" the eggs last year)

11:00 am: Worship Service



Trustees Corner by Bob Scerra

Organ had its repairs and everyone is back listening to Margarita play. Thanks to everyone that continue to help pay for it. As of this printing we do not have the final bill.

Furnace repairs have been made. Still a few minor issues, Again thank you for all the donations to help pay for the repairs and for the fuel assistance during the winter. Your support has been overwhelming.

With spring approaching we have the landscaping being done with no out of pocket money being spent, again this year.

The Brazilian Church will now have a representative on the board. We will work to get some of the minor issues taken care of around the church

Please if anyone has suggestions or ideas please let one of the trustees know.



Christmas Fair Crafting Starting in March

. . . *so much to share*

From Monday evening, March 4th through Monday, December 2nd from 6:00 – 8:00pm, Christine DiMare will be hosting a time for church members and friends to come together and get crafty and creative producing wonderful wares to sell at our December 7th Christmas fair.

From Tuesday afternoon, March 5th through Tuesday June 11th and then again from Tuesday, September 17th through Tuesday, December 3rd from 1:00 – 3:00pm, Diana Andrews will be the hostess for all to gather with their talents and skills to make fabulous creations to sell at the fair.

Both groups will be meeting in Lamson Hall and you are welcome to come to both gatherings, just one or whatever fits your schedule best that week.

This year we will be opening up these times for others in the community to come and craft beside us. So many enjoy this handy work, but find it difficult to set aside dedicated time to craft, whether that be knitting, sewing, making junk journals or candles, designing Christmas cards or putting seasonal décor together. Households with young children may add safety challenges to the entire concept of crafting, while kittens can destroy yarn crafts in seconds. Others enjoy being creative with others to get new ideas or hone skills. And all of us enjoy the banter and conversations that can happen around and across a craft table.

This is a free and entirely open time for non-FUMCers to join us in community, though we would never turn down any of their donations for our fair. Attendees not directly associated with Hudson's FUMC will bring their own craft bags, supplies and ideas. We have the space, crafty skills and friendship to share in outreach to a perceived community need. So, invite a friend. Tell a friend. Come and make a friend! Join us for this time of *Community Open Creativity* and make *Art with Heart*!

Any questions see Elaine, Diana or Christine and know that we are always looking out for info on the most up and coming items selling on the craft circuit. Don't craft, but saw something cool that you think would sell well ~ tell us. Hard to get out? Let us know & we can work on a ride or a craft you can do at home. Remember; the Christmas fair is our biggest fundraiser of the year!

Community



Open Creativity



Reminder! Spring Forward!

Sunday, March 10th