

## We Are Called

Verses



1. Come! Live in the light!  
2. Come! O - pen your heart!  
3. Sing! Sing a new song!



Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are  
Show your mer - cy to all those in fear! We are  
Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will



called to be light for the king - dom, to  
called to be hope for the hope - less so all  
reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God!  
ha - tred and blind - ness will be no more!  
sis - ters and broth - ers u - ni - ted in love!

Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly, we are called to serve one an - oth - er;



to walk hum - bly with God!

## WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, February 11, 2018

*Wherever you are on your journey... you are welcome here.*

Guests are invited to participate in any of the church's varied activities.

Contact the Church Office (330) 650-4048 for more information  
or check off your interests on the back of the Connection Card.

## Welcome New Members!

We're so excited to welcome members joining today. Please extend a warm welcome to our newcomers or look for their photos in the March newsletter!

*(See inside for the names of those joining First Congregational Church today.)*

## The Micah Project

- See insert for **Small Group** sign-up Information
- Pick up the **Micah Project Brochure** at the Micah Information Tables
- Get your **Micah Mug!** Suggested donation \$10
- Get your **Micah Project Prayer Key Tag** during Mardi Gras Lunch
- Sign up TODAY for
  - ◇ **Childhood Poverty Cradle to Career Experience**  
Thursday, February 22 OR Tuesday, March 20 in Fellowship Hall
  - ◇ **Akron Canton Regional Food Bank Opportunity**  
Saturday, February 24 at 8:00 am
  - ◇ **Mission Mystery Trip Service Opportunity**  
Saturday, March 11 at 12:30 pm

## Ash Wednesday - Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00 pm

Start the Lenten journey with worship ~ *a service of scripture, song, prayer and the imposition of ashes* ~

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Ps. 51

*Today's Scripture can be found on the inside, back page.*

## Youth Ministry

For opportunities in Youth Ministry, contact Steve Hockstra [shockstra@hudsonucc.org](mailto:shockstra@hudsonucc.org), Amy Baldwin (High School) [abaldwin@hudsonucc.org](mailto:abaldwin@hudsonucc.org) or Callie Baylor (Middle School) [cbaylor@hudsonucc.org](mailto:cbaylor@hudsonucc.org).

**Breakfast Club** - Breakfast Club will not meet this morning but will be back next week. We will be following the Micah Project Small Group curriculum, for the next five weeks.

**Impact** - Insecurities. We all have them, but during our teen years they seem to be amplified. Join us tonight at Impact as we talk about our insecurities and ways to overcome them. Impact meets on Sunday nights from 6:00-7:00 pm in the Youth Room.

**Whirlyball** - Our high school students are headed to Whirlyball next **Sunday, February 18** from 6:00-7:30 pm. We will meet at the church at 5:30 pm and return at 8:00 pm. Email Amy Baldwin for more information or to sign up.

**ASP Payment Due** - If your high school student is signed up to participate in ASP this summer, full payment **was due February 1!** For most, that will be the remaining balance of \$450. If you have any questions concerning this, please email Amy Baldwin.

**Findley Reading Carnival** - On **Thursday, February 22**, our middle school and high school students will travel to Findley Community Learning Center to help with the annual Reading Carnival. We will meet at the church at 4:15 pm and return at 7:30 pm. If you need information or want to sign up, email Jeff Wells ([jeffreylwells@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreylwells@gmail.com)).

**Gennesaret** - Don't miss the opportunity to serve at Gennesaret on **Saturday, March 3**, 9:00-2:30 pm. This is a great opportunity for all our youth, both middle and high school as well as confirmands and their mentors. Please contact Mr. Wells ([jeffreylwells@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreylwells@gmail.com)) or Mr. Hooker ([mrscotthooker@yahoo.com](mailto:mrscotthooker@yahoo.com)) to sign up.

**D&D** - Wednesday is February 14 - that's right, it's Ash Wednesday! It's the middle of Random Acts of Kindness Week and, oh yeah, it's Valentine's Day. Whatever you are celebrating that day, show some love to your friends at D&D. We meet every week on **Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00 pm** in the Youth Room and friends are always welcome!

**Confirmation** - Can you believe we have just ONE regular meeting left? On **March 4** we will meet at our regular time: 10:30 am in the Sanctuary and 11:30 am in the Youth Room. Be sure to mark your calendar with our most important dates:

March 4 - Regular Meeting                      April 15 - Stole Making  
April 28 - Rehearsal and Dinner              April 29 - Confirmation

**TPP** - AWESOME NEWS: We have secured a few extra spots for TPP and we want YOU to fill them! So, if you have been thinking about it, the time to jump on it is now! Watch this space as plans start to take shape. Parents: our next and most important step is to make sure we have enough chaperones. Please let us know if you are interested in joining us at The Pittsburgh Project **July 9-13**. For more information, or to sign up, contact Callie or check out [pittsburghproject.org](http://pittsburghproject.org).

## Congregational Calendar

*Your financial support makes all of this happen!*

### **SUNDAY, February 11**

10:00 am SINGLE Worship (Sanctuary)  
9:00 am Pathfinders (Chapel)  
9:45 am Friends Class (102)  
NO Breakfast Club  
11:00 am Mardi Gras Lunch (FH)  
1:00 pm Choral Auditions (Choir Room)  
6:00 pm Impact (Youth & FH)  
6:00 pm Handbells  
7:30 pm Teen Band/Choir

### **MONDAY, February 12**

12:00 pm FYI Luncheon (FH)  
7:00 pm Stew Crew (304)

### **TUESDAY, February 13**

12:30 pm ROMEOs (The Gables)  
1:30 pm Congregational Conversations (LL)  
5:00 pm Yoga (FH)  
6:30 pm Children's Ministries Board (102)  
7:00 pm Trustees (304)  
7:00 pm Music Board (Alcove)

### **WEDNESDAY, February 14**

9:00 am WOW (FH)  
11:00 am Memorial Choir (Choir Room)  
3:00 pm D&D (Youth Room & FH)  
5:00 pm revoice (Choir Room)  
5:00 pm Wonderful Wednesday (FH/AR/Choir)  
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)  
8:00 pm Chancel Choir  
9:30 pm Men's Ensemble

### **THURSDAY, February 15**

9:30 am Prayer Quilting (102)  
6:30 pm Family to Family (102)  
7:00 pm Interfaith Group (301)

### **SATURDAY, February 17**

10:00 am AlAnon-Newcomers (120)  
11:00 am AlAnon (102)  
11:00 am Alateen (Youth Room)

## *Today's Flowers*

The Sanctuary flowers are given by Tom and Peggy Hudson with praise and thanksgiving for their family, Julie, John, Annie and Kyle Haluch and Andy, Emily, Clark and Elise Hudson.

## *Today's Scripture: Mark 9:2-9*

*<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. <sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.*

# Welcome New Members!

## Carol G. Altman

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## Robin Fink

5711 Londonair Blvd., Hudson  
Phone: (216) 678-2257  
[rbinsam@hotmail.com](mailto:rbinsam@hotmail.com)

Robin is an Enrichment Coordinator for Menorah Park Center for Senior Living. She and her husband, Scott have two children, Arden and Jason.

## Julie Hedges

8 Blackberry Drive, Hudson  
Phone: (330) 342-0042  
[julie@hedgescompany.com](mailto:julie@hedgescompany.com)

Julie is the owner of Hedges & Company, a Digital Market Agency and she has one daughter, Jenny.

## Karen Kelly

6025 Leslie Drive, Hudson  
Phone: (234) 380-5228  
[khkelly5@gmail.com](mailto:khkelly5@gmail.com)

## Katherine Lynn Kelly

3976 Wyndham Ridge Dr., 9-309, Stow, 44224  
[kkellylive22@gmail.com](mailto:kkellylive22@gmail.com)

Katie is an Associate Product Analyst with National Interstate Insurance Company.



## Michael and Jessica Matisz

5884 Laurawood Court, Hudson  
Phone: (330) 620-6243  
Mike: [michaelmatisz@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelmatisz@yahoo.com)  
Jess: [jessicamatisz@yahoo.com](mailto:jessicamatisz@yahoo.com)

Mike is the Director of Supply Chain for Leaf Filter North, LLC and Jess is the Executive Director of Product Development at American Greetings. They have two children, Lindsay and Emmett.

## James McCarthy and David Rishel

1658 State Road, Apt. A, Cuyahoga Falls, 44223  
James: (740) 683-7077; David: (330) 559-2817  
[mccarthy.rishel@gmail.com](mailto:mccarthy.rishel@gmail.com)

James is a teacher for the Parma City Schools and David is the owner of Peachtree Southern Kitchen & Cocktails. They have three children, Delanie, Ian, and Donovan.

## Marjorie Priest

200 Laurel Lake Drive, W322, Hudson  
(330) 528-6122  
[mpriest693@gmail.com](mailto:mpriest693@gmail.com)

## Mind, Body & Soul: A Bridge Club Overnight Women's Retreat

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by the unknown future or the changes that are occurring in your teenager or young adult? At the same time, are you dealing with caregiver issues for an ailing parent? Would you like a group where you can share these concerns and get helpful feedback, support and prayer? Then consider attending *The Bridge Club Mind, Body & Soul Retreat* on **February 23 and 24** at the **Bertram Inn** in Aurora. Register online at MyFCCH (or via [HUDSONUCC.ORG](http://HUDSONUCC.ORG)). All inclusive price of \$159 for a double room (\$189/single) includes activities, accommodations and meals (dinner Friday and breakfast/lunch Saturday).

- \* Plan to create friendships and develop new passions through Soulful Meditation led by Rev. Janet Ross.
- \* Get your hands dirty creating a succulent container.
- \* Watch a cooking for two demonstration.
- \* Come treat yourself!

**Deadline to register is February 11.**

*The Bridge Club* is a group of moms from FCCH who are crossing over the "bridge," as their kids leave the elementary years and enter the teen years, as they gently guide, then walk alongside their kids into adulthood. This phase brings a whole new set of challenges: teenagers (need we say more?), college decisions, "senioritis," college drop-off, graduations, new jobs, moving out, etc. This group is for moms of teens and young adults looking for friendship and support, while traveling on a new path of motherhood. We laugh; we cry; we pray; we lift each other up and have fun together! We meet in members' homes once a month (date is the hostess' choice). Please join us at our first retreat! Questions? Email Missy Kisthardt at [kisthardt5@gmail.com](mailto:kisthardt5@gmail.com) or Bronwyn Pierson at [bronwyn6870@aol.com](mailto:bronwyn6870@aol.com).

## Children's Ministry

*For opportunities in Children's Ministry, contact Dee Buchanan or Katie Morgan: (330) 650-4048, ext. 301 or email [dbuchanan@HUDSONUCC.ORG](mailto:dbuchanan@HUDSONUCC.ORG); [kmorgan@HUDSONUCC.ORG](mailto:kmorgan@HUDSONUCC.ORG).*

**Children's Center Registration** is now open for the 2018-2019 school year. Forms are available on-line to print and fill in at [WWW.HUDSONUCC.ORG](http://WWW.HUDSONUCC.ORG), click on Children, the Childcare/Preschool or call us directly at 330-342-3977.

**Teacher and Shepherds Needed!** We are looking for some loving and enthusiastic teachers/ shepherds to help with our Toddler-KG children. The rotation is from **2/25 - 4/8** (not including: 2/18, 3/25, 4/1) and we need teachers and shepherds for both services (**9:00 and 10:30**). Please let Katie or Dee know if you can help. Thank you!

**WW Spring Musical** - All children (K-5th grade) are invited to be part of the Wonderful Wednesday spring musical! Rehearsals start on **February 14**. Wonderful Wednesday meets every Wednesday from 5:00 - 6:30 pm and includes dinner. Please contact Katie Morgan if you have any questions.

## Last Year's Palm Fronds

Do you still have your Palm Sunday palm frond from last year? If so, you are invited to bring it to church through **TODAY, Sunday, February 11**, and place it in the basket on the Information Station or the table in the Narthex. We'll burn last year's palm fronds to make ashes for our Ash Wednesday service.

## Easter Flowers ~ April 1, 2018

The Deaconess Board is selling lilies and hydrangeas for our worship service on Easter Sunday. This project is entirely self-sustaining, funding the purchase of small daffodil plants which are delivered to our over 85 members. This year we are offering a third option: to fund the purchase of cut flowers for our Easter cross outside the church on Aurora Street. This year's double stem lily/blue hydrangea plants will be \$22.00. Monetary donations for the Easter Cross flowers are accepted in any amount. Please make your selection below and submit to the Church Office with your check by **March 15, 2018**. Checks should be made payable to First Congregational Church with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line.

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

or

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:  Lily  Blue Hydrangea  Easter Cross Flower Donation

I will take my plant  I will leave my plant

Paid: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Amt: \_\_\_\_\_

## Adult Faith Formation

*For opportunities in Adult Faith Formation, contact Steve Hockstra,  
(330) 650-4048, or email [shockstra@hudsonucc.org](mailto:shockstra@hudsonucc.org).*

### What is the Interfaith Group?

If you feel that we are living in a complicated geo-political environment, and you are concerned about the apparent increasing friction between/among religions, you may want to consider learning more about our Interfaith Group, whose mission is to facilitate an understanding of the core principles of various religious faiths and to disseminate information fostering better understanding of issues confronting today's diversified religious society.

This group is more than a "study session." In addition to promoting an open/candid discussion of the role of "faith" in different religions and philosophies, the group meets with local leaders of those faiths, and visits other institutions.

Meeting once a month, this group welcomes new attendees, and invites all to come. For more information, contact Van Carter at [ifwg.hudsonucc@gmail.com](mailto:ifwg.hudsonucc@gmail.com).

## Adult Ministry

*For opportunities in Adult/Health Ministries, contact Kathy Yeakley,  
(330) 650-4048, or email [kyeakley@hudsonucc.org](mailto:kyeakley@hudsonucc.org).*

**FYI Lunch and Program** - "The History and Application of Martial Arts", a presentation by Laurence Frese, will be the topic of the **FYI (Feeling Young Inside)** luncheon and program **TOMORROW, February 12**. Lunch will be served at **12 noon** in Fellowship Hall followed by the program. Sign up on the Connection Card today or call the church office.

**Yoga** continues at FCCH throughout the winter on **Tuesdays at 5:00 pm**. Gentle movements will help you relax and destress with instructor, Cynthia Field. Bring a mat and foam block if you have one. Everyone is welcome!

**Volunteers Needed!** FYI luncheon and programs are held the third Monday of the month. They are a fun group with a hunger for information on a wide variety of interests. Please consider volunteering to help prepare a light meal or serve a catered lunch with light clean up. You can come once in a while or every month. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Kathy Yeakley. Thank you!

## Music Ministry

**FCCH Spring Choral/Orchestral Concert** - For the fourth year, First Congregational Church of Hudson is inviting members of our church community to audition for our Spring Choral/Orchestral piece. We will perform *Christ lag in Todesbanden* (Cantata #4) by Johann Sebastian Bach with members of the Akron Symphony. It will be performed in the original German language with members of the Akron Symphony as the chamber orchestra. Open auditions for chorus and SATB soloists are **TODAY, Sunday, February 11 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm** at the church. Anyone who cannot make this audition time can call Dr. Thomas M. Scott, Director of Music Ministries at (330) 650-4048 to arrange a personal audition. Rehearsals will be on **Mondays at 7:00 pm from February 19 to April 2**. Performances will be Sunday mornings, **April 8** at Bath UCC and **April 15** at FCCH. A group of singers and instrumentalists that grew out of this yearly collaboration performed the *Fauré Requiem* at Carnegie Hall this past May to critical review.

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### Random Acts of Kindness Week - Feb. 11 – 17

It seems rather fitting that the Hudson League for Service's Random Acts of Kindness Week is right before The Micah Project begins! We encourage you to practice your "Daily Acts of Mercy" and participate! Endorsed by the City of Hudson, #RAKWeek2018 is a community awareness campaign geared towards promoting kindness. Visit [www.hudsonleagueforservice.org](http://www.hudsonleagueforservice.org) for more information.

**Coffee Hour** during the month of February is provided through the generosity of the members of the Deaconess Board.