

## THANKSGIVING BASKET UPDATE

Instead of packing food into boxes as a way to show love to our neighbors, we are going to give families a \$50 gift card to Kroger to celebrate Thanksgiving. This ministry will impact 552 families in Cincinnati this year and we need to raise \$27,600 to cover the cost of the gift cards. **We will be collecting a tax deductible donation and NOT Kroger gift cards.** Your generosity will be especially needed this year, as COVID continues to impact many people. To donate, you can give online at Realm (please select Thanksgiving Baskets from the drop down menu) or make your check payable to HPCUMC with "Thanksgiving Baskets" in the memo line.



Since gift cards can be impersonal, we are adding a personal touch by putting the gift card in a Thanksgiving Greeting card. You can write a special note to a family or have your children or grandchildren decorate the cards. They can be picked up on the counter of the Welcome Center and must be returned by November 8.

*If you know of a family that would benefit from receiving a gift card to Kroger for Thanksgiving, please contact Pastor Kate at [ksmith@hpcumc.org](mailto:ksmith@hpcumc.org) or call the church office 513-871-1345.*

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Thanksgiving Basket Ministry began in the 1980's. Earl and Susan Crossland provided leadership with support from the Soul Builders group starting in 1991 with 75 baskets. distributed. 30 years later, we now serve 552 families each year.

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Did you know that HPCUMC has a Spiritual Direction Ministry? Spiritual direction or spiritual companionship is a practice that helps us to slow down and notice where and how God is showing up in our lives and to discover what our response might be. It is a journey with another of finding and unveiling what is already there, God's presence, light, and love. As Quaker author Douglas Steere puts it, "...the Spiritual Director's job is to... 'listen' another's soul into a condition of disclosure and discovery."

If you would like to learn more about spiritual direction, go to [hydeparkchurch.org](http://hydeparkchurch.org) or contact either of our trained spiritual directors. They would be happy to talk with you. *Christine McHenry, [clm2804@gmail.com](mailto:clm2804@gmail.com) or Roger Johannigman, [rtjohannigman@gmail.com](mailto:rtjohannigman@gmail.com)*

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### PASTOR EMERITUS

**Don Dixon**



### Moving Forward

Grace and Peace to you through our Lord, Jesus Christ! This week I share the following letter with you from the Servant Leadership Board leadership. I look forward to seeing you Sunday. Through Christ, Pastor Doug



Senior Pastor  
Doug Johns

Dear HPCUMC/The Warehouse, Now that Pastors Cathy and Doug have made the decision to retire in 2022, the Servant Leadership Board (SLB) would like to formally thank Cathy and Doug for faithfully leading our church through some very challenging seasons. The grace and calm that they have exhibited during these challenges are a testimony to how they allow God to work through them (they "talk the talk and walk the walk")... Thank you both! In June of 2022, we plan to take time to celebrate all the ways they have blessed us, both individually and collectively. Everyone will have a chance to thank them and wish them well in their retirement. But at this time, the mission of our church remains the same, Cathy and Doug are still here, and they will continue to bless our congregation for the next nine months.

Some have already asked: "How will HPCUMC go about replacing Cathy and Doug?" The short answer is this – we will follow the same process that brought them to HPCUMC in 2014. Cathy and Doug were appointed by Bishop Palmer to serve at HPCUMC, and our next Senior Pastor will be appointed by Bishop Palmer. The elected lay members of the Servant Leadership Board (9 from Hyde Park and 1 from The Warehouse) will serve as our Staff-Parish Relations Committee. As such, we are responsible for providing information to the Bishop and his cabinet about the needs of HPCUMC & The Warehouse, as well as the personal qualities that we desire in our next pastor(s). Once we have submitted those wants and needs to the Bishop, it is up to him to locate a pastor(s) who best fulfills those wants and needs. Bishop Palmer brought us fantastic leaders when he appointed Cathy & Doug, and we expect he will do it again in 2022!

Can the congregation do anything to help? Absolutely.

1. Please pray for the SLB members who are working to achieve the best possible transition.
2. Pray also for Bishop Palmer and his cabinet as they do their "match-making".
3. Over the next month the SLB will be creating a brief electronic survey to allow the congregation to provide some input on who we are as a church and what gifts we think the new pastor(s) needs to have to best serve HPCUMC. Details will be published as soon as the survey is available. It is an honor to serve side by side with you in Christ!

Cheers,

Jason Abbott  
(2021 SLB Chair)  
Committee Chair)

Dave Harpring  
(2022 SLB Chair)

Drea Osterbur  
(SLB Personnel)

## GLOBAL PARTNER SERVE TEAM CLUJ, ROMANIA

We have been invited by our partners in Romania to serve alongside their team to support the new community center in the heart of Cluj, Romania. What we do at the community center depends on the gifts of team that forms which includes Pastor Doug! The visit is planned for March 3-10, 2022 and will include pre-immersion meetings to bond as a team as well as spiritually and culturally prepare to serve in Romania. The cost of the trip is \$550 + airfare (guesstimated at \$1,300-\$1,600), scholarships are available. **An informational meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, October 17th at 2:00pm.** Please visit [hydeparkchurch.org](http://hydeparkchurch.org) and scroll down to the rotating banner and click on the Romania banner to RSVP for the meeting and to receive the link. *If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kate ([ksmith@hpcumc.org](mailto:ksmith@hpcumc.org)).*

### Not able to go to Romania but want to support the team?

Please consider giving a donation towards The Overseas Mission Trip Scholarship fund. Your gift of any amount will help offset the cost of the trip for people who might not be otherwise able to serve globally.

## UNITED METHODIST TOURS: EUB CHURCHES AND UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FREEDOM CENTER

Interested in learning about Methodist history in SW Ohio and the first church in Ohio? Never been to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center?

**The United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio (UMHSO) is sponsoring two tours:** One of early Methodist and EUB churches east of Cincinnati and the other, the NURFC downtown. **Both leave Anderson Hills UMC, 7515 Forest Rd, Cincinnati 45255, Friday, October 22, 2021 at 1:00 pm and return by 5:00 pm.** The church tour is \$15. Admission to NURFC is \$15 Adult, \$13 Sr, Child <10 \$10, payable at door plus parking.

**The UMHSO is holding its annual convocation on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at Anderson Hills UMC.** The program includes historical presentations, historian's show-and-tell, and a brief business meeting. Cost is \$25 for members (\$30 for non-members/guests) which includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

*If interested in attending, please download the registration form at [www.umhso.org](http://www.umhso.org) or contact Rudy Heath 513-489-2164.*

## ABOLITION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 10

Hyde Park Community UMC is joining people of faith across Ohio to stand in solidarity for abolition of the death penalty. The United Methodist Social Principles states that "the death penalty denies the power of Christ to redeem, restore, and transform all human beings." Racism, classism and other systemic oppressions profoundly shape who receive the sentence of capital punishment. Additionally, wrongful execution is an inherent risk in capital punishment in the United States. Over 160 people who were wrongly convicted have been exonerated from death row since 1973.



HPCUMC's Justice Ministry has been at work with a broad coalition to campaign to repeal this inhumane punishment and denial of new life and reconciliation. Now is the time, the momentum for death penalty repeal in Ohio has been growing. This upcoming session of Ohio legislature has widespread bipartisan support for SB 103 and HB 183, which would repeal Ohio's death penalty. There is an opportunity for you to add your voice to this campaign.

### Sunday, October 10th has been declared Abolition Sunday.

Members of the Justice Ministry will be available in the Welcome Center with stamped postcards for you to write your Ohio state senators and representatives. There will be help if you need to identify who your elected officials are.

You may also learn more about the campaign to end Ohio's death penalty at: <https://nodeathpenaltyoh.com>

## SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS

As we begin our time back together this fall, the Hospitality Team invites you to be a Greeter on Sunday mornings! Whether you are only able to sign-up for one slot or a slot every month, we appreciate you taking time to help greet and welcome all who enter Hyde Park Community's doors.

*Email Meredith Menius at [mmenius@hpcumc.org](mailto:mmenius@hpcumc.org) to be added to a date.*



### Super Serve Saturday - October 16th

Super Serve Saturday (S3) provides different opportunities to serve in meaningful ways throughout Cincinnati. The next Super Serve Saturday is October 16th offering family friendly options, no contact options, and options to serve at home. A big need this month is personalizing Thanksgiving greetings cards to go along with gift cards to be distributed to 552 families for Thanksgiving. Click Super Serve Saturday's rotating banner on the church's homepage ([hydeparkchurch.org](http://hydeparkchurch.org)) to get descriptions of the projects and to sign up to serve.

## NEW MEMBER CLASS UNITED METHODISM 101

**Sunday, October 3  
4:00pm Welcome Center**

If you're interested in starting the process to become a new member, we invite you to consider attending United Methodism 101. UM 101 is one of two classes that we ask people to participate in so that they learn more about The UMC and Hyde Park. The class is taught every season by Rev. Dr. Cathy Johns. If you cannot participate this time around, no worries! There will be more opportunities in the months to come. *Email Meredith Menius at [mmenius@hpcumc.org](mailto:mmenius@hpcumc.org) to let us know you're coming!*

## NEW LIFE FURNITURE HEADS AND BEDS CHALLENGE UPDATE

**We gave the challenge and you all helped to exceed our goal!** Throughout September **48 sheet sets and 69 pillows** were collected for the Heads and Beds Challenge. That means Mission and Outreach will donate \$5,000 to New Life Furniture to purchase 25 bed mattresses and frames for children. In addition to the challenge, 15 packs of toilet paper and 26 laundry detergent packs were collected. Thank you for generosity!