

M A R C H 2 0 2 1

Action at Asbury



Asbury United Methodist Church, 1810 Kellogg Avenue, Janesville, WI 53546

Phone: 608-752-7961 Email: asburyumc@charter.net

Website: www.asburyumcjl.org facebook.com/asburyumcjl

Pastor's Pondering

When you receive this newsletter, we will already be in the season of Lent – a special time for spiritual reflection and a “self-check” concerning our spiritual health. Each year, as we move through Lent, I like to revisit a “check-list” that John Wesley put together for his “Holy Clubs” – those spiritual support and accountability groups of the early Methodist movement. The list included 22 questions Christians would do well to ask themselves as they seek to become ever-more dedicated followers of Jesus Christ.

Here are the questions we might consider:

- 1) Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
- 2) Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
- 3) Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
- 4) Can I be trusted?
- 5) Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
- 6) Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
- 7) Did the Bible live in me today?
- 8) Do I give it time to speak to me every day?
- 9) Am I enjoying prayer?
- 10) When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
- 11) Do I pray about the money I spend?
- 12) Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
- 13) Do I disobey God in anything?
- 14) Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
- 15) Am I defeated in any part of my life?
- 16) Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?
- 17) How do I spend my spare time?
- 18) Am I proud?
- 19) Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?
- 20) Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
- 21) Do I grumble or complain constantly?
- 22) Is Christ real to me?

May we grow stronger as Christians and become more loving people as we journey to the Cross of Christ.

Lenten Blessings,

Pastor Will



March Worship Schedule and Themes

All Services Are Online Only

March 3	"Lenten Reflecting Moments"	(available Online Wednesday evening)
March 7	Third Sunday of Lent	In-Home Holy Communion
	Sermon: "The Day the Tables were Turned" Scripture: John 2: 13-22 We see a side of Jesus we seldom see that day he cleared the Temple Court. Was this an act of violence on Jesus' part or an act of justice? What life lesson might it offer for us?	
March 10	"Lenten Reflecting Moments"	(available Online Wednesday evening)
March 14	Fourth Sunday of Lent	
	Sermon: "Living in the Light" Scripture: John 3: 14-21 Today's reading may be one of the best known and cherished readings of Scripture. How might we live in the light of Jesus and how might that bring us closer to understanding the Kingdom of God?	
March 17	"Lenten Reflecting Moments"	(available Online Wednesday evening)
March 21	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
	Sermon: "Losing Life to Keep It" Scripture: John 12: 20-33 Jesus speaks some difficult words to describe discipleship and salvation. What does it mean to "hate one's life in this world to keep it for eternal life?"	
March 24	"Lenten Reflecting Moments"	(available Online Wednesday evening)
March 28	Palm/Passion Sunday	
	Sermon: "The Passion Story" Scripture: Mark 15: 1-47 Today we will read the entire Passion narrative as Mark tells it. May we hear the ancient story of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ as read by a team of the Asbury Church Family.	



- "Lenten Reflecting Moments" are a brief time (5-8 minutes) of video reflections from Pastor Will's office which include Scripture, a bit of commentary, and a prayer.





January saw income of \$9,587.00 and expenses of \$11,844.00. Our unrestricted net assets are \$14,044.14.

Missions:

- ECHO - \$230 collected
- Red Bird - \$110 collected
- Lincoln School – \$25 collected

Thank You For Your Generosity: Denny Hanks, Asbury Bookkeeper



Heidi Jensen is now the President of ECHO! Yay Heidi!

Current ECHO needs & events:

**Macaroni & Cheese
Soup & Crackers
Spaghetti Sauce
PB & Jelly**

**Canned Meats
Sugar Free Foods
Microwavable Food
Gluten Free Food**

Personal Items

**Deodorant
Toothpaste
Dish Soap**

Feminine Products

**Diapers - (sizes 4-6)
Baby Wipes
Shampoo**

*Life is an ECHO —
what you send out,
you get back!*
Thank you for your support!!

**2021 Calendar of
Events**

- +3/30-4/1 Children's Easter
Basket Distribution
- +4/25 CROP Hunger Walk

Items needed for
Easter baskets:
wrapped candy,
plastic eggs,
plastic basket
wrap, & baskets!



Through the incredible generosity of people like you, GIFTS has grown from a homeless ministry traveling between churches week to week to house men to becoming a state-of-the-art facility that is able to serve, encourage, bless, and help up to 40+ men a night.

The mission of GIFTS is to show Christ's love to homeless men in Rock County by advancing renewal and hope through a unified Christian effort.

RACISM IN AMERICA - A Speaker Series

Thursdays: January 28-March 18 - 7:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the **United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay**

March 4 - “Fair Housing: Building Inclusive Communities for Everyone”

Erika L. Sanders, Director - Program Services,
Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council

March 11 - “Race and the Criminal Justice System”

Brady Henderson, Cream City Law, LLC

March 18 - “Christianity and Race”

Rev. Dr. Matt Hadley, Sr. Pastor of United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, and Rev. Dan Dick, Assistant to the Bishop, Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church

These presentations can be accessed at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89109430677>



16 Sarah & Stephen Nelson

16 Diana & Brian Zeilinger

1 Brian Reece

4 Maggie Bunderson

4 Keith Reed

6 Samuel McGrath

7 Darlene Flannery

9 Durelle Brooks

9 Shirley Graves

12 Shirley Lyth

12 Linda Stevenson



15 Kayla Zeilinger

15 Kyle Zeilinger

17 Desiree Laufenberg

17 Deborah Shapiro

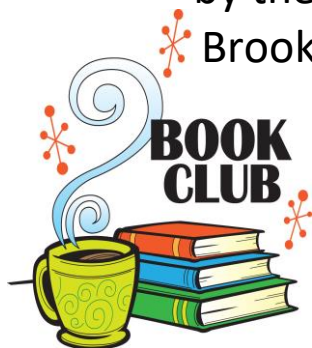
21 Larry Markow

28 Sue Larson

29 Ardis Bender

30 Ron Scobie

Reading
by the
Brook



Our book choice for March is New York Times Bestseller *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. The New York Times book review follows: “Owens here surveys the desolate marshlands of the North Carolina coast through the eyes of an abandoned child. And in her isolation, that child makes us open our own eyes to the secret wonders--and dangers--of her private world.” Interested readers are welcome to join us for our book discussion via Zoom. For more information, contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com.

We thank you for your generous financial support of our local HealthNet of Rock County, Inc., that provides primary health services to Rock County residents who are low income and underinsured or uninsured, including veterans. Our March Ministry Matters will focus on UMCOR, United Methodist Committee of Relief. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the global humanitarian aid and development organization of the United Methodist Church (UMC). UMCOR is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization operated under the auspices of the General Board of Global Ministries. One hundred percent of donations are directed to an earmarked project or relief effort. Administrative expenses are funded by an annual offering collected by United Methodist churches on UMCOR Sunday.



ASBURY UMC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Ministry Name: The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)

Ministry Location: The General Board of Global Ministries is the worldwide mission, relief, and development agency of The United Methodist Church, working with partners and churches in more than 115 countries to equip and transform people and places for God's mission. Global Ministries connects the church in mission through the sending of missionaries, evangelism and church revitalization, disaster response and recovery led by the United Methodist Committee on Relief and global health.

Ministry Purpose: Connecting the church in mission.

Ministry Vision: The General Board of Global Ministries equips and transforms people and places for God's mission around the world.

Our Four Mission Goals—1. Make disciples of Jesus Christ; 2. Strengthen, develop, and renew Christian congregations and communities; 3. Alleviate human suffering; 4. Seek justice, freedom, and peace.

Ministry Mission Statement: The Mission Theology statement guides Global Ministries' participation in the Mission Dei. The statement frames Global Ministries' role within the denominational mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The transforming power belongs to God, and Global Ministries is in mission to witness to what God has done and is doing, and to learn from what God is doing in every land where disciples gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Global Ministries Strategic Plan: As the mission and humanitarian assistance agency for The United Methodist Church, Global Ministries currently facilitates missions in more than 115 countries, leading the church's work in global health. Global Ministries includes the United Methodist Committee on Relief, or UMCOR, providing nonsectarian disaster response and sustainable development worldwide. To guide its work, the agency has put in place a Strategic Plan for the period 2018-21. The context for mission is always changing but with the Strategic Plan, Global Ministries looks forward to continuing the work that began 200 years ago, and we trust that God will guide our work in the future. We are grateful for your part in the work of Global Ministries and the opportunity to be in mission with others. Through mission, we believe The United Methodist Church realizes its greatest unity, and through mission and being in mission together, we believe society achieves its greatest potential.

Ministry Needs: Your gifts... Support missionaries who serve in all corners of the globe. Make health care accessible to people all over the world. Help churches sustain and expand their ministries. Provide material and spiritual relief in the face of disaster – both natural and man-made. Bolster the ministries of our partner organizations. Your gift, joined with the gifts of others, makes a significant impact in the lives of individuals and communities. And when you give through the Advance, 100% of your gift goes to serve others in the way that you choose.

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our RTC Zoom meeting on March 1, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.

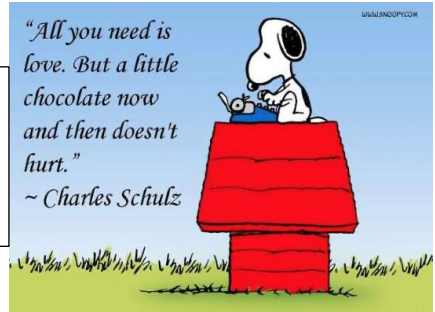


Continuing Care List

Judy Campbell, Darlene and Richard Coulthard, LaVita Fanta, Robert Geisler, Marcy Gordon, Shirley Graves, Carol and Don Isbell, Diana Jewson, Hjordis Olson, Lucille Osborne, Virginia Scarborough, Ione Watson, Charles Weber, June Zeilinger.



Wellness Tips:
1. Stay Connected
2. Give Back
3. Have Fun!



The Asbury Mitten/Hat Tree was once again overflowing with donations this year. The totals were:
18 scarves
18 hat/mitten sets
67 pairs of mittens
5 pairs of gloves
2 pairs of fingerless gloves
184 hats

These items were equally divided and given to Jackson Elementary School and Lincoln Elementary School. Thank you for your continued support of this cold weather ministry.

Linda Sailing

On behalf of the Asbury Church Family, I want to offer my sincere Thank You to Russ Dahlke and Jeff Quaerna for all the work they have done to remove snow from the church and parsonage property. It has been a long, cold, and snowy winter. These guys have faithfully performed their wintery tasks!!

Pastor Will

Thank you for all the cards, texts, emails, and prayers for my back surgery.

Shelly Wheaton

Be sure to let Julie know if your address, phone number, or email have changed by calling the church office at 752-7961 or emailing asburyumc@charter.net. Thank you!

* Newsletter articles are submitted to Jan Diers at jrdiers@charter.net

March

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6 pm Rethink Church Zoom	2	3 Online Lenten Reflections	4	5	6
7 Online Worship Service & Communion	8	9	10 Online Lenten Reflections	11	12	13
14 Online Worship Service	15	16	17 Online Lenten Reflections	18	19	20
21 Online Worship Service	22	23	24 Online Lenten Reflections	25	26	27
28 Online Worship Service	29	30	31 Online Lenten Reflections			

Virtual SAVVY Caregiver Program for Caregivers (Date Changed): Begins March 17, 2021, at 1:30 PM for 6 weeks. This program goes beyond introductory educational offerings. Based on research by experts in caregiving techniques, this six-week course will provide helpful information for family caregivers. Participants will “graduate” with: Personal knowledge, skills and caregiving outlook, Skills to assess abilities of your loved one with dementia, Confidence to set and alter caregiving goals, Strategies to manage activities of daily living, Perspective on the course of Alzheimer’s and related disorders. REGISTER with Cori at cori.marsh@co.rock.wi.us or call 608-921-7165 (Register by March 8, 2021).

*The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my
shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
Psalm 18:2*



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