

A U G U S T 2 0 2 1

# ***Action at Asbury***



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

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## **Pastor's Pondering**

### **Another Reason to Celebrate!**

*"Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and the LORD will establish your plans."* – Proverbs 16: 3

The day was Wednesday, July 14, 2021. And it was truly a day to celebrate!

One of the Asbury faithful walked into our church and said, "Pastor Will, I have something for you." This most generous man reached out his hand and gave me a check made out to Asbury United Methodist Church. The check was in the amount of \$10,000.00!

"Pay off the elevator" was his instruction. And with his gift, which put us over the top, we will do just that!

What an amazing accomplishment for our Church Family and all the folks who need the elevator to safely access our upper and lower levels. I am so proud of Asbury's members and friends who have seen this project through so very quickly.

On June 26, 2019, our church secured a 15-year loan from the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation in the amount of \$290,000.00 and in just over two short years, the loan is PAID IN FULL! And we managed to do this while still maintaining over \$121,000.00 in our Dream Fund!

The next step is for me to meet with the Trustees so that I may share my vision of what I see as phases 2, 3, and 4 as we continue to upgrade our building and grounds. I believe Asbury has wonderful momentum going – even as we come off the pandemic interruption. Consider all that has occurred since we have engaged in ministry together. We implemented an AV system in the sanctuary (started under Pastor Wendee), remodeled and expanded the church kitchen, replaced the aging floor in Fellowship Hall, built a Prairie Gazebo, erected a state-of-the-art digital sign in front of the church, and added a beautiful lectern and Communion table to the sanctuary. And ALL projects have been PAID IN FULL.

God is present and working in our midst! There are so many reasons to celebrate the life of Asbury Church! Thank you to all who so generously contributed to all these projects. May our ministries grow as we serve the world, serve our community, and serve one another in Jesus' name!

Blessings and Congratulations!

Pastor Will





## August Worship Schedule and Themes

Live Services at 9 a.m.

- August 1      Tenth Sunday After Pentecost      Holy Communion  
Scripture: John 6: 25-35 & Ephesians 4: 1-16  
Sermon: "Sir, Always Give Us This Bread"  
Jesus referred to himself as "the bread of life." Hear how he sustains us and enables us to grow as Children of God. We will also explore the sacrament of Holy Communion in which we receive bread and juice, the symbols of Christ's body and blood. What are we receiving when we partake?
- August 8      Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost  
Scripture: Ephesians 4: 25- 5: 2 & Psalm 130  
Sermon: "Character Matters"  
Christianity is centered around faith in Jesus and rightly so. It is in him that we find our salvation. But Christianity, if lived to its fullest, has much to do with our character - the way we act, the things we say, and the attitude we bring to living. Learn what lessons are found in the letter to the Ephesians which we would do well to implement in our daily lives.
- August 15      Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost  
Scripture: Psalm 111 & Ephesians 5: 15-20  
Sermon: "Praising God is What We Do"  
The Psalmist highlights our main function in our time of worship. That is, to praise God and reflect upon God's mighty acts and eternal covenant. Today we will reflect on one of many reasons why church matters.
- August 22      Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Scripture: Ephesians 6: 10-20 & Psalm 84: 1-4, 8-12  
Sermon: "Wearing the Armor of God"  
War and battles were common in Biblical days. In fact, Scripture refers to the "season when men go to battle." Yet the writer of Ephesians uses the symbolism of armor to promote protection, purity, and peace. Christ has offered a new and better way for living.
- August 29      Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Scripture: James 1: 17-27 & Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15  
Sermon: "Religion At Its Best ... And Its Worst."  
Jesus and James demonstrate what God is really looking for in the faith we live. Jesus teaches the Pharisees that faith is much more than "human rules" and James teaches that faith shapes the way we conduct ourselves and treat our neighbors. Both stress the role of community responsibilities in what they teach.





## Prevent a Return of COVID-19



The news is filled with information about new strains of COVID-19 challenging much of our nation. Recently the Director of the CDC, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, referred to the resurgence of the disease as “The Pandemic of the Unvaccinated.”

None of us want to repeat the pain of separation, closing of churches and businesses, mask mandates, and numerous other disruptions of life. Unless directed otherwise by your doctor, please **GET VACCINATED!** We have a responsibility to our family and friends and our communities to protect one another from further spread of this most evil illness.

Loving one another means doing what is best for our neighbor. Getting vaccinated gets the job done!

Pastor Will



## Memory Café



Memory Café is back at Asbury!

We have the privilege of hosting a meeting place for any persons in our community who are interested in keeping their brains healthy as well as those experiencing some memory loss. These social gatherings are a fun way to come together in a relaxed, safe environment to connect with one another for about an hour. Staff from the ADRC (Aging and Disabilities Resource Center of Rock County) lead the group in a variety of interactive ways: conversations, games, sharing of stories, music, trivia, reminiscing, or guest speakers. The focus is always on what we can do, rather than what we can't do.

If you, a loved one, neighbor, or friend would like to participate, please join us at Asbury UMC on August 25 at 10:00 AM. Coffee and refreshments are an added bonus.



Thank you for your super support of Asbury's July Ministry Matters with its focus on our local community charity organization ECHO (Everyone Cooperating to Help Others). Our August ministry will focus on United Methodist Children's Services based in Milwaukee, WI. UMCS reduces barriers to basic needs so families can focus on developing roots in the community, building capacity, and meeting individualized goals. Through housing, childcare, resources, and community engagement, they act as a stepping stone for families on their way to stability.

### **ASBURY UMC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT**

**Ministry Name:** United Methodist Children Services

**Ministry Location:** 3940 West Lisbon Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53208

**Ministry Start Date:** 1962

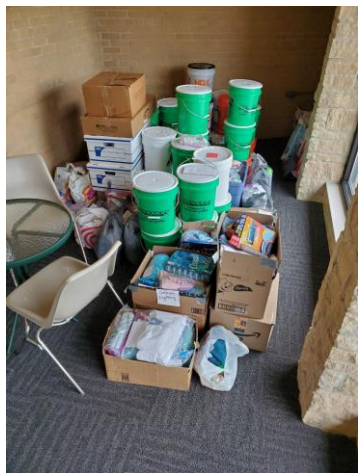
**Ministry Contact Person:** William Schmitt, Executive Director - (414)-344-1818  
Email: [info@umcs-wi.org](mailto:info@umcs-wi.org)

**Ministry Services:** UMCS address the interconnected nature of poverty through reducing barriers to basic needs in four focus areas: Housing, Growing Tree Children's Center, Family Resource Center, and Community Engagement.

**Ministry Mission Statement:** While the services provided have changed and expanded over the years, United Methodist Children's Services' goal has remained the same: to make a significant difference in the lives of children and their families as an expression of our love for Christ.

**Ministry Needs:** Volunteers, Monetary Donations, Personal Items Needs, and Canned and Packaged Food Needs Donations.

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our next RTC meeting on Monday August 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or [rkdahlke@yahoo.com](mailto:rkdahlke@yahoo.com) with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.



The Midwest Mission Distribution Center collection this year was HUGE! Thank you!!

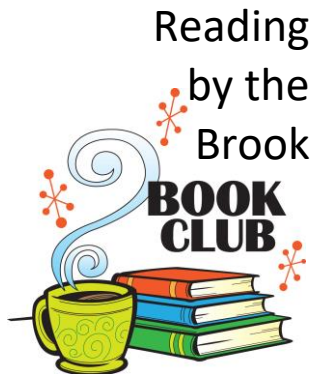


June income of \$14,564.00 and expenses of \$9,300.15.  
Unrestricted net assets are at \$23,298.15.

**Missions:**

ECHO - \$210 collected  
India Covid we paid \$1,290  
Native American Mission we collected \$305

Thank You For Your Generosity: Denny Hanks, Asbury Bookkeeper



*Where'd You Go, Bernadette* by Maria Semple is our reading selection for August. A book review by author Jonathan Evison states: "Brilliant, hilarious, endlessly inventive, and compulsively readable, *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* grabs you by the collar and never lets go. Semple is not only a masterful juggler and an astute social critic-she is a magician!" Our book review will take place on Wednesday, August 18th at 6:30 p.m. at Asbury. ZOOM participation is also available. Interested readers are welcome to join us for our book discussion. For more information, contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or [rkdahlke@yahoo.com](mailto:rkdahlke@yahoo.com).



**Agrace Seeks Volunteers in Rock County**

Agrace is seeking volunteers across Rock County to visit with hospice patients or support its Janesville thrift store. Volunteer orientation will take place at Agrace's Janesville office **August 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Pre-registration is required. Call (608) 327-7163 or visit [agrace.org/volunteer](https://www.agrace.org/volunteer) to fill out an application.

**Agrace Offers Four Virtual Support Groups in August**

In August, grief support specialists from Agrace are offering four virtual (accessible with a tablet, computer or smartphone) grief support groups for adults:

- **Young Adult Grief Support Group** meets every Tuesday in August, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **Bridges Support Group** meets August 4 and August 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- **COVID-19 Loss Group** meets every other Wednesday. In August, meetings are August 11 and 25, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Journey Through Grief** is a six-week series that meets Wednesdays, August 11 to September 15, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is required for all groups. For details, fees or to register, visit [Agrace.org/GriefGroups](https://www.agrace.org/GriefGroups) or call (608) 327-7118.

## ASBURY JANITORIAL AND LANDSCAPING

Have you noticed the absence at Asbury of cobwebs under the pews and radiators, the freshly vacuumed rugs throughout the main level, the shining windows, the outside freshly mowed lawn, the lovely planters and newly growing landscaping flowers and trees? It is with our huge hug and thanks to all who have taken on this work for the care and love of our Asbury home!

“His left hand is under my head. His right hand embraces me.”  
-Solomon 2:6



2 Pat Erickson

3 Jeremiah Harden

4 Cliff Walker

4 Juanita Wingfield

5 George Stone

6 Donna Johnson

6 Willis D. Bill Powell

8 Brenda Whitney



11 Marc Shapiro

14 Ronald Havens

20 Ryan Croft

21 Marv Nelson

23 Robert Geisler

26 Claude Eakins

26 David Hill

29 Peggy Eggen

11 Pat & Mike Spors

18 Mickey & Larry Abbott



22 Lynn & Stan Curtis

30 Rogena & Duane Andrus





## ECHO Report August 2021

### ECHO Calendar of Events:

**August 20** School Supply Fundraiser

**October 23** Empty Bowl Soup Fundraiser

**November 20** Thanksgiving Basket Distribution

**ECHO Needs:** Rice, Tuna Packs, Oatmeal, Hormel Compleats, Ramen Cups, Barilla Ready Pasta Packs, Applesauce Cups, Hamburger Helper, Fruit & Veggie Cups, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Dish Soap, Deodorant, Laundry Soap, Diapers size 4-7, Shampoo, Conditioner, fresh veggies from your garden (plant extra).

**New Fans** are needed to keep cool in warm weather. Last year, ECHO was able to provide fans to 59 clients.



**REGISTER TODAY**

[www.cargillumc.org](http://www.cargillumc.org)

2000 Wesley Ave. • Janesville, WI



## 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.



*"Would you like to sit inside-inside, outside-inside,  
or outside-outside?"*



Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you! The dear people you just helped with your gift of \$330 to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be—Thank you! And through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries in which UMCOR and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need. May we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Grace and Peace, Roland Fernandes, General Secretary

Dear Friend of ECHO:



On behalf of our clients, the ECHO staff and Board join me in thanking you for your May 31, 2021, donation of \$100.00. Your support has meant that people in need in our community have received help with the most basic of human needs: food, housing, transportation, and other general well-being services. As government funding decreases, more than ever ECHO relies on the support of the community to help individuals and families with emergency needs. We also provide case management, mentoring, and various educational opportunities . . . that help them obtain skills for long-term independence.

Jessica Locher, Executive Director



# August

# 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 In-person 9 am and Online Worship	2 6 pm ReThink Church	3	4	5	6	7
8 In-person 9 am and Online Worship	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 In-person 9 am and Online Worship	16	17	18 6:30 pm Book Club	19	20	21
22 In-person 9 am and Online Worship	23	24	25 10 am Memory Café	26	27	28
29 In-person 9 am and Online Worship	30	31				



*\* Newsletter articles are submitted  
to Jan Diers at [jrdiers@charter.net](mailto:jrdiers@charter.net)*





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[facebook.com/asburyumcjvl](https://facebook.com/asburyumcjvl)



August 2021