

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 1

# ***Action at Asbury***



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

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Website: [www.asburyumcjl.org](http://www.asburyumcjl.org) [facebook.com/asburyumcjl](https://facebook.com/asburyumcjl)

## Pastor's Pondering



*"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ Jesus was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." – Romans 6: 4*

"Living a new life!" What a great hope as we move into January 2021!

As I write this column, the big news is the nationwide distribution of the much-anticipated COVID-19 vaccine. This is the new life we have waited for at times patiently, and at other times quite impatiently. We should all take a moment and offer up our thankful prayers to our God who saves us yet again!

For the first time in the better part of a year we can seriously *begin – begin* - to think of days ahead when we can gather safely in the Asbury sanctuary and sing and pray and preach and celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion IN- PERSON! There is indeed a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel.

While health care experts warn us not to let our guard down just yet (and I, for one, will continue to closely heed their recommendations), I cannot be anything but joyful at the prospect of opening our doors in the future. New life for our churches is on the horizon. Now is the time for us to begin planning and planting.

This is the wonderful thing about our God. God continues to save God's people! Jesus Christ continues to heal the world. The Holy Spirit continues to spark the faith within us, keeping us strong and faithful even through the darkest hours. The Church has been through trial after trial over the many centuries. It has seen famine and plague, persecution and oppression, sin and evil from outside and from within.

Yet good overpowers evil. Love prevails over hate. Light overcomes darkness. Life defeats death.

May we all "live a new life" in 2021. And may "new life" bring us renewed joy in Jesus Christ and in one another.

Blessings be upon new beginnings!

Pastor Will





## January Worship Schedule and Themes

### All Services Are Online Only

- January 3      Epiphany Sunday      In-Home Holy Communion  
Sermon: "Follow the Star"  
Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12  
God provides a star to guide the Wisemen to Jesus. What do we choose to follow and where are we being led?
- January 10      Baptism of Our Lord  
Sermon: "The Power of the Spirit"  
Scripture: Acts 19: 1-7  
Through baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit is received. What have we received in our baptism? Are we maximizing the gifts of the Spirit?
- January 17      Second Sunday After Epiphany  
Sermon: "Listening For a Call"  
Scripture: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10  
As a child, Samuel is called by God. How might God be calling us? Are we ready to listen and answer?
- January 24      Third Sunday After Epiphany  
Sermon: "Gone Fishing"  
Scripture: Mark 1: 14-20  
Jesus gives his disciples a new task - fishing for people. We will explore why Evangelism remains important today.
- January 31      Fourth Sunday After Epiphany  
Sermon: "A New Teaching?"  
Scripture: Mark 1: 21-28  
Jesus teaches in the synagogue with great authority. His words changed lives and still do today.



Our hat and mitten tree this year!  
Our mitten, scarf, and hat donations go to Lincoln & Jackson Elementary Schools.



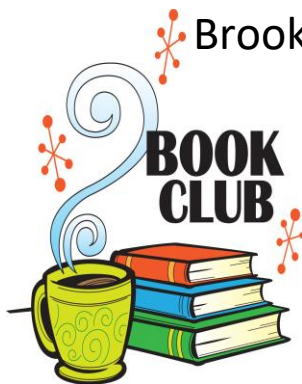
November saw income of \$14,540.47 and expenses of \$11,340.94. Our unrestricted net assets are \$14,314.74.

**Missions:**

Light the Night – \$40  
 Big Give - \$100  
 ECHO - \$1,120  
 Lincoln School - \$25

Thank You For Your Generosity: Denny Hanks, Asbury Bookkeeper

**Reading  
by the  
Brook**



We held no book club discussion in the month of December. We are looking forward to the year ahead with a large list of interesting book selections. Our meetings in 2021 will continue to use the internet program Zoom until we are safe to gather in person. Interested readers are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or [rkdahlke@yahoo.com](mailto:rkdahlke@yahoo.com).



**The Gifts Thrift Store is OPEN!**

1141 Blackbridge Road, Janesville, WI  
 Hours: Monday-Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM

We are accepting donations! Please bring your gently used items to the West side door on Alden Road on Mondays-Saturdays from 10 AM – 5 PM.

Please stay tuned to our webpage and social media for more updates.

GIFTS Thrift accepts: Men's clothing & shoes, Women's clothing & shoes, Children's clothing & shoes, Household items such as lamps, dishes, knick knacks, holiday, crafting supplies, working electronics.



Our December Mission Matters Moments were centered on our traditional Mitten Tree giving of mitten, scarves, and hats for Lincoln and Jackson Elementary Schools. We also supported the Parker High School Big Give program albeit limited to gift cards and monetary donations due to the COVID 19 safety needs. We praise your support of these needs especially during this difficult pandemic.

In January, our focus will be on the Red Bird Mission in the Appalachian Mountains in Southeastern Kentucky. Their website states, "The story of Red Bird is one of deep faith in God. Red Bird Mission was born in answer to prayer. The Work Camp program that enlisted volunteers to maintain mission facilities decades ago now involves approximately 2500 participants annually and expanded its purpose to include community home repair and improvement in 1984. The first new home was built in 2016 in the community by volunteers." Over the years, some of our Asbury members and youth have attended work camps at the mission site.

### **ASBURY UMC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT**

**Ministry Name:** Red Bird Mission

**Ministry Location:** Red Bird Mission, Inc., 70 Queendale Center Beverly, KY 40913-9607

Phone: 606.598.3155 Fax: 606.598.3151

Email: [rbm@rbmission.org](mailto:rbm@rbmission.org) Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Ministry Start Date:** 1921

**Ministry Mission Statement:** Red Bird Mission, a non-profit agency located in the Appalachian Mountains of Southeastern Kentucky, empowers individuals and advocates justice by providing educational, health, and community outreach ministries to area low-income residents.

**Ministry Needs:** Individual volunteers are an important part of the ministry of Red Bird Mission. They render services and fill job positions that otherwise would not be filled. Some of the areas in which volunteers give their talents are listed below. Positions are filled based on the skills and interests of the applicants, and the current needs of the Mission in Education, Health and Wellness, Community Housing Improvement, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity, Office.

**Length of Service:** Volunteers come to serve for varying lengths of time. The minimum length of service is generally one week. Some volunteers have served at Red Bird Mission for several years. The length of service and abilities of the volunteer will determine the responsibility given for programs and tasks. Persons invited for periods of six months or longer are considered long-term volunteers.

(Continued next page)

Housing: Housing accommodations are provided based on family size, length of stay and housing availability. Basic furnishings include furniture and bed linens. When a kitchen is provided, utensils, pots, pans, and dishes will be provided also. The various types of our volunteer housing are: Volunteers' Quarters: Private bedroom, basic furnishings, shared kitchen & bath.  
Campground – Motor home/Trailer pads (most with full hook-ups)

Meals: Short-term volunteers are asked to pay for their own meals. Long-term volunteers are provided meals in our facilities when available. Availability of meals is listed below. All prices are subject to change. School: Lunch on school days – \$3.00 per person  
Work Camp: Dining Hall (Only available when work groups are here during Spring, Summer, and early Fall)

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our RTC Zoom meeting on January 4, 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.



\$2,981 was raised in the Fall on-line silent auction



The future of ECHO depends on you! Volunteers are needed for many tasks.  
Contributions of food may be taken to the High Street site.  
Cash donations always accepted.

## **JANUARY** Birthdays

2 Jeffrey Quaerna

4 Jerriann Burns

5 Sandy Lewis

5 Alec Osborne

6 Terry Penniston

9 Mike Wilkerson

12 Sue Bent

12 Russ Kuykendall

13 Dale Kruse

13 Mark Wheaton

14 Lois McKinney

15 Donna Havens

17 Chelsea Phillips

18 Eudoris Peterson

19 Bobbie Gray-Turnbow

21 Bobi Abraham

26 Jean Farris

29 Russ Dahlke

30 John Quisenberry



5 Sally & Dale Kruse

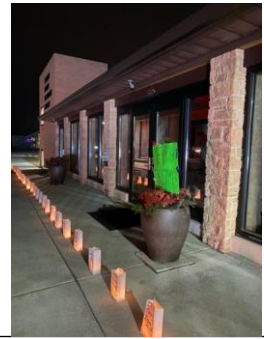
17 Darlene & Richard Coulthard





# Light the Night 2020

## Contributors



- Larry & Mickey Abbott:** In Memory of Molly Crocker, Mike Crocker, and Paul & Hazel Abbott and In Honor of Pauline Klima & Tyler LaVine
- Asbury Church family:** In Honor of Diana Jewson
- John Brikowski & Bonnie Nagler:** In Memory of Jim & Gloria Nagler and Al & Marie Brikowski and In Honor of Reed & Annabelle Brikowski
- Durelle Brooks:** In Memory of Gerald Brooks
- Steve & Diane Bundy:** In Honor of grandchildren and loved ones
- Abbi Christman:** In Memory of her grandfather Ted Shaffer
- Dawn Cresswell & Paul Baker:** In Memory of Ron Cresswell III, Judy Baker, and Corey Mackai
- Judy & Charlie Culb:** In Memory of Virginia Mort, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Culb, and Cheryl Jarrett
- Russ & Kathy Dahlke:** In Memory of Leo Dahlke and In Honor of Family
- Ruth Davis:** In Memory of Frank Davis, Charles Gilbert, and Eva Gilbert and In Honor of Robert Hantke
- Viola DeRemer:** In Memory of son Brian DeRemer, sister Karen Hahn, and Parents & Friends
- Mike & Jan Diers:** In Memory of Ruth & Ken Kleist and Phyllis & Don Diers and In Honor of our family
- Mark & Julie Polzin:** In Memory of Eugene Nelson and In Honor of Grandchildren Griffin, Declan, and Eliza Polzin
- John Quisenberry:** In Memory of George Quisenberry and Evelyn Quisenberry
- Josh & Kasey Rosburg:** In memory of Kasey's father Ken Kramer
- Dennis & Linda Sailing:** In Memory of Mae Sailing, Clarence Sailing, and Lois Hove and In Honor of Kiera Sailing, Jacob Sailing, and Leo Hove
- Ronald Scobie:** In Memory of Eunice Scobie and Gerald Scobie
- Mike & Pat Spors:** In Memory of Virginia Spors and Irene Smith and In Honor of Ron Scobie
- George Stone:** In Memory of Shirley Stone
- Lila Thayer:** In Memory of Ron Cresswell II and Pete Roehrig
- Mark & Shelly Wheaton:** In Memory of Shelly's grandparents and Mark's parents
- Juanita Wingfield:** In Memory of Thad Wingfield, Sharon Chandler, and Lisa Kail

## Blessing for the Longest Night

All throughout these months  
as the shadows have lengthened,  
this blessing has been gathering itself,  
making ready, preparing for this night.

It has practiced walking in the dark,  
traveling with its eyes closed,  
feeling its way by memory, by touch,  
by the pull of the moon even as it wanes.

So believe me when I tell you  
this blessing will reach you  
even if you have not light enough  
to read it;  
it will find you  
even though you cannot  
see it coming.

You will know the moment of its  
Arriving by your release  
of the breath you have held so long;  
a loosening of the clenching in your hands,  
of the clutch around your heart;  
a thinning of the darkness that had drawn itself  
around you.

This blessing does not mean  
to take the night away  
but it knows its hidden roads,  
knows what it means to travel  
in the company of a friend.

So when this blessing comes,  
Take its hand.  
Get up.

Set out on the road you cannot see.  
This is the night when you can trust  
that any direction you go,  
you will be walking toward the dawn.

--Jan Richardson (janrichardson.com)



# Puzzle!

Use the code to complete Isaiah's prophecy about Jesus, our Savior.



CODE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q

10 23 13 17 14 6 18 21 21

11 14 12 10 21 21 14 13

6 24 23 13 14 1 15 4 21

12 24 4 23 2 14 21 24 1 ,

22 18 16 17 3 8 16 24 13 ,

14 5 14 1 21 10 2 3 18 23 16

15 10 3 17 14 1 , 25 1 18 23 12 14

24 15 25 14 10 12 14 ,

I S A I A H 9 : 6 , N I V

(Answer on page 10)



## 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.



Thank you so much for all the gift cards and money! With your donations, we were able to help an additional four students with Christmas that were added late! Such a blessing!  
Deri Eastman, Parker H.S. Big Give Coordinator

**The total was an amazing \$1,384 plus many gift cards!**



Answer to Puzzle on page 9

Answer: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Isaiah 9:6, NIV

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

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





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Join us on facebook at:  
[facebook.com/asburyumcjl](https://facebook.com/asburyumcjl)

