

N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 1

# Action at Asbury



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

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## Pastor's Pondering



*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18*

Are you a "thankful" person? Do you "give thanks in all circumstances?"

The Apostle Paul issues this challenge to all the followers of Jesus Christ. At times it is difficult to be thankful. Especially when life presents challenges. But amid these challenges, Paul reminds us to always "give thanks."

What are you most thankful for right now? I know that I am thankful for all of you who make up our Asbury Church Family.

Last month was "Pastor Appreciation Month" and I was overwhelmed by all the warm comments, cards, notes, and texts I received from so many. They certainly brightened my days and gave me reason to be all the more thankful for the opportunity to serve at Asbury Church.

Paul was very intentional about giving thanks often. In fact, almost every one of the Biblical letters attributed to Paul offers words of thanks, usually for the people of the church to whom he was writing. Paul knew that for ministry to happen, it takes a team of people working together to spread the Gospel and see to the needs of one another. And for that team he gave thanks.

Let's all be intentional about giving thanks – especially during this Thanksgiving month. Each of us have been blessed with much, for we have a most giving God – a God who loves us so much, that he gave us his Son, that we might have life and have it abundantly.

May we be reminded of the message of Psalm 100:

*"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."*

Give Thanks...

Pastor Will





## November Worship Schedule and Themes

- November 7     Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost     All Saints Sunday
- Scripture: Revelation 21: 1-6a & 1 John 3: 1-3  
Sermon: "Life on the Other Side"  
Heaven is the destination for all who follow Christ. On this All Saints Sunday we will imagine together what our final destination will be like based on what the Scriptures tell us. We will remember and celebrate the lives of those who now are enjoying the rewards of heaven.
- November 14     Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost     Holy Communion in the pews.
- Scripture: Hebrews 10: 11-14, 19-25 & Mark 13: 1-8  
Sermon: "Encouraging Words"  
The writer of the Book of Hebrews instructs the early church to encourage one as part of the act of worship. We all benefit from words of encouragement. How might worship be an act of encouragement?
- November 21     Christ the King Sunday and Thanksgiving Sunday
- Scripture: John 18: 33-37 & Revelation 1: 4b-8  
Sermon: "Giving Thanks for The King"  
Today we will pause to acknowledge and give thanks for our Savior King, Jesus Christ. We will discover how Jesus redefined what a king should look like – a Servant-leader who is willing to sacrifice for the good of the world.
- November 28     First Sunday of Advent
- Scripture: Luke 21: 25-36 & Jeremiah 33: 14-16  
Sermon: "And He Comes Again"  
Today we begin the Season of Advent and the start of the new Christian Year. Are we ready to receive our Savior into our world and into our lives? Are we watching for him in the clouds as well as in the manger? Today we begin to prepare for the coming of our King.





## Afghan Refugees Donation Collection



We had a wonderful group of people that helped load the U-Haul truck and the donations that came in were a beautiful sight for sure.

Thank you to those who helped: Mike & Pat Spors, Tina Bakken, Dawn Cresswell, Kathy & Russ Dahlke, Dave Figi, Dave Brown (Cargill United Methodist Church), Patrick Waite, Jeff Quaerna and Pastor Will.



### Ingathering Donations for Afghan Refugees

Annual Conference requested donations to support the Afghan refugees at Fort McCoy. Asbury quickly responded to be one of 7 drop off sites. With the cooperation of countless UM Churches, AOK, ECHO and other local denominations, hundreds of pounds of supplies were delivered to the drop-off sites.

At Asbury, several volunteers loaded a 20-foot U-Haul truck with supplies filling it two-thirds full. Mike and Pat Spors drove to Platteville UMC to load their donations. Upon arrival at the Winding River UMC in New Lisbon, a second 26-foot U-Haul, which had picked up supplies from 5 WI UMC churches, was being unloaded. The New Lisbon football team even came to help unload. The donations were to be sorted and taken to Fort McCoy.

*Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus. Matthew 25:35-36 NIV*





## Thanksgiving Items



Due to COVID-19, ECHO will not be accepting donations of cookies and bars.

Please consider purchasing canned cranberries, green beans, and corn instead. Please drop off at ECHO (65 S High Street, Janesville, WI 53548)



**VOLUNTEERS NEED TO SIGN UP IN  
ADVANCE BY CALLING FRAN AT 608-754-5333**

(Due to COVID-19, we will be accepting a limited number of volunteers)

	<b>THANKSGIVING Donation</b> <b>ECHO expects to assist over 600 families who are low-income.</b>	
<p>Yes, I would like to sponsor ____ Thanksgiving Dinner(s) at \$30 each and/or I would like to make a donation to help feed families after Thanksgiving.</p> <p><b>\$25</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$50</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$100</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$250</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$500</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____</p> <p>by sending in a check to the ECHO Office at 65 S. High St., Janesville, WI 53548, made out to: "ECHO Thanksgiving".</p> <p><i>Please help make a family's holiday a thankful one!</i></p> <p>Name: _____ Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____ Address: _____ Zip Code: _____</p>		

## Christmas Toy Distribution

Due to COVID-19 and ensuring the safety of our clients, volunteers and staff, ECHO will be modifying their annual Toy Distribution.



This year, ECHO is requesting monetary donations or gift cards from Blain's Farm n Fleet. Parents will receive a gift card(s) to purchase presents along with a prepacked goodie bag full of stocking stuffers and holiday cheer for children in need in our community.

Holiday wrapping paper is needed and can also be dropped off along with the gift cards.

Any toy donations will be used for Birthday presents throughout the year for children in need.

Donations accepted now through December 9 at the ECHO office, 65 S. High St.

9am-Noon & 1-4pm, Monday-Thursday, 9am-Noon, Friday, or call 754-5333 for appointment to drop off donations.

Last year ECHO provided 429 children with Christmas toys.

ECHO also distributed Christmas trees and decorations to 52 families who otherwise would not have been able to afford these holiday extras.

**Please be a part of our holiday tradition.**

Toy Distribution - Friday, December 10 Snow Day - Saturday, December 11  
at ECHO (65 S High Street)

(Preregistration starts from Mon., October 4 at ECHO and is required for participation in program. Must bring photo ID, current utility bill with a Janesville address, and proof of income for the entire household.)



In gratitude we give thanks for your monetary donations of our October Ministry for Missionaries. Paul Webster retiring missionary suggested that we support a young man whom he has known since childhood, Trobby Kandala. Trobby is a new United Methodist Missionary currently based in Sierra Leon. Our November mission ministry will focus on our local Rock County Project 16:49 .

### ASBURY UMC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

**Ministry Name:** Project 16:49 (16 Hours and 49 Minutes: The time between school ending one day and starting the next.)

**Ministry Location:** Rock County

**Ministry Mission:** To empower Rock County's unaccompanied homeless youth to take action to achieve their goals.

**Ministry Vision:** Every unaccompanied youth in Rock County will have the opportunity to become a contributing member of the community.

**Ministry Services:** Project 16:49 is a local non-profit organization serving Rock County's unaccompanied homeless teens. We believe every child deserves an opportunity to succeed. To that end, Project 16:49 ensures access to the services and support these students need to remain in school, graduate and become self-sufficient adults. This is accomplished primarily through two avenues: 1. Securing access to safe and stable housing. We work with Safe Families for Children to obtain host homes/families for short- and longer-term housing for youth under 18 years of age. We provide supervised shared living opportunities for youth ages 18–20 who meet our eligibility criteria, as space allows. 2. Providing case management and support to youth as they work to complete an individual goal plan. Plans address seven key areas and are designed to help youth overcome barriers and acquire knowledge and skills to live independently.

**Ministry Needs:** **1.** Make a Financial Donation. **2.** Organize a Fundraiser: Bake sales, Penny wars, Jeans Day at the office, Benefit concerts. The options are as endless as the fun. Let us know what you have in mind . . . maybe we can help. **3.** Hold a Collection Drive for/or Donate Items from Our Wish List. **4.** Help Us Raise Awareness. Invite us to share our story with your service organization, community group, place of worship, or business. "Like" Project 16:49 on Facebook, and ask your friends to do the same. **5.** Host a Friend-Raiser Party. Introduce us to your friends. Get your friends together to learn more about Project 16:49 and how they can support our efforts, too. Contact us for ideas and to schedule someone to attend. **6.** Open Your Heart and Home. Become a Safe-Families for Children and a host home for a teen without one. For more information, visit www.safe-families.org, or contact Nicole Zorn or (262) 686-3081. **7.** Become a Mentor. A little time can make a big difference in a child's life. Apply to be a Big Brothers Big Sisters "Big" at www.bbbs4kids.org or call (608) 362-8223. **8.** Volunteer at Your Local Shelter. Shelters rely on the support of volunteers. Contact the House of Mercy, (608) 754-0045. **9.** *Support Your Local School District's Homeless Liaisons.* Help meet the basic and academic needs of all homeless students. In Beloit, contact Robin Stuht at (608) 361-3364. In Janesville, or for contact information in other Rock County communities, contact Carrie Kulinski at (608) 751-7779. **10.** Challenge Stereotypes about the Homeless. 40% of the homeless are children. Learn more about the homelessness issue and become an advocate.

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our next RTC meeting on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 6:15 p.m. Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.

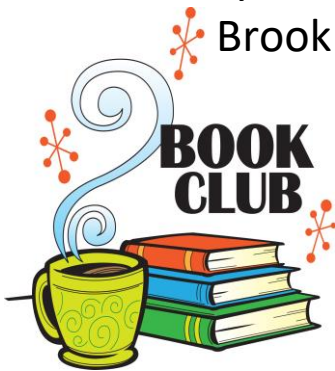


## All Saints Sunday is the 7<sup>th</sup> of November

On this special Sunday we will remember and celebrate all those departed saints who we hold dear to our hearts. As their names are read, we will light a candle and ring a bell for all those from our congregation who died in the past year. Those we will remember including Eileen Wolfe, Dale Kruse, Cecil Flippin, Charlie Weber, and Shirley Graves. There will be an opportunity for congregants to come forward and light a candle in memory of others who have

departed and now reside in the realm of heaven. This is a most moving and meaningful service for many.

### Reading by the Brook



#### **Book Club will meet on November 17, 2021.**

LOUISE PENNY is the author of the #1 New York Times and Globe and Mail bestselling series of Chief Inspector Armand Gamache novels. Our Asbury Book group will continue reading the second book in her series of mystery novels.

"A Fatal Grace, a Chief Inspector Gamache novel. Gamache was the best of them, the smartest, the bravest, and strongest. He was willing to go into his own head alone, open all the doors there, enter all the dark rooms, and make friends with what he found there." Review: A Fatal Grace – Texas Girl Reads.

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)

### Memory Café



#### **Memory Café will meet**

**10 – 11 AM at Asbury, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.**

Memory Cafes are socially based and include fun learning activities, stories, and/or music. The focus is on what we can do, rather than what we can't do. This is a safe, social environment for people interested in keeping their brains healthy and those experiencing some memory loss.

This month Memory Café will be talking about "Thankfulness".



September saw income of \$11,009.16  
and  
expenses were \$13,195.10

Unrestricted net assets are \$19,978.33

Missions:

UM Children Services – \$200.00

Julie - In for Denny

**What you need:**

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

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**Red:** a need God has provided for  
**Orange:** a gift you've received  
**Yellow:** something you've recently learned  
**Green:** something in nature  
**Blue:** a special memory  
**Brown:** someone you love

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**What you do:**

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!

## Coats and Boots for Lincoln School

Lincoln School has a Family Resource Center. This year they have asked Asbury UMC to help with collecting coats and boots for their students and families. Any size winter coat will be accepted--new coats and boots or gently used items may be donated. Please leave items in the atrium area at Asbury. Thank you for your support!



Coats for the Cold



## Hat and Mitten Tree



Once again Asbury will support Lincoln and Jackson Elementary schools by delivering hats and mittens to them. This is a very real need for children to keep warm in the cold months ahead. The tree won't be on display until late November, but you can drop your donations in the bin in the atrium. Thank you for supporting these local schools.

## Why was the Thanksgiving soup so expensive?



Answer: It had 24 carrots.



SO MANY BLESSINGS






# GOD'S WILL

God wants us to follow his will, but how can we know what that is?

*Directions: Write the letters on each vine in the correct order on the lines provided to complete 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV.*



e  
7 2 4 1 6 3 5

w y l a s a  
3 5 2 4 6 1

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_

continually,

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

p y r a  
1 4 2 3

e g v i  
4 1 3 2

in all circumstances; for this  
is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

h n t a s k  
2 4 1 3 6 5

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18, NIV

Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks





1 Ruth Davis

6 Leigh-Ann Waite

7 Max McGrath

8 George Christopherson

8 Betty Jo Clough

10 Judy Culb

11 Vicki Jo Barlass

11 Violet Rosburg

13 Brennan Abraham

14 Shirley Nelson

14 Rhianna Waite

15 Marj Banner

16 Deanna Sanwick

18 Virginia Scarborough

19 Pam Haas

26 Tina Bakken

26 Connie Nelson

29 John Brikowski



10 Tracy & Brian Reece

24 Ronda & Wade Cass

10 Brenda & Steve Whitney





## Continuing Care List

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

Pray for the family of Shirley Graves as she passed away on October 6, 2021.



### Hospice Volunteers Needed in Rock County

Volunteers are needed to assist customers, operate the cash register, and sort donations at the Agrace Thrift Store in Janesville, or make companionship visits to local Agrace hospice patients.

Agrace will host volunteer orientation **Tuesday, November 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at its Janesville office. Pre-registration is required. Call (608) 327-7163 or visit [agrace.org/volunteer](https://agrace.org/volunteer) to fill out an application.

### Agrace Offers Two Virtual Support Groups in November

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

- **Bridges (virtual)** meets online November 10 and 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- **COVID-19 Loss Group (virtual)** meets online November 3 and 17, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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



*An Abundance  
of Thanks*



\*Newsletter articles are submitted to Amy Powell at [asburyumc@charter.net](mailto:asburyumc@charter.net)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:15 pm ReThink Church	2 	3 5:30 pm Bible Study	4	5 	6 
7 <b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b>  9 am Sunday School  10 am Worship Service	8	9 10 am Stitching Group	10 5:30 pm Bible Study  6:30 pm Book Club	11	12	13
14 9 am Sunday School  10am Worship Service & Communion	15	16 10 am Stitching Group	17 5:30 pm Bible Study	18	19	20
21 9 am Sunday School  10 am Worship Service	22	23 10 am Stitching Group	24 10 am Memory Café  5:30 pm Bible Study	25 	26	27
28 9 am Sunday School  10 am Worship Service	29	30 10 am Stitching Group				



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