

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 2

Action at Asbury



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

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Pastor's Pondering



"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old is gone, the new is here!"

– 2 Corinthians 5: 17

New Year's resolutions can be tough to keep!! I have personally tried setting many over the years and I have found out that I am lucky if I get to week three of January before something goes wrong. I bet many of you have had the same experience. Whether we are trying to shed a few pounds or break a bad habit, it can be very difficult to change directions in life and not find ourselves reverting to our old ways.

The Apostle Paul, encouraged the early Christians to stay strong in the faith, reminding them that "the old is gone, the new is here!" He teaches that when a person accepts Jesus Christ into their heart, a fundamental change occurs – a new creation has come.

Now, does that mean that the faithful never waiver in following Christ's holy ways? Of course not, and Paul knew that well. Even in his own life, Paul refers to a "thorn in my flesh" (2 Corinthians 7). While Paul never explicitly identifies what the "thorn" is, one can imagine that it was something he wanted to change about himself, but just couldn't seem to make it happen.

Yet there is found encouragement for the Christian in the fact that Christ is all about fresh starts and second chances. We might turn the wrong direction in life, but Jesus is always there to forgive us and guide us anew. Each day is a day of new beginnings. God is making all things new!

So, as we press on into a new year, let us do our best to better our lives and our communities by following the lessons of love and service which Jesus lived each day. But let's also cut ourselves a bit of slack. When we fall – and we all will – let's not allow ourselves to be consumed by failure and the guilt so often associated with it. Let us instead, reach for the helping hand of Jesus, and get up, get going in the right direction, and start again! And always, let's remember to give thanks to God, for in Jesus Christ, we are ALWAYS granted another chance!

Blessings in the New Year,

Pastor Will





January Worship Schedule and Themes

January 2 Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion in the pews.

Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12 & Isaiah 60: 1-6

Sermon: "What Do We Bring to Our King?"

The Wise Men followed the Star to worship the baby king, bringing him gifts. What gifts do we bring to our Lord? What do you think Jesus wants most from us?

January 9 Baptism of the Lord Sunday Baptism of Violet Rosburg

Scripture: Luke 3: 15-17 & 21-22

Sermon: "With You I Am Well Pleased"

On this day we celebrate John's baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, and we give thanks for our own baptisms. This symbolic ceremony is an acknowledgment that each of us are cleansed by our God and are made holy and pure by the loving sacrifice of Jesus.

January 16 Second Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: John 2: 1-11 & 1 Corinthians 1-11

Sermon: "Saving the Best for Last"

Jesus performs his first miracle – turning water into wine. Wine (or grape juice in our United Methodist tradition) would become a symbol of Jesus' blood shed for us upon his cross. We will explore how his first miracle points to the greatest miracle of all times – the resurrection of our Lord.

January 23 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a & Luke 4: 14-21

Sermon: "We Are One Body"

Paul uses an analogy of the human body to explain the church. While we all have different roles to play, we make up the body of Christ – his Church. What is your role and how might you best serve?



January 30 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Praise Band Sunday

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 & Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Sermon: "Faith, Hope and Love"

Like Jeremiah, God calls us into God's service. And Paul, in his "Love Chapter" spells out the message we are called to deliver. Are we bringing to the world the eternal message of faith, hope, and love?





November saw income of \$11,364.39 and expenses were \$11,889.72

Unrestricted net assets are \$14,569.95

Missions:

Echo – \$370.00

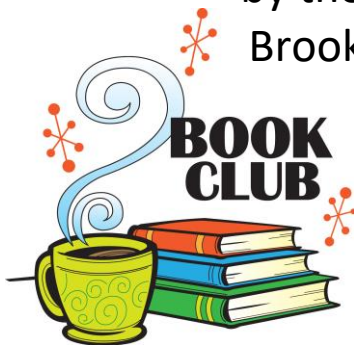
Lincoln School - \$100.00

Salvation Army - \$100.00

Mission Trobbly Kandala - \$299.00

Thank You for Your Generosity: Steve Bundy, Asbury Bookkeeper with the help of Julie Pulzin

**Reading
by the
Brook**



January of the new year of 2022 will bring light reading to *Comfort & Joy*, by Kristin Hannah. The prologue of the book reads, “In this modern-day fairy tale New York Times bestselling author Kristin Hannah gives us a very special gift: the heart- warming story of a woman at a crossroads, caught between two lives, who finds a second chance at happiness.”

Interested readers are welcome to join us for our book discussion on Wednesday evening January 19th 6:30 pm at Asbury. For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com

Our hat and mitten tree
this year!

Our mitten, scarf, and
hat donations go to
Lincoln & Jackson
Elementary Schools.

The gifts under the tree
are for the Parker Big
Give.





We give thanks for your gifts given to our December ministries. With overflowing joy, we gave abundantly to our local Parker High School BIG GIVE PROGRAM and our MITTEN TREE collection. We had monetary gifts, given as well as, Gift Cards and Wish List Presents provided to the Parker BIG GIVE Program, as well as hats and mittens for Lincoln and Jackson Elementary students. Our New Year month of January will focus on Red Bird Mission in the Appalachian Mountains in Kentucky. Asbury has supported this worthy mission with monetary donations and mission trips by youth and adults, over many years.

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

Email: 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. 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.

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)

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our next RTC meeting on Monday January 3rd, 2022, at 6:15 pm. Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.



Life is an **ECHO**
what you send out, you get back

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.

Pantry Needs:

Barilla Ready Pasta, Hormel Completes, peanut butter, soup and crackers, beef stew, tuna
Deodorant, shampoo, laundry soap, toothpaste, dish soap, diapers, size 5-6

Upcoming Events:

January 18 - MOD Pizza Fundraiser

March 26 – Swing into Spring at Glen Erin Celtic House, details to come

ECHO sends out a big thank you for the November 29, 2021, donation of \$370.00.



Violet Rosburg helped to light the Advent Candles.





2 Jeffrey Quaerna	9 Mike Wilkerson	17 Chelsea Phillips
2 Artie Zumstein	12 Sue Bent	18 Eudoris Peterson
4 Jerriann Burns	12 Russ Kuykendall	21 Bobi Abraham
5 Alec Osborne	13 Mark Wheaton	26 Jean Farris
6 Terry Penniston	14 Lois McKinney	29 Russ Dalhke
15 Donna Havens	30 John Quisenberry	



17 Darlene & Richard Coulthard

15 carolers enjoyed visiting 9 of our homebound members and shared Christmas carols. Recipients were surprised and very grateful. We were welcomed back to church with hot chocolate and delicious cookies. Thanks to all participants.



Time for a Caroling Break





Continuing Care List

Judy Campbell, Darlene and Richard Coulthard, La Vita Fanta, Robert Geisler, Marcy Gordon, Carol and Don Isbell, Diana Jewson, Sally Kruse, Shirley Nelson, Hjordis Olson, Lucille Osborne, Virginia Scarborough, Cliff & Arlette Walker, Ione Watson.

Pray for the family of Sandra Lewis who passed on 12/13/2021 and the family of June Zeilinger who passed on 12/17/21.






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 \$670 plus many gift cards and other presents!

Asbury Church would like to send out a big “THANK YOU” to the beautiful Christmas Cards, we received and hung up on the wall for all to read.



* Newsletter articles are submitted to *Amy Powell* at asburyumc@charter.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2 9AM Sunday School 10AM Worship Service & Communion	3 6 pm Rethink Church	4 10AM Stitch Group	5 Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House	6	7	8
9 9AM Sunday School 10AM Worship Service	10	11 10AM Stitch Group	12 Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House	13	14	15
16 9AM Sunday School 10AM Worship Service	17	18 10AM Stitch Group	19 Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House	20	21	22
23 9AM Sunday School 10AM Worship Service	24	25 10AM Stitch Group	26 Memory Café 10 AM Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House	27	28	29
30 9AM Sunday School 10AM Worship Service	31					





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We are on the Web!
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