

A P R I L 2 0 2 2

Action at Asbury



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Pastor's Pondering

Holy Week Approaches

Palm Sunday, **Maundy Thursday**, **Good Friday**, **Easter Sunday**! It all happens in the month of April.

This is of course, a busy time in the life of the church. Jesus' Passion is coming to its climax and we at Asbury Church will journey with him as we conclude the season of Lent and begin the season of Easter. It will be a time when we celebrate resurrection and the new life it brings both now and for eternity.

We will begin by symbolically entering Jerusalem with our Lord, with shouts of "Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the Highest!"

Palm Sunday was a time of celebration as Jesus made his triumphal entry into the holy city. Yet the celebration was short lived as within days of his arrival, the crowds began to turn on him and the Pharisees began to turn up the heat.

We will remember that day during our Palm Sunday service and explore just how the emotions and attitudes of so many changed so fast concerning our Lord.

On **Maundy Thursday**, we will have the opportunity to hear again, the story of Jesus and his Last Supper. It was the night when he instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion, humbly washed the feet of his disciples, and suffered the betrayal by Judas Iscariot which led to his arrest. We will receive Holy Communion at the rail.

Good Friday, that torturous day when Jesus was tried, whipped, and ultimately crucified, will be commemorated with a Service of Tenebrae or Service of Darkness. This is quite possibly the most moving worship experience of the year. The service recounts Jesus' Passion narrative with a powerful text that is accompanied by the extinguishing of 14 candles and finally the Christ Candle, marking Jesus' death on the cross. This worship service is one you will certainly want to experience as it will bring you ever closer to understanding and internalizing, just what Jesus' crucifixion was all about.

Finally, we will gather at 10am on **Easter Sunday** morning to rejoice and celebrate the discovery of Jesus' empty tomb. We will read the Resurrection account and sing all our favorite hymns for the day.

I do hope that you will spend as much time as you can with your Asbury Church Family during this exciting and dramatic time of Life, Death, and Resurrection. You will be drawn ever closer to your Lord and Savior during these important worship opportunities!

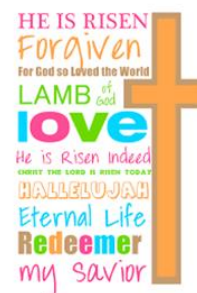
Let us continue our Journey with Jesus and learn of his love for each of us.

Pastor Will



April Worship Schedule and Themes

- April 3 Fifth Sunday of Lent 10am Worship with Holy Communion in the pews.
- Scripture: Philippians 3: 4b-14 & Isaiah 43: 16-21
 Sermon: "Knowing Christ"
 Paul writes, "I want to know Christ." What does it mean to "know Christ?" For Paul it meant turning from the ways of his past and depending on Christ through faith. We will explore the process of "letting go" of old ways and inviting God to do a new thing in us.
- April 6 Wednesday Evening Lenten Service -7pm. Soup and Sandwich Meal -6pm.
- April 10 Palm/Passion Sunday 10am Worship
- Scripture: Luke 19: 28-40 & Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29
 Sermon: "Who Has Entered the Holy City?"
 The people shouted with joy and waved palm branches as Jesus rode through the city gates. Yet in less than a week he would hang upon a cross. What went wrong that fateful week? What does the story ask of us?
- April 14 Maundy Thursday 7pm Worship with Communion at the rail.
- This evening we will retell the story of Jesus' Last Supper.
- April 15 Good Friday 7pm Worship
- This evening we will retell the story of Jesus' crucifixion through a Service of Tenebrae.
- April 17 Easter Sunday 10am Worship
- Scripture: John 20: 1-18 & Acts 10: 34
 Sermon: "I Have Seen the Lord!"
 We will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ with the reading of the Easter story and the singing of many of our favorite Easter Hymns.
- April 24 Pastor Stan Curtis will lead us in worship.





February saw income of \$20,141.00 and expenses were \$14,101.37
Unrestricted net assets are \$28,661.10

Missions Paid:

Red Bird - \$1,305

Bolivia - \$1,200

Thank you to Steve Bundy

2 Mickey Abbott

2 Ann McGrath

4 Larry Abbott

4 Logan Dahlke

4 Heidi Jensen

5 Bunny Miller

6 Grace Stewart

10 William Abraham

11 Darlene Coulthard



11 Zachery Cresswell

14 Alice Sprecher

18 Evelyn Stafford

19 Janet Luiting

19 Kristin Zeilinger

21 Vi DeRemer

21 Lucille Osborne

22 Hans Eggen

24 Shirley Martin

24 Elisabeth Parr

26 Tracy Reece

28 Dawn Cresswell



20 Julie & Troy Osborne

“Funds for Friends”

*******REMINDER*******

Sentry Foods “Funds for Friends” program is still an ongoing fund raiser for Asbury UMC. It’s so easy for all shoppers to help increase our earnings. Each time you shop at Sentry, just ask for a Funds for Friends sticker to be added to your receipt. Bring all your receipts to Asbury and place in the marked drawer in the narthex. At the end of each month, Asbury receives a 1% rebate on our total receipts. So far, this past year Asbury has earned \$239.57. Let’s keep that total growing!



ECHO Report

ECHO Service Highlights for January 2021:

41 months of rent paid to keep families housed
1507 nights in local motels for the homeless
185 seniors received stock boxes
176,226 meals provided

ECHO Needs:

Beef stew, canned meat, Ramen cups, Spaghetti O's, shelf stable microwave meals,
Diapers (sizes 4-6), shampoo, toothbrushes, body wash.

Upcoming Events:

April 24 – Crop Walk at Cargill UMC
June 6 – Eat Out of Hunger at participating restaurants
Aug 19 – School Supply Distribution
Oct 22 – Empty Bowl Fundraiser



2022 CROP HUNGER WALK

Please help support the Asbury team of walkers this year as we raise funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow!

- 25% of the funds raised will stay here locally to help with hunger concerns through ECHO.
- 75% is used by Church World Service for global relief and sustainable projects to help eliminate hunger. A portion of this year's proceeds will also help with the Ukraine relief.

We will be having an in-person, outdoor walk this year with adaptations to ensure social distancing and masking. The walk will begin at Cargill UMC on April 24, 2022, starting at 1:30 p.m. and checkout for finish should be before 3:30 p.m. Sign-in begins at 1:00.

Changes for this year - Everyone will be required to wear masks when entering Cargill for sign-in. Walkers should check in and immediately exit the hall through the north hall and out the door on the north side of the building. Maps of suggested routes will be on the table. Walkers are free to make their own adaptations. Everyone can start their walk after checking in. If you plan to walk as a team, you will need to wait outside in the front of the building, practicing social distancing. There will be no large group send off this year. Walkers should return to check in through the west entrance as before.

Continued...

Please register to walk and/or make your donation online at:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/asbury-umc-family-janesville>

Checks can be made payable to "Asbury UMC"

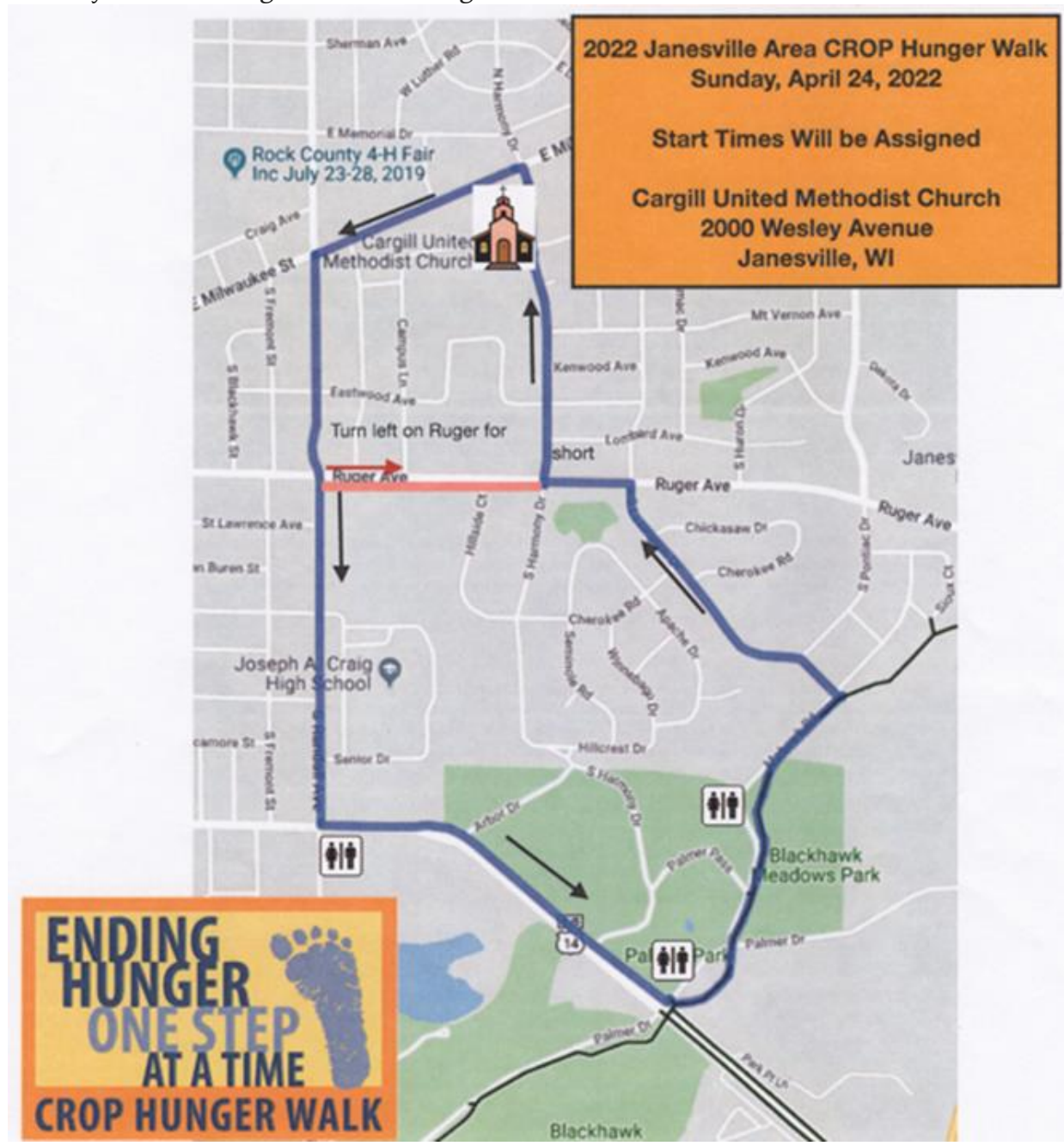
Please write "Crop Walk" in the memo line.

Checks can be put into the offering plates on Sunday morning or can be mailed to:

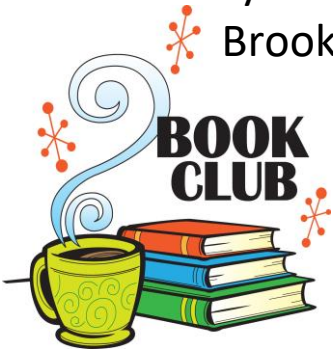
1810 Kellogg Ave, Janesville, WI 53546

Questions? Please see Connie Nelson or Will Jewson.

Thank you for walking and/or donating!



Reading by the Brook



READING BY THE BROOK

This Tender Land by author William Kent Krueger is our book choice by our Reading by the Brook group. “*This Tender Land* is a coming-of-age adventure novel by William Kent Krueger, published in 2019. “As historical fiction, the novel follows four central characters on a physical and spiritual journey through the Depression-era Midwestern United States. Krueger describes *This Tender Land* as a companion novel to his 2014 novel, *Ordinary Grace*, though each can be read independently.” Interested readers are welcome to join us for our book discussion on Wednesday evening April 27 at 6:30 pm at Asbury. For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) rkdahlke@yahoo.com

Memory Café



Memory Café provides social gatherings which 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 the 4th Wednesday of the Month at 10:00 AM**. Coffee and refreshments are an added bonus.



Jeff Quaerna is our GIFTS liaison from Asbury. He attends church wide coordination meetings to support this worthwhile community organization.

Jeff has donated meals and offers his time as an overnight chaperone. He will be volunteering for a week in May or June and would like the support of other volunteers to assist with a night or two.

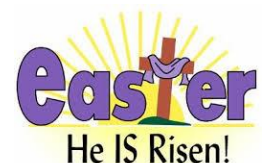
Call the church office if this is a service of interest to you.

Thanks, Jeff, for your dedication to GIFTS.



Continuing Care List

Darlene and Richard Coulthard, LaVita Fanta, Robert Geisler, Carol and Don Isbell, Diana Jewson, Shirley Nelson, Hjordis Olson, Lucille Osborne, Virginia Scarborough, Ione Watson





UMCOR monetary gifts given in March were gratefully received by the organization.

UMCOR urgently continues in seeking financial help for the present crucial needs in Ukraine. One hundred percent (100%) of money donated is given in support of this desperate situation.

April Ministry Matters focus will support the annual local CROP Walk. Join with us as we raise funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow!

Pastor Will is presently seeking local Gas Station Gift Cards in the amount of \$20-\$25 dollars for his discretionary funding to those in our community who are in need.

MINISTRY MATTERS MOMENTS

Ministry Name: Church World Service CWS/CROP Walk

Ministry Location: Worldwide Virtual CROP Walk Janesville WI Sunday April 24, 2022

Ministry Start Date: The Crop Project was organized in 1947 when farmers were asked to donate food and seed crops to our hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia, a program that soon became known as the Christian Rural Overseas Program - CROP. In 1969 in Bismarck, North Dakota, and in 1970 in York, Pennsylvania, the first walk events were organized to raise funds to support CROP. Since then, CROP Hunger Walk events have been held in hundreds of communities large and small raising millions of dollars to eradicate hunger and poverty.

Asbury Ministry Contact Person: Connie Nelson (608) 758-5564

Ministry Purpose: CWS and CROP Hunger Walks. CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk events held in cities and towns across the United States, raising funds to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.



Rethink Church Continued...

Ministry Vision: We believe that there is enough food, water, and justice for everyone in our world.

Ministry Mission Statement: Our work to build alliances among faith groups, civil society, advocates, and those in need and provide programs, and services that are impactful, is as critical now as it has ever been.

Ministry Needs: **Get Involved!** Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen. Register for your local CROP Hunger Walk, raise funds, and take us one step closer to ending hunger once and for all. Join the movement!

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our next RTC meeting on Monday April 4th, 2022, at 5:30 pm.

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



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, April 26, 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 to fill out an application.

Agrace Offers Virtual Support in April

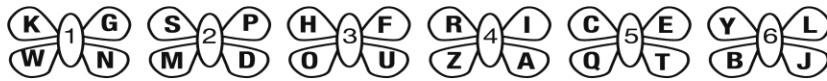
In April, grief support specialists from Agrace are offering one-on-one grief support, and two grief support groups for adults:

- **One-on-one grief support** is available by phone or video chat.
- **Bridges** meets online April 13 and 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- **Spouse/Partner Loss Support Group** meets at the Agrace office in Janesville on Tuesdays, April 12 to May 17, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

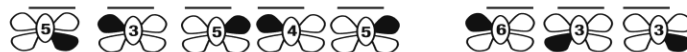
Pre-registration is required for all groups and one-on-one appointments. For details, fees or to register, visit [Agrace.org/GriefGroups](https://agrace.org/GriefGroups) or call (608) 327-7118.

Puzzle!

Use the code to uncover the angel's message in Matthew 28:7 (NIV).



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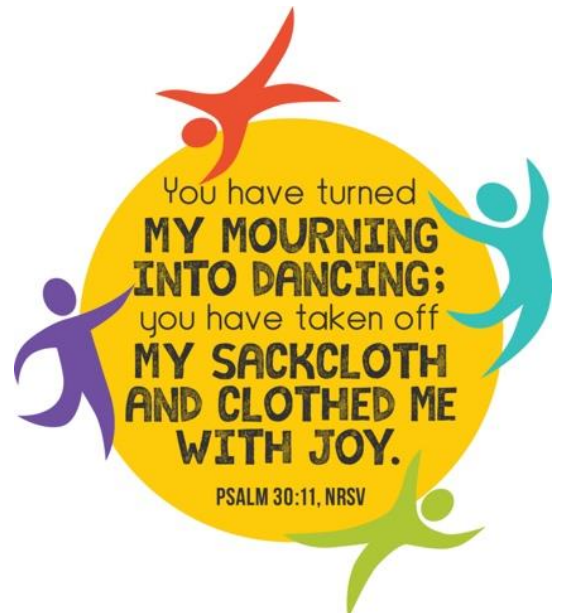
Answer: “He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.”



UPDATE: Games for All!!

9 People attended - children and adults.
We used 3 tables to spread out.
Some of the games played - Cribbage, Sequence, Sorry,
and Spoons.

STAY TUNED FOR A FUTURE GAME NIGHT!!



PUZZLE

Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

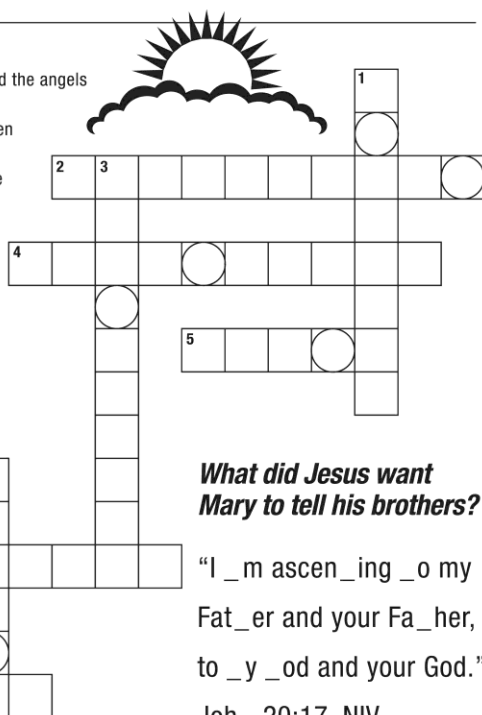
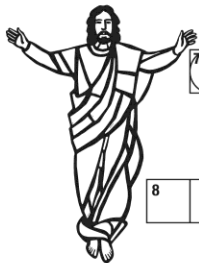
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

- The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
- The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
- The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
- Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
- Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

- At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
- As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
- She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen _ ing _ o my
Fat _ er and your Fa _ her,
to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh _ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen;
DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and
your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV

HOLY WEEK i-spy

Create this craft to share the events of Holy Week with a younger sibling or friend.



What you need:

- Clear bottle or jar with lid
- White rice
- Small items that symbolize Holy Week events

What you do:

1. Pour rice into bottle or jar so it's about two-thirds full.
2. Add the small items. Ideas: leaf, donkey, cup, towel square, praying hands, coin, bird, nails, thorn, cross, dice, stick, lamb, stone, white fabric.
3. Fasten the lid. Then shake and turn the bottle to "spy" each item.



EGG-STRAVAGANZA is back!

Saturday, April 16 at 11:00 AM

Asbury will host an Easter Egg Hunt for Children of all ages.

Dawn Creswell will take the lead for this event. We are seeking 4 volunteers to help hand out bags of candy and hide eggs.

A large basket will be in the narthex for our candy donations. (Due to Covid, we are holding off on the Easter Breakfast this year)



2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
3 9 AM Sunday School 10 am Sunday Service & Communion	4 5:30 pm Rethink Church	5 10 AM Stitching Group	6 Soup & Sandwiches @ 6 PM 7 PM Lenten Service	7	8	9
10 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Service 	11	12 10 AM Stitching Group	13	14 Maundy Thursday 7 PM Service & 	15  Service @ 7 PM	16 EGG-STRAVAGANZA!!!! 11 AM 
17 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Easter Service 	18	19 10 AM Stitching Group	20	21	22 	23
24 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Sunday Service CROP Walk — Virtual/In-person - meet at Cargill church at 1:30 pm	25	26 10 AM Stitching Group	27 10 AM Memory Café Book Club @ 6:30 PM 	28	29	30 

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



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April 2022