Action at Asbury



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Pastor's Pondering

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29: 11-13

Providing us hope and a future! That is at the core of what our God is all about. When troubles weigh heavily upon us, it does us well to keep this simple truth in mind: That in God, there is always found hope and a future.

Scripture, like life itself, contains story after story of ordinary people facing extraordinary challenges of life. Many of those challenges are no fault of their own, yet they exist as barriers before them, and they can lead to a sense of hopelessness and despair. Sometimes the challenges simply seem too great.

Yet the message of our God is that with God hope is always present. With God, strength is found. With God we have an ever-present advocate; One who listens to our prayers and raises us up in our time of trouble. This is at the very core of the Good News!

Jesus Christ's ministry focused on bringing people this very hope. By feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and forgiving the sinner he changed the course of life for hurting people. He gave them reasons to move forward with confidence when faced with uncertainty about that which lies ahead. As followers of Jesus Christ – as his Church – it becomes our mission to bring that same hope to those in need this very day.

I especially like the words of St. Peter as he closes out his first letter. He writes: "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm, and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 5: 10-11

What might we say - what might we do - to bring to another, this Good News?

Blessings,

Pastor Will



August Worship Schedule and Themes

August 7 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship with Communion in the pews.

Scripture: Luke 12: 32-40 & Psalm 46: 1-11

Sermon: "Watching and Waiting"

Jesus encourages his disciples to be ever ready for his return. Do we conduct our lives in such a way that we will be prepared to receive him without reservation? Do we face the future with hopeful anticipation or

fearful anxiety?

August 14 **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost** 10am Worship

Scripture: Luke 12: 49-56 & Psalm 47: 1-9

Sermon: "Jesus Said What?"

Today's Gospel reading contains words which some wish were never spoken. Yet Jesus challenges his hearers with a message of division within families and an absence of peace on earth. What is behind these

troubling words spoken by the Prince of Peace?

August 21 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship

Scripture: Luke 13: 10-17 & Psalm 71: 1-6

Sermon: "Sabbath Sins"

Jesus had a knack of getting under the skin of the Pharisees and synagogue leaders. Our Gospel story today has him, once again, doing things which ran in contrast to the opinions of those in charge.

We will learn how Jesus redefined Jewish law and how his

understanding of the law got him in trouble.

August 28 Peggy Eggen to lead our live worship service at 10am.



Special Thank You From UMCOR

Thank you for financial support in the amount of \$1,700.00 in the month of June. 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



Below are the monthly themes for Memory Café!!

August 24 American Adventures month

Aug is golden & Am Artists

September 28 The Special Days of September

October 26 Tea Party
November 23 Card Making

December 28 Year End Wrap Up

If you, a loved one, neighbor, or friend would like to participate, please join us at Asbury UMC on August 24 at 10:00 AM. Coffee and refreshments are an added bonus.

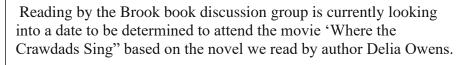


Continuing Care List



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

Reading by the Brook





In the month of August - date yet to be determined- we will hold a picnic meal at the Dahlke's home. We will distribute our September book at that time.

Interested readers are welcome to join us. For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) rkdahlke@yahoo.com



June saw income of \$10,301.41 and expenses were \$14,567.00

Unrestricted net assets are \$30,642.16

Missions Paid:

None in June

Thank you for your generosity: Steve Bundy, Asbury Bookkeeper.



In gratitude we give thanks for your monetary donations of our July Ministry for **ECHO** (Every Cooperating to Help Others.)

Our August 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.
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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.
 - a. Plans address seven key areas and are designed to help youth overcome barriers and acquire knowledge and skills to live independently.

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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, August 1, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com with your ideas.



Christmas in July Baby Shower for Jesus

brought in an awesome amount of baby items.

Thanks so much for your generous donations. Baby Girl and Boy bags have been filled (4 per hospital) with a variety of baby necessities. Hospital staff will determine which families may need extra support for their newborn. A message from our Asbury congregation is included which expresses our love and joy for their baby and extends an invitation for them to visit our church family.

Despite the hot, humid weather, 13 folks stayed for delicious egg bakes donated by Cari Croft, Kathy Dahlke and Pat Spors. Jeff Quaerna donated muffins and donuts. Pat made Christmas Cookies and brought fruit. Shower games were played. Diana enjoyed opening baby presents.

GRAND TOTALS:

860 Diapers 23 pkg Wipes

5 Bottles, 3 Bottle Brushes

6 nuks, 1 grab toy

1 shampoo, 14 washcloths, 2 hooded towels, 5 receiving blankets, 16 bibs,

4 books, 4 shoes, 2 booties, 2 pairs socks, 2 Burp cloths,

Boys: 7 sleepers, 22 onesies, 2 pants/shirts sets, 3 shirts,

Girls: 20 onesies, 7 sleepers, 6 dresses, 4 shirt/pant outfits, 5 hats, 54 knitted hats, 15 baby bags, tissue and ribbon.

\$106.50 in monetary donations will be used to supplement items for the bags.





Agrace Offers Virtual Grief Support in July

This July, Agrace is offering one-on-one grief support and a professionally led, virtual grief support group:

- One-on-one grief support is available by phone or video chat. This support is open to anyone, even if the person who died did not have hospice care. Available by appointment only.
- **Bridges** is for adults grieving the death of any loved one. This July, virtual meetings are July 13 and 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Pre-registration is required.

There is no fee for people whose family member was in hospice care in the past 12 months; fees for others can be lowered or waived, if needed. Call (608) 327-7118 with questions, to register or make an appointment.

- 2 Pat Erickson
- 3 Jermiah 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 Mary Nelson
- 23 Robert Geisler
- 26 Claude Eakins
- 26 David Hill
- 29 Peggy Eggen



18 Mickey & Larry Abbott



22 Lynn & Stan Curtis

30 Rogena & Duane Andrus



ECHO Report August 2022

ECHO Calendar of Events:

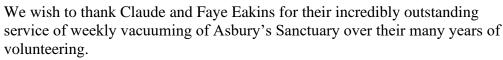
October 22 – Empty Bowls to go, orders will be taken prior to the event and frozen soups will be available for pick up.

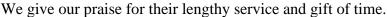
ECHO Needs: Rice, Hormel Completes, Hamburger Helper, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Motel Single Serve Foods, Bottled Water, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, Shampoo, and Conditioner.

Exciting News:

ECHO has received grant funding to provide 3 new housing units for those in need. The units will be duplexes and hopefully will be ready for occupancy by late summer/fall 2023. ECHO is working with Project 16:49 to bring 10 rapid re-housing units to Rock/Walworth Counties specifically for homeless adults 18-24 yrs. old

SANCTUARY VACUUM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED





We are currently seeking new volunteers for vacuuming the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary typically receives the most traffic and requires weekly or at least every other week attention.

We are open to options of having vacuuming volunteers share this task by specifying weekly, or monthly care.

The more hands we have the less burden we place on this need. Please contact Kathy Dahlke (608-295-7623) to volunteer or for more information.

TRUSTEE UPDATE



Asbury Church Trustee Committee are in the process of planning for the much overdue Parsonage maintenance. The current funds in the trustee budget will allow first floor painting walls and ceilings and replacing carpeting and vinyl floors. Watch for updates in the coming weeks.

Get ready to share your talents.

Asbury is looking to host our craft fair in March of 2023. We will look at a specific date at a later time, but we wanted to get the word out for everyone to start their creative projects for a spring show.









Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	RETHINK CHURCH 5:30 PM	2	3 STITCHING GROUP 10 AM	4	5	6 FELLOWSHIP HALL G. STONE 1 – 4 PM
SUNDAY SERVICE & COMMUNION 10 AM	8	9 Men's Breakfast @ 8:30 AM	10	11	12	JAZZ BAND PRACTICE 9 AM PRAISE BAND PRACTICE 10 AM
SUNDAY SERVICE 10 AM	15	16	STITCHING GROUP 10 AM	18	19	20
SUNDAY SERVICE 10 AM	22	23	24 MEMORY CAFÉ 10 AM	25	26	JAZZ BAND PRACTICE 9 AM PRAISE BAND PRACTICE 10 AM
SUNDAY SERVICE 10 AM	29	30	31	00		

* Newsletter articles are submitted to Amy Powell at <u>asburyumc@charter.net</u> August
Be present.
Let the day flow with grace.
Expect nothing. Give thanks.
Surrender. Be open.
Speak only kindness.
Impart only love.
Never forget you are not alone.
Give so that you may receive.
See goodness in others.

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