

J U L 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

### "What is Our Goal?"

*"God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." (1 John 4: 16b)*

It is always good to set goals in life. We set exercise goals. (How many of us wear Fitbits or similar devices?) We set goals in our work environment. We set goals when we try to tackle a new hobby or engage in a new task. Goals become markers in life by which we gauge the progress we make.

But do we set goals in our lives of faith? I believe we should because our faith is a living, and hopefully, a growing thing.

As a United Methodist ordained minister, I stood before Bishop Jung in the summer of 2019 and was asked the "historic questions" that every ordinand has been asked since John Wesley began ordaining ministers in the Methodist Church.

Two of those questions are these: **"Are you going on to perfection?"** and **"Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?"** Of course, the expected answer is "Yes, with God's help." Those questions got me thinking about just what is the goal of our faith, not just for the ordinand, but for each one of us who follow Jesus Christ?

I believe the goal of our faith is to become ever more Christ-like. And to become Christ-like means to live in such a way that we reflect the love of God in all that we do, all that we say, all that we think. Now, we all know that we have not achieved this goal. We all have those ugly moments in life where we find ourselves being less than loving, less than forgiving, and less than easy to live with. But having said this, it is our task to recognize our short-comings and strive for the goal of going on to perfection and being made perfect in love in this life.

Scripture tells us that "God is love." Jesus Christ showed us that God-like love can be obtained in human life. He was the incarnate example of "God is love" when he walked among us. Yes, he set the bar incredibly high, establishing a goal that may seem unattainable. Yet, the goal is forever before us and it becomes our task to grow in the faith through prayer and praise, worship and Bible study, Christ-like service to our neighbors, and the expression of love to all whom we meet. It is a goal which brings the reward of hope, joy, peace and yes – love. It is life affirming to ourselves and live giving to those around us.

Let love be our goal of faith as we go on to perfection.

Blessings,  
Pastor Will



# July Worship Schedule and Themes

## July 3 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship with Holy Communion in the pews.

Scripture: Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 & Psalm 30

Sermon: "Help Wanted"

Jesus sends out a large group of missionaries to areas where he plans to visit. In doing so, he tells them that "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." The church faces that same challenge today - doing the work of God in a world with such great need. Are we willing to be sent as "a lamb among wolves" as Jesus put it?

## July 10 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship

Scripture: Luke 10: 25-37 & Colossians 1: 1-14

Sermon: "Neighbors Near and Far"

The Parable of the Good Samaritan is one of the best-known stories shared by Jesus. Yet knowing the parable is not the same as living the parable. Is our understanding of "neighbor" inclusive enough? We will examine our hearts together as we seek to broaden our definition of "neighbor."

## July 17 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship

Scripture: Luke 10: 38-42 & Colossians 1: 15-28

Sermon: "Choosing That Which is Better"

Our Gospel story today tells of Mary and Martha, and their encounter with Jesus one day at Martha's home. The women assume differing roles with their guest and Jesus offers advice as to which woman made the best choice concerning his visit. Who was this man who visited that day? We find the answer in Paul's letter to the Colossians.

## July 24 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship

Scripture: Luke 11: 1-13 & Colossians 2: 6-10

Sermon: "Asking and Receiving"

Jesus teaches his disciples, not only how to pray, but also the benefits of prayer. It is always okay to "ask" of God through prayer. As long as our asking is consistent with God's will, we can be confident that our prayers will be answered. But what about those times when God says "Not yet" or even "No?"

## July 31 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship Praise Band Sunday

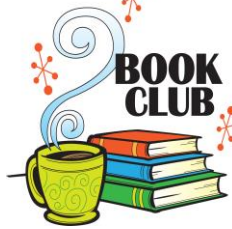
Scripture: Luke 12: 13-21 & Colossians 3: 1-11

Sermon: "Living the Rich Life"

Our Gospel story finds Jesus teaching about the selfishness of a rich man. But Jesus redefines what true wealth looks like. Paul adds to the story by Teaching his readers to "set your minds on things above."



## Reading by the Brook



Asbury book discussion group decided for the month of July to share their favorite books and authors with one another. Interested readers are welcome to join us for our gathering on Wednesday evening July 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m., weather permitting in the church Gazebo at Asbury.

There are 8 chairs and a table in the Gazebo for our use.

For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623)

[rkdahlke@yahoo.com](mailto:rkdahlke@yahoo.com)



May saw income of \$10,320.56 and expenses were \$14,133.96

Unrestricted net assets are \$31,592.81

Missions Paid: UMCOR \$1,700.00

Thank You for Your Generosity: Steve Bundy, Asbury Bookkeeper

# Puzzle!

Match each clue with the correct biblical dreamer.  
Use the Scripture hints if needed.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ___ 1. This person's brothers were irritated to hear of certain dreams.          | A. Pharaoh<br>(Genesis 41:17-21)            |
| ___ 2. Angels went up and down a ladder in this person's dreams.                 | B. The Magi<br>(Matthew 2:12)               |
| ___ 3. This person dreamed about skinny cows eating fat cows.                    | C. Jacob<br>(Genesis 28:12)                 |
| ___ 4. After an unpleasant dream, this person warned a loved one to avoid Jesus. | D. Pharaoh's cupbearer<br>(Genesis 40:9-11) |
| ___ 5. This person saw a statue whose feet were smashed by a stone.              | E. NT Joseph<br>(Matthew 2:13)              |
| ___ 6. A dream warned this person (plus family) to flee to Egypt.                | F. OT Joseph<br>(Genesis 37:9, 11)          |
| ___ 7. This person saw a vine produce grapes, with juice squeezed into a cup.    | G. Pilate's wife<br>(Matthew 27:19)         |
| ___ 8. A dream warned about Herod's evil plan.                                   | H. Daniel (Daniel 2:31-35)                  |

Answers: 1. F, 2. C, 3. A, 4. G, 5. H, 6. E, 7. D, 8. B

## STITCHING GROUP UPDATE



Stitching group will now be meeting on the  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays  
at 10 AM





### Project 16:49 Student of the Month

Asbury UMC has been a strong supporter of Project 16:49 which serves Rock County's unaccompanied homeless teens. Now we'll all get an "up close and personal" look at an individual student each month and learn their current needs. Please consider a donation to support Salem as he continues his life journey.

"While here [Project 16:49 transitional living home], not everyone progresses at the same pace. It is amazing, the patience and tolerance the program and staff have...allowing us the time we need to grow and make changes to improve ourselves and our lives. I, myself, have greatly benefited from this patience and tolerance. I appreciate all of the support I've gotten here. Without it, I would not be where I am today." - Salem

Salem was a high school Junior and just turning 17 when he found himself homeless. Thankfully, his high school counselor referred him to Project 16:49, and he was able to move into our transitional living home. He has struggled with a number of issues stemming from the abuse and trauma he experienced as a child and adolescent and has worked hard to take control of his life and move forward. Watching him find his voice and begin to flourish has been incredible. Today, Salem provides a great example for other residents: making positive lifestyle choices, getting his driver's license, buying a car, doing his chores and helping around the house, graduating high school, and learning key independent living skills.

Salem is very bright, sincere, creative and passionate. He is a great cook (everything from Italian wedding cookies to ramen bowls with homemade broth), an avid reader and learner, and likes to engage in lively debates on a diverse range of topics - especially politics and economics. This summer he is working and saving money as he prepares to start a new chapter of his life - college!

Salem will be attending UW-River Falls this fall and plans to become a history teacher so he can make an impact and inspire future generations. Salem and all of us at Project 16:49 appreciate your support in ensuring he has the things he needs as he transitions to college and dorm life. We asked him to create an Amazon wish list, which can be found here: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3P75YMDXSZN6J?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3P75YMDXSZN6J?ref=wl_share)

Other items that would be helpful: power strip/surge protector, Command strips and poster tack to hang things, hand vacuum, sketch book, and gift cards - Kwik Trip, Walmart, Culvers, Jimmy John's, and Domino's Pizza have locations in River Falls / Hudson.



## RETHINK CHURCH

We thank everyone that contributed to the funds raised in June for our local GIFTS Men's Shelter. In July will be focused on ECHO (Everyone Cooperating to Help Others). Emily Arthur is the new PR and Development Manager for ECHO. Donations are always accepted at ECHO "however" monetary donations can purchase more items per dollar.

### MINISTRY MATTERS MOMENTS

**Ministry Name:** ECHO (Everyone Cooperating to Help Others)

**Ministry Location:** 65 High Street Janesville, WI 53548

**Phone:** 608-754-5333      **Ministry Start Date:** 1969

**Ministry Contact Person:** Asbury UMC ECHO Coordinator Heidi Jensen

**Ministry Mission Statement:** ECHO's mission is dedicated to meeting housing, food and other basic human needs and addressing the barriers to self-sufficiency.

**Ministry Services:** ECHO has grown from being a food pantry and clothing depot to being a charity organization called upon to help meet temporary housing, food, transportation, and other emergency needs for low-income families.

ECHO seeks to help people help themselves through its programs and services, not readily available through other sources, and to assist them in utilizing other existing services and programs in the community. It does not impose any theological or political value system upon those served.

Requests for assistance may be made at the ECHO Office.

ECHO receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and/or a federal, state, or local public or private entity to provide services for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

For information on their food pantry and other services they offer, visit their website.

ECHO is presently collaborating with Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development, Inc. to bring 6 additional transitional living units to our community!

They thank the City of Janesville, WI for providing this amazing opportunity through the Pay It Forward grant! The City presented a Pay It Forward grant to the Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development, Inc. The non-profit is currently working to construct affordable housing in Janesville with its local partner ECHO, Inc. They will use the grant funds to build six additional housing units in our community.



## RETHINK CHURCH CONTINUED...

**Ministry Needs:** Food Pantry – “Food that’s in, when schools out”

With it being the first week of summer, they wanted to remind you that their food pantry is open M-F from 9am-11am.

Below is also a great tool if people are looking for the other ways to receive food this summer.

Agencies:	Providing food and including commodities:
Janesville Farmer’s Market Vouchers	Emergency Rent Assistance
Senior “Stock box” Program	Emergency Lodging
Bread & other Food provided to breakfast clubs	Cleaning & Personal Supplies
Humane Society Pet Pantry	Diapers & Baby Food
	Gas & Bus Vouchers
	Clothing Vouchers
	Community Meals

Donate money or needed items.

ECHO also, maintains an Amazon Wishlist so that generous donors can purchase items such as office supplies and homeless outreach items on their behalf and send them directly to the ECHO office.

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our next RTC meeting on Monday July 11th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or [rk Dahlke@yahoo.com](mailto:rk Dahlke@yahoo.com) with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.

## Many Hands Make Work Light

On behalf of the Asbury Church Family, I would like to say “Thank you” to all who tend to the buildings and grounds of our church. We have many who continue to help as volunteers keeping our facilities looking wonderful. Thanks to: Russ and Kathy Dahlke, Claude and Faye Eakins, Jeff Quaerna, Joan Tiffany, Mark McKinney, Bob Banner, Brenda and Steve Whitney, Diane Bundy, Chuck, Kari, and Jaicy Campbell, Mike Diers, Mark Polzin and the team at Budget Auto. Forgive me if I have left anyone else off this list. Your services are deeply appreciated.

Pastor Will





## Memory Café

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month

10am – 11am

July 27 will be looking at Social Wellness Month & the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Drop in and join us for fun and conversation in a relaxed environment. Activities can include creative projects, guest presenters, music, storytelling, games and simply sharing among friends.

Group designed for those with mild memory loss, mild cognitive impairment or early Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers.

If you require help to participate, please bring someone with you.  
If you have questions, please contact Karen at 608-741-3615.

## Have you heard the news?

HealthNet has successfully raised over \$4.4 million to facilitate our relocation to 113 S. Franklin Street in Janesville, officially closing our Capital Campaign.

The support from the Southern Wisconsin Community and beyond has been overwhelming, and we cannot wait to expand our capacity and services for our patients.

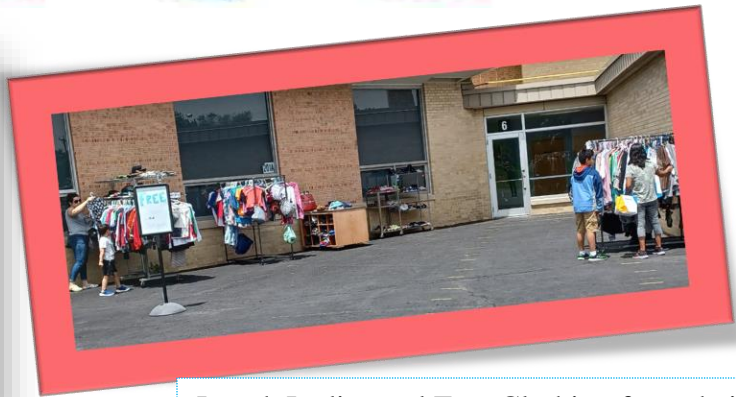
In our new building, we will double our medical service capacity and more than triple our dental service capacity. We will also be introducing one-of-a-kind services in our new clinic such as group treatment for women suffering from addiction as well as dental services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.



Midwest Mission Distribution Center would like to thank Asbury Church for our generous donation of the Personal Dignity Kits.



## Lincoln School



Lunch Ladies and Free Clothing from their Family Resource Center which Asbury supports was available for attendees today



4 persons volunteered to support staff in their end of year picnic for kids and families.

Linda Sailing, Maggie Bunderson, Mickey Abbott and Pat Spors







Asbury United Methodist Church will be hosting:  
**A BABY Shower for JESUS on July 24th**  
**following our 10 AM worship service.**

Come share in a light brunch, fellowship and above all a community service project to gather items for families in need with newborns.

The maternity department at Mercy Hospital has been receiving supplies from one of our members for the last several years and seeks support through donations.

3-4 Baby bags are made up for each gender full of much needed baby items and left with staff at the hospital.

We are looking to coordinate this project with the other UMC churches.

Asbury will be supporting this project for the summer months so what better time to gather and have fun in **His** name.

If interested in attending, please RSVP to Pat at 608-487-1211.

**Gifts could include:**

- newborn or preemie diapers size 1 and/or 2
- general baby supplies for either a boy or a girl
- onesies
- receiving blankets
- bibs
- clothes
- socks
- toys
- pacifiers
- wipes
- large gift bags



1 Troy Osborne  
 2 Wendy Anderson-Markow  
 2 Harriet Christopherson  
 3 Richard Coulthard  
 3 Jodi McMullen  
 3 Stephen Nelson  
 4 Ruth Polzin  
 5 Barb Doubleday



5 Brandon Zeilinger  
 8 Patrick Waite  
 9 Stan Curtis  
 9 Richard Lyth  
 9 Gaye White  
 17 Carolyn Schultz

18 Theresa Luepnitz  
 18 Mike Woods  
 21 Faye Eakins  
 21 Madolyn Rosburg  
 22 Dennis Sailing  
 23 Jan Diers  
 24 John Luepnitz  
 28 Robin Bent  
 28 Arlette Walker



1 Wendy & Larry Markow  
 2 Marj & Bob Banner  
 5 Artie & Phil Zumstein  
 10 Gaye & Mike White  
 23 Judy & Charles Culb  
 27 Bobi & William Abraham



28 Deborah & Lloyd Coulthard  
 28 Faye & Claude Eakins  
 30 Jan & Mike Diers  
 30 Evelyn & Raymond Stafford




## 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.



# 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Sunday Service & Communion @ 10 AM	4 	5	6 Stitching Group @ 10 AM	7	8	9 Jazz Band Rehearsal 9 AM  Praise Band Rehearsal 10 AM
10 Sunday Service @ 10 AM	11 RTC @ 5:30 PM	12	13	14	15	16
17 Sunday Service @ 10 AM	18	19	20 Stitching Group @ 10 AM  Reading by the Brook @ 6:30 PM	21	22	23 Jazz Band Rehearsal 9 AM  Praise Band Rehearsal 10 AM
24 Sunday Service @ 10 AM Christmas in July Baby Shower	25	26	27 Memory Café @ 10 AM	28	29	30 Fellowship Hall rental Polzin wedding shower
31 Sunday Service @ 10 AM						

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



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