

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 3

Action at Asbury



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

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Pastor's Pondering

It might seem a bit hard to believe, but the season of Lent will be quickly upon us. Ash Wednesday falls on February 22nd and the first Sunday in Lent is February 26th. Doesn't it seem like we just put the Christmas decorations away?

So what is the season of Lent all about? We offer extra worship services on Wednesday evenings with a Soup and Sandwich Supper at 6pm followed by worship at 7pm. What is it that calls us together as the Asbury Church Family for this extra time of reflection and preparation? Let's refresh our memories about the season of Lent.

The United Methodist Book of Worship has a nice little synopsis of Lent. This is what it teaches.

"Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. 'Lent' comes from the Anglo-Saxon word 'lencten,' which means 'spring.' The season is a preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. The first Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan; and the sixth Sunday (Passion/Palm Sunday), Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion and death. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectations of the Resurrection.

The Great Three Days – sometimes called the Triduum or Pasch – from sunset Holy Thursday through sunrise Easter Day are the climax of Lent (and of the whole Christian year) and a bridge into the Easter Season. These days proclaim the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. During these days, the community journeys with Jesus from the upper room, to the cross, to the tomb, and to the garden. They should be seen as a great unified service beginning with a service of Holy Communion on Holy Thursday and concluding with a prayer vigil lasting from Holy Thursday evening (or Good Friday) until the first service of Easter and may be accompanied by fasting."

So, there you have it! An "official" look at Lent.

But what does Lent mean to you?

For me, it is a special chance to walk with Christ when he seems most "fully human." A time when he was betrayed by his friends, prayed so intimately and passionately, suffered so severely, and died for each of us so willingly. For me, Jesus' love for each of us is so deeply experienced during the season of Lent.

May each of us walk with Jesus – and with each other – as we prepare our hearts and minds for this very important season of the Christian year.

Blessings,

Pastor Will



February

Worship Schedule and Themes

February 5 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 10am Worship with Holy Communion

Scripture: Matthew 5: 13-20 & Isaiah 58: 1-9a

Sermon: "Actions Speak Louder than Words"

Both Jesus and Isaiah preach a call to action in the lives of those who would follow God. Do our lives provide a guiding light for those around us? Is service to others important in our daily life of faith? Following Christ is always a call to action.

February 12 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 10am Worship

Scripture: Matthew 5: 21-26 & Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Sermon: "Go and Be Reconciled"

Jesus is all about healthy relationships. Relationships between people and God and relationships between individuals. Are we doing all we can to nurture good will between ourselves and our neighbors, our family members, and others with whom we interact? Discipleship requires relationship building.

February 19 Transfiguration Sunday 10am Worship Reception of New Members

Scripture: Matthew 17: 1-9 & Exodus 24: 12-18

Sermon: "Ascending Toward God"

Sacred Places are important in our Scriptures and mountains are especially important as they are often the setting for encounters with God. What lessons are taught upon the sacred mountains? What is discovered by those who have sacred encounters with God.

February 26 First Sunday of Lent 10am Worship

Scripture: Matthew 4: 1-11 & Psalm 32

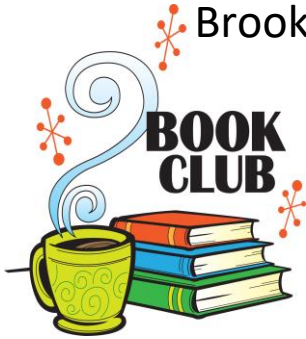
Sermon: "Into the Wilderness"

Jesus' begins his public ministry in the most challenging fashion. He is led into the wilderness by the devil and is tempted with worldly things. Yet, by the power of God, he resists temptation and stays on the path of righteousness. What might be the temptations placed before us? And how might we overcome them?





Reading by the Brook



Our Asbury book readers have chosen for the month of February,

The Orphan Tale by author Pam Jenoff.

A powerful novel of friendship set in a traveling circus during World War II, *The Orphan's Tale* introduces two extraordinary women and their harrowing stories of sacrifice and survival.

Readers that are interested are welcome to join us for a book discussion at Asbury on **February 21st at 6:30 pm**. For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) rkdhake@yahoo.com

Memory Café



Memory Café Meeting times:

Location: Asbury Church

Time: 10 AM on February 23, 2023

If things change, it will be posted on our website banner.



FEBRUARY 2023 NEEDS

Thank you for your support!!

**Peanut Butter & Jelly
Hamburger Helper
Tuna Helper
Diced Tomatoes**

**Tomato Sauce
Spaghetti Sauce
Pork & Beans
Tuna**

Fundraiser:

Swing into Spring at Revv Aviation

Date: April 14

Time: 7 - 10 pm

Cost: \$30



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

- 282 MONTHS OF RENT PAID TO KEEP FAMILIES HOUSED
- 10,553 NIGHTS IN A LOCAL MOTEL FOR THE HOMELESS
- 2,781 SENIORS RECEIVED A SENIOR STOCKBOX
- 2,705,604 MEALS PROVIDED
- 600 THANKSGIVING BASKETS PROVIDED
- 575 CHRISTMAS DAY MEALS SERVED

Thank you for helping ECHO's mission of meeting housing, food and other basic human needs and addressing the barriers to self-sufficiency.



2023 Calendar of Events

- ♦ 4/4-4/6 Children's Easter Basket Distribution at the ECHO Office
- ♦ 4/14 Swing Into Spring at Revv Aviation
- ♦ 4/30 CROP Hunger Walk at Cargill UMC
- ♦ 6/5 Eat Out for Hunger All day at participating restaurants
- ♦ 8/25 School Supply Distribution
- ♦ 10/14 Das Boot Run
- ♦ 10/21 Empty Bowl Soup Fundraiser
- ♦ 11/18 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution at the ECHO Office

More info on all these events can be found at www.echojanesville.org

Personal Items

**Deodorant
Toothbrushes
Laundry Soap
Feminine Pads
Conditioner**



Follow
ECHOJanesville

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation now to keep food on the tables and a roof over the heads of our neighbors who are struggling.

Wisconsin Conference UMC VIM NATIONAL TRIPS 2023

Trips are posted on our Wall inside the Narthex for your viewing. I have saved the information on my computer if there is a certain trip in which you are interested. Please let me know and I will email details to you.

Trip dates and Names:

March 20-24, 2023

Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Pawnee, IL



Project 16:49 sent a thank you letter –

188 holiday bags went out to struggling youth and additionally 50 youth were adopted out to receive Christmas Gifts.

Agrace Offers Grief Support Group Options in February

In February, Agrace is offering professionally led, in-person and virtual (accessible with a tablet, computer or smartphone) grief support options.

- **Journey Through Grief** is a six-week grief support group series for adults. It meets Thursdays, February 16 to March 23, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Agrace in Janesville.
- **Bridges (virtual)** is for adults grieving the death of any loved one. Meetings are held every other Wednesday. In February, meetings are February 8 and 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Pre-registration is required for each session.

There is no fee for these programs if a participant's family member was in hospice care in the past 12 months; fees for others can be lowered or waived, if needed. Pre-registration is required; call (608) 327-7118 with questions or to register.

Get Expert Customized Grief Support—by Text

Agrace now offers thoughtful, customized text messages from a service called Help Texts. It's free and you can sign up even if you are also receiving grief support individually or in a group. To sign up or learn more, visit HelpTexts.com/Agrace.



RETHINK CHURCH January 3, 2023

We give thanks for your generosity supporting **Red Bird Mission** during the month of January. Our February Ministry will focus on our community **HealthNet of Rock County**. We will be offering a tour for Asbury congregates of the new Health Net Facility.



Ministry Name: **HealthNet of Rock County**. **Start Date:** 1994

Ministry Location: 113 S Franklin St, Janesville, WI 53548

Ministry Contact: 608-756-4638

Ministry Purpose: **HealthNet of Rock County, Inc.** is a free and charitable clinic that opened in 1994 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization through the result of a needs assessment completed by the Salvation Army in 1993. This assessment identified a lack of affordable health care as one of the major problems of Rock County.

Many of **HealthNet's** patients have serious chronic health conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes, and/or asthma. When individuals prolong treatment or choose not to seek care because of the fear associated with incurring debt from medical bills, the community suffers in the loss of productive employees, consumers, parents, and healthy members of the community. We address these potential issues by providing vision, dental, and other medical services at an affordable rate to the Rock County community.

Ministry Mission Statement: **HealthNet of Rock County, Inc.** is dedicated to excellence and innovation in the provision of primary health and dental care and health education, delivered free or at low cost, to enhance the quality of life for the underserved residents of Rock County, Wisconsin.

Ministry Needs: Volunteering with **HealthNet** means we can continue to provide a wraparound approach to care for our patients while keeping quality service in mind. Whether that is by joining a fundraising committee, translating for our Spanish speaking patients, or serving as a retired nurse by donating any spare time, it takes a community to be here for Rock County's most vulnerable. Our services are contingent upon the availability of our volunteer doctors, nurses, and other volunteer health care specialists. **HealthNet** volunteers donated more than 3,500 service hours last year! We would not be able to provide the quality service without the help of our volunteers.

*Notice: **Background checks are required for all HealthNet volunteers.***

Ministry Needs: **HealthNet** offers a wide array of volunteer opportunities.

Tour of HealthNet, Inc: A tour will be available on February 21st, 2023, at 3 pm. We will meet here at Asbury church at 2:45 pm to carpool to HealthNet.

Medical & Dental	General	We are Especially in Need of
Physicians & Nurses	Accountants	Translators & Bilingual Receptionists
Pharmacist & Psychiatrists	Receptionists	Nurses (RN, LPN, & MA)
Social Workers	Clerical Staff	Healthcare providers who can administer cortisone injections
Dentist & Dental Assistants	Fundraiser Volunteers	
Dental Hygienists	Computer Experts	



Activity Time



Future activities for Asbury folks include:

- Edgerton Performing Arts Center Count Basie Orchestra on February 11, 2023, at 7:30 PM Tickets \$45.
- Dance in the Edgerton High School Fieldhouse.
- The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wisconsin Singers will perform on April 22, 2023, at 2:00 PM & 6:30 PM Tickets \$15.

Any questions please e-mail Pat Spors or contact the church office.

CROP WALK

This year's Crop Hunger Walk will be held on **Sunday, April 30**.

Below is Asbury's web page for making donations if people are interested in a head start in making donations for the cause.



2023 CROP Hunger Walk - Asbury UMC - Janesville
events.crophungerwalk.org



<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/asbury-umc-family-janesville>

Tip to help the money counters:

Please place your contribution in a contribution envelope.

Individual contribution envelopes and boxed contribution envelopes for the year are available on the counter in the gathering place.

Thank you in advance.

Valet Parking to Be Offered

Asbury Church would like to offer Valet Parking in the near future.

If interested in parking cars, please see Pastor Will.

Those volunteering would need to be at church on assigned Sunday mornings by 9:30am. Details to follow when parking teams are established.

Inside the church



Let us walk and talk.



Come join the group for *in-door walking*. Yep, you heard me correct...if you enjoy walking, we have the group for you. We will walk inside the church. Great practice for the Crop Walk or to just get some exercise done inside.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 am to 11 am.

Bible Study Time....

Location: Peggy's House (call the church or Peggy for the address.)

Time: Wednesday @ 5:30 pm thru February 15, 2023.

February 23rd - March date is moved to Thursdays @ 5:30 pm.

April 12th back to Wednesdays at 5:30 pm.



Thank you to everyone who sent a card, called, and the carolers that came out in the cold to sing Christmas carols. I feel I would not have healed so fast without all the prayers from everyone. My hip is healing well, my hand is taking longer but once healed I will be back on the road again driving.

Again, **THANK YOU** to everyone.

Joan Tiffany



Asbury Mitten Tree

Asbury folks once again have shown an abundance of love in giving to the Mitten tree. In total there were 440 items donated which was well over our total last year of 335 items. These were distributed to Lincoln, Jackson, Harrison, Adams, Harmony, Jefferson, and Wilson elementary schools as well as Acts of Kindness ministries.

Thanks to all for sharing God's love!

Prayer Shawls

All our lovely prayer shawls have been in worship service and have heard our prayers. Now they are ready for a new home with a person who needs a warm hug.

Please take one.
Thank you.





1 Brent DeRemer

2 Andrew McGrath

12 Mark McKinney

12 Alexis Nelson

13 Cari Croft

13 James Foss

14 Austin Laufenberg



15 Dave Hubbard

20 Jeff North

25 Andrew Cresswell

26 Duane Andrus

26 Arlie Ellis

28 Will Jewson



16 Karen & Marv Nelson



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.

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





2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	2 Faith In Stitches @ 2:30 – 6 pm 	3 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	4
5 Chorus Practice @ 8:30 am 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service & Communion	6 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am 5:30 PM Rethink Church Meeting	7 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	8 Women's Covenant @ Eagle Inn @ 8 am Inside Walking Group 9–11 am Stitchers Group @ 9–10:30 a.m. Bible Study @ 5:30p.m. Peggy's House	9	10 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	11 Jazz Band Practice @ 9 am Praise Band Practice @ 10 am Edgerton Performing Arts Center Count Basie Orchestra on February 11, 2023, at 7:30 PM Tickets \$45
12 Chorus Practice @ 8:30 am 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service	13 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	14 Men's Breakfast @ Eagle Inn @ 8:30 AM Inside Walking Group 9–11 am 	15 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am Stitchers Group @ 9–10:30 a.m. Book Club @ 6:30 p.m. Bible Study @ 5:30p.m. Peggy's House	16 Faith in Stitches @ 2:30 – 6 pm	17 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	18
19 Chorus Practice @ 8:30 am 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service	20 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am 	21 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am HealthNet, Inc. Tour @ 3 pm. (meet here at Asbury @ 2:45 pm)	22 Ash Wednesday Inside Walking Group 9–11 am Stitchers Group @ 9–10:30 a.m. Memory Café @ 10 AM Lent Soup and Sandwiches @ 6 pm Lent Service @ 7 pm	23 *NEW DAY* Bible Study @ 5:30p.m. Peggy's House	24 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	25 Jazz Band Practice @ 9 am Praise Band Practice @ 10 am
26 Chorus Practice @ 8:30 am 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service	27 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am	28 Inside Walking Group 9–11 am				



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FEBRUARY
2023