

J u l 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

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."
Mark 12: 30-31.

It was the experience of a lifetime! Ziplining in northern California on my recent vacation. (I will share the thrills of that adventure in my sermon on July 2nd. I hope you can be there to see the videos!)

But beyond the rush I got as I "zipped" from tree to tree over seven "trips" covering almost 2/3rds of a mile, I was fascinated to "wiggle" a giant Redwood tree from a platform that was 250 feet above the surface of the forest below. Yes, following the example of the zipline guide, I leaned over the edge of the platform, trusting the cable, which was my link to ongoing life, and pushed the mighty tree, swinging it back and forth as the wind would do when it powerfully blows off the beautiful Pacific coast. A tree that is immovable at its base is quite flexible at 250 feet up!

Our guide informed us that nature provides a mechanism to protect these giant trees from the strong Pacific winds and the constant threat of earthquakes in the Pacific northwest. The secret lies down below the surface of the earth at a place our eyes cannot see. The Redwoods' roots weave together to produce an unbreakable bond which protects them through all the challenges of storms and earthquakes for hundreds, even thousands, of years. Simply put, the trees hold onto each other in a manner that protects the community and maintains the health and well-being of the precious forest.

As I "wiggled" the giant tree, I thought about the church and how necessary it is that we have our roots entwined in the same soil of faith. Like the trees of a Redwood Forest, we too need to hold onto one another for strength through many times of trials and tribulations. We too, need the support that comes from a community which takes care of one another, watches out for one another, and ultimately loves one another as God loves each of us. We find strength and comfort, hope and peace of mind, when we stand united as a church family and a community of faith.

There is much we can learn about ourselves as the body of Christ when we take the time to watch the trees of the forest.

May God strengthen Asbury Church as we hold on to one another in Christian discipleship.

Blessings to all!

Pastor Will





July Worship Schedule and Themes

July 2

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10AM worship with Holy Communion

Scripture: Philippians 4: 4-7 & Proverbs 3: 1-10

Sermon: "Trust"

Anxiety can become overwhelming. It can lead us down paths which become unhealthy and even dangerous. To whom might we turn when fears are encountered? Scripture teaches us to "trust in the Lord with all your heart." Together, we will learn the blessings of trusting God when faced with fear and anxiety.

July 9

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10AM worship and reception of a new member

Scripture: Matthew 10: 40-42 & Romans 6: 12-23

Sermon: "Rewards"

Jesus speaks of the rewards we receive when we live the life of faith in him. What rewards await you? What rewards have you already received by the blessings of God? We will explore the rewards which God provides when we walk upon the path of faith.

July 16

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10AM worship

Scripture: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23 & Psalm 25: 1-7

Sermon: "Seeds and Soils"

Jesus teaches the crowd by way of a parable about planting seeds in healthy soil. In what type of "soil" are the roots of our faith anchored? What can we do to help ourselves and our neighbors to assure that our faith might grow into a healthy and abundant harvest?

July 23

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10AM worship

Theme TBD.

The Reverend Duane Andrus will lead worship as Pastor Will will be on vacation.

July 30

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10AM worship Praise Band Sunday

Scripture: Romans 8: 26-39 & Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b

Sermon: "More Than Conquerors"

The Apostle Paul assures the Church that "nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus." What challenges of life do we face that make us question this assurance? How might we become "more than conquerors" as Paul teaches? We will explore resources for developing a faith which becomes increasingly strong.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

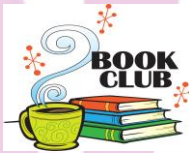




From June through August (Memorial Day – Labor Day)

- ➔ We will not have an online **Sunday sermon**. We will start up again on Sunday, September 10th, 2023.
- ➔ We will also not have **Sunday School**. We will start up again on Sunday, September 10th, 2023.
- ➔ We will not have **Bible Study** this summer. We will start up again in September 2023.
- ➔ **Stitching group** will not meet during the summer. It will return on Wednesday, September 6th, 2023.

Reading
by the
Brook



Asbury Book Club will not meet during the months of July and August.

We will resume our reading and book discussion in September. Book Readers that are interested in joining us are welcome! For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) rkdahlke@yahoo.com

Thank You for volunteering!!!

To everyone who helps keep our church looking beautiful.

Herb & Ruth Polzin have been kind enough to volunteer watering all the plants outside (potted flowers by door – front of church, flowers by the street, and the annual plants we have between the sidewalk, landscaping, & front windows).



Church Picnic & BBQ

Sunday July 9th.
11 AM to 1 PM

****If it rains, we will move it into the church. ****
But let us pray for a beautiful day!



**LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARTNERSHIP NEEDS APPRECIATED**

Lincoln School needs kid's tennis shoes.

SIZES, 2, 3, & 4.

They also need new socks and underwear.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Asbury Craft Fair

November 18, 10:00-2:00

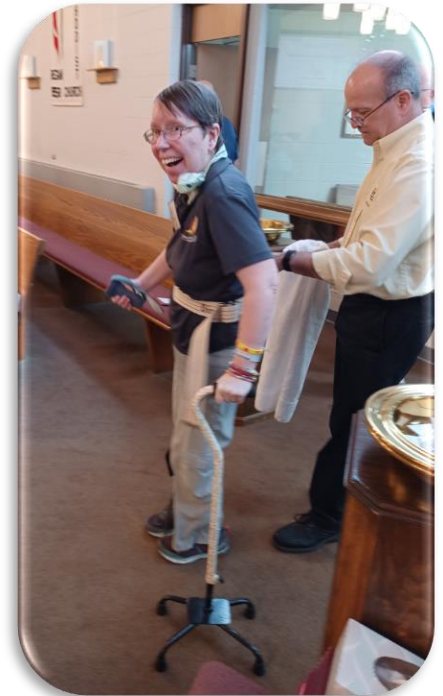
Join us in a celebration of the holidays by sharing your God given talents and crafty ideas. We would like a team of individuals to help coordinate the details and pull this together.

A brainstorming meeting for details will be held July 16th.

This is a heads up to get started on those projects you always wanted to try.

What a beautiful surprise everyone received during church service on June 4th.

With a wonderful smile Diana showed the whole congregation what a marvelous job she is doing with her walking.



Anyone wishing to help stock the food pantry is welcome.



Asbury UMC Continuing Care Team Needs Volunteers

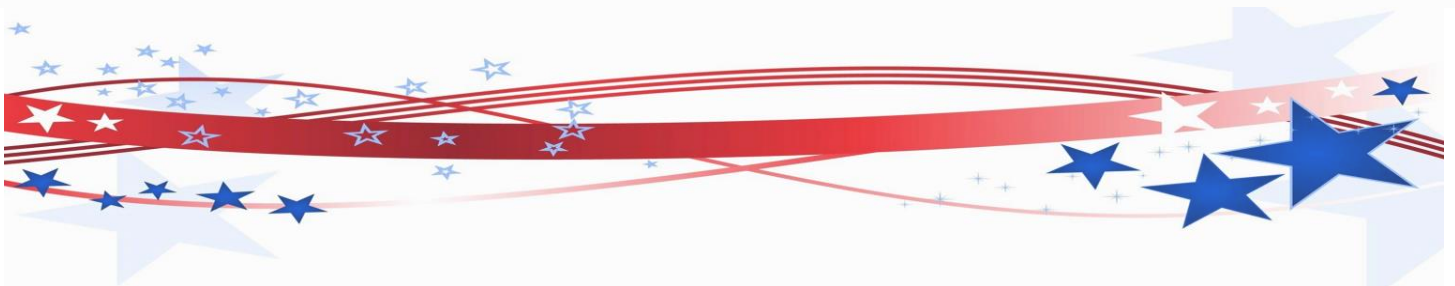
The loneliness epidemic in the United States: How do we at Asbury UMC address this issue?

By cultivating a culture of connection! Social connections matter for our health and happiness. Asbury UMC has had a "care team" making home visits, phone calls and sending cards to those members who are shut ins. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, home visits were discontinued for safety reasons. It is now time for caring visits to safely begin again. We plan to send 2 care team members together to visit folks in their homes but currently we only have 3 people on the care team.

Please say "YES" to joining the care team.

As a quote from Pastor Will's recent sermon suggests: Christians are called to care, share, listen and love. Please call the church office if you will join the team. 608-752-7961

Volunteer's Needed!



FAITH IN STITCHES

We will be meeting once per month this summer.

Please join us from 3-6 PM:

June 7

July 19

August 16

If you do not have a sewing machine, we would love to have someone iron, cut material, or use your expertise in finding material that goes together.

Shoe Drive – Lincoln School
In
Virginia Scarborough's honor.

We have been able to purchase and hand over 5 pairs of shoes so far!!

Shannon Colcord from Lincoln sent a Thank You email for the shoe donations!

"The smile on the kids' faces as they had shoes that Fit was priceless. Thank you!"



**GAME
DAY**

from
May



Fresh snacks!
Fun Games!
And
Lots of laughter!

Small yet great group.



**SUMMER
FUN!**



We give thanks to everyone who gave their support in June to the GIFT'S MEN SHELTER.
In July we will assist our local ministry **ECHO**, Everyone Cooperating to Help Others.

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

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.

It exists through the generosity of others in the community.

Congregations help us, so do many individuals, businesses, school and community groups, foundations, and social service agencies.

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.



Continuing Care List

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



ECHO Needs

Pantry Items: Cereal, Oatmeal, Spaghetti Sauce, Bottled Water

Personal Items: Dish Soap, Feminine Products, Laundry Soap, Diapers size 5-6, Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrushes

2023

May

Service Snapshot



241,298 Meals Provided

531 Nights Provided at Motels



46 Homeless Outreach Contacts

31 Months of Rent Provided



- 43 Families Received Transportation Assistance
- 325 Pets Received Food



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



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| -Pencils | -Glue and Glue Sticks |
| -Colored Pencils | -Folders |
| -Markers – Thick and Thin | -Spiral Notebooks |
| -Dry Erase Markers | -Highlighters – Yellow |
| -Kleenex | -Loose Leaf Paper |
| -Crayons | -Post It Notes – Yellow |
| -Erasers | -Composition Notebook |
| -Pens – Black, Blue and Red | -Water Colors |
| -Scissors | -Supply Case/Bag |

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF TO
ECHO BY AUGUST 11TH - 65 S HIGH ST
FOR OTHER DONATION DROP OFF SITES
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.ECHOJANESVILLE.COM





We are in need of Hygiene Kits for our PATH Outreach program

ITEMS Needed:

- Deodorant
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Nail clippers
- Wipes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Shampoo/conditioner/bodywash
- Chapstick
- Band-aids- first aid items
- Large black garbage bags





Agrace Offers Virtual Grief Support Group in July

In July, Agrace is offering **Bridges**, a professionally led, virtual grief support group.

Bridges is for adults grieving the death of any loved one. Meetings are held online every other Wednesday via Zoom. In July, meetings are July 12 and 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

There is no fee for this program 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 for each session; call (608) 327-7110 with questions or to register.



June 4th Baseball Outing was a blast.
Our group even had mention on the electronic sign.



Memory Café

10 am to 11 am
4th Wednesday of the month

July 26th, 2023
August 23, 2023



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 Madolyn Rosburg
 22 Dennis Sailing
 23 Jan Diers
 24 John Luepnitz
 28 Robin Bent
 28 Arlette Walker
 31 Matthew Sly



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
 30 Jan & Mike Diers



2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Service @ 10 AM with communion	3 RTC @ 5:30 PM	4 	5	6	7	8 9 AM Jazz Band Practice
9 Service @ 10 AM  11 AM - 1 PM	10 SPRC @ 5:30 PM Trustees @ 6 PM	11 Men's Breakfast @ Eagle Inn 8 AM	12 Covenant Guild @ Eagle Inn 8:30 AM	13	14	15
16 Service @ 10 AM	17	18	19 FAITH-IN-STITCHES 3 PM to 6 PM	20	21	22
23 Service @ 10 AM with Rev. Duane Andrus	24	25	26 Memory Café 10-11 AM	27	28	29 9 AM Jazz Band Practice
30 Service @ 10 AM with Praise Worship Band	31					

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



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