## OCTOBER 2023

# Action at Asbury

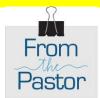




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Phone: 608-752-7961 Email: asburyumc@charter.net

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## Pastor's Ponderings



Do you have any bad habits? If not, stop by my office; you can have one of mine! My dictionary defines a "habit" as "a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition." It's something we've done over and over in life for a very long time – so often in fact, that we probably don't even think about doing it. A habit is something that has for us, become "automatic."

Oh, I think we've all got a bad habit or two. Some are quite harmless – more of an embarrassment than anything else. Others maybe aren't so good for us and might cause us bigger problems down the road. Either way, a bad habit is just that – BAD.

During the month of October, we are going to focus on the opposite. We are going to talk about good habits – "Holy Habits." Wouldn't it be great if we just "automatically" did spiritually beneficial things in our lives? During worship, we're going to focus on some of the "Holy Habits" that our Scriptures suggest. We will take a look at the life of Jesus and identify some of his habits which might become part of our lives; things like humble living, experiencing the power of resurrection life, celebrating the good things in life, and loving God and our neighbor with all our heart and soul and mind.

Each of these "Holy Habits" were central to the life of Jesus and should be to the life of each of us who seek to walk in Christ's footsteps as his disciple. Yet each of them requires a bit of personal discipline, dedication, and ongoing development. In order for them to become habits in our lives, they need to become one of those "behavior patterns acquired by frequent repetition." We need to practice them again and again and again...

Are you willing to give it a try? Let's do this as a church so that we can support one another in the quest to "live humbly," "pray passionately," "give joyfully," and "serve willingly." Who knows, maybe if we develop these "Holy Habits" they might replace some of our bad habits! It's a great way to build a healthier church, a healthier neighborhood, and a healthier you!

See you in Worship! If you haven't been by in a while, please give us a try. We've got some GOOD stuff happening, and Asbury Church is a GREAT place to be. Blessings,

Pastor Will





## **Worship Schedule and Themes**

#### October 1 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Worship with Holy Communion

Scripture: Philippians 2: 1-13 & Exodus 17: 1-7

Sermon: "He Humbled Himself"

Paul writes that we are to have the same mindset as Jesus' valuing others over ourselves. While Jesus was by nature, God, he humbled himself and became a servant to all. How might we model our lives after his life as a servant?

#### October 8 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Worship

Scripture: Philippians 3: 4b-14 & Psalm 19

Sermon: "Still Pressing On"

What goals do we have in life as we live out our faith? Paul speaks of knowing Christ and experiencing the power of his resurrection. We will explore the goal of experiencing resurrection here and now.

#### October 15 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Worship

Scripture: Philippians 4: 4-9 & Matthew 22: 1-14

Sermon: "Celebrating the Good"

Anxiety can run high in life. It did in Paul's day just as it can today. Yet Paul challenges the Christian to celebrate all things of God, focusing our minds on that which is noble, right, pure, etc. We will explore the benefits of a positive outlook on life.

#### October 22 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Worship

Scripture: Matthew 22: 15-22 & Psalm 99 Sermon: "The Church and the State"

The entities of the Church and the State have had a complicated relationship throughout history. In the United States, the separation of the two is upheld by most. How can one inform the other? What is the role of our faith in this "one nation under God?"

#### October 29 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Worship with Praise Band Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 22: 34-46 & Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17

Sermon: "The Greatest Commandment"

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." How might we become more committed?

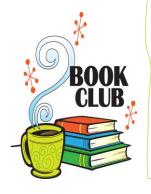


#### **Faith IN Stitches**

Will meet on October  $11^{th}$  and the  $25^{th}$  from 3-6 PM.



# Reading by the Brook



Asbury Book Club will meet for our October Book discussion on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30 pm at Asbury.

'The French Gardener' by author Santa Montefiore is the selection for our reading of the month.

A neglected garden. A cottage that holds a secret. A mysterious and handsome Frenchman. Prepare to be "spellbound by the sheer charm" (Daily Express, UK) of

Santa Montefiore's tender and powerful novel about passion, loss, and the healing power of love. Wise and winsome, poignant, and powerfully moving.

The French Gardener is a contemporary story told with an old-fashioned sensibility steeped in the importance of family and the magical power of love.

Interested readers are welcome to join us. For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) <a href="mailto:rkdahlke@yahoo.com">rkdahlke@yahoo.com</a>

## **Agrace Seeks Volunteers in Rock County**

Agrace is seeking volunteers across Rock County to visit with hospice patients. Volunteer orientation will take place at Agrace's Janesville campus October 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Pre-registration is required.** Call (608) 327-7163 or visit <u>agrace.org/volunteer</u>.

### **Get Expert Customized Grief Support—by Text**

Agrace 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.



Memory Café will meet on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM.

The topic is Italy – Pizza Month.

At the beginning of September, Jeff Q. had the pleasure of making the meal for all. He made cheesy chicken in a larger roaster.

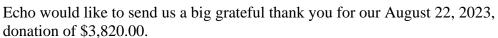
Thank you for being such vital partners in the GIFTS mission! We know the value that each of you brings to our ministry. Because of your servant hearts and churches, GIFTS has been able to provide already in 2023:

10,272 meals 5210 nights of safe shelter to a total of 143 men

I thank God for knowing all of the lives you have and will impact!

Cifts
men's shelter
Shelter.Spirituality.HOPE.

Asbury UMC donated a total of \$970 to our Bolivian sisters. Gratitude and praise go out to our church community for all their help and blessings from Pastor Anita Lang.



Our support has helped people in need within our community with things like food, housing, transportation, and other general well-being services.



Thank you, Pat S., for sending us pictures of your Ministry Mission in August.

#### MIDWEST MISSION

## Sending Hope and Empowerment Around the World and

**Around the Corner.** I was privileged enough to go to Midwest Mission Distribution Center near Springfield Illinois for 5 days in August with 10 others from First UMC in Whitewater. This amazing mission sends disaster relief, health, education, and resources to those requesting a need. Jobs change to accommodate the needs. Projects worked on by our group included sewing receiving blankets for layettes, counting diaper pins, filling personal health bags for females, measuring donated quilts, applying polyurethane to boards, cutting plastic bags to make plan for weaving homeless mats, and building desks from bleacher wood. I partnered with a gal from Whitewater, and we spent 3 days building desks from scratch, setting them up to see that they didn't wobble, then taking them apart, packing the pieces inside, and shrink wrapping them for shipment. When we were finished a palate of 18 children's desks were ready for delivery. On August 3, 180 desks were sent to Guatemala. Several other volunteers came in daily to give of their time. We stayed in a beautiful dorm, all working together for meals, and cleanup while enjoying devotions and evening fellowship. Let's plan to have a group from Asbury go down in the spring for a couple days to be the hands and feet of God.







We give thanks to everyone who gratefully gave their September monetary contribution for our local Rock County Project 16:49. Our October Ministry Matters Moments will focus on supporting **United Methodist Children Services**.

**Ministry Name: United Methodist Children's Services** 

Ministry Contact Persons: William Schmitt Executive Director.

Phone: (414) 344-1818 Email: <u>info@umcs-wi.org</u>

**Ministry Services:** The UMCS helps support families on the path to stability and hope. They address the interconnected nature of poverty through reducing four focus areas: Housing, Growing Tree Children's Center, Family Resource Center, and Community Engagement.

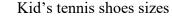
Ministry Mission Statement: Based upon our fundamental belief in God's love, United Methodists Children's Services of Wisconsin, Inc. values the dignity, potential, and worth of each individual, and creates a nurturing environment and sense of community in which miracles happen. We understand the interconnected nature of poverty and use a multi-faceted approach to address the struggles families face. UMCS reduces barriers to basic needs so families can focus on developing roots in the community, building capacity, and meeting their individualized goals. Through housing, childcare, resources, and community engagement, we act as a steppingstone for families on their way towards stability.

**Ministry Needs:** Volunteers, Monetary Donations, Personal Items Needs, Canned and Packaged Food Needs Donations.





# LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP NEEDS APPRECIATED



Girls: 13, 1, 2, 3 Boys: 1, 2, 3

Underwear, socks, Snowpants and coats for both boys and girls in sizes: 7/8 and 14 for girls and boys.

Any help would greatly be appreciated.

Jeff Q. was able to purchase 16 pairs of shoes.









### SAVE THE DATE

Where: Asbury UMC Craft and Bake Sale

When: November 18 From: 9 am to 3 pm

Proceeds will go to ECHO and Asbury's Good Samaritan Fund.

Together let us open our doors to the community.

#### We have:

Lefse, Krumkake, Sandbakkels, Hand woven rugs, Kitchen textiles, Seasonal Décor, Christmas items, Handmade tote bags, quilts and more!!

And a

light lunch

From: 11 am - 1 pm with a basket for donations.



Artwork Baking

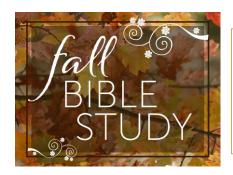
Candy

Cards



DOORS





Remember Adult Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM. It will be held at 2414 King Street. Everyone is welcome.

Our study is an hour long with 15-20 minutes of fellowship following the study.

#### Good Samaritan Fund



Our job as good neighbors is to be there for one another and to work together to make sure all of God's children are treated with love. We at Asbury UMC have a great opportunity to be a Good Samaritan to our neighbors. Simply purchase a \$20.00 Kwik Trip Fuel gift card and present it to Pastor Will. By having a "stash" of these gift cards available, he will be equipped to reach out to folks in need who come to him for help. Together we can follow the example of the Good Samaritan and heed Jesus' words: "Go and do likewise."



## **Continuing Care List**

Ardis Bender, Jerriann & Larry Burns, Dale Clark, Darlene and Richard Coulthard, Claude Eakins, LaVita Fanta, Robert Geisler, Carol and Don Isbell, Diana Jewson, Russ Kuykendall, Janet Luiting, Shirley Nelson, Hjordis Olson, Lucille Osborne, Arlette Walker Ione Watson.





#### **Details:**

Soups will be pre-sold in quart freezer safe containers. Orders will be taken starting 10/1/23 until sold out. \*\*Types of soups are posted on ECHO website.\*\*

Pricing:

Soup: \$10 per quart

Handcrafted Soda from Gray Brewing: \$5, 4 pack or \$25, case (6, 4 packs in a

case)

Truffles from the Sugar Exchange: \$8, 6 pack of mixed truffles

Caramel Apple from the Sugar Exchange: \$5 per apple

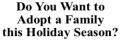
Pickup will be done as a drive-thru at the ECHO office (65 S High St) on October 21 from 11:00am to 1:00pm. If you cannot pick up your soups during that time frame, please contact us to make other accommodations. earthur@echojanesville.org



### OCTOBER 2023 NEEDS



Spaghetti Sauce
Mac & Cheese
Peanut Butter
Pancake Mix and Syrup
Hamburger Helper
Shampoo
Conditioner
Feminine Products
Diapers (sizes 4 - 6)



Contact Jessica at (608) 754-5333 or jlocher@echojanesville.org for more info.

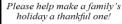


Soups will be pre-sold in quart freezer-safe containers. Orders will be taken starting 10/1/23 at noon until sold out.

# Sponsor a Family for THANKSGIVING for \$30

ECHO expects to assist 600 families who are low-income.

Sponsor a family by sending a check to the ECHO Office at 65 S. High St., Janesville, WI 53548, made out to: "ECHO Thanksgiving".



Donations can also be made online at www.echojanesville.org





ECHO is in need of Egg Cartons and 16 oz. water bottles with caps again.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- 11/15 Girls Night Out
- 11/18 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution

For more information about these events, visit www.echojanesville.org

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.





# 2023 August **Service Snapshot**











Wednesday, October 11 at 12:45 pm we'll carpool to tour the boy's transitional living house for **Project 16:49** All are welcome!



It is a great joy to see people joining us before church for:

coffee and conversation



3 Nonie Reed

4 Bob Banner

4 Elnoe Campbell

7 Cheryl Woods

10 LaVita Fanta

11 Steve Bundy

20 Jill Plach

25 Kari Campbell

26 Denise Thomas





- 1 Barb & Bill Doubleday
- 6 Kathy & Russ Dahlke
- 12 Jill & Rick Plach



- 15 Theresa & John Luepnitz
- 24 Jerriann & Larry Burns
- 25 Charles & Sharon Linstrom
- 25 Ruth & Herb Polzin









Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 AM Sunday School  10 AM Worship Service	5:30 pm ReThink Church	3	Stitching Group @ 9 -10:30 AM	5	6	7
9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship Service	Columbus	Men's Breakfast @ 8:30 AM @ Eagle Inn	Women's Covent Guild @ 8 AM @ Eagle Inn Stitching Group @ 9 - 10:30 AM The Boy's Transitional Living House Tour @ 12:45 PM Faith In Stitches 3 - 6 PM Bible Study @ Peggy's @ 5:30 PM	12	13	Jazz Band Practice @ 9 AM Praise Band Practice @ 10 AM
9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship Service 11 AM Card Making Workshop	16	17	Stitching Group @ 9 - 10:30 AM	19	20	Harvest DINNER STARTS FROM 3:30 – 6 PM
9 AM Sunday School 10 am Worship Service	23	Book Club @ 6:30 PM	Stitching Group @ 9 - 10:30 AM Memory Café @ 10 AM Faith In Stitches 3 - 6 PM Bible Study @ Peggy's @ 5:30 PM	STARTS AT 4:30 PM	27	Jazz Band Practice @ 9 AM Praise Band Practice @ 10 AM
9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship Service	30	CANDY				

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



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