

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 4

# Action at Asbury



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

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## Pastor's Pondering



Ready or not, 2024 is upon us!  
So, what will be our vision for the New Year?

Hopefully, we will enter 2024 with eyes focused on the message of Jesus Christ to love one another, just as God loves us! See John 13: 34-35.

For many of us, the ringing in of a new year marks the possibility of new beginnings, new opportunities, and fresh starts. For some of us, it's an opportunity to hit our "reset" button. For others, it's a time of refocusing on the important aspects of our lives and our families. For yet others, it's a time to bury the burdens of the past and look forward to a better future.

It is appropriate that the new year is often represented by the symbol of a new-born baby – knowing that we have only recently received again, God's gift of the new-born baby Jesus. For in that baby, a "fresh start" is what is offered to us every day. In Christ's love, we find forgiveness of sins of our past, mercy which takes the form of deep compassion for all, and grace which blesses us with total absolution and yet another opportunity at a second chance in life.

Forgiveness and second chances are what Jesus Christ is all about! He's about providing a place – his cross – where we can go to release that which troubles us and find the grace that grants us a new beginning. He's about accepting us as we are and loving us unconditionally and faithfully.

As we enter 2024, let's do so with eyes sharply focused on the central message of our faith – that in Jesus Christ there is always hope, always love, and always forgiveness. May we enter the new year with a rededication to our Lord and Savior, living each day in service to our God.

The new year is upon us! Great blessings await us! Let's begin 2024 by embracing these blessings and walking in the way of Jesus Christ!

I'll see you on Sunday!

Pastor Will





## January Worship Schedule and Themes

**January 7      Baptism of the Lord/Epiphany Sunday      10AM Worship with Holy Communion**

Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12 & Isaiah 60: 1-6

Sermon: "What Gifts Do We Present to The Lord?"

The story of the Magi visiting the Messiah is a beloved part of the Christmas Tradition. Gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh were presented to the Christ Child by the wise men. In our wisdom, what gifts might we present to Jesus and how do we present them? We will focus on how Jesus has asked us to give.

**January 14      Second Sunday after the Epiphany      10AM Worship**

Scripture: John 1: 43-51 & Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

Sermon: "Follow Me"

Today we hear the story of Jesus calling two of his disciples - Philip and Nathanael. His message to them was two simple words with life changing implications. He said, "Follow me." What does it mean to follow Jesus? How will our lives be changed when we answer his call?

**January 21      Third Sunday after the Epiphany      10AM Worship**

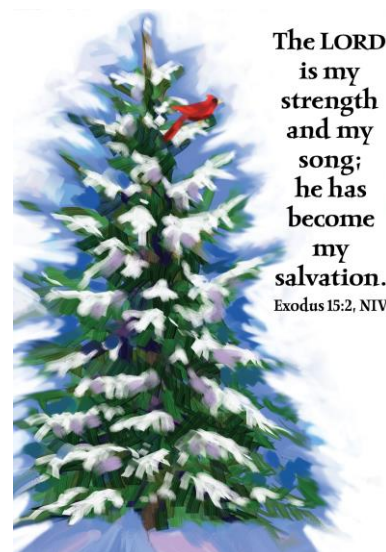
Scripture: Mark 1: 14-20 & Psalm 62: 5-12

Sermon: "Believing the Good News"

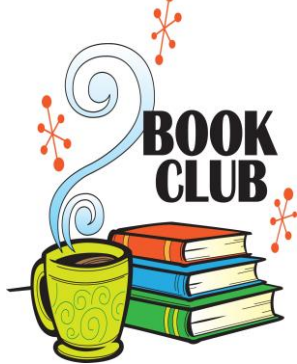
Jesus went into Galilee to proclaim the Good News. What exactly is the Good News? We will seek to define the central theme in the ministry of Jesus and the ministry of the Church today.

**January 28      Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany      10AM Worship**

Peggy Eggen to lead worship.



## Reading by the Brook



Asbury Book Club will be reading:  
Midnight Library  
by author Matt Haig


This Book received the Goodreads Choice Award winner for best Fiction (2020).

It reads *(Between life and death for Nora, there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices... Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets? A novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived.*

Readers that are interested in joining us are welcome!

For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623)  
[rkdahlke@yahoo.com](mailto:rkdahlke@yahoo.com)



COME JOIN OUR  
**BIBLE**  
  
**Study**

Days: Wednesday Evenings  
Location: Peggy E.'s house  
Time: 5:30 PM

Our hat and mitten tree  
this year!

Our mitten, scarf, and  
hat donations go to  
Lincoln & Jackson  
Elementary Schools.





**Ministry Matters Moments:** Thank you for your generous giving to our December focus on the **Parker HS Big Give** and the **Elementary schools of Lincoln, Jackson, and Harrison**, in need of warm winter mittens, hats and scarves. Our January Ministry Matters will focus on **Red Bird Mission**.

## RETHINK CHURCH ASBURY UMC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

**Ministry Name:** **Red Bird Mission**

**Ministry Location:** 70 Queendale Ctr, Beverly, KY 40913

**Ministry Phone Number:** (606) 598-5133

**Ministry Start Date:** **Red Bird Mission** was founded in 1921 in the southeastern corner of Kentucky to provide education and Christian evangelism ministries to residents of the area. The mission was started by the Evangelical Church on a small piece of property, at the confluence of Cow Fork and the Red Bird River.

**Ministry Mission:** **Red Bird Mission**, guided by Jesus Christ, empowers individuals and advocates justice through spiritual, educational, health and community outreach ministries. The story of Red Bird is one of deep faith in God. **Red Bird Mission** was born in answer to prayer. It is a story of gracious outpouring of prayer and means by the church.

**Ministry Outreach:** The educational, health and spiritual outreach through the churches and schools of **Red Bird Mission** prospered as its denomination grew through mergers. The Evangelical Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ merged in 1946 to become the Evangelical United Brethren. In 1968, the Evangelical United Brethren Church united with the Methodist Church to become The United Methodist Church. Local churches in the area were reorganized under the name of the Red Bird Missionary Conference in 1973. Red Bird Mission was recognized as an agency in the Red Bird Missionary Conference, and in 1975, Red Bird Hospital (later to be renamed Red Bird Mountain Medical Center) was incorporated separately and recognized as a separate agency. The community outreach ministries to the elderly and families of the community have grown to be a significant part of the overall ministries since the 1990s. The DeWall Senior Citizens Center started operations in 1991 and the Red Bird Elderly Housing apartments were opened in 1996.

Emphasis on encouraging family food production led to the establishment of a farmers' market in 2010 and a commercial food kitchen in 2017. A permanent pavilion for the farmers market was constructed in 2015 as part of a project to provide a portable water-dispensing kiosk for area residents without a clean drinking water source.

The clothing and thrift shop ministries increased in scope after moving into the enlarged facilities on Queendale Center in 2001. The craft marketing program has grown in recent years through in-church craft fairs as well as consignment and online sales.

The Work Camp program that enlisted volunteers to maintain mission facilities decades ago now involves approximately 500 participants annually and expanded its purpose to include community home repair and improvement in 1984. The first new home was built in 2016 in the community by volunteers.





**Pantry Needs:**

Barilla Ready Pasta, Hormel Completes, Peanut Butter, Soup and Crackers, Beef Stew, Tuna, Deodorant, Shampoo, Laundry Soap, Toothpaste, Dish Soap, Diapers, size 5-6

**LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP NEEDS APPRECIATED**

Lincoln School needs:

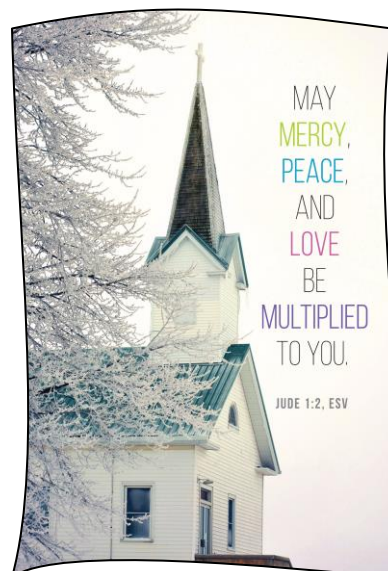
Kid's tennis shoes sizes 2, 3, & 4.

They also need new socks and underwear.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.



Faith In Stitches donated 18 clothing protectors and 5 Walker Bags to Oak Park



**GIFTS Men's Shelter is at the capacity level of 30 guests.  
If you can help us with any of the items below,  
we would deeply appreciate your support!**



December

## Giving List

Donations can be dropped off at any time at our shelter  
1025 N Washington Street, Janesville, WI 53548

- **Pre-made meals that can be frozen to feed 30**
  - **Coffee/ powdered coffee creamer**
  - Large canisters of sugar-free flavored drink powder
  - Vegetable oil
  - Sugar
  - Q-Tips/cotton balls
  - Deodorant
  - Shaving cream
  - Kleenex
  - Nail Clippers
  - Razors
  - 3-n-1 Shampoo
  - Spray cleaners
  - 55 and 32-gallon trash bags
  - Toilet paper/paper towels
  - Hairbrushes/combs
  - Backpacks
  - Earbuds
  - Boxers and briefs in men's sizes medium, large, and extra large
  - USB C or Micro USA chargers for the Samsung/Android phones
  - White copy paper
  - Grocery store gift cards (Janesville locations)
  - Mattress covers, water cooler, drink dispenser, can opener--see our Amazon list.
- CLICK here for the list or scan the code:

**THANK  
YOU!** 



THANK YOU to all of our donors and volunteers for your impact on GIFTS Men Shelter!



# ASBURY MEMORY CAFE

January 24	Cowboy Poem week
February 28	Key West video, AC
March 27	Beautiful Questions
April 24	Spring Crafts
May 22	Boroughs of New York video, AC
June 26	(6/27) National Bingo Day – bingo w/prizes
July 24	Where in the World video, AC
August 28	Do you hear what I hear – summer edition, AC
September 25	Fall Crafts
October 23	Guide Dogs – OccuPaws?
November 27	Card Making & Holiday Game
December 25	Cancelled



## Continuing Care List

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



1 Carol Logue	9 Mike Wilkerson	17 Chelsea Phillips
2 Jeffrey Quaerna	12 Sue Bent	18 Eudoris Peterson
2 Artie Zumstein	12 Russ Kuykendall	21 Bobi Abraham
4 Jerriann Burns	13 Mark Wheaton	26 Jean Farris
5 Alec Osborne	14 Lois McKinney	29 Russ Dalhke
6 Terry Penniston	15 Donna Havens	30 John Quisenberry

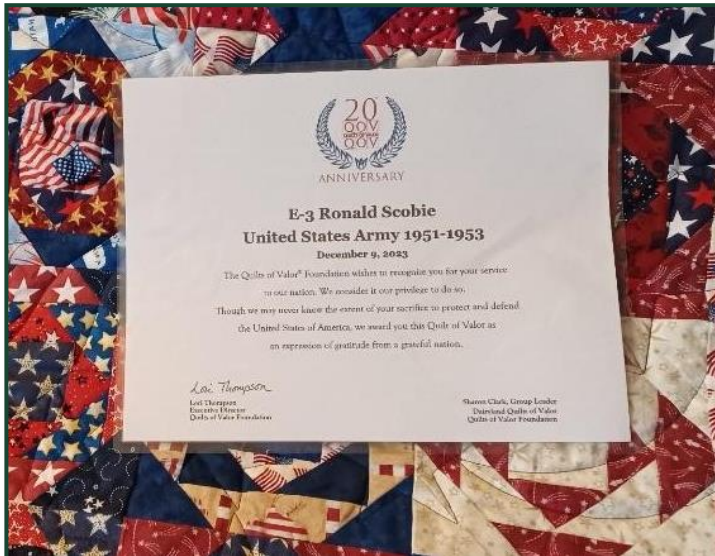


17 Darlene & Richard Coulthard  
28 Bill & Carrie Ruchi





Caroling at Janet Luiting house.



Ron received the Quilt of Valor for his service in Korea.

We thank you for your service, Ron.



THANK YOU  
FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

Asbury Church and Members,

Thank you so much for your donations to our clothing closet at Lincoln Elementary! Each one is appreciated! Having needed items available and seeing the smiles on the kids faces as they get what they need is truly amazing! Thank you for being a part of it!

Sincerely,  
The Lincoln Elementary Family Resource Center



I would like to thank everyone for the cards, texts, thoughts and prayers as we navigated the loss of my father! This has been a very trying time and the warmth from our church and its members has been outstanding.

Shelly Wheaton and family

Care Team,

Thank you for the gift you left at my door and the gummy cookies.

Love LaVita Fanta



Faith-In-Stitches

Thank-you sew much for the beautiful gifts of handmade clothing protectors and walker bags. I can tell they were made with love. They are well made and will be greatly appreciated.

Thans again,  
Activity Department  
Oak Park Place





2024

JANUARY

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<p><b>9 AM JAZZ BAND PRACTICE</b></p> <p><b>10 AM PRAISE BAND PRACTICE</b></p>
<p>7</p> <p>8:30-9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>9AM Sunday School</p> <p>10AM Worship Service &amp; Communion</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:30 pm Rethink Church</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Men Breakfast @ Eagle Inn @ 8:30 AM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Women's Covenant @ 8 AM @ Eagle Inn</p> <p>9-10:30 AM Stitching group</p> <p>Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>8:30-9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>9AM Sunday School</p> <p>10AM Worship Service</p>	<p>15</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>Book Club @ 5:30 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9-10:30 AM Stitching group</p> <p>Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>9 AM JAZZ BAND PRACTICE</b></p> <p><b>10 AM PRAISE BAND PRACTICE</b></p>
<p>21</p> <p>8:30-9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>9AM Sunday School</p> <p>10AM Worship Service</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9-10:30 AM Stitching group</p> <p>Memory Café 10 AM</p> <p>Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>8:30-9:30 AM Choir Practice</p> <p>9AM Sunday School</p> <p>10AM Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9-10:30 AM Stitching group</p> <p>Bible Study @ 5:30PM Peggy Eggen's House</p>			

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





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