

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 4

Action at Asbury



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

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

Website: www.asburyumcjl.org facebook.com/asburyumcjl

Pastor's Pondering

Can you believe how time flies!

We just finished bringing down the Christmas decorations and already I find myself thinking about planning for Lent!!

It all begins this year on February 14th – Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday!

One might find it a bit ironic that on the same day that we celebrate our love for one another, we also acknowledge our mortality and sinful nature. They would appear on the surface to be pulling us in two very different ways. I suppose that would be true, if it were not for the fact that the love of God for each of us is much more powerful than the reality of sin and death.

What we begin that night is a journey which takes us through the sacrificial death of God's beloved Son, Jesus Christ – He loved us so deeply, that he was willing to die that we might live – and ends with the triumphant victory which we celebrate on Easter morning! What we will learn is that the greatest love – God's love for us – is not always easy. It includes pain, sacrifice, and even death, but ends with resurrection, joy, and eternal life. That, my friends, is love!

During Lent 2024, we will walk with Jesus through the Stations of the Cross. We have not done this since 2018. This journey will take us through 14 "stations" or events which are Biblically supported, which Jesus endured between Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

I am very excited to walk with each of you and gain new insight into that painful trek of love and commitment which Jesus endured solely because he loved and trusted his Father and was willing to endure anything to grant us the gift of resurrection life.

I do hope you will join us beginning February 14th
(bring your sweetheart to church that night)
for our tradition of a 6 p.m. Soup and Sandwich meal followed by
Worship at 7 p.m..
Asbury UMC is the place to be during this most important season of
Spiritual Growth and Recommitment to Discipleship.

Blessings as we walk and learn together!

Pastor Will



February Worship Schedule and Themes

February 4 Fifth Sunday of Epiphany 10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23 & Isaiah 40: 21-31

Sermon: "I Preach"

The Apostle Paul feels bound to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. I am compelled to preach that which has filled his heart. Each of us who embrace the Christian title is invited to do the same. How might you share the Gospel?

February 11 Transfiguration Sunday 10 a.m. Worship

Scripture: Mark 9: 2-9 & Psalm 50: 1-6

Sermon: "Listen to Him!"

The Transfiguration of Jesus makes it clear that he is the chosen one of God. The Father's command is to "Listen to Him!" What does that mean for us in our daily living? Are we listening to him?

February 14 Ash Wednesday **Church Meal: 6 p.m.** **Worship 7 p.m.**

February 18 First Sunday in Lent 10 a.m. Worship

Scripture: 1 Peter 3: 18-22 & Psalm 25: 1-10

Sermon: "New Life - Embrace It!"

God is about forgiveness. So many people live with sin and guilt. Our faith in Jesus Christ should release us from those chains. Hear what Jesus offers on this first Sunday of Lent.

(Touching Hearts Brunch will start right after the service - everyone is welcome to join.)

February 21 Wednesday Evening Lenten Service **Church Meal: 6 p.m. Worship 7 p.m.**

February 25 Second Sunday in Lent 10 a.m. Worship

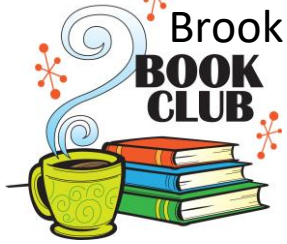
Scripture: Mark 8: 31-38 & Psalm 22: 23-31

Sermon: "Sacrifice"

As Jesus predicts his death, he teaches about self-sacrifice for others. We are not the Savior - Jesus is - but what does his message about sacrifice mean to us?

February 28 Wednesday Evening Lenten Service **Church Meal: 6 p.m. Worship 7 p.m.**

Reading by the Brook BOOK CLUB



This month Asbury Book Club will be reading *An Invisible Thread* by author Laura Schroff and Alex Tresniowski.

"*An Invisible Thread* – a remarkable story, told so beautifully and honestly-shows us what's possible when we are not afraid to connect with another human being and tap into our compassion. It is a story about the power each of us has to elevate someone else's life and how our own life is enriched in the process. This special book reminds us that damaging cycles can be broken and not to neglect the humanity of the strangers we brush up against every day." Chris Gardner, bestselling author of *The Pursuit of Happiness*.

Readers that are interested in joining us are welcome! For more information contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) rkdahlke@yahoo.com

Memory Café



DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2024

LOCATION: Upstairs

THEME: Key West Video

Everyone is welcome.

Please watch our church website, Facebook page, or the outdoor sign if we cancel due to weather.

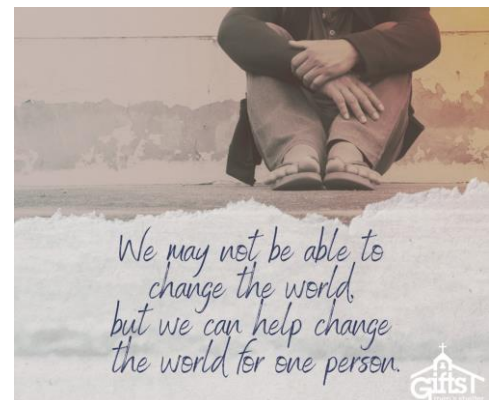


Each person who walks through our doors starts on a path to recover and create a sustainable life.

We are seeking volunteers to come alongside our GIFTS guests as a Life Recovery Coach. A Life Recovery Coach is an integral and necessary part of guiding a guest to reach their goals and learn to thrive again!

Are you ready to make a difference? As a Coach, you will:

- Meet weekly
- Become a mentor
- Establish life goals
- Provide expectations
- Reinforce accountability
- Empower and engage
- Model values
- Create a connection



Get all the details on joining our GIFTS Life Recovery Coach team by emailing Michael at programs@giftsshelter.org.





FEBRUARY 2024 NEEDS

Thank you for your support!!

**Peanut Butter & Jelly
Spaghetti Sauce
Mac & Cheese
Tomato Sauce
Pasta
Tuna**

**Personal Items
Feminine Pads
Deodorant
Bar Soap
Toothpaste
Cleaning Supplies
Laundry Soap
Diapers - sz 5,6 & 7**

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.



Follow
ECHOJanesville

2024 Calendar of Events

- ♦ 3/26-3/28 **Children's Easter Basket Distribution** at the ECHO Office
 - ♦ 4/28 **CROP Hunger Walk** at Car-gill UMC
 - ♦ 6/5 **Eat Out for Hunger** All day at participating restaurants
- More info on all these events can be found at www.echojanesville.org



Are you ready for some games!!!

FEBRUARY 29th at 1 p.m.

Come join in some fun and games.
We will provide the games.
If you would like to bring some snacks you may.

Hope to see you there!!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

You are invited to share in this caring ministry. Shawls can be created from any pattern, knit or crocheted, any shape, any color, and approximately 24 x 60 inches to wrap around a loved one. Yarn is available in a tote under the counter in the narthex.

Asbury's Prayer Shawls have been blessed and prayed over, then draped on the pews in the sanctuary. These are available for anyone to take and share with a friend or loved one who may need a soft, warm, shawl as a display of God's Love, His hope, His peace, and His comfort.

Come join our stitchery group and share in the joy of creating together every Wednesday 9 to 10:30 a.m.



CARE Team is always in need of people willing to volunteer to send out cards to those who are unable to get out and about.

If this is something you are interested in, please contact the church office or Linda Sailing.

Remember the happiness of opening up your mailbox and seeing a beautiful card with warm wishes inside instead of those bills or grocery flyers.



Ministry Matters Moments: Thank you for your monetary support of the January Ministry Matters focus on Red Bird Mission. Our February core will be HealthNet of Rock County

RETHINK CHURCH ASBURY UMC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Ministry Name: HealthNet of Rock County

Ministry Location: 113 S. Franklin Street Janesville, WI 53548

Ministry Phone Number: 608-756-4638

Ministry Start Date: 1994. They are Rock County's only free & charitable clinic. It has provided comprehensive health services to the underserved.

Ministry Mission: 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.

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE:

- Provided over 23,567 prescriptions worth an estimated \$1.5 million annually to prevent health care crisis situations.
- Reduced the number of ER visits for 74% of our patients that consider HealthNet their medical home.
- Enrolled patients into the Badger Care Core Plus program or placed them on the appropriate waiting list.
- Implemented a new policy for patients to verify that they are uninsured by providing a denial letter from the State program. This ensures that HealthNet is complying with contract requirements and that there is no duplication of service.
- Ensure that our patients overall health status — whether it be for diabetes or hypertension — is improving with a population health focus.
- Services Offered: Medical Clinic, General Primary Health Care, Mental Health Care Pediatrics, Vision Care, Medications, Health Education.
- Dental Clinic: Teeth Cleaning, Fluoride and Sealant Treatments, Fillings Dental X-rays, Extractions.
- Behavioral Health Clinic: Individual Counseling, Group Therapy, EDMR (Trauma Responsive) Substance Use/MAT

You can Provide HOPE, HELP and HEALING at HEALTHNET ROCK COUNTY.

We welcome your ideas and invite you to join our RTC meeting on February 5, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. Contact Kathy Dahlke at (608-295-7623) or rkdahlke@yahoo.com with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.

1 Brent DeRemer
12 Mark McKinney
12 Alexis Nelson
13 Cari Croft
13 James Foss
14 Austin Laufenberg

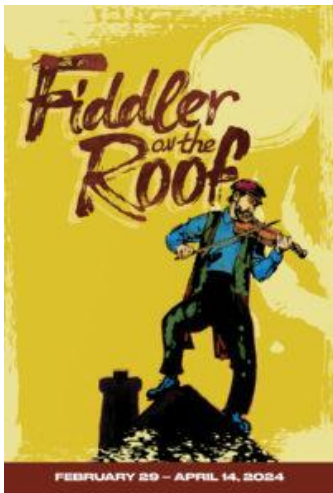


15 Dave Hubbard
20 Jeff North
25 Andrew Cresswell
26 Duane Andrus
26 Arlie Ellis
28 Will Jewson



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.



Would you like to see Fiddler on the Roof at the FireSide Theater?

DATE: April 7th

TIME: Arrival 2:30 p.m., Meal 3:00 p.m., Show 5:00 p.m.

Then please call the church office or sign-up on our sheet in the Narthex by March 1, 2024.

Thank you.



Do you enjoy walking?

But not in this cold winter weather.

- We would like to open our church doors to create a walking group or time.
- If you are interested, you can call our office or email us.
- Please make sure to include your name, days, and times that you would like to walk.

Hope to hear from you soon. 😊

Just wanted to say thank you for the wonderful donation of winter hats & mittens. Our students will be happy to receive them.

Jefferson Elementary School



Asbury Mitten Tree

This year our mitten tree yielded 7 hat/mitten sets, 17 scarves, 88 pairs of mittens and 152 hats. All items were donated to Adams, Jefferson, Lincoln, Van Buren, and Wilson Elementary schools. A large bag of warm items was delivered to the Hedberg Public Library to share with the homeless patrons that frequent the library. Thank you for your generosity!



TIME: 6 p.m.
DATES: Wednesdays

Feb. 14, Feb. 21, Feb. 28,
March 6, March 13, March 27,
and then Maundy Thursday, March 28

If you would like to bring Soup and Sandwiches, please place your name and items on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



February Newsletter Spotlight.

Carolyn Schultz

I am sure everyone has seen or heard our wonderfully talented Carolyn play the piano or organ during Sunday Service or maybe you caught Carolyn playing the Clarinet here at church.

Did you know... she joined Asbury in 1972 and she loves helping whenever and wherever she can.

I had the joy of talking with her about **her life with music.**

Carolyn doesn't just play music she listens to music; this helps her to be open to what others like to hear. When she was just a young child before schooldays, she played what she heard. Once in school Carolyn had formal lessons which also included starting the clarinet at age nine. Her lessons would continue through college, where she took part in her college choir and earned an Organ Major and a Double Minor in Piano and Clarinet.

This year will be her **53rd** year playing here at our beautiful church.

Back in 1971 Carolyn was just looking for a part-time spot. She was one of four that applied but was the only one to be prepared to play music during the interview process, and within two months of hiring her part-time, we asked her to play full-time for us.

When asked if she has a favorite place to play, **our sanctuary** was first on her list and then Cedar Crest lounge playing the Baby Grand, but this also included their chapel which has a small Grand piano and organ.

Thank you, Carolyn, for all your lovely playing and for your enjoyment in music.





2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2  GROUNDHOG DAY	3
4 Choir Practice @ 8:30 AM Sunday School @ 9 AM Community time @ 9 AM Sunday Service w/Communion @ 10 AM	5 RTC @ 3:30 PM	6	7 Stitching Group @ 9-10:30 AM Bible Study @ 5:30 PM @ Peggy's House	8	9	10 Jazz Band Practice @ 9 AM Praise Band Practice @ 10 AM
11 Choir Practice @ 8:30 AM Sunday School @ 9 AM Community time @ 9 AM Sunday Service @ 10 AM  Transfiguration SUNDAY	12	13 Men's Breakfast @ Eagle Inn @ 8:30 AM	14 Women's Covenant @ 8 AM @ Eagle Inn Stitching Group @ 9-10:30 AM LENT Soup & Sandwich @ 6 PM Lenten Service @ 7 PM	15	16	17
18 Choir Practice @ 8:30 AM Sunday School @ 9 AM Community time @ 9 AM Sunday Service @ 10 AM Touching Heart's Brunch After Sun. Service	19	20 Book Club @ 5:30 PM	21 Stitching Group @ 9-10:30 AM LENT Soup & Sandwich @ 6 PM Lenten Service @ 7 PM	22	23	24 Jazz Band Practice @ 9 AM Praise Band Practice @ 10 AM
25 Choir Practice @ 8:30 AM Sunday School @ 9 AM Community time @ 9 AM Sunday Service @ 10 AM	26	27	28 Stitching Group @ 9-10:30 AM Memory Café @ 10 AM LENT Soup & Sandwich @ 6 PM Lenten Service @ 7 PM	29  Game Day @ 1 PM (You may bring snacks if you wish. Games are provided.)		

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

Create in me a
clean heart,



God,
and renew a
right spirit
within me.

Psalm 51:10, ESV

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We are on the Web!
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Join us on Facebook at:
facebook.com/asburyumcjl

FEBRUARY
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