

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 5

Action at Asbury



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

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Pastor's Pondering



I often hear that it has been said about major changes of life that, "You will know when the time is right." Well, the time is right for me to prepare for retirement. I will be retiring on July 1, 2025. I have six months left at Asbury UMC.

It has been a wonderful 11 years with this congregation. I have built so many beautiful friendships during these years. It will be difficult to separate, but the reality is that when a pastor leaves a church, he or she must have no connection with the congregation so that the next pastor can build a ministry without interference. I don't like this, but I understand.

I have come to this decision after many months of contemplation and many discussions with fellow pastoral colleagues. There are a few important factors that have led me to this decision. First and foremost is writing. I have always felt that one gift God had given me was the gift of words. For years I could read Scripture and then turn to my computer, and a sermon would appear through the keyboard as fast as I could type. I felt that God spoke to me, and you, through my fingertips. That is not so evident anymore. I sometimes struggle to create a good sermon. It is time for someone else to write. Secondly, I will be 61 years old when I retire. I know that seems young to many of you. But I want to travel and see the world before health issues slow me down. My parents are in their 80s, and I have watched them slow down significantly over the past ten years. I feel like I need to travel now, or never experience all the things that I want to do and see.

I love this church, but July 1st will be the time to leave her and welcome the next pastor to guide.

God Bless the Asbury Church Family.

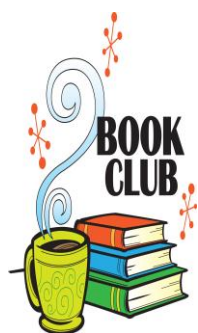
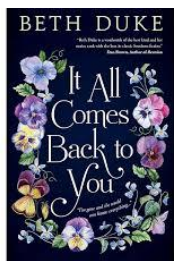
Pastor Will



January Worship Schedule and Themes

- January 12 Baptism of the Lord Worship 10 a.m. The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Scripture: Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 & Isaiah 43: 1-7
Sermon: "Baptized by Water, Baptized by Fire"
On the day that we remember our Lord's baptism, we experience a baptism of a child. May we all "remember" our baptism and be glad in it!
- January 19 Second Sunday after Epiphany Worship 10 a.m.
Scripture: John 2: 1-11 and 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11
Sermon: "Saving the Best for Last"
Jesus turns the world upside down with a theology of the first being last. We first see this in his first public miracle. Let's experience his miracle again as we learn what it means for each of us.
- January 26 Third Sunday after Epiphany Worship 10 a.m.
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a & Luke 4: 14-21
Sermon: "We Are One Body"
Who are we as the Body of Christ? What makes a Church Family? We will try to answer these questions as we ponder on Paul's idea of the Church being the Body of Christ.

Reading
by the
Brook



Asbury Book Club will be reading:
The book for January is by Beth Duke
and it is called,
It All Comes Back to You.

"It All Comes Back to You is one of those stories you need to savor. You want to put the book down so as to have more to read tomorrow, but you can't. It becomes attached to you, a part of you." - Dan Brown, Author of *Reunion*

In 2012, she's still beautiful, charming, and surrounded by admirers. Veronica "Ronni" Johnson, licensed practical nurse and aspiring writer, meets the captivating Violet in the assisted living facility where Violet requires no assistance, just lots of male attention. When she dies, she leaves Ronni a very generous bequest—only if Ronni completes a book about her life within one year.

Alabama, 1947. War's over, cherry-print dresses, parking above the city lights, swing dancing. Beautiful, seventeen-year-old Violet lives in a perfect world. Everybody loves her.

Readers that are interested in joining us are welcome!

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

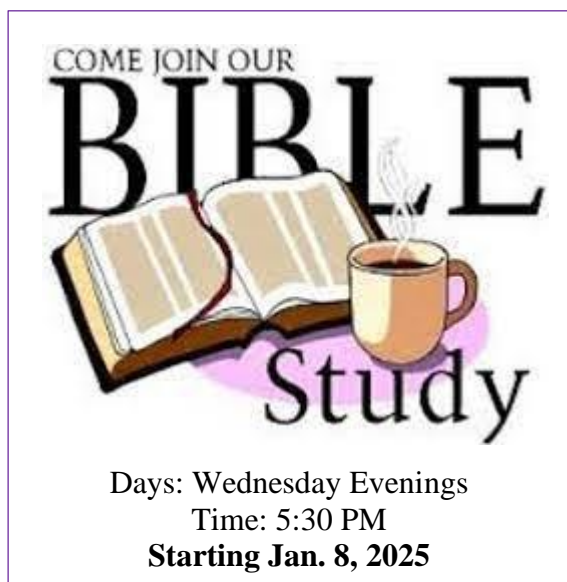


Stitching Group
Meet on Wednesdays
From 9 – 10:30 AM

Our hat and mitten tree
during 2024!
Our mitten, scarf, and
hat donations go to
Lincoln & Jackson
Elementary Schools.



Gifts under tree are for the
Parker Big Give.



Days: Wednesday Evenings
Time: 5:30 PM
Starting Jan. 8, 2025



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 and hats. 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) 598-3155

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:**

Hormel Compleats, Canned Soups/Stews, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Peanut Butter, Jelly/Jam, Cereal, and Individual fruit cups.

Personal items:

Shampoo, Conditioner, Feminine products, Diapers (sizes 4-6), Paper Towels, and Cleaning Supplies.

**LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP NEEDS
APPRECIATED**

**We would absolutely Love mitten donations.
Also, all gently used clothes/winter gear/shoes
and**

**New personal care items (toothpastes, body soaps, shampoos, etc.)
are appreciated.**

November saw income of \$10,108.00 and expenses of \$13,513.49
Unrestricted Net Assets is at \$22,051.67

Missions

UMCOR \$1,335.00

ECHO Thanksgiving Meal \$30.00

Thank you for your generosity

Julie Polzin, Asbury Bookkeeper
asburybookkeeper@charter.net

**HELP NEEDED**

Would you be interested in helping in the video recording of our Sunday services? Our church has an iPad available to use. We would like to get more people involved so if someone is sick, playing music, or on vacation we have another person willing to record.

If interested, please reach out to Connie Nelson.

Thank you in advance.





On Wednesday, Dec. 11, our Care Team came together in the Peace Room to make Holiday cards for our homebound members.

*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
2024
7 p.m.*



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

December 2, 2024





What a wonderful way to enjoy a Book Club Meeting.

On November 19th our book club gathered at Cozumel Restaurant for their meeting and then went to go watch The Best Christmas Pageant Ever at the theater, this was a book they read earlier on.



Address →

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LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry®

Launched in August 2008, the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry is a national human-care ministry embracing the unique, calming nature and skills of purebred Golden Retrievers. The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs are a bridge for compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities to share the mercy, compassion, presence and proclamation of Jesus Christ.

LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs are working animals, trained to interact with people of all ages and circumstances who are suffering and in need. The dogs participate in scheduled and special events. Dogs are permanently placed with churches, schools and other ministries involved in Christian human care by LCC. Permanent placement includes full training for handlers and caregivers along with ongoing support, coaching and training. LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs live in the homes of assigned caregivers.

The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs serve every day in the community in which they are placed and are deployed in times of disaster and crisis to bring comfort to all those affected, including first responders and the volunteers who serve them.

Lutheran Church Charities currently has over 130 LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs serving in more than 27 states. LCC operates three training facilities in Illinois. LCC never charges those we serve. We are able to do that with the support of donors.



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	29 Russ Dalhke
5 Alec Osborne	14 Lois McKinney	30 John Quisenberry
6 Terry Penniston	15 Donna Havens	



happy
ANNIVERSARY

17 Darlene & Richard Coulthard
28 Bill & Carrie Ruchi



Continuing Care List

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



ECHO Community Meal

Saturday, November 30, 2024

Volunteers: Heidi Jensen, Jeff Quaerna, Amy Powell, Garry Jeske, Steve & Diane Bundy, Abbi Christman and friend Lizzy.

Darlene Williams - ECHO volunteer and Maryam Enterline - ECHO food resource & volunteer coordinator.



ECHO Community Meal

We would like to send a big Thank You out to all those who helped bake cookies and bars for us.

We provided 130 meals to the community and an additional 35 meals to YWCA, House of Mercy and Project 16:49

THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!





2025

JANUARY

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3	4
5 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service & Communion	6 5:30 p.m. Rethink Church	7	8 8 a.m. Women's Covenant @ Eagle Inn 9-10:30 a.m. Stitching group 5: 30 p.m. Bible Study	9	10	11 9 a.m. Jazz Band Practice 10 a.m. Praise Band Practice
12 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service	13	14 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ Eagle Inn	15 9-10:30 a.m. Stitching group 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	16	17	18
19 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service	20	21 5:30 PM Book Club	22 9-10:30 a.m. Stitching group 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	23 9:00 a.m. History Team.	24	25 9 A.M. Jazz Band Practice 10 A.M. Praise Band Practice
26 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service	27	28	29 9-10:30 a.m. Stitching group 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	30	31	

* Newsletter articles are submitted to Amy Powell by the 15th of each month at asburyumc@charter.net



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