



The Asbury BEACON

December 2019 / January 2020

Volume 19, Number 10

This month's **BEACON** is sponsored by *Orie Phillips*.

Our newsletter is a very important tool in helping us to communicate with and keep our Asbury Family connected!
Thank you **Orie** for being our "BEACON ANGELS" for December/January!

The Pastor's Corner

Every month, as I flip the calendar from one month to the next, I always marvel at how fast the previous month flew by. Now, I marvel at how fast the entire year 2019 came and went. It's not just turning the calendar from one year to the next; we now turn from one decade to the next. 2020 is bearing down on us in about 31 days.

I don't know about you; for me, when I come to a crossroads such as this, I find myself thinking not only of the past but what the future might hold. What was good about 2019? What could I say with certainty, "I sure hope that doesn't happen again." What goals did I realize in 2019; what goals on which do I continue to work; on which goals have I said, "Not this year." What are my hopes and dreams for 2020?

At a District Training Event in early November on Intentional Discipleship making, the presenters gave us five questions to ponder concerning our places of worship. When given these questions, I thought these questions were good for our entire congregation to consider. What better time than at the cusp of a New Year to reflect on why Asbury United Methodist Church is the place we choose to worship and learn about God, in addition to growing in our faith.

*Why am I here at Asbury United Methodist Church?
What brought me to Asbury United Methodist Church?
Why do I stay at Asbury United Methodist Church?
What keeps me at Asbury United Methodist Church?
Why is Asbury United Methodist Church important to me?*

As I looked at these questions, I only focused on the last question, as my reasons for coming to Asbury UMC were predicated on an appointment by the Bishop and Cabinet. Why is Asbury United Methodist Church important to me? Asbury is important to me as I can see the hands and feet of Christ in the mission and ministry of Asbury's people. I see hands that hold children and older adults. I see hands preparing meals for those struggling to make ends meet. I see hands making quilts for those in hospital, skilled nursing facilities and those who are homebound. I see hands assembling health kits and cleaning buckets that are then sent literally all over the world. I see hands wrapped around the shaking shoulders of those who are going through a "rough patch." I see hands clasping music while others lift bells in joyful praise and worship. I see hands offering the bread and cup of communion to brothers and sisters in Christ. I see hands getting dirty in the gardens around the church.

Why is Asbury United Methodist Church important to me? I see feet walking in support of worthwhile organizations such as the Crop Walk and Anti-Bullying Initiatives. I see feet moving in time to a Vacation Bible School song. I see feet walking into hospital, skilled nursing facilities and the doorways of our homebound members, connecting them to their church family. I see feet walking down the aisle of the church sanctuary on a Sunday morning to share their talents with others. I see small feet hurrying to Sunday school classes while bigger feet follow them in order to teach how much Jesus loves them.

Why is Asbury United Methodist Church important to me? Asbury is the place where the Word of God is proclaimed each week, where Jesus' commands to love God and neighbor are not only encouraged but lived out in works of service and where I see lives changed through the power of the Holy Spirit. That's why Asbury United Methodist Church is important to me.

How about you?

Pastor Penni

ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TAMMY OLIVAS

**ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR/
DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT**
MAX BOVEE

BROADCAST MINISTRY
BOB KURTZ

CHILD CARE WORKERS
ASHLEE WELSON
ANNE STREET

CLEANING SERVICES
FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE
PAMELA QUIMBY
DARLENE WELBOURN

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE
DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
DAN WEBB

TREASURER
DEBORAH VANHOUTEN

MAINTENANCE
PAT TOWN

MUSIC PROGRAM
DIRECTOR
CATHERINE MOWERS

MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA
LYNN MORGAN
MELANIE RAFFERTY
MICHELLE RUDD
LISA SMITH
HELEN TIMERMAN
BINA WEST
JENNIFER WHITENACK

PASTOR
REV. PENNI FARRINGTON



THE VISION OF ASBURY

*To Make Disciples for
Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.*

THE MISSION OF ASBURY

*To inspire People of All
Generations to Love, Learn
and Lead Through Worship,
Education, and Service.*

THE ASBURY MOTTO

*No Matter Where You Are on Life's
Journey, You are Welcome Here!*

ASBURY WEEKLY MINISTRIES

Sundays:

8:15 a.m. – Chapel Service, Chapman Chapel
9:00 a.m. – *The Wired Word* with Aaron Johnson, Parlor
10:15 a.m. – Morning Service, Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. – Fellowship Time, back of Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. – Chime Choir

Mondays:

10:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting, Parlor
5:30 p.m. – Asbury Ringers Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. – "The Christmas Experience," study, Parlor (Nov. 18th–Dec. 16th)

Wednesdays:

11:00 a.m. – Prayer Circle, Parlor

Thursdays:

4:00 p.m. – Junior Ringers
5:30 p.m. – Praise Band Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. – Agape Ringers Rehearsal
7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Mark your
calendar!

ASBURY MONTHLY MEETINGS

Membership/Evangelism Team:

1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Sunday School Room

Missions:

2nd Sunday of the month, 11:30 a.m., Parlor

Worship Team:

2nd Sunday of the odd month, 12 noon, Parlor

Trustees Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Parlor

PSPRC Meeting:

2nd Wednesday of the month, 5:15 p.m., Parlor

Finance Team Meeting:

3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:00 p.m., Parlor

New Day Board Meeting:

3rd Wednesday of the month, Noon, Parlor

Book Club

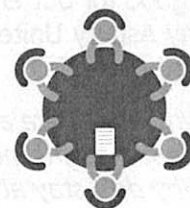
1st Friday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Parlor (Change for this month: Dec. 13th)

Quilters:

1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesday of the month, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School room

Visioning Team

Check with Jim Rafferty (chair)



THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN *December & January*

NORTHERN CHORAL CONCERT - Sat., Dec. 7th, 7:00 p.m. & Sun. Dec. 8th,
3:00 p.m., Asbury Sanctuary

ASBURY BOOK CLUB - Friday, December 13th, 9:30 a.m., Parlor

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY - Dec. 15th, during 10:15 worship

ASBURY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Saturday, January 4th, 8:00 a.m., Bob Evans

DOLLAR DINNER - Sunday, January 5th, 5-6 p.m., Wesley Hall

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE *February* BEACON is January 15TH.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

On December 1st we start collecting nonperishable food items for our **REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR** mission project to benefit the **Watertown Urban Mission Food Panty.**

The kids have decorated collection boxes - one for each day of advent. Each box is for a specified nonperishable item following the original idea list on Facebook. As the weekly items are collected, we will "build" up the numbered collection boxes into a formation to represent an Advent Calendar that will be on display in the church.



Items requested for week # 1 (on December 1st):

a box of cereal; peanut butter; stuffing mix; boxed potatoes; macaroni and cheese; canned fruit; canned tomatoes

Items requested for week # 2 (on December 8th):

tuna; dessert mix; applesauce; canned sweet potatoes; cranberry sauce; canned beans; box of crackers

Items requested for week # 3 (on December 15th):

rice; oatmeal; pasta; spaghetti sauce; chicken noodle soup; tomato soup

Items requested for week #4 (on December 22nd):

canned corn; canned mixed vegetables; canned carrots; canned green beans

There will be **NO classes on Sunday, December 1st** as this is Communion Sunday; however, there will be a Sunday School planning meeting that day right after the main church service.

Sunday School will also be helping out the Salvation Army by participating in **"So You Think You Can Ring"** on **Saturday, December 14th, 10 to 11 a.m.** & again on **Saturday, December 21st, noon to 2 p.m.** We will be ringing, handing out candy canes and for our talent- reading Christmas stories. Come out and support the Red Kettle Campaign and enjoy seeing the kids ringing and hear some great stories.

Our **CHRISTMAS PLAY** will be held on **Sunday, December 15th**, during the main church service. Sunday School will also sponsor fellowship that day.

On **Sunday, December 22nd**, we will have combined classes. Kids can come in their pajamas. We will be watching a "Claymation Christmas" special, having popcorn, making a Christmas ornament and listening to Lynn Morgan read a story.

LOOKING FORWARD INTO THE NEW YEAR:

No classes on Sunday, January 5th - Communion Sunday

On **Sunday, February 2nd**, we will be doing **"Souper" Bowl Sunday** again. We will be collecting a noisy can offering that day to benefit the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. The kids will have combined classes that day so they can help prepare a soup and grilled cheese sandwich luncheon for fellowship that day.

News from your Assistant to the Pastor

SMALL GROUP STUDY

(Last Opportunity for 2019!)

"The Christmas Experience" by Kyle Idleman
November 18-December 16, 5 Session Video Study,
Monday evenings at Asbury parlor

Synopsis: An imaginative Bible-based study that examines the important truths discovered in the first Christmas. There is an important truth that we discover as we experience that first Christmas. God always keeps His promises. For all of us that find ourselves feeling like it is always winter and never Christmas, we often feel distanced from God. But through this study, and the story of Christmas, we find out that we can always trust God's timing. Just in time for Christmas, join Kyle Idleman in a six-part DVD study entitled, *The Christmas Experience*, and discover what it truly means to experience Christmas.

AMF

(Asbury Men's Fellowship)

NO breakfast in December. Our project was moving Christmas Wreaths for the church on November 25.
Next Saturday Breakfast: January 4 at 8:00 a.m. at Bob Evans.

PREVIEW OF PLANS FOR 2020

Small Groups

Daniel: May 11 thru August 10, Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Asbury Parlor

Esther: August 24 thru September 28, Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Asbury Parlor

Heaven: May 13 thru September 9, Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m., Summit

Galatians: September 16 thru September 30, Wednesdays at 10:00 A.M., Summit

Ephesians: October 7 thru October 21, Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m., Summit

Celebrating Asbury

Friday, May 15, 6:00 p.m., Wesley Hall – **Females Only**

Friday, September 18, 6:00 p.m., Wesley Hall – **Males Only**

Asbury Fellowship Night Out

Thursday, June 11, 5:30 p.m., Ryan's Lookout Restaurant, Henderson, Route 3

Thursday, August 13, 5:30 p.m., PJ's Restaurant, Clayton, State Route 12

Annual Bus Trip to Lancaster

Queen Esther at Sight & Sound, Lancaster Comedy Show,
Shady Maple Smorgasbord and Shopping

October 1 & 2 - \$300

Bus is full – Waiting list available

Pizza, Salad, Sundae Night with Christmas Carols & Christmas Hymn Sing

Friday, December 11, 6:30–8:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall

QUESTIONS ABOUT ANY OF THE ABOVE: Call Max at (315)232-4158

ADVENT is a time to remember. A time to remember that God sent his only begotten son, Jesus Christ to us to bring us HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE.

Asbury United Methodist Church sits surrounded by the darkness of our world, but inside the walls of this big, old church there is **light**.

Join us as we light the candles each Sunday in Advent:



HOPE

As the acolytes come forward and light the candelabras and as the children come to the front to hear Pastor Penni's message each Sunday, we *see* **HOPE** in their faces!



PEACE

As we gather each Sunday and the *Peace Lamp* is lit and Pastor Penni leads us in prayer, we know there is **PEACE** in this place!



JOY

As the choir sings and the bell choirs ring, we *hear* **JOY**!

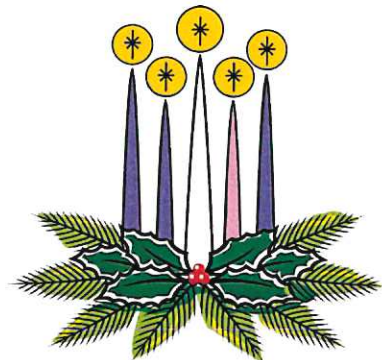


LOVE

As we extend our hands of greeting at the doors to our church each Sunday morning and as we extend our hands in the passing of the peace, we *feel* **LOVE**!

Join us on Christmas Eve as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and the gifts he brings. As we light the Christ candle and you receive the light it brings, see the **HOPE** in the children's faces; hear the **JOY** as we sing "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World." Feel the **LOVE** as we pass the light to one another; and know there is **PEACE** in this place we call **Asbury United Methodist Church**.

**May your heart receive the light, and
May you take it out into the darkness!**



*The light shines in the darkness,
And the darkness has not overcome it.
~ John 1:5*

THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR



THE NORTHERN CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT

"One Baby, One World"

**Saturday, Dec. 7th, at 7 p.m. or Sunday, Dec. 8th, at 3 p.m.
at Asbury United Methodist Church, 327 Franklin St.**

Songs from around the world that celebrate the birth of Christ will be shared. Carl Bingle will once again be at the organ, the River Ringers handbells will join in and the children's choir will sing as well, accompanied by the sounds of the orchestra. **Tickets are available from choir members, at Kinney Drugs on Washington Street and at the door.** Bus service for the parking lots at City Hall and First Presbyterian Church is available starting one hour before each concert.



Sackets Harbor Vocal Arts Ensemble

The Sackets Harbor Vocal Arts Ensemble and Orchestra, under the direction of Kyle Ramey, returns to the Trinity Concert Series this season to perform all three sections of Handel's *Messiah*. In Part I, the Messiah's coming and the virgin birth are predicted and the announcement to the shepherds of the birth of Christ occurs. Part II covers Christ's passion and death, his resurrection and ascension, and the first spreading of the gospel throughout the world. Part III begins with the prediction of the day of judgment and resurrection of the dead, and ends with the final victory over sin and death and the acclamation of Christ.

On Sunday, December 22, at 3:00 pm, this performance will be the 100th concert in the Trinity Concert Series. An impressive reception will follow to celebrate this milestone. To commemorate this event, discounted tickets will be available from chorus members. Martha Jablonski, Larry Littell, David Simmons, and Lynn Morgan are Asburians singing. Come join us for a memorable presentation of Handel's beloved oratorio.

Chime Choir and Junior Ringers



Last year's Chime Choir had eight or nine children who participated. With so many in the group, they were able to play more involved music using 2-3 octaves of chimes. Some of the members needed to be challenged a bit more.

In September, several of the previous Chime Choir members were invited to join Junior Ringers. These youth were older and had begun to read music. There are currently three ringers with a fourth hopefully joining the group in November. They have played during a church service this fall.



The remaining children in Chime Choir have also been challenged, since the older members were the ones who had played the melody. Several of the members have now begun to play two chimes and also ring the melody. They have also played during a recent service. Both groups are doing well, but there is room to have more join each choir. If you are interested in having your child participate, please speak with Lynn Morgan, the director. Special thanks to the parents for their support.

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do see." ~ Hebrews 11: 1 NIV

Winter Safety Tips For Older Adults

Baby, It's Cold Outside! When the temperature drops, older adults run a higher risk of health problems and injuries related to the weather, including hypothermia, frostbite, and falls in ice and snow. Like most things in life, it is better to be prepared. Here are a few precautions everyone should take, especially older adults, during the winter.

Hypothermia

Hypothermia occurs when your body temperature drops to a dangerous level. This can happen when you are out in the cold for an extended time because it begins to lose heat quickly. Older adults are at an increased risk of hypothermia due to changes that happen to your body with aging.

Warning Signs: cold skin that is pale or ashy; feeling very tired, confused and sleepy; feeling weak; problems walking; slowed breathing or heart rate. Call 911 if you think you or someone else has hypothermia.

Precautions to Take

- Stay indoors (or don't stay outside for very long).
- Keep indoor temperature at 65 degrees or warmer.
- Stay dry because wet clothing chills your body more quickly.
- Dress smart – protect your lungs from cold air. Layer up! Wearing 2 or 3 thinner layers of loose-fitting clothing is warmer than a single layer of thick clothing. Think about wearing your thermals!
- Essential winter wear: hats, gloves (or preferably mittens), winter coat, boots, and a scarf to cover your mouth and nose.

Frostbite

Frostbite occurs when your body experiences damage to the skin that can go all the way down to the bone. Not surprisingly, extreme cold can cause frostbite. It is most likely to occur on body parts farthest away from your heart. Common places include your nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers, and toes. In severe cases, frostbite can result in loss of limbs. People with heart disease and other circulation problems are at a higher risk.

Cover up! All parts of your body should be covered when you go out in the cold. If your skin turns red or dark or starts hurting, go inside right away.

Know the warning signs of frostbite: skin that's white or ashy or grayish-yellow; skin that feels hard or waxy; numbness. If you think you or someone else has frostbite, call for medical help immediately.

If frostbite occurs, run the affected area under warm (not hot) water.

Injury While Shoveling Snow

It's one of the evils of winter – snow shoveling. If you choose to shovel, take some precautions. Remember, when it's cold outside, your heart works double time to keep you warm. Strenuous activities like shoveling snow may put too much strain on your heart, especially if you have heart disease. Shoveling can also be dangerous if you have problems with balance or have "thin bones" (osteoporosis).

Ask your healthcare provider whether shoveling or other work in the snow is safe for you.

Falls

It is easy to slip and fall in the winter, especially in icy and snowy conditions.

Precautions to Take

- Make sure steps and walkways are clear before you walk. Be especially careful if you see wet pavements that could be iced over.
- Clear away snow and salt your walkways at home, or hire someone to do it.
- Wear boots with non-skid soles – this will prevent you from slipping.
- If you use a cane, replace the rubber tip before it is worn smooth.
- Consider an ice pick-like attachment that fits onto the end of the cane for additional traction.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE →

Fires and Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

During the winter months, it is common to use the fireplace or other heating sources, such as natural gas, kerosene, and other fuels. Unless fireplaces, wood and gas stoves and gas appliances are properly vented, cleaned, and used, they can leak dangerous amounts of carbon monoxide—a deadly gas that you cannot see or smell. These and other appliances, such as space heaters, can also be fire hazards.

Warning Signs

Headache, Weakness, Nausea or vomiting, Dizziness, Confusion, Blurred Vision, Loss of Consciousness

- Call an inspector to have your chimneys and flues inspected
- Open a window (when using a kerosene stove) – just a crack will do.
- Place smoke detectors and battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors in strategic places – especially in areas where you use fireplaces, wood stoves, or kerosene heaters.
- Make sure space heaters are at least 3 feet away from anything that might catch fire, such as curtains, bedding, and furniture.
- Never try to heat your home using a gas stove, charcoal grill, or other stoves not made for home heating.

Adults 65 and older are involved in more car crashes per mile driven than those in nearly all other age groups. Winter is an especially important time to be vigilant when driving because road conditions and weather may not be optimal.

Precautions to Take

- “Winterize” your car before the bad weather hits! This means having the antifreeze, tires, and windshield wipers checked and changed if necessary.
- Remember your cell phone when you drive in bad weather, and always let someone know where you are going and when you should be expected back.
- Avoid driving on icy roads, and be especially careful driving on overpasses or bridges. Consider alternate routes, even if it means driving a longer distance, if the more direct route is less safe. Often bigger roads are cleared of snow better than smaller roads.
- Stock your car with basic emergency supplies such as: First aid kit, Blankets, Extra warm clothes, Booster cables, Windshield scraper, Shovel, Rock salt or a bag of sand or cat litter (in case your wheels get stuck), Water and dried food or canned food (with can opener!), Flashlight, Map (if traveling in new areas)

Submitted by Darlene Welbourn

MISSION NEWS

The Mission Committee would like to thank the congregation for the support in filling cleaning buckets! With the people who brought in whole buckets, donated individual items and donated money to buy needed supplies, we were able to send 14 buckets! Thanks also to Karen Wendler and Larry Welt for volunteering to transport them to Syracuse! Great team effort Asbury!

We have a few new projects coming up.

- The Salvation Army is sponsoring the **Angel Tree** again this year and Asbury will be participating. Bentley Sturge will have the angels available starting November 24th and the gifts need to be in by December 15th.
- The Mission committee will also be collecting **winter clothing for the Watertown Urban Mission**. The collection box is in the rotunda. New and gently used coats, hats, mittens, etc. are greatly appreciated. Keep your eyes out for holiday sales!

Deb Van Houten

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN REACTIVATED!

On November 11, six women met to re-establish a UMW presence in the Asbury congregation where all women are automatically members.

At this meeting, we discussed the many projects and concerns that involve women and children around the world. We were also introduced to a program called the SAFE SCHOOLS ENDEAVOR. This is a local program started by Erika Flint, former Watertown Urban Mission Director. It seeks to give grants to schools in Jefferson and Lewis counties to educate staff and students on safety-related educational programs they can implement. The women voted to send \$200 to this program and to invite Ericka Flint to speak to the congregation.

We discussed the 2020 UMW budget and approved it unanimously. Our unit is very fortunate to have an endowed budget thanks to the foresight of Mrs. Blakeslee who years ago left a portion of her estate to Asbury UMC. The UMW receives 50% of the yearly interest on the estate money. This averages \$4,000-\$5,000 yearly. Therefore, fundraising is not necessary. If anyone would like a copy of the budget, please ask Leah Mae Carlisle.

We will meet again on Saturday, Dec. 7, to fill Christmas baskets with items for our home-bound members. If you would like to donate homemade cookies, an item from the Dollar Store, Christmas jewelry, an ornament, small candies, etc., please leave them in the Christmas basket on the table in the rotunda.

If you would like to help fill and decorate the baskets, we are meeting at 9:30 am in the church parlor on Dec. 7. Please come as we join in the spirit of giving as we remember the many gifts God gives to us.

Susan Snell and Leah Mae Carlisle

ASBURY T-SHIRTS, still available for purchase in the church office - all sizes (even children's sizes) - \$10.00

*MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST
FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD*



front



back



Lawrence Littell	December 1	Ashley Cleveland	January 1
Joanne Rhode	December 1	Benjamin Rhode	January 1
Paul Simmons	December 1	Darrel Kicherer	January 9
Carole Bowles	December 2	Makenzie Putzier	January 11
Joseph Gianfagna	December 2	Camie Baker	January 14
William Van Houten	December 5	Frances Goutremout	January 14
Michael Hill	December 7	Penni Farrington	January 15
Mary Malone	December 10	Justin Hill	January 20
Lucinda Galloway	December 12	Benjamin Cleveland	January 27
Sarah Lehman	December 12	David Simmons	January 27
Patricia Burdick	December 18	Joyce McIntosh	January 29
Mary Smith	December 22	Dan Webb	January 29
Andrew Van Houten	December 22		
Richard Fioretto	December 24		
Matthew Beirman	December 28		



NOTE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thank you to each and every one of you for your generous support of the 2020 Budget. Your pledges and continued support are truly appreciated. If you haven't already pledged, there is still time before the final budget is approved to get your pledge in.

If you need a pledge card, please call Tammy at the Church Office, 315-782-3240.

Many thanks,
The Finance Committee

Campership Monies

Three families (representing four youth) have begun to earn money to attend summer camp next summer. These families participated by providing baked items at the fall bake sale. Two of these families came to the bake sale and helped at the table for two hours on Saturday. Malinda St. John shared that people noticed the young people helping and were favorably impressed. The four youth each received a postcard letting them know how much money has already been earned for camp.

For others who are interested in having your children or grandchildren attend camp, there are still opportunities to earn monies. Bringing in cans and bottles and labeling them with your name will ensure that those monies will go toward your child's earnings. Also, the pancake breakfast and another bake sale will take place in 2020.



THE ASBURY BOOK CLUB

These are the readings selected by the Asbury Book Club. We usually meet in the Asbury Church Parlor on the first Friday morning of the month at 9:30 a.m. for a discussion of the month's book. For more information please contact Joanne Rhode.

For December 13, 2019 (This is a new date!)

The Keeper of Lost Causes A Department Q Novel

by Jussi Adler-Olsen, translated by Lisa Hartford (2013)

The number one crime writer in Denmark has written a thriller about Carl Maorck who used to be one of Denmark's best homicide detectives. But he is demoted to Dept. Q, a department of one, where Carl's got only a stack of cold cases for company. One file keeps nagging at him: a liberal politician vanished five years earlier and is presumed dead. But she isn't dead.....yet.



This is also the date of Our Annual Christmas Party. Everyone should bring a goodie to contribute to the party which will be in the church as it was last year.

January 3, 2020

Where the Crawdads Sing

by Delia Owens

February 7, 2020

Before We Were Yours

By Lisa Wingate

Asbury's 2020 DOLLAR DINNERS

**Sunday, January 5th, 5-6;
Sunday, February 9th, 5-6
Sunday, March 1st, 5-6**



For the first time, **Asbury's Mission Committee** will help defray the cost of the dinners along with the Watertown Urban Mission. Thank you to our Mission Committee for their support. This is a much needed project in our community.

**Approximately 150-200 people
are fed at each dinner.**

It's Sunday morning and the weather outside is frightful. Here's where to look for information about closings .

Tune into Channel 7, or Channel 50 on your TV, or search on Newzjunky or Asbury's website: **www.AsburyUMC.net** or the church Facebook page at **www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601.**



The Meaning of the SNOWFLAKE

*Every new snowflake comes to the earth
As a picture of our Saviour's birth,
Because they are sent from up above
And remind us of God's care and love.*

*Each one is so intricate and small
Because Christ sees the details of us all,
And just as two are never the same
The Lord knows and calls us each by name.*

*Snowflakes gently cover the world in white
And hide what's unlovely from our sight,
Showing us how He covers our sin
And gives us His grace when we come to Him.*

*So may every snowflake bring Christ to mind
And in every bit of white may you find
A reason to celebrate anew
And a reminder of His love for you.*

~ Holly Gerth



SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

December 1: Hebrews 12:6

"Whom the Lord loves, He chastens."

December 8: James 2:17

"Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

December 15: 1 Peter 1:17

"The genuineness of your faith is much more precious than gold."

December 22: 1 John 3:2

"Beloved, now we are children of God."

December 29: 1 John 4:9

"God has set His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."

Submitted by Max Bovee



ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601

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Join us for
SUNDAY WORSHIP
at
8:15 or 10:15 A.M.

Who Is Asbury United Methodist Church?

*We invite you to open this newsletter and meet
the People of Asbury United Methodist Church.*

*Join us as we take the journey through Advent to Christmas.
Find the HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE; and Celebrate the*

**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**
5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The 5:30 p.m. service is "kid friendly." There will be a sermon geared more toward children plus candle lighting (with battery powered candles) and communion. The 7:30 p.m. service will also include candle lighting (battery -powered candles only for children) and communion. Punch and Christmas cookies after both services.



*The light shines in the darkness,
And the darkness has not overcome it.*
~ John 1:5