

March 2020

*l*olume 20, Number 2

Our newsletter is a very important tool in helping us to communicate with and keep our Asbury Family connected!

Please consider sponsoring our newsletter for a month!

The Pastor's Corner

Back in the December/January issue of the Beacon, I mentioned a District Training event several of us attended in November concerning a plan to help the local church formulate an intentional plan for Discipleship making. At that first event, the question the trainers asked us was "why?" Why making disciples? Throughout the morning, we talked about how Jesus gave us our mandate or mission in life "...make disciples of all the nations..." (Matthew 28:19). It's what theologians refer to as "The Great Commission." Most of us have heard this at one time or another in our lives. We hear the United Methodist Church say that our mission is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." The trainers said that when you know your "why," you're "what" becomes more impactful.

Now that we knew our "why" the second training event in February focused on "what." "What" is a disciple? Again, the trainers gave us four questions to ponder:

- 1. What is your vision of being a disciple?
- 2. Do you know someone who is a disciple?
- 3. What makes them a disciple in your eyes?
- 4. Who do you think of when you think of a disciple?

To help us clarify this questions in our minds, the trainers asked, "Who is that one person in your life who was Jesus to you?" How did someone emulate Jesus in such a way that you desired to learn more about Jesus and his teachings? What did they do to encourage you to discover God's plan for your life? Looking through that lens, we began to see how folks are nurtured from "inquiring minds" to "disciples of Jesus Christ."

When I had two small children and was pregnant with my third, I went to a meeting where young mothers gathered with their children. The children played while we moms had a few blissful moments of adult conversation. Judy had one child and was pregnant with her second child. We began to talk and soon discovered we not only both lived in the same town, we lived on the same street! We exchanged information and soon we visited the other's homes. The kids got along well; the spouses got along well. Thus one night, I invited them over for dinner. That's when Pat and Judy started talking about how important Jesus was in their lives. Bob and I politely listened; however, we were both fairly uncomfortable with the trajectory of the conversation. We both grew up in the church; however, for various reasons, we didn't attend on a regular basis. Pat and Judy never pushed. They shared about Jesus just as they shared about other aspects of their lives.

As time went by, I started to ask Judy some questions pertaining to faith. She *listened* to me; she *suggested* passages of Scripture to help with my search. She *never pushed* me to "commit or else." Eventually, Bob and I decided to attend church with them one Sunday morning. Four years after that first conversation about Jesus around our dinner table, I gave my life to Christ.

For me, Judy was Jesus to me. Judy was a faithful disciple of Jesus by allowing God to use her unique gifts and graces to bring the saving love of God to another. She shared how important Jesus was in her life. She prayed for me and with me. She invited me to attend church with her. She was patient and kind, never judgmental. She answered my questions and encouraged me to read Scripture and attend a small group study to learn more about Jesus. She allowed the Holy Spirit to work in God's time and not hers. That's what discipleship making is all about. Thanks Judy!

Who is that one person in your life who was Jesus to you? Can you be the person who brings Jesus to another?



ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TAMMY OLIVAS

ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR/ DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT

MAX BOVEE

BROADCAST MINISTRY
BOB KURTZ

CHILD CARE WORKERS

ASHLEE WELDON 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

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 Walk" Lenten Bible Study in the Parlor

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

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

Quilters:

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

THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN March

ASBURY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Saturday, March 7, 8:00 a.m., Bob Evans DOLLAR DINNER - Sunday, March 1st, 4:30-6:00 p.m., in Wesley Hall ASBURY BOOK CLUB - Friday, March 6th, 9:30 a.m., Parlor LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 6:30 p.m., Parlor ASBURY CHURCH COUNCIL - Wednesday, March 4th, 6:30 p.m., Parlor



<u>DON'T FORGET</u> to turn your clocks ahead on <u>Saturday night, March 7th</u> Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8th





SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our Souper Bowl Sunday this past February 2nd raised \$283.26 for the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. Thank you to all who contributed to the noisy can collection.



On Sunday, March 1st, there will be no Sunday School classes that day as it is Communion Sunday, so we will have family worship that day. Following the main church service there will be a Sunday School planning meeting.

<u>Sunday</u>, <u>April 5th</u> will be the <u>Easter Party/Easter Egg Hunt</u>. The party will be during Sunday School time. The Congregation can help hide the eggs right after the main church service, then the kids can go up to search. Sunday School will sponsor Fellowship that day.



We have enough of the plastic eggs; however, donations of individually wrapped Easter candy or small non candy items (Easter erasers, small containers slime/playdough, plastic slinkys, stampers, etc.) used to fill the plastic eggs are appreciated. There will be a collection container in the back of the rotunda.

With 4 classes: an age 3 years to K class, a Grades 1 to 4 class, a Grades 5 to 8 class and a Grades 9 to 12 class, we are always in need of class helpers to meet Safe Sanctuary requirements. If interested in helping, please contact Sarah Lehman 315-767-2641 or email: sundayschool@westelcom.com. (note new email address)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

If interested in helping out with VBS this year, please contact Sarah Lehman. On Saturday, March 14th, at 10 AM at Asbury there will be a VBS planning meeting.



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY UNDERWAY

This year's Lenten Bible Study began Monday, February 24, 6:30 p.m. in Asbury's Parlor. Our discussions center on the book, *The Walk; Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*, by Rev. Adam Hamilton. The first five lessons focus on a particular spiritual discipline (worship and prayer, study, service, giving, sharing) while lesson six shows us that even from the cross Jesus pursued these five essential practices. *It's not too late to join us!* Books can be purchased on amazon.com (hardcover, softcover or Kindle edition). Hope to see you!

PLANNED GIVING "Tidbit"

There are many ways that you can leave an *enduring gift* to **Asbury United Methodist Church** for the benefit of future congregations. **Here is another option for you and your family to consider.**



Retirement Plans

You can contribute to Asbury United Methodist Church through your retirement plan. Certain retirement plans, including IRAs, Keoghs, 401k and 403b plans, allow you to defer paying taxes until you withdraw income during retirement. However, after your death, these accounts are sometimes subject to significant taxes.

Therefore, you might find it beneficial to contribute all or part of these remaining funds to Asbury while leaving other assets to your heirs. Simply name Asbury United Methodist Church a beneficiary of your retirement plan. You will retain control of the plan during your lifetime, and you can change your beneficiary at any time if your circumstances change.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact **Jim Rafferty at 315-408-9036 or by email at: jim.rafferty@gmail.com**

Asbury Needs Your Assistance

Please Sponsor a Monthly Newsletter, Weekly Bulletin, Altar Flowers

Please consider sponsoring one of the following:

Monthly Newsletter (The Asbury Beacon): \$50

Weekly Bulletin: \$30 Altar Flowers: \$40

Jim Rafferty, Asbury Church Council Chairperson

We wish to acknowledge the floral department at Price Chopper. Nearly every Sunday their artistry creates the beautiful bouquets on each side of the Communion Table. If you are in need of flowers consider them. Tell them you've seen their lovely arrangements at Asbury. If you wish to fund flowers for a special occasion or just help the budget contact Bina West.

CAN YOU HELP?

We have started using gluten-free bread for Communion at the 10:15 a.m. service. It's a wonderful way to be able to include *everyone* who desires to partake in communion. However, it's difficult to find pre-made, unsliced, gluten-free bread. The good news is that our local stores have several gluten-free bread mixes that are easy to make.



Would you be willing to make a loaf of gluten-free bread for a communion Sunday?

Please see Pastor Penni. Many thanks!!

FROM THE TRUSTEES

At our February 11th meeting, we met with our financial advisor, Bill Tremont. Our endowment funds had a very good year. In 2019, the total portfolio returns were: Asbury's Regular Endowment, + 17.1%, the Blakeslee Endowment, +19.5%. This is the highest return we have experienced in many years.

We requested a recommendation for a painting firm for our steeple tower from RSI, our roofing contractor. They were able to give us a name to contact. We are now in discussion concerning this project. It will be a major plus if we can have a painting firm available while the tall lifts are here to work on the steeple. We plan to start the project about May 1st.

Thank you for your continued support of our Capital Campaign.

Glen Snell, President, Board of Trustees

Membership/Evangelism Committee

If you have noticed how well organized the upstairs kitchen has become, you can thank Amanda Weldon and Carol Stoodley. They have cleaned and labeled cabinets and washed the curtains that cover the lower cabinets. This enables those who sign up for Coffee Hours a much easier way to find things. Amanda is also writing a weekly "to do" list that will be posted in the kitchen. We encourage you to ask a friend and sign up for Coffee Hour!

On Sunday, March 15, we will sponsor a chili potluck after church. There will be a signup sheet in the rotunda for chili, cornbread, Fritos, and desserts. Bring your favorite crock pot of chili along with the recipe. Desserts could be green in celebration of St. Patrick's Day! Come find out what the Leprechauns are up to!

One of our longest standing members, Kay Phillips, is moving to North Haverhill, New Hampshire to be with her daughter and family. Kay joined the church in 1943. She met her husband, David, in their youth group, the Epworth League. It seems one night Kay waited for David outside the Parker St. door after the youth meeting, asked for a ride home, and the rest is history. Kay has always sung in the Chancel Choir, included were many lovely soprano solos. She also helped prepare the food for our turkey dinner fundraisers, worked on rummage sales, was a member of the United Methodist Women, and welcomed new people by delivering fresh bread to their homes. The Asbury quilters presented Kay with a blue and white lap quilt to take to her new home. Her new address will be Kay Phillips at 57 Nazarene Dr., North Haverhill, N.H. 03774. Her phone is 1-603-787-2586. We will miss her.

Sue Snell

As we say farewell to Kay, I want to share a story some of us remember hearing from Kay's husband, Dave. He said, "I came to the Christmas Eve Service one year at Asbury. Kay was singing a solo - "O Holy Night."

I said to myself, 'I am going to marry that girl.'

And marry her he did. They had many happy years together, and they both shared their wonderful gifts with Asbury. Keep singing Kay. You and Dave will remain in our hearts always!

Sue Beaman

MEETING MARGE

Every week Asbury has a bulletin for the church service, containing a list of our home bound and nursing home residents. The first name on the list is my good friend, Marge Brauer. It came to me this week that to many of our newer members Marge is a stranger. I would like to tell you a bit about her. She and her husband, Walt, were both teachers in the Watertown School District. When they retired they bought a travel trailer, attached it to their car, and went off to visit the United States. They ended up in Texas and we didn't see them at Asbury for quite some time. When they had their fill of traveling they returned, rented an apartment in Watertown, and reconnected to Asbury. They enjoyed taking the trips that Max arranged. After Walt died and Marge had some physical problems, she packed up and moved to a nursing home in Liverpool near her daughter. Last spring she celebrated her 90th birthday and Asburians attended the party. Marge has faced some physical problems with a fighting spirit and now tells me that she is using her walker to practice walking, followed by a care giver with a wheelchair for her use in case her legs give out. Marge often calls me on Sunday afternoon. She is very devout and usually has a "sermon" for me. I'm sure that she is benefiting from our prayers. If you would like to keep in touch with Marge her address is: 4600 Southwood Heights Drive, Room 306A, Jamesville, NY 13078. Her telephone number is 315-299-2268. Marge's birthday is May 11.

Stella Garitz



SYMPATHIES TO:

The family of John Carlo. John died January 30, 2020



MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY IS MARCH 8th!

Have you thought about becoming a member of Asbury United Methodist Church? Now's your chance! On Sunday, March 8th at the 10:15 a.m. service, we will celebrate a Service of Membership as several folks have decided that Asbury is the place where they want to connect with God and others. Please see Pastor Penni for more information.



SPRING RUMMAGE, PLANT and BAKE SALE

FRIDAY, MAY 8, AND SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2020 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in WESLEY HALL



Furniture, dishes, glassware, silverware, pots and pans, electric appliances in working order, rugs, tools, pottery, books, chairs, quilts, bedding, toys, puzzles and games, lamps, small tables, beds, antiques.

We do not take clothing or computer parts or luggage.

Bring items to Wesley Hall during the week from 10-2 or on Sundays. Use the Storage room to the left of the stage.



The Colorful Plant Sale will feature several varieties of ready-to-plant geraniums and marigolds grown by Glen Snell. House plants in good condition are also welcome.

This is a Finance Committee Fundraiser to support our budget.



THE DELICIOUS BAKE SALE will help our children and youth go to camp this summer.





Breakfast

Thank you to each of you who purchased a ticket from our youth to attend the annual Pancake Breakfast in February. We were most fortunate to have great support from the community who provided all of the food through donated items or gift cards. This enabled the entire meal to be completely paid for.

Our parents of children going to camp were also most helpful. Thank you to Nate and Sarah Lehman, Nikki Patrick, Jean Gianfagna, Lindsay Webb, and Sandy Johnson for their help in the kitchen and the dining room.

Our youth who will be attending camp did a fantastic job setting the tables on Saturday and serving breakfast on Sunday. These energetic and enthusiastic servers included: Erin Brisian, Olivia Lehman, Anthony and Abi Patrick, Jaelah Liriano, and Madyson Smith. They truly earned the tips that you generously donated at the breakfast.

Thank you to everyone who helped in this fundraiser for camp. It is a positive opportunity for the kids to help earn their way to camp, since they now have a vested interest and will enjoy their summer camp experience more. Thanks again for your continued support!

Save the date: Sunday, March 22, Pam (site director at Camp Aldersgate) will be worshipping with us! This will be an opportunity for us to meet and greet her and also to learn more about Aldersgate's summer programs which will be decidedly different this summer. The changes are exciting and will help build a more sustainable presence at Aldersgate for our youth.

> Lynn Morgan Camp agent

ARE YOU PROTECTING YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM THE GERMS THAT CAN MAKE YOU SICK?

When and How to Wash Your Hands

Hand washing is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your family from getting sick. Learn when and how you should wash your hands to stay healthy.

You can help yourself and your loved ones stay healthy by washing your hands often, especially during these key times when you are likely to get and spread germs:

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet
- · After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- · After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste
- · After handling pet food or pet treats
- After touching garbage

Follow Five Steps to Wash Your Hands the Right Way

Washing your hands is easy, and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community—from your home and workplace to childcare facilities and hospitals.

- 1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- 2. <u>Lather</u> your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- 3. <u>Scrub</u> your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- 4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
- 5. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

Why? Read the science behind the recommendations.

Use Hand Sanitizer When You Can't Use Soap and Water. You can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to get rid of germs in most situations. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. You can tell if the sanitizer contains at least 60% alcohol by looking at the product label.

Sanitizers can quickly reduce the number of germs on hands in many situations. However, Sanitizers do not get rid of all types of germs. Hand sanitizers may not be as effective when hands are visibly dirty or greasy. Hand sanitizers might not remove harmful chemicals from hands like pesticides and heavy metals.

Caution! Swallowing alcohol-based hand sanitizers can cause alcohol poisoning if more than a couple of mouthfuls are swallowed. Keep it out of reach of young children and supervise their use.

How to use hand sanitizer

- Apply the gel product to the palm of one hand (read the label to learn the correct amount).
- Rub your hands together.
- Rub the gel over all the surfaces of your hands and fingers until your hands are dry. This should take around 20 seconds.

Information provided by <u>U.S. Department of Health & Human ServicesUSA.gov</u>

Darlene Welbourn

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Saturday, February 29, 9:30 - 11:00 AM meeting in the parlor and the Sunday School Office area. We will make a little "Lenten" gift to deliver to our Asbury home-bound. Come fellowship with us and bring a love of Jesus to our home-bound as well as helping them feel remembered by their church family. If you have a yarn needle, please bring it. Questions - call Sue Snell (315-782-8235) or Leah Mae Carlisle (315-778-7511).

United Methodist Women Northeast Jurisdiction- Baltimore, MD, April 24 - 26. Theme: Calling Us - Romans 1:6.

There is a bus going from Syracuse. Your Asbury UMW has some scholarship opportunities to help with the cost of part of this. Open to all women. For more information see Leah Mae Carlisle.



THE ASBURY BOOK CLUB

These are the readings selected by the Asbury Book Club. We usually meet in the Asbury Church Parlor on the <u>first</u> 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.

March 6, 2020

The Confessions of Catherine de Medici by C. W. Gortner



April 3, 2020

The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict



May 1, 2020 The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes



SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

March 1, 2020: Psalm 62:8

"Trust in Him at all times; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us"

March 8, 2020: Psalm 80:3

"Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us; that we may be saved."

March 15, 2020: Psalm 95:6

"Let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord, our maker."

March 22, 2020: Psalm 100:5

"The Lord is good and his love continues through all generations."

March 29, 2020: Psalm 106:1

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever."

Submitted by Max Bovee



THE DEADLINE FOR THE April BEACON is March 15TH.

Please email articles and pictures to Sue Beaman at wfpcsec@twcny.rr.com with a cc: to Asbury Church Office at Asbury@gisco.net



Something Lost

Several weeks ago I wore a gold cross on a gold chain with my Sunday outfit. Sometime during the day I lost the necklace. It had a magnetic catch recommended by the jeweler because using a regular catch on jewelry has been difficult for me with my arthritic hands. If anyone happened to see a cross and chain, please let me know. It was given to me when I was a bridesmaid in 1954.

> Thanks. Stella Garitz, 782-9522

SPRING BEGINS - March 19th



IRISH BLESSING

May you always have work for your hands to do.

May your pockets hold always a coin or two.

May the sun shine bright on your windowpane.

May the rainbow be certain to follow each rain.

May the hand of a friend always be near you.

And may God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.





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AMF (Asbury Men's Fellowship) FAITH, FOOD Saturday, March 7. Meet at Bob Evans at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and devotions by Peter Mowers. FELLOWSHIP If anyone needs assistance with a project, please contact Glen Snell or Gerald Holder.

LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL

HOLY WEEK







WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 5: 8:15 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. – Palm/Passion Sunday with Communion.

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After the 10:15 a.m. service, there will be an Easter Egg hunt for kids of all ages in the sanctuary Thursday, April 9: 6:30 a.m. – Maundy Thursday service in Asbury's Chapel with Communion.

Friday, April 10: Beginning at 8:55 a.m. – Ecumenical Cross Walk begins at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, South Massey Street, Watertown.

Friday, April 10: 12:15 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. — Good Friday Service in Asbury's Chapel.

Sunday, April 12: 6:25 a.m. – Sunrise Service at Thompson Park.

Sunday, April 12: 8:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. – Easter Celebration with Communion.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

327 Franklin Street Watertown, NY 13601 315-782-3240

E-Mail: asbury@gisco.net Website: www.AsburyUMC.net Www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601

Address Service Requested



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

Asbury United Methodist Church 327 Franklin Street Watertown, New York 13601 NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID WATERTOWN, NY PERMIT NO 81

Who Is Asbury United Methodist Church?

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



Which road will you take?

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

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, And sorry I could not travel both And be one traveler, long I stood And looked down one as far as I could To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim.
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay In leaves no step had trodden black. Oh, I kept the first for another day! Yet knowing how way leads on to way, I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh Somewhere ages and ages hence; Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference.

~ Robert Frost