



The Asbury BEACON

April 2022

Volume 22, Number 3

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!*

Support the humanitarian response in Ukraine Give Now



United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to **Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery**. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>

- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church
- One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.

Also, Asbury has been invited to partner with the **Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors**. They have been working with the **St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Church in Syracuse, NY**, which has a viable channel through which needed supplies are getting into Ukraine at this time.

Items may be dropped off at the Watertown Office of the Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors Office, 210 Court Street, Watertown. Office hours are 8-4:30 Monday through Friday.

The list of needs changes. At present the following items are being requested:

Baby Food (plastic containers)

Diapers

Infant Formula

First Aid Kits

MRE (Meals Ready to Eat) food for the soldiers - expiration date 3-6 months out or greater.

(These can be purchased online and at stores in the camping/hiking dept.)

Personal hygiene (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.)

Small first aid kits

Feminine hygiene items

Wrapped bars of soap

Band-Aids

Gauze Rolls and Pads

Adhesive and Non-Adhesive Dressings

Wound Treatments

Alcohol Swabs/Pads

ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

FAITH KIRCH

BROADCAST MINISTRY

BOB KURTZ

CLEANING SERVICES

FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PAMELA QUIMBY

DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

DAN WEBB

TREASURER

DEBORAH VANHOUTEN

MAINTENANCE

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MUSIC PROGRAM

DIRECTOR

CATHERINE MOWERS

MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA

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MICHELLE RUDD

LISA SMITH

HELEN TIMERMAN

BINA WEST

MARTHA JABLONSKI

PASTOR

REV. LAURA CALOS



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Asbury Church Leadership - CHURCH COUNCIL 2022

Listed below are the Church Council members and their committee for 2022:

Rev. Laura Calos

Jim Rafferty

Michelle Rudd

Lisa Smith (Co-Chair)

Melanie Rafferty (Co-Chair)

Joanne Rhode

Dan Webb

Deb Van Houten

Orie Phillips

Lindsay Webb

Grace Burke

Kerry Roberge

Myrtie Schilling (Co-Chair)

Sue Snell (Co-Chair)

Glen Snell

Sue Snell

Krista Juczak

Carol Plemons

Bruce Irwin

Pastor

Chairperson, Church Council

Children/Youth/Sunday School

Christian Connections

(formerly Membership & Evangelism)

Christian Connections

(formerly Membership & Evangelism)

Finance

Financial Secretary

Financial Treasurer

Lay Leaders

Lay Member to Annual Conference

Memorials & Gifts

Missions

Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee

(PSPRC)

Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee

(PSPRC)

Trustees

United Methodist Women

Worship & Music

Member-at-Large

Member-at-Large

Feel free to reach out and contact these members
with your ideas and concerns.



APRIL POT-LUCK LUNCHEON

APRIL 10, 2022

Right after Worship Service

You may bring a main dish, a side dish, or dessert.

Drinks and table service will be provided.

(The April birthday cake will also be provided)

THEME:

"Spring & Friendship -
Consider inviting a Friend!"



PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT THE SALVATION ARMY

April 3, 2022, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

\$8.00 per person

COME SUPPORT OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS IN FAITH

From the FINANCE COMMITTEE

A Letter to Our Asbury Family,

The Finance Committee thanks everyone who has faithfully supported the church financially for many years. With your support of time, talents and gifts, Asbury has been able to faithfully serve its membership and, indeed, the Watertown community at large very successfully.

We want you to be informed of our current financial situation. At present, we are having difficulty “making our ends meet.” There are several reasons for this. Although everything can’t be blamed on the Covid virus, it has played a significant role in causing the current financial problem. Covid has kept Sunday service attendance below anticipated levels. With reduced attendance has come reduced money intake. In addition, we have lost some of our membership and regular givers. Some have moved to new homes in new towns, and the rest have moved to homes in heaven. These people represented some very faithful givers. We have not been able to make up for that lost revenue.

We also want to share with you a chart to highlight some of the changes to larger line items of our budget. These amounts, (except for payroll), are mostly fixed. We have included this year’s anticipated costs, and the previous 2 years actual amount spent (this is only a portion of the total budget.)

	Budgeted for 2022	Spent in 2021	Spent in 2020
Payroll	\$157,915.00	\$164,423.00	\$152,740.00
Utilities	\$20,000.00	\$18,827.00	\$15,854.00
Shared Ministries to the Conference	\$33,636.00	\$31,752.00	\$33,046.00
Insurance	\$16,173.00	\$15,627.00	\$15,812.00
Snow Removal	\$7,800.00	\$7,004.00	\$2,500.00
Streaming Worship	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00

(While we have spent much money on our building these past few years, and continue to do so, those moneys were/are generated by the Capital Fund Drive, giving to Capital Improvements and earnings from our Endowment, which is managed by the Trustees. We have not included those figures in this letter).

You will note above that we have reduced payroll for 2022. This was because of Max Bovee’s retirement as Assistant to the Pastor. It was our hope that this important position would have an updated job description and be filled in the fall if our finances improved. We are still hopeful!

We know very well that this is a challenging time financially. Rising gas prices, food prices and utility costs affect each of us. Be assured that your Finance Committee is doing its very best to stretch every dollar you generously and cheerfully give. We wholeheartedly feel that a problem shared is a problem solved, so it is in this hope that we reach out to you now to fulfill your pledges and to consider increasing your giving. Thank you so much for loving Asbury and trusting us to manage the funds as responsibly as we can.

Grace and peace,

Asbury’s Finance Committee,

Joanne Rhode, Deb VanHouten, Bruce Irwin, Myrtie Schilling, Susan Snell,
Glen Snell, Carol Plemmons, Orié Phillips, Lisa Smith, Jim Rafferty and Melanie Rafferty



A Video Study by Dr. David Jeremiah - 2022

“Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven”

Presented by M. Max Bovee in the Asbury Parlor
on Monday evenings 6:30-8:00 P.M. as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. June 6, 2022 | “What’s Up With Heaven?” |
| 2. June 13, 2022 | “Where Are They Now?” |
| 3. June 20, 2022 | “Won’t Heaven Be Boring?” |
| 4. June 27, 2022 | “The Ultimate Extreme Makeover” |
| 5. July 11, 2022 | “Heaven’s Oscars” |
| 6. July 18, 2022 | “The Heavenly City” |
| 7. July 25, 2022 | “Worship in Heaven” |
| 8. August 1, 2022 | “The New Heaven and The New Earth” |
| 9. August 8, 2022 | “What on Earth is the Millennium?” |
| 10. August 15, 2022 | “What About the Children?” |
| 11. August 22, 2022 | “Tough-Minded About Heaven” |
| August 29, 2022 | Make-up Date if Needed |

Synopsis: “Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven” will answer and clarify the most important questions Christians have about their future eternal home. Pastor Jeremiah provides answers about the nature of heaven, the kinds of bodies we’ll have, why heaven will never be boring, infants and children in heaven, and the dwelling place God has prepared for us in heaven. If you have questions about heaven, especially assurance about how to get there, let Pastor David Jeremiah and Max, be your guides. Your eternal home will become as clear on earth after this study, as it is in heaven.

In 2015 many of you studied with Max a book entitled “HEAVEN,” by Rev. Randy Alcorn, in which we learned that the 3rd and final heaven will be here on a newly created earth. For those who participated in 2015, you will want to learn more truths revealed by Dr. Jeremiah which enhances the material of Dr. Alcorn. The new videos are captivating and very clear.

If you missed the previous Heaven study, you won’t want to miss this opportunity to have the mysteries of heaven revealed in the following format:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 6:30-6:35 P.M. | Welcome and Opening Prayer |
| 6:35-6:50 P.M. | Background and Getting Started Questions |
| 6:50-7:30 P.M. | Watch the Video and Follow the Scriptures |
| 7:30-7:55 P.M. | Discussion of Video and Application |
| 7:55-8:00 P.M. | Closing Prayer |

For questions or to register to participate, contact Max @ 315-232-4158.

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

What does **home** mean to you?

I looked up the definition of home on the internet and this is what I found:

“the place where one lives permanently, especially as a member of a family or household.”

I also found:

“The English word home is from the Old English word hām (not the pig) which actually refers to a village or estate (or perhaps a community) where many “souls” are gathered. It implies there’s a physical dwelling involved, but the main idea is that it’s a gathering of people.”

Lastly, I found:

“Your Spiritual home is the place where you feel that you belong, usually because your ideas or attitudes are the same as those of the people who live (or reside) there.”



Putting all of these definitions together, makes me think *home is where your heart is*. Since God resides in our hearts in the form of the Holy Spirit, I would think that for each of us, home is where we find God. Since God is with us always, home can be different for each of us and can be found in more than one place.

For me, home is where I first met God and where I know I can always find him when the world becomes too much for me and I feel lost. That place is Asbury. Livestreaming is a wonderful way God gave us to worship and connect during Covid and when we are not physically able to gather at Asbury. But for me, it isn't the same as physically gathering and worshiping under that big red roof where our 'beacon,' the tower, and its light always calls to me: "Come Home." As the Bible tells us:

“For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.” ~ Matthew 18:20.

There is nothing more special to me than coming home after being away for a time.

Home can also be anywhere my family is gathered, including those who have passed. The joy that brings to my heart cannot be expressed in words.

Now, let's explore the meaning of **homelessness**. The dictionary definition is “the state of having no home.” Notice it doesn't say, having no physical dwelling. Although homelessness can mean not having a physical place to reside, it can also mean that there are those who have not found that place in their heart where God resides and calls to them, “Come Home.”

I was once physically homeless for a week when I was in between apartments. I can tell you, I have never felt so lost. I got through it with God's help. I knew He was with me, and I would be okay. Imagine being lost and not knowing God was with you. There are those out there that are homeless and lost. Let us help the homeless find their physical and spiritual home. For those of you who call Asbury home but have been away, God is calling you: **“Come Home!”**

Sue Beaman

Homeward Bound

(musical arrangement by Marta Keen)

*In the quiet misty morning, When the moon has gone to bed;
When the sparrows stop their singing, And the sky is clear and red.*

*When the summer's ceased its gleaming, When the corn is past its prime;
When adventure's lost its meaning, I'll be homeward bound in time.*

*Bind me not to the pasture, Chain me not to the plow;
Set me free to find my calling, And I'll return to you somehow.*

*If you find it's me you're missing, If you're hoping I'll return;
To your thoughts I'll soon be list'ning, And in the road I'll stop and turn.*

*Then the wind will set me racing, As my journey nears its end;
And the path I'll be retracing, When I'm homeward bound again.*



Calling All Asbury Shepherds Come to a Meeting & Dessert May 4th

All Asbury Shepherds are invited and strongly encouraged to attend a meeting,
"It's a Dessert Thing," on May 4th in the **Church Parlor at 6:45 p.m.**

Besides enjoying dessert, you can enjoy conversation about:

- *Your joys and your challenges*
- *Your experiences thus far*
- *Questions we may have about how to navigate unique circumstances*

Pastor Laura will be able to offer us her spiritual and insightful guidance about how to navigate unique situations that may arise. Besides enjoying some social time with one another, we promise that this will be a useful learning experience for all.

Shepherding, as you know, is a wonderful way for us to stay in touch and show we care. This is indeed an important Asbury mission. We say **Thank You** to all Asbury Shepherds who make connections with members of our church family!

Anyone can be a shepherd. If you have a caring spirit, you care about the Asbury Church Family, and you are interested in providing a connection with others, then you too can be a shepherd.

Everyone is invited to come on May 4th if this is something you want to explore.

Melanie Rafferty
315 783 1105

Lisa Smith
315 778 4173



❤️ CARING ❤️



***Grief and trouble, anxiety and woe
These are the things that are hard to go.
But, someone cares along the way
So don't despair, just for today.
Time will ease the troubled mind,
There could be peace that you will find.
If not today, do not give up.
It may take time, enjoy each sup.
Of pleasure that may be right there,
If you care enough to share.
A smile, kind word, to others who
May be in the same position as you,
If we can bring a little cheer,
To each other, ease all fear,
We will feel much more at ease
And on life, have a new lease.***



John & Eleanor Cerow
April 3, 1976

Mark & Roxanne Robinson
April 26, 1975

Thomas & Leah Mae Carlisle
April 17, 1965

Dan & Darlene Chartrand
April 27, 1961

Gertrude "Trudy" M. Hunkins
June 18, 1943-March 4, 2022

Gertrude M. Ives
April 3, 1923-March 8, 2022

A Loss
in the Church
Family



*Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator,
children all are we.
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me;
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and
Live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.*

~ from United Methodist Hymnal

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

Submitted by Max Bovee

April 3: Psalm 100:3

*"Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us,
and we are His."*

April 10: Psalm 119:36

"Turn my heart toward your statutes."

April 17: Psalm 139:2

*"You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar."*

April 24: Proverbs 9:10

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."*

The deadline for the May Newsletter will be **April 20th**. Please send articles in "Microsoft Word" format to Sue Beaman at wfpsec@gmail.com with cc: Asbury@gisco.net. If you don't have the ability to type them in "Microsoft Word," please bring them to the church office and Faith will type them for you. Thanks for your contributions and help with our newsletter.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WATERTOWN, NY 13601
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E-Mail: asbury@gisco.net
Website: www.AsburyUMC.net
www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601

Address Service Requested



Join us for
SUNDAY WORSHIP
at
8:15 a.m.
10:15 a.m.

Prayer for Ukraine, by Kayla Craig

O God of peace, our hearts are heavy
And our brains can barely keep up with the
breaking news.
We don't know what to say or what to do in
a world so wounded.
So we come to you with hearts heavy for
All who sit in the crossfires of violence and
acts of war.
O God of peace, be with the people of Ukraine.
With the mothers who carry babies to
subway shelters.
With the fathers who hold their heads in their hands.
With the children who absorb the traumas.
Of violent acts of powerful men.
O God of peace, we don't know the words to pray
For a warring world and all who are vulnerable in it.
We don't pretend to know the extent of the damages
Or what tomorrow (or today) will bring.
But we know that you are a God of peace
And we can't bomb our way to shalom.
O God of peace, comfort the crying and heal the hurt.
Tend the aching and soothe the fearful.
Make us instruments of your peace
Creating a sacred symphony where
Rhythms of grace are danced upon
And evil has lost its sting, now and forevermore.
O God of peace, hear our prayer.

Asbury United Methodist Church?

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

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
APRIL 17, 2022, 6:20 AM
THOMPSON PARK PINNACLE
All are welcome!



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®