



The Asbury BEACON

November 2022

Volume 22, Number 8

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!*

Pastoral Letter:



The Empathy of Jesus

When I was a child/youth my Sunday School teachers would occasionally have for our class time, a game of Bible Trivia. I and a classmate named, Jonathan West, were always frontrunners in the competition. Jonathan had a Sunday School pin with several bars attached that he proudly wore to signify his many years of attending Sunday School. I didn't own such a glorious display, because I moved too often from church to church. But like him, I was no rookie to the stories and memory verses of the Bible. One question that often was asked was, "What is the shortest sentence in the Bible?" The answer is, "Jesus wept." This line of scripture occurs when he comes to the tomb of Lazarus and is deeply moved by the grief of Martha and Mary.

More important than knowing this bit of Bible trivia, is the knowing of Jesus' nature. In reading this passage we learn, clearly, that Jesus had compassion and empathy for the suffering of others.

Sometimes we wonder, particularly during a time of personal crisis, whether Jesus knows about our strife, and more to the point, cares about it, about us. So many depictions of Jesus in paintings and statuary, display Jesus as aloof, somehow separate and above the mess of earthly existence. We wrongly assume that Jesus has more important things to care about than our lowly struggles. I think such an assumption is clearly wrong.

It was Jesus who is recorded as saying, "Lo, I am with you until the end of the age." Jesus is with us, right next to us, feeling our angst, hearing our laments, hoping our hopes, and sharing in our joys. We may not be able to physically touch Jesus, but we can feel his presence, through the work of the Holy Spirit, if we can pry open our heart and mind to receive such holy and life-giving grace.

I know that for my part, I am the single and biggest obstacle to being open to receiving this healing and helping grace. I foolishly want to fix my own problems by myself. In my resolve to be completely independent, I create feelings of isolation that not only separate myself from the care and concern of others here on Earth, but from the grace of Jesus our Savior. Time and time again I can almost hear the sound of Jesus, tapping on the wall that I created and saying quietly, "Hello Laura. I'm here. Would you please let me in?"

Jesus is not only present with us; he has empathy for us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace,
Laura

This month's *BEACON* is sponsored by **Dr. Grace Burke and Charles Mosley.**

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

Thank you **Grace and Charles** for being our "BEACON ANGELS" for November.

ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
FAITH KIRCH

ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR -
VISITATION
JANE EASTHAM
CELL PHONE: 315-804-1350
EMAIL:
URBANMISSIONJANE@YAHOO.COM

BROADCAST MINISTRY
BOB KURTZ

CLEANING SERVICES
FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE
PAMELA QUIMBY
DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
DAN WEBB

TREASURER
FAITH KIRCH

MAINTENANCE
WILLIAM NOVISKI

MUSIC PROGRAM
DIRECTOR
CATHERINE MOWERS

MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA
MARTHA JABLONSKI
LYNN MORGAN
MELANIE RAFFERTY
MICHELLE RUDD
LISA SMITH
HELEN TIMERMAN
BINA WEST

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
SUE BEAMAN

PASTOR
REV. LAURA CALOS



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!*

From the Editor

REBUILDING - ONE HEART AT A TIME

When I first moved to Sackets Harbor I noticed this old barn located on the main road going into Sackets. It was old and the boards were worn and discolored. However, I did notice on one side of the barn that some of the old boards had been replaced with new, fresh, sturdy boards. Every day as I drove by there were more new boards appearing, and then one day nice new windows appeared on one side. I began to wonder what was happening to this old barn, and why didn't they just tear it down and start over? Today as I drove by, I noticed there was a new metal roof on the barn. There are still some old worn boards near the top of the building, but I am guessing they too will be replaced. I don't believe this is going to be a barn anymore. It is going to be something new, but the foundation is still there and the support beams are still there from the old barn.

When we rebuilt our Asbury Bell Tower, we didn't tear it down and rebuild it. Piece by piece we replaced some of the support beams, replaced the windows, gave it a fresh coat of paint and made it new. It looks a little bit different, but the foundation is still there. It is still our beacon that calls out for all to hear and see - God is still with us. Come see for yourself!

The events of the last 2 years have left us weary and confused, but God has not abandoned us. We are not going to tear down our church buildings and start over. We will make something new - one piece, one change at a time. The foundation will always be there.

Is God rebuilding each of us one *fruit* at a time until our hearts are full with the Holy Spirit?

God will always be there holding us up and making us strong as we grow and our hearts become new!



Asbury is blessed to have two services on Sunday mornings. One at 8:15, led by the Lay Servants; and one at 10:15, led by our Pastor. Both are traditional services. Asbury is now experimenting with offering a contemporary service. We are adding something new to what we already have. God will be at each service. The foundation is still there. Personally, I love having choices, and you may often see me at both the 8:15 and the 10:15 service. If a contemporary service were added, you might see me at all three. I love opportunities to learn and grow in God's love!

Sue Beaman

The UMW of Asbury is reorganizing and developing into something new. We will be creating new opportunities for women to share and grow in their faith. We need your help. There will be a meet and greet on **Saturday, December 3rd, at 9:00 a.m. in the parlor**. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. All women are invited to come and share their thoughts and ideas. A business meeting will follow our time of sharing. All women of Asbury are invited to come share, fellowship and if you like stay for the business meeting. Come be a part of the rebuilding process!

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

from the Snells

It is that time of year again when the Finance Committee is trying to create a workable 2023 budget. That is why you have received information on what is needed monetarily to keep Asbury afloat for next year. But, more than that, Asbury needs your support with your abilities, time, and vision for what we can be for the future. Our future depends on us all working together as a community of love and respect for each other.

This church is a family of believers. We believe that God works in this congregation through the caring relationships we form with our family here. We bring food to those who are in need, we send birthday cards and get well cards, we listen to each other, we provide meaningful worship experiences, we have opportunities to learn about the Bible and our faith. Asbury offers hope and support when we meet life's toughest challenges in these chaotic times.

Without your financial support, we would not have a beautiful building in which to worship, a minister who brings God's word to us and cares for us, music programs that enrich our lives, children's programs, Bible studies, an office administrator who keeps things running smoothly, and a cleaning and custodial staff that keep our building clean and safe. This is what your financial support provides. We couldn't do this without your help. Please fill out your pledge for next year just to give us some idea what we might have to build our budget.

Glen and I moved to Watertown August 1, 1970 when, Glen started working at the Watertown Animal Hospital in Burrville. We have now been active in Asbury for the last 52 years. We have committed our time to many committees, vocal and bell choirs, building projects, repair projects, etc. It has been a joy in our lives to be members of this family. To be able to put God's plan to work through our association with Asbury, has been a highlight of our time in Watertown.

We hope that you, too, will find as much love, support, and caring at Asbury as we have. As you make plans for next year, find a spot where you can volunteer, share your talents, give of your time, and lend as much financial support as you can.

Blessings to you all...Sue and Glen

NORTHERN CHORAL SOCIETY **2022**

Christmas Concert

Northern Choral Society is thrilled to return to singing in the Christmas Season with its 2022 Christmas Concert. Our theme this year is “Voices of Christmas” and is centered around the Holy Family and other people who were at the birth of Jesus or showed up shortly after. The River Ringers Handbell Choir and NCS Children’s Choir will be joining us as well.

WHEN: December 3rd & 4th at 3:00 p.m. each day

WHERE: Asbury United Methodist Church
200 Parker Street, Watertown, NY

TICKETS: Cost is \$13 for Adults; \$11 for Seniors,
and \$8 for Students.

Tickets go on sale mid-November from
any NCS choir member, at Kinney’s on
Washington St., and at the door.

Please consider spending the afternoon with us for
this musical interpretation of the Birth of Jesus!

BOOKS AND CALENDARS

I want those who donated children's books to the rummage sale to know what happened to them. The books we did not sell were given to me, Barbara Simmons. I took them to the Watertown Urban Mission food pantry. There, parents and children can choose a book of their choice to take home to keep. Parents may take one book for each child in the family. New books may be selected every 30 days. Workers at the pantry excitedly told me how happy the children are to pick out a book to take home.



On another note, the calendars I take to the food pantry are gone within days. I expect that I have taken around 50 or more calendars so far. So, any calendars you do not need, bring to Asbury and place them on one of the back tables in the sanctuary.

Barbara Simmons



We did it again! We made over \$2,600 at our Rummage Sale. Thanks to all the volunteers and thank you to everyone who donated goods and/or their time. Our congregation is the BEST!



Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.



Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost." Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division," "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother," and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam!

AMEN.

(Submitted by Jane Eastham)



ASBURY'S FALL BAZAAR

**November 5th, 9 AM to 2 PM
AND
After Church on November 6th
in the Rotunda behind the Sanctuary at Asbury**



Holiday Items

Ornaments, holiday table runners, napkins, wall art, and fall crafts, ...

Kitchen Necessities

Bowl cozies, casserole carriers, potholders, placemats, pan handles, dish clothes, towels, ...

Also

Shopping bags, tissue holders, hats, scarves, pillows, wood crafts,

And Much, Much More!!!

made by Asbury's Loving Stitches Quilt Group

ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO GENERAL CHURCH BUDGET

ASBURY'S ANNUAL WREATH SALE

The Finance Committee is again sponsoring the annual wreath sale. This is the 22nd year that we have held the wreath sale! Hemlock Haven in Sandy Creek makes an **excellent** products that will last all winter long, and their creations are soooooo fragrant! Samples of some of the products will be on display in early November, so you can see the high quality of their evergreen products.

This year we will again be selling the following:

Undecorated Wreath- \$22
Decorated Wreath-\$25

Sprays - \$25
Mailbox Huggies - \$25



There are only 150 for sale, so it will be on a first come first serve basis.
Also we now have 25 sprays and 25 mailbox huggies
which have been added to our sale.

If you would like to purchase a wreath for the church doors,
please contact Lynn Morgan at 315-493-2637.
We will have 5 on the church doors.

Wreath orders **MUST** be placed by Sunday, November 20th, so that Hemlock Haven will have enough time to make the wreaths and sprays for delivery to Asbury on November 28th.

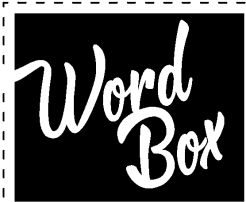
With the onset of cooler weather, the Finance Committee hopes that the wreath sale will help with the escalating fuel costs. We deeply appreciate your support of this annual fundraiser! Order yours today. They are going fast!! Thank you for your participation in this holiday project!

Lynn Morgan

Puzzle!

Although the Bible doesn't mention turkey feasts, the gospels do describe a miracle dinner that made thousands of hungry people thankful (see Matthew 14:13-21). Fill in the words to complete a poem about that meal.

Hint: Each pair of line endings should rhyme.



ate	faces	quest	then
began	late	ran	ton
bunch	lunch	rest	true
done	men	spaces	you

Jesus was tired and went to find _____.
 So away from the crowd he started his _____.
 It came to an end before it _____.
 The crowd followed Jesus; they walked and they _____.
 His boat pulled ashore, and he looked at their _____.
 Five thousand men, plus families, filled all open _____.
 And so Jesus spoke, and he taught until _____.
 The disciples told him it was time they all _____.
 Jesus said, "Yes, that is certainly _____."
 And feeding this crowd is now up to _____."
 Feeding five thousand! It could not be _____.
 What would they do? They'd need a whole _____.
 But then a young boy came and offered his _____.
 Five loaves and two fish to feed this big _____?
 Jesus gave thanks and blessed it and _____ ...
 it fed all the women, the children and _____.

Answer: rest, quest, began, ran, faces, spaces, late, ate, true, you, done, ton, lunch, bunch, then, men



RED KETTLE BELL RINGING CAMPAIGN

Nov. 8th-Dec. 24th

Asbury will be signing people up to ring on **Friday, Dec. 9th** and **Saturday, Dec. 10th** at the **Piggly Wiggly**

(across from Watertown High School)

and at

Runnings

(next to Hannaford)

from

9:00 am. to 6:00 p.m.

Contact

Paul Simmons

(315)783-7302

if you would like to sign up to ring.



- November 1 Joey Morris
- November 1 John R. Cerow
- November 2 Lindsay Webb
- November 3 Tamara Klock
- November 4 Stacie Johnson
- November 8 Dale Scott
- November 9 Stephanie Mider
- November 9 Tammy Olivas
- November 11 Erin King
- November 12 Linda Bennett
- November 14 Martha Jablonski
- November 15 Betty Babcock
- November 16 Meagan Scott
- November 26 Allison Pastor
- November 26 Charlie Rhode
- November 27 Casey Gianfagna
- November 27 Christopher Gianfagna
- November 28 Darlene Town



Dr. Frank and Joanne Rhode

November 19, 1983

Charles Mosley and Dr. Grace Burke

November 29, 1986

Dan and Lindsay Webb

November 9, 2002

*May you always be warmed by each other's smile,
 Always take time to walk and talk awhile,
 Always know deep down you're each other's best friend,
 And enjoy the kind of love that grows and knows no end.
 Wishing you an 'always' kind of love!*

- Author Unknown

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

submitted by Max Bovee

November 6: I Corinthians 15:58

"Nothing you do for God is ever useless."

November 13: 2 Corinthians 1:4

*"God comforts us when we are in trouble,
 so we may be able to comfort others."*

November 20: 2 Corinthians 10:5

*"Cast down arguments and pride, that keep
 others from knowing God."*

November 27: Colossians 4:12

*"May you fully know what the Lord wants
 you to do, that you may do it completely."*

**SALVATION ARMY
 PANCAKE and FRENCH
 TOAST BREAKFAST**

Sunday, Nov. 6th

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

723 State Street
 Watertown, N.Y.

\$8.00, adults; \$3.50 children under 12
 Tickets available at the door

To benefit the
 Adult & Youth Program



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



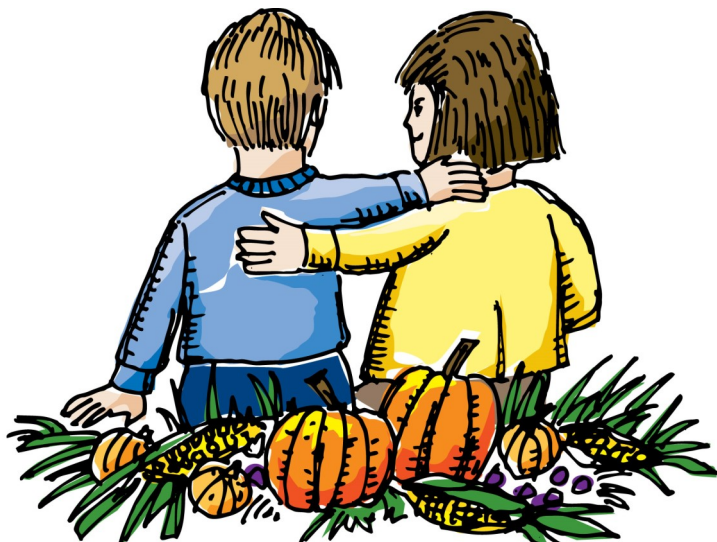
Join us for
SUNDAY WORSHIP
at
8:15 a.m.
10:15 a.m.

Asbury United Methodist Church



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

H
A
P
P
Y



We're thankful for you!

T
H
A
N
K
S
G
I
V
I
N
G