



**July 2023** 

Volume 23, Number 6

### 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!

### Pastor Laura's Farewell Service & Retirement Luncheon

June 11<sup>th</sup> was Pastor Laura's last Sunday at Asbury UM Church.

The Service was a lovely celebration of music, gifts, and well-wishes. Krista Juczak presented a beautiful quilt from the Quilting Group.

Leon VanWie offered a special blessing and prayer over Laura at the close of the service.



Laura's inspirational and final sermon described the stole that was gifted to her at the beginning of her ministry (after seminary).

Toby Schilling was the Master of Ceremony for Laura's retirement luncheon. Several speakers expressed appreciation about Laura's leadership, accomplishments, and her special brand of friendship. Asbury was delighted to host several of Laura's family members and friends at this delicious feast. Thank you to everyone who made this a successful retirement luncheon.



# A Note From Pastor Laura

Dear Friends,

I spent my first Sunday of retirement (June 18th), reading the many cards I received the previous week at my retirement celebration. (I'll admit it - I cried).

Thank you, thank you for the cards and gifts. I appreciate your kindness and generosity so very much. I will miss you all!

No longer your Pastor. Now your friend, Laura

### ASBURY'S STAFF

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### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Dan Webb

### **TREASURER**

FAITH KIRCH

#### MAINTENANCE

WILLIAM NOVISKI

### MUSIC PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**CATHERINE MOWERS** 

### MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

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REV. MICHAEL TERRELL



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Rev. Laura Calos, with grace and compassion led us out of COVID to a new sense of normalcy. Her infectious smile, positive attitude and wonderful sense of humor brought joy to our worship services at Asbury United Methodist Church. We bid her farewell and blessings always as she passes the torch to Rev. Michael Terrell. Pastor Michael will share the gifts he brings and lead us as we continue our journey as Disciples of Jesus Christ.

# Worship Schedule: July 2023

# July 2nd

Rev Toby Schilling is preaching. Pastor Michael and his children will be in attendance and will be staying after worship to do a meet and greet.

# July 9th

Rev. Leon VanWie is preaching.

# July 16th

Rev. Michael Terrell is preaching.

## SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

submitted by Max Bovee

### July 2: Matthew 7:11

"If you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him!"

## July 9: Mark 12:44

"She out of her poverty put in all she had, her whole livelihood."

# July 16: Luke 4:4

"It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."

# July 23: Luke 6:37

"Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

# July 30: Luke 15:24

"For this my son was dead and he is alive again, he was lost and is found."

The July BEACON is sponsored by **Susan Marino and Jeff & Kathy Sero.**Our newsletter is a very important tool in helping us to communicate with and keep our Asbury family connected!

Thank you **Susan, Jeff and Kathy** for being our "**BEACON ANGELS"** for July.

# Dear Asbury,

The Terrell's have arrived and we are excited about working together in becoming the fabric of what is Asbury United Methodist Church! Willow is ready for high school and Noah is ready for seventh grade. Thank you for your cards, letters, emails, and the gifts that welcomed us in the kitchen of our new home; what a special welcome to what I believe will be a special journey for all of us. Special thanks to Joanne, Bill, and members of the PSPRC and the Transition Team for all they have done.

While I have met some of you over the last few months, there are many of you I have not met during our time(s) here previously, and please know I am looking forward to becoming acquainted with you and your families and friends within this community. This church is not here by "accident", but no doubt, it was a divine idea from the heart of God and carried out through willing and obedient servants in Watertown to create such a wonderful ministry. While God certainly knows the past, isn't it assuring that God also knows the future of this church? With this kind of knowledge, we can rest in knowing that God knows the way we should take and will be there to lead and guide us every step of the way.

"Together" was the theme of annual conference this year and I thought it would a be great theme for us as we join together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We can't do ministry alone. Together, I want us to share our dreams, excitement and hopes for what we want to achieve in the mission field. Let's fill our balcony and that sanctuary! Invite friends and family to join with you as we worship together. Let us make our worship experience welcoming and inviting to everyone.

I am a pastor who delights in a spiritual, joyful worship experience and look forward to working with our passionate and dedicated leaders accordingly. My "treasure box" has been a part of my ministry since 1996 and has joined me in every ministry setting and worship when the children are present. The kids will meet the treasure box on July 16 when I first lead worship with you. I'm excited, as I hope you are.

As we plan to journey together...trust me when I tell you I work well with everyone, and I feel I'm pretty down to earth. Talk to me. Simple. I will make plenty of mistakes and pray we will always have love that keeps grace in the center of all we do. I'm looking forward to getting to know your names, talents and gifts, as well as areas of ministry you may find of interest to you.

See you Sunday!

DeColores,

Pastor Michael



# Asbury's Support of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Deployment ADOPT-A-PLATOON

Asbury will be supporting ("adopting") a platoon from the 210th Brigade Support Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division (LI) at Fort Drum. The unit will deploy in early July and will be gone for 9 months.

Here is a quick overview on what Asbury's community outreach will entail.

A platoon normally consists of 35 Soldiers.

The majority of these Soldiers are between 18-25 years old.

The platoon will either deploy to Iraq or Syria (but things can change last-minute).

We expect the platoon leaders to reach out to us very shortly so we can meet with them prior to their departure, gain points of contact so we can stay in touch and be sure we understand how we can best support these great Americans while they are gone.

Our initial plan is to let everyone in our congregation know what types of things these Soldiers need most and we will provide that info to everyone in our weekly Bulletin and monthly in the Beacon. We will also make periodic announcements at our Sunday service.

There will be a box in the back of the church where you can place your donated items.

We will mail them a box of "goodies" once a month.

Most of all, we must ensure we pray for them daily so they can do their job well and return home safely.

Christian Connections Committee has the lead role but may be asking others for assistance as we move forward.

Jim Rafferty Asbury Lay Leader



**Women In Faith** met on Saturday, June 10th and packed 85 period packs to be donated through Happy Period North Country, a not-for-profit made up of volunteers who assemble period packs and distribute them to community organizations. Each pack has 28 products with varying sizes and uses. This will greatly assist Happy Period in their mission. Happy Period has indicated: Ten percent of women in the North Country, at some point, have either missed work or school because they haven't had proper menstruation care. Period products are the number three requested product at food pantries.

Thank you to all who donated supplies and for those who donated their time packing.









# HIGHLIGHTS OF INTEREST

Annual Conference: United Methodists of Upper New York June 1-3, 2023 - SRC Arena, Onondaga Community College Conference Theme: "Together: Living the Gospel. Being God's Love."

Bishop Hector Burgos-Nunez greeted everyone with an inspiring address which addressed the strategic view for our future. It was an upbeat, God-centric, rejoicing time for over 800 people assembled in the arena with a singular focus to move ahead and embrace the changes that will be needed to make our church relevant and ready in the future. It was the first in-person conference since 2019.

Bishop Hector, as he wishes to be called, addressed us all with a message to cherish and value everyone in our quest for enhancing UNITY & DIVERSITY.

# A few highlights/quotes from Bishop Hector's comments:

- "Christ is the source of our faith and hope."
- "We are all baptized; whomever Christ welcomes, we also welcome them."
- "Honor diversity in all of its forms."
- "Pursue the good of our entire congregation and our community."
- "Let us strive to be God's vision of hope and reconciliation."
- "We must commit to doing no harm to anyone."
- "When we pursue these things together, we are better and stronger."

# Bishop Hector's second address focused on:

- ◆ "Say Hello to Peace, Joy, Love, Strength, Hope set new horizons for us all."
- "Say Goodbye to Fear, Guilt, Shame, Pain, Resentment."
- "Let go of anything that gets in the way of God's purpose."
- "There are many things plaguing our country and our world like racial hate, mass shootings, religious polarization, climate change, toxic ideology of Christian nationalism."
- "We must move forward now. We cannot wait for all those challenges to go away. Changes must start now."
- "We will love the way Jesus loves us."
- "Business as usual is no longer an option. We must move forward together."
- "Prioritize relationships over everything else."
- "Continue to Love, Learn, and Lead together."
- "Shift competition (where it exists in individual agendas) to collaboration."

Bishop Hector informed everyone that we are now called "United Methodists of Upper New York."

Jim Rafferty





July 2	Makayla Doe	July 17	Sue Beaman
July 2	Joyce Tucker	July 17	Pam Hughes
July 3	Aaron Johnson	July 19	Lynn Cleveland
July 3	Herb Van Houten	July 20	Rev. Laura Calos
July 5	David Heasley	July 21	Lilia Rudd
July 5	Anthony Weldon	July 22	David Forbes
July 5	Quay Gonzales	July 24	Carol Stoodley
July 6	Gerald Holder	July 24	Linda Adams
July 8	Erin Cantu	July 24	Nancy Weislogel
July 13	Benjamin Rudd	July 24	Emily Browne
July 13	Carol Wright	July 24	Tasha MacAdam
July 13	Debra Holt	July 26	John Lava
July 14	John Deal	July 26	Kimberly Little
July 14	Lenora Forbes	July 27	Quinn Sturge
July 16	Louis Dolloway	July 30	Sandra Johnson



Paul and Deborah Simmons July 13, 1968

Edward and Makenzie Putzier July 16, 2016

> Jim and Krista Juczak July 16, 1983

Matt and Susan Hirst July 17, 1982

Fred and Frances Goutremout July 22, 1967



# United Methodist Family & Friends Night at the Ballpark August 17, 2023

This year, Syracuse United Methodist Ministries (SUMM) will sponsor our 43<sup>rd</sup> annual United Methodist Family and Friends Night at the Ballpark scheduled on Thursday, August 17, at 6:35 pm. Our Syracuse Mets will be playing the Columbus Clippers from Ohio. There will be no tailgate party again this year, however - the greatest invention in the history of baseball is back in 2023! Fans can enjoy \$1 fountain Coca-Cola drinks, \$2 Hofmann Natural Casing Hot Dogs and Coneys, plus, they always offer a \$1 souvenir in the team store.

Like last year, we will have 200-level assigned seats (not 300-level benches), and we will gather on the field at 6:15 pm to sing the National Anthem from home plate, for those so musically inclined. Game tickets are \$15 each and can be ordered through Leon VanWie. If the tickets need to be mailed to you – please add \$1 to the total price. Any questions, please contact Leon at (315) 771-9142 or <a href="mailto:leonvanwie@gmail.com">leonvanwie@gmail.com</a>.

# ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Address Service Requested



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



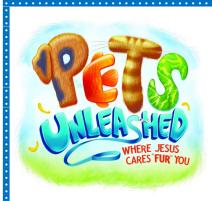
# Asbury United Methodist Church

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



"I want the whole Christ for my Savior, the whole Bible for my book, the whole Church for my fellowship, and the whole World for my mission field."

- John Wesley.



This summer's VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL program will be "Pets Unleashed: Where Jesus Cares "Fur" You" by Group Publishing. It will be held Tuesday, August 22 through Thursday, August 24, 6-8 PM each night with a dinner at 5:30 PM. The mission project this year will benefit the Jefferson County SPCA. The program is for ages 4 years to entering 6th grade.

To register, please email Sarah Lehman at sundayschool@westelcom.com or call the church office at 315-782-3240.