



The Asbury BEACON

August 2023

Volume 23, Number 7

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!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Tuesday, August 22nd through Thursday, August 24th.

Program is "Pets Unleashed: Where Jesus Cares 'Fur' You" by Group Publishing. Program runs 6 PM -8 PM with a dinner at 5:30 PM each night. Join us for music, Bible stories, crafts, snacks and games. The program is for ages 4 years to entering 6th grade.

DINNER MENU:

Tuesday - "hot dogs," chips, and fruit;

Wednesday - "Pupcakes" & "sausages" (pancakes & sausage), and fruit;

Thursday - "purritos" (build your own burrito-ground beef), tortilla chips, and fruit.

The mission project this year will benefit the Jefferson County SPCA.

Online registration link: <https://forms.gle/59RA7FJV8jV6nTKr8> .

Any questions, email Sarah Lehman at sundayschool@westelcom.com or call the church office at 315-782-3240.

When a woman in our society here in the U.S. loses a spouse and becomes widowed there are many challenges she may face both emotionally and financially, but there are also programs and organizations that are available to help her. In the patriarchal society in Malawi, Africa, there are no programs or organizations to reach out to. The dead husband's family shows up and takes everything in the house including the furniture. The widow is often left with children and no way to support them. The Women of Grace Widow's Fund, an ecumenical mission in Northern New York, was formed to help these widows of Grace and the challenges they face. WOGWF is supported by donors of all faiths, and past and current board members represent a variety of churches in the north country.

United Women in Faith has invited Margot McGorman (a Board Member of WOGWF) to come and speak to us on Saturday, September 9th at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Come and find out How We Can Help *The Women of Grace in Malawi, Africa* and more importantly, What Can We Learn from *The Women of Grace*. All women are welcome!



Also, Asbury Women in Faith will be helping to fold newsletters for Chapin Living Waters on Monday, August 21st from 10 to 12. Any ladies interested in helping should contact Deb Van Houten.

ASBURY'S STAFF

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Do You Know GOD?

There was a time when I was younger that I thought I knew God. Looking back, I really didn't. What I knew was that God existed.

When I came to Asbury at age 8 or 9, I learned and memorized the Lord's Prayer on my first day of Sunday School. I knew it meant something, but I really didn't know what. As I went through the next several years, things would happen that I knew could not be a coincidence. Then one day, God opened my heart and the Holy Spirit entered. It was then that my journey began.

Step number one was listening. God began sending people into my life that he wanted me to listen to and learn from. I was given a Daily Devotional by one such person. As I read it daily, I began to see things in a different way. Next, God challenged me to read the Bible from cover to cover. Even though it took me a long time and I did not understand it all, I still learned a lot about God - his hopes, his accomplishments and his disappointments. I am now on my second time through, and I am still learning.

Max Bovee is leading a 10-week video study, by Dr. David Jeremiah, that I find very enlightening, but at the same time a bit frightening. Each week the focus is on a different prophecy. The third week was "A Biological Prophecy." There was discussion as to whether the recent pandemic was a sign that Jesus' return is near. Someone in the class spoke to the fact that he had been in the hospital with COVID and feared he was going to die. Someone told him to read Psalm 91. He did and the next day he took a turn for the better. I went home that night and read Psalm 91. I have read that psalm many times, but this time it had a different meaning for me. My fears were calmed.

I have learned that God has given us all a job and a special gift to accomplish it. My path is unique and though I may parallel others' paths, I may not always intersect with their paths. I am learning to be patient and stay in my own lane and not judge others who have a different job to do. Through my heart and with the help of the Holy Spirit, I am able to feel God's joy, his gratitude and his disappointment - all part of the learning process. Feeling God's joy is almost too powerful for the human body to handle and too wonderful to put into words.

As Dorothy from the *Wizard of Oz* learned, God gave us a brain, a heart; and through his guidance, the courage to use them to learn, feel and understand His purpose and love for each of us. The most precious gift of all: He gave us the Bible to give us strength, hope and understanding.

How Blessed Are We!
Sue Beaman

*Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.
He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge;
His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.*

The August BEACON is sponsored by **Gianfagna**.

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

Thank you **Gianfagna Family** for being our "BEACON ANGELS" for August.



ASBURY IS ADOPTING A PLATOON

Who are we adopting?

A platoon from Alpha Company, 210th Brigade Support Battalion, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum.



How many Soldiers are in this platoon? 42 Soldiers; most are 18-25 years old.

What is the duration of the deployment? 9 months (August 2023 – April 2024).

Where are they deploying? Soldiers will be going to Kuwait, Syria and Iraq.

How will this work?

- We have already established a point of contact.
- A box is in the rotunda for you to place your donations.
- The platoon will routinely inform us what items the soldiers need most.
- Rather than a donation of items, you may mail a check to the church office annotated with "Adopt A Platoon." Christian Connections will purchase items.
- We will provide specific info in our weekly bulletin and monthly in The Beacon.
- Most importantly, please pray for their safety & mission accomplishment.
- Christian Connections Committee has the lead role but may be asking others for assistance as we move forward.

When will a box be mailed to the Unit?

We will mail the donated items in a box once a month (after the last Sunday of the month) starting in late August.

What are the items we can begin collecting & donating?

- Hygiene basics like soap
- Shaving cream (travel-size)
- Disposable razors
- Writing paper/envelopes
- Toothpaste (small tubes)
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Personal notes & letters

Jim Rafferty
Asbury Lay Leader
Mobile: 315-408-9036



August 2	Hannah Johnson	August 12	John Bowles
August 2	Robert LaSage	August 12	Margie VanWie
August 2	Angelo Gonzales	August 14	Mary DeYear
August 3	William Smith	August 15	Joliese Haynes
August 3	Nathan Lehman	August 15	Lynn Morgan
August 3	Kay Phillips	August 21	Michael Schanely
August 3	Kenneth Forbes	August 25	William Hickox
August 4	Erin Brislan	August 25	David Schilling
August 4	Kathryn Sero	August 25	Sharon Quimby
August 5	Luke Marshall	August 26	Shirley Berry
August 7	David Stoodley	August 26	Nancy Dolloway
August 10	Lori Hill	August 29	Sara Quimby
August 11	Allyson Van Houten	August 31	Jeannette Streeter



Steven and Jean Marshall
August 1, 1992

Bruce and Lorraine Irwin
August 15, 1997

Glen and Susan Snell
August 20, 1966

Rev. Toby and Myrtie Schilling
August 24, 1968

Lawrence and Kimberly Welt
August 28, 2016

Craig and Sue Gamet
August 28, 1982

Robert and Jean LaSage
August 31, 1962

ASBURY'S FALL RUMMAGE SALE **October 6 and 7, 2023** **8:30-1:30**

Start your fall cleaning out now!

Needed: chairs, tables, bedding, tools, small working appliances, jewelry, area rugs, antique items, books, toys, puzzles and games, pots and pans, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas decorations, sewing /quilting items, etc.

Bake and Pie Sale both days!

Don't miss this opportunity to help raise money to pay our upcoming winter gas and electric bills!

Sponsored by the Asbury Finance Committee

Hello Church!

What joy it is to finally be in Watertown! My children and I thank you for your generous welcome and support. As your pastor, I've been sitting down with various committee leaders to hear what you have been doing in ministry and to see where you would like to go in the future. I love the passion that is brought to the conversations.

Sunday morning worship is exciting and I've heard from folks there are families who have returned and it seems we are welcoming weekly guests! Summer attendance numbers tend to decrease in most churches, and as I write this, Asbury's attendance numbers have remained steady with expectations this trend will continue or get even better. Thank you for wearing your name tags. Please continue to wear them as they are really helpful to me and to our guests.

In Hebrews 10:25, it says, "...not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching." This scripture almost seems to be more difficult in this day and age as we seem to be busier than ever! I've often thought it would be wonderful if somehow we had an "eighth day of the week," but sadly, we would find ways to fill that up as well.

As your pastor, I want us to encourage each other in being faithful in our attendance; invite a friend and call those who have not been coming to church in a while and invite them back! I believe our attendance will get better, even in the face of all the demands the world places on us. We need each other! Someone has rightfully commented that we are "better together." I know that seems quite apparent, but for the church to make an impact on our communities, we must do so in a unified way!

I look forward to an exciting future together. Let us come together like never before! Let us lead our family and friends to church and develop the excellent habit of faithfulness to God's house so we can fuel up and do more missions in Watertown and around the world!

See you on Sunday.

DeColores!

 --

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

submitted by Max Bovee

August 6: John 15:5

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing."

August 13: Romans 5:15

"The grace of God...abounded to many."

August 20: Romans 6:5

"If we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection."

August 27: Romans 8:1

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus."

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Website: www.AsburyUMC.net
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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!*



“Worship is the feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for God.”

All are invited to worship with us every Sunday at:

Chapel Service: 8:15 A.M.

Family Sanctuary Service: 10:15 A.M.

August 13th Contemporary Service: 10:15 A.M.

*True worship is any expression of obedience, praise, honor,
adoration, and gratitude offered to the true God by a
“regenerate soul who knows the truth about God and loves God.”*