

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

55 West Lincoln Avenue

Delaware, Ohio 43015

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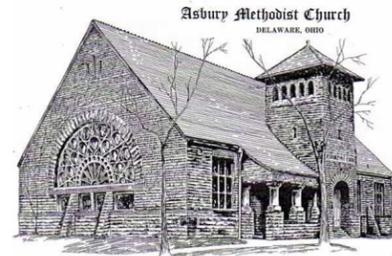
Pastor: Reverend Philip Wilden

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Mon.—Fri.

Phone: (740) 363-3611/Fax: (740) 368-8405

Website: www.asburyohio.org

E-mail: church@asburyohio.org



April 2018 Messenger



Worship Schedule

- April 1** **Easter Day**
Scripture: Mark 16:1-8
Sermon: "Galilee: A Place of Hope"
The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.
- April 8** **United Methodist Women's Sunday**
- April 15** **Easter tide**
Scripture: Luke 24:36-48
- April 22** **Easter tide**
Scripture: Psalm 23 and John 10:11-18
- April 29** **Junior Choir Musical**

Congratulations!

Ohio Wesleyan University Chaplain Jon Powers will be inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia on April 5, 2018, the day after the 50th Anniversary of the assassination of Morehouse Alumnus Martin Luther King Jr., '48, which is the focal point of this year's 33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. College of Ministers and Laity at Morehouse College. Chaplain Powers was selected for this honor by Morehouse College President David S. Thomas and the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Carter, who is Dean of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Chapel, Director of the Martin Luther King Jr. College of Pastoral Leadership, and Chair of the Howard Thurman Educational Trust.

According to the Morehouse College announcement, the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers into which Chaplain Powers will be inducted "is comprised of ordained clergy from the Christian tradition as well as faith leaders (Rabbis, Imams, Priests, Ministers) from a wide array of global spiritual and ethical traditions. These diverse individuals have exhibited a commitment and promise for using their religious positions of leadership to promote peace, tolerance, interfaith understanding, healing, reconciliation, nonviolence, moral cosmopolitan social progress, agapic justice, and care for the ecosystem."

These Are a Few of My Favorite Things by Pastor Phil

Walking east on Lincoln Avenue, dropping a card or letter into the mailbox on Sandusky, and thinking about the recipient.

Hearing the organist practice the hymns for Sunday.

Doing some little chore at home and thinking, "This is something I can control."

Any store or restaurant that does not play music in the background.

The sound of our mail carrier's little truck on our street.

A succinct, courageous editorial column.

Daffodils blooming in the snow.

Someone who can laugh at himself/herself.

What are your favorite things?

KINDness: From Gold to Platinum
By Lay Leader Leslie Beyer-Hermesen

For the past few years, Asbury has practiced and I have enjoyed participating in 40 Days of Prayer during the Lenten season. A couple of weeks into this year's Lenten season, I attended a church service at my sister's church, David's United Church of Christ in Kettering, Ohio. The person leading the Children's Message that day drew her message from the book A Case for Kindness: 40 Ways to Love and Inspire Others (Barrickman, 2017). As I was listening I began turning over in my mind that in addition to observing 40 Days of Prayer prior to Easter that it might be nice to practice 40 Days of Kindness on the opposite side of Easter—bookending Easter with Prayer and Kindness. I would like, however, to propose introducing 40 Days of Kindness with more intentionality. Jon Powers Children's Message on the 18th of February set the stage nicely.

Jon suggested that one of the ways of letting Jesus be the center of our lives is to be Kind. He further pointed out that Kind has the root Kin in it and suggested to be Kind was to be KINd—treating everyone like you would your KINfolk or with more love and care. Jon continued his message through reading the story, Be Kind (Miller, 2018), where the main character spent the entire story trying to figure out what would be the best way to be Kind to her friend, Tanisha. Tanisha had spilled grape juice all over her dress. The main character first tried to be kind to her friend by saying “Purple is my favorite color,” which to her regretful surprise resulted in her friend running out of the room. In the end, silent companionship was all that was needed to be KINd to her friend in that particular situation.

I appreciated this story because it took me back to the time when I was working on my dissertation on Intercultural Empathy. We are familiar with the verse from Matthew 7:12 that has become known as the Golden Rule and translated as “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” In my work on Intercultural Empathy, I came across the Platinum Rule “Do unto others as others would do unto themselves.” At its basic level the Golden Rule implies that others would want to be treated the same as we would, which may or may not be the case. The little girl in Jon's story was working from the premise of the Platinum Rule—not just being Kind, but digging deeper to figure out what it would mean to be Kind to her friend. I would argue that the Platinum Rule is the Golden Rule when we allow ourselves to dig deeper. Jesus constantly challenged people to ponder circumstances beyond their current ways of thinking and of experiencing things in their dealings with other people—so that challenge is for us as well.

In circling back to the original thought of bookending Easter with Prayer and Kindness, might it be worth considering 40 Days of Platinum **KIND**ness? I've heard it said that it only takes 30 days or so to form a habit...



From the Missions and Outreach Committee:

PEOPLE IN NEED will need volunteers to help with their PRODUCE MARKET ON APRIL 25th. You may arrive at 138 Johnson Drive, Delaware at or before 2:00 pm on Wednesday April 25 th. Please park your car in the lot across the street from People in Need. You will be asked to assist in the distribution of produce on site. This market will be from 2:30 to 4:30 rain or shine. You may contact John Applebach at 409-670-3428 or japplebach@columbus.rr.com.

ANDREWS HOUSE is seeking applicants for Andrews House Board Member. If you interested please contact them at 740-369-4520 or email info@andrewshouse.org

ANDREWS HOUSE is seeking volunteers to assist with 3rd Monday's Dinner served at 5:30-6:30 the need is as follows:

2-3 people to help cook 3:00 to 5:00

4-5 people to serve and clean up 5:00 to 7:00

Please contact them at 740-369-4520 or email info@andrewshouse.org

-John Applebach

The Resurrection Banners

The Worship Committee would like the congregation to take a closer look at the Easter story as told through the cloth hanging banners in the Great Room. These were commissioned from the artist Wilma Parrish through funds provided by the Sherman Moist fund. Mr. Moist established this fund to allow Asbury the opportunity to enhance our worship through the arts.

The first panel on the left is based on John's account of the visit of Mary Magdalene to the garden tomb on that first Easter morning (John 20:1-19). Mary does not recognize her risen Lord until he speaks her name, “Mary”. She replies, “Rabboni!”

The center panel depicts the post-resurrection appearance of Jesus to the disciples in an Emmaus room (John 20:24-29). Thomas is the key person in this story as he was not present when Jesus had first appeared to the others, and he doubted their story. Jesus says, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Do not be faithless, but believing.”

The panel on the right is the account in John 21:1-14 where Jesus is cooking breakfast on the shores of the Sea of Galilee and calls to the disciples as they are fishing. He says, “Come and have breakfast.” They then knew it was the Lord.

About the artist, Wilma Parrish

Wilma Parrish is a premier textile artist, specializing in religious works. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Carnegie-Mellon College of Fine Arts in Pittsburgh, PA. For a number of years she was an art teacher. With her late clergy husband, she lived in Wisconsin and created many hangings for the Wisconsin Annual Conference. She now resides near Uniontown, PA.

First Thursday Recitalist Needs No Introduction

Please join us on Thursday, April 5, at 12:15pm when Sally Casto will be organist for our noontime recital.

Sally has chosen some of her favorite organ selections, including works by Dutch composer Piet Post, William Walond, Alec Rowley, and J.S. Bach.

As always, tables will be set and beverages provided for those who wish to enjoy lunch during the recital.

Need an Old Testament History Refresher?

-The Junior Choir will Provide!

This year's Junior Choir musical will accomplish the amazing feat of retelling the entire Old Testament in the span of our morning worship service on Sunday, April 29. Hard to believe?...come and see for yourself as the choir presents "The Old Testament Fast Forward", another wonderful musical from composer Allen Pote with text by Tom Long.

The Asbury Arts Series welcomes The Magpie Consort

The Magpie consort is returning to Asbury for a concert at 4:00pm on Sunday afternoon, April 15. This fine choral ensemble, specializing mostly in a cappella repertoire, performed for us to great acclaim in October of 2006, under the leadership of Sheena Philipps.

No working under the direction of Christopher Dent, Director of Music at Indianola Presbyterian Church and Chorus Master of Opera Project Columbus, the group's spring concert is a combined performance with the Columbus Modern Dance Company (CoMo). Their program title is "Play: Classic Stories and Modern Dances."

Our sanctuary has the perfect arrangement for combining singers and dancers in concert, and we look forward to this unique program. As always, there is no admission charge; a freewill offering will be received.

-Sally Casto



Often, the only time many in the congregation hear from the Finance Committee is once a year during a Stewardship Campaign. Well, your friendly Asbury Finance Committee hopes to change that. Throughout the coming year, we hope to provide you with periodic updates about what your committee is doing and how people's gifts are being used to strengthen the church's ministry. And we will be in touch for that Stewardship Campaign, too.

An important part of the Finance Committee's mission is to gather information from various church committees about goals for the upcoming year, needs and wants, the costs of basic utilities, etc., and then prepare a church budget. However, unless you are directly involved with certain aspects of the church's annual budget, you may not think of the many places that your gifts are used or how far your gifts may go in making lives better inside and outside of our congregation.

For example, every year dedicated Sunday School teachers utilize a curriculum to teach and share the lessons of the Bible with children from preschool to high school. When our children are in 3rd grade, Asbury provides each of these young Christians with a Bible of their own as they learn about God's message.

While it is hopefully behind us for another seven or eight months, it costs money to make sure that the parking lot and sidewalks are plowed, shoveled and salted when ice and snow make getting in and out of church difficult.

If you are like me, you didn't realize how much nicer the stained glass windows of the sanctuary could look until they were restored. The renovation of these windows will hopefully be enjoyed by many future generations of Asbury's family. This is a great example of us paying forward.

If you attended the recent Asbury Art Series concert with Dr. Michael Burkhardt, you were treated to wonderful music from Asbury's own Junior Choir, Bell Choir and Chancel Choir along with many other talented musicians and Dr. Burkhardt, himself, conducting it all. Even if you didn't make it to that concert, Asbury's rich musical tradition benefits from new music that all of the choirs work on to make worship more special.

Finally, some gifts go to the Pastor's Emergency Fund. The Pastor's Emergency Fund has been used with discretion over the years to assist families in financial crisis or distress. By providing this hand to help others up, Asbury continues to reach beyond its doors into the community around us to try and do God's work in the world.

Yes, some of the gifts given to the church go to more mundane expenses like copy paper and electric bills, but I hope this reminds you to take a moment to think of the diverse ways your gifts are used here at Asbury and the many lives that are touched when you give.

Shane Dawson
Chair, Finance Committee

The Trustees recently decided to look at our phone system and internet capabilities at the church and made the move to bundle those services through WOW. The new phones and upgraded internet services were installed over a two-day period in March. It will take a little time to get use to all the functions the new phones can do so please be patient with office staff and others while they become more comfortable with the system.

Please don't hesitate to speak with one of the Trustees if you have questions or concerns regarding these changes.

The issue with the sewer backup and subsequent cleaning remediation is working its way through the insurance claim process. Repairs are still needed but the Trustees are waiting to see what expenses may be covered through the insurance before proceeding with those repairs.

Joe Peterson
Chair, Trustees

United Methodist Women News by Sue Chaney

Did you hear the sewing machines whirring Saturday, March 10? Sixteen people gathered to measure, cut, sew, press, and assemble environmentally friendly, sanitary supplies for girls and young women who otherwise would miss out on five or more days of school each month. These kits will last approximately three years. Work on these kits will progress on **Saturday, April 21 at 10:00 AM** under the guidance of Demi Badger. Please see Demi if you would like to help!

Several UMW members will be leaving from the church parking lot to attend the Mid-Ohio District Spring Meeting at Mansfield Trinity UMC on Saturday, April 14 at 8:30 AM. A mission speaker, memorial service, Second Mile giving items, recognition of local organizations' attained goals, and a communion service are all planned. Let Emma Dixon know if you would like to attend.

We are looking forward to UMW Sunday, April 8. You won't want to miss as Vicki Lefevre will be giving the message, *Choose Love*.

Circle Meetings for April:

Lydia Circle

Responsible for Thursday, April 12, 7:00 PM
PIN this month. Place: Asbury UMC Parlor

Please bring a snack-type food to share and join the fun!

Program: *Trivia Night* by Pastor James Lance

Hannah Circle Wednesday, April 18, 1:30 PM

Hostess: Mona Ray, 20 W. Heffner St.

Program: *Common Ground Free Store Update* by Julia Foster

Rebekah Circle Wednesday, April 18, 9:30 AM

Hostess: Sue Chaney, 101 Horizon Court

Program: *Flat Rock Mission* by Tammy Wilden

Ecumenical Church Women United, a gathering of women from churches throughout Delaware, will have its annual meeting Friday, May 4, 11:30am to 1:30pm here at Asbury. A potluck lunch will be followed by a program, "Memories and Expectations," with attendees sharing remembrances of CWU/ECWU and ideas for the future. The Least Coin Offering will be collected. Questions to Julia Foster (740-363-3562; juliafoster10@gmail.com).

If you would like to help with setup at 10:30am, let Julia know.

Thanks to your generous donations, Asbury collected \$2246.00 for UMCOR (United Methodist Commission On Relief) on March 18. These monies will go to the many needs that UMCOR serves in the US and around the world. If you would like to contribute to UMCOR and were unable to do so on UMCOR Sunday, there are a few envelopes on the table in the foyer or you can simply write "UMCOR" on the memo line on your check.



Sunday School Spotlight by Susan Speer-Powers

The theme for the **Children's Classes** in April is "Go and Tell", with stories spanning from Easter morning to Paul and the early church. The Bible Memory Verse for the month is Acts 9:20: *He began to preach about Jesus in the synagogues. "He is God's Son," he declared.* The weekly lessons are as follows:

April 1: The Tomb is Empty (based on Luke 24:1-12)

April 8: Paul Changes (based on Acts 9:1-19)

April 15: Paul Escapes (based on Acts 9:20-25)

April 22: The Church Grows (based on Acts 9:26-31)

April 29: Timothy Is Chosen (based on Acts 16:1-5; Timothy 3:14-15)



The **Tweens Class** will dive deeper into the Easter season through these lessons:

April 1: Resurrection (based on Luke 24:1-12)

April 8: Encountering Jesus – The Road to Emmaus (based on Luke 24:13-35)

April 15: Trust – Jesus and the Disciples (based on Luke 24:36-49)

April 22: Waiting – The Ascension (based on Acts 1:1-26)

April 29: Staying the Course – Paul and Silas in Prison (based on Acts 2:1-41)

The **Teens Class** continues with *Groove*, a study series that invites teens to explore the essentials of their faith, own their story, and engage the world as Christians, all in the context of the life issues teens are facing today.

Adult Sunday School Classes

The **Faith & Issues** class meets in the Parlor. The class is studying the book *If the Church Were Christian* by Philip Gulley. Through discussion, the class explores what it means to be a Christian, with opportunities to mature in our faith and become better Christians.

The **Spiritual Journey** class meets in the McCoy Room. The class continues a study based on *The Beatitudes From the Backside: A Different Take on What It Means to be Blessed* by J. Ellsworth Kalas.

Sunday School Offering

Our spring mission project is to provide funds to Heifer International for honeybees. Honeybees are needed all over the world, including right here at home. Every 30 dollars we donate will provide a gift of honeybees to the recipients. Honeybees provide vitamin- and mineral-rich honey to eat and sell, wax to make candles, and increased fruit and vegetable yields...which means more food to eat and sell. So far, we have \$67.75 towards this mission.