

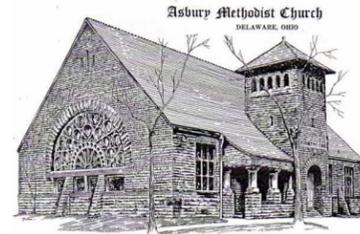
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
55 West Lincoln Avenue
Delaware, Ohio 43015

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Pastor: Reverend Philip Wilden
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Mon.—Fri.
Phone: (740) 363-3611
Website: www.asburyohio.org
E-mail: church@asburyohio.org



DIAPER SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29

One day! Fun day! Sunday! Diaper day!

The Mission and Outreach Committee is excited to announce DIAPER SUNDAY on September 29.

The Diaper Bank of Delaware County was started by our very own Di Huston and Vicki Lefevre in April 2017. Since then, it has grown to help hundreds of Delaware County families in need. In 2018, they gave out over 38,000 diapers. In 2019, they have already provided over 27,000. Clearly, this is a real need in our community, and helping out is simple.

This is where you come in!

The Diaper Bank is funded exclusively by individual and group donations. We will be sponsoring our very own Diaper Sunday drive for diapers and donations during service on September 29. You can bring in diapers, wipes, creams, or monetary donations. Every diaper and every cent goes directly to families in need.

Because of the generosity of donors, the Diaper Bank has never had to turn anyone away. Let's make sure their good work continues. Look forward to more information about the Diaper Bank, and how YOUR donation can make all the difference to a family in need.

Jennifer Villanueva Henkle

******IMPORTANT!!!!** Please note that any checks must be made out to: **United Way of Delaware County**. The memo line should say, "Diaper Bank".

THE MESSENGER

AUGUST 2019



In-Kind/Be Kind: Being a Good Steward for Our Church

By Leslie Beyer-Hermsen, Lay Leader and SPR Rep to the Finance Committee

When asked what my favorite season is, I respond, "the season that is about to happen." I say this in all honesty. I immensely enjoy all four seasons, but what I mostly enjoy is the change of seasons. When summer is about to end, I am ready for autumn. When autumn is about to end, I am ready for winter. When winter is about to end, I am ready for spring and when spring is about to end, I am ready for summer. There is something to be said for the balance the change of seasons brings. The change from summer to autumn for most of us is a transition from a playful time full of smiles and relaxing time at home or on vacations to a "back into the routine" time and attention to more practical matters. While we enjoy our play, structure can often be a welcomed reprieve as well. Our structure throughout the year is what allows for our play. And so it is with our church.

Sometime in October or November of this year our Finance Committee, in planning for the upcoming year, will be asking members to make pledges and/or consider increasing their pledges to support our church's outreach ministries, programming, personnel, infrastructure, and other things in our operating budget. Though it can be awkward to talk about money, establishing and maintaining a healthy church budget is a big part of what enables us to do the things that we want to do as a church. All are invited to be good stewards through financial commitments. But money donations are just one part of the equation.

In the budget section of a grant, there is often a section that provides an opportunity for, or sometimes even requires, demonstration of in-kind contributions which can include both monetary and non-monetary (time, labor, and resources) offerings. Our church's budget operates in a similar fashion. In addition to our Finance Committee's call for pledges, our Nominations Committee will be putting out calls asking many of you to serve on the following committees: Trustees, Finance, Staff-Parish Relations, Worship, Education, Mission & Outreach, and Trust. Individuals who agree to volunteer to serve on these various committees are good stewards by helping to decrease expense, while at the same time increasing our community outreach by the generous gift of their time and talents. Having served on many of these committees, I can personally attest that there have been some committees that have been more closely aligned with my strengths and others have been learning experiences that allowed me to grow and made me better for it. In both scenarios, I have enjoyed getting to know and work with others in our congregation and I don't think that my experience is unique. I share this with you to encourage you to say "Yes" when you are called on to serve as a committee member. I would also encourage any of you who have an interest on serving on any of the aforementioned committees to contact Pastor Phil or me—you needn't wait to be asked. We look forward to and thank you for being kind and providing in-kind support to our church.

**Climate Justice Part II: Reprisal of 23 June 2019
Sermon**

By Lay Leader Leslie Beyer-Hermsen

In my July 2019 Messenger article, I addressed climate justice from an environmental justice perspective. But I also want to think about climate justice in another way. How we treat one another is a kind of Climate Justice. Working in Higher Education, up until recently, if climate was mentioned, the referent wasn't the natural world environment, but rather the campus environment in terms of diversity and inclusion. The climate was and is measured in terms of how well we include and treat one another in spite of and in celebration of our differences.

Many of you know that I have a deaf son, Noah. Before adopting Noah, I didn't know anything about Deaf Culture or even that there was such a thing as Deaf Culture. Determinants of a culture include such things as a collective name, feeling of community, norms for behavior, values, knowledge, customs, social structure, art forms, history, and language. The Deaf Culture embodies all of this. There is much that I could share about all of this, but that's, perhaps, for another Messenger article. The one thing that is important to point out now, though, is that Deaf individuals do not consider themselves disabled. They do not consider themselves to be individuals that need to be fixed. They are proud to be Deaf and proud of their Signed Language.

About 11 years ago, I. King Jordan, Gallaudet's first deaf president, came to speak at Ohio State. In his speech he talked about the concept "Differently-abled." He used the example of hearing people coming to the café at Gallaudet's campus to illustrate his point. He said that when hearing people not familiar with signing come to the café and want to get something to eat and everything is communicated in sign language, he asked the question who is the "disabled" person in this scenario? He then makes his point that it isn't a matter of being disabled but being "Differently-abled." That example has always stuck in my head. This new awareness and appreciation of diversity and inclusion has become an even more important part of my life not only in the realm of deafness, but it has made me conscientious of trying to be as inclusive as I can in all arenas. That's climate justice.

We often become the best that we can be when we are inclusive and embrace diversity. A good example of this is the Strength Finding theory. I believe Megan Buehler mentioned this a few weeks ago in her sermon and some of you indicated a familiarity with this theory. Often places of employment send people off for professional development to shore up their weaker areas. The Strength Finding theory suggests that it is more prudent and effective to develop people's strengths and then make sure you have people with different strengths around the table. That's climate justice.

A month or so ago I was working with a diverse group of individuals who had come together to start a community garden in Marion. A local farmer who is also a city commissioner donated the use of his land, purchased from a land bank, to an African American church that was right across the street from the land bank property. At the beginning of this venture several of us from different venues held an informal meeting outside, looking over the land, discussing the logistics of getting the garden started, and ensuring its success. The farmer who donated the land offered to clear the land, prep the soil, and help secure a water source. During this initial conversation, an individual in the group said to the farmer, "You're a Republican, aren't you?" To which the farmer responded, "Yes, and a self-professed conservative." I remember when this exchange happened that my body tensed up and I did an internal gasp. I was momentarily uncomfortable with the question having been asked and couldn't figure out why that person would have even raised the question. I'm still not sure. The result of raising the question, though had a completely different result than I had anticipated. Instead of causing a divide, somehow knowing that we were people of different cultures and political leanings coming together for a common cause made us stronger as a group and has continued to do so.

One of the most challenging things we as a church are facing at this point of time is the aftermath of the February vote at General Conference, a vote that chose not only to continue a practice that goes against Christ's teachings of unconditional love for all (exclusion is not unconditional love), but also to more strongly enforce harsh sanctions against those who extend full participation in the church,

Cont'd next page

Asbury United Methodist Church Music Ministry ~ 2019-2020

Our 2019-2020 season begins on Wednesday, September 4, 2019.

We encourage and cordially invite you to participate in the musical opportunities offered below. Additional details to follow in the coming weeks. Please feel free to contact us should you have questions or want to learn more about how your family can be involved musically!

Jan Swanson, Director of Music and Choirs

jdswan80@aol.com

Alleluia Choir ~ Grades K-2

Wednesdays ~ 4:15 - 5:00 pm

Peter Baylis, Director

(majorbaylis@hotmail.com)

Frances O'Flaherty, Accompanist

Junior Choir ~ Grades 3-8

Wednesdays ~ 4:15 - 5:00 pm

*(May end at 5:15 during Christmas, Easter and Musical seasons)

Jan Swanson, Director

Marly Hittepole, Accompanist

Teen Choir ~ Grades 9-12

Wednesdays ~ with the Chancel Choir

Jan Swanson, Director

Luke Tegtmeier, Accompanist

Chancel Choir ~ High School ~ Adult

Wednesdays ~ 7:00 – 8:15 pm

Sundays ~ 9:30 – 10:25 am

Jan Swanson, Director

Luke Tegtmeier, Organist, Accompanist

Bell Choir ~ High School ~ Adult

Wednesdays ~ 6:00 – 6:50 pm

Carol Brulotte, Director

(brulottecj@columbusrr.com)

Hello Asbury United Methodist Church

I hope you are all having a wonderful Summer. This letter is to keep you posted on my life and the steps that I am taking forward this year. I have applied to four colleges as a Bachelor's Degree transfer student including Fisher College, Belmont Abbey, William Penn University and Ohio Wesleyan University and got accepted to all of them. I received many scholarship offers from the schools but Ohio Wesleyan was the best option for me because they offered me the most competitive scholarship of \$45,000 per year. I am very excited to go to Ohio Wesleyan University because of this huge opportunity for me. When I visited OWU, I had a chance to talk to the accounting professors there, the track coach and Chaplain Powers. I also got to meet with the wonderful congregation at Asbury United Methodist Church that has supported me during my whole education in the U.S. I am excited to be on campus soon!

I thank God for this opportunity that OWU has given me to take the next step in my academic journey. I will just have to fund raise the remaining \$10,000 needed per semester to be able to cover the rest of my tuition. My OPT experience has been going pretty good as well. With OPT I was able to work at Home Depot and Pizza Hut over the past few months to save up money for my health insurance and school supplies and also to gain important job skills. This will be a big help when I start school in the Fall.

Your support counts so much to me and it plays a big role in my education. I truly would not be able to continue my education without your help. It is thanks to your generosity and support that I was able to walk the graduation ceremony at Clark College this last June and earned my Associates Degree in Business Administration. It was a really fun experience to be there with my friends and the other students. I hope that you might consider continuing to support my education at Ohio Wesleyan this Fall with just over a month to raise the necessary tuition payment. If you have any questions for me, I am always very glad to catch up with all of you! You can send me an email anytime at patrick.carrier1996@gmail.com

Thank you as always for your support

Best regards,
Patrick Carrier

Thank so much for helping me in the past. I hope you would consider helping me as I go forward. Your continued support would count so much to me.

Sincerely,
Patrick Carrier



Patrick at Clark graduation

Are you interested in helping Patrick complete his College degree? You can donate by writing a check to "Old South UMC" with "Patrick Carrier Scholarship Fund" in the memo line. Send checks to the address below and reach out with questions to: rachel.vinciguerra@gmail.com

Old South UMC
Attn: Trustee Treasurer
6 Salem Street
Reading, MA 01867

Cont'd.

including ordaining Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual persons and celebrating same sex marriages in their church. A couple of years ago Asbury joined the Reconciling Ministries Network and became a reconciling congregation. But what does it mean to be a reconciling congregation and in that context, what does it mean to be welcoming, welcoming to all? Asbury's Reconciling Ministries Committee is working to help our congregation figure that out. I don't have time in this article to address specifics, but Bill Zimmerman, who is co-chairing the Reconciling Ministries Committee with me, did a nice introductory write-up in the June Messenger, which can also be found on Asbury's website.

So, whether we're talking about caring for the earth as we are instructed in the Bible as I addressed in last month's Messenger, or building climates of justice for welcoming with unconditional love, we have difficult and wonderful tasks before us.

Want to make a difference in the lives of young ladies around the world?



Sewers, pinners, ironers, turners will continue to meet the first Saturday of each month (except July & November) at Asbury UMC from 10-noon. You are not committed to come the entire time or every month—just come when you can. New helpers always welcome! Our next date is **August 3**. Hope to see you there! See Demi Badger if you have any questions.



Asbury Annual All-Church Picnic

This year's all-church picnic will be held on August 18 at Gallant Woods Preserve located at 2151 Buttermilk Hill Rd
4:00—7:00pm Dinner at 5:00p

Please bring your own table service and a generous dish to share with others. Beverages will be provided. If you have a game you'd like to play and share, bring it too! Or perhaps you'd rather play a guitar and have a sing-a-long. The idea here is a fun time for everyone! Hope to see you there!

(Don't forget the sunscreen and bug spray!)

August Birthdays

- August 4: Melissa Jones
- August 5: Nancy Ross
- August 6: Lara Bailly; Buck Stultz
- August 7: Scott Byerly, Nick Hejmanowski, Marcia Jones
- August 8: David Nardin, Lauren English
- August 10: Jakob Everett, Wyatt Kumpf
- August 11: Hudson Schaffer
- August 12: Todd Richardson
- August 13: Paige Ketterling
- August 14: Bob Harmon
- August 17: Blake Michael
- August 18: Kay Nardin
- August 20: Chase Edwards
- August 21: Declan Spiegel
- August 22: Cathy Okunlola
- August 23: Larry Dixon, Ed Hendricks
- August 24: Dawn McCleery
- August 26: Van Ayers; Jayne Marcum
- August 27: Ann Davis
- August 28: John Huston
- August 29: Bill Zoller
- August 30: Jo Stone; Sheila Ayers
- August 31: Emma Richards



Sunday School Spotlight by Susan Speer-Powers

New Mission Project



Our mission offering this summer recognizes that climate justice extends to the people of God's creation... all of God's people, all of God's children... especially the children and adults seeking asylum at our southern border. Jesus implored his disciples to welcome the children and the stranger. We are *all* God's family!

Through UMCOR – United Methodist Committee on Relief – we as United Methodists can be united in mission to care for children and adults in dire need on our southern border. Although UMCOR is unable to provide direct aid to people being held in US government facilities, UMCOR is providing hygiene kits at transitional shelters all along the US-Mexico border. Since April, UMCOR has delivered nearly 50,000 hygiene kits to six church-run transitional shelters.

We at Asbury are helping by sending our Sunday School and VBS offerings to UMCOR to the Global Migration Advance Fund #3022144. Our offering currently totals \$191.93

Children's Class

Stacy Chaney-Blankenship is teaching the PreK-Grade 5 Sunday school class this summer in the K-2 classroom. All are welcome, even if you can't come every week. Just come when you can! In August, we will learn about David's Family.

August 4: David and Samuel (1 Samuel 16:1-23)

August 11: David and Abigail (1 Samuel 25:1-42)

August 18: David and Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:1-13)

August 25: David and Solomon (1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:1-15)

Youth Classes

Our regular Tweens (Grades 6-8) and Teens (Grades 9-12) classes will resume on September 1. Youth are invited to attend the Spiritual Journey Class during the summer.

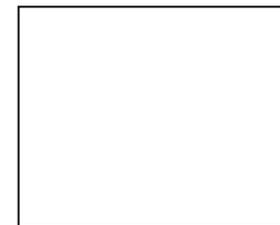
Adult Classes

The **Spiritual Journey Class** welcomes all Asbury youth and adults at 9:30 AM in the McCoy Room. The class is studying the Book of Acts this summer.

The **Faith and Issues Class** has decided to take a break for the summer. Class members are encouraged to join the Spiritual Journey Class in August.

Second Sunday Class – August 11

This class provides a safe place for open discussion and questions about the ramifications of the 2019 Special General Conference, the possibilities for the 2020 General Conference in May of next year, and how Asbury is responding as a Reconciling Congregation. Adults and youth are welcome to participate in this conversation. The class meets at 9:30a in the McCoy Room on August 11.



Explore and Wonder about God's Creation!

Wednesday evening, August 7: Trees

6:00 – 8:15 PM

As an alternative to our traditional VBS program, more than 60 people gathered on two evenings in July to consider aspects of God's creation while sharing a meal and participating in a variety of activities: Water on July 10 and The Birds of the Air on July 24. We've enjoyed a delicious and healthy meal prepared by Lynn Cook and a team of volunteers. From a story to focus us on the topic, to outdoor Exploration Stations, and to a brief concluding worship, everyone seemed to have a great time! Children received a Wonder Box to decorate and fill with reminders of the Exploration Stations.

There's one more opportunity to participate on August 7 when we will Explore and Wonder about Trees. We encourage adults to participate with children in the activities, and there will also be an opportunity to discuss how Asbury can respond to environmental issues and climate justice.

August 7 Schedule

6:00p Meal (provided)

6:50p Opening Story & Activities

8:00p Closing Child-Focused Worship

Registration

Registration forms are in the church entry and on the piano after the worship service. You also can register online via Sign-Up Genius (link will be in the Asbury News emails).