

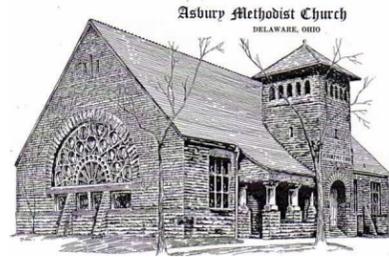
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
55 West Lincoln Avenue  
Delaware, Ohio 43015

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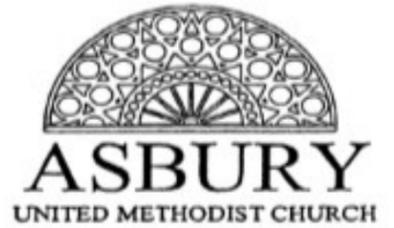
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# June Messenger

## 2018



### Our Confirmation Class

On May 20, we celebrated the reception of our confirmation class as professing members of the church. Their names are listed below, alongside their “friend in faith”.

Morgan Abraham Byerly (Scott Byerly)

Blake Henry Frisch (Jon Powers)

Brian Edward Frisch (Ed Powell)

Stephen Charles Haase, (Tammey Wilden)

Catherine (Katie) Ruth Hejmanowski (Frances O’Flaherty)

Sarah Noel Jenkins (Mary Jean Roach)

Elizabeth Caroline Summers (Jennifer Villanueva-Henkle)

Luke David Todt (Karl Hetzel)

René Alejandro (Alex) Villanueva-Henkle (Peter Baylis)

### **Remembering Those Who Showed Us the Way by Pastor Phil**

In my previous newsletter column, I wrote briefly about my memories of confirmation class in my home church in Plainfield. That prompted my uncle, the Reverend Donald Dolick, to share his recollection about joining the church as a young person.

*“The class was called ‘membership training class.’ I think we met after school. I do remember Rev. (Roy) Hall taking some of the class home in his 1936 Chevy.*

*“The Chevy was worn out, good used cars were very scarce, and Rev. Hall had very limited funds. I recall that he bought a white 1941 Ford coupe from a man in the community. I also seem to recall that the congregation helped pay for it.”*

Both my mother and my uncle have spoken often of their appreciation for Rev. Hall—his commitment to the church, his sacrificial lifestyle, and his interest in the community.

This was in the late 1940s and early 1950s, before school consolidation, when every small community had its own high school (and was more personally invested in its school). Mom recalls Rev. Hall frequently in attendance at basketball games.

Here’s another memory: When Mom was 14, Rev. Hall said to her, “I’d like you to play the piano for church, or see that somebody plays.” Imagine laying that responsibility on a teenager! But that’s how Mom began playing the piano, and later the organ, for many, many years.

Rev. Hall died in 1970 and was buried in Plainfield Cemetery. At Memorial Day, Mom places flowers on his grave as a sign of remembrance.

I did not know him directly, but I know I have experienced the ongoing blessing of his work in the Plainfield community through my mother and uncle.

The words of the apostle Paul in Philippians 1:3 are fitting, and I modify it slightly with plural pronouns: “We thank our God every time we remember you.”

### **Bye, Bye, #5’s!**

Beginning July 1, Asbury will no longer recycle #5 plastics, but don’t stop sorting and saving them. Why? Because Asbury has received permission to place our #5 plastics in the St. Mary’s recycling dumpster that sits in the back corner of their parking lot. They ask that we place ONLY our #5’s there because of the expense of the dumpster.

Over the years Asbury has kept hundreds of cottage cheese, yogurt, and butter containers plus an assortment of other items out of the landfill. So, let’s keep helping and stewarding our Good Earth by recycling #5’s but by placing them directly in the St. Mary dumpster rather than bringing them to church.

Thanks to all who have and to all who will participate in keeping #5 recycling alive.

Martha Fikes

**Grace and Mercy: Connected by Our Humanity**  
**By Lay Leader Leslie Beyer-Hermsen**

I've always felt a special connection to Father's Day. I was born on Father's Day and my birthday falls on Father's Day again this year, renewing my sense of connectedness. I am sure a similar sentiment is felt by others who share their birthday with special people in their lives and/or holidays. Somehow we become complete through our connectedness. Phil reminded us in his sermon on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, that "to be the Church is to stay connected with one another," that we are a 'Community of Faith,' and pointed out the wisdom shared from the mouth of babes through the eloquent singing of our Alleluia choir that "The Church is a People."

Tanya Menon, an organizational psychologist at Ohio State, has focused her research on connectedness in response to her observation of how narrow our social circles are, even as we live in a world that provides us with ever growing opportunities to be connected globally as well as locally, and familiarly. She suggests shaking up routines, as efficient as they may be, so that the same paths aren't always followed. Going to the gym at a different time, for example, can provide an opportunity to meet new people. She also encourages individuals to be relational and less corporate when interacting—when someone does us a favor, we often say something like "I owe you" or "I'm obligated to you," both of which have a business transaction tone. To break out of that mode, she suggests mitigating or eliminating the transaction approach through relational language such as the Chinese word "bú kè qi" which means "You do not need to be so formal; we are family" or "We don't need to go through those formalities." For those of us less versed in Chinese she offers "It's great to collaborate" or "That's what friends are for" as good alternatives. She continues pointing out interesting variations in the language of connectedness. The word Thank You, her example, in some countries comes in the godly form of the words of Grace and Mercy (Gracias and Merci to name a couple)—and though I knew these words of thanks, I had not quite thought about them in this way.

In reflecting the importance of social connectedness, I think back to Phil's 29<sup>th</sup> of April prayer "We even thank you for our failures, because in those moments, we were delivered from a false sense of our own righteousness...we give thanks for using flawed people in your plan for the world." It is easy for us, at times, to exaggerate our individualism and negate that we are connected through humanity. We all are, in fact, "flawed people." We sometimes judge other people's circumstances, such as Homelessness, because by doing so we try to distance ourselves from the possibility that the same could happen to us. I am appreciative of Asbury's participation in Family Promise, a ministry working to help those without homes get back on their feet again. I am thankful to the many individuals who have over the years served as hosts, provided meals, and stayed overnight at the Family Promise House and I encourage others, as they are able, to consider doing so, even if doing so pushes them out of their comfort zone.

Connecting with others who are not like us, can sometimes feel uncomfortable. As we grow in our Christian faith it is important for us to avail ourselves of opportunities to experience differences. Though there are many events and opportunities available, I would like to mention one in particular as it is a cause near and dear to my heart and also coincides with the timing of Father's Day. One People, a grassroots movement in Delaware, Ohio, has as its mission "To unite all citizens of Delaware as One People working together to strengthen our community." This year on Saturday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, the day before Father's Day and the weekend prior to Juneteenth (the 19<sup>th</sup> of June which commemorates the day Texas gave up slavery—the last state to do so), One People is holding a Juneteenth Celebration starting at 10a at Woodward's parking lot where a human chain will be formed to walk north across the railroad tracks, tracks that became a symbol of division between the African American and White communities in Delaware. The walk will end at Bicentennial Park with other events to follow. If your schedule permits you to participate, I would encourage you to stretch yourself beyond your family and friends and join hands with people unfamiliar to you. Gracias and Merci.

Summer Mission and Outreach opportunities you might want to participate in:

1. Asbury PIN Garden that provides produce for People In Need.  
Contact: Ruth Ward at [reward726@yahoo.com](mailto:reward726@yahoo.com) or cell# 419-651-8012
2. Andrews House Volunteer. Contact 740-369-4520 or [info@andrewshouse.org](mailto:info@andrewshouse.org)  
For more information about go [andrewshouse.org](http://andrewshouse.org).
3. Family Promise. Contact Kathleen Miller at [5millers1980@gmail.com](mailto:5millers1980@gmail.com)  
For more information about go [familypromise-delawareohio.org](http://familypromise-delawareohio.org).
4. Common Ground Free Store. Contact 740-369-3733  
For more information about go to [commongroundfreestore.org](http://commongroundfreestore.org).
5. Habitat For Humanity. Contact 740-363-9950  
For more information about go to [habitatdelawareeco.org](http://habitatdelawareeco.org).
6. People In Need. Contact 740-363-6284  
For more information about go to [delawarepeopleinneed.org](http://delawarepeopleinneed.org)

Each of these opportunities to volunteer are very worthwhile and provide you with ways to support efforts within your community.

If you need further information about any of these you may contact me at 409-670-3428 or [japplebach@columbus.rr.com](mailto:japplebach@columbus.rr.com) I hope you choose to be a volunteer in our community.

Thank You,

John Applebach  
Mission and Outreach Chair

**Crucial need for volunteers!**

Hello, Friends, we are in need of 3-4 new Children's Corner volunteers and 1-2 nursery volunteers. While that may not sound like very many people, it will make the difference between easily meeting the needs of this service and scrambling to have enough volunteers!

These ministries are scheduled three months at a time and volunteers typically serve twice during the three months. However, even if you feel you can only serve once every three months, it would help immensely. Busy schedule? Lots of travel on the horizon? No worries - we use *Sign up Genius* which allows you to select the Sunday's that best work for you. But, wait! There's more! If it turns out you need to change dates, you can swap them around, easy peasy! This is a flexible and simple way to serve our Church Family.

If you have any questions or can help out, please contact Angie Haase at 740-369-3869, [angela.haase@me.com](mailto:angela.haase@me.com) or catch me at church in the next couple of weeks. Thank you!

**Luke Tegtmeier**

Luke Tegtmeier grew up on a farm near Wooster, Ohio. He has a Bachelor of Music degree (organ) from Valparaiso University with a major in church music and minor in humanities. He earned his Master of Sacred Music degree at Luther Seminary, with St. Olaf College as an organ major. He has served Lutheran and Episcopal parishes in Ohio and Minnesota as Director of Music and Worship, Organist, Choir Director and Handbell Director.

While working as a church musician, he also learned to tune pipe organs. In 2015, Luke started working at Muller Pipe Organ Company (which tunes the organ at Asbury!) as Tonal Associate and Service Manager. His duties include travelling all over Ohio servicing nearly 200 pipe organs. Luke is a member of the Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and serves as Secretary on the Executive Board.

Apart from pipe organs, Luke enjoys bicycling and reading. He and his wife, Kate, also enjoy traveling and swing dancing together. They have two cats (Clawde DePussy and Dr. Walter P. Hugglekins) and a black German Shepherd (Bela Bartok).

Luke is humbled and excited to be a part of the great tradition of music-making at Asbury United Methodist.

**Summer Hymn Sing: An Asbury Tradition**

Each summer we start our July and August worship services with three hymns chosen by the congregation as their favorites. We sing the hymns that have received the most votes from the Hymn Sing Request sheets received during the month of June. All votes are tallied, then the hymns are ranked in order of vote total. Hopefully, you will be present on the Sunday when we sing one of your choices. Our hymn sing leaders assist us by providing background information or a personal memory about each hymn as well as plan and select a total of 8 verses from the 3 hymns of the day. The hymn sing takes place at the beginning of the service during July and August. You are welcome to participate in this Asbury tradition by serving as a hymn sing leader. If you would enjoy serving as a hymn sing leader/family, please let me know. A sign-up calendar will be available after church beginning June 10 or feel free to contact me by email or phone. A list of hymns will be provided for you upon confirmation of your participation and vote tally. The following Sundays are available:

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

August 5, 12, 19, 26

Thanks for your input in what has become a special part of our summer worship services.

Jan Swanson, Director of Music, Choir Director

**A Simple Solution Makes a Big Impact  
Hygiene Kits Improve Girls' and Women's Lives**

Can you cut? Or iron? Or turn material inside out? Or sew? Or encourage others? If you can do any **one** of these things, we need your help on Saturday, June 23, from 10-Noon in the McCoy Room! Come one and all and bring a friend! Are you unable to come help, then please prayerfully consider a monetary donation to help us purchase washcloths. It feels great to be a part of something that is helpful to others.



Courtesy Days for Girls



**Mission u:  
Learning Together for Transformation of the World**

Mission u is a lively and fun summer opportunity for lifelong learners! Join other women of East Ohio Conference for a 3-day weekend event or a one day sampler at University of Mount Union, July 20-22. For participants, Mission u is an opportunity to study current issues impacting society based on current mission study topics with particular attention to the responsibilities of women in fulfilling the mission work of the church. There are sessions for women, school-age children through sixth grade, and 7th-12th grade young ladies. Registrations and more information are available at [www.eocumc.com/umw/missionU](http://www.eocumc.com/umw/missionU)

**Circle Meetings**

Lydia Circle

June 14

Family Picnic at Ashley Hejmanowski, 339 N. Sandusky

Rebekah and Hannah Circles taking a summer break—see you in September!

Dear Supporter,

Thanks for having me at (Ohio) Asbury. It was very nice to meeting you. Thank you for the potluck and it was great talking to all of you.

I really enjoyed the visit. I am very thankful for your support. I will keep praying for you. Thank you so much!

All the blessings,

Patrick Carrier

## Sunday School Spotlight by Susan Speer-Powers

### Appreciation for Our Christian Education Leaders

On May 28, the Christian Education Committee and the congregation expressed deep appreciation for those who share their time and talent by providing leadership in our Christian Education program. The following individuals served Asbury this year:

Nursery Class: Nancy Ross

PreK Class: Jody Everett

Grades K-2: Valerie Stultz, Stacy Chaney-Blankenship

Grades 3-4: Ed Hoar, Christina Cook

Tweens Class: Megan Buehler, Jon Powers, Doug Swanson

Teens Class: Bryan Davis, Buck Stultz

Substitute Teachers: Emma Dixon, Terri Litchfield, Anne Miller, Kathleen Miller, Nancy Reed, Lauren Vermilion, Jennifer Villanueva-Henkle

MAP (Mighty Awesome Preteens): Emily Dietz, Jim Dietz

Journey: Jim Dietz, Emily Dietz

Faith & Issues: Lew Fikes

Spiritual Journey: Jim Dietz, David Woods

Small Group Studies: Randy Litchfield, Valerie Stultz, Phil Wilden

To honor the service of these individuals, the Christian Education Committee is making a gift in their honor to an education-related mission project, Watoto Read.

### Sunday School Offering

Our Sunday school offerings continue to support the Heifer Honey Bee project. Our donation will provide families with bees, a beehive, and training in beekeeping. By the end of May, our offerings will total more than \$550. Take a look at all the bees on the wall of the Sunday school entrance!

### Summer Sunday School

**Children's Class:** Beginning June 3, we will again have a combined class for children in **PreK-Grade 5**. The class meets in the lower level of the Education Wing. Volunteers from the congregation will serve as teachers for this group for one or two weeks throughout the summer. In June, the Children's Class will learn some of **Jesus' Teachings**. Through these Bible stories, Jesus teaches us how God wants us to live.

June 3: The Lord's Prayer (based on Matthew 6:5-15)

June 10: The Birds of the Air (based on Matthew 6:25-34)

June 17: The Golden Rule (based on Matthew 7:12)

June 24: The Widow's Coins (based on Luke 21:1-4)

**New this summer – Intergenerational Class:** An Intergenerational Spiritual Journey Class for **Youth Grades 6+ and Adults** will study **John Wesley** this summer. The class will use a variety of materials and media and will be based on Adam Hamilton's **Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It**. The class will be led by Jim Dietz and David Woods and will meet in the McCoy Room.

**Adult Class:** The **Faith and Issues** class meets in the Parlor. In June, the class will read and discuss **Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World** by Henri Nouwen.

### Vacation Bible School – Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord!

**Monday – Friday, July 9-13**

**6:30 – 8:00 PM** (Mon–Thur)

**6:00 PM Friday:** Family Dinner and Special Program

Please plan to join us for VBS this summer. The format will be a bit different this year:

- **Gathering Time** at 6:30 in the Sanctuary – Welcome and Bible Story
- **Activity Time** – Crafts, Games, Music, and More...
- **Snack Time** in the McCoy Room
- **Closing** at 7:45 in the Sanctuary – Mission Moment and Singing

**New this year:** On Friday evening, VBS participants and their families are invited to come for a family dinner followed by a special program... details to come!

Many helping hands are needed for a successful VBS – activity leaders, small group leaders, snack-makers and cleaner-uppers, and older children/youth to serve as small group helpers! We will also request food donations for snacks and a few items for the family dinner. Please watch for more information about exactly what we need. And please give prayerful consideration about volunteering to help with this year's VBS. If you wish to volunteer or have questions, please contact Jody Everett, Susan Speer-Powers, or Lisa Woods.

The Asbury Campaign for



### NEW: Watoto Read Project!

On June 3, the Lydia Circle and Christian Education Committee will introduce an ambitious and worthy mission project: The Asbury Campaign for Watoto Read! This project was founded in response to the global refugee crisis and the overwhelming lack of access to education for children in refugee camps. Through Watoto Read, child refugees in Chad will be able to go to a school with a latrine, gaining an education along with some sense of stability and normalcy. Chad, located in central Africa, is home to 412,000 refugees who fled violence and genocide in the Darfur Region of Sudan. More than 100,000 children in 14 Chadian refugee camps do not have access to education.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000, which will build one classroom and latrine, and provide a teacher's chair, student desks and benches, chalkboard, and school supplies for 60 children in a refugee camp in Chad. Over the course of the summer, there will be more information about the Asbury Campaign for Watoto Read and a number fundraising events to support this goal. Just as we educate our own children here in Delaware and throughout our nation, we want to do our part to provide education for child refugees.

We have a very personal reason to support Watoto Read. Rev. Claudine Leary is an ordained United Methodist clergyperson and is Director of Development at MTSO. As a young person, Claudine herself was a refugee. She started Watoto (which means "children" in Swahili) Read as a way to give back, to help children in refugee camps today obtain an education. Claudine will preach at Asbury on June 17.