

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

Return Service Requested



Pastor: Reverend Philip Wilden  
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Mon.—Fri.  
Phone: (740) 363-3611  
Website: [www.asburyohio.org](http://www.asburyohio.org)  
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### Spring Will Come By Salianne Powell

The wind blows hard around my door.  
It's never seemed this cold before.  
Will spring ever come?

The snow is drifted by my door.  
The weatherman says we're in for more.  
Will spring every come?

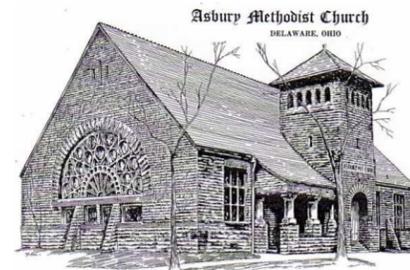
Icicles hang from branches near.  
Their weight will bring them down I fear.  
Will spring ever come?

Birds don't sing; creeks don't run.  
It's like the land of the midnight sun.  
Will spring ever come?

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I snuggle down in my bed so warm—  
Safe and sound from the winter storm.  
And say a prayer to the Lord above:

Thank you for your constant love.  
Spring will come!

(Salianne expresses what many of us are feeling right now in her poetry. We are grateful for Salianne's willingness to share her thoughts through her creative writing and look forward to more of her offerings. If there are others of you who would like to contribute your thoughts, feel free to send them to Dawn McCleery. We won't always have space but some months have less news than others so contributions are a welcomed addition).

# March 2019



## Lenten Worship Series: Near the Cross

Our Lenten worship series will follow the outline by Bishop Kenneth Carter in his book *Near the Cross: A Lenten Journey of Prayer*. Bishop Carter writes, "Each week, we will explore a different aspect of the cross and the Christian life, and we will discover how prayer draws us near the cross and into the heart of Jesus. We are accompanied on our journey by a brief and profound resource: Paul's Letter to the Philippians."

Pastor Phil will lead a Wednesday morning study beginning on March 6 at 10:00 a.m. using this resource. Those who cannot take part in that are invited to read the texts below in preparation for our Sunday morning worship.

### March 10 First Sunday in Lent

Theme: Partnership, Community, and the Cross

Read: Philippians 1:1-30

Text: "I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel..." (Phil. 1:5)

### March 17 Second Sunday in Lent

Theme: Prayer and Service

Read: Philippians 2:1-11

Text: "Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus..." (Phil. 2:5)

### March 24 Third Sunday in Lent

Theme: Prayer and Formation

Read: Philippians 2:12-30

Text: "Carry out your own salvation with fear and trembling. God is the one who enables you both to want and to actually live out his good purposes." (Phil. 2:12-13)

### March 31 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Theme: Prayer and Sacrifice

Read: Philippians 3:1-11

Text: "I have lost everything for him... so that I might gain Christ and be found in him." (Phil. 3:8-9)

### April 7 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Theme: Prayer and Perseverance

Read: Philippians 3:12-16

Text: "I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me." (Phil. 3:13)

### April 14 Palm Sunday

Theme: Prayer and Discipleship

Read: Philippians 3:17 - 4:9

Text: "Practice these things: whatever you have learned, received, heard, or saw in us." (Phil. 4:9)

### April 21 Easter

Theme: Prayer and Gratitude

Read: Philippians 4:10-23

Text: "My God will meet your every need..." (Phil. 4:19)

## House Rules

By Lay Leader Leslie Beyer-Hermsen

*The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it – Genesis 2:15*

A few years ago, Ohio State had their incoming students read *The Good Food Revolution: Growing Healthy Food, People, and Communities* by Will Allen. The book focuses on urban farming revitalizing a poor, decaying neighborhood by bringing healthy food choices to its citizens. Unhealthy eating has often been cited as a leading cause of preventable deaths in the form of illnesses such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases, and strokes, which are found to be more prevalent in poorer neighborhoods. Reports have shown that, as wealthier, well-educated individuals began turning away from unhealthy eating lifestyles, companies specializing in fast food and junk food began marketing more heavily in the poorer neighborhoods, leaving fewer choices for healthy eating in these places. In an attempt to combat their lack of choice, Will Allen began running a greenhouse in a poorer section of Milwaukee.

In the beginning his intent was to provide a local source of produce. As he continued, he found that his venture was more than an urban food hub, but rather a place that in addition could and did provide education, training, and even a safe haven for the neighborhood youth. What started as a rundown greenhouse turned into a thriving community center. His efforts revolved around involving the local residents. When people talked about the need to build a fence to protect the greenhouse, Will, who believed in a world without fences, immediately rebuked the notion of building a fence and instead countered “You have to do the harder work of engaging the community. You have to make sure that the neighbors know that the garden is their own, not yours.” Will succeeded in doing just that.

When he first started his greenhouse in 1993, neighborhood kids continued to throw rocks at the greenhouse as they had before his arrival. It wasn't long before Will welcomed those same kids into the greenhouse to see what was going on inside. Soon after, he started employing some of them. The community took notice of what was happening. As a result, on their own, they took on the onus of being the eyes and ears for the greenhouse. One example of this is the return of a stolen goat. Will had introduced raising goats and chickens into his urban farm concept. When a goat came up missing, one of the kids discovered that a neighborhood kid had stolen the goat. He convinced, with the added enticement of \$5, the return of the goat. It is worth noting that \$5 was probably a sizeable amount of money that the young man offered for the return of the goat on behalf of the farm—an unsolicited tithing in a sense. Building community, not a fence, protected the greenhouse.

In the same vein, *Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action*, one of the texts the United Methodist Women have followed to support their Issue Priorities for 2016-2020, makes reference to Deuteronomy 24: 19-22, which speaks of providing for those on the margin while being good stewards of the earth, with the analogy of not harvesting all to make as much as one can, but reserving some for those in need. John Wesley provides with his Three Simple Rules (listed in the sidebar) a yardstick by which we can measure what we choose to do with our lives. Staying in love with God surely includes staying in love with humanity and all creation—and acting as such. Sallie McFague puts the Three Simple Rules in context of the current state of the earth in her God's House Rules (listed in the sidebar). To allow for more deep thinking about these concepts, a Lenten Series for Climate Justice/Environmental Stewardship is commencing on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March for 6 weeks. I would encourage any of you interested in these topics to attend and to consider ways to live by the House Rules.

### Three Simple Rules

**John Wesley**

- Do no harm
- Do good
- Stay in love with God

### God's House Rules

**Sallie McFague, theologian**

*From Life Abundant: Rethinking Theology and Economy for a Planet in Peril*

- Take only your share
- Clean up after yourselves
- Keep the house in good repair for future house-mates

## Asbury's Limited Activity List

### Willow Brook Christian Village

100 Willow Brook Way S. Delaware, OH. 43015

*Dotty Florance – 6/28*  
*Charlotte Gallant – 7/27*  
*Betty Leslie – 2/5*  
*Janet Gallant – 12/22*

### Willow Brook at Delaware Run

100 Delaware Crossing West, Delaware, OH. 43015

*Judy McCartney – 9/9*  
*Jim Freed – 4/6*  
*Buck Stultz – 8/6*

### Delaware Court

4 New Market Dr. Delaware, OH. 43015

*Pat McLead- 10/5*

### At Home

*Gwen Lemmon- 7/19 & Helen Berrisford – 3/4*  
*138 Rainbow Dr. Bluffton, OH 45817-1118*

*Jo Stone – 8/30*  
*201 Holl Rd. NE. Apt. 218A North Canton, OH. 44720*

*Howard Blanchard-5/17*  
*160 Cider Mill Rd. Glastonbury, CT. 06033*

*Jeff Viri-Dunahue – 3/19*  
*235 Long Trail Ostrander, OH 43061*

*Yvonne Potts – 7/31*  
*Country Club Rehabilitation Center*  
*478 S. Sandusky St., Delaware, OH 43015*

*Paula Gordin - 3/6*  
*11 Greenhedge Circle Delaware, OH 43015*

*Rosa Lee Clevenger\**  
*36 Oakwood Dr. Apt. 3 Delaware, OH 43015*

### Asbury First Thursday Noontime Organ Recital Series

Dr. Rebecca Abbott

March 7, 2019

Please join us as we welcome Dr. Rebecca Abbott as our February recitalist. Rebecca holds a Bachelor of Music and Literature from Wheaton College with studies in Voice and Organ; a Master of Arts in Religion with a concentration in Liturgy and the Arts from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, with additional studies in Sacred Music at Boston University; a Doctor of Worship Studies from the Institute for Worship Studies and certification in Musikgarten, a teaching program for children. Her "Royal Requiem" was recorded by the Mount Vernon Nazarene University Goliards in 2017. Active as a performer, guest lecturer and hymn writer, she also works as an adjunct church music instructor and organist at Mount Vernon Nazarene and Kenyon College and pianist at Hope Lutheran in Sunbury. She volunteers as editor of the American Guild of Organists Columbus chapter's newsletter. Rebecca founded Abbott Music Lab, LLC and [www.hymnnotes.com](http://www.hymnnotes.com) to connect people of all ages to their secular and sacred music heritage. Dr. Abbott serves as Professor of Organ and Hymnology at the Sacred Music Institute of America in Columbus and serves as organ instructor here at Asbury.

As always, tables will be set, and beverages provided for those who wish to enjoy lunch during the recital. We hope you can join us!

Luke Tegtmeier and Jan Swanson

"Hi. We're your Finance Committee."

It may not have the cache of Trustees or coordinate beautiful and moving experiences like Worship does, but your 2019 Finance Committee is in place and has already started its work on the important (if mundane) work related to Asbury's financial health. I want to take this opportunity to introduce you to the members of the committee who work throughout the year to insure that Asbury remains a good steward of your gifts. Throughout the year, we will provide you with updates regarding the fiscal status of church, our challenges and celebrations. If you have suggestions for a topic or questions, please feel free to reach out to me or any other members of the committee. If we don't have an immediate answer, we will find one for you.

This year's committee is comprised of:

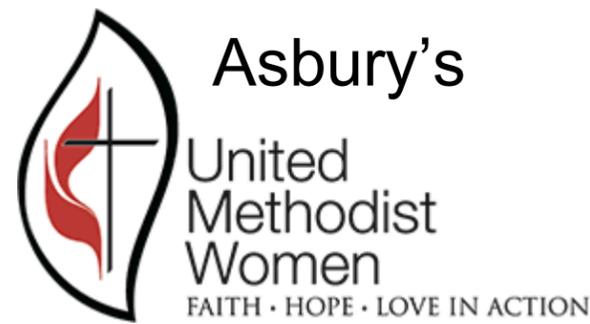
Shane Dawson – Chair, Tom Major – Vice-chair, Nancy Ross, Susan Zimmerman, Sarah Brook, Jerrie Metz – Financial Secretary, Jake Gibson – Treasurer, Marti Wickham – Lay Member Annual Conf.

Leslie Beyer Hermsen – SPRC rep., Bob Kanitz – Trustee rep., Pastor Phil Wilden

The Finance Committee is responsible for certain reporting requirements to the District, as well as organizing and establishing the church's annual budget. The latter process usually begins in late August and concludes in November. Also, this year the committee plans a coordinated stewardship campaign in the fall. Stay tuned.

Finance Committee is like many other committees here at Asbury. It is made up of your fellow church family who offer their time and talents in a variety of ways to help Asbury serve as the hands of God in our community. On behalf of Finance, it is our honor to serve Asbury in our own small way.

Shane Dawson  
Chair, Finance

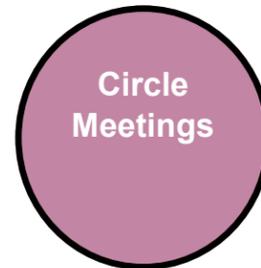


By Sue Chaney

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



Sewers, pinners, ironers 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 **March 2**. Hope to see you there! See Demi Badger if you have any questions.



All circles welcome visitors! Please contact the hostess for more information or if you need assistance with child or family care.

**Lydia Circle:** Thursday, March 14, 7:00p.m. Ashley Hejmanowski presents *Persistent Women*, hostess is Megan Buehler, 3081 Columbus Pike, Helen Werner Apt. #211

**Hannah Circle:** Wednesday, March 20, 12:00 Noon. Tammey Wilden presents *A History of MTSO*. Lunch and tour at MTSO, hostess is Tammey Wilden

**Rebekah Circle:** Wednesday, March 20, 9:30 AM Lou Ann Chapman presents *Building Thriving Generations of Children & Youth Worldwide*; hostess is Sue Chaney, 101 Horizon Ct.



The 2019 book sale will be Saturday, April 13, 9:00-3:00 upstairs in the education building. Donations of books, puzzles and AV materials will be accepted up to the time of the sale. They may be placed in or near the box in the foyer. Please no textbooks, magazines, moldy or disintegrating items. See Julia Foster to sign up to help with sorting.

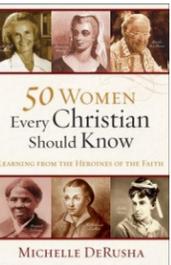


Did you know that Asbury UMW has a Facebook page? Contact the creator, Judy Maxwell, to be made a group member. You will see upcoming events, photos of UMW happenings, inspirational messages, and much more!

## UMW Book Review

By Julia Foster, Secretary of Program Resources

*50 Women Every Christian Should Know: Learning from Heroines of the Faith* by Michelle DeRusha.



The author has chosen a widely varied list of 50 women to celebrate. They are arranged chronologically by birth date, beginning with Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179) and concluding with Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964).

The author states that when she began the compilation of the 50 brief biographies, she "assumed this was merely history, not applicable to me." She discovered that her heroines were also real people, experiencing spiritual struggles, temptations, sorrows, and difficult decisions. She found she related well to many of them, and "finally understood that these women are not only our heroines, they are also our sisters in faith."

Feel free to check out books from the UMW Reading Shelf in the Great Room. You do not need to be a member of UMW to read the books.

## Sunday School Spotlight by Susan Speer-Powers

### Sunday School Mission Project

**Common Ground Free Store:** Sunday school class offerings continue to support Delaware's Common Ground Free Store. In addition to monetary donations, the Children's Classes are filling a large box with supplies for the Free Store. The monetary donation is currently \$252.62.

### Children and Youth Classes

#### **Nursery Class**

The nursery is available during the Sunday school hour for parents who would like to participate in one of the adult classes or attend choir practice.

In March, the Children's and Tweens' classes study some of the parables of Jesus before moving into the Lenten season.

#### **PreK – Grade 5 Classes**

March 3: The Stories of the Lost (Luke 15:3-10)

March 10: The Forgiving Father (Luke 15:11-32)

March 17: The Two Debtors (Luke 7:41-43)

March 24: The Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-30)

March 31: In the Garden (Matthew 26:31-58)

#### **Tweens Class**

March 3: A Parable About Family (Luke 15:11-32)

March 10: Mary Anoints Jesus for Burial (John 12:1-8)

March 17: Jesus Enters Jerusalem (John 12:12-19)

March 24: Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-20)

March 31: The Last Supper (Luke 22:14-23)

#### **Teen Class**

High school students continue a Bible study titled LinC (Living in Christ). Each week, students use the Bible to explore faith and life issues through current events, sports, natural disasters, politics, music, movies, videos, etc.



### Adult Classes

The **Faith and Issues Class** will begin a six-week Lenten study about Climate Justice on March 10. In keeping with the class name and purpose, they will look at the many issues surrounding our faith and our care of God's creation, our planet Earth and the people who live with us here. See a complete description of this study below. The class invites everyone to join them in the Parlor for this study.

The **Spiritual Journey Class** begins a Lenten study of Adam Hamilton's book, *Final Words from the Cross*. "In life and in death, Jesus' words were powerful and meaningful. Despite the serious effort and increased pain required for Jesus to speak as he hung on the cross, Jesus spoke seven 'final words' – statements that have much to teach us about Jesus, his Father, and ourselves." All are welcome to join the Spiritual Journey class in the McCoy Room for this Lenten study.

#### ***Climate Justice — A Matter of Faith...A Matter of Life***

Adult Sunday School Series During Lent

March 10, 2019 – April 14, 2019

The places and ecologies of our lives are where we encounter God incarnate in creation... the face of God in our neighbors and our children...the callings of the Spirit in daily activities. ***Today, climate change and climate justice are issues challenging the flourishing of life and the Spirit.*** This adult Sunday school series engages this challenge. Each session will provide a combination of information, discussion, and household practices that help make a global concern local and integrate love of God, love of creation, and love of neighbor. Over the course of the series we will explore spiritual, ecological, social, personal, scientific, and ministry dimensions of climate change:

<b>Week</b>	<b>Theme</b>
March 10, 2019	A Matter of Faith: God, Creation, and Humans
March 17, 2019	A Matter of Life: Impact of Climate Change on Ecologies and Humans
March 24, 2019	A Matter of Justice: Impact of Climate Change on our Neighbors & Children
March 31, 2019	A Matter of Science: Causes of Climate Change and Our Part in Them
April 7, 2019	A Matter of Citizenship: Community and Social Responses
April 14, 2019	A Matter of Vocation: Congregational Responses