

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

Return Service Requested



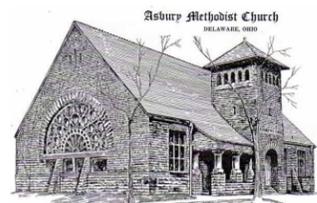
Pastor: Reverend Philip Wilden

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

Phone: (740) 363-3611

Website: [www.asburyohio.org](http://www.asburyohio.org)

E-mail: [church@asburyohio.org](mailto:church@asburyohio.org)



Non-Profit  
Org.  
U. S. Postage

PAID  
Delaware,  
Ohio

Permit No. 43

# May Messenger 2019

## Worship in Eastertide



- May 5 Third Sunday of Easter**  
The Junior Choir will present their musical, *Spend Awhile on the Nile*.
- May 12 Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
Lectionary readings: Psalm 23, Rev. 7:9-17, John 10:22-30  
Blanket Sunday offering  
We will celebrate Holy Communion.
- May 19 Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
Lectionary readings: Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148, Rev. 21:1-6, John 13:31-35  
Megan Buehler will be our preacher.
- May 26 Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
Lectionary readings: Acts 16:9-15, Rev. 21:10, 22-22:5, John 14:23-29  
Baptism of Nicholas and Genevieve Bailly  
Recognition of Christian education leaders

### Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before Us by Pastor Phil

A late Easter means that the retail stores will barely have time to clear out the Easter candy to make room for Memorial Day merchandise. Although they are two very different holidays, I cannot help noticing a common theme this year.

Just as on Memorial Day we remember those “whom we have loved long since and lost a while” (phrase from the hymn “Lead, Kindly Light”, so at Easter I am mindful of family members who are no longer with us around the table.

Columnist Alan Guebert wrote movingly about the realization that this was the first Easter that none of his parents’ or grandparents’ generation were living. Both his mother and his aunt died in the past year. Guebert notes, “While its coming was as inevitable as nightfall, it still hit like an unseen punch.”

Guebert grew up on a dairy farm in southern Illinois, and he recalls how Easter was both a time of birthday celebrations (three of his family members were born in April), but also a time associated with confirmation in his Missouri Synod Lutheran family. He describes their Easter dinner in a way that reminded me of my own grandmothers’ efforts to have an abundance on the table:

“Those dinners featured a beef roast the size of Rhode Island; mountains of drowning-in-butter mashed potatoes; bowls of summer-canned green beans, sweet corn, and beets; freshly-baked bread and dinner rolls; pies as far as the eye could see and the belly could expand.”

Then in a more somber way he observes, “Those meals, like every one of those aunts, uncles, grandparents, and parents are as gone as the pleasant chatter and thick cigarette smoke that filled our house on those occasions. So, too, are the youth of every one of those young persons. None of this should have come as a surprise and yet, this Easter, it did.

“With almost no notice at all, I became one of those uncles, great-uncles, and grandfathers. It seems untrue because all those roles, at least to me, remain ably filled by the people around the farm’s Easter dinner table.

But Guebert concludes his column by focusing not on death but on resurrection: “All, however, now await the resurrection they so fervently believed in while my siblings and I, now the reluctant elders, remain to keep them alive in both word and deed.”

I thought many of you could relate to the feeling of being a “reluctant elder.” I think about it, not just in the sense of not wanting to be considered “old,” but as an expression of loss for all the “tall oaks” of our childhood and young adulthood, under whose branches we played and were protected. One by one, we lose them, and we’re never quite ready for it, nor do we feel like we’re adequate for the new role of elder.

I close with a personal note. On behalf of my family, I want to express our appreciation for the prayers, cards, and expressions of condolence at the death of my uncle, the Reverend Don Dolick, on April 8. The planter from the Asbury staff was beautiful.

At his service, we read the passage, “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” Thank you for sharing our grief over someone who was very special to us.

### LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

#### Ohio Wesleyan-Based Program to Offer Ongoing Educational Opportunities for Older Adults

**DELAWARE, Ohio** – Area residents are invited to go back to school this fall through the new Lifelong Learning Institute at Ohio Wesleyan University. The classes won’t include term papers or tests, but instead will create fun, engaging ways for older adults to continue to learn and grow.

The community is invited to learn more about the Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) during a free “sampler” event from 10 a.m. to noon May 4 in the Benes Rooms of Ohio Wesleyan’s Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, 40 Rowland Ave., Delaware. Advance registration is required before April 29 by visiting [www.owu.edu/lli](http://www.owu.edu/lli).

During the May 4 event, five presenters will offer 15-minute previews of the courses they plan to teach in the fall. Scheduled presenters and topics are:

**Tom Burns**, retired Perkins Observatory director and part-time OWU English professor, discussing “The Universe and Your Place in It.”

**Lynda Hall**, OWU psychology professor, discussing “Lifespan Maintenance of Knowledge.”

**John Lindeboom**, director of Culinary Services for Willow Brook Christian Communities, discussing “Veg Centric – Trending Now: Cooking with Seasonal Vegetables.”

**Tracey Peyton**, managing director of The Strand Theatre, discussing “Academy Award-Winning Films and the Backstories They Tell.”

**Bill Rietz**, former social studies teacher and chairman of the Rutherford B. Hayes Heritage Fund Committee, discussing “Rutherford B. Hayes – Things You Didn’t Know.”

Delaware residents Bob and Mary Holm are co-chairing the steering committee working with community organizations and residents to launch the new institute.

**Open Doors**  
**By Lay Leader Leslie Beyer-Hermsen**

A few weeks ago someone asked me my thoughts on the admissions-bribery scandal that was rocking the world of higher education at that time. As we talked, I mentioned that Ohio State Marion really didn't play into that conversation. The retort was a response that has been so familiar in my 32 years at Ohio State Marion: "You accept anyone who is breathing." Though it probably goes without saying, this statement was not meant as a compliment. Yes, Ohio State Marion carries out the land grant open door mission of The Ohio State University. We admit Ohio residents who have a high school diploma or a GED. I find no shame in working at a place that works to equalize the playing field by providing a wider range of opportunity. That being said, inviting people into our campus is one thing, providing an environment where they feel welcomed, find a sense of belonging, and choose to remain is an entirely different matter.

Like many other places, one of the ways that we are trying to become a more welcoming campus is to diversify our campus, not only in our student population, but also our faculty and staff as well. Embracing and celebrating full participation by all on our campus is a goal on which we have been steadily making progress. Sometimes people misconstrue diverse representation or role models as narrowly being beneficial for individuals similar to those persons. For example, the hiring of African American faculty or top administrators as being for the benefit of African American students. Though it is often true that seeing and connecting with someone similar to oneself and seeing these individuals in esteemed positions might make a place seem more inviting, the benefits do not stop there. Everyone reaps the benefit from of the richness that comes from the wide range of perspectives, experiences, and knowledges when the "wealth is spread around" to all.

In order to bring about such a change, often those in a privileged position need to be willing to take a stand and be a voice for those who may be particularly vulnerable at a particular moment in time. This has been true with issues such as the Civil Rights and Women' Rights movements, to name a couple, where others who had privilege of voice, have chosen to speak out (see sidebar) and act in union with others who have been treated unjustly and often as subhuman.

Asbury, which has long been an "open door" place of worship, finds itself in a similar place today. In the aftermath of the General Conference 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, including ordaining Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual persons and celebrating same sex marriages in their church, Asbury now faces the test of putting words into action. Asbury's welcome statement proudly proclaims "Whoever you are, whatever your circumstances, however you identify yourself, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, if you come here to find God, you are welcome" and 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? In contemplating these questions and working to move words into action, the Administrative Council has recently re-established Asbury's Reconciling Ministries Committee to explore options. Information will be forthcoming, and while I do not yet know what the outcome will be, I do know heed will be given to the passage in the sidebar of this article—Asbury will speak out and not be silent in word or action.

First they came for the socialists,  
and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a socialist.  
Then they came for the trade  
unionists, and I did not speak  
out—  
Because I was not a trade union-  
ist.  
Then they came for the Jews,  
and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Jew.  
Then they came for me—and  
there was no one left to speak for  
me.

You may have noticed a new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) in the Great Room. Asbury United Methodist Church will host a AED/CPR training event on Friday, May 3 from 10am-1 pm in the McCoy Room for those interested in being familiar with this device. There will be a sign up on the table in the foyer. We can have up to 12 participants. For more information, contact Tammeey Wilden at [twilden@mtso.edu](mailto:twilden@mtso.edu).

-Tammey

On behalf of the Mission and Outreach Committee, we would like to thank all of you who baked cookies for Kairos #45 at Marion Correctional Institution. I know that all of those at MCI that received cookies enjoyed them very much! The love of Jesus Christ is spread in many ways, and cookies are a special way to pass His love on to those that need to know Him. BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU !

-John Applebach



**PIN Garden!**

Plans are underway for Asbury's PIN Garden. Help will be needed to prepare the beds, put up fencing, planting, and harvesting. Watch for information in bulletin announcements. If you have questions, you can see Ruth Ward.

**Thank You!**

-Joe Peterson and Jerrel Blankenship for installing new wireless access points for the Sanctuary, Great Room, and Education Wing. If you wish to use the wireless in the Education Wing, select the "Asbury West" location from the list of wireless connections. The password is 7403633611.

-Peter Baylis, Ruth Ward and Michael Smith for flower and PIN garden weeding and planting.

-EYG group for spending a Saturday morning thoroughly cleaning and dusting the woodwork in the Sanctuary and Great Room.



*Asbury First Thursday Noontime Organ Recital Series ~ May 2, 2019*

**Carol Ann Bradley**

Organist, Our Lady of Victory Church

Please join us as we welcome Carol Ann Bradley as our May recitalist. A native of New Jersey, Carol Ann Bradley has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from Rutgers University and a Master of Sacred Music degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She served as Minister of Music for North Broadway United Methodist Church in Columbus from 1976 through 2008. She was the Organist and Director of 10 choirs for adults, youth, and children. For 20 years Carol Ann also was the Organist for the West Ohio Conference's annual gathering at Lakeside. She was the director of the Ministers Choir and Jubilate, the Conference Youth Choir. In 2000 Carol Ann was ordained as a Deacon in the United Methodist Church. She currently serves as the Organist and Music Director for Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Grandview Heights.

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

**Junior Choir Musical Sunday, May 5, 2019**

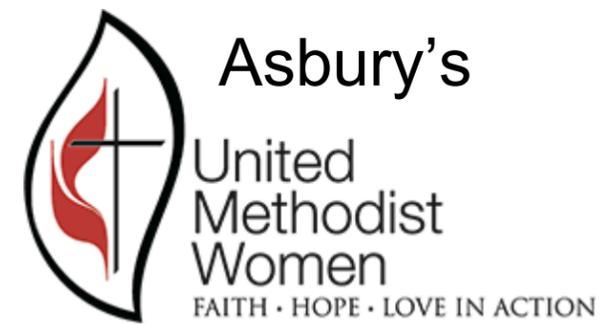
The Junior Choir proudly presents "Spend a While on the Nile" by Christy and Daniel Semsen during worship on May 5. We hope you will join us as we tell and sing Bible stories that occurred long ago, with a twist. Mr. Cruise and his entourage get some of the Bible stories mixed up. Watch and see what happens as the Junior Choir helps Mr. Cruise and his crew understand the truth about God's enduring love and faithfulness to His people. We hope you will join us for this special event.

Jan Swanson, Marly Hittepole and Junior Choir

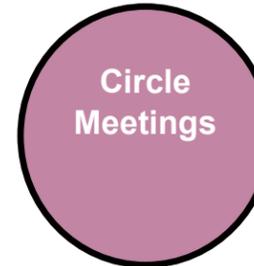


**Delaware Community Chorus**

On Sunday, May 5, at 3 p.m. the Delaware Community Chorus presents "An American Tapestry" at Powell UMC. Music by American composers will be celebrated such as Disney tunes, familiar hymns, spirituals, and contemporary classics. All woven together through narration by our very own Jon Powers. Tickets are available from choristers, Sue Chaney and Carol Rohde, or in the church office.



By Sue Chaney



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

**Lydia Circle:** Thursday, May 9, 7:00 p.m. Judy Maxwell presents *Peace & Justice: Mediation As an Option*, hostess is Terry Litchfield, 707 Bunty Station Road.

**Hannah Circle:** Wednesday, May 15, 12:00 potluck lunch, hostess is Sue Proper, 230 Sylvan Drive.

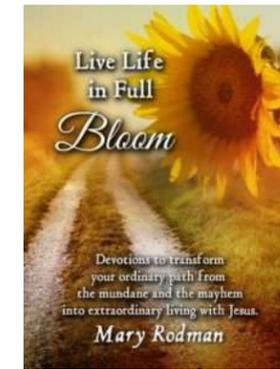
**Rebekah Circle:** Wednesday, May 15, leave church parking lot at 10:15 for potluck brunch, program and tour of *Turning Point*.

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 **May 4**. Hope to see you there! See Demi Badger if you have any questions.



Take a break from the lawn work and running hither and thither! Please join us in the Parlor for an inspirational talk by one of Delaware County's own published authors, Mary Rodman.

*Thursday, May 16, 7:00*



**MARY RODMAN**

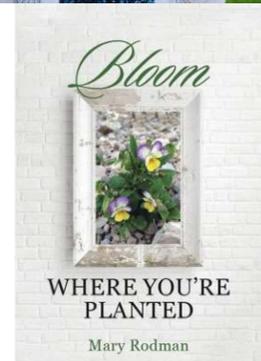
Mary resides in Radnor, Ohio with her husband, Jim. Together they enjoy family, friends, farm life, and vacations.

She is a farm girl at heart who discovered her niche as a Christian author and speaker. She is the author of *Bloom Where You're Planted*, a book of devotions filled with flickers of laughter and moments of tears as you relate to her daily life with Jesus.

Mary's unique style of writing intertwines the gospel with stories from her life as she turns a path of the mundane and the mayhem into extraordinary living with Christ.

As a speaker, Mary provides insights from her own life and challenges listeners to live an extraordinary life for Jesus. Her topics range from a season of grief where she shares how she made "Something Out of Nothing" to "Bloom Where You're Planted" as you learn to *BLOOM* through all of life's circumstances.

Book signing will follow the general meeting. We welcome Mary Rodman to Asbury United Methodist Church—all are welcome to attend this inspirational talk by one of Delaware County's own authors.



## Sunday School Spotlight by Susan Speer-Powers



### Sunday School Mission Project

The final Sunday school donation to the **Common Ground Free Store** was \$507.40, which represents Sunday school offerings from January through March. Along with the monetary contribution, the Children’s Classes filled a very large box of supplies, and this has also been taken to the Free Store.

**Heifer International Garden Baskets:** In spring, we experience the beauty of God’s beautiful and bountiful earth all around us. Our new mission project will provide funds to Heifer International to purchase garden “baskets” to families in need. Each donation of \$170 will provide tree seedlings, rabbits, chickens, a hive of bees, and training in animal care and fertilization and growing techniques. In the first three Sundays in April, our offerings total \$105.67.

### Children and Youth Classes

#### PreK – Grade 5 Classes

The theme for Children’s Classes in May is “Family Friends”, which continues the year-long focus on At Home With God. Bible stories from the Old and New Testaments include the following:

May 5: Best Friends (1 Samuel 18:1-5; 20:1-42)

May 12: Courageous Friends (Daniel 3:1-30)

May 19: The Four Friends (Mark 2:1-12)

May 26: Prayerful Friends (Acts 9:36-43)

**Grade K-2** students will also have some Godly Play lessons to learn about the liturgy of our Sunday worship and Holy Communion.

#### Tweens Class

In May, Tweens study stories from Acts as they learn about The Church Family.

May 5: Witnesses (Acts 1:1-11)

May 12: One in the Spirit (Acts 2:1-41)

May 19: A People United (Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-37)

May 26: Community of Care (Acts 9:36-43)

#### Teen Class

High school students conclude 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

All are welcome to participate in either of the Lenten studies offered through the two adult Sunday school classes.

The **Faith and Issues Class** has concluded a thought-provoking series on Climate Justice and Environmental Stewardship. In early May, Randy Litchfield will lead the class, which meets in the Parlor.

The **Spiritual Journey Class** is beginning a 13-week Bible study of the Book of Acts. The Spiritual Journey Class meets in the McCoy Room. New members and visitors are welcome any Sunday.

### Appreciation Sunday – May 26

The Christian Education Committee will express appreciation to those who have given so much time and talent as leaders of our Sunday school, small group, and youth ministries this past year.

### New Summer Christian Education Activities

A survey to parents of our children and youth will go out this week. The CE Committee is seeking input about summer activities, perhaps some new experiences in place of the traditional Sunday school hour and Vacation Bible School.

#### Introducing Our New Members!

Asbury is blessed to have a wonderful group of new members join our “family”. Having trouble putting the name with the face? Check out the picture board in the foyer and make sure you greet these folks and welcome them!

Rosalie and Richard Hutter: 3633 Royal Dornoch Circle

Amanda and Craig Schaffer: 265 Saddlebrook Ct.

Barbara and Rick Cornett: 4299 Clark-Shaw Rd. Powell, OH

Lauren and Andrew Vermilion: 24 Spencer St.

Linda and Francis Leclair: 58 Delaware Dr.

Abigail and Arthur Kumpf: 22 Griswold St.

Lou Ann and Bruce Chapman: 86 Welshire Ct.

Lani Leuthvilay: 128 N. Washington St. #4

Sharon Hayes: 42 Limetree Dr.

Kelly Bragg: 146 W. Lincoln Ave.

Jessica Morrison: 280 N. Liberty St.