

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 6

# Action at Asbury



Asbury United Methodist Church, 1810 Kellogg Avenue, Janesville, WI 53546

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## Pastor's Pondering

Over the past 2 months, it has been a pleasure to teach and understand more fully the **Wesleyan Heritage** that we celebrate as a United Methodist Church family. The Friday afternoon classes have also served to welcome the King family into discipleship with a starting point! Several members of the Church Council participated or visited to support the process of welcoming them to Asbury UMC.

I would like to develop safe places for **Holy Listening and Social Holiness** among all members and friends. In today's culture it takes courage, service, and love to enter these spaces and find meaningful fellowship with the Holy Spirit leading the way! Other UM Churches have developed "First Friends" Groups to welcome new visitors. The model is like the early Christian Church in which we as disciples extend the invitation to meet Jesus. Finding common ground is essential.

Finding others to connect with one's own demographics plays a part; however, developing **ambassadors who listen, engage and pray** for visitors will amplify the willingness to return. Those who do return to worship, participate in a fellowship group, or serve in a mission project are likely open to **connect in meaningful ways** with other visitors and the membership of the Church.

We will learn more about how this can happen at Asbury UMC as we gather weekly during the **Lenten Soup, Sandwich & Service on 5 Wednesdays** in February and March before Easter. This is a sacred time to open our hearts to "love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously," Let us invite others to a Beloved Community that extends beyond the church building and is grounded in the salvation of Christ Jesus. Amen.



## February Worship Schedule and Themes

February 1	“What is Good”	<i>Micah 6:1-8; Matthew 5:1-12</i>
February 8	“Called to Action”	<i>Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20</i>
February 15	“Glory Revealed”	<i>2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9</i>
February 18 (Ash Wednesday)	“Clean Heart”	<i>Psalms 51: 1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10</i>
February 22	“Mercy in the Wilderness”	<i>Psalms 32; Matthew 4:1-11</i>



### Continuing Care List

Bob & Marj Banner, Eugene Bostian, Jerriann & Larry Burns, Dale Clark, Betty Jo Clough, Lloyd Coulthard, Darlene Coulthard, La Vita Fanta, Don Isbell, Russ Kuykendall, Janet Luiting, Shirley Martin, Lois McKinney, Hjordis Olson, Eudoris & Lloyd Peterson, Alice Sprecher, Linda Stevenson, Arlette Walker, Ione Watson, Brenda & Steve Whitney, Slyvia Wepking

### Hello Youth Families!

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February Youth engagement will begin with the Middle School and High School Youth staying after worship on February 1 to help decorate the Fellowship Hall, eat lunch, and play some board games together! We will be meeting on that day from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm and if you have a game you want to bring, please do! Even better - if you have a friend you want to bring to church, Kellen is preaching, so please do that too! On Sunday, February 22nd, we will be having High School Youth Group at 6:30 - 8:00 pm with food provided, so consider who might want to be involved with that event as well! If we can get enough people attending and engaging in these youth events, Asbury UMC could consider some larger programming, such as a retreat or mission trip. We hope to see you on the 1st and 22nd! Peace! Pastor Kellen Roggenbuck, Executive Director of NextGen Ministries, Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church

**Wednesdays During Lent: “*Fresh Expression*” of Discipleship**

**February 25<sup>th</sup>: Lenten Soup/Sandwich Meal & Service at 5:30 PM**  
**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>**

**(Please put these dates on your calendar for March!)**

+ + +

**Maundy Thursday: April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM**

**Good Friday Worship: April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 PM**

**Easter Sunday: April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM**



December saw income: \$53,935.79  
(\$17,935.79 giving, \$25,000.00 Dream Fund,  
\$5,000 Bold Fund, and \$6,000 for Pastor's  
equitable compensation)

December Expenses: \$14,331.97

Restricted Net Assets: \$28,734.83

Missions Donations from Asbury UMC:

**Parker Closet \$375.00 & Echo \$675.00**

Thank you for your generosity!

Julie Polzin, Asbury Bookkeeper

[asburybookkeeper@charter.net](mailto:asburybookkeeper@charter.net)

Asbury Book Club will be reading:  
All That is Secret by Patricia Raybon

We will meet for our February book discussion on  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at Asbury.**

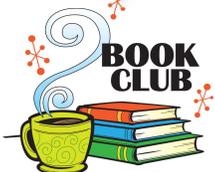
The Asbury Book Club will be discussing All That is Secret by Patricia Raybon. A mystery novel set in Denver in the 1920s, the novel is about Annalee Spain, who investigates her father's murder. With the help from a young boy and a pastor, Annalee uncovers dangerous secrets of racism, class, and family. Can an amateur detective and Sherlock Holmes fan solve the cold case mystery of her father's murder? How does a young Black woman search for answers in a city where she is not welcome? Join our Book Club to find out!

Readers who are interested in joining us are welcome!

For more information, contact Kathy Dahlke or Jan Diers or any of the other members of the Book Club.



“Reading  
by the  
Brook”



## **Please consider joining the Fundraising Team!**

As a subcommittee of Finance & Stewardship, this Team will focus on ways to raise funds in 2 areas: one for church operating expenses & the other to support new ministry opportunities. Melissa Hubbard has volunteered to lead this team to develop creative ways to help finance the mission and vision of Asbury UMC in Janesville, WI. If you enjoy researching grants and writing proposals, please consider joining this team. If you feel called to a new ministry to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world, please consider joining this team. If you feel passionate about reaching those who are unchurched and not likely to come to worship without an invitation or a safe place to start outside of the church building, please consider joining this team. Contact Pastor Jill or Melissa to volunteer your gifts and graces to this specialized team.

### MITTEN TREE PROVIDES WARMTH AND LOVE

Items donated to adorn this year's mitten tree included:

- 121 hats
- 31 pairs of gloves/mittens
- 9 pairs of socks
- 4 pairs of underwear
- 3 ear warmers

Donations were then distributed to Adams, Jackson, Lincoln and Madison Elementary Schools, Community Kids Learning Center and Pregnancy Helpline. Thanks for sharing in our Ministry Matters event.



On behalf of our clients, the **ECHO** staff and the Board join me to thank you for your donation of \$675.00 on December 22, 2025. Your support has meant that people in need in our community have received help with the most basic of human needs: food, housing, transportation, and other general well-being services.

Sincerely, Jessica Locher, Executive Director

**Ministry Matters Moments:** Thank you for your monetary support of the January Ministry Matters in the amount of \$326.76 and 2 complete Flood Buckets from our Bucket Challenge for Wisconsin Conference and Midwest Mission.



**Ministry Name:** The Pregnancy Helpline and Resource Center

**Ministry Location:** 21 South Jackson Street, Suite C, Janesville, WI 53548

**Mission:** The Pregnancy Helpline and Resource Center of “Advocating for Life, Faith, and Family” takes many different hands. We want to thank you for partnering with us and look forward to another year of blessing the families in our community!

**CURRENT WISH LIST**

Diapers, sizes newborn to 6      Baby and toddler socks      Infant bath soap and lotion  
New or gently used clothing, preemie to 2T      Baby Wipes      Potty Seats  
Training underwear

**OTHER WAYS TO GIVE**

1. Via our webpage: [www.pregnancy-helpline.org](http://www.pregnancy-helpline.org)
  - Click “Support Us”, Click “Donate”, Choose to either donate with PayPal or donate with Debit or Credit Card
  - You can also click to “Make this a monthly donation”.
2. Mail a check to: **Pregnancy Helpline and Resource Center**  
**P.O. Box 383**  
**Janesville, WI 53547**
3. Amazon Wish List – <https://a.co/9OpDaLt>

God  
demonstrates  
his own  
love for us...

ROMANS 5:8





### Date & Name(s)

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Brent DeRemer
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Mark McKinney & Alexis Nelson
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Cari Croft & James Foss
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Austin Laufenberg
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Dave Hubbard
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Jeff North
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Duane Andrus & Arlie Ellis



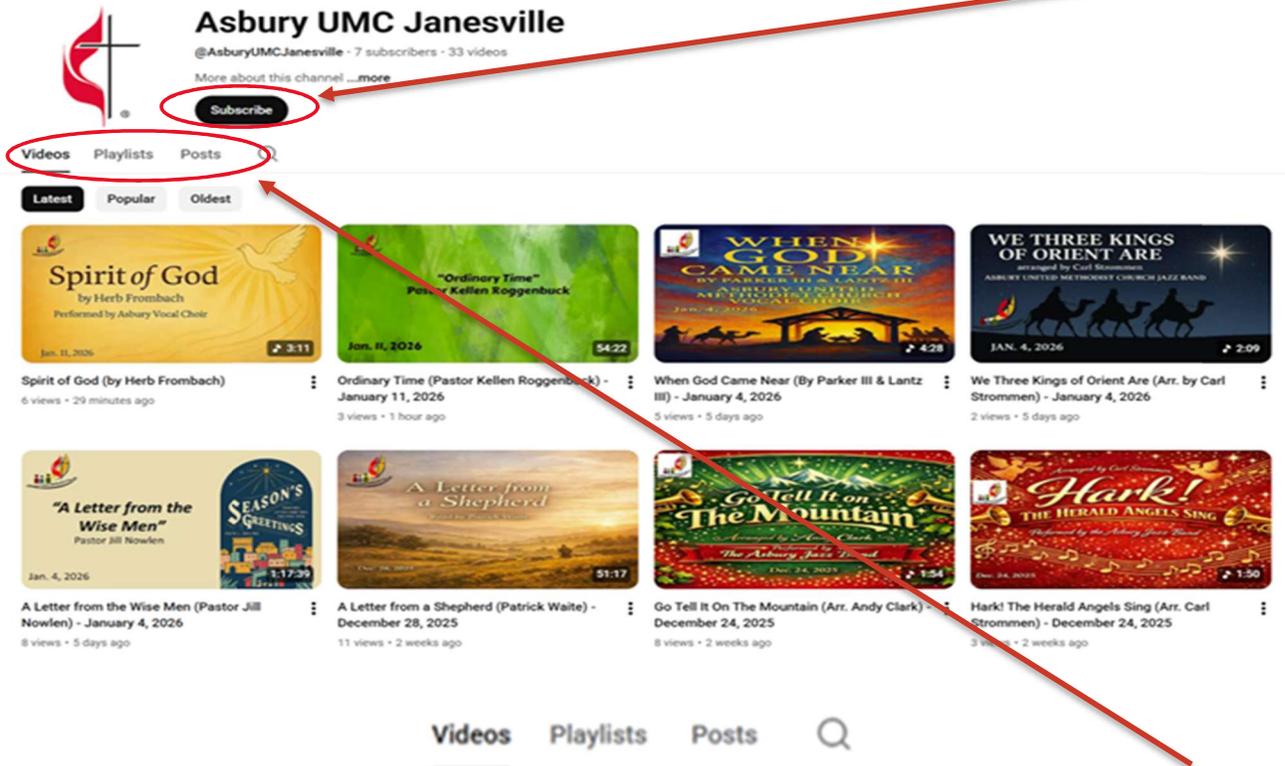
In memory of the spouses of  
Alice Sprecher (2/18) and  
Joan Tiffany (2/21).

## Asbury United Methodist Church - Janesville is now on YouTube!

Please subscribe to our **Asbury UMC Janesville** YouTube Channel at:

<http://www.youtube.com/@AsburyUMCJanesville>

To **subscribe** to our YouTube Channel, click on the Subscribe button as shown with the red circle below:



There will be 3 tabs available for your viewing as shown with the red circle above:





Paige Waite found Moses!!! Now it's your turn to find Moses in the Asbury Church building! Send a photo to the church office to share the location and the 10 Commandments in your heart!



## Yoga--in a chair??

**YES!!**

Whether or not you have made a New Year's resolution to improve your health, then Chair Yoga could be for you.

Chair Yoga is a gentle exercise for anyone, male or female, done with a chair for sitting, and standing beside it or behind it while holding onto it, depending on the exercise. While doing this, you work at your own pace and only do what your body is telling you that you can do.

By doing the core work, your balance will improve, which helps your health overall.

We have a Yoga instructor willing to come to Asbury on a weekly basis beginning in February, to work with anyone willing to improve in these areas. You will have fun and maybe make new friends in the process.

The cost is free if you are a member of Silver Sneakers, or a mere \$3 per week on **Tuesday afternoons, from 12:30 – 1:30 PM**. Don't forget to bring your water bottle, weights and strap/belt.

Please let Diane Bundy, Pat Spors or Pastor Jill know if you are interested in learning something new. We would love to have you join in the fun!!!

**BUS STOP**  
by **WILLIAM INGE**  
DIRECTED BY Brian Kuhns  
"Join us for laughs, a slice of life...and maybe pie."  
February 6th, 7th, 13th & 14th @ 7:30pm  
February 8th & 15th @ 2:00pm  
Janesville Performing Arts Center  
97th SEASON

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."  
1 Corinthians 13:4



## GIFTS

Jeff Quaerna will be hosting the GIFTS dinner on Thursday, February 19 at 5:30 pm at the GIFTS Men's Shelter. Asbury UMC will also be hosting on Thursday, March 19 and Sunday, April 19. See Jeff to offer help to prepare & serve! Look for a menu poster in the Narthex for more information.



"We love because he first loved us."

1 John 4:19

**DATE:** January 1 thru March 31, 2026

**PRICE:** FREE Event

**TIME:** During working hours

**LOCATION:** Hedberg Public Library

**February will showcase:**

Mixed Media by the School District of Janesville Art Students

**March will showcase:**

Watercolors by Teresa Nguyen

Acrylics & Colored Pencil by Aaliyah Hatcher

Oils & Acrylics by Devin Schuyler

### Today's Technology Hints for the Wise:

Social media got you in a bad mood? Has cell phone switching got you stumped? Is Internet access too scary? Are you having difficulty texting photos from your cell phone? Stay tuned for a class to be offered at Asbury UMC to help those looking for less frustration using a cell phone, a tablet or computer/laptop!



#### **Most Needed Items**

- Peanut or other nut butters
- Chicken broth
- Canned tuna and chicken
- Canned fruit in light syrup
- Canned veggies
- Canned soups, stews, chili
- Beans, canned or dried
- Boxed mac & cheese
- Pasta, rice, and quinoa
- Pasta sauce
- Baby food and formula
- Shelf-stable milk (rice, almond, and soy)
- Cereal, oatmeal, and granola
- Spices

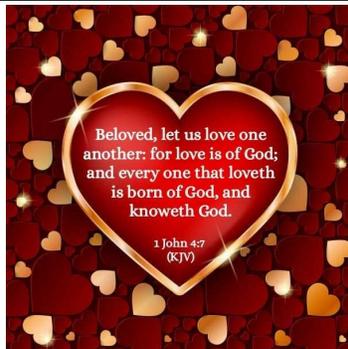
#### **Personal items:**

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Feminine products
- Diapers (sizes 4-6)
- Paper Towels
- Cleaning Supplies
- Toothbrushes
- Laundry Soap
- Toilet Paper



2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Choir Practice 8:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School 9 AM</p> <p>Sunday Service w/Communion 10 AM (Youth Group to follow worship service)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>SPRC Meeting 10 AM</p> <p>Ministry Matters 3:00 PM</p>  <p>GROUNDHOG DAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Chair Yoga 12:30 PM</p> <p>Jill leaves on vacation</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Stitching Group 9-10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Bible Study 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Choir Practice 8:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School 9 AM</p> <p>Sunday Service 10 AM</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Finance Committee Meeting 2:30 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Men's Breakfast at Eagle Inn 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Chair Yoga 12:30 PM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Women's Breakfast at Eagle Inn 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Stitching Group 9-10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Bible Study 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Jill is back from vacation</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Jazz Band Practice 9 a.m.</p> <p>Praise Band Practice 10 a.m.</p> <p>Valentine's Day Spaghetti Luncheon 11:30-1PM</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Choir Practice 8:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School 9 AM</p> <p>Sunday Service 10 AM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 6 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Chair Yoga 12:30 PM</p> <p>Book Club 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Zoom Prayer Group 7:00 PM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Stitching Group 9-10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Worship Service 5:30 PM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>GIFTS Dinner 5:30 PM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Choir Practice 8:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School 9 Am</p> <p>Sunday Service 10 AM</p> <p>Senior High Youth Group at 6:30 PM</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Chair Yoga 12:30 PM</p> <p>Zoom Prayer Group 7:00 PM</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Stitching Group 9-10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Lenten Soup and Sandwiches (with service to follow) 5:30 PM</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Historian meeting 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Jazz Band Practice 9 a.m.</p> <p>Praise Band Practice 10 a.m.</p>





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<https://www.youtube.com/@AsburyUMCJanesville>

**FEBRUARY**  
2026