



The Asbury **BEACON**

September 2021

Volume 21, Number 6

THE VISION OF ASBURY

*To Make Disciples for
Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.*

THE MISSION OF ASBURY

*To inspire People of
All Generations to
Love, Learn and Lead Through
Worship, Education, and Service.*

THE ASBURY MOTTO

*No Matter Where You Are on
Life's Journey, You are Welcome Here!*

MISSION TRIP PLANNED TO RED BIRD IN BEVERLY, KENTUCKY.

April 9-16, 2022

Honestly, the opportunity to leave the familiar, bond with a group of fellow disciples, travel to another region in the United States, and share the love of Christ in practical ways is life-changing. It's the best kind of spring cleaning, sweeping the cob-webs out of your heart, while awakening the mind and body to the pure joy of offering hope to others less fortunate than ourselves.

Dear friends,

I am announcing that Watertown Asbury & First UMCs are combining forces to make a mission journey to Red Bird in the spring. Our dates, which have been approved by Red Bird are April 9 - 16, which is also the Jefferson County spring vacation. This is also Holy Week, which is regrettable, but that's what it is! We will be home in time for Easter Sunday.

THE TRIP IS OPEN TO ALL

No special skills required besides a servant's heart and a willingness to help.

Youth under 18 need parental consent; Youth under 14 need a parent in attendance. The cost is not firm - as many of you remember, it varies somewhat by gas prices, but will be around \$600. Red Bird is charging \$425 this year, of which \$50 will be due at our first meeting. We will try to make travel costs as low as possible. I am going to look into what scholarship assistance is available for those needing it.

We will be having an **organizational meeting** at **Asbury**, on **October 11 at 7 PM.**

This will take about 1 1/2 hours.

If you are interested in joining the team, but cannot attend the meeting, please let me know. Those of you who have been on a mission to Red Bird know what an incredibly rewarding experience this is. Please pray about your response to this invitation. For those wanting further information about the ministries at Red Bird Mission, please refer to their website at: **rbmission.org**.

*Grace and peace,
Laura*

This month's **BEACON** is sponsored by **Lisa and Bill Smith**.

Our newsletter is a very important tool in helping us to communicate with and keep our Asbury Family connected!

Thank you **Lisa and Bill** for being our "**BEACON ANGELS**" for September.

ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
FAITH KIRCH

**ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR/
DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT**
MAX BOVEE

BROADCAST MINISTRY
BOB KURTZ

CHILD CARE WORKER
ASHLEE WELDON

CLEANING SERVICES
FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE
PAMELA QUIMBY
DARLENE WELBOURN

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE
DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
DAN WEBB

TREASURER
DEBORAH VANHOUTEN

MAINTENANCE
GERALD HOLDER

**MUSIC PROGRAM
DIRECTOR**
CATHERINE MOWERS

MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA
LYNN MORGAN
MELANIE RAFFERTY
MICHELLE RUDD
LISA SMITH
HELEN TIMERMAN
BINA WEST
JENNIFER WHITENACK

PASTOR
REV. LAURA CALOS



THE VISION OF ASBURY

*To Make Disciples for
Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.*

THE MISSION OF ASBURY

*To inspire People of All
Generations to Love, Learn
and Lead Through Worship,
Education, and Service.*

THE ASBURY MOTTO

*No Matter Where You Are on Life's
Journey, You are Welcome Here!*

ASBURY IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!!

The leaves on the trees will soon be changing into the beautiful colors of Autumn. Our summer activities will soon be warm memories and we will begin to gear up for the activities and the sights, smells and sounds of Autumn. God invites us to experience the colors of hope, peace, joy and love here at Asbury UMC as we strive to become disciples of Jesus Christ!

**Sunday School begins
SEPTEMBER 19TH**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST
Sept. 11th, 8:00 a.m.
At IHOP**

**The WIRED WORD
returns to in-person
study on Sept. 26th**

**Saying "Thank You" to
Watertown Schools.
CHOCOLATE NEEDED!**

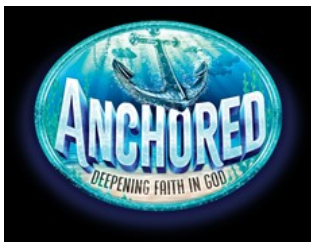
**Services of Lament, Healing
& the Promise of Hope
Being offered in
September & October**

**Celebrating Asbury
Banquet
Sept. 24th, 6:00 p.m.
Wesley Hall**

**LAY SERVANT
CLASSES
being offered**

**MISSION TRIP
being planned for
Spring**

**For more details on the above opportunities,
READ ON!**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021

VBS was held Tuesday, July 27th thru Thursday, July 29th, 6 to 8 p.m. each night, for ages entering Kindergarten thru 6th grade. The program was:

Anchored: Deepening Faith in God" by Group Publishing.



This year's mission project was Marion Medical Mission's Shallow Well Program. Their program builds wells to ensure safe drinking water to help eliminate water borne/sanitation related diseases in Africa. Our goal was \$450, the cost of one well. Thank you to those who contributed to this mission at the Sunday, July 25th and Sunday, August 1st services and during the evenings of VBS. We raised \$466.25!!



According to Marion Medical Mission's summer newsletter, an anonymous donor has offered to match the first \$15,000 received by Marion Medical from Sept. 1 thru Sept. 15. The VBS donation of \$466.25 will be sent in during that timeframe. It will cover the cost of one well and hopefully will be matched, which will provide another well and provide safe, clean drinking water for two villages in rural Africa.

Sarah Lehman

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Hello, Asbury! We are excited to announce the opening of the Sunday School program for the 2021-2022 school year on Sunday, September 19. We are excited to teach children about Jesus in a safe, masked, and socially distant environment.

This year we are registering students for three classes:

**Age three by November 1 through Kindergarten
First through fourth grade, and
Fifth and sixth grade.**

We would also like to register
**seventh and eighth graders for
a Sunday school helper program.**

**Young
Disciples**

Registration forms can be obtained from Michelle Rudd, in the church office, or by emailing sundayschool@westel.com

HOW CAN YOU HELP OUR *YOUNG DISCIPLES* GROW IN THEIR FAITH

Are you an adult or teen who wants to help kids learn that Jesus loves them? Most teaching duties now begin AFTER the anthem so the members of the adult choir are also free to help! There are several opportunities to help with our 2021-2022 school year!

Teaching/Helping

Sunday School is currently looking for teachers, helpers, youth volunteers, and volunteers to help both Sunday School and Youth Group. We are also looking for volunteers to help plan and start a "tween group!" We are looking for both weekly and less frequent commitments. Help with a new, weekly Sunday School opening is also needed. A background check will be required per our Safe Sanctuary Policy. There is no joy like helping a child learn that they are loved by Jesus! Please see or contact Michelle Rudd for details. (315) 777-6174 (text or call) or sundayschool@westel.com

Prayer Warriors Needed

We are seeking volunteers to pray for each Sunday School class this year. We would like a commitment to remembering one class in prayer for one month. During your month, Michelle will provide you with a class list (first names only) and other prayer concerns. Please call, text, or email (info above) for details.

Sponsor The Word

This year Sunday School will be providing an age (and reading level) appropriate Bible to each student toward the beginning of our year. People who wish to sponsor a Bible will be encouraged to sign the Bible with a short dedication to the recipient. Each Bible will be less than \$20. More specific information will be available in the bulletin soon. Again, please use the contact information above to volunteer or ask Michelle for details.

Michelle Rudd

Am I There Yet?

There is a saying, "Life is a journey, not a destination." When I was young I thought life was all about a destination. When I was in high school and college, I thought the destination was to get out of school, get a job, make money and become independent. That did not turn out to be my destination. Next I thought my destination was to get married and raise a family. That did turn out to be a highlight of my journey, but it wasn't my destination. So I thought maybe I need to get a job where I could make more money. That didn't work out either. I finally realized that only God knows my destination. I am in control of my journey, but where, how and when I reach my destination is in God's hands. He is my guide and support on my journey.

My journey has seen twists and turns and peaks and valleys, all of which have made me stronger in my faith. My journey defines me. I am who I am because of the people who have crossed my path and what we have shared and what I have learned from them.

I saved all of Pastor Penni's "Monday Musings" and "Thoughtful Thursdays" that she shared with us during the first 3 months of COVID. I got them out of the file (marked "COVID 2020) and read each one as the dates from this year coincided with the dates from last year. They are a wonderful support for me as we continue to fight this unseen enemy. We are strong, and God is with us as we move forward with what we have learned in the past year. Especially uplifting was something that a colleague had shared with Penni and she then shared with us:

"I AM WITH YOU, watching over you constantly. I am Immanuel (God with you); my presence enfolds you in radiant love. Nothing, including the brightest blessings and the darkest trials, can separate you from Me. Some of My children find me more readily during dark times when difficulties force them to depend on Me. Others feel closer to Me when their lives are filled with good things. They respond with thanksgiving and praise, thus opening wide the door to My presence. I know precisely what you need to draw nearer to Me. Go through each day looking for what you need to draw nearer to Me. Go through each day looking for what I have prepared for you. Accept every event as My hand-tailored provision for your needs. When you view your life this way, the most reasonable response is to be thankful. Do not reject any of my gifts; find me in every situation."

I always encourage high school graduates who are just starting out on their journey to not rush to get to where they are going. Savor every moment, grow and learn from everyone and everything that crosses your path.

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread!

I learned the Lord's Prayer in Sunday School when I was 9 years old. I still can see myself memorizing it and the room I was in. I cannot remember who the teacher was, nor can I see her face. I knew then that it was important that I know and remember that prayer, but it was years later when I realized how important it is to my journey. I now know that it is the foundation by which I pray and speak to God each day. Every morning I praise and thank God for his support and for walking with me on my journey. I ask him to give me my daily bread - strength, courage, and endurance to get me through that day. I ask for his help in forgiving those who would sin against me, as he always forgives my sins. I ask for his protection from the evil forces that I might encounter. Lastly, I ask for his help in using the gifts and tools he has given me to share and uphold the "Fruits of the Spirit" - love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. At the end of each day I consider how my day unfolded. Did I do what God is asking of me? Did I take a step forward on my journey or did I take a step back? I can count on God to let me know if I need to do better the next day and to be there to support me whether I step forward or back.

Sue Beaman



The Northern Flow District
of the Upper New York Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 208, 93 East Main St., Gouverneur, NY 13642
Phone: 315-535-5149 Fax: 315-535-5151

Rev. Mike Weeden, Superintendent

Tammy McAdam, Administrative Assistant

I want to call your attention to four sets of worship services being offered across the District in the Fall. Our District Leadership Team has been aware of how difficult this past 18 months has been for all of us. As we joined you in looking ahead to ministry opportunities, we became aware of our own spiritual heaviness born of the grief, uncertainty, confusion, and loss that has come with the pandemic. To help us all address this spiritual weariness we are offering two different sets of four Services of Lament, Healing, and the Promise of Hope. These services will offer us opportunities to seek the face of God, name our grief and weariness, and hopefully grow more open to the healing and hope Jesus Christ holds out for each of us as we move through and out of the pandemic. These will not be typical services and we invite all persons, laity, and clergy alike, to gather together at the service most convenient to you. The locations and dates are:

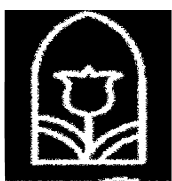
Services of Lament and Healing, Movement 1

*September 23, Clayton UMC, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; September 26, Potsdam UMC, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
September 30, Gouverneur UMC, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; October 3, Adams UMC, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.*

Services of Healing and the Promise of Hope, Movement 2

*October 21, Clayton UMC, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; October 24, Potsdam UMC, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
October 28, Gouverneur UMC, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; November 3, Adams UMC, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.*

Blessings and Peace,
Rev. Michael L. Weeden



**A Loss
in the Church
Family**

**The following members of our Church Family passed to the Glory of God
during July and August:**

Marjorie A. Brauer	May 11, 1929-July 17, 2021 (age 92)
Norman E. Kicherer	December 23, 1931-July 17, 2021 (age 89)
Stella Ann (Hunkins) Garitz	March 2, 1934-July 26, 2021 (age 87)
Eleanor I. (Babcock) Pettit	July 12, 1934-August 24, 2021 (age 97)

*Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near, so loved, so missed, so very dear.*

From Our Assistant to the Pastor - Max Bovee

Progressive Supper

30 hungry Asburians gathered on Pillar Point the evening of August 12 for an enjoyable evening of dining and fellowship. Traveling from Plemons', VanWie's, Malone's to Van Houten's for a four-course meal ending with s'mores and a bonfire. Sincere thanks to our host families for making this event possible.

AMF – Asbury Men's Fellowship

Because of Labor Day weekend, our monthly breakfast for September is scheduled for 9/11/21 @ IHOP at 8:00 A.M. Bruce Irwin will bring devotions, with a work project to follow as needed. Do plan to join us!

Celebrating Asbury Banquet

Date has been moved from September 17 to Friday, September 24, at 6:00 P.M. in Wesley Hall.

Catered by Randy Jerome of RJ's Catering – Adams Center.

Menu: Tossed Salad, Rolls and Butter, Baked Ham, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Garlic Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Broccoli with Cheese Sauce, Fruit Salad, Beverage Station and Bavarian Raspberry Cream Layered Cake with Chocolate Frosting.

Ladies and Men will eat separately with appropriate programs to follow.

Cost as Follows: \$16 for Ages 11+ / \$8 for Ages 8-10 / Free for Ages 5 and Under.

Paid reservations in advance only by Sunday, September 12.

Lancaster Bus Trip

Thursday, September 30 and Friday, October 1 to see "Queen Esther" at Sight and Sound Theatre.

September 30th: 6:30 AM – Meet at Clarence Henry Coach

3:00 PM – Queen Esther

6:30 PM – Pennsylvania Dutch Family Style Dinner at Hershey Farm Restaurant

Overnight at Hershey Farm Inn

October 1st: 8:00 AM – Breakfast at Hershey Farm Inn

9:30 AM – Visit Amish Village with House Tour

NOON – Shop @ Shady Maple Gift Shop

1:30 PM – Shady Maple Smorgasbord

6:00 PM - Bingham's Family Restaurant

10:00 PM – Arrive back in Watertown

Small Group Studies

"Esther" – Bible study on Book of Esther, preceding trip to Lancaster.

This study is open to all whether going on bus trip or not.

Meets Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Parlor, August 23- September 27 (omitting Labor Day).

Bring your Bibles.

Contact Max @ 315-232-4158 for more information regarding these events.



FROM THE CHANCEL DESIGN TEAM

We have eliminated the flower signup sheet. However, if you would like to bring in flowers to commemorate a special occasion you may. Please bring your arrangement in and it can be placed in the refrigerator in the upstairs kitchen or bring it in on Sunday morning. If it is put in the refrigerator, please let me know. There is a wooden plant stand down front that your arrangement can be placed on. Please let Faith, in the office, know ahead of time so she can make a notation in the bulletin. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at 315 771 8710. Thank you!

Joanne Rhode

The WiredWORD

An Adult Curriculum

After a year of Zoom's, and the Summer off, we will be **returning to in person study** on **September 26th**. If you have never participated, consider giving it a try. The Wired Word is a weekly lesson focused around a current event, that includes thought provoking questions and scripture to guide the discussion. We meet in the Parlor, at 9:00 on Sunday mornings, allowing you to attend the Chapel Service and the Main Worship Service. No workbook or materials are required. If you are interested in attending,

please email Aaron Johnson at: acjohnson76@gmail.com.

BASIC LAY SERVANT COURSE

led by Pastor Rachael Jordan

Are you interested in Church Leadership and Service? No, I don't mean in committees, but in the transformative leadership of Jesus, who calls us in our giftedness to serve the church and the world! The Basic Lay Servant Course is an opportunity to reflect on your discipleship journey, your gifts as a Christian leader, and where God may be calling you next in your ministry. There will be two different opportunities to join this course:

Saturday, **October 2nd and 9th from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in person at Gouverneur First UMC
We will have snacks, but bring a bag lunch.

OR

Tuesday nights, **October 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, and November 2nd, from 7:15-9:00 p.m.**,
by ZOOM

Participants will be required to purchase 2 books prior to the beginning of the course. There will not be any other charges.

Lay Servant Ministries (Basic Course) Participant's Guide by Sandy Jackson - \$11 on Amazon

In the Name of Jesus: Reflections of Christian Leadership by Henri Nouwen - \$13.49 on Amazon

If you would like more information or to register please contact:

Pastor Rachael Jordan at 22rjordan@gmail.com OR firstumcgouverneur@gmail.com

Asbury Saying “Thank You” to Watertown Schools

THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU to all of you who have already donated items in the big box located at the Asbury Rotunda. We will soon assemble small goodie bags for all teachers and staff of the **Watertown Schools**. We at Asbury Church will be saying THANK YOU to 725+ Watertown School staff for their commitment and devotion to our children and kids.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We still need **some CHOCOLATE** – individually wrapped chocolate pieces. We need about 600 of them because we want every staff member to get at least 1 piece of chocolate!! Yum.



WHEN ARE WE ASSEMBLING THE BAGGIES?

October 3rd after Worship on Sunday. We invite you to join us in this fun venture. We will begin with pizza and then get busy assembling all the bags to deliver to the Watertown schools the week of October 4th.

WHAT'S OUR NEXT VENTURE?

We will keep you abreast of what's next. Right now, we are thinking about Adopting- a- Platoon at Fort Drum and/or possibly honoring our teachers and staff again in the spring. We are always open to your ideas because love and outreach is an important Asbury Church commitment.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING with Asbury's Evangelism efforts to spread both love and community awareness of Asbury's caring and discipleship presence.

Melanie Rafferty and Lisa Smith
315 -783-1105 315-778-4173
Co-Chairs, Membership Evangelism Coimmittee

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK - Submitted by Max Bovee

September 5: 1 Corinthians 6:20

“You were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.”

September 12: 2 Corinthians 9:7

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion.”

September 19: Galatians 3:27

“All of you who were baptized into Christ, have clothed yourselves with Christ.”

September 26: Galatians 6:9

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”



September 2	William A. Lennon
September 11	Brynne Sturge
September 12	Connie Kicherer
September 12	Amanda Weldon
September 13	Patricia Littell
September 19	Suzanne Wiley
September 21	Lisa Sullivan
September 23	Laura Mowers
September 23	Wesley Adjaben
September 26	Judith A. Cota
September 27	Jean T. Marshall
September 28	Perry Kelts
September 28	Susan Smith
September 28	Katie Jeurissen
September 30	Steven C. Schanely



September 5 (1960)	Richard & Mary Malone
September 12 (1987)	Michael & Karen Hill
September 12 (2009)	Nathan & Sarah Lehman
September 15 (1996)	Mark & Christine Sutton
September 26 (2009)	Richard & Helen Dundon
September 27 (1997)	David & Lenora Forbes

*May you always be warmed by each other's smile,
 Always take time to walk and talk awhile,
 Always know deep down you're each other's best friend,
 And enjoy the kind of love that grows and knows no end.
 Wishing you an 'always' kind of love!*

- Author Unknown

Happy Birthday To You!

Starting in October we will celebrate everyone's birthday for that month on the first Sunday of each month.

So, on your birth month, we invite you to come to church so you can have one of the first pieces of birthday cake that will be served during Coffee Fellowship Time in the Rotunda. We want to celebrate YOU!

We believe this will start a positive and fun new tradition for our Asbury family.



Melanie Rafferty (315-783-1105) and Lisa Smith (315-778-4173)
 (Co-Chairs, Membership Evangelism)

The deadline for the OCTOBER Newsletter will be September 20th Please send articles in "Microsoft Word" format to Sue Beaman at wfpsec@gmail.com with cc: Asbury@gisco.net. Please send pictures as an attachment. If you don't have the ability to type them in "Microsoft Word," please bring them to the church office and Faith will type them and email them to me. Thanks for your contributions and help with our newsletter.

Sue Beaman

"THE ARMOR OF GOD"

Ephesians 6:10-20

1. The **belt of truth** is to keep us honest.
2. The **breastplate of righteousness** is keeping us clean in our dealings with others - righteous, if you will, towards God, spouses, children, family, everyone "out there" - have the faith and courage to stand up for the rights of others.
3. The **shoes** to keep us ready to defend our faith and go where we need to go, where God shows us to go.
4. The **shield of faith**, to keep us strong against the enemy who seeks to destroy us.
5. The **helmet of salvation**, seeing others all around us as God's children, as He sees them - allowing people to see that we belong to God.
6. The **sword of his Spirit** - knowing God's word so intimately that He can and will use His words to show His might and power against the enemy.

"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand." To stand, that's what this is all about. It's a shaky world out there, especially now and it needs people with balance, people who are accessorized, people who are armored enough to stand. Stand firm in your faith.

(The above was handed out at a chapel service led by Lindsay Webb on Sunday, August 22, 2021 at 8:15 a.m. Her sermon title was: "Stand Firm.")

"People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

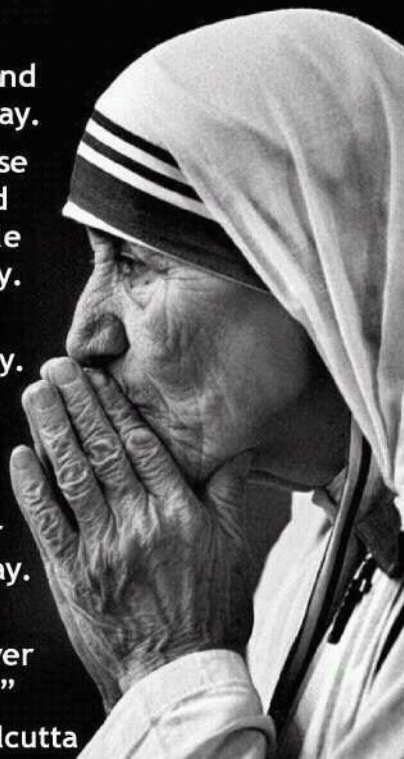
If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow.

Do good. Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway."

- Mother Teresa of Calcutta



ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

327 FRANKLIN STREET
WATERTOWN, NY 13601
315-782-3240
E-Mail: asbury@gisco.net
Website: www.AsburyUMC.net
www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601

Address Service Requested



Join us for
SUNDAY WORSHIP
at
8:15 a.m.
10:15 A.M.

Who Is Asbury United Methodist Church?

*We invite you to open this newsletter and meet the
People of Asbury United Methodist Church.*

**The following prayer was adapted from Malcolm Marler, senior director of pastoral care
at University of Alabama at Birmingham**

Remind us, O God, that you are above us, watching over us as a good shepherd.

You can see what we cannot see.

Remind us that you are below us, ready to lift us up in our weakest moments,

Remind us that you are behind us, to give us encouragement when we feel like giving up.

*Remind us that you are in front of us, calling us to move forward in faith, even when we can't see
how it's going to work out.*

Remind us that you are beside us, holding our hands, no matter what we're going through.

*Remind us that you are us, with the love and faith of your people, even when we are separated by
time and space.*

Remind us that you are within us, closer than every breath we take.

*Jesus, we thank you that you are Emmanuel, God-with-us, and have not abandoned us. You have
sent us your Holy Spirit, the one who comes alongside us to help us, even when no one else can.*

And as we remember you, O God, strengthen our hope and restore the joy of our salvation. Amen

***No Matter Where You Are on Life's Journey,
You are Welcome Here!***