



# The Asbury BEACON

May 2022

Volume 22, Number 4

## 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!*

## ***A Method in the Madness***

We are a people called Methodists, which was originally a “put down” against founder John Wesley’s carefully crafted order for his Holy Club, on the campus of Oxford, England. JW was a systematic guy. He probably planned his moments of spontaneity. He was rarely, if ever, whimsical. However, he created for the later organized Methodist Episcopal Church, from which we descend, a theology and a process to help believers grow in their piety and faith, but also learn ways of reaching out in love to a hurting world.

I want to spend the next several weeks, exploring some of the Christian beliefs we hold that are uniquely “Methodist.” For some, this will be a refresher course from confirmation days. But for others, this will offer a new and hopefully richer understanding of what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ, within the Methodist construct.

When I attended seminary, back in the 1980s, I was blessed with a diverse group of classmates. There were other Methodists, Catholics, Presbyterians, United Church of Christ, American Baptists and Episcopalians. We shared most classes together, but we also had to study the specific doctrines of our own denomination. I probably took more classes in Church History than was needed, but it provided me with the opportunity to compare my denomination with others. I found the experience enlightening, challenging, and most of all, interesting.

I learned that, in spite of my own tensions with the United Methodist Church at times, I really and truly am a Methodist. It just makes sense to me, and resonates with the beliefs I feel are truly important. I hope it will be enlightening and resonating with you.

**April 24th : Prevenient Grace**

**May 1st : Rev. Leon VanWie preaching**

**May 8th : Justifying Grace**

**May 15th : Sanctifying Grace**

**May 22nd : Works of Mercy**

**May 29th : Using Specific Lenses**



“The Best of all is,  
God is with us.”  
- John Wesley

Grace and peace,

Laura

## ASBURY'S STAFF

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

FAITH KIRCH

### BROADCAST MINISTRY

BOB KURTZ

### CLEANING SERVICES

FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

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### TREASURER

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### MAINTENANCE

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#### DIRECTOR

CATHERINE MOWERS

### MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA  
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MELANIE RAFFERTY  
MICHELLE RUDD  
LISA SMITH  
HELEN TIMERMAN  
BINA WEST  
MARTHA JABLONSKI

### PASTOR

REV. LAURA CALOS



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## Asbury Church Leadership - CHURCH COUNCIL 2022

Listed below are the Church Council members and their committee for 2022:

Rev. Laura Calos

Jim Rafferty

Michelle Rudd

Lisa Smith (Co-Chair)

Melanie Rafferty (Co-Chair)

Joanne Rhode

Dan Webb

Deb Van Houten

Orie Phillips

Lindsay Webb

Grace Burke

Kerry Roberge

Myrtie Schilling (Co-Chair)

Sue Snell (Co-Chair)

Glen Snell

Sue Snell

Krista Juczak

Carol Plemons

Bruce Irwin

Pastor

Chairperson, Church Council

Children/Youth/Sunday School

Christian Connections

(formerly Membership & Evangelism)

Christian Connections

(formerly Membership & Evangelism)

Finance

Financial Secretary

Financial Treasurer

Lay Leaders

Lay Member to Annual Conference

Memorials & Gifts

Missions

Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee

(PSPRC)

Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee

(PSPRC)

Trustees

United Methodist Women

Worship & Music

Member-at-Large

Member-at-Large

Feel free to reach out and contact these members  
with your ideas and concerns.



## MAY POT-LUCK LUNCHEON

MAY 1, 2022

Right after Worship Service

You may bring a main dish, a side dish, or dessert.

Drinks and table service will be provided.

(The May birthday cake will also be provided)

Last luncheon until  
the Summer Picnic



*"Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart,  
though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the  
children of God may unite, notwithstanding these smaller differences."*

~ John Wesley

# FROM THE TRUSTEES

The work repairing and painting in the rotunda area is finally finished! This was a major undertaking. Some of the repairs were the first in the past 100+ years. We want to thank Marty and Chris Patchen and their crew for the fine work accomplished. We still have the stairway going up to the balcony at the main entrance to finish. That work will be started sometime later with the goal of being finished by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

In projects going forward, we hope to refinish the exterior surface of the woodwork at the main entrance. We also will be rebuilding some areas of the roof on the storage shed on Sterling St. This shed will also be reroofed. Our custodian, William, is planning to repair the shed. We also have a number of broken and uneven slabs of cement sidewalk to be repaired or replaced.

Our pledging envelopes for next year will contain a line for the Capital Improvement Fund. Donations to this fund are used for projects like I have described. The Trustees continue to have work done on our church home and grounds as well as maintaining the parsonage for our pastor. Thank you for your continuing support.

It is a joy to see more church members and guests returning now with better weather. Our sanctuary and rotunda now display a renewed beauty with work completed over the last 2 years.

See you in church,  
Glen Snell, President,  
The Board of Trustees

## Sending LOVE to the “New Day” Families

Just in time for Spring and Easter, we provided individual **“We Love You”** baggies to all of the New Day families. The baggies included a few treats for every New Day family.

**CHRISTIAN  
CONNECTION** 



Missing in this Photo: Grace Burke & Charles Mosley

### **Christian Connections:**

What will be our next venture to spread love from Asbury out to the community?

# MISSION TRIP TO Red Bird Mission April 10-16, 2022



## Come Enjoy an Afternoon of Music and Fun While at the Same Time Supporting the Food Pantry



**May 15th @ the Eagles Club starting at 1 until 4PM**

Black River Fiddlers will be playing for our food pantry. All proceeds go to purchase food items. \$4 to get in and there will be 50/50s and baskets for chance. You can also bring canned goods for admission.

Any questions, contact Paul Simmons, 315-783-7302  
Come enjoy good old country music and dance the day away.

*"I want the whole Christ for my Savior, the whole Bible for my book,  
the whole Church for my fellowship, and the whole World for my mission field."*

**- John Wesley.**

**WE ARE METHODIST!**  
**MAY WE PRAY TOGETHER, LAUGH TOGETHER**  
**AND STAND STRONG TOGETHER**

As we find ourselves fighting the evil forces of this virus known as Covid, my faith in God tells me he is not leaving us to battle alone. This virus wants to live, but so do I. God is giving us opportunities to grow stronger and better equipped to fight. If our bodies become healthier and stronger, then our chances of defeating the enemy increase. Below is one way we can help our bodies and minds to grow stronger. I invite you to try it; all ages can participate. I invite you to share with your Asbury family other ways we can strengthen our minds, hearts and bodies. Send me your ideas and we will share them in future newsletters. Together with God's help, we can defeat this enemy.

In love and peace,  
Sue Beaman

We learn and practice **T'ai Chi and Qigong** every Thursday morning in the Wesley Hall at Asbury United Methodist Church. We laugh, relax, learn, move, stretch, meditate and benefit our bodies. T'ai Chi is often noted for improving our balance and flexibility. It is this and so much more.

In ancient times, somewhat simultaneously, various cultures were developing ways to best maintain their health. They incorporated their understanding of the ebb and flow of the heavens and earth. They studied the animals around them and they looked within themselves. In the Chinese culture, Qigong evolved. Today, Qigong exercises are prescribed in many Asian hospitals in conjunction with modern medicine. At Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC, Qigong has been included in rehabilitation for cancer patients.

T'ai Chi is a subset of Qigong that was developed as an internal martial art. It is slow, smooth and circular - as well as focused, aware and intent. It is said that when the Yang 108 form is practiced you will have gently used at least 90% of the muscles in your body.

From this background comes the T'ai Chi and Qigong many of us practice today. We follow the forms and techniques passed down through the generations, show kindness to our own body's strengths and deficiencies ..... and have FUN!

We would be happy to have you join us.

**Location:** Wesley Hall, Asbury United Methodist Church

**Time:** Thursdays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Contact:** Anne at 315-681-1267. ***Please text or leave a message***

**Donations of \$10 per class are welcome but not required.**

Anne Halback

***“One of the greatest evidences of God's love to those that love him is to send them afflictions, with grace to bear them.”***

~ John Wesley



## A Video Study by Dr. David Jeremiah - 2022

“Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven”

Presented by M. Max Bovee in the Asbury Parlor  
on Monday evenings 6:30-8:00 P.M. as follows:

- |                     |                                    |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. June 6, 2022     | “What’s Up With Heaven?”           |
| 2. June 13, 2022    | “Where Are They Now?”              |
| 3. June 20, 2022    | “Won’t Heaven Be Boring?”          |
| 4. June 27, 2022    | “The Ultimate Extreme Makeover”    |
| 5. July 11, 2022    | “Heaven’s Oscars”                  |
| 6. July 18, 2022    | “The Heavenly City”                |
| 7. July 25, 2022    | “Worship in Heaven”                |
| 8. August 1, 2022   | “The New Heaven and The New Earth” |
| 9. August 8, 2022   | “What on Earth is the Millennium?” |
| 10. August 15, 2022 | “What About the Children?”         |
| 11. August 22, 2022 | “Tough-Minded About Heaven”        |
| August 29, 2022     | Make-up Date if Needed             |

**Synopsis:** “Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven” will answer and clarify the most important questions Christians have about their future eternal home. Pastor Jeremiah provides answers about the nature of heaven, the kinds of bodies we’ll have, why heaven will never be boring, infants and children in heaven, and the dwelling place God has prepared for us in heaven. If you have questions about heaven, especially assurance about how to get there, let Pastor David Jeremiah and Max, be your guides. Your eternal home will become as clear on earth after this study, as it is in heaven.

In 2015 many of you studied with Max a book entitled “HEAVEN,” by Rev. Randy Alcorn, in which we learned that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final heaven will be here on a newly created earth. For those who participated in 2015, you will want to learn more truths revealed by Dr. Jeremiah which enhances the material of Dr. Alcorn. The new videos are captivating and very clear.

If you missed the previous Heaven study, you won’t want to miss this opportunity to have the mysteries of heaven revealed in the following format:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 6:30-6:35 P.M. | Welcome and Opening Prayer                |
| 6:35-6:50 P.M. | Background and Getting Started Questions  |
| 6:50-7:30 P.M. | Watch the Video and Follow the Scriptures |
| 7:30-7:55 P.M. | Discussion of Video and Application       |
| 7:55-8:00 P.M. | Closing Prayer                            |

For questions or to register to participate, contact Max @ 315-232-4158.



by Jane Eastham

As I promised in the March issue of the Beacon, I will continue with further discussion of the life of John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement in England.

John Wesley was educated at Oxford University and ordained a priest in the Church of England (Anglican Church) in 1728. Beginning in 1729, Wesley, along with younger brother Charles and two other individuals, formed what became known as the Holy Club. These four set themselves on a rigorous course of regular Bible study, prayer, fasting, and weekly attendance at Holy Communion. The members of this group were labeled as Methodists because of their “methodical” devotion and study. The term was meant to mock Wesley and the group’s spiritual practices; however, John Wesley was more than happy to adopt the label!

Wesley was passionate and outspoken in his view that the Anglican Church was in need of revival. Not only did the church fail to address the spiritual needs of the people, the church’s ministry, especially to the poor, was sorely lacking. And he was determined to do something about it. To that end the group added social services to their activities, visiting Oxford prisoners, teaching them to read, paying their debts, and attempting to find employment for them. The Methodists also extended their activities to workhouses and poor people, distributing food, clothes, medicine, and books and also running a school.

The Methodist movement grew rapidly among those who felt neglected by the Church of England. When Wesley died in 1791, he left behind a movement with 72,000 members in the British Isles and 60,000 in America. It was always Wesley’s desire to remain within the Church of England; he never intended to start a separate church or a new denomination. It was a shortage of priests, especially in the American colonies, that forced his hand and he took it upon himself to ordain ministers who then could perform the sacraments. This marked the beginning of the split with the Anglican Church as Wesley had truly overstepped his authority in the eyes of the Church.

By the way, did you know that Charles Wesley wrote over 6,500 hymns? Several of these are in our hymnal and remain some of our most beloved: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” “Love Divine, All Love’s Excelling,” “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today,” and “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” to name just a few.

What a proud heritage we have as United Methodists! John Wesley was only 5’6” tall and weighed 128 pounds, but what a towering figure he was! For an excellent biography of John Wesley, check out “John Wesley: A Biography” by Stephen Tomkins.

Next time I’ll talk a little bit about John Wesley’s theology.

***Until then, grace and peace to you!***

*“Humility and patience are the surest proofs of the increase of love.”*

~ John Wesley

## NEW DATE FOR ASBURY SHEPHERDS

### Come to a Meeting & Dessert

**June 1st**



All Asbury Shepherds are invited and strongly encouraged to attend a meeting, *"It's a Dessert Thing,"* on **June 1st** in the **Church Parlor at 6:45 p.m.**

Besides enjoying dessert, you can enjoy conversation about:

- *Your joys and your challenges*
- *Your experiences thus far*
- *Questions we may have about how to navigate unique circumstances*

Pastor Laura will be able to offer us her spiritual and insightful guidance about how to navigate unique situations that may arise. Besides enjoying some social time with one another, we promise that this will be a useful learning experience for all.

Shepherding, as you know, is a wonderful way for us to stay in touch and show we care. This is indeed an important Asbury mission. We say **Thank You** to all Asbury Shepherds who make connections with members of our church family!

**Anyone can be a shepherd.** If you have a caring spirit, you care about the Asbury church family, and you are interested in providing a connection with others, then you too can be a shepherd.

**Everyone is invited to come on June 1st** if this is something you want to explore.

Melanie Rafferty  
315 783 1105

Lisa Smith  
315 778 4173



## FROM THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

*Memorial Day is the time of year to remember the family and friends who are no longer with us. In addition to planting flowers and attending parades, a memorial gift made in memory of your loved ones is a wonderful way to show your respect. If you would like to designate a "Memorial Gift" please place it in an envelope labeled "Memorial Gift" and place it in the offering plate or send it into the church office by **May 30th**. If you are paying with a check, please make it out to "Asbury UMC - Memorial Gift."*

*Grace Burke - Chairperson of Memorial Committee*





# May BIRTHDAYS

- May 7 Barbara Simmons
- May 8 Darlene Welbourn
- May 11 Richard Malone
- May 18 Barbara Sargent
- May 18 Ken Snell
- May 20 Roxanne Robinson
- May 20 Toby Schilling
- May 21 Steven Marshall
- May 25 Anne Fioretto



**Christopher & Katie Jeurissen**

May 2, 2011

**James & Melanie Rafferty**

May 3, 2003

**Richard & Kimberly Little**

May 8, 2010

**Richard & Anne Fioretto**

May 9, 1969

**David & Barbara Simmons**

May 23, 1986

**Dale & Marianne Scott**

May 29, 1965

*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!*

## SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

Submitted by Max Bovee

### May 1: Proverbs 20:5

*"Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out."*

### May 8: Proverbs 20:7

*"The righteous lead blameless lives; blessed are their children after them."*

### May 15: Ecclesiastes 7:9

*"Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, for anger rests in the bosom of fools."*

### May 22: Isaiah 40:8

*"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of God endures forever."*

### May 29: Isaiah 53:4

*"Surely He took up our pain and bore our suffering."*



- Frank Massa**
- Bonnie Peck**
- Tamara Klock**
- Donna Muntz**
- Bob Muntz**

**WELCOME TO THE ASBURY FAMILY!**



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# ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Website: [www.AsburyUMC.net](http://www.AsburyUMC.net)  
[www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601](http://www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601)

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Address Service Requested



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

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*Asbury United Methodist Church*

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



*“After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”*

~ Isaiah 53:11-12