

The Asbury Connection

April 2018

Laity Day—April 14

Aldersgate UMC, Urbandale
9am-2pm (Free!)

All laity are invited to attend.
Drivers & attendees needed!
Bishop Laurie will be preaching on Jonah.
See Dan C. for questions or if you'd like to attend

Family Visiting for Easter?
Invite them to Sunday School on April 1!!



During Holy Week services there will be things for the kids to take to the pews with them to enhance the service. Adults, please make sure they find & use them!
(Questions: ask Jen)

Easter Worship Services:

*Maundy Thursday: Mar 29, 7pm

*Good Friday: Mar 30, 7pm

*Old Hymn Night: Mar 31, 6pm

*Easter Sunday: Apr 1 at sunrise (6:58am), & 10am



Deadline to submit info for the next Asbury newsletter is April 20

One of my favorite Easter memories was of a child who didn't like cleaning her room. Every week the call could be heard in the house, "go clean your room." Every week the room was picked up and everything thrown in a pile inside the closet. The battle of wills continued until one Easter Morning.

With a tradition of hiding Easter baskets I quietly opened the closet door as she slept and set the Easter basket under the pile. In the morning she woke up making the claim that she could find any Easter basket wherever it was hidden and the hunt began. Not in the dryer, not behind the couch, not in the shower, was it outside, she asked? The search continued room by room in the house. Everywhere except the place no one dared venture. With a sad face she gave in and requested help finding her basket so we played hot and cold through the house. You're getting warmer I would say until we got to the closet door and I said you are getting hot as she opened the door. She gave the closet a quick glance only to claim there is no basket in there. Look again I said, and she reached into a pile of clothes. Pulling out the basket and sharing a disgusted look I can still hear her words, "that's not fair." The moral of the story is this, sometimes to seek out what we want we need to look past the clutter. To seek more of God we need to look through some of the clutter of our lives.

As God's children remember Holy Week is a special time:

Maundy Thursday, Jesus washes the disciple's feet (a call to serve and love) and serves the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday is the day Christ died on the cross for all humanity.

Easter is about the Risen Christ and the promise of our own resurrection.

Update: Church finances seem to be okay at this point in the year. And summer programming and times will soon be posted.

"Often people that criticize your life are usually the same people that don't know the price you paid to get where you are today. True friends see the full picture of your soul." — Shannon L. Alder

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are all on a journey with God toward the kingdom. In some ways the journeys are alike and some ways personal to each individual. Let us always see each other as having sacred worth to the Creator and endeavor to love and appreciate each other as Children of God.

Love you all, Pastor Jeff

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 1 Easter Worship 6:58am & 10am	2 Offices Closed Lent study, 5:45pm	3 Lent Study, 10am	4	5 Missions, 6:30pm	6	7 Worship, 6pm
8	9 *Parent Class, 6pm *Trustees, 6:30pm	10 *Tutoring, 4-7pm *Bells, 5:15pm	11 ACE food pantry prep, 1pm	12 *Care Team, 11a *Food pantry, 11a & 5p *Grief support, 2p @ VDMC *SPPRC, 6p	13	14 *Laity Day , 9a- 2p *Worship, 6pm
15	16 *Girl Scouts, 3:30pm *Parenting class, 6p	17 *Tutoring, 4-7pm *Bells, 5:15pm *Finance, 7pm	18	19 *Alzheimer mtg, 4pm *Ad Board, 6:30pm	20 Newsletter info due before noon	21 Worship, 6pm
22 Bells	23 Parenting class, 6p	24 *Tutoring, 4-7pm (Last session) *Bells, 5:15pm	25 *Newsletter mailed *Last AWANA *ACE food pantry prep, 1pm	26 *Care Team, 11am *Food pantry, 11am & 5pm *Parent Café, 5:30pm	27	28 Worship, 6pm
29	30 Parenting class, 6p	May 1 *Tutoring open house *Bells, 5:15pm	2	3 *World Day of Prayer Service, TBA *Missions, 6:30pm	4	5 Worship, 6pm

WEDNESDAY Schedule:

- *Man to Man, quarter to 7:00am
- *Women on the Walk (WOW), 9:30am
- *Middle School youth group, 3:30-5pm
- *Meal, (open to anyone) 5-6pm
- *Praise Team practice, 5:15pm (1st & 3rd Wed)
- *AWANA, (3 years through 6th grade) 5:30-7pm
- *High School youth group, 6-7:30pm
- *Choir practice, 6:00pm

SUNDAY Schedule

- Free Cereal Bar for kids, 8:30am
- Sun. School for all ages, 9am
- Worship, 10am
- Fellowship, 11am
- Confirmation, 11:10am-12:15pm

April UDMO Delivery: Trudy Anderson

April Bulletin Delivery: Marilyn & Terry Bottorff

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1:** Glenn Cue, Troy Draeger, Madison Schaa
- 2:** Jerry Hadley, Paige Highland, Chris White, **Tom & Pat Rittscher**
- 3:** **Jim & Mary Chalfant**
- 4:** Carlee Yates; **Bob & Cindy Farley; Marc & Allyse Pineda**
- 5:** Madison Lovelace
- 6:** Emily Elm, Kenady Highland, Donna Longhenry, John Kidney, Janine Sharar
- 7:** Rachel Anderson, Rosalie Hames
- 8:** Don Bottorff, Norma Lake; **Rod & Diana Patterson**
- 9:** Ashley Hisler
- 10:** Tammy Greenfield, Dylan Ryder, Kamey Stanley
- 11:** Teresa Dickinson
- 12:** Caitlyn Hassebrock, Samantha Kantak
- 13:** Tim Anderson, Roberta Knutson
- 14:** Alexander Dickinson, Kelly Yates
- 15:** Dave Louk
- 16:** Jan Faint, Ryan Park, Mike Christensen
- 17:** Fern Nelson, Linda Roosa, Ben Wescott

- 18:** Sally Trueblood, Nathan Griswold
- 19:** Darle Elkin, Bradley Tate
- 20:** Gen Carroll, Casandra Deimerly, Jean Kayser
- 22:** Patty Bjerke, Terry Gourley, Nicholas Hassebrock; **Lewis & Sharon Hassebrock**
- 23:** Kathy Gibbs, Dawn Scholtens, Sarah Godfredsen
- 24:** Jacob Ahrens, Seth Crouthamel, Allie Ruppel, Marguerite Staley, Sara Trueblood
- 25:** Jordan Bjerke, Bertha Takle
- 26:** Trudy Anderson, Marty Johnson, Jan Malmstrom, Shirley Moen, Jessi Olmstead, Amy Lindstrom, Jennifer Peterson
- 27:** Nicole Chamness, Bev Frazer, Tim Jondal; **Dean & Adele Bowden**
- 28:** Mary Hassebrock, Will Mourlam, Lee Ayers, Jim Chalfant
- 29:** Barbara Anderson, Emily Lovelace
- 30:** Beth Bottorff, Dean Carden, Barb Widick; **Gary & Georgianna Gourley**



*Our sympathies to loved ones of
Bob Sealine, who recently joined
Christ in Heaven*



Want to keep up with the happenings of the United Methodist Church? Find out who is the new North Central District Superintendent? What are some of the changes coming in the church; read Bishop Laurie's comments on being in Iowa. Go to this website to find out: www.iaumc.org



Thank you to "Asbury Care Team" for all the get well cards and phone calls after Donna's bad fall.
~Donna Longhenry

Thank you Asbury family for the support you have expressed to me as I have recovered from a broken leg. Your cards, questions of concerns to family members and especially your prayers are appreciated.

March 31, 2015—It was a beautiful spring day; Mom and my sisters had gone back to school for a reading program; Dad would be home soon and my grandparents just happened to be at the farm. Stephen and I had been feeding the cattle and checking the lot. He had gone on to the barn to feed the calves and I had opened the last gate to leave the pasture. The four-wheeler was on an incline. As I was starting to accelerate, my foot was on the ground, and it was grabbed under the vehicle, twisted, my boot was pulled off and I was thrown to the ground. A quick moment that lacked concentration and I knew it was going to be bad.

Having a cell phone in my pocket is a blessing. I was able to call Stephen, my grandparents helped and then there was the ambulance ride to Mary Greeley Hospital. I had surgery that night. Both the tibia and the fibula bones were broken. The next afternoon (April 1st) the surgeon determined I needed a 2nd surgery to pin the break. When my friends heard the news...they thought it was an April Fool's Joke!!! I wish it had been. I couldn't finish the track season; couldn't play summer baseball; went to Prom and walked across the stage with crutches to receive my high school Graduation Diploma.

Each check-up time my doctor in Ames said it had healed a tiny bit. Weeks and months went by. I could still do cattle chores, carefully, but not easily.

In the fall of 2015, I went to Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls and began the two year program of Farm Management. In the fall of 2016, I saw a trauma specialist in Iowa City. He performed another surgery and removed the rod that went from my knee to my ankle. A larger rod (same length) was inserted which would help distribute the bone plasma. **And it did help.** Still slowly—but surely. I worked through the usual therapy sessions to rebuild my muscle strength and finally in the fall of 2017 both bones were healing.

So—I am grateful for the love and support of my friends who encouraged me to keep trying. Grateful for the concerns expressed to my family and especially the prayers for my healing to be complete. I don't know everyone's name to thank you, so when I see you again, stop and tell me your name.

March 31 is coming again soon. April Fool's Day will always bring special memories and meanings to me. You'll see me around doing my "thing." Again, I thank you for caring. Truman Chamness



This year's quarter challenge is to continue helping animals "board" the Ark. As of this printing we are less **than \$200 away from the \$5000 goal** to buy an Ark for Heifer International! When the quarter tubes are full, the Ark will be complete!!



2018 Leadership Team:

- Administrative Council Chair**—Leonard Rotschafer
- Lay Leader**—Pat Rittscher
- Church Treasurer**—Troy Hassebrock
- Financial Secretary**—Gary Knutson
- Trustee Chair**—Chris Kehoe
- Finance Chairs**—Tim Anderson, Gary Chamness
- Endowment Chair**—Gerry Gourley
- SPPRC Chair**—Glenn Tjaden
- Missions Chair**—Brett Ahrens
- Fellowship Chair**—Cindy Farley

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On Easter morning we greet one another with the joyous words of “He is risen! He is risen indeed!” There is joy in our faces and in our voices. And I would like to believe we feel that joy for more than just the candy that is awaiting us. On Sunday morning we feel the joy and promise that comes with the resurrection of our Savior. We are an Easter people, after all.

But this Lenten season has me pondering how we as Christians truly live out being an Easter people. We proclaim the Good News of the Resurrection. And most of us do so beyond Sunday morning. But are we living more than the words. Are we interacting with the world as Easter people?

In Awana this year we have been focusing on how Jesus calls us to interact with one another. We spent time on the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12), as that is the Scripture that comes to mind most when we think of how we interact with others. We learned the Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:38). But interestingly enough, these very famous Scriptures that teach us how to interact with the world around us are not what has stuck with our young in faith. Instead they have grasped James 1:19: “Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.” Our young in faith spoke of how they often lose their temper and then say or do things that they later regret. But the part that was convicting was when they began speaking of the times they see adults do the same. One little girl had this to say: “But grownups are a lot meaner when they talk to each other. The words they use hurt feelings. For a long time.”

Ouch. Even as I type these words it’s like a punch to the gut. We often forget that we are constantly setting an example. Not just to the young in age, but also to the world around us. Imagine if, as we move forward as Easter people, we begin actually treating the people we meet by the standards of those Scriptures listed above. What if we took 20 minutes to think before reacting in anger toward someone? Or we paused long enough to discern whether the bit of information we are about to pass on to someone else is really necessary to share, or if it is just a piece of gossip? What if we began to imagine the mark our words and actions leave on the hearts of the people around us? While it might not change the entire world, I have a feeling it would start to bring about the Kingdom of God in our immediate environment.

Brennan Manning says, “In every encounter we either give life or we drain it; there are no neutral exchanges.” As we move forward as Easter people, I pray that we do our best to give life in every encounter we face. ~Jennifer