

# The Asbury Connection

April 2019

During Asbury preschool hours, **zone locking** is enforced.

## Seder Meal

April 18, 7pm  
See inside for info!

## Camp Wednesday

April 3

## Confirmation Sunday:

April 28

**Deadline** to submit info for the next Asbury newsletter is April 19



## Proud to be at Asbury

Now that the recent General Conference of The United Methodist Church is over it's back to business as usual at Asbury. I just want to reiterate to all that whoever comes through the doors of the church is welcomed and cherished as a child of God. In fact I rejoice in any diversity that comes into the sanctuary of Asbury.

I am proud of who we are in the community and in being a Christ-centered church; from our work in the community with All Cultures Equal, support of Scouts and care facilities, to our mission work in our country and around the world. We have a lot to be thankful for in being able to support and help others.

In July I will start year six being the pastor here at Asbury. Sometimes I feel I have won on the show "Survivor." But in fact I feel we have come together as a church where the love of God prevails in all things. Not only have we become more centered in living out God's will, but we approach the world as all people having sacred worth to God.

In the spring of 2014, two people found themselves sitting beside a pool at a motel in Nevada. As they talked, they discovered they were from Iowa. One said, "I'm a Methodist and live in Melcher-Dallas." The other said, "well I'm Lutheran and I live in Webster City." She then said, "I hear the Methodist church is getting a new pastor, I hope it goes well for them." And the other person replied, "Yea and they're getting my pastor." Small world sometimes!

I'm thankful for the young families and children I see in the church. From staff, to all who volunteer, I believe we are headed in the right direction for the future. As long as we stay faithful to God in all we do I feel we will be blessed. So let us take our place as loving God and neighbor in all we do and take our place as The Children of God.

**1 Timothy 1:12** I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service.

As we have just finished Saint Patrick's Day here is an Irish blessing:

Christ be with me,  
be after me,  
be before me,  
and be at my right and left hand.  
May everything I do be for Christ.

Love You All, Pastor Jeff

**Every SATURDAY:** Worship at 6pm. **Every SUNDAY:** Worship at 10am; Fellowship, 11am. All welcome!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Confirmation each Sun at 11:05am	<b>April 1</b> Worship mtg, 5:30	2 *Tutoring each Tues, 4-7pm * Lenten Lunch, 11:45 * Lent Study, 6p *Bells, 5:15pm	3 <b>Wednesday schedule below</b> Camp Wednesday	4 Missions mtg, 6:30pm	5	6 Laity Day @ Collegiate in Ames, 9a-3:30pm
7	8 *Girl Scouts, 3:30pm *Trustees, 6:30pm	9 *Pastor @ Crestview, 9:30am *Lent study, 6p *Ladies Lunch, 11:45 *Bells, 5:15pm	10 ACE food pantry prep, 1:30pm	11 *Care Team, 10am *Pastor in mtg, 10a-3p *Food pantry, 11a & 4p *SPPRC, 6pm	12	13
14 Palm Sunday	15 Basement booked, 5:30-9pm	16 Bells, 5:15pm	17 *Holy Week Event (stay tuned!) *No Youth activities	18 Maundy Thursday *Alzheimer support, 4pm *Seder Meal, 7pm	19 Good Friday Newsletter info due	20
21 <b>Easter</b> Two worship times: 6:25am and 10am	22 <b>Church Offices Closed</b> Girl Scouts, 3:30pm	23 *Bells, 5:15pm *Finance mtg, 7pm	24 *Newsletter mailed *Praise team, 5:15pm *ACE Food pantry prep, 1:30pm	25 *Care Team, 10am *Food pantry, 11a & 4p *Parlor in use, 5:30-9pm	26	27
28 *Confirmation Sunday *Sanctuary in use, 3-7pm	29	30	May 1 *Last AWANA *Praise Team, 5:15pm	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4

**Wednesday Schedule:**

**Man to Man**, quarter to 7:00am  
**Women on the Walk**, 9:30 coffee/9:45am class  
**Middle School youth group**, 3:30-5pm  
**Meal**, 5-6pm  
**AWANA**, 5:30-7pm (3yrs thru 5th grade)  
**Choir practice**, 6pm  
**High School youth group**, 6-7:30pm

**"Mystery", can you solve?** A box containing some school supplies, finished 2 handled school bags, 5 cloth diapers, a completed sewing kit plus some other things were left (or found) outside the InGathering work room in the skybox. Can anyone tell me where they came from? Just curious!! Pat Rittscher, 832-2470 or see me at church. Thanks.



**April Birthdays & Anniversaries**

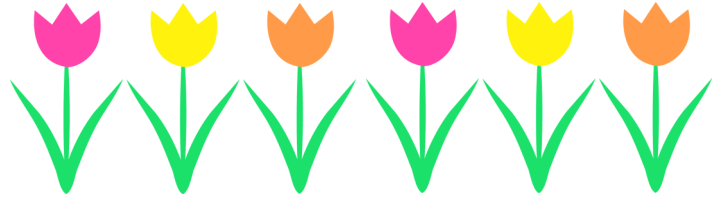
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|--|--|--|
| 1: Glenn Cue, Troy Draeger, Madison Schaa                                    | 12: Caitlyn Hassebrock, Samantha Kantak  | 24: Jacob Ahrens, Seth Crouthamel, Allie Ruppel, Marguerite Staley, Sara Trueblood                               |
| 2: Jerry Hadley, Paige Highland, Chris White, <b>Tom &amp; Pat Rittscher</b> | 13: Tim Anderson, Roberta Knutson  | 25: Bertha Takle   |
| 3: <b>Jim &amp; Mary Chalfant</b>  | 14: Alexander Dickinson, Kelly Yates   | 26: Trudy Anderson, Marty Johnson, Jan Malmstrom, Shirley Moen, Jessi Olmstead, Amy Lindstrom, Jennifer Peterson |
| 4: Carlee Yates; <b>Bob &amp; Cindy Farley; Marc &amp; Allyse Pineda</b>     | 16: Jan Faint, Ryan Park, Mike Christensen   | 27: Nicole Chamness, Bev Frazer, Tim Jondal; <b>Dean &amp; Adele Bowden</b>                                      |
| 5: Madison Lovelace  | 17: Fern Nelson, Linda Roosa, Ben Wescott  | 28: Mary Hassebrock, Will Mourlam, Lee Ayers, Jim Chalfant   |
| 6: Kenady Highland, Donna Longhenry, John Kidney, Janine Sharar              | 18: Sally Trueblood, Nathan Griswold   | 29: Barbara Anderson, Emily Lovelace   |
| 7: Rachel Anderson, Rosalie Hames  | 19: Darle Elkin, Bradley Tate  | 30: Beth Bottorff, Dean Carden, Barb Widick; <b>Gary &amp; Georgianna Gourley</b>                                |
| 8: Don Bottorff, Norma Lake; <b>Rod &amp; Diana Patterson</b>                | 20: Gen Carroll, Casandra Deimerly, Jean Kayser  |  |
| 10: Tammy Greenfield, Dylan Ryder, Kamey Stanley                             | 22: Patty Bjerke, Terry Gourley, Nicholas Hassebrock; <b>Lewis &amp; Sharon Hassebrock</b> |  |
| 11: Teresa Dickinson   | 23: Kathy Gibbs, Sarah Godfredsen  |  |

**The Latest!!!** There are some changes for the InGathering kits: No filler paper!! Needed: a box of 12 colored pencils beside the other things for the school kits.

Personal hygiene kits will now include: three-4 ounces of shampoo, two-3 ounce deodorant, a razor with guard, toothpaste 2.5 ounce and up (within reason), as well as the things from last year.

Information and pictures of the items are on the bulletin board in the narthex as well as patterns for the taking for two kinds of quilts and the one handled school bag. Otherwise, patterns and lists of items needed are on the Midwest Mission web site, [midwestmissions.org](http://midwestmissions.org)

Keep "an eye out" for large pencil sharpeners and rulers which seemed to be in short supply in September and October as well as the colored pencils. Sturdy material for school bags, thread (full or partial spools) and flannel are still being accepted as well as cotton material for quilts.



**Join Us:** On April 23, from 1 to 4pm, in the church dining room, join a "pop-up" group making birthing kits for InGathering. Very simple to make. Many hands make light work!! Sitting down or standing up, there will be a part for everyone to do, from cutting plastic to inserting a card in the finished kit.

Questions? Ask Pat R at church or at 832-2470.

**HE IS RISEN!**



**HAPPY EASTER!**



### **What is Passover? A Seder Meal?**

One of the great religious festivals in the Jewish year is called Passover. The Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread were celebrated in spring

to mark the deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. The week-long festival began on the eve of the first day, with a family meal of roast lamb (called the Paschal lamb), unleavened bread, and other specially prepared foods. As a boy, Jesus went with his parents to observe the Passover in Jerusalem. Matthew, Mark, and Luke gave accounts of the Last Supper as a Passover meal. (Matthew 26: 17-19; Mark 14: 12, and Luke 22: 7-8. Also: Exodus 12: 1-20)

The Last Supper was the backdrop for some of the most significant exchanges between Jesus and the disciples. It is a unique part of history and heritage that Jews and Christians share, and is still an important part of Jewish observance today. The hallmark of the meal is its specific order, which is the meaning of the Hebrew word *seder*.

Asbury will be hosting a Seder Meal on Maundy Thursday, April 18, at 7:00pm. The Seder "Meal" will be a religious ceremony consisting of small samplings of foods such as lamb, egg, unleavened bread, horseradish (bitter herbs), charoset (a date/nut mixture), saltwater, and juice. It is not a full meal.

Reservations must be made. You can sign up in the narthex or by contacting the church.

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Holy Week...we say it's important. We can recite the events that take place: the triumphal entry in to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday; the cleansing of the temple; the Passover meal in the Upper Room; Gethsemane; Jesus appearing before Pilate; the crucifixion; and there are so many more. But how often do we jump from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday—celebration to celebration—without pausing for the more somber moments? Can we truly experience the joy of Easter if we do not observe the sadness of the week?

In conversation with Pastor Jeff these past few months I realized that as a church we can be guilty of this as well. We add some special services in during that week in Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. But our schedule does not change. While we may spend a little time talking about the different events, our week doesn't feel any different. This year, we want to change that.

The Wednesday of Holy Week is going to look a little different this year. There will not be youth groups or children's groups that day. WOW will not look exactly the same. But don't worry. There will be something for each and every person in the congregation to come and experience.

This is still taking shape, so here you will not find a detailed list of what you will experience. Just like the disciples in that week, we want to leave a little bit of mystery. What I can tell you is that this will be a come-when-you-can event—so any time the church is open you are welcome to come in and explore. There will be something provided for all ages—families are encouraged to come and learn together. You will be able to walk through at your own pace—going as quickly or as slowly as you need or as time allows.

I continue to be encouraged that this congregation is willing to try new things—to allow the Spirit to lead us to uncharted territory as we grow in relationship to God.

Please watch the Quick Bits, bulletins and Facebook for more details as the date grows near.

~Jennifer