“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

What an amazing year we have had continuing to grow together in community for the glory of God.

As we reflect on the year that has passed and look ahead to a new year, I pray that we recognize God’s abundant blessings. May we be open to where God is leading us to share the message of Good News through Jesus Christ. Our joys have mingled with sorrow and we continue to walk faithfully with God as we comfort and celebrate each other.

On January 8 we will engage in the Wesleyan Covenant Prayer during our worship service. In the meantime, I invite you to pray it as part of your regular devotions.

May God’s peace and justice fill our hearts in the coming year,

Pastor Melissa

WESLEYAN COVENANT PRAYER (ADAPTED)

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to your hope and service. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be made also in heaven. Amen.
“Men Growing in Christ so Others May Know Christ”
ASBURY CROTON ON HUDSON UNITED METHODIST MEN’S FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION

ACOHUMMFA

8:00 a.m. breakfast and fellowship:

8:30 - 10:00 a.m. meeting

WESLEY HOUSE 19 Old Post Road So, Croton on Hudson

JANUARY 2017 meeting dates:

Saturdays
1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28

Weekly BIBLE Readings (15 min/day):
Genesis 1-21, Genesis 22-42, Genesis 43 - Exodus 13, Exodus 14-34

Intercessory Prayer

Asbury Prayer Chain & Asbury COH Church Families: A-B

CALENDAR EVENTS

January TBD Pancake breakfast Croton Cub Scout Pack 28
(BSA) Scout pancake breakfast 8:00 a.m. Holy Name of Mary gym

Spaghetti dinner @ St. Augustine RC Church Rt. 9 Ossining 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 2/4
Support Boy Scouting program Troop 49 Ossining
All Asbury families invited as guests of ACOHUMMFA

2017 LOCAL CHAPTER DUES (free-will offering
EXTRA-MILE GIVING: $45.00, EVERY MAN SHARES support of UMM global missions
PLEASE SEND/GIVE TO collection plate, Adam Bovone or Stu Colby,
THANKS!!!

More info: Stu Colby call or text 914 330 4104 or ACOHUMMFA@aol.com
United Methodist Men’s missions provides
- resources that help grow men spiritually
- ministries that help men be better fathers and husbands
- leader recruitment and training
- communications with men, pastors, and leaders
- mentoring and youth programs
- hunger relief
- prayer ministries
- support of UM leaders
- web-based communications
- international men’s ministries

Enclosed is payment for $45.00. Please make all checks payable to ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH with memo for ACOHUMMFA.

NAME: __________________________ Address: _______________________
CONTACTS (telephone, email) __________________________________________
Send / give to: collection plate, pastor, or ACOHUMMFA member S. Colby, D. Daubney, A. Bovone or mail ACOHUMMFA, 19 OLD POST ROAD SOUTH, CROTON-ON-HUDSON, NY 10520.
ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2017

Thank you to everyone who donated flowers for our altar in 2016. Thank you also for your donations of poinsettias for our Christmas altar; it was truly a celebratory altar. The 2017 flower chart is hanging on the wall next to Pastor Melissa’s office and people are beginning to sign up for the Sundays when they want to remember someone or an event. There will not be flowers during Lent from March 1, Ash Wednesday, through April 14, Good Friday. Easter Sunday is April 16, when there will be our Easter garden plants. If you would like to remember someone during Lent you may order a rose in a bud vase for $8.00. If you have any questions you may call Gloria Laemmel at 271-8712. Below is an order form for flowers to mail to the church to the attention of Gloria Laemmel or place in the collection plate.

I wish to order:

_____ Altar flowers @ $42.00 for 2 vases for (date) _________________________________

   In honor of / in memory of _________________________________________________

   __________________________________________________

_____ Bud vase @ $8.00 for (date) _____________________________________________

   In honor of / in memory of _________________________________________________

   __________________________________________________

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

We thank everyone who responded to our annual financial request for our operating budget. If you have not offered a pledge of giving to God’s work at Asbury for 2017 and would like to do so, Estimate of Giving Cards and envelopes may be found on the information table at the back of the sanctuary. These cards may be put in the collection plate or mailed to the church to the attention of Adam Bovone. You may call Gloria Laemmel, 271-8712 to have a card sent to you.

BOOK CLUB MEETING JANUARY 14

The next meeting of the Asbury Sally Read Book Club will be Saturday, January 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the music room. The book for January is The Perfume Collector by Kathleen Tessaro. Copies of the book are reserved at the Croton Library. All book club meetings are open to anyone who is interested. A light breakfast is served.
Lorraine Hansberry, the author and playwright, who wrote the play, *A Raisin in the Sun*, was born on May 19, 1930 in Chicago. Her father, Carl A. Hansberry, was a successful banker and real-estate broker who was very active in the NAACP and fought to end housing discrimination against blacks. Her mother, Nannie Perry Hansberry, a school teacher, was dedicated to striving for social and political change. Her father’s brother, William Leo Hansberry, was a professor at Howard University and one of the first African-American scholars to study African antiquity and history. Lorraine Hansberry entered the University of Wisconsin in 1948 and left there in 1950 to move to New York City to work and attend The New School.

She began writing for the Freedom, a black newspaper published by Paul Robeson, and in 1952 became its associate editor. In 1953 she married aspiring writer Robert Nemiroff. She left Freedom in 1953 to concentrate on writing, convinced that she could most effectively contribute to black causes through her writing. In this period she wrote many short stories and plays including *A Raisin in the Sun*. The title of the play was inspired from a line in the Langston Hughes poem *Harlem*. *Raisin* opened at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre on March 11, 1959, making theatrical history as the first work by a black woman to be produced on Broadway. It ran for nineteen months and won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award as Best Play of the Year. Hansberry at age 29 became the youngest winner and the first African-American to be so honored.

Though Nemiroff and Hansberry divorced they continued to work together. Lorraine Hansberry died at the age of 34 of cancer. Robert Nemiroff lived in Croton and she is buried in Bethel Cemetery in Croton.

In 1961 the movie version of *A Raisin in the Sun*, with screenplay by Hansberry, earned a special prize at the Cannes Film Festival. *Raisin*, a musical adaptation, opened on Broadway in 1973 and received a Tony Award for best musical.

**HARLEM by Langston Hughes**

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up  
like a raisin in the sun?  
Or fester like a sore -  
And then run?  
Does it stink like rotten meat?  
Or crust and sugar over -  
like a syrupy sweet?  
Maybe it just sags  
like a heavy load.

*Or does it explode?*
JOIN THE CROTON INTERFAITH COMMUNITY AS WE HONOR DR. KING AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING PEACE WHILE STANDING AGAINST HATEFUL SPEECH AND ACTIONS.

UNITED AGAINST HATE

Gather at Asbury United Methodist Church (17 Old Post Rd S) and we will process together to Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church (114 Grand St.) and St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church (6 Old Post Rd. N) for break-out sessions that build unity, develop faith based community leadership, and raise awareness about the concerns of our neighbors. Sponsored by the above congregations and Unitarian Universalist of the Hudson Valley, Temple Israel of Northern Westchester and Mid Westchester Muslim community. facebook CrotonHousesOfWorship

MAKING CLIMATE JUSTICE YOUR CUP OF TEA

WOMEN’S TEA
Sunday January 22, 2017
from 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Asbury Social Hall

Sponsored by Asbury United Methodist Women
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Thank you for supporting our sale of tins of homemade Christmas Cookies. Fifty tins were sold at $15 each to support our budget and mission projects. Plan to attend our annual Love Lunch for the congregation after church on Sunday, February 12. The menu will feature the love apple, otherwise known as the tomato, and of course, chocolate for the coming Valentine’s Day.
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**JANUARY 2017**

**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**