

Circuit Rider

The Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
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Jean Evans, Editor



PASTOR'S MESSAGE OCTOBER 2020

The Prophetic Imagination

This is the title of our current sermon series. It is also the title of a book by the great biblical scholar Walter Bruegeman. He writes that the biblical prophets do something for us that no other voice in society does. They name the truth in light of the justice and righteousness of God.

Isaiah describes the prophets of God in this way:

*The spirit of the Lord shall rest on them,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
Their delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.*

*They shall not judge by what their eyes see,
or decide by what their ears hear;
but with righteousness they shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; Isaiah 11:2-4*

Throughout October, we will be reading passages from Isaiah and allowing our prophetic imaginations to envision the way of God that we may live into God's way.

A doctor can't prescribe a cure until that doctor has made an accurate and truthful diagnosis of the illness. The doctor investigates and then names the illness as precisely as possible, because they know that's the first step in moving toward healing. They have faith that if they can correctly identify the illness then they can identify treatment that moves the patient toward healing.

The prophet is like the doctor. They don't deny, they don't sugar coat, they don't flinch from naming the realities in our society that need to be addressed even if the rest of us are nervous about naming them. They name them because it is the necessary first step in healing. They invite us to grieve and to mourn, to feel the sadness as part of acknowledging the true nature of what we're dealing with. As the doctor trusts in science, so the prophet trusts in God as capable and willing to lead us toward healing.

What's going on in your life that would be good to name? What's happening in the world around us that we want to heal from?



Men Growing in Christ so Others May Know Christ”
ASBURY CROTON ON HUDSON UNITED METHODIST MEN’S FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION

ACOHUMMFA

OCTOBER 2020 meeting dates: Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. sharp
Meet at Asbury Front Porch (benches in front of church entrance)
FREE Breakfast 9:00 a.m. optional at FRANKIE’s Deli next to church

OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

**Activities/Topics: Annual bird seed sale, support *Run Against Hunger*,
Upper room reading discussion**

Foul weather meeting via teleconference 914-765-9010 at 9:30 a.m.

YOU CAN READ THE BIBLE in a year challenge!

Just 15 minutes/day, you can do it

Weekly Readings: Mathew 1-14, Mathew 15-28, Mark 1-16, Luke 1-16

Intercessory Prayer: Asbury COH Church Families: S-T

Sunday, October 10-18

40th ANNUAL HARRY CHAPIN WALK & RUN AGAINST HUNGER

JOIN AN EVENT OR JUST DONATE

See more at: <http://runagainsthunger.com>

Saturday, October 24

BIRD SEED SALE

SEND YOUR ORDER TO: 914-271-3128 or captsea946@aol.com

Proceeds for church’s winter heating bills: “Feed the Birds, Warm the Flock”

Thursday, October 1

ADVENT CALENDAR SALE

ASBURY LIMITED ADDITION ORIGINAL ART created by Ann Reibel

More info: Stu Colby call or text 914-330-4104 or captsea946@aol.com



September 19, 2020

Thomas Quartuccio III awarded Certificate of Appreciation from Asbury United Methodist Men for his Eagle Scout Project at Bethel Cemetery.

HARRY CHAPIN MEMORIAL RUN AGAINST HUNGER - VIRTUAL RUN

OCTOBER 10-18

“Adapting” being the name of the game this year, we, at the *Run Against Hunger* have had to find a different way to safely stage our event for 2020. Instead of a large gathering at Croton-Harmon High School we are encouraging people to register online and then run/walk whenever and wherever they want during the period of October 10-18. Whether you run or walk on a track, a trail, the road or even a treadmill you will still be supporting us and fighting hunger locally here in Croton and around the world. We will still have T-shirts for those in the *5K* and *10K* events and medals for all of those in the *Fun Run*. In addition, we are also offering for purchase our own 100% made-in-Croton custom face mask which can be ordered when you register online.

To pick up your T-shirt, medal and/or face mask we will be holding five pick up days at the Asbury parking lot on the following dates:

October 8 from 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

October 9 from 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

October 10 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. plus in-person registration

October 16 from 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

October 17 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. plus in-person registration

We are planning on primarily using a drive-through model for the pick ups where pre-registered participants will be handed a bag containing their items and not have to get out of their cars. While we prefer that you pre-register online we will be offering in-person registration on the two Saturdays, October 10 and 17.

There are so many ways to help: register online and run or walk, volunteer (several from Asbury already), set up a team, make a donation, bring canned food. Even in the year of the pandemic you can still make a difference.

Thank you,
Jud Ramaker

Questions? 914-552-0173 or ramakerjud@yahoo.com

TREASURER'S COLUMN - OCTOBER 2020

Support for the church mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world has been solid year-to-date. Asbury is blessed with generous givers. Their continued contributions of tithes and offerings have allowed all financial obligations of the church to be met on time through September. Thank you.

As we journey together as the church, the body of Christ, in these difficult times we might keep in mind two instructions of Paul to the members of his churches:

Ephesians 4

²¹ When you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶ "In your anger do not sin" [a]: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Galatians 5: *Life by the Spirit*

¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh^[a]; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."^[b] ¹⁵ If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

Stuart Colby, Treasurer
Asbury United Methodist Church, Croton-on-Hudson

THE HISTORY CORNER

The following article from the 1993 Asbury 110th anniversary journal was reprinted in the Circuit Rider at the time of the 30th anniversary of the *Run Against Hunger*. This year at the time of the 40th anniversary of The Run it bears repeating as The Run carries on in a different format for 2020 at this time in our history when hunger is an increased problem for many worldwide.

In 1981 Asbury member Susan Williams made a statement, “We should do something to combat world hunger.” With this statement the wheels of creative thinking began to turn.

Susan, along with members and friends, her husband Tom, Barbara Gates, Bill and Mary Lynn, Kathy Windrum, Cynthia Plater, Jim Moriarity, Paul and Dot Janis, Besty Johnson, Alice Norwich, and Rev. Sandra Myers, developed preliminary plans for the 10K or 6.2 mile run named *Run Against Hunger*.

As final plans developed they found themselves without a sponsor for needed T-shirts. Then in July the untimely death of Harry Chapin, the folk singer who believed no child should go hungry, cast its effect on the committee. Few people have embodied that idea more than Harry Chapin who took the fame that came from his music and utilized it to raise funds and, more importantly, people’s awareness to the important role of the individual in combating hunger.

The committee’s concern over both these events lessened when they received a phone call from an associate of Harry who lived in Croton and who stated that if we would name the race in honor of Harry Chapin, he would sponsor it.” The committee’s decision to contact the Chapin family and ask permission to make the race a memorial to Harry Chapin by naming it *The Harry Chapin Memorial Run Against Hunger* resulted in approval and a mark in the pages of history for Asbury Church and the Croton community.

ASBURY AT ALL-VILLAGE TAG SALE

We participated in the All-Village Tag Sale on Saturday, September 26, 2020. It was a sunny fall day and it proved to be a successful day for us. We were set up on the front lawn with treasures from the Treasure Chest, Christmas and fall décor items, and small housewares and house plants. The general tag sale items and plants earned \$270.95 and the Treasure Chest sales were \$1,148.00.

Thank you to all the donors of plants and merchandise and to the following who made the event run smoothly by helping to prepare on Friday, set up and clean up on Saturday, and manning the sales on Saturday: Jud Ramaker, Tina Pershing, Keith Dean, Barbara and Bob Whipple, Sheila Furjanic, Sheryl Sanford, Cynthia Plater, Stu and Janet Colby, Caren Evans, Russell Schulze, Maggie and John Kolman Mandel, Sue Mathys, Ann Reibel, Violet Petroni, Melissa Dengler.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>OCTOBER 2020</p> <p>ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</p> </div>				1 Advent Calendar Sale	2	3 10:00am UMW Conference Call 9:00 Breakfast at Frankie's 9:30-10:30am ACOHUMMFA
4 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone	5 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010	6	7	8 3-6:30pm Run Against Hunger Pick up	9 3-6:30pm Run Against Hunger Pick up	10 9:00 - 10:30am Book Club Conference Call 9:00 Breakfast at Frankie's 9:30-10:30am ACOHUMMFA 3-6:30pm Run Against Hunger Pick up
11 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone Jan Peek Dinner Provided	12 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010	13	14	15	16 3-6:30pm Run Against Hunger Pick up	17 10:00am UMW Conference Call 9:00 Breakfast at Frankie's 9:30-10:30am ACOHUMMFA 3-6:30pm Run Against Hunger Pick up
18 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone Run Against Hunger	19 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010 Salvation Army Lunch Provided	20	21	22	23	24 10:00am UMW Conference Call 9:00 Breakfast at Frankie's 9:30-10:30 ACOHUMMFA Bird Seed Sale
25 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone	26 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010	27	28	29	30	31 10:00am UMW Conference Call 9:30-10:30am ACOHUMMFA

