

CIRCUIT RIDER

The Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church

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Jean Evans, Editor



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 2021

Dear Asbury Members and Friends,

We have had a difficult and a wonderful 2020. Thanks to your faithfulness we have grown in our worship attendance this year even as we have switched from in person to Zoom and call-in worship. Due to your generosity and the diligence of our financial team we have been able to meet all our financial obligations this year and have continued to generously support our various mission projects.

As we grow deeper in our faith in 2021 I invite you to join us in reading through the Bible this year. Because this is a big deal, how about if we all join in reading through the book of Genesis during the first couple weeks of January, just to get a feel for it? Then you can decide if it's something you'd like to continue with.

I will be preaching sermons from the books of the Bible that we are reading together. On January 3-17 I'll be preaching from Genesis and then moving to Exodus for January 24-31. The hope for this process is to increase our biblical literacy and get a better understanding of the Bible as a whole. What are the grand themes that run through the Bible? What is the overarching message that the Bible conveys?

To be successful in this endeavor I suggest that you find a regular time each day for 15 minutes of Bible reading. Here is the schedule for January, I hope you'll consider joining in this grand quest.

Happy New Year!

Month/Day Book/Chapters January

1	Genesis1-3	17	Genesis 49-50
2	Genesis4-6		Exodus 1
3	Genesis 7-9	18	Exodus 2-4
4	Genesis10-12	19	Exodus 5-7
5	Genesis13-15	20	Exodus 8-10
6	Genesis 16-18	21	Exodus 11-13
7	Genesis 19-21	22	Exodus 14-16
8	Genesis 22-24	23	Exodus 17-19
9	Genesis 25-27	24	Exodus 20-22
10	Genesis 28-30	25	Exodus 23-25
11	Genesis 31-33	26	Exodus 26-28
12	Genesis 34-36	27	Exodus 29-31
13	Genesis 37-39	28	Exodus 32-34
14	Genesis 40-42	29	Exodus 35-37
15	Genesis 43-45	30	Exodus 38-39
16	Genesis 46-48	31	Exodus 40



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

ACOHUMMFA

JANUARY 2021 meeting dates:

Saturdays

1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30

9:00 a.m. Breakfast at FRANKI’s deli & Fellowship

FAIR WEATHER: 9:30-10:30 a.m. Meeting Asbury “Front Porch” (benches in front of church) 17 Old Post Road So., Croton-on- Hudson

FOUL WEATHER: Meet by teleconference: 914-765-9010 or ZOOM (members will be notified)

**START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT WITH 15 minutes per day to read the BIBLE in a year.
YOU CAN DO IT!!!**

Weekly reads: Genesis 1-21, Genesis 22-42, Genesis 43-Exodus 13, Exodus 14-34

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

CALEDAR EVENTS

Deferred due to COVID 19 restrictions

2021 LOCAL CHAPTER DUES (free-will offering)

EXTRA MILE GIVING: \$45.00, EVERY MAN SHARES support of UMM global missions

PLEASE SEND/GIVE TO: Adam Bovone or Stu Colby

THANKS!!!

More info: Stu Colby call or text 914-330-4104

GENEROSITY IS ALIVE AND WELL AT ASBURY

When I began planning our Santa Claus mission projects I assumed the Covid-19 pandemic would drastically undermine our success. I was delighted to find that I had underestimated the generous hearts of my friends at Asbury. Captain Raquel of the Salvation Army was impressed



with the bags of gifts, the timeliness of their delivery, and the tins of cookies donated by Lena for each family. I really wish I had taken a picture before taking them to the Salvation Army. The bags Beth Phillips used were adorable and stood out amongst all the others. I estimated that almost \$1,000 worth of toys, winter coats, hats, and gloves were donated primarily to the *Angel Tree Project*.

Our second project, *Rising Ground Holiday Party*, was also generously supported. Some people sent checks and specifically stated that the money should be split between the two projects. I sent a large wad of gift cards in time for their party on December 20 but the gift cards kept coming. I called *Rising Ground* and Aldervan Daly said that they always needed gift cards to dress their graduating students.

I wish to give a BIG thank you to all those who supported this Christmas adventure. I would mention everyone but I am sure I would forget someone and I do not want to offend anyone. I did keep a list but sometimes people called to say they would put gift cards in my mailbox and I'd get several envelopes unsigned. Once again thank you to all!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and my best wishes in the New Year.

Respectfully,
Tina Pershing

**ASBURY CROTON ON HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
TREASURER'S COLUMN - JANUARY 2021**

JOYFUL NEWS! The mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world were resourced amply in 2020, thanks be to God. Asbury church members and supporters present and past offered tithes and offerings sufficient to meet all 2020 obligations in support of all worship, children and youth ministry, mission, maintenance, repairs, insurance, salaries and apportionment and every single other commitment for the year totaling nearly \$200,000.

Due to the gifts of Pastor Doug, our part-time staff and committed Asbury mission team leaders and members of the Church were creative and launched a new initiative to pivot to ZOOM church in April, 2020 due to restrictions to freedom of assembly and worship imposed by the government. Rising to the challenges our Asbury United Methodist Church, Croton-on-Hudson was able to continue as a powerful source of hope in the neighborhood and community and due to ZOOM connections, mission was made available globally! Your gifts and support embrace this new opportunity to expand Christ's message of salvation and extends a source of love to people in search of a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ in connection with a welcoming and supportive Christian faith-based community.

As the co-lay leaders requested in their letter of December 6, 2020, for 2021 the leadership team prays that more families will intentionally consider and plan to join the handful of current tithers in the congregation as a strong commitment to the church. The tithe is a meaningful offering not only to the church but to the giver as well. Tithers often experience the joyful knowledge that the act of tithing brings a stronger connection with Jesus. It is a spiritual act of faith! You become increasingly aware and in touch with the work of the church and can more fully appreciate the work of the church that brings others hope, wisdom, and the opportunity to personally witness the love of God that is always available and surrounds us.

This year, our stewardship team's request is that Asbury's member's family and friends continue to strongly support our faith community and to provide an indication of their giving for 2021. The total of all the indications of giving will be used to guide the church mission team leaders in planning worship and programs for 2021 so returning the card is an important action.

If you still have the Estimate of Giving card sent previously, please complete it to indicate your financial support for 2021 or just write a note of your intentions and return it to the attention of STEWARDSHIP TEAM, Asbury Church 15 Old Post Road South, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

Finally, and MOST IMPORTANT, YOU can take the initiative to invite or host someone or a family to join you at a service or church event (UMW, UMM, Jan Peek, or Salvation Army food mission team, etc.). Forward the EMAIL ZOOM invitation from Pastor Doug to a prospective new member. We have room in ZOOM for everyone.

Thank you for your tithes and offerings in 2020 and commitments of support in 2021.

YIMFC,

Stu Colby
Treasurer AUMC

THE HISTORY CORNER

—Tina Pershing

Beginning in the early 1980's, for about 30 years on the Sunday prior to Martin Luther King Day, an interfaith service was held in Croton to commemorate the day. The service was usually held at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. Below is the welcome and greeting from the 2009 service by St. Augustine's pastor Rev. Bradley C. Dyche:

“Friends, this afternoon we have come together to bear witness to a God of love, peace, non-violence, and justice. And we acknowledge that we have seen those very qualities in the vision and voice of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We come from different cultures and religions but we gather today in a commitment to the rights for which Dr. King fought.

Two legacies have been left to us on this earth. We sadly have a legacy of despair, a nightmare in which there is oppression, slavery, genocide and neglect. But, we also have a legacy of hope. Hope in our own selves and in all of humanity, and for many of us, a hope in God. This is the legacy that Dr. King shared with us and for us. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream, even as he looked at the nightmares of segregation and racism. This afternoon, we honor that dream, a dream of justice, unity, and peace for all. Today, we pledge to continue in the struggle for dignity for all people. In this service we will share the words and hope of Dr. King, and we will continue to dream of a world in which all are valued for our common humanity. As we begin let us invoke that legacy of hope in ourselves and in the world.”

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> JANUARY 2021 ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH </div>					1	2 10:00am UMW Conference Call
3 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone	4 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010	5	6	7	8	9 9:30am Book Club Conference Call
10 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone Jan Peek – Serve Dinner	11 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010	12	13	14	15	16 10:00am UMW Conference Call
17 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone	18 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010 NO Salvation Army Lunch – due to holiday	19	20	21	22	23 10:00am UMW Conference Call
24 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone	25 Bible Study 7:15pm – via conference call to 914 765-9010	26	27	28	29	30 10:00am UMW Conference Call
31 10:30 Worship via ZOOM or phone						