

CIRCUIT RIDER

The Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church

Tel: 914-271-3150

website: www.asburycroton.umchurches.org email: asburycrotonumc@gmail.com

Jean Evans, Editor



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 2022

FEBRUARY: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Sound of the Genuine

I first began celebrating Black History Month in 1998 when I was pastor of a multi-racial congregation in Baltimore. What I discovered is that black history is as important for white, Latino and Asian people, as it is for black people. This history that is so often overlooked in our education system is critical for our understanding of the whole story of who we are as a nation and as a people.

Over the next three weeks we will explore, *The Sound of the Genuine*, an important speech delivered in 1980 at Spelman College by the great black mystic Howard Thurman.

Thurman once said, "Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

He spells this out in his Spelman College address. "You are the only you that has ever lived... and if you cannot hear the sound of the genuine in you, you will...spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls..."

This Sunday we will meditate on these words through the lens of the teaching of Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:7: "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

MARCH: LENT

The forty days of Lent begin on March 2 and continue until Easter Sunday on April 17.

During this year's Lenten journey we will explore the spiritual question: "Who are we and how are we called?"

THE HOLIDAY POP-UP SHOP

The Holiday Pop-Up Shop returned this past fall with sales on the church front lawn in September and October, and beginning the first week in November in the large nursery school room in the education building. The shop committee is grateful to Jodi Hanlon, Play 'n Learn Nursery School director for providing the use of the nursery school space that was available because of the temporary closure of the school.

The shop's success was possible only because of the generous donations from the congregation and the Croton community and the help of so many members and friends of Asbury. For being a part of the Pop-Up team thank you to: Becky Asedillo, Cathy Adlesic, Kanna Bovone, Marc Caterino, Inga Colbran, Doris Daubney, Don Daubney, Keith Dean, Sheila Furjanic, Heather Gillis, Sammy Goe, Stevie Goe, Ricki Goe, Jodi Hanlon, John Kolman-Mandle, Gloria Laemmel, Janet Meyer, Melanie Mueller, Tina Pershing, Kathleen Phelan, Sarah Phelan, Cynthia Plater, Linda Raccosta, Jud Ramaker, Ann Reibel, Lindsey Sanford, Sheryl Sanford, Russell Schulze, Jill Sitkin, Bob Whipple, Barbara Whipple, and Debbie Tomesello who made 80 therapeutic hot/cold rice pacs to sell at the shop.

THE TREASURE CHEST

The Treasure Chest had successful sales during its shortened year of 2021. The shop opened in April observing the Covid guidelines of social distancing by limiting the number of people in the shop at one time to four and requiring masks. Masks, gloves and hand sanitizer were offered to customers needing them. When weather permitted some merchandize was moved to the adjacent church front lawn.

Sue Mathys, shop manager, thanks everyone for their donations and help in manning the shop. The shop was closed in January 2022 and will also be closed in February. Plans are being made to reopen the shop Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5, 2022.

THE HISTORY CORNER

This is an old number game found in a late 1800's children's magazine that still astonishes those who try it.

To Find a Number Thought of:

Let a person think of a number, say.....6

Let him multiply by 3.....18

Have him add 1.....19

Let him multiply that by 3.....57

Have him add to this the first number thought of.....63

Let him inform you what the number produced is; it will always end in 3. Strike off the 3 and inform him that he thought of the number 6.

THE NEGRO SPEAKS OF RIVER

—Langston Hughes

African American poet 1902-1967

I've known rivers:

I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow of human blood in human veins

My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

I bathed in the Euphrates when dawns were young.

I built my hut near the Congo and it lulled me to sleep.

I looked upon the Nile and raised the pyramids above it.

I heard the singing of the Mississippi when Abe Lincoln went down to New Orleans, and I've seen its muddy bosom turn all golden in the sunset.

I've known rivers:

Ancient, dusky rivers.

My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

SALLY READ BOOK CLUB

For the Saturday, February 13 meeting Asbury's Sally Read Book Club is reading *The Indigo Girl* by Natasha Boyd. This is a true story about Elisa Lucas Pinckney, a woman living in South Carolina in the 1700's who helped to establish in America the commercial agriculture of indigo used to make blue dye.

Books have been reserved at the Croton Free Library for the club. The club meets at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom. For information, please call Gloria Laemmel at 914-271-8712 or Cynthia Plater at 914-271-3178.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am - UMM Meeting
6 10:30 Worship via Zoom or phone	7	8	9	10	11	12 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am - UMM Meeting 9:30am Sally Read Book Club via Zoom
13 10:30 Worship via Zoom or phone Jan Peek – Serve Dinner	14	15	16	17	18 5:00pm UMW Conference Call via Zoom	19 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am – UMM Meeting
20 10:30 Worship via Zoom or phone	21	22	23	24	25	26 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am – UMM Meeting
27 10:30 Worship via Zoom or phone	28			FEBRUARY 2022 ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH		