

CIRCUIT RIDER

The Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church

Tel: 914-271-3150

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

Jean Evans, Editor



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

MAY 2022

HYBRID WORSHIP BEGINS MAY 8

Thanks to our Production Team!

On Sunday, May 8, we begin Hybrid Worship. This means you can worship via Zoom or phone or you can join us in-person in the sanctuary (vaccinated and masked). We are deeply grateful to the wonderful work that is getting us ready for this huge step in our worship life. Dorene Picker is leading our Production Team. Please contact her if you would like to join the team.

Jud Ramacher, Mike Grayeb, Larrie Sutliff, Marc Caterino, Steve Goe, Kathleen Phelan and others have put in many hours to build the production booth, set up the cameras and computer equipment, design our system and train our volunteers. Bob and Claire Collins have spent hours in rehearsal. Our production team members including those mentioned above as well as Stevie and Sammy Goe, Alex and Charlie Forth, Helen Picker and Cathy Adlesic have all been receiving training and preparing to produce our hybrid Sunday worship service.

We plan to have teams of two serving once a month. They will be monitoring the camera shots, communicating with the Zoom participants, and linking the Zoom participants with the live congregation via a large monitor at the front of the sanctuary. We are also grateful to all those who have donated generously hundreds and sometimes thousands of dollars to purchase the high tech equipment for our new system.

HYBRID WORSHIP AND MASKING

As we begin Hybrid worship I want to remind us that if you choose to worship in the sanctuary we ask that you be vaccinated and boosted. We will also require everyone to wear masks throughout worship.

We are aware that many venues do not require masking at this time. However, from the beginning, our policy has been to do all we can to protect the health and well-being of our congregation and the community. COVID continues to spread rapidly in New York and Westchester County. New York has the highest number of daily cases by far—7847 as of this past Wednesday. Daily cases in Westchester County have more than tripled in the last few weeks to 385. We have had several cases of COVID at Asbury over the last few weeks. While it is not as lethal as it was a couple years ago, it still packs quite a punch, keeping people in bed for days with as yet unknown long-

term effects. It is particularly dangerous for members of our congregation who are immuno-compromised.

The mental health elements of the pandemic are real. We all want this to be over. In the meantime, people can choose their acceptable risk levels but at Asbury we are committed to doing what we can to protect our health. We hope that in the next few weeks the number of daily cases will drop significantly. Until that time, we are required to wear masks if we choose to worship in the sanctuary.

Thank you.

THE TREASURE CHEST

OPEN

Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7

10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, June 3 and Saturday, June 4

10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday at Summerfest, June 5

12:00 noon to 4:30 p.m.

SALLY READ BOOK CLUB

Join Us

May 14, 2022

9:30 a.m. on Zoom

May's selection: *Lincoln on The Verge* by Ted Widmer

The story of Lincoln's 13-day railroad journey from Springfield, Illinois
to his first inauguration

For Zoom information contact Cynthia Plater at 914-271-3178 or Gloria Laemmel at
914-271-8712

A THOUGHT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

You must love the crust of the earth on which you dwell more than the sweet crust of any bread
or cake.

—Henry Thoreau

ASBURY UMW NOW ASBURY UWF

United Methodist Women is now called United Women in Faith. The mission is the same: to turn faith, hope and love into action seeking to improve the lives of women, children and youth worldwide.

The next meeting of Asbury UWF will be May 21 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom. The meeting agenda will include discussion of the plans for the Summerfest Pop-Up Shop, plus the beginning of the study of The Lord's Prayer based on Adam Hamilton's book *The Lord's Prayer, The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught*.

All the women of Asbury are welcome to attend. You may call Cynthia Plater at 914-271-3178 for Zoom information.

ASBURY AT SUMMERFEST

Sunday, June 5 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

Strawberry Shortcake

Asbury's Strawberry Cafe will return to Summerfest. Help will be needed on Saturday to prepare the strawberries and equipment to be used on Sunday and to sell the shortcake on Sunday. Please call Gloria at 914-271-8712 if you can help with this always popular Asbury fundraiser.

Garden Pop-up Shop

Have some extra perennials from your garden or cuttings from indoor plants you would like to pass along? Asbury United Methodist Women would be happy to have them passed on to the Garden Pop-Up Shop at Summerfest. If you have plants, used or unused garden equipment you cannot use, or small garden furniture in good useable condition you don't need please contact Barbara Whipple at 914-271-5095 or Gloria Laemmel at 914-271-8712 to arrange to receive your donation.

PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven, we realize that the human being is very complicated. We really do not know ourselves. But You know us and You tell us in the great words of the Sermon on the Mount that we can be full of light, health, happiness, if we will let ourselves be healed of dark, unhappy, unhealthy attitudes toward Thee and our fellow men. Grant that we may experience even now a cleansing in our minds, that we may walk amid the wonders of Thy creation with joybells ringing in our hearts. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Rev. Norman Vincent Peale

THE HISTORY CORNER

The “merry month of May” is a saying coming from the old May 1 celebration of the beginning of summer with singing and dancing around a May pole and crowning the Queen of May. A custom, often named May Day, is celebrated in the British Isles and America but in recent years largely forgotten, though some can remember dancing around the May pole in school and making May baskets.

May baskets were small baskets filled with sweets or flowers and usually left anonymously on a neighbor’s doorstep or hung on the front door doorknob. School children made them by making a paper cone with a paper and ribbon handle and then filling them with flowers their teacher provided or with paper flowers they had made. It was a May Day gift they could leave on their front doorknob or give to a neighbor.

May ends with Memorial Day and in 1945 it was observed with relief and thanksgiving for the end of World War II in Europe. On May 7, 1945 Germany surrendered unconditionally at Rheims, France and the next day, May 8, VE Day was celebrated.

NEWS FROM OSSINING FOR REFUGEES – April 26, 2022

Supporting temporary stays in the U.S. for Ukrainian Refugees

Did you know... the Biden administration has established *Uniting for Ukraine* which allows Americans to sponsor Ukrainians under a system known as humanitarian parole. Those willing and able to provide financial support for the Ukrainians for up to 18 months must be vetted before they can be accepted.

Ossining for Refugees has a small group exploring the program on behalf of all of us and we have taken initial steps to make this a reality. We have submitted preliminary paperwork and will be getting names of Ukrainians needing to be sponsored. Applications must be made by individuals but individuals can receive support from houses of worship or other groups.

If you or your house of worship wish to be part of this program kindly notify us at **info@ossiningforrefugees.org**.

Ossining For Refugees, an organization started in October 2021 to help settle Afghan families, is now a network of approximately fifty volunteers. They have been instrumental in settling two households that involved finding, funding, and furnishing housing; coordinating and providing ESL training; supporting the families as they get used to living in America. Asbury has donated children's clothing from the Treasure Chest. The first household consists of a 25 year old college-educated woman who, when she arrived, spoke no English. She has been a quick learner and now has her own apartment in Ossining, and has two part-time jobs with hopes of a full-time position shortly. The second family consists of two parents and two delightful little girls. They have resettled to a summer camp in the Cold Spring area where the father is employed in maintenance and the family has housing. Several members of the Cold Spring UMC have been involved in the successful settlement of the family in Cold Spring.

As you can see from the note below, additional volunteer opportunities are expected in the near future. If you would like to learn more, contact Cynthia Plater at 914-271-3178. Also check out the website for more information and to donate funds.



Ossining for Refugees

At the Heart of What We Do

Two weeks ago, O4R offered safe emergency housing for a world-weary Ukrainian family. Happily, that family has found a warm outpouring of support in NJ. But we were ready.

In the last 24 hours, we have been asked to resettle an Afghan family of five, beginning May 1. Such short notice is not unusual and so we immediately went to work looking for affordable housing, alerting the schools, lining up volunteers, and exploring jobs for the dad. We do all this not knowing if the family will choose to move here, where they have no family or other connections.

This is what O4R was created to do, and we embrace the work and the uncertainty. It reflects that we as a community are offering this family a choice, standing with them while they make the important decisions in their lives. Your generosity and flexibility support us in this mission, and we thank you.

OssiningForRefugees.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:30 Worship via Zoom or phone	2	3	4	5 Mindfulness & Meditation led by Cathy Adlesic on ZOOM 7:00pm	6 Treasure Chest 10:00am – 4:30pm	7 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am - UMM Meeting Treasure Chest 10:00am – 4:30pm
8 MOTHERS DAY 10:30am Hybrid Worship in person in Sanctuary (for those vaccinated & masked) or via Zoom or phone Jan Peek – Serve Dinner 7:00pm Croton Chorale / music rm	9	10	11	12 Mindfulness & Meditation led by Cathy Adlesic on ZOOM 7:00pm	13	14 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am - UMM Meeting 9:30am Sally Read Book Club via Zoom
15 10:30am Hybrid Worship in person in Sanctuary (for those vaccinated & masked) or via Zoom or phone 2:00pm Bob Reibel Memorial Reception in Social Hall 7:00pm Croton Chorale / music rm	16 Salvation Army Lunch	17	18	19 Mindfulness & Meditation led by Cathy Adlesic on ZOOM 7:00pm	20	21 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am – UMM Meeting 9:30am UMW Conference Call via Zoom
22 10:30am Hybrid Worship in person in Sanctuary (for those vaccinated & masked) or via Zoom or phone	23	24 Croton Chorale in Music Room 7:00pm	25	26 Mindfulness & Meditation led by Cathy Adlesic on ZOOM 7:00pm Croton Chorale in Music Room 7:00pm	27	28 9:00am - UMM Breakfast 9:30am – UMM Meeting Croton Chorale Concert In Sanctuary 8:00pm
29 10:30am Hybrid Worship in person in Sanctuary (for those vaccinated & masked) or via Zoom or phone 7:00pm Croton Chorale / music rm	30 MEMORIAL DAY	31	MAY 2022 ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH			