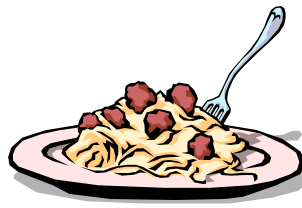


2011

# The Circuit Rider



## SPAGHETTI DINNER



**HOSTED BY:**

**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
YOUTH GROUP  
850 DODGE ROAD GETZVILLE**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 27th, 2011**

*12 NOON – 1:30PM*

**Price includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, and beverage!!**

**\$7 for adults and children over age 10**

**\$5 for children ages 6-10; Free for children age 5 and under**

**\$20 for a family of 4**

**Dessert available for \$1 extra**

**Silent auction during event**

**Bid on lots of fabulous prizes!**

**All Proceeds will help support the Youth in Missions!!**

**\*\*TO ORDER TICKETS CALL 688-8677\*\***

[asburyamherst@Juno.com](mailto:asburyamherst@Juno.com)

### **United Methodist Youth Fellowship=UMYF: News**

The Youth finished their “Thinking Theologically about Money study. It was an eye opening topic for our Youth.

Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction will be held on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm-1:30pm. Details are listed above. Tickets will be on sale on Sundays in March. We have been busy getting donations for the Silent Auction but can **ALWAYS** use more. See Laurie Syms, Merrill Arthur or one of the youth if you have an idea for a donation! **THANK YOU** church for your never ending support.

As always, our bottle/can box is in the kitchen for your convenience! We will take all those deposits!



## Pastor's Corner

*If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him.*

**March is called “the windy month.”** With this year being an especially cold, long and snowy winter throughout our country, we would like to see “old man winter” blow right away wouldn't we? We look forward with anticipation for the Season of Spring with the crocus and daffodils shooting up through the soil. As I look over my gardens and all I see are piles of snow, I sometimes wonder if it is possible for Spring to come. Yet, I know that under that snow is rich soil, and in that rich soil are the bulbs that I planted. The bulbs that have endured the harsh Winter will sprout forth into the new life when the earth around them warms up and the forces of nature beckon loving change.

**On March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Season of Lent will begin with Ash Wednesday.** We will mark this change of Season at Asbury with an Ash Wednesday Worship Service at 7:00pm. The 40 days of Lent help connect us deeper in relationship with God as we exam ourselves and are invited to grow and change. Like the bulb that sits alone under the soil, it cannot grow without the warm sunshine and nurturing rains. We too are nothing without God and on Ash Wednesday, we recall, “We are made from dust and from dust we shall return.” The bulb under the rich earth is a good representation of the season of Lent and our own lives.

**God uses the sun and the season of the year and even you and I** to help bulbs grow in his kingdom. God uses His Son, the liturgical seasons of life such as Lent and the people around us to grow in love in His kingdom as well. It is God who does the saving of all his creation. However, we too participate in this salvation. We have to choose to let go of being “bulbs” and allow change to happen so we can truly love as we have been created. The daffodil bulb was created to be a flower. Humans, who are created in God's image, were created to love, because that is what God is: love. The human journey is a training exercise and the goal is to learn how to love. When we have learned those lessons, we will be ready for eternity. And the only way we can be ready is for us to let go and let God shape us through the greatest example of His love which is Jesus Christ.

**Asbury is here to help shape you through the layers of life, bringing us all closer in love.** We exist to help Spread God's Love, through everything we do. There are many opportunities and events happening, some with others, some guiding you quietly within yourself to grow in God's love. Yes, March is a windy month. Perhaps, the winds of change are working within your own heart. Asbury's theme for this year is: “Spread God's Love.” May we enrich each other so together we can love God's world...bursting forth like bouquets of flowers every where.

With God's Love,

*Rev. Jackie Ann Rose Kraft, Pastor*





## NEW FINANCE POLICY DRAFTED



The Finance team is happy to announce we have adopted a new Finance policy for managing our budget, processing requests for payments or to request funding. The policy is a collaborative effect of the entire committee.

The policy was approved by the Church Council and is effective March 1, 2011. A copy of the policy is available in the church office. Included in the policy is the use of two forms that will help our church better manage our expenses by improving our record keeping and giving more direct responsibility to the chairpersons to manage their budgeted funds.

One form is to Request Payment for monies spent and the other is to Request Funding.

1. Please begin using the new Request Forms March 1. (Forms are in a white binder on the office bookcase shelf)

2. Place the Filled Out Request Forms in the Treasure's mail slot.

The intent is not to inhibit anyone from seeing a need in the church and acting in good faith to satisfy that need. The purpose is to establish more formal controls related to the expenditures incurred by our church.

If anyone has any questions, please see myself or anyone on the Finance Committee:  
Kaye Lynn Gresham, Shelley Lewke, Vergie Oettinger, Sue Fogle or Pastor Jackie.

Finance Chair-Stan Polaske



**March 19, 9:00 am to Noon**

Our winter Scrapbooking sessions include instruction provided by *Close to My Heart* consultant Susan Fogle, followed by open time to work on individual or group projects.

All are welcome whether you are a beginner or a veteran paper crafter! RSVP to the Church office two weeks prior so materials can be ordered. Suggested donation is \$5.00.

## The Knitting Circle

A new knitting (or crocheting) group has been formed. Come and join !

We will be meeting **Wednesday mornings at church from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**. We are making Prayer shawls, or you can work on your own project. If you are interested, please join us, or let me know if there is a time more convenient for you, and we will do our best to meet your needs.

*Donations of yarn always welcomed.*

**Barbara Hadsell**

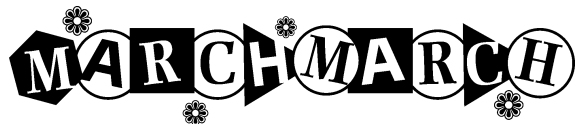


Dear Friends,

A Planning Meeting to discuss practice times will take place following Worship on **Sunday, March 6th** for those who are interested in playing the chimes. We will rehearse five times before Easter.

Joyfully, Nancy Morris-Music Director

# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



- 2 Christine Spong
- 7 Christopher Gresham
- 8 Diane Harris
- 11 Karen Long
- 11 Madeline McQuiston
- 15 Viv Parker
- 15 Karen Polaske
- 16 Cheryl Pauly
- 19 \*Gary & Christine Spong (1982)
- 20 \*Stan & Karen Polaske
- 23 John Havrilla
- 23 Shawn Michel
- 24 Bob Moore
- 25 Debbie Norris
- 26 \*Debbie & Ray Norris (1990)
- 27 Kelsey Hart
- 30 Ryan Wittlinger

## Please make the following update (s) to your directory.

Richard & Karen Long  
 28 Hubbardston Place  
 Amherst, NY 14228  
 691-7215



Children: Adam (AJ) Speier, Adrienne Long, Allison Long

Diana Graziano  
 67 Jeffrey  
 Amherst, NY 14228  
 691-3901

Children: Steven Feifel , Matthew Feifel, Shannon Graziano

### Mom's Morning Out Calling all child care givers:

Do you, or someone you know, need a break for a few hours to get things done?

Spread the word, Asbury can help .....



**Monday mornings 9:30-noon**

*They currently have three children registered.*

Colleen & Doris welcome children ages 2 to 4.

Donation of \$5.00 gratefully accepted to help defray the cost.

**Please pre-register your child/children, by contacting the church office at 688-8677.**

*"Jesus Loves the Little Children"*

### Confirmation Class



### Confirmation Classes-For Youth

March meetings following Worship are:

March 6th

March 20th

### Worship Welcoming Team for March and April

Thank you for the following greeters who are part of the welcoming Team.

#### March

- Stan Polaske
- Karen Polaske
- Bob Moore
- Nancy Moore



#### April

- Merrill Arthur
- Betsy Arthur
- Chris Holoman
- Connie Holoman



**March 5th @ 9:00 am**

**All Hungry Men**

**Welcome!**

This months hosts are: Dick Casseri and Stan Polaske



Cash For Causes, The Simple Solution to Community Fundraising, is the Tops Gift Card program that Asbury UMC has been involved with for several years now. This is a great opportunity to raise money for our Building Fund.

Asbury UMC has \$10, \$20, \$50, & \$100 gift cards available for purchase. See Merrill Arthur after service, he has cards with him (or contact him @ 688-9425). Cash for Causes helps the church to earn FREE money from Tops, just by doing your grocery shopping. For every \$100 in Gift Cards you buy, Asbury UMC earns \$5.00!! Forget to buy a gift for someone??? Are they hard to buy for???

Tops cards can be used for anything in the store and at the gas pump too. What a great gift for someone, and you will be giving a gift to the church too. Also see the Food Pantry article next to this article. They are in need of Tops cards.

*Even though the back of the card show logos for Stop N Shop, Martins & Giant, the cards can only be used at Tops stores in NY & PA.*

**Thank you,** for your participation in this ministry.

Stop in the office during the week if you need to purchase a Tops card.



### March 6th Food Pantry Sunday

Collections are for the New Beginnings Food Pantry located in the Amherst Baptist Church on Willow Ridge Drive. **In March, personal care products, such as shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, facial tissue, paper towels, hand wipes etc. and food items of spaghetti and also sauce, tea bags, regular & decaf. coffee** Also *Tops gift cards of \$10.00 denominations are always in need. They are used for emergencies, and by the director to buy items that are needed at the Pantry. They can be purchased by Merrill Arthur and placed in the designated Food Pantry Tops gift card container located at the back/left side of the Sanctuary. (The purchase of the Tops cards will also help Asbury. The church will receive 5% of the sales and it will help the food pantry too.)*

Please place your food donations in the basket located in the Church Fellowship Hall on or before Food Pantry Sunday.

If you have questions, please speak to Nancy Moore (688-6255). Thank you for your faithful support of this community ministry!

## United Methodist Women=UMW: News

The Niagara Frontier District United Methodist Women's Communion Breakfast will be **Saturday April 16, 2011** at Baker Memorial United Methodist Church, East Aurora. More details will be available in the April newsletter.

**Our next UMW meeting will be Monday March 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM, at the church. All Women Invited!**

Vergie Oettinger  
President, Asbury UMW

### Pendleton Center United Methodist Church Annual Fish Fry:

**6864 Campbell Blvd. at Bear Ridge Rd  
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120**

**March 11, 18, 25 from 4:00-7:00 pm**

**For Take outs, phone 625-8306**

Haddock Dinners

Baked Fish (Reg. or Cajun)

Shrimp or Chicken Tender Dinners

Sampler Platters

Children's (up to age 10) Dinners

Home Made Pie per slice

Dinners include French fries or potato salad, applesauce or coleslaw, rolls & beverage.



## Preparing for Growth!

### Lenten Devotional Resources and Studies

During Lent help prepare yourself so you can be seeds to “Spread God’s Love” fully!

#### DEVOTIONAL BOOK:

He is Risen: Reflections on Easter and the Forty Day of Lent by Richard Abanes available for every household – get your **free** copy in our Fellowship Hall, starting March 6th.

#### STUDY WITH OTHERS:

The Last Week: What the Gospels Really teach About Jesus’s Final Days in Jerusalem by Marcus J. Borg & John Dominic Crossan

#### 9:15am Sunday – Adult Class Room

Taught by Chris Holoman, The Last Week depicts Jesus giving up his life to protest power without justice and to condemn the rich who lack concern for the poor. Jesus life is explored historically and with that informed, challenged and inspired understanding, we are invited to engage and follow Jesus as well.

24 Hours that Changed the World by Adam Hamilton

#### 10:00am – Wednesday – Adult Class Room

**1:30pm – Thursday – Peppertree Towers Community Room; 285 Peppertree Dr., Amherst**

**1:30pm – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday’s – Asbury Pointe; 50 Stahl Rd., Getzville**

Taught by Nancy Moore, 24 Hours takes us step by step through the last days of Jesus’s life. Using a dvd along with our Bible, we will “travel” to the actual locations of the Holy Land and experience Jesus’ final days of his life.

“For Your Family” A Lenten Mission/2011

**7:00-8:00 pm-Thursdays-March 10, 17, 24, 31- Christ the King Church, 30 Lamarck Dr., Snyder**

Taught by our consultant, Dr. Robert Perelli, four lectures based on family systems theory, that will help you strengthen and improve your relationships with family, friends and colleagues. The cost is: \$20. Registration forms can be found in the fellowship hall on the counter, or arrive by 6:45 pm at the Christ the King Church on March 10<sup>th</sup>.



### An Invitation to ALL:

### The Wiz-Pre-Show Horsd’oeuvre Party

Williamsville North High School is presenting “The Wiz” on March 10th-13th beginning at 7:00 pm.

**On Saturday March 12th at 4:00 pm** , Karen Kirwan will host a pre-show horsd’oeuvre party at 54 Swanson Terrace. For anyone interested in attending as a group-call Karen at: 689-9068.

## Outreach Committee News for March 2011

- **Saturday March 5 – Game Night. 5 – 8 p.m.** Bring a neighbor or friend and your favorite game!! The church will be providing pizza and beverages. If you wish to bring a snack to share that would be great. There is a Sign-Up sheet in Fellowship Hall.
- **Sunday April 3 – “Be The Church Sunday”.** This is a wonderful way to go out and share God’s love! We will be meeting at the church at **9:45 a.m.** and carpooling to the Erie County Home. We will be putting on a brief Worship service for some of the residents. We will give them a stuffed animal and a gift box with Scripture and \$1 for them to use to buy snacks at the snack bar. (Staff say the residents love to see new faces and really enjoy any kind of special program). **This will be instead of Asbury’s normal 10:30 am Sunday Worship service.** Any questions please feel free to call Betsy Arthur (688-9425). Our Worship will take place at the Eric County Home.
- **Saturday April 23 – Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 am.** We want to show the neighborhood our new church! We are planning a lot of fun activities for everyone – egg hunt, pony rides, petting zoo, face painting, crafts and of course the Easter Bunny!! We hope to have as many as 100 children participate. We need many hands so please let us know how you would like to help. We are currently collecting donations of wrapped candy for the egg hunt. Thank you.

Let’s continue to look for new ways to Spread God’s Love!

Betsy Arthur

Outreach Committee



## Easter Plant Sale 2011 orders due by: April 3rd

6 1/2 “ pot	<b>Easter Lily</b> (1 plant per pot) -	<b>\$7.50</b>
6 1/2” pot	<b>Mums</b> – daisy white ___ yellow ___ lavender ___	<b>\$7.25</b>
7 1/2 “ pot	<b>Hydrangeas</b> –pink ___ blue ___	<b>\$16.00</b>
7 1/2 “ pot	<b>Azaleas</b> –pink ___ red ___ white ___	<b>\$15.00</b>
4 1/2 “ pot	<b>Hyacinths</b> (1 plant per pot)– pink ___ blue ___ white ___	<b>4.25</b>
6 1/2 “pot	<b>Hyacinths</b> (3 plants per pot)–pink ___ blue ___ white ___	<b>\$7.00</b>
4 1/2 “ pot	<b>Mini Daffodils</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>

*Once again we will be ordering Easter flowers from Beutel Greenhouses. If you have ordered in the past you know how beautiful they are. The smell is especially up-lifting. If you wish to place an order simply ask an usher to get an envelope form for you (located at the back of the sanctuary) fill the form portion out and put payment inside then place envelope in the offering plate. Orders are due April 3rd.*



# Asbury United Methodist Church

Rev. Jackie Ann Rose Kraft,  
Pastor

Bonnie Boudreault,  
Secretary & Newsletter Editor

Nancy Morris, Music Director  
Puneet Jacob, Music Asst.

Mr. Charles Syms  
Lay Leader

Sunday School @ 9:15 am  
Worship at 10:30 am

Church Telephone: 688-8677  
E-mail: [asburyamherst@juno.com](mailto:asburyamherst@juno.com)  
[www.asburyamherstumc.org](http://www.asburyamherstumc.org)

### Spring Office days/hours are:

Tues. & Thurs.

12:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Wed. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Monday & Friday closed

Asbury United Methodist Church

PO Box 743

850 Dodge Road

Getzville, NY 14068



### Save these dates for our first Holy Week in our New Church.

April 17th Palm/Passion Sunday 10:30 am Worship

April 21st Holy Thursday Service 7:30 pm

April 22nd Good Friday Service 7:30 pm

April 23rd Community Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 am

April 24th Celebrating Easter! 10:30 am Worship



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Service:  
March 9th at 7:00 pm

### Lectionary Readings

These readings are provided for you to use in your daily devotions. May God speak to you through them.

- March 6th Exodus 24: 12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1: 16-21; Matthew 17: 1-9
- March 13th Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5: 12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11
- March 20th Genesis 12: 1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17; John 3: 1-17
- March 27th Exodus 17: 1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5: 1-11; John 4: 5-42

