

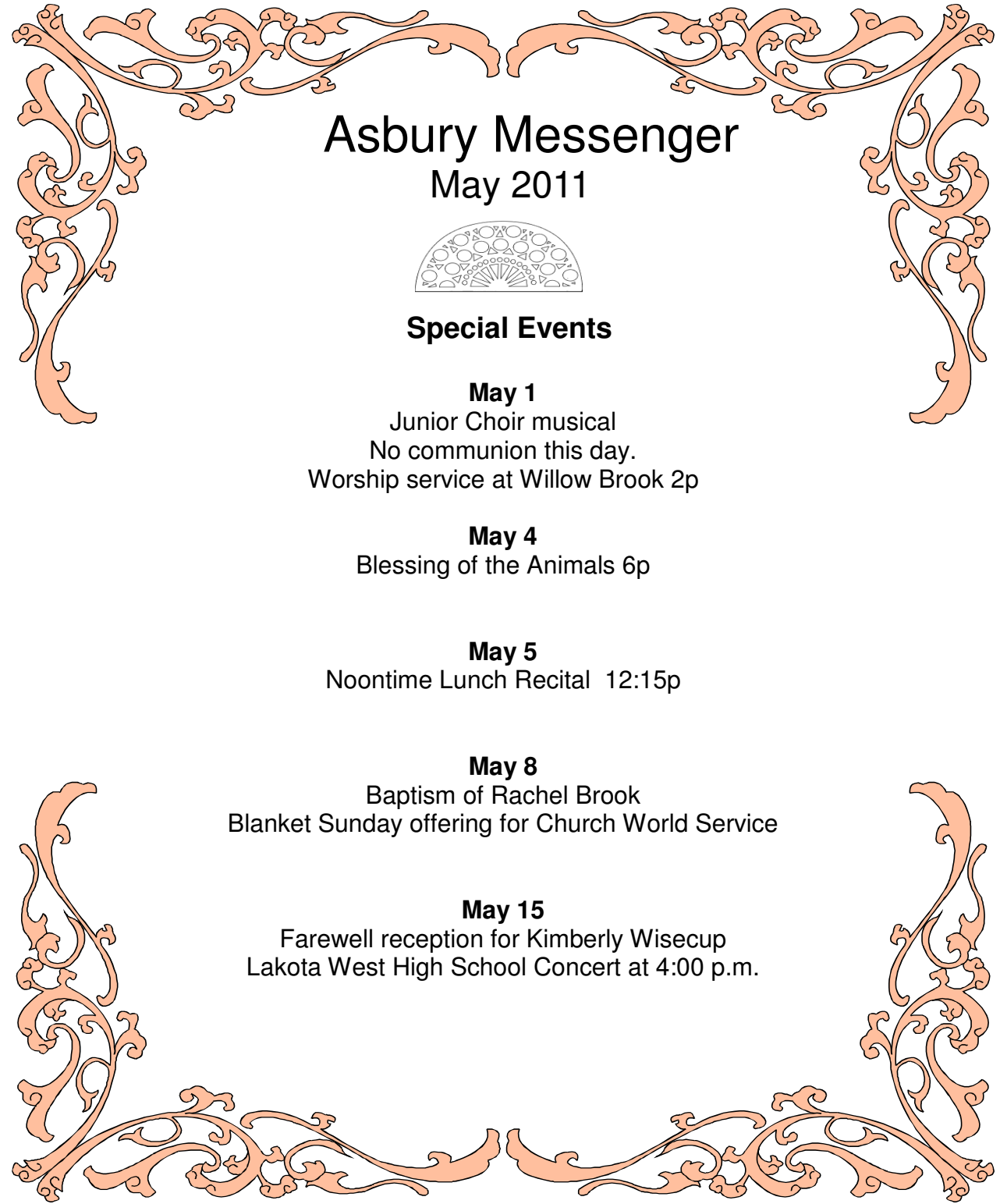
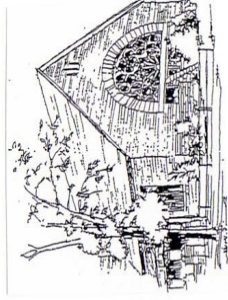
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
55 West Lincoln Avenue
Delaware, Ohio 43015

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Pastor: Reverend Philip Wilden
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tues—Fri.
Phone: (740) 363-3611/Fax: (740) 368-8405
Website: www.asburyohio.org
E-mail : church@asburyohio.org

May 2011 Church Newsletter



Asbury Messenger

May 2011



Special Events

May 1

Junior Choir musical
No communion this day.
Worship service at Willow Brook 2p

May 4

Blessing of the Animals 6p

May 5

Noontime Lunch Recital 12:15p

May 8

Baptism of Rachel Brook
Blanket Sunday offering for Church World Service

May 15

Farewell reception for Kimberly Wisecup
Lakota West High School Concert at 4:00 p.m.

Worthy of Note
by Pastor Phil



The teachers say the kids' attention spans get shorter in the spring. Perhaps mine is, too. Here are several brief things worthy of note.

Another Holy Week has come and gone. This year on Maundy Thursday we observed a Passover Seder for Christians, which included symbolic foods representing our Hebrew heritage, as well as a full-course meal. A big thanks to those who prepared the food: John and Brenda Lindeboom, Susan Zimmerman, Nancy Levanduski, Nancy Reed, and Tammy Wilden. Special thanks to our seminary intern, Kim Wisecup, for organizing the event. About 55 children and adults participated.

A tradition at Asbury for many years has been the Easter Vigil on the Saturday before Easter. The Junior Choir and Adult Choir provided moving anthems, and as we prepared to "renew our baptism," the Reverend Roy Reed reminded us of the importance of anointing in the Bible. As I said to Roy afterward, "I always learn something when you preach."

This was Sally Casto's 35th Holy Week as our organist. Sally knows that it's the small details that can either make or break an experience, so she gives attention to things that many of us would overlook, such as when do you walk in and where do you stand. Thanks, Sally, for making us all look good.

A new tradition (if that makes sense) was Forty Days of Prayer. Throughout Lent we prayed for five people or households, and during Holy Week we contacted them by mail, phone, or personal visit in order to let them know we were praying for them. No one knew in advance which names they would have. Having participated in this in a previous church, I can say that the experience helps us form ties with one another that would not have been formed otherwise. A few people have told me they hope we will do it again. I hope so, too.

Saying goodbye is hard to do, and it will be especially hard to say goodbye to our seminary intern, Kim Wisecup, who is completing her field education unit with us on May 15. Throughout her nine months at Asbury, Kim has been involved in many aspects of ministry. She has taught the teen Sunday school class, visited several of our home-bound members, and preached and led worship. She organized our Maundy Thursday meal, our Dinner for Six groups, and a monthly service for residents of Willow Brook on route 23, led by various persons in our congregation. We will certainly miss Kim's quiet and compassionate presence, as well as her servant-leadership. On May 15 we will celebrate her ministry with us with a reception after worship.

Asbury's Limited Family & Friends



Sarah Moore Home
26 N. Union St. Delaware, Oh. 43015
Bob & Shirley May
Bob Fair
Bert Teeter
Rose Weiser

Willow Brook Christian Village
100 Willow Brook Way S.

Charlotte Gallant (#118)
Kay Schlichting (#116)
Therese Smith
Bernie Baker 61 Willow Brook Way S.
Ally Morrow 151 Willow Brook Way S.

Willow Brook at Delaware Run
Ed Schwab 64 Delaware Crossing East.

Delaware Court
4 New Market Dr.
Arlene McDowell
Pat McLead

At Home
Ellis & Janet Gallant
74 Orchard Heights
Delaware, Ohio. 43015

Out of area
Branson Spring
Mayfair Village
3011 Hayden Rd.
Columbus, Ohio. 43235

Howard Blanchard
160 Cider Mill Rd.
Glastonbury, CT. 06038

Blessing of the Animals

Please join the MAP Youth group on Wednesday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. for the Blessing of the Animals. Everyone is invited to bring your pet, on a leash or in a cage, or a picture of a current or deceased pet to the courtyard area. A short service and blessing will take place, followed by hot dogs in the McCoy room. (weather permitting).



Bibles for 3rd Graders

It is a tradition for all children in the church to be given a Bible as they finish 3rd grade. If you have a child or know someone who is in the 3rd grade, please let Jean Woods know at 362-1241.



E.Y.G. Fundraiser

Saturday, May 7

Delectable Desserts

2:00p - 4:00p

Plan to come out to Willow Brook at Delaware Run, located on St. Route 36, West of town to taste & vote on your favorite dessert. You may also enter a dessert. See Anna Travis for more information. Tickets are \$5.00, \$3.00 for seniors and are available at the door.



East Ohio Summer Camps

Camp Aldersgate - Camp Asbury - Camp Wanake

Brochures are now available on the foyer table at the church. Early bird discounts are available for those who register prior to May 1st. Sibling discounts are also available. Please contact the church office for scholarship information.



Vacation Bible School

Sunday, July 31 - Thursday, August 4

Jenny Edler (Carroll) will be looking for volunteers soon! Please let her know if you are interested in helping in any way. You can phone her at 363-5408



What will Kim do next? Kim is working on a dual-degree program at Methesco, a Master of Divinity and a Master in Counseling Ministries. She's pacing herself to graduate in 2014. She's also looking forward to being with her husband and daughter on Sundays at Amlin United Methodist Church. In the near future, Kim will be traveling to the Congo as part of her cross-cultural experience at the seminary. The United Methodist Women have already asked her to return in order to share about her experiences, so we look forward to seeing her again.

Our Weavings Reading Group will conclude on May 1. This group has met once a month since October in order to discuss our responses to short essays in *Weavings*, a spiritual journal published by the *Upper Room*. The purpose was not to analyze or critique the readings but to relate them to our own lives. I enjoyed the opportunity to hear various members' stories, and I feel like we know one another better.

The church is like a big old house, there's always something to keep up. Besides the weekly cleaning by Van Ayers and his assistant, Doug Keim, there are annual tasks, outdoor work, and ongoing maintenance and repairs. Much of that is done by volunteers. Members of Boy Scout Troop 61 take turns mowing the lawn each week as a service to the church. EYG (Ecumenical Youth Group) recently planted the cool weather crops in the PIN garden and dusted all the pews and the lattice work that lies in front of the organ pipes. And then there are the Trustees, who perform "hands on" work at the church and at the parsonage, as well as opening and closing the church each Sunday. If I tried to list the trustees' projects, I'm sure I would overlook some, but we do need to remember to say thank you.

The United Methodist Book of Worship reads, "Like every human family, our church family is formed and reformed over time: as members are born, as they die, as members are adopted into our family." In that spirit, we want to note the following baptisms and funerals which have occurred since January 1, 2011.

- Baptized on April 3 was Jackson Richard Clark, son of Michael and Darci Clark, and grandson of Dee Ketterling. Officiating was the Reverend Kempton Hewitt.
- Baptized on April 10 was Peyton Leeann Spiegel, daughter of Phillip and Cassie Spiegel and granddaughter of Steve and Beth Dolk. Officiating was the Reverend Jon Powers.
- Services were held for the following members who passed away:

Edward Crumb, February 19	Lewis King, March 8
Susan Mussard, March 5	Betty Carter, April 23

Robert Frost provides us with suitable closing words: *Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today; And give us not to think so far away as the uncertain harvest; Keep us here All simply in the springing of the year.*

Wayne Kauble: An Original

By Bill McCartney

It's easy to imagine Wayne Kauble wearing a green eye shade. After all, for 20 years he's been Asbury's Treasurer, our congregation's chief "pencil pusher" in the financial operation of our church. For 20 years, Wayne has consistently seen the larger picture of our budget and the intimate details of our finances.



Wayne became Treasurer about 1991, concurrent with his transition into retirement. It's ironic to note a challenge he faced to begin this new "job." For 40 years he had worked for the Ohio Department of Transportation, ending that career as Assistant Director of ODOT. Yet when he began to serve as Treasurer, he needed a crash course to update his computer skills in order to handle his new responsibilities. Today, although he downplays his ability, Wayne is a very able user of computers.

Wayne was born and raised in Wyandot County, about 40 miles north of Delaware. He went to Ohio State where he earned a B.S. in a 5 year engineering program. In 1951, with a new degree and a new job, he moved to Delaware. After a few years, he and his wife joined Asbury, and their three daughters were raised there. Although Wayne's 50+ years of membership is not the longest of any of our members, he must be among a very few such "seniors" who are still active in key roles in the life of the church.

Of course, there were other roles Wayne played at Asbury. He's served on the Stewardship Committee, the Trustees, and the Finance Committee (where he served as Chair). He's even had a stint at being an Usher - but he didn't claim he was ever in the Choir.

While living on Section Line Road, after he was widowed, Wayne often plowed neighbors' driveways without telling them. One day Juddean Creasy, a widow, "caught him in the act" of this kindness. When she asked why he was doing that, he said, "I'll tell you if I can take you to dinner." They were married in 1997 and bought the home where they live on West Rte. 37. With her two daughters, one of whom is a Professor at Princeton Seminary, their blended family has 5 daughters and "a bunch" of grandchildren whose pictures line their wall.

Juddean continues as an active member of Grace United Methodist Church on Delaware's East side, but is often seen at Asbury, if nothing else picking up Wayne for his ride home.

Wayne appreciates much about Asbury, noting particularly the line of very able Pastors who have served here, and also its good music. Having been Treasurer for 20 years, he has seen our church weather some challenging times. He credits the many good Finance Committee members who have helped the church to conquer those challenges.

Through it all, Wayne has remained Wayne, a "one of a kind." We're grateful that he's invested those attributes and his skills in Asbury Church and its ministries.

The Junior Choir invites you to come to the seashore...By the Sea of Galilee

On Sunday, May 1, our Junior Choir will be presenting a new musical, *By the Sea*, during our morning worship service. Travel with three seekers (our eighth grade singers: Noel Beyer-Hermsen, Michaela Dean, and Lydia Gray) as they try to catch up to Jesus, the teacher and healer they seek to find. You'll meet many who live near the sea of Galilee, and they will tell or sing to you about their experiences with Jesus. The choir is very excited to be the first group of Asbury singers to present this musical, and they hope you will be present to share this experience with them.

We welcome the return of John Holsinger for our May First Thursday recital

Thursday, May 5, will be the last *First Thursday* recital program until October. John Holsinger, Director of Music at Jerome United Methodist Church, returns to delight us with his exuberant playing. You may remember his program last year in which he collaborated with vocalist Megan Withrow. At Jerome UMC, John directs the Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells, Junior Bells, Praise Band, Festival Choir, Festival Orchestra, and Children's Choir, in addition to playing the organ.



As always, coffee and tea will be served and tables set for those who wish to enjoy lunch during the recital. Come and bring a friend!

Asbury Arts Series welcomes the return of the Lakota West High School Chamber Singers

The Lakota West High School Chamber Singers, under the direction of Anthony Nims, will return to Asbury for a Sunday afternoon concert on May 15 at 4 pm. We have been privileged to hear this choir for several years now, and each time they astound us with their artistry. Included in this year's program will be the *Credo* from Bach's *Mass in B Minor*. Accompanist for this work will be our own Robert Nims. This will be a concert of superb musicianship, and we sincerely hope that you will attend and invite your friends and neighbors to join you.



New Church Directory

We are once again partnering with Olan Mills to create the Asbury Directory. We have scheduled early dates (July) to accommodate families with children leaving for college. The July photo session is open to all Asbury members. The remaining photos will be taken in October. The dates for July photos are the 29th and 30th. The Fall photo sessions will be scheduled during the week of October 2nd.



Please keep in mind that each family will receive a free 8 x 10 family photo and a free directory. More details including specific times and sign-up sheets will be published in the June Messenger. Cherie Kowalski is organizing this effort and would welcome volunteers. Please contact her if you wish to lend a helping hand at 363-7939.

Asbury Financial Summary – 1st Quarter 2011

Bill Daniels, on behalf of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Asbury congregation has an excellent history of giving – a performance for which we should all be quite proud. Recently the 2011 Asbury Financial Summary has been presented in the weekly worship service bulletin insert. Basically this shows a short fall of income versus expenses of \$14,854 for the period January 1 through March 31, 2011. This is most certainly an area of concern. In reviewing 2011 income data provided by Financial Secretary Mary Jean Roach, the primary factor appears to be a shortfall in pledged income compared to the same period in 2010. While 2011 pledges toward operating income were only 2.75% less than in 2010, the payment against pledges year to date is off by more than 20%. While this gap has diminished in April, it emphasizes the importance of keeping pledge payments as current as possible.



Financial Summary January 1 thru March 31, 2011

Income

Pledge Payments	60,175.00
Building Payments	16,636.70
Loose Plate	971.00
Preschool Rent	1,890.00
Total Revenue	\$79,672.70

Expenses

Staff Compensation	37,788.50
Facility Expenses	17,975.07 (utilities, repairs, elevator, fire, security, snow removal),
Apportionments	10,064.76
Mortgage Payments	24,738.54 (\$8,246.18 per month)
Member Loan	3,960.00 (to repay members for loans from 2005)
Total Expenses	\$94,526.87

Deficit - \$14,854.17 Mortgage balance \$1,377,991.05 (building addition, elevator, organ)

An important effort in any budget crunch is to re-examine where the money is going, and what items could possibly be reduced or eliminated. As can be seen under the Expenses area in the table we have essentially a totally fixed budget with very few areas of variable expenses. Our office staff has done an outstanding job in controlling expenses. The Trustees have recently negotiated a refinancing of our mortgage debt to realize a 14% reduction in our monthly payments. It is important to recognize that the mortgage covers our building addition, an unfunded portion of the organ cost, and the elevator – all of which were incorporated in our 2003 capital improvements project. In April we paid off the two remaining interest paying member loans. We actually had 7 members who provided loans to assist with the original financing package. (One loan was provided as interest free at the request of the lender and is yet to be paid.)

So, the question becomes, what can we do to solidify our financial position? First and foremost, I would suggest that everyone who has made pledges for the current year to try to keep the payment against pledges current. Secondly, the church staff, finance and stewardship committees as well as the Administrative Council are continuing to identify additional areas for possible savings as well as additional sources of income. We certainly seek your input. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member of the Finance and Stewardship committee.

Be Not Afraid

By David Hejmanowski, Lay Leader



“Be not afraid of their faces, for I am with thee to deliver thee said the Lord.”

Jeremiah 1:8

Fear is, perhaps, the oldest and most basic of all human emotions. It is the survival instinct, the thing that keeps us alive in times of greatest danger. In those situations fear is necessary. In those situations, fear is an ally.

Unfortunately, fear does not confine itself to those situations. We see quite a bit more of fear than we need to. Throughout history, fear has been put to use by those seeking power or control. It has been used to drive the worst motivations in people politically, socially and economically. It has been used to motivate people to make bad choices and to drive bad policy. It was George Lucas’ character Yoda who put it succinctly, “Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering.”

We have much to fear in our lives. The economy is bad. Crime is present. Wars are raging. We fear for our safety. We fear for our children. We fear for the status of our jobs and the security of our homes. We fear for the health of loved ones. We fear for our nation.












For many, solace is found in religion. No matter what the state of things in this life, the promise of the salvation that we have just been promised from Jesus’ sacrifice at Easter is reason enough to have hope and find peace. Something better awaits.

That’s deeper theologically than I intend to go here, and is territory that I really ought to leave to Pastor Phil! Instead, my purpose for titling this “Be Not Afraid” is much simpler and much more basic. It is driven by my experiences in more than 15 years of attendance at Asbury. In a variety of ways, the extended family of the church provides reassurance.

Over my years at Asbury I have watched as people banded together during times of trouble. They’ve banded together to provide meals for the sick or injured. They’ve banded together to provide transportation and comfort for those who are shut-in. They’ve banded together to provide comfort to the grieving. They’ve banded together to provide companionship and support to the lonely. They’ve banded together to provide the power of prayer.

In fact, on that last note, they’ve done it even without others knowing. In the recent 40 days of Lenten Prayer, Asbury members were praying for others in the congregation who did not necessarily have any known need.

Being a member of a church community can be rewarding and enriching both spiritually and socially. Being a member of the Asbury community can be much, much more.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Willow Brook Service 2p <i>Weavings</i> 7p   E.Y.G. 7p	2 Boy Scouts 7p 	3 Election Day  Care Network 10a	4 UMW Board Mtg. 10a Day Out Club 10a JR. Choir Pty 4:30p Bell Choir 5:45 p Blessing of the Pets 6p Adult Choir 7p Trustees 8p	5 Noontime Recital 12:15p  Mission & Outreach 7p	6 Prayer Group 8a 	7
8-Blanket Sunday Noisy Coin Blood Pressure Screening E.Y.G. 7p  	9 Boy Scouts 7p 	10	11 Day Out Club 10a Bell Choir 5:45 p Adult Choir 7p	12 UMW General Mtg.5:30p DCP Board Mtg.6:30p Northwest Neighbors 7:30p	13 Prayer Group 8a 	14
15 Lakota West Concert 4p E.Y.G. 7p 	16 Boy Scouts 7p Compassionate Friends 7p 	17 Alzheimer's Support Care Group 1p	18 Day Out Club 10a Rebecca Circle 10:30a Bell Choir 5:45 p Adult Choir 7p	19	20 Prayer Group 8a Agency Conference Group 12p 	21
22 Messenger deadline E.Y.G. 7p 	23 Boy Scouts 7p 	24	25 Day Out Club 10a Adult Choir 7p	26 Messenger Mailing 9a	27 Prayer Group 8a 	28
29	30-Memorial Day	31		Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m.	Trustee of the month: Low Fikes	