

February Birthdays

- 2 Zach Roth
- 5 Alice Lindsey
- 12 Rande Baty
- 15 Jo Myers
- 20 Robert Grady  
Carol Mauck
- 21 Sharon Hills
- 24 Laura Booth  
Charlene Goodreau

Anniversaries

- 8 Jim & Jerry Buttleman
- 13 Neal & Peggy Johnson

**February is Heart Month:**

Each Sunday a special collection will be taken to help the homeless and needy.



Please give generously.

**Weather closings:**

Please watch channel 9 (KCRG) and the church website (asburymethodistcr.com) for information regarding church closings due to inclement weather. The church will be closed when there are school closings. Pastor Diane and Sharon have Mondays off. If you have a question, you may call Pastor Diane at 551-3648



**United Methodist Women News**

There are no meetings scheduled for February

**Chada-Pautz Fellowship**

After 51 years it was decided to discontinue Chada-Pautz Fellowship because of declining attendance and volunteer aging and "burn-out".

Helen Chada was the daughter of Rev. Chada, pastor of John Huss Church which later merged with a new congregation of Asbury Methodist Church. Helen was Sunday School teacher, first organist and choir director of Asbury Methodist Church.

After a generous gift "for the care and housing of the elderly" by Marie McCaddin Pautz, Helen Chada's friend, Helen Chada and CM "Doc" Manley and others started Pautz Fellowship in 1966. Charles Jungman was treasurer. On the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the fellowship became Chada-Pautz Fellowship.

Helen Chada would have been pleased that the fellowship continued this long.

Carol Hills, president



**All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man (and woman) of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV**

Some years ago, I tried to assemble a book case for my then-office. I had the picture on the front of the box and thought, how hard could it be to put it together? I knew what a bookcase looked like and it's intended purpose. When I opened the box and shook out the parts, I found a whole bunch of little parts and pieces that didn't make much sense to me. I fiddled around with it and eventually, I had it assembled. Then I looked and found a handful of parts on the floor. Well, I reasoned, they are probably just extra parts that were put in there accidentally.

I put the bookcase in the corner and filled it with books and a few knick knacks and left. The next day, I went into my office to find the bookcase had collapsed and some of my knick knacks were broken. I was angry and sad. Why did this happen? What could have gone wrong?

On the corner of my desk was the booklet of directions for assembly. I picked it up and read it and saw that I'd assembled it incorrectly. All those 'extra' parts were needed to hold it all together.

Has your life ever been that way? We think we know how things in our lives are supposed to be. We've seen a 'picture' of what we think life is like. But sometimes, and maybe when we least expect it, something happens, things collapse and are broken.

As Christians, we have a great set of directions for our lives. God has given us His Word, the Bible, for us to follow and when we do, our lives can't help but be much better. It is true that some things in our lives are totally out of our control. We don't have much control over the weather or the economy or what other people do. But when we are immersed in God's Word, we know that He will walk with us no matter what happens.

I'd love to have a 3 to 4 week class after worship in the next few weeks. What would you like to learn more about? Prayer? Faith? Spiritual gifts? The Psalms? A book of the Bible: Genesis, Revelation or anyone in between. Something else? Let me know. I value your input and want to provide a class in something that interests you and is helpful to you. There will be no homework or tests???

Serving Jesus with you,  
Pastor Diane



### Good news!

Final 2017 numbers did indeed end in the black so that Asbury could pay all bills owed. THANK YOU to all for your continued support.

An area of focus this year is about paying as much of the apportionments as possible. As a budget item, these are paid only up to the amount that has been given and specifically designated to apportionments. The budget line is based on past years amount given. In 2017 the amount budgeted was \$3400 and we paid \$2729. If each giving family had contributed \$50 last year we would have paid our estimated \$3400 last year. Since this money goes to support the operations of the Methodist Church outside the doors of Asbury we hope to make this a area to improve on in 2018.

Your Asbury Finance Committee

### Easter Trivia

The date of Easter varies from year to year, generally falling on the Sunday following the Paschal Full Moon (i.e., the first full moon of Spring in the northern hemisphere, or the first full moon occurring after the date of the vernal equinox). The earliest calendar date on which Easter can fall is March 22, and the latest date is April 25. Since Ash Wednesday is observed 46 days before Easter, it can fall as early as February 4 or as late as March 10.

### Vacancies

Asbury House currently has a one-bedroom, a suite and an efficiency apartment available. Please call for more information. 319-366-6670

### Manager position available

A part time apartment manager position is available at Asbury House. We are looking for a person who can relate to seniors and who has a good work ethic, basic computer and managerial skills. Please send resume to Asbury House, 350 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404

### Sermon texts for February

February 4 - Luke 5:1-11  
February 11 - Neal Johnson speaking  
February 18 - Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23  
(1st Sunday in Lent)  
February 25 - John 3:1-17

### 2018 Lenten Luncheon Series

#### Sponsored by the West Side Six Association

The community is invited to reflect during the Holy Season of Lent as we reflect on the theme of spiritual disciplines, why they are important and how easily they can become disconnected from our daily lives. The services are held at 12:10 pm and will be followed by a light lunch. A freewill offering (\$5 suggested) will be used to cover the cost of the meal and for ongoing work of the West Side Six Association along with Matthew 25.

February dates are:

**February 21** @ Matthew 25, Rev. Patrick Munyakazi will speak on *Worship*

**February 28** @ Asbury UMC, Rev. John Louk will speak on *Prayer*.

Rev. Diane Townsley  
319-551-3648 Cell

International French  
Ministry

Rev. Patrick Munyakazi  
431-8319

Business Administrator

Sharon Busch

364-3188

Office hours:

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Choir Director

Alice Lindsey

Custodian

Nicole Day

Nursery Attendant

Laura Booth

The cards, prayers and calls regarding my recent injury are greatly appreciated.. I still can't put any weight on my foot but hope to have good news around the middle of February.

Billie Ferristall

Small  
changes  
eventually  
add  
up to  
HUGE  
results.

### One Day At a Time

By the time you are reading this article, it is already February 2018. Is it February already? Yes, and time goes fast. Many of us made few resolutions and promises for 2018 and I am sure that some of them are already broken. This should not discouraged us. We should not give up yet. While we have this picture of all our goals and dreams for 2018, we should have a strategy or strategies that would allow us to reach them. I always was told that a dream or goal is like a huge meal that is placed in front of us. The best strategies to finish are:

-One small bite at time.

-Do not rush

- It is alright to take few breaks in between.

There are several scriptures that I use on a daily basis to help me face every day with confidence and thanksgiving in God.

**Psalm 118:24** This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (ESV)

**2 Peter 1: 3-4** His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. NIV

**Philippians 4: 4, 6-7** Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>6</sup>Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. NIV

**Philippians 4: 12b-13** I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup>I can do all this through him who gives me strength. NIV

I believe that the best way to have a successful year 2018, is to live one day at time while keeping our eyes on the big picture and God. Every day has joys, sorrows, blessings, and pains but let us make the best of it by God's grace. Let enjoy every day with confidence that with God we can achieve small victories

Blessings

Pastor Patrick Munyakazi