



Janesville United Methodist Church

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Rev. Laurie L Riley, pastor

February 2024 Newsletter **Janesville United Methodist Church**

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Office Hours

**Mondays thru
Thursdays**
8:00 am - 11:00 am



The Hudson Herald newspaper asked area pastors to share responses to 2 questions they posed to them:

1. What hopes do you have for the new year ahead?
2. What concerns you most in 2024?

See Pastor Laurie’s answers on the next page.....

What are your Hopes for your Church -- I hope that my church continues to meet the needs of the people in the local community and the larger community.

I celebrate that in 2023 our small Sunday School has grown with several new students and hope that we can continue to find ways to grow that ministry.

I celebrate that with God's help we were able to support our school, the food shelf, and so many other local, state, and world missions and hope that we can continue to meet our neighbors' needs as they arise wherever they may arise.

I find hope in the fact my church and many other churches are continuing to find ways to share God's love with those around them. My greatest hope is that 2024 becomes a year of change as we share with one another the gift of love that God so freely gave to us in a baby born in a manger. A baby who became a man who became our savior on the cross. A savior who rose from the grave and lives again within each of us.

What are your concerns -- As I write this the school shooting in Perry is still very fresh and it has enhanced for me the many ways our children are hurting. It seems that our world is in a place of disconnection and it gets worse each and every day. In our world we can do almost anything we want instantly. In this world there is not time for reflection, we just act and react. In this world we seem to be leaving many people isolated, alone, and feeling judged for who they are. This causes me grief and I think it causes God to weep for those who are weeping.

I pray in 2024 we can begin to do better as a people, as a community, as churches and as the world.

Now it is your turn If the paper asked you to answer these questions, how would you answer them?

Give it some thought and together let's see what God is calling us to do in 2024.

See you in worship

Pastor Laurie

Volunteers for February

Liturgists in February

February 4
Brad Ruth

February 11
Margaret Shepard

February 18
Nancy Beenblossom

February 25
Gary Shaulis

Ushers in February

February 4
Brad Ruth

February 11
Dick & Karen Funk

February 18
Dave Beenblossom

February 25
Gary Shaulis

February Birthdays

Laney Eibey	2/1
Becca Burr	2/3
Ryan Johnson	2/4
Delaney Buchholz	2/4
Vlasis Stratiou	2/4
Wesley Renner	2/6
Chris Coffman	2/7
Kyranna Stratiou	2/8
Jason Lockett	2/9
Brenda Immerzeel	2/10
Aaron Johnson	2/10
Kendyl Destival	2/11
Eric Johnson	2/14
Mary Peters	2/15
Melvin Johnson	2/16
Grady Barr	2/18
Holly Conradi	2/19
Gerry Tarter	2/20
Leah Johnson	2/22
Marvin Bliss	2/23
Sharon Barr	2/26
Parker Schuldt	2/26
Scott Destival	2/29

Upcoming Events in February

Thursday, February 1
UWF Meeting at 1:00

Tuesday, February 6
Shepherds Meeting at 9:30

Thursday, Feb. 8 - Tuesday, Feb. 13
Pastor Laurie on vacation

Sunday, February 11
Valentine's Celebration
Kids will be singing and
selling cupcakes

Wednesday, February 14
Valentines's Day
Ash Wednesday (no worship service)

Tuesday, February 27
Z-Team Meeting at 1:00

Thursday, February 29
grant application deadline



February Anniversaries

Larry & Lisa Borglum	2/14
Gene & Virginia Robinson	2/14
Michelle & Brad Osborn	2/22



Please pray for our Shepherds and those who are served by them:

Georgia Eibey
Marilyn Taylor
Harriet Schares
Lorraine Hallberg
Lolita Huber
Lavonne Dorman
Char Brickman
Bev West
Pam MacKay

Prayers for healing are requested for:

Colette Ruth
Pam MacKay
Char Brickman
LaVonne Dorman
Esther Folkerds
Wendy Brace
Evelyn Turner
Esther Woodyard
Kathleen Knapp

The Shepherds will meet on
Tuesday, February 6 at 9:30 am.

Remember - everyone is invited to join the Shepherds to visit shut-ins. It is a rewarding experience for those who visit AND those who are visited!



IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER

VALENTINE'S CELEBRATION -
February 11

Our Sunday School Kids will be singing during our **10:30** **Worship Service** and selling cupcakes after worship.

MESSAGE FROM THE PEC COMMITTEE

Just a reminder from the PEC Committee that persons/groups receiving PEC grant awards in 2023 have until February 29, 2024, to use those funds. Unused funds remaining at that time will be returned to the endowment funds and may be included in funds to be awarded in 2024.

The deadline for turning in applications to the PEC committee for consideration of 2024 grants is February 29, 2024. Completed applications may be placed in the PEC mail slot just inside the door of Court Chapel, they may be mailed to the church, or they may be emailed to Nancy Beenblossom at nlb217@gmail.com

Applications will be accepted even if they are not completed on a formal application blank. They must include the following information:

- Name of Person/Organization Submitting Application
- Value of Grant being requested
- Purpose of the need for the grant
- Contact information (name, phone number and/or email address) for the person who can be reached regarding the grant application

Any person/organization wanting to know how many funds they have remaining in the account from their 2023 grant awards may contact Barb Hamlyn.

We want to encourage any person and/or organization who has a financial need that falls under the requirements of the PEC Guidelines to complete an application and submit it for consideration.

PEC Committee members include the following persons. Questions or concerns regarding the application process may be addressed to any of these members:

Eugene Robinson, chairperson
Nancy Beenblossom, committee treasurer
Mike Wienhold
Melissa Eibey
Katie Johnson

Dare to Dream
Grant application forms can be found by the front
office door or front sanctuary door.
Deadline for submission is February 29, 2024.



Many thanks to Kole Haan for doing our snow removal this winter!

Thanks Kole!!!!



To my Jansenville Church family!

Thanks
for being you.

Thanks so much for the sharing to aid my journeys for treatments. All the prayers help keep me strong on this unplanned life's adventure. We never know which overturned leaf of time will bring to our steps through life.

Friends, family and community are the pillars of support for all on life's journey. I thank God for each day and that each of you may have many blessings.

Your Sister in Faith
Jan Markey



The January UWF meeting was held on Thursday, January 4th at 1:00 PM in Court Chapel with ten members present.

Prayer concerns were shared for church members and friends.

Correspondence was multiple thank yous from area organizations for our year end donations and a funeral thank you from the families of two church members. Multiple get well and sympathy cards have been sent since our last meeting.

Circle Reports were given. Mary Deborah Circle met in the chapel and discussed lunch for today's meeting, held election of officers, and provided Sunday School treats. Naomi Circle met to put up the Angel Tree. Rebecca Circle had a potluck and revealed their Secret Pals.

The Piecemakers have 8 baby quilts completed and two more in the process. Plans are to have 10 blessed and delivered soon. There are still craft items and cookbooks for sale. A another cookbook was sold in December.

Janesville Days for 2024 (175th) was discussed. Members are to bring any suggestions for the event to future meetings. Members expressed that we have members with commitments to multiple organizations but felt we should have a presence either physical or monetary for the event.

A report was given on the Rebecca Circle Veteran's dinner in November. Approximately 45 people were served.

A report was given on the Angel Tree fundraiser. \$1245 was collected and distributed with \$720 going to the Janesville School, \$160 to Waverly Shell Rock School, and \$365 to North Cedar School for their reduced cost lunch programs. In kind donations were \$634 with North Star receiving \$263 worth, Janesville School receiving \$133 worth, and Bremwood receiving \$237.50 worth.

A report was given on Jingle in Janesville. Members were very generous with their donations of food items. Attendance was lower this year and the location was not optimal so sales were down. Leftover items were sold in church the following Sunday and donations were generous.

A leftover turkey roast was donated to a needy family in Waverly along with a jar of cranberry relish and some rolls. The family was very appreciative.

There is a change in the District's annual requested donations for the area missions. Instead of donating \$1 per member for Bidwell Riverside and for Hawthorne Hill, we are asked to donate \$2 per member for Families Forward which will support the two missions. The requested \$1 per member for Mission U remains the same. The total amount per member remains the same as previous years-just will be reported differently.

With the rising costs of supplies, our funeral fee was discussed. A motion was made and carried to raise our fee to \$150 plus the cost of food. This will be brought to the Ad Council meeting on Sunday.

JUMP will be making 150 pies again for a sorority fundraiser. Pie making dates are Wednesday, January 10th and Monday, January 15th both at 9:00 AM. Additional dates will be determined later. All are welcome, experience not required. A church family donated 10# of flour and sugar to be used for pies. They also donated 6# of walnuts that will probably be sold.

Installation of officers was conducted with a service provided by Pastor Laurie who was unable to attend the meeting.

Our next meeting will be February 1st at 1:00 P.M. Mary Deborah Circle will have devotions. Rebecca Circle will hostess. Program to be announced.

Naomi Circle provided a Prayer and Self Denial program and an offering was taken. Members not present are welcome to donate. The donations need to be to the treasurer by the first of March.



2023 Angel Tree Update

The Angel Tree has been put away for another year and all donations received have been disbursed. We are calling it a blessed, successful endeavor. Physical items received and gifted to North Star, Bremwood and Janesville School had an estimated value of \$634.00. Monetary gifts received and gifted to Janesville School, North Cedar School and Waverly-Shell Rock Schools totaled \$1,445.00 to be used to supplement their "At-Need Lunch Programs." The grand total received was \$2,079.00.

Thank you all so much for your very generous support of our Angel Tree. For future Angel Tree projects, if you know of any other need within our community, please let Naomi Circle members know.

Thank You,
Naomi Circle

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15: 13



**Ash Wednesday is on February 14 this year.
Due to Valentine's Day and Pastor Laurie just returning from vacation ,
we will not be having an Ash Wednesday Worship Service.
Instead, take some time to contemplate Ash Wednesday
and the beginning of the Lenten Season.**

From Wikipedia:

Ash Wednesday is a holy day of prayer and fasting in many Western Christian denominations. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and marks the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter.

Ash Wednesday is observed by Catholics, Lutherans, Moravians, Anglicans, Methodists, Nazarenes, as well as by some churches in the Reformed tradition, including certain Congregationalist, Continental Reformed, and Presbyterian churches.

Ash Wednesday is traditionally observed with fasting and abstinence from meat in a number of Christian denominations. As it is the first day of Lent, many Christians begin Ash Wednesday by marking a Lenten calendar, praying a Lenten daily devotional, and making a Lenten sacrifice that they will not partake of until the arrival of Eastertide.

Many Christians attend special Ash Wednesday church services, at which churchgoers receive ash on their foreheads. Ash Wednesday derives its name from this practice, in which the placement of ashes is accompanied by the words, "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or the dictum "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The ashes are prepared by burning palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations.



May your Ash Wednesday be a time
of reflection and promise.

Psalm 51: 1-17 is a classic Ash Wednesday prayer of repentance: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

January Happenings



Pie Prep apple peeling



“Hello” from Lolita and Sandy



The perfect ornament for our “Pie Maker”