



Janesville United Methodist Church

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April 2024 Newsletter Janesville United Methodist Church

JUMC Office Hours - Mondays thru Thursdays from 8:00 to 11:00.

Highlights in this issue:

- A Note from the Pastor page 2
- Celebrations & Prayers page 3
- UWF News page 4
- Annual UWF May Breakfast page 5
- Rest in Peace, Lolita Huber page 6
- Ad. Council Meeting Reminder page 6
- “What if...” page 7
- Palm Sunday Pictures page 8
- Janesvillian Veterans Submission Form . . page 9
- Janesvillian Family Submission Form . . . page 10

This month’s Newsletter is special. It is a smaller version, since we are mailing it out, along with offering envelopes for April, May, and June. It’s the same great information as usual, just fewer pictures (to save space)! It will still be emailed out for those of you who want an online copy.

- Liturgists**
in April
- April 7
Brad Ruth
 - April 14
Margaret Shepard
 - April 21
Sharon Heiser
 - April 28
Gary Shaulis



- Ushers**
in April
- April 7
Brad Ruth
 - April 14
Dick & Karen Funk
 - April 21
Dave Beenblossom
 - April 28
Gary Shaulis





There is a story told about the French Commander by the name of Napoleon. It seems that one day a Field Marshal requested an audience with Napoleon, and Napoleon knew what was coming. But as every good leader must, Napoleon agreed to hear him out.

The Field Marshal brought news of a great victory he had achieved. He talked for a long time about his accomplishment, piling detail upon detail.

Napoleon listened closely throughout the entire narration but said nothing. The officer was disappointed. He had hoped for a more enthusiastic reception, as well as Napoleon's congratulations. Neither was forthcoming.

Summing up, the Field Marshal repeated much of what he had already said. As the officer rambled on, Napoleon continued to listen politely, and the Field Marshal interpreted this as encouragement. Surely, he thought, Napoleon will now give me the praise I so richly deserve.

However, when the Field Marshal finally stopped talking, Napoleon asked him one question: "What did you do the next day?"

As I read this story one of the busiest times of the Christian year, the season of Lent, is winding down. By the time you get this Easter day will be over and the season of Lent will be a thing of the past.

Throughout the season of Lent some of us have attended the mid-week worship services each week. During Holy week there were services held to help us remember the last week our Lord was walking around on the earth in human form.

Then some of us on Easter Morning will get up to watch the sun rise at an early sunrise service then we will return for the later traditional service. We have been busy; we have been faithful Christians.

But now it is over and the life in the church changes once again. The season of Easter gives way to the Sundays following Pentecost and we fall back into the routine of getting up, going to church, and then returning to home and whatever else might be on our schedule.

However, as we move away from the Easter event maybe we need to ask ourselves the same question that Napoleon asked his Field Marshall: "What did you the next day?"

The life of Jesus' disciples continues on after the resurrection of Jesus in fact Pentecost is the birthday of the church and each year it reminds us that the ministry of the early church went on and the ministry of our church is called to still go on.

The story of Christ becomes our story on Easter morning but it is a story that still needs to be told so others can hear the story. However, it is us who are the Disciples of Jesus today and we are called to share the story of Christ with those still waiting to hear it.

So, let me ask this question "What will you, do the next day? What will we as the church do the next day?" Let us join together in worship and together find the answer to this question.

See you in Worship

Laurie

April Birthdays

Hunter Megan	4/1
Bradley Woeste	4/1
Sarah Brown	4/4
Andrew Eibey	4/4
Jim Hamlyn	4/6
Joni Clemens	4/10
Carter Herbst	4/10
Seth Reid	4/11
Weylon Heiser	4/11
Mindy Yochum	4/13
Cadence Coffman	4/19
Daniel VerSteege	4/19
Michael Baldwin	4/20
Mackenzie Carlisle	4/21
Emma Baker	4/21
Marileigh Fisher	4/21
Natalie Brace	4/22
Albert McFadden	4/22
Grace Cornish	4/23
Zach Dobbs	4/26
Isabel Barnes	4/26
Patricia Yochum	4/27
Sydney Johnson	4/28
Morgan Charley	4/29



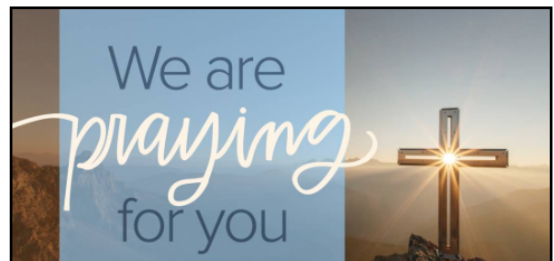
April Anniversaries

Matt & Amy Shook	4/11
Del & Margaret Shepard	4/19
Trevor & Jenna Lafrentz	4/23
Thomas & Christena Charley	4/24

In Our Prayers

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

Georgia Eibey
Marilyn Taylor
Harriet Schares
Lorraine Hallberg
Lavonne Dorman
Char Brickman
Bev West
Pam MacKay
Kathleen Knapp
Jan Guzman



Prayers for healing are requested for:

Colette Ruth
Pam MacKay
Char Brickman
LaVonne Dorman
Esther Folkerds
Wendy Brace & family
Evelyn Turner
Karen Funk
Esther Woodyard
Kathleen Knapp
Virginia Robinson's sister, Beverly Boyer

Shepherd News

The Shepherds will be meeting on
Tuesday, April 9, at 9:30 am.



The March UWF meeting was held on Thursday, March 7th at 1:00 PM in Court Chapel with 9 members and a guest present.

The meeting was opened by reciting the Purpose of UWF. Prayer concerns were shared for church members and friends.

There were no additions or corrections to the February minutes. Correspondence was a brochure from Midwest Mission, a thank you from Friends of the Family for our donation, and a letter about camp scholarships.

Circle Reports were given. Mary Deborah Circle met in Court Chapel with 6 members present and planned devotions for today's meeting. Naomi Circle met at church with 3 members and a guest. They planned the lunch for today's meeting. Rebecca Circle met with 5 members present and discussed upcoming church events.

The Piecemakers have 3 baby quilts completed and 3 more under construction. They have 2 quilts completed for Ingathering and are working on more. There are still craft items and cookbooks for sale.

There was no new information about the pie booth for Janesville Days for 2024 (175th).

The draft of the updated policies for funerals and other events has been sent to the trustees for approval. This includes the increase in our fee to serve funeral lunches to \$150.

JUMP made 150 pies for the Sorority pie fundraiser. An additional pie was baked and sampled for "quality control".

The May Breakfast. Teapots and teacups are needed to use for decorations. Plans for the event will be finalized at our April meeting.

A quote from Herman's for countertops with or without removal of the old countertops and also a quote for replacing the sinks. A quote from Beenblossom Cabinets which is owned by Modern Builders is in the works. Pros and cons of removing the posts and placing a support beam and roller type "door" over the opening were discussed. Members would also like see counter tops samples.

There will be an ecumenical Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30th. Donations of plastic eggs and candy are needed. There is a basket in the sanctuary for donations.

Thank offerings are due to be sent in June. Circles can bring their offerings to the April meeting since there will be no business meeting in May or give to Margaret by June 1st.

There was a error in the yearbook. The September meeting is on the 5th not the 4th.

Motions carried to donate \$40 to Dollars for Scholars, \$25 to the UWF Legacy Fund, and pay our \$1800 pledge to the church.

There has been a request from the Fire Department to borrow some of our Corelle plates for their appreciation dinner later this month. Members were in favor of this.

Our next meeting will be April 4th at 1:00 P.M. Naomi Circle will have devotions and the Response Moment. Mary Deborah Circle will hostess.



You Are Invited to a Tea Party!

All ladies of the church are invited to the annual UWF May Breakfast on Thursday, May 2nd at 9:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall.

Join us for a tea party and program provided by the Cedar River Readers. (Kathy Whitney is a member.) Lots of food and fun!

Please RSVP by Thursday, April 25th. Contact Jean Eibey at 319-269-8260 or Cindy Spencer at 319-240-2138.





It is with great sadness that we have to tell you one of our faithful, longtime members, Lolita Huber passed away on April 18. Please pray for her family. Rest in peace, dear friend.



The 3 general rules, to give Christians a guide for living a faithful life, from John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, are simple:
"Do no harm.
Do good.
Stay in love with God."



Reminder - Ad. Council will be meeting on **April 7 after worship**. All Committee Chairs should attend, if possible (and anyone else is welcome to attend).

“What if...” New Thoughts on our Old Habit of Praying
by Robyn Plocher – originally published February 2017

“What if there are some things God either cannot or will not do until and unless people pray?” That is just one of the provocative questions posed by Maxie Dunnam, author and former World Editor of the Upper Room. The idea is that God has freely given up some of God’s own will in order to give us free will.

Think of it this way: God could have created us as marionettes; pull this string and I raise my hand in praise. Manipulate these strings and I fall to my knees in prayer. If that is how things were we would have no free will at all. If we had no free will, our praise would be hollow and our prayers empty and meaningless.

We are not marionettes or puppets. Our Creator didn’t want that. God’s desire is our hearts of love, freely given. God’s plan is that we have the will and the responsibility to act as co-creators and stewards of all that God has given us. Think about it. God has invited us to participate in God’s work here on earth. Though He *could* do it all without us, He has chosen not to. God wants our help. God longs for our participation. Prayer is a part of that work.

So, what IF there are some things God either cannot or will not do until or unless people pray? Then, we better start praying boldly.

What is the most audacious, boldest prayer you have ever prayed?

What would it look like to pray more boldly?

There is value in struggling with God in prayer, for in the struggle, God may change our hearts. However, that kind of change is not possible if we are not bold and willing to take our deepest needs and concerns to the Father.



Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday

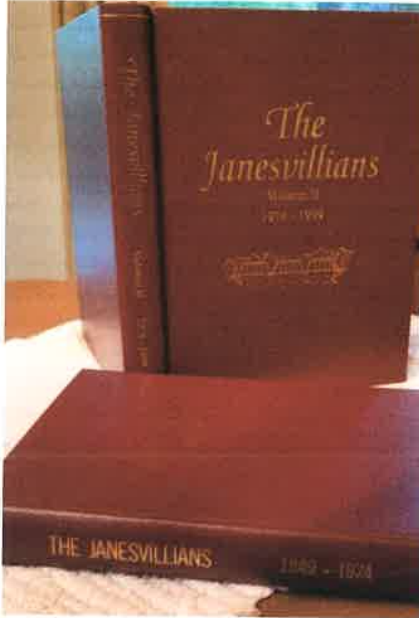
March 24

What a great turnout we had for Palm Sunday, considering the weather. Thanks to everyone!!!!

And a special thanks to “Jesus” for leading our kids!



Pictures from Easter Sunday will be published in the May Newsletter.



Janesville Veterans Profile 1999-2024

This questionnaire forms the basis of information collected for *The Janesvillians Vol. 3*. to be published in celebration of Janesville's 175th anniversary in 2024. Your participation is voluntary.

Prior to publication, veterans will be contacted to check the accuracy of information. **Written samples can be found in these volumes at Janesville Public Library.**

By July 1, 2024 PLEASE RETURN electronically to:
janesville175committee@gmail.com

If you have electronic-format photos to share, please attach.
You can use your cell phone to take pictures of photos.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **email:** _____

1. Branch of service and dates served.

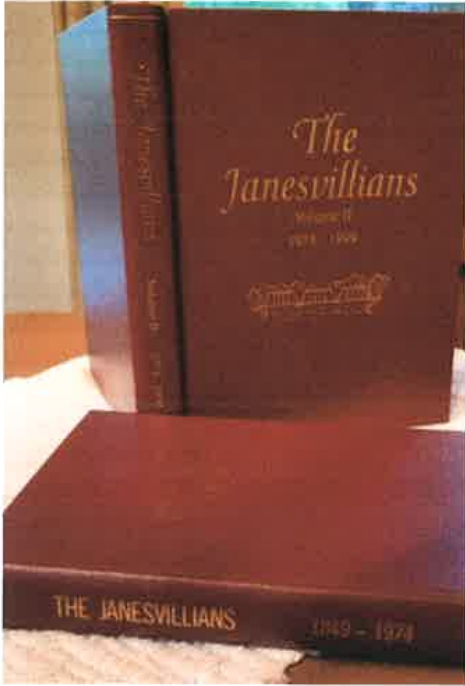
2. Type of training and places of training and service

3. Include any information or stories about your experience that you would like to share.

Thank you for your time and effort.

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If you have electronic-format photos to share from 1999-2024, please attach.



Janesville Families Profile 1999-2024

This questionnaire forms the basis of information collected for *The Janesvillians Vol. 3.* to be published in celebration of Janesville's 175 anniversary in 2024.

Your participation is voluntary.

Prior to publication, families will be contacted to check the accuracy of information.

**By July 1, 2024 PLEASE RETURN electronically to:
janesville175committee@gmail.com**

If you have electronic-format photos to share, please attach.

Thank you!

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **email:** _____

Family member names:

1. Hometown, State (if other than Janesville)

2. Why did you choose Janesville?

3. Describe your work.

4. Describe your local activities.

5. Connection to past Janesville citizens.

6. For Janesvillians who have moved away, where are you now?

Thank you for your time and effort.

By July 1, PLEASE RETURN electronically to: janesville175committee@gmail.com

- **If you have electronic-format photos to share from 1999-2024, please attach.**