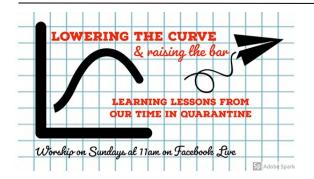


ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News



Our Mission ~ To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World



Scan this QR code with your phone for easy access to our website and Facebook page!

JesuslsTheBridge.org



Communion in Your Car on May 17....We will offer two drive-in communion services at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. in the church parking lot on the corner of Mississippi Blvd. and 18th Street. People will be asked to STAY IN THEIR CARS and tune in on their radio to hear the service. BRING YOUR OWN elements of bread and juice or wine. These times are for communion only The online worship will happen at 11:00 a.m.

Go to Facebook Live to join Asbury family and friends celebrating worship together! You do not need to have a Facebook account, simply go to the Asbury Website and click on the red "Live Worship" button. You may also access the recorded service later in the day or week.

Online Worship CHANGES in May

May 24—Online Worship Moves to 10:00am...Beginning May 24 (Memorial Day Weekend) online worship will be at 10:00 a.m., and going into June as well, if necessary.

Please Do Your Part and STAY HOME

Our building is closed while we wait out this pandemic. We have a small crew in the office trying hard to keep everyone connected. Please feel free to contact any of the church staff if a need arises.

Asbury Church will be looking to our Bishop Laurie Haller and the lowa Conference leadership for guidelines on how we will re-enter. They can be found at: https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/iowa-annual-conference-of-the-united-methodist-church-crisis-response-re-entry-plan-13653399

We are currently in a RED stage at least through June 1. We are preparing for when the church would move to a yellow stage when we can return with appropriate social distancing practices.

Our situation is changing daily...please check for the most up-to-date announcements regarding church activities on our website.

We look forward to having everyone back in the building before too long...it's lonely here without you! Take Care!

We are a part of history as we have an opportunity to demonstrate how God can sustain us through the greatest of challenges.

Isaiah 41:10 can be a source of strength as we trust in God:

"Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."



<u>DVD Ministry Being Planned</u>...Do you or someone you know NOT have access to the internet and are NOT able to watch Asbury's worship services? Plans are now underway to create a DVD Ministry, in which DVDs of Asbury's worship services will be produced and home-delivered weekly, so people can watch them at home. It will include providing portable DVD players to people who need them. This new ministry will need a team of volunteers, to copy the DVDs and to deliver them to homes. Don Mitchem will be the organizer of the DVD Ministry. Please contact him (<u>dondmitch@aol.com</u>, 563-528-2736), if you wish to receive DVDs of Asbury's worship services, or if you'd like to volunteer on the DVD Ministry Team. This is an important new ministry!

Message from Pastor Tom....What an amazing time in which we live. As we take this journey of faith together, we are learning many things. We are learning how to adapt. We are learning how to care for each other in new ways. We are learning never to take things and people for granted. I can assure you that this journey will continue long into the future. Not only through the pandemic, but through all the changes that we experience in life. As we are learning, adjusting and looking ahead to the future, I offer these three thoughts on which to hold and guide us: **We will be back. We will be prepared. We will be safe.**

In order to adapt, there are many things we still need to learn. Our Strategy Team has shifted their focus to preparing for re-entry in the yellow stage and eventually a return to the green stage (see the lowa Conference link above for more information). We are trying to imagine what the new reality will be like and how to be prepared for it. It will require learning and changes. And the best and perhaps only way to learn is through experimentation and experience. We can look forward to plenty of both in the months ahead. Our faith in God empowers us to not be afraid. With the help of God and each other, we can do this.



Roots Kids....There is a weekly video made specifically for KIDS!

Go to **RootsKids.org** to view weekly and past videos. New videos are up each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and can be viewed anytime thereafter.

<u>Storytime</u>...You'll also want to watch Story Time with Pastor Heather. Watch live on Facebook each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. This is also recorded for later viewing.

YOUTH GROUP....the Youth Group (Ages 6th-12th Grade) are encouraged to join Carrie Meumann for a weekly Zoom call each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Need help connecting?....contact Carrie at carriem@asbury-bett.org.



Hello from your Parish Nurse Team...Our Response to Covid-19 Pandemic



Cheryl Ewert has agreed to coordinate our **Community Response to the COVID-19 Virus.** She and pastor Tom meet every Thursday with Bettendorf Mayor Bob Gallagher and leaders from area social service agencies and the other faith communities. As needs in the community are shared and opportunities to provide assistance, Cheryl will coordinate how our church can help to meet those community needs. You can find the latest on our church website at JesusIsTheBridge.org and clicking on the purple "Asbury's Covid 19 Response" button as shown here.

As part of the overall plan of the regional Emergency Management System, all congregations are also instructed to first take care of their own members. Go to the bottom of the website and click on "Congregational Care". You will be taken to a page that gives you 3 options:

<u>Visiting Form</u>: to fill out if you have offered care to someone.

<u>Need Assistance?</u>: if you would like to request help for something.

<u>Can you help?</u>: if you are willing to help someone else who has a need.

Stay safe and God bless, Brenda, Carol and Cheryl





<u>Prayer Concerns</u>....One of the things we want to improve is our prayer life as a church. We are now changing the way we receive and process prayer concerns. Instead of a prayer list, we want to develop a culture of prayer in our church. The goals will be: developing the prayer life of all members of the church, gathering team members to be in touch with people who request prayer and actually pray with them; a relationship that continues through the need until it is resolved, and sharing & celebrating answered prayers.

Our Lay Leader, Pat Tank, along with Pat and Pam Thornton, have stepped up to give leadership to developing new ways to pray for and with people. A new link to request prayers or to lift up praise is located on our church website at <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u>. Click on the button shown above on our Home Page. As always, you can also contact the church office if you have a prayer concern.

<u>Would your small group like to meet online?</u>....Call the church office at 355-5218 or email patty at: <u>pattys@asbury-bett.org</u> to reserve a meeting time on ZOOM.

Newsletter Deadline....Articles for the next issue of Good News should be in the church office no later than 8:00 AM on Friday, May22nd. Thank you!

<u>Ladies in Fellowship Together</u>...Check the LIFT Facebook page for the latest news & words of inspiration.

Asbury Men's Group....Contact Cliff Pim (563-340-2722), Phil Paulson (309-502-9236) or the church office (355-5218) for the next Zoom meeting date, time and link. All men are welcome!

<u>Mother's Day Flowers</u>....Global Ministries will not be holding their annual Mother's Day fundraiser for mission outreach this year. However, they encourage everyone to support local business by purchasing your flowers from Elmer Mess at Little Red Barn. Elmer orders the flowers every year for Global Ministries and will have the same varieties available. He is open to the public.

May/June Upper Rooms are here. Call the church at 355-5218 to have a copy mailed or delivered to you.

How to be UNAFRAID in a Changing World...Adam Hamilton has offered an informed and inspiriting message full of practical solutions and hope in a five-week study entitled UNAFRAID. This study can be video streamed on line. We are encouraging people to watch the video stream anytime during the week and then gather together by way of zoom on Sunday mornings. Kurt Streicher and Pat Thornton are co-facilitating these sessions. For the Unafraid link please contact the class facilitator or the church office.

Coming this Summer!..."Hymns We Love" a summer Sunday School class for adults and older youth beginning June 7. Watch for details in the May 27 Good News.

Giving Your Offering While Worshiping Online....You may mail your offering to the church. You may also go to our website at <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> or download the app to your phone.

Both options take you to the same place. After creating a profile on your first visit, giving your offering is easy and convenient anytime day or night...even during worship!

<u>If using the app</u>: Simply download Give Plus from your app store onto your phone. A list of churches will come into view. Choose Asbury! That's it!

You have two options for your Online Giving:

- **Direct Debit Giving Online:** (EFT) is used to automatically transfer funds online from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.
- Credit & Debit Card Giving: Make a one-time contribution or set up a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card. (Card giving includes a 2.75% processing fee with an option for you to pay or the church will cover the cost.)

We also offer.....

• **Automatic Deposit** - Call the church at 355-5218 to fill out the appropriate form to have Asbury automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.





For giving made easy, scan this QR code with your phone for easy access!

