



Sunday Morning Worship will continue to be ONLINE ONLY at 10:30AM through February

Go to: JesusIsTheBridge.org and click on the red "Live Worship" button.

You may also use the website to view the recorded service later in the day or week or subscribe to our YouTube channel.

Planning Ahead for Worship

Our Church Council has authorized our Parish Nurses, Pastors and Church Council Co-Chairs to make the call as to when we return to worship in the building. After looking at the data for Scott County, their decision is to continue with online only worship through February and plan on returning to worship in the building on March 7 with the 8:00 AM worship. That date may be delayed if the conditions require it necessary. The 10:30 AM worship in March will continue online. **Our plan is to continue to offer an online option even after the pandemic is behind us.**

Upcoming Special Sundays in Worship

February 7

The Healing Power of Jesus in All of Us



We will look at Matthew 4:23-25 and how physical healing was an important part of Jesus' ministry. We'll see how our spiritual and emotional health has an impact on our physical wellbeing.

The healthy relationships that you develop have a positive impact on the wellbeing of yourself and others. We'll also be recognizing the wonderful work of our Parish Nurse Team.

February 14 - Scouting Sunday



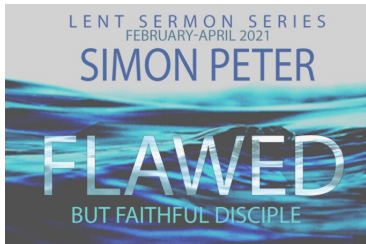
The Scout Motto is "Be Prepared". On the Sunday before the beginning of Lent, we'll learn from the story of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13). In many ways, going on this "camp-out" was a way for Jesus to be prepared for his life of service to others.

As a way to demonstrate the impact of all youth organizations such as Scouting, Girl Scouts and 4H, you are invited to send pictures of your experiences with these groups to be shared during worship. Email them to: amberj@asbury-bett.org. If you need assistance scanning a print photograph, stop in the office and Patty will be glad to help you.



Lent is Fast Approaching!

To mark this special season, Asbury is preparing Lent/Easter bags. These bags will have trinkets, greetings from your Asbury family, and items to help make Lent and Easter special. If you would like a bag for your household, you can come to the Main Entrance of the church on **Sunday, February 7th from 12-1:30pm or on Saturday, February 13th from 12-1:30pm**. Bags can be placed in your backseat or trunk, no need to exit the vehicle. Bags can also be picked up during office hours any time that week, or mailed or delivered by calling the office. No reservations are necessary. We hope you will get a bag for your household and consider who in your life might appreciate a bag to help connect them to Asbury during this special season in the church calendar.



February 21 through March 28 Lenten Sunday Sermon & Study Series

This six-week Sunday Sermon and Study Series will begin on Sunday, February 21. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information. We hope you will give prayerful consideration to joining one or more of the exciting study groups offered to enjoy seeing the DVD and participating in the fellowship! Books for this study are available at the church, or please call the office and we'll see that you get the materials.

Ash Wednesday February 17

Look for an online worship service [on our Facebook and YouTube pages premiering that morning](#). You can watch on your own time throughout the day. Have with you your ash cross temporary tattoo (included in your Lent/Easter bag) to apply at the end of the service.



On Sunday January 17, it was announced in worship that Pastor Heather Dorr has been appointed to serve the First United Methodist Church of Jefferson, Iowa effective July 1, 2021. Thank you, Pastor Heather, for your four years of ministry at Asbury!

See the reverse side for more information on the next steps for Asbury from our SPRC.

The Asbury Library Task Force continues to work on plans for right-sizing the Asbury libraries. Enclosed please find a short survey (also on our website) seeking input from the congregation. We hope you will take a few minutes to complete it.

Thank you!

Jr High & High School

All Youth IN PERSON

Activities Are On 
due to covid19 concerns

youth leaders will communicate changes as they are able

Roots Kids lesson highlights are shown during Asbury's online worship service. There are also additional supplemental activities/videos on their Facebook page. Be sure to LIKE ROOTSKIDS and turn on your notifications to stay in the loop for the latest fun!



Greetings from your Parish Nurse Team

As we begin the New Year, let's each resolve to take care of our physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. By keeping our bodies in good shape **physically**, it will help us resist illness. Eat healthy foods and keep things simple and tasty. Eat your vegetables, lean meats and small portions of grains. Exercise daily by doing an activity you enjoy. Protect yourself and others by wearing a mask, washing your hands and waiting 6 feet apart. **Emotionally**, establish and maintain a routine. Reach out to at least one person outside of your home everyday—it will be good for both of you! Be engaged in a hobby, craft or cleaning out a junk drawer. Learn something new everyday. Our **spiritual** well-being should begin by hemming the day in prayer. In the morning, prayers of thanksgiving for all that you have; at night, turn your cares over to God. Read the Bible or a daily devotional every day. Reach out to a fellow believer or the pastor if you feel your faith is being tested. We are not meant to be alone in our faith journey.

We cannot control the world around us but we can respond to the challenges of living by making good choices. Let's make this life journey the best that we can by healthy living, a positive attitude and a firm faith in God.



*Virtual hugs to all of you,
Brenda Carol and Cheryl*



What's Next for Asbury Church?

Regarding Pastor Heather's New Appointment in July

The Staff Parish Relations Committee will work with our district superintendent, Doug Cue to determine our next steps for church staff. There are three options:

1. Appoint another full-time associate pastor.
2. Eliminate the associate pastor position (this would require a special Charge Conference).
3. Leave the associate pastor position open by not appointing someone this year and instead explore other staffing configurations.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is leaning toward the third option and will make a decision at their February 18 meeting. Their rationale includes the great uncertainty of what the future holds in light of the financial difficulties due to the pandemic. The steps for exploring other staff configurations would include:

1. Review the tasks and responsibilities covered by Pastor Heather and our current staff.
2. Determine if there are presently any staffing gaps that need to be filled
3. Determine what kind of positions would be needed which includes job descriptions and compensation.
4. Consider individuals including current staff who could fill the new positions.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee would welcome input from the congregation. The members of the committee are: John Cerny, Ada Christopher, Dot Crosby, Jerry Finley, Donna Kuykendall, Tony Morales, Bev Reed, Pat Thornton and Jan Windmiller

- **Upper Room**...The January/February Upper Room devotional books are available to pick up at church. If you would like a copy mailed to you please call the church office.
- **Praises and Requests for Prayer** may be submitted on our website JesusIsTheBridge.org by clicking on the "Prayers & Praise" button. If you would like to be part of Asbury's Prayer Team please contact Pam & Pat Thornton, Pastor Tom or the Parish Nurse Team.
- **Thoughts of Sympathy**...Our prayers are with Peggy Heppler & family on the death of her husband, Harry, on January 18. The family and friends of Loraine Stahl, who passed away on January 24.
- **Our building is closed to outside groups while we wait out the pandemic.** We continue to have a small crew in the office Monday-Friday, 8:00-Noon. Please feel free to call or contact a staff member at home after hours if a need arises.
- **Newsletter Deadline**...Articles for the next issue of Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00 AM on Monday, February 8.**
- **Ladies in Fellowship Together**...Lift will be gathering in March on Zoom for a One-and-Done Book Discussion of "Recipes for a Sacred Life: True Stories and a Few Miracles" by Rivvy Neshama. Date and time will be posted soon on the LIFT Facebook page, where you will also find their latest news & words of inspiration. All women are welcome! We hope you'll join us.
- **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!
- **Friendly Thrift Center**...We need three things: MEN'S jeans; volunteers; customers. We are open for shoppers Wednesday through Saturday from 9:00 to noon.
- **Foundation Gift Recognitions**...Thank you to Jerry Finley for his gift to the Asbury Foundation in honor of his recent birthday. For information on how you can guarantee a strong future for the life and ministry of Asbury through a gift to the Foundation please contact John Rabine or the church office.
- **Stewards of Creation February Congregational Challenge**...**"PARTICIPATE IN MEATLESS MONDAYS"**
Eating more plant-based is one of the most powerful ways to reduce our personal carbon footprints. See [AsburyStewardsOfCreation](https://AsburyStewardsOfCreation.org) Facebook page for details on a fun way to participate and comment on this challenge. **Let's all work together on this one!**
- **Thank You from Ken & Linda Jones**...Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, meals, calls & emails while we were hospitalized and recovering from Covid at home. We felt your prayers of healing and it was greatly appreciated knowing our Asbury family was there for us.

**THANK YOU....to everyone who has continued to faithfully give your tithes and offerings during the pandemic.
Gifts may be mailed to the church or go to our website JesusIsTheBridge.org to give electronically.**

Thank you to all of you who have shared with the church their planned Estimate of Giving for 2021. We will face challenges in the coming year, but are confident that we will be able to meet those challenges. If you choose to give online, you may return your 2021 personal book of envelopes to the church office.

Thank you for your support in helping Asbury Church change lives with the message that *Jesus is the Bridge.*

CHURCH LIBRARY TASK FORCE SEEKS INPUT

A task force is now working to “right-size” our church library, so it will take up less space and will be more useable. Asbury’s historical materials will be moved and stored in another area. Biblical, religious and denominational reference books will be reorganized. Other books and materials of a variety of kinds will be either retained, relocated, removed, or donated. INPUT FROM THE CONGREGATION is needed for this task. Below is a survey which can be returned in paper form to the church office or completed on Asbury’s website, BY FEBRUARY 15. Questions or comments should be directed to Bob Mattison, chairperson of the Adult Ministries Team.

Thanks to all for their valuable input!

ASBURY LIBRARY SURVEY

Please complete and submit BY FEBRUARY 15

- 1) Before the pandemic shutdown, how many times IN A YEAR did you use books or materials from Asbury’s library?
6 or more times _____ 1-5 times _____ Did not use _____

- 2) How important is it TO YOU that we keep a formal checkout library, with a catalog system and managed by librarians?
Very _____ Somewhat _____ Not important _____

- 3) After the church reopens, would you use an informal reading area of up-to-date relevant books and materials in a convenient location, such as Fellowship Hall?
Yes _____ Maybe _____ No _____

- 4) If books which are removed from our library are placed out on tables, FREE for the taking, would you be interested in them?
Yes _____ No _____

- 5) Would you support donating remaining unwanted library books and materials to other churches and organizations who might benefit from them?
Yes _____ No _____

- 6) Would you be interested in a computer media station, which would allow you to access resources, such as the videos we use in our study series?
Yes _____ No _____