







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

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



Go to: <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> 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.

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2020 Year-End Report We had a very exciting year in 2020! As a celebration of our ministry accomplishments, we have prepared a yearend report highlighting our accomplishments as well as sharing goals for 2021. Please go to <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> to see the complete report! You may also pick one up in the church office or request that a report be mailed to you.



Everyone has an influence on others.... How do you use yours?

Join us for worship online in January as we continue to look at how we can have a positive influence on others that includes these steps:

- Develop a *relationship* with other people.
- Earn their trust.
- Cast a vision of God's preferred future.
- Help them experience transformation that makes the vision a reality.
- *Regeneration* happens when the person being influenced for Jesus turns around and has a positive influence on someone else.

January 17 <u>Human Relations Sunday</u> Special Offering



HOW DO YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT HUMAN RELATIONS? Our gifts are part of building a beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens. For more than half a century, United Methodists have observed this churchwide special Sunday in recognition of the message Jesus demonstrated during his life: Each of God's children are equally important. An offering envelope is enclosed for your convenience or you may give through our website <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> For more information on Human Relations Sunday you may go to go to <u>www.UMCgiving.org</u>

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 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.





Newcomer's Gathering

Would you like to know more about Asbury? We would like to connect with you so that we can get to know you better and for you to learn about our church. **NEWCOMER'S GATHERING** will be held via Zoom on **Sunday, January 24 at 4:00 PM**. Please contact the church office (355-5218) or Bob Mattison (563-293-0002) by <u>Wednesday, January 20</u> if you plan to attend. You will then receive the link to Zoom and we'll mail you a packet of materials given to those who attend Newcomer's. (By the way, this is the first step to membership, so if you are thinking about joining, please plan to attend.)



🛡 Thank You! 🎙

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Reverse Advent Calendar. We collected 1,420 items and \$160 for the Bettendorf Food Pantry!



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 of the latest fun!



Life and Times of John Wesley

While we call ourselves "Methodist" or "Wesleyan" many do not understand what makes us a denomination different from other Mainline churches. It is the life and theology of an Anglican Preacher who lived during the 18th century who gave us the foundation for what we are today.

After some health issues and the ensuing pandemic, Realff Ottesen is now able to offer a class on the life and theology of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. This is a Zoom class currently being held from 9:00am to 10:15 AM each Sunday morning through Easter.

If you are interested, please let Realff know by e-mail (<u>rottesen741@gmail.com</u>) or phone (563-370-6923) and he will provide you with the link for the class and digital copies of class materials.



Thank You from Salvation Army

Dear (K&K) and Asbury Team:

Thank you SO MUCH for once again staffing the K&K Hardware Salvation Army Kettle for the full season from Thanksgiving to Christmas. Your team was awesome – raising a total of \$10,057.75, an amazing increase of \$1,673.82 (+20%) more than even last year's astonishing amount! On behalf of the hundreds of families assisted with toys, food, shelter and housing services, we would like to express our profound appreciation to you and to ALL of your team.

May your congregation enjoy a healthy and happy 2021! In His service, Major Bob Doliber





Phase 1 of the vaccine distribution focuses on front-line health care workers who are providing in-patient services with the highest risk of exposure. It is unknown how long Phase 1 will take. The next Phase will be extended to other essential workers and high-risk patients. This means it is not anticipated that Covid-19 vaccine will be available to patients or the general public until spring 2021 or later.

Until the vaccine is distributed to the general public, and even for some time after, we MUST remain vigilant. Please wear your mask, limit indoor gatherings, practice social distancing, wash your hands for at least 20 seconds, and stay home when you are sick.

If you are offered the vaccine, we highly encourage you to take it. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the vaccine don't hesitate to call me and I can answer any questions you may have. I have information regarding both vaccines and other information. If I can not answer your question, I will find the answer for you. Take care!

Carol Jackson RN, Parish Nurse 563-940-5774

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<u>Can You Help</u>?...I am looking to gather a list of individuals who would be willing to make and deliver a meal to church members periodically. The meals would be provided to those who have a need for assistance in this way because of illness in the family; death in the family; to help a caregiver; mother and baby coming home; etc. If you are interested in helping provide this 'act of kindness', please call me at 563-505-1477. Let me know if you have questions. Chervl Ewert, Health Care Advocate

- <u>Upper Room</u>...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.
- <u>Praises and Requests for Prayer</u> may be submitted on our website <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> 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.
- <u>Congratulations</u> to JR and Donna Stradt on the birth of a grandson, Elliott Michael, on December 25. Parents are Marty and Kristen Stradt of Portage, MI.
- <u>Thoughts of Sympathy</u>....Our prayers are with Karl & April Crowder and family on the death of April's sister, Kelly, on Dec. 29. Richard & Heather Dennis and family on the death of Heather's Aunt Yvonne on January 7.
- 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.
- <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>....Articles for the next issue of Good News should be in the church office no later than 8:00 AM on Monday, January 25.
- Ladies in Fellowship Together...Check the LIFT Facebook page for the latest news & words of inspiration.
- <u>Asbury Men's Group</u>....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 Kristi Berst, Fritz Homann and Tim Tulon for their gifts to the Asbury Foundation in honor of their 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.
- <u>Stewards of Creation January Congregational Challenge</u>...."Choose Your Own Challenge to Support Creation!" (A list of past challenges is posted on our Facebook Stewards of Creation site to help everyone with some ideas. If you would like to share your "2021 Resolutions to Support Creation" you may do so in the comments of our Stewards of Creation Facebook page.)

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 <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> 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.

Publication News Published by Asbury United Methodist Church, 1809 Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf, IA 52722, Published Monthly, Issue 119