



weekly
UPDATE

8:00 AM In-Person Worship Beginning March 7

Join Us!

We Will Return to Worship in the Building in Phases:

- ▶ Beginning on March 7th we will add an 8:00 AM service with masks and social distancing. (See flyer enclosed.)
- ▶ The 10:30 AM service will continue to be online-only through March.
- ▶ Beginning on April 11 we will welcome people in the building for both the 8:00 and 10:30 AM worship services.
- ▶ Specific details for Easter will be shared in the next Good News.

To worship online go to: JesusIsTheBridge.org and click either the red "Live Worship" or "YouTube Live" button.

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

As we plan for the future, we will always offer an Online Worship option.

Communion Will Be Served in the Sanctuary at 8:00 Worship on March 7

- Safe, individually-sealed packets of communion elements will be used.

Drive-Up Communion Service on Mississippi Blvd. in front of the church at 11:45 AM

- Please bring your own bread & juice and remain in your car. Pastor Tom will lead us in communion through your car radio.



UMCOR Sunday on March 14

One of the six churchwide special offerings, UMCOR Sunday, supports the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the denomination's humanitarian relief and development organization. The special offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business." While many non-profit agencies charge 35 cents for each dollar raised, your support through this offering ensures **100% of gifts to UMCOR help those who need it most.** Please find the envelope enclosed and consider supporting UMCOR on Sunday, March 14th.



Time to Kick It In!

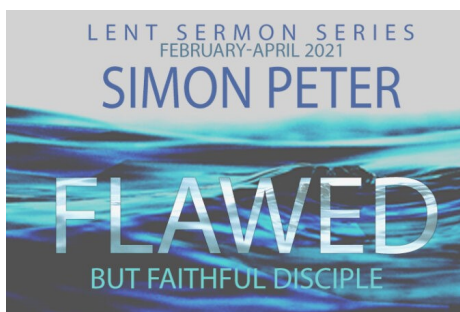
With the finish line in sight, distance runners can experience a shot of adrenaline that helps them to speed up and finish strong.

That's where we are with COVID-19. We've been in a marathon. The finish is in sight but we're not quite there yet. So instead of letting up and coasting to the finish, we need to speed up and work even harder. The more we push ourselves now, the better prepared we will be to make a fresh start. And the stronger we will be for the next race. Because there will be another one.

Life is one big marathon that is actually a series of many, many smaller marathons. This pandemic is only one of the many individual races that we will have to endure. As we study the life of Simon Peter, a flawed but faithful disciple, we will see that throughout his life, he also was never really done in trying follow Jesus.

The world will continue to change and we can never just go back to the way things used to be. We are coming to the end of this race; there will be another one. So let's kick it in and finish strong.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tom



February 21 through March 28 Lenten Sunday Sermon & Study Series

This six-week Sunday Sermon and Study Series began on Sunday, February 21. 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.



City-Wide Easter Event!

Egg-A-Palooza will take place on Saturday March 27th 10 AM - 12Noon - Several UMC churches are coming together to host this event. Asbury church will provide the Easter candy. **Please consider donating bags of Easter Candy no later than Saturday, March 20th. Contact Carrie Meumann with questions. We are hoping to gift 3500 people!**

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



Patience! Such an important word this year. As we all hope to have a vaccine to fight COVID, the reality is the vaccine is not as available as we were hoping it would be. Trying to get an appointment for the first of two vaccinations can be frustrating and challenging. Many of you have called us to ask for help in getting this scheduled. We will do whatever we can to assist you, so please stay in touch. **However**, we need to wait patiently. The country needs more vaccines. We don't know when more will be available. Once production increases though, it will be abundant and available for all. It is difficult to wait, to be patient. Let us support each other, as we know the vaccine will be available soon!

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Romans 8:25



Brenda, Carol and Cheryl



Children and Adult Sunday School Offerings Help Children Near and Far!

Thanks to your generosity, \$431 was sent to the University of Iowa Stead Family Hospital to provide support for their most urgent needs. This hospital does incredible work! We hope you will go to our website JesusIsTheBridge.org to see how you can continue this important outreach by brightening a child's day with letters, drawings or notes of encouragement!



An additional \$425 was sent to Fishers of Men Ministries to help RootsKids sponsor a four-year-old boy, Vincent Mutati Himanzi, from Kenya Africa (pictured here). We will place Vincent's photo in the TreeHouse and as we get updates and letters from him we will share them with you. Please write a welcome letter (or draw a picture!) to Vincent and drop or mail to the church office. For more information on Vincent and Fishers of Men Ministries, please visit our website.



Thank you to all who supported the 2020 CROP Walk. As #21 in giving in the USA, the Quad Cities has been named a *Cream of the CROP Top Walk in 2020!* Asbury's contributions were \$2,360.

Amplify Media Available to All!

Asbury has access to Amplify Media which is a multimedia streaming platform that features thousands of videos that are appropriate for small children through adults. It is currently being used by some of our small groups, but may also be used by individuals wanting to find anything from delightful children's age appropriate videos to daily devotions, Bible Studies, or book studies which are designed to help in one's own personal faith journey. Any video may be viewed at anytime on almost any device. Because this service is being paid for by the church, there is no cost to group leaders and/or members to access the materials.

If you interested in Amplify Media, please contact the office for the link and code at: pattys@asbury-bett.org.



Welcome Team.... We are taking names now of volunteers willing to serve on our Welcome Team to greet people as they arrive and assist them in finding a seat at each service when we return to in-person worship. Please contact Kurt Streicher at (563) 508-7614 or vicstre@aol.com if you will help. **THANK YOU!**

- **Upper Room...** The March/April 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.
- **Thank You from Joey Arney....** To my Asbury family, thank you so very much for your many prayers, cards and thoughts of concern for me during my recent hospitalization and recovery. Your thoughtfulness was truly appreciated.
- **Thoughts of Sympathy....** Our prayers are with the family and friends of Bev Warner. Bev passed away on January 28.
- **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, March 8.**
- **Ladies in Fellowship Together...** We will be gathering by Zoom on Tuesday, March 23rd at 6:30 PM for a One-and-Done book discussion of the book *Recipes for a Sacred Life: True Stories and a Few Miracles* by Rivvy Neshama. We are asking each participant to obtain their own book if possible. Please contact Marian Paulson (309-507-1714) for more information or for assistance in locating a book. Check out the LIFT and Asbury Facebook pages for more details and to **RSVP** for this event! All women are welcome! We hope you'll join us.
- **Asbury Men's Group....** This group meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturday mornings at 8:00 AM. 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....Spring is coming!!** Ladies, come on in and spruce up your wardrobe. In March, we'll have special prices on beautiful spring dresses, dress slacks, jackets and blouses. Then, choose new jewelry too! We have an abundance of merchandise at always low prices. **Store hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 9:00 to noon. See you soon!**
- **Foundation Gift Recognitions....** Thank you to Heather Dennis, Roger Moler and Katie Nelson 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.
- **Stewards of Creation March Congregational Challenge..."Avoid Plastic Packaging"** - Whenever possible, choose products that are not packaged in plastic. Instead, look for glass or paper alternatives that can be recycled. Also, choose unpackaged items that can be transported in a reusable bag. See our Facebook site for more details.

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.*