



Welcome
to
Worship!

In-Person Worship Resumes!

Our Plan is to Return to the Building in Phases:

- ▶ We now have an 8:00 AM worship with masks and social distancing. This service is the same content as the 10:30 online service.
- ▶ Beginning on April 11 we will also welcome people in the building for the 10:30 AM worship service. It may feel like a "studio audience" for awhile because we will remain focused on our online broadcast.

We are ready to receive requests for church-related small groups to meet in the building. The church has purchased an Owl Camera System that allows meetings to include people in the room and others at home over Zoom. Please contact the church office if your church-related committee or group would like to meet in the building.



To worship online go to: JesusIsTheBridge.org and click either the blue "Facebook Live Worship" or the red "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 continue to offer an Online Worship option.



† PALM SUNDAY

March 28

8:00AM In-Person • 10:30AM Online

† MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 1

At Home Worship Experience

Take † Bless † Break † Give

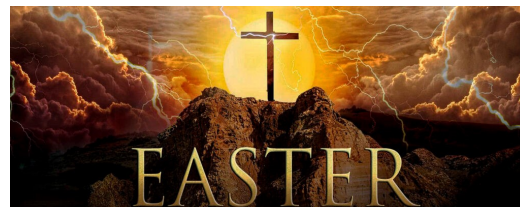
Details in your Lenten Bag or on our website

† GOOD FRIDAY

April 2

6:00AM Online Premiere Video

7:00PM In-Person Video Showing in the Sanctuary



† APRIL 4 WORSHIP AT ASBURY

8AM Drive-In Worship and Communion

Mississippi Blvd. will be Blocked Off for Outdoor Worship

Bring Your Lawn Chairs † We Will Sit Outside, Weather Permitting

In Case of Rain, Remain in Your Car and Tune to FM 95.5 on Your Radio

† 10:30AM Worship Online at Home

† 11:45AM Drive-In Communion in 18th Street Parking Lot

Bring your own Communion elements, or pre-packaged will be provided as well.

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR TOM....

It was about one year ago when we first stopped worshiping and meeting in our building due to COVID-19. At that time I made a prediction when I said:

"We'll be back.

We'll be prepared.

We'll be safe."

We're following through on that commitment as we come back to worship and meeting in groups in the building. We're doing all that we can to be prepared so that people will be safe. We're not out of this yet, but we are making good progress.

In some ways we will be living out the theme of Easter which is a resurrection from the dead and a return to life. And even though life won't be exactly the same as it was before the pandemic, if we can learn to adapt and appreciate what we have, it can be even be better!

The Blood Drive is Back!!

Please Consider Signing Up to Participate

Monday, March 29

2:00 to 6:00 PM

Upper Fellowship Hall

An appointment is required. You can register online at www.bloodcenter.org or call Cheryl Ewert at 563-505-1477.

BONUS:

All donors receive SOCKS or a GIFT CARD!



Hey RootsKids.... This Easter, during our Drive-In Worship Service, Mississippi Blvd will be closed off for us to hold church service outside! We want KIDS to decorate the pavement with chalk art! Bring your own chalk from home and Carrie will have extra chalk as well! Let's show our community that Jesus is ALIVE to anyone who drives by after our service is over.

Carrie Meumann



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



In the last issue of the Good News, we talked about ways that we can help others. Are you looking for that opportunity? **Volunteering at the Friendly Thrift Center would be an excellent way to do that.** The Center has been in existence for over 50 years and serves those in need by filling vouchers for clothing and household items. It is also a place where anyone may shop for items at very low prices. **We are in need of more helpers on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.** You would be able to help in this valuable service on the same day each week for a couple of hours each time. It is not hard work and the benefits are great, to others and to you. We do follow COVID protocols by wearing masks and keeping things clean.

Please contact one of the current volunteers with questions or to sign up to volunteer: Gail Jackson, Donna Moore, John Cameron, Dave Phillips, Becky Carlson, Julie Moran, Sue Gallagher or Cheryl Ewert. We look forward to hearing from you to explore this opportunity to serve others.

Brenda, Carol and Cheryl



Library Update: Free Books Available Through April



A team of staff and volunteers is moving forward with rightsizing and updating Asbury's library– to make it more useful, to get books into the hands of more people, and to use our building more efficiently. A survey was done in February, with 63 responses, indicating that few people have used our library in recent years. With internet technology and with well-equipped public libraries, traditional church libraries are giving way to smaller reading and resource centers.

The team has sorted thousands of books and materials in the adult and children's libraries and has placed a large number of them in Upper Fellowship Hall, FREE TO ANYONE through April 30th. People may come to the church during office hours (8:00AM-12:00 noon, Monday-Friday) and during Sunday morning worship and may take as many books as they wish, with no sign-outs required. Books are displayed in marked categories, to simplify browsing. Many important library books and materials will be KEPT and reorganized, such as Bible reference, John Wesley, United Methodism, denominational structure, Christian living, and Asbury's history.

Donations of books to our library will no longer be normally accepted, except those used for all-church or small group studies. If someone has a book which they believe is important to have in our library, they should contact Linda Manning, our Adult Ministries Director. Carrie Meumann, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, will oversee the books and materials for children and youth. Asbury will continue to purchase and provide Sunday School materials, small group study books and DVDs.



High School Youth are meeting once again and being led by Rebecca Ericson. We are looking for more leaders to help with High School and Jr. High Youth. Please contact Carrie Meumann if interested! carriem@asbury-bett.org




Welcome Team....We are taking names of volunteers willing to serve on our Welcome Team to greet people as they arrive and to assist them in finding a seat at each service as we return to in-person worship. Please contact Kurt Streicher at (563) 508-7614 or vicstre@aol.com or Denise Tyler at (309)721-4563 or howdevette@gmail.com if you will help. **THANK YOU!**

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.

Congregational Giving Comparison YTD through February

The Asbury Finance Team feels it is important to keep the congregation informed of the financial implications of the Pandemic. One way is to compare congregational giving shown here.

	Year to Date 2020	Year to Date 2021	Change
Income	\$ 100,508	\$87,468	(\$13,040)

- **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.
- **Thoughts of Sympathy**....Our prayers are with Ed and Valerie Maher on the death of Ed's brother, Charles, on March 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.
- **Newsletter Deadline**....Articles for the next issue of Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00 AM on Monday, April 12.**
- **Ladies in Fellowship Together**...Check out the LIFT and Asbury Facebook pages for information on our women's small group and their upcoming events. All women are welcome. You may also contact Marian Paulson at marianedmund@yahoo.com We hope you will 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**.... **Store hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 9:00 to noon. See you soon!**
- **Foundation Gift Recognitions**....Thank you to Daniel Berry, Talbot Berry and Richard Jackson for their gifts to the Asbury Foundation in honor of their recent birthdays. 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 April Congregational Challenge..."Pick Up Litter While Walking"** When you go for walks, take a bag and pick up trash any day in April. Gloves are suggested. Check our next newsletter and Stewards of Creation Facebook page for more related information. Also, we are currently accepting Terracycle items. Please leave your items in the Terracycle wood chest in the **Mission Drop-Off-Site** located near the west coat room & elevator.