ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News



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





PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR MAY SERMON SERIES! Who are the people in your NEIGHBORHOOD

Relationships are everything and the relationships we have with the people in our neighborhood have a major impact on our quality of life.

During May we will look to the scriptures for insights on how being a good neighbor can transform our community. This will coincide with our new Neighborhood Bridge Builders emphasis. Like ripples expanding across a pond, the goal is that we will develop trusting relationships with our neighbors and expand that influence to other neighborhoods across our community.

You can make a difference. It all begins with the God given desire to want to know and care for our neighbors.

In-Person Worship Has Resumed!

We have two opportunities to be in the building for worship on Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30AM. The 10:30AM worship continues to be livestreamed for people to participate online. Both services will be basically the same for the time being. Masks and social distancing are required. Over time, we will begin to reintroduce live music and the two services will begin to take on different formats. We will also be exploring how to maintain an online presence that doesn't feel like a "studio audience" for people in the building. We are coming back to a changed world and we want to continue to adapt to be effective with all the new tools we've learned.

To worship online go to: <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> 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.



Help support Asbury Ministries by choosing Birdie #2269 as your Birdies for Charity recipient! We will receive a 5% bonus from Birdies for Charity for every gift given. Please find the enclosed form to participate! Thank you!



Congratulations Asbury Scholarship Recipients!

We are pleased to announce our 2021 Scholarship Award recipients are: Carter Wolf, son of Paul and Joni Wolf and Cooper Dittmer, son of Bob and Dawn Cooper. We are grateful for their years of service at Asbury. We pray they will continue their faith journey as they attend college in the Fall and that they will always know that the people of Asbury support them!



We're Happy to Announce Carrie Meumann as Our New Media Specialist!

The staff Parish Relations Committee is very pleased to announce that Carrie Meumann has formally accepted the Asbury staff position of Media Specialist.

She had already assumed many of these duties on an interim basis. This makes the arrangement formal and also prepares the way for the SPRC to explore an expanded role for this position in terms of media production and worship preparation.

The implication is that Carrie will need to relinquish her role as Director of Youth Ministries. **This means** that we are beginning the search for a new Director of Youth Ministries. Carrie will assist in this transition and provide leadership for our youth until a new staff person is in place.

We are in a time of reorganization as we prepare for Pastor Heather's departure to a new appointment in July. A task force led by Steve Sorensen is working with the Staff Parish Relations Committee to determine an appropriate staffing structure that is financially sustainable and focused on our current and future needs.







Roots Kids Lesson Highlights

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





Our warm and caring Grief Share Team would like you to know that we are thinking of offering a new Grief Share class beginning in June. The class is scripture-based and it is our hope that through this program you will find reassurance and encouragement; as well as fellowship and support from others traveling a similar journey.

If you are interested in attending our 11-week class, it is very important to understand that it is okay if you are not able to start on the first day or if you are concerned you may miss some of the classes. You may attend when you are able. At this time discussion continues on whether to have classes at the church or on Zoom. Please call the office at 355-5218 to let us know you are interested. Our team understands what you are going through and want to help.

Asbury Parish Nurse Program
Cheryl Ewert, Brenda Sherrick and Carol Jackson

PRAY Sone James 5:16

Join the Prayer Team

Are you being called to grow your prayer life by joining the Asbury Prayer Team? Team "Members" commit to praying FOR people who submit prayer requests. Prayer "Partners" are willing to pray WITH people as needed.

Contact Pat or Pam Thornton at psthornton@gmail.com or 332-4824 to learn more or to join the team. Each year we commission our Prayer Team members during worship on Pentecost Sunday which will be May 23 this year.



We are accepting 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.

High School Youth, led by Rebecca Erickson, are meeting once again. We are looking for more leaders to help with High School and Jr. High Youth. If interested, please contact Carrie Meumann at 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 <u>JesusIsTheBridge.org</u> to give electronically.

- <u>Upper Room</u>...The May/June 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 "<u>Prayers & Praise</u>" 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 Val Maher on the death of Ed's brother, Ben Maher, on April 11.
- 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, May 17.
- <u>Ladies in Fellowship Together</u>...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 <u>marianedmund@yahoo.com</u> We hope you will join us!
- <u>Asbury Men's Group</u>....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!
- <u>Asbury Card Ministry...</u>will resume on **Wednesday, May 12 at 6:30 pm in the church's upper rooms 302 & 303**. We will be making Teacher Appreciation cards for those who conducted ZOOM meetings throughout the year as well as Graduation and Baptism cards. If you are curious about or interested in this ministry, please contact one of the following people before May 12. We are social distancing and masking, so we are limited to 16 people for this event. Linda Dudgeon: ph. 563-355-4212 or email: lddudgeon@yahoo.com Alinda Littrel: ph. 563-340-1401 or email: galauctionservices@gmail.com
- You do not have to have any paper crafting experience to join us. There is something for everyone to do. We make holiday cards, including Valentine, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. We also make all kinds of cards for our congregation's shut-ins, widows and widowers, new parents, youth and children events (baptism, graduation & confirmation) & more. Please join us on Wednesday, May 12!
- •<u>Stewards of Creation May Congregational Challenge</u>..." *Use Less Paper/Support Trees*" Cancel unneeded catalogs, magazines and "junk mail". Arrange to pay more bills online. Let companies know you prefer emails and online information. Use the reverse side of paper. Recycle any used paper. Plant a tree. Get involved with an organization that supports trees. *Terracycle*: We are accepting cereal, chip, and salty snack bags. Please leave in the Terracycle wood chest at the Mission Drop-Off Site located near the West coat room.
- <u>Foundation Gift Recognitions</u>....Thank you to Darcy Johnson, Ken Jones, Becky Reiter and Darvin Schroeder 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.
- •<u>Thank You from Arlene Allison and Jan Windmiller</u>.... Thank you to our Asbury family for the many cards and messages of support at the time of Bill's passing, and to the pastors, Parish Nurse Team and Prayer Team during his brief illness in the weeks prior. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated by the entire family.





