

**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** 





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

# In-Person Worship is Back!

We have two opportunities for worship in the building at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM. For the month of June we will still be asking people to social distance and wear face masks so that **we can sing** softly and to protect children who are not yet able to receive the vaccination.

People will also still be able to worship online at 10:30 AM. To worship online go to: <u>JesuslsTheBridge.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.

Communion will be served on **June 6** at both services and at an 11:45am drive-up Communion service in the church parking lot on the corner of Mississippi Blvd and 18<sup>th</sup> St. You can bring your own bread and juice and remain in your car to share in communion with Pastor Tom.

#### Sunday Morning Family Room

A Family Room is now available in the former children's library for parents and their kids who need a quiet place where they can relax and take a short break from worship on Sunday mornings.





<u>Save the Date</u> <u>Farewell Reception for Pastor Heather</u> Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> 5:00-7:00pm McManus Park 12th Street & Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf

> Please watch for more information online, in worship and in your June 9 Good News.

Pastor Heather's last Sunday in worship will be June 13.



We are not only coming back from the pandemic, but we are also strengthening the foundation upon which we will move into the future. The foundational belief that guides us is: Jesus is the bridge who connects us to God and other people. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. But how do we intend to fulfill that mission?

Our strategy includes three simple steps: 1. seek God's light; 2. share God's love; and 3. do God's will. This summer in worship we will explore what we mean by each of these steps. Beginning in June we will be looking at how we seek God's light individually and as a community. This is such an important time in the life of our church and our world. A strong foundation and a common direction will help us to be ready for anything.

I hope you'll join us for worship in person or online as we seek God's light together.

Welcome back to worship! The future awaits us! Pastor Tom

#### Asbury Library Rightsizing Becomes Mission Outreach

The project of reducing and reorganizing Asbury's library is now complete – creating space for other purposes, making the remaining resources more useable, and being in mission. People are invited to see the newly rearranged library rooms. It has been learned that many churches have been doing similar downsizing of their libraries in this age of expanding digital information.

In the past two months, thousands of Asbury's books, which had received little use in recent years, have been donated to: church members and friends, home-school families, Luther Crest residents, a missionary who will distribute them in Kenya (He said, "Books are like gold in Kenya!"), a small interdenominational church, the public library, Eastern Star who will give them to hospitalized children, Stuff, Book Rack, Disabled American Veterans, Good Will, and Salvation Army.

The portraits of former library patrons, Dottie and George Sovers (painted by Asbury member Ward Olson) and their plaque were sent to their daughter in Texas, who is thrilled to have them. There remains in the library a variety of useful reference books and current materials for anyone wanting to "dig a little deeper." Asbury's historical archives have also been relocated.

We thank the many people who worked together to accomplish this challenging task: the project committee (Bob Mattison, Don Mitchem, Jean Black, Pam Thornton, Pat Thornton, Marian Paulson, Donna Kuykendall, Gene Earp, Mary Earp, April Crowder, Linda Manning); and special helpers (Dan Howell, Kevin Jones, Patty Schwegler, Pastor Tom Carver, Vierlyn Roskens, Ann Lawson, Mindy Yochum). The project was coordinated by Linda Manning, Director of Adult Ministries.

What began as a task to "right-size" Asbury's library and repurpose space has become a special mission, reaching from Bettendorf to Africa. We thank God for helping Asbury to do this.



## **OPEN POSITION! DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY**

Asbury is looking for a new Director of Youth Ministries. If you enjoy making a difference for youth, we need YOU! Contact the church office at 355-5218 for a job description. Please share this information!



## **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!





Grief Share Update from Your Parish Nurse Team....This class will begin on June 21. We will meet in person in the church building on Monday and Thursday afternoons for six weeks. Time is to be determined. 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. Please call the office at 355-5218 to let us know you are interested.



## Summer Sunday Class for Adults and Older Youth

Adults and older youth are invited to our Summer Sunday Class, beginning June 6 at 9:15-10:15AM. People may attend in person in classroom #302-303 or online (contact the church office to get the ZOOM link). The series will use studies from "The Bible Project" and will not require any outside reading. Coordinators are Phil Paulson, Marian Edmund-Paulson, and Don Mitchem.



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!



#### United Methodist Special Offering - Peace with Justice Sunday Moved by Christ's love to pursue reconciliation and peace and honoring the dignity of every individual

made in God's image, the United Methodist Church is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice. Although we may lack the resources alone to effect change in a broken world, your giving is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation. Because of the Peace with Justice Sunday offering, the people of The United Methodist Church are able to make a difference together by sowing seeds-and yielding fruit! Fifty percent goes to General Board of Church and Society for support of peace and justice ministries and 50% is retained by the Iowa Annual Conference to support restorative justice initiatives and other peace and justice efforts.

For more information go to https://www.iaumc.org/special-sundays-and-special-offerings PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

### **Congregational Giving Comparison YTD through April**

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.

	April Year to Date 2020	April Year to Date 2021	Change
Income	\$ 210,721	\$197,655	(\$13,066)



Please support Asbury Ministries by choosing our Birdie #2269 as your 2021 John Deere Classic Birdies for Charity recipient. You may call the church office for a form or go online to www.birdiesforcharity.com 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.



Congratulations to our Asbury 2021 High School Graduates!

Hope Bauer, Paige Berst, Ryan Cole, Cooper Dittmer, McKinley Elg, William Kunz, Eddie Levetzow, Jason McNab, Alex Melvin, Ben Wilkinson and Carter Wolf

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- Praises and Requests for Prayer 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. • Thoughts of Sympathy....Our prayers are with: Linda Ashby on the death of her mother, Evelyn Mae Wright, on April 25.
- The family and friends of Carol Zemelka who passed away on May 2. The family and friends of Doris Meier who passed away on May 10.
- Summer Office Hours.... Summer Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00-Noon. Please feel free to contact a staff member if you need assistance after hours.
- Newsletter Deadline....Articles for the next issue of Good News should be in the church office no later than 8:00 AM on Monday, June 7.
- 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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!
- •Stewards of Creation June Congregational Challenge .... "Share Your Appreciation for Creation With a Child" Suggestions: Share a story or movie that shows how to care for Creation, take a nature hike, recycle together, talk about pollinators while planting flowers and how children can be good stewards. 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 elevator.
- Foundation Gift Recognitions....Thank you to Mary Fanning, Susan Gallagher, Nancy Moler and Sherry Van Pelt 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.

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