ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News



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



We have learned a lot during our test drive to determine the best times for worship, and as a result, we have determined that one change is needed for our contemporary service. **Effective Sunday, September 5**th, the contemporary service will begin at **10:30am!** The Traditional service will remain at 8:30am.

Worship on August 22 and 29 will remain on the 8:30 and 10:00 schedule.

More details coming soon for Small Groups and Children's Ministry times!

COVID Response

Due to the renewed threat of transmission of COVID, even among vaccinated people, our COVID Response Team of the Parish Nurses, Church Council Chairs and Pastor Tom are asking people to follow the CDC guidelines and wear face masks while in the building. The team will continue to meet and assess the situation on a regular basis.

Thank You for Your Patience and Cooperation as We Face This Challenge Together!





Don Mitchem to Share in Worship on August 29

After 35 years in Bettendorf and many, many years of service through the Asbury Church, Don and Marilyn Mitchem will be moving to Duluth, MN to be closer to their daughter's family.

Don will share the sermon with music at both worship times on Sunday, August 29. The theme will be "*The Love Chapter*", 1Corinthians 13. This will be a great way to honor all the contributions the Mitchem's have made to Asbury and hear some wisdom from Don as they prepare to depart.



Children's Ministry Director Update



The Staff Parish Relations Committee is very pleased to announce that Linda Carver has accepted the position of Interim Director of Children's Ministries. This means that she will begin immediately to lead our church's efforts at helping children connect with God and other people through Jesus. She has stated that her first priority will be to listen to families and our volunteers to determine the best way to care for our children during this time of challenge and transition. Specific plans are in the works depending on what she learns from the congregation.

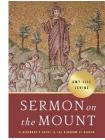


"I am excited to start off the new school year with the Asbury family in the Children's Ministry area. I see the Asbury children belonging to all of us in the Asbury church family, so we want to take care and know them as if they were our own. As each child was baptized we took an oath to be responsible for supporting them and their family as they develop their spiritual beliefs and understanding.

Here's a quick background of me:

I am a UNI graduate with a bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences. I have taught and substituted in the elementary level for many years in several different school districts around lowa. Most recently I have been working as a guest teacher in the Bettendorf, North Scott and Pleasant Valley schools. I have also been involved in the Methodist Church in many different areas, mostly with children and youth. I enjoy being outdoors and activities such as gardening, sports, cooking, crafts and spending time with family."

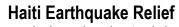
Blessings, Linda



Sunday Sermon and Study Series Coming in September

The fall Sunday Sermon Study Series will be looking at the greatest sermon ever preached, The Sermon on the Mount. Author Amy Jill Levine has called this "A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven."

This will be the theme in worship during September as well. Small groups will then be able to go into further study using the study book and a 40 Day Devotional. Study materials are available to be picked up at the church. We are also willing to deliver the materials to anyone who requests them.





On August 14 a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the southwest peninsula of Haiti. The death toll has climbed to some 1,900 people, triggered landslides, collapsed buildings and sent aftershocks across the country. If you would like to give to the UMCOR Advance #982450 relief efforts you may make your check to Asbury with UMCOR on the memo line. 100% of your UMCOR gift goes directly to the relief in Haiti.

To give directly to UMCOR or to learn more about the disaster and UMCOR efforts go to umnews.org Thank you.





GivePlus Mobile App Upgraded to MyVanco

Converting is a simple process—simply install Vanco Mobile from either the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (depending on the type of phone you have). In your App or Play store, search for "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" and tap Install. Follow the screen prompts. When you open the application find Asbury in the "Search Organizations" screen. (Look for our Asbury bridge logo...there are several Asbury UM churches listed.) GivePlus will be an available option as well until September 30.

Message from Your Parish Nurse Team

We're wearing masks...again. Why? Because there's a pandemic out there caused by a network of people. WHAT IF, we started our own pandemic? What if we used our personal networks to spread happiness, help, gratitude and optimism? "Fight Fire with Fire!"

We need to stay positive, optimistic and hopeful to keep fighting that other pandemic. We need to help each other. We need to protect our health, our mental health, our spirit and our soul to stay resilient. We do that by looking outside of ourselves to see how we can reach others. It will help you feel better in more ways than you know.



You can be a blessing to others everyday. Give it a try and see how it feels!! Stay safe. Be well. Be thankful. Brenda, Carol and Cheryl

AIM Mission of the Month for August...The Asbury in Mission (AIM) Team has chosen our neighborhood schools (Mark Twain and Neil Armstrong) as our next mission focus. The format for helping with this mission will be a bit different than the others, in that it will be an ongoing call for help, as they come across needs throughout the school year. This call will come through the form of an email list. Jenny Bloomquist will be the initial contact, and she will then forward to those who may be interested. Needs may be quick (example: supplying tissues for a classroom) or longer-term (example: working with a child as a reading buddy). More information will be given as we get closer to the school year.

FRIENDS AT ASBURY UMC, Thank you so much for allowing us to share with you a few weeks ago. It's been so encouraging to meet and talk with many of you during our stay in the Quad Cities. We greatly appreciate your continued prayers and generous financial gifts—what a joy to know we're not in this alone. We look forward to worshipping with you again in the future. Until then, God bless! The Luetchens Family



THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the AIM July Mission of the Month for the children at Hope at the Brick House. Because of your generosity, we collected \$1,125 for their staff to purchase the needed supplies for the children. Thank you!

THE CHURCHES UNITED MEAL (formerly known as the Salvation Army Meal) is getting a temporary new look. In order to follow guidelines, this meal will now be served as a sack dinner (sandwich, chips, fruit, dessert, drink) and will be picked up tableside by clients outside of Zion Lutheran Church. Asbury is still scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month, and our first dinner will be October 6. We are looking for helpers to provide food items, assemble meal bags, transport, and serve. If interested in any of these areas, please contact Jenny Bloomquist, Linda Carver, or Robin James.



Adults and older youth are invited to our Summer Sunday Class on Sunday mornings from 8:30-9:30AM. People may attend in person in classroom #302-303 or online (contact the church office to get the ZOOM link). The series uses studies from "The Bible Project" and does not require any outside reading. Coordinators are Phil Paulson, Marian Edmund-Paulson, and Don Mitchem.



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.



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 worship service. 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!

- 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, August 30
- Ladies in Fellowship Together...Detail of dates and events can be found on our LIFT Facebook page. You may also contact Marian Paulson at marianedmund@yahoo.com. We invite all women to 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!
- Card Ministry is not meeting in August. Join us on September 8th at 6:30 PM.
- Stewards of Creation August Congregational Challenge... "Avoid Buying New" Instead, consider these options: repair, reuse, repurpose, borrow, buy used at a thrift shop/garage sale or participate in a local "Buy Nothing", "Freecycle" or "Swap" group. Why?.... Manufacturing and transporting goods uses resources and energy and often pollutes. Terracycle - New... Now accepting: Pens, highlighters, markers & glue sticks (all brands), empty toothpaste tubes with caps on and empty dental floss containers. We continue to accept cereal, chip and salty snack bags. Please leave your items in the Terracycle wood chest at the Mission Drop-Off Site located near the elevator.
- Foundation Gift Recognitions....Thank you to Angie Berry, Connie Drexel, Mary Earp, Bob Reiter, Pam & Pat Thornton and Dennis Winegar 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.
- Congratulations to Sandy and Suzanne Yoder on the birth of a granddaughter, Elise Nicole, on August 6th. Parents are Brandon and Molly Yoder.

Congregational Giving Comparison YTD through July

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.

	July Year to Date	July Year to Date	Change
	2020	2021	
Income	\$ 358,082	\$338,436	(\$19,646)

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.