



Four Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24

Noon - A Special Premiere Video - Online ONLY

4:00 pm Family Worship In-Person • 7:00 pm Traditional Worship In Person & Online
9:00 pm Intimate Worship In-Person with Communion

1809 Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf, IA

Christmas Eve Worship Readers Needed! Please call the church office if you are able to help. **THANK YOU!**



Advent Sunday Sermon and Study Series continues through December 26
Pastor Tom's Advent Sermons follow Adam Hamilton's Study: "Not a Silent Night"



Sunday Worship Schedule

Traditional Service at 8:30am • Praise Service at 10:30am • Communion on January 2nd
Adult Classes 9:30-10:30 • Coffee & Refreshments 9:30-10:30 • Nursery for Infants through 2 Years 8:00am-Noon

Worship Online Live at 10:30am by going to our website: JesusIsTheBridge.org

Recorded Online Service Also Available on the Website for Viewing Later in the Day or Week

RootsKids (aka Sunday School) Two Times to Choose From! Sunday 9:30-10:25am or 10:30-11:25am
3 Year Olds—5th Grade • Older children welcome to help with the fun!

Coffee Time Between Services - 9:30-10:30

Linger after 8:30 worship for fellowship with friends or come early for the 10:30 Praise Service to visit in the Café or grab a "to-go" cup to enjoy while worshipping!

COVID Response

Our COVID Response Team members (the Parish Nurses, Church Council Co-Chairs & Pastor Tom) continue to monitor the situation and have updated the policy to "Masks are Optional and Welcome" while in the church. We hope you will join us in worship!



January Sermon Series: Emotional Energy

Emotions are contagious and are the power that drive our actions. The sermon series In January will seek God's light on how our emotional health is related to our Spiritual condition. The fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-26 will be our guide.

Join us for worship in January to consider how your emotions are driving you.

New Organizational Plan Approved at the Special Church Conference on December 13

This new organizational plan is meant to increase engagement, be more action-oriented and make efficient use of people's time. The plan is:

- **Committees** will meet once per quarter beginning in January.
- Lay leaders of our 5 Ministry Areas will meet as the **Strategy Team** once per quarter beginning in February.
- **Church Council** will meet once per quarter beginning in March.

In order to get this new system started, all members of every committee are invited to attend an **All Church Leadership Orientation on Monday, January 10 at 6:30pm on Zoom** (a link will be emailed to all committee members).

This will be a time for everyone serving on a committee or team. It will be part pep-rally, part getting acquainted with other teams and part training for how we will work together to help people seek God's light, share God's love and do God's will!

It is Bell Ringing Time!

It's not too late to sign-up to help ring the Salvation Army Bell at K & K Hardware! **We will continue to ring through December 24th.** You may sign up by going to our website JesusIsTheBridge.org and clicking on the link, or call the church office at 355-5218. **Thank You!**



The Office will be Closed for the Holidays on December 24 and 31
If you have an urgent need please call a staff member at home.
The Asbury Staff wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



RootsKids will start practicing for the **Family Christmas Eve Service** with handbells, a Christmas skit and music!
If your family has a talent to share, let us know! We would like to include it!
Contact Linda Carver or the Church Office



Message from Your Parish Nurse Team

As you know, there is still COVID in our midst. It is so wonderful to be in the church for worship and look forward to talking with one another. However, we must all be mindful to take care of ourselves, and others, just as we have for the past two years. Four things we want to remind you of:

1. Wearing a mask is one of the best ways to protect yourself and others.
2. Remember that social distancing is something to be aware of as you visit with others.
3. Use the hand sanitizers located throughout the building. We don't want to forget the importance of washing hands.
4. If you do not feel well (especially if you have a fever) please take good care of yourself by staying home and resting.

You are all very important to us and we want everyone to be healthy and well as we begin a new year!!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Brenda, Carol, Cheryl

**This is Christmas
not the tinsel
not the giving and receiving
not even the carols.
But the humble heart
that receives anew
the wondrous gift---
the Christ**



Mitten Tree....Asbury is once again collecting mittens, hats & gloves to take to the Friendly Thrift Center, where the customers may purchase the items at a very minimal cost. Please help us with this worthwhile project. **Thank you!**

ASBURY IN MISSION - DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

Bettendorf Food Pantry is the Mission of the Month for December. Using the Reverse Advent Calendar recently mailed to collect items for 25 days. Please deliver to the church the week after Christmas. The Food Pantry also accepts monetary donations. You may make your check to Asbury and designate "Food Pantry" on the memo line.



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!**

- **Office Hours....**Asbury Office Hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00-Noon and afternoons by request. Please feel free to contact a staff member if you need assistance after hours. Office closed on December 24 and 31.
- **The Worship Commission** would like to remind you to please wear your Asbury nametag. If you would like to order a nametag you may call the church office. (No cost for Asbury members 8th grade and older.)
They are also seeking Communion Coordinators for 2022. Please call the church office if you are able to help! 355-5218
- **Newsletter Deadline....**Articles for the next Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00 AM on Monday, January 3.**
- **Kids Club....**Fun Activities for 4th & 5th Graders on the **First Wednesday of each month from 4:30-7:00 PM.** Light meal provided. RSVP Linda at 319-573-9687 if you plan to come!
- **Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group....Every Wednesday Night from 6:00-7:00 PM.** For more information contact Connor Morrison, Director of Youth Ministries at connorm@asbury-bett.org or text 309-373-5316. Adult chaperones needed! **No Youth Group Dec. 22 and 29.**
- **Card Ministry....Meets the second Wednesday of each month.** Check the website or the January 5th Good News for details!
- **Ladies in Fellowship Together...**Details 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....Meet on Saturday, December 18 at 7:45am.** 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 December Congregational Challenge....**Share your spiritual gifts and talents honoring or supporting the wonder of Creation. Examples: Write a poem about your love for wildlife, sing a song about peaceful forests, sew a quilt telling the story of Creation, paint or take a picture with a nature theme, build a birdhouse or grow/pot a plant, then, give it to someone.
- **Thoughts of Sympathy.....**Our thoughts & prayers are with Joe and Sue Buck on the death of his father, Rev. Dan Buck, on November 26. Thoughts and prayers are with Jean and Gary Bowrey on the death of Jean's sister, Linda, on December 1. The family of former member, Nan Mark, who passed away in Solon, Iowa on December 10.
- **Praises and Requests for Prayer....**may be submitted on our website 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....** After the passing of my dearest friend of 45 years, Lenore Turkeltaub, my life was changed forever. Your prayers, kind messages of condolences, beautiful cards, words of loving encouragement, and presence are very much appreciated. Special thanks to Carol Jackson who stayed with me as Lenore passed. Thank you for allowing me to process my grief and for walking this road with me as I know it will take time. I sincerely appreciate your support and understanding. God's blessings to all of you. Linda Manning
- **Fred Pierce turning 100 on January 9!....**Greetings may be sent to 1001 St. Julien Dr., Kenner, LA 70065
- **Congratulations....**to Teri & Jerry Bishop on the birth of a granddaughter, Kaia Leighton Bishop, on November 29. Parents are Brad & Kristen Bishop of LeClaire and she is welcomed by siblings Dayton, Colton, Declan & Karis

Congregational Giving Comparison YTD through November

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.

	Nov. Year to Date 2020	Nov. Year to Date 2021	Change
Income	\$575,234	\$556,772	(\$18,462)



The Future is Now!....The Asbury Stewardship Team thanks everyone who has turned in their Estimate of Giving for 2022. You can help us make good financial plans for supporting next year's ministries by mailing your card, going online to JesusIsTheBridge.org or calling the church office. **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.