



Volume 3, Issue 144
MARCH 9, 2022

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News

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

Asbury
United Methodist Church
JesusIsTheBridge.org



Ready for Departures... When we set the sermon series theme of "Ready for Departures" I had in mind getting ready for the ways our lives can change. Sometimes by our choice and other times not by our choice but due to things beyond our control. During Lent we can choose to leave our old ways behind in order to become more like Jesus.

But we are also now dealing with factors that are beyond our control that require us to travel to a new place. One is the Russian invasion and war in Ukraine. The way the world was is now behind us and we must all adapt to a new reality. (See the next page for information on how to support the church in Ukraine.)

Another factor is that the General Conference of our United Methodist Church has been delayed again and will not meet until it's normal time of 2024. It has also been announced that a new denomination for churches wishing to depart from the United Methodist Church will begin this May.

These are just two of the larger factors beyond our control that will require us to adapt to a new reality. But the most important thing that will enable us to adapt is our relationship with Jesus and the good news that God is with us on this journey. We will still seek God's light in this new reality and find the hope to persevere. And we will still seek ways to share God's love and do God's will along the way to a new destination. In worship we'll continue to look at how this may not be the departure we expected, but it is still one for which we must be ready. And with God's help, we will be ready.

Pastor Tom

† † † Sunday Worship Schedule † † †

Masks Optional & Welcome • Traditional Service at 8:30am • Praise Service at 10:30am • Communion on April 3
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

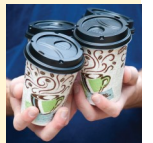
Recorded Online Service Also Available on the Website for Viewing Later in the Day or Week



RootsKids (aka Sunday School) Two Times to Choose From! Sunday 8:30-9:25am 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 10:30 worship to visit in the Café or grab a "to-go" cup to enjoy while worshipping!



New Format for Church Council - Everyone is Welcome

This is an invitation to the entire congregation to attend Church Council on **March 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Fellowship Hall Café.** Each of you will receive a copy of the meeting agenda by email prior to the meeting. Look it over and see if there are items that interest you, and plan to attend the meeting either in person or by a Zoom link listed in the email.

Church Council now meets quarterly following a quarterly meeting of our church committee leadership teams. The purpose of the Council is to provide a vision and direction for Asbury, and to make the decisions that move us forward. I hope you will join us!

David Stedwell, Church Council Chair



March 27 is UMCOR Celebration Sunday

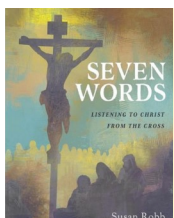
SPECIAL SUNDAY

Each year on the fourth Sunday of Lent, a special offering is collected for the United Methodist Committee on Relief. This is the part of our church that is able to provide immediate relief in the wake of natural and human-caused disasters. This offering provides for the underlying administrative costs that allows UMCOR to do its work. Because of this offering, 100% of gifts to any UMCOR project goes directly to the mission with no administrative costs. Two important examples of current UMCOR missions are on the next page. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Please make check payable to Asbury (marked accordingly). You may also give online at JesusIsTheBridge.org or directly at UMC.org/SSGive.

For more information on UMCOR go to UMCMission.org



A Facilities Study Task Group chaired by Kevin Jones has been evaluating how we use the room that has been called the "Upper Fellowship Hall." The hope is to make it a space where people can relax, connect with others and be inspired. To do that it needs to be a space that is current and allows for casual and deep conversations. To help with the transition, the congregation is invited to consider new names that better express the purpose for that room. Submit your suggestions by **March 15** so that Church Council can consider them at their next meeting.



Lenten Study

Our Study Series for Lent is Seven Words by Susan Robb. It's not too late to join a study group. Go to our website JesusIsTheBridge.org or call the church office for a list of small groups who welcome you to join them.



ASBURY BLOOD DRIVE
MARCH 28
1:30PM - 5:30PM
CONTACT CHERYL EWERT
TO SCHEDULE YOUR TIME

Volunteer Opportunity



Adult Helpers Needed for Kids Church—Sundays at 10:30am
Come once a month or more! Sign-Up in either Narthex—See Linda Carver for Info



Message from Your Parish Nurse Team

March 18 is World Sleep Day



Do you know that while you sleep, your brain is working to consolidate your memories and learning? It is moving memories from short term to long-term memory. That activity is only one of the many things occurring while you sleep. Hormone production is happening. Your heart is resting and renewing itself. Your immune system is scanning for diseases.

The quality and quantity of sleep effects many aspects of wellness—your weight, blood pressure, heart health, fitness, metabolism, development of diabetes, and depression. As we seek to do things to promote good health, “good sleep” is at the top of the list. In the next Good News, we’ll look at how to establish a routine to promote “good sleep”.

[This video shares valuable information:](#)

Healthy Sleep - Healthy Life Series - Video 4: The Impact of Insufficient Sleep - YouTube

Reminder: Blood Drive, March 28: Sign Up Online or Call Cheryl Ewert at (563) 505-1477



Rest well everyone!!
Brenda, Carol, Cheryl



UMCOR Advance Specials

Special Advance #223 Iowa Tornadoes

Special Advance #982450 for Ukraine

Special Advance #14053A for Pastors
in Ukraine & Moldova



Asbury Garden Ministry

Planting season is just around the corner!
Contact Dave Phillips to get involved!
563-340-6584

Please specify if your gift is for the Annual UMCOR offering or for one of the Special Advance Missions listed above. Checks may be made payable to Asbury UMC (marked accordingly) or online at JesusIsTheBridge.org

For More Information: <https://umcmmission.org/umcor/>

✠ ✠ ✠ ASBURY IN MISSION - MISSION OF THE MONTH ✠ ✠ ✠

The AIM [Mission of the Month for March](#) is the [Women at the Well UMC](#). Some of you are familiar with this ministry. It is a congregation of, by and for women incarcerated at Iowa Correctional Institution for women in Mitchellville. In the past we have had their pastor conduct a training on being part of a re-entry team for women who are ex-offenders in transition back to communities upon release from prison. Asbury can choose to be a partner organization and support this ministry with financial donations, prayers, presence (have their pastor come to our church and share about their mission) and service. If you wish to contribute in some way to the Women at the Well, please contact Robin James.

Mark Your Calendar! Stewards of Creation Art Exhibit will be Sunday, April 24. Please turn in your creations to the church office by March 27. For more information go to the [Stewards of Creation Facebook page!](#)



Walk to Emmaus....Are you interested in attending Walk to Emmaus? Contact Connor Morrison or Pat & Pam Thornton **ASAP**. Men's Walk is March 17-20 and Women's Walk is March 24-27. [Men please sign-up by March 14.](#)

- **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.
- **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.
- **Thoughts of Sympathy.....**Our thoughts & prayers are with Bob Reed and family, Rick Reed and Cindy Bruhn, and Mike and Bev Reed & family on the loss of their wife and mother, Pat Reed, on March 8.
- **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.)
- **Newsletter Deadline....**Articles for the next Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00am on Monday, March 28.**
- **Kids Club....**Fun Activities for 4th & 5th Graders on the **First Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7:00pm.** Light meal provided. RSVP Linda at 319-573-9687 if you plan to come!
- **Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group....Wednesday Nights from 6:00-7:00pm.** If you would like a schedule please contact Connor Morrison, Director of Youth Ministries, at connorm@asbury-bett.org or text 309-373-5316.
- **Card Ministry....**This group has a lot of fun making cards and everyone is welcome! Join them on **the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm in Room 118.** For more information go to their Facebook page, the Asbury website or contact Alinda Littrel or Linda Dudgeon.
- **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....**This group meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturday mornings at 8:00am. 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 March Congregational Challenge....**#1 Consider investing in rechargeable batteries. #2 Do a nature craft project with a young person or another adult. This could be leaf prints, drawing, coloring nature images, painting a flowerpot, making an easy bird feeder, etc. Engage in “nature talk.” Visit <https://www.facebook.com/AsburyStewardsOfCreation> for details.
Terracycle - We are accepting pens, highlighters, markers, glue sticks (all brands), toothpaste tubes (caps on), dental floss containers, cereal and chip bags. Please remove all crumbs from bags before lying flat in the wood chest near the elevator.

THANK YOU....to everyone who has continued to faithfully give your tithes and offerings.
Gifts may be mailed to the church or go to our website JesusIsTheBridge.org to give electronically.