

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Traditional Service 8:30am
Adult Classes 9:30am
Praise Service 10:30am
RootsKids 8:30 or 10:30
Communion on Dec. 4

Good News



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Our Mission:

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS

Advent Sunday Sermon Study Series begins November 27

Who needs some good news? Who needs hope? Who needs peace in our troubled world? Who needs some stability in a time of such rapid change? If you could use any of these things, then you need Christmas. I know I do.

We are about to begin our annual preparation for the celebration of God's gift to us in the birth of Jesus. I'm excited for all the ways that we'll be retelling the story of Jesus' birth in the coming weeks. But even better is the thought of RELIVING the good news, hope, peace and stability in our lives today. That's what I need. The joy of Christmas is not just the story of something that happened 2,000 year ago, it is in the reliving of God's story in our lives. Check out all of the events coming up this Advent and prepare to receive something that we all need: the good news, hope, peace, and stability that comes from trusting in Jesus.

Pastor Tom

Please consider enhancing your worship experience by joining a small group!
Books available in each Narthex or call the church office at 355-5218.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR WITH THESE IMPORTANT DATES

- ▶ **November 20...Stewardship Sunday** Our Final Sunday of *A Life Centered on God* Sermon Series.
- ▶ **Hanging of the Greens!....Volunteers Needed!** Please join us at **1:00 on Sunday, Nov. 20** to decorate the church for Advent.
- ▶ **November 24...ONLINE THANKSGIVING MESSAGE** Watch online at JesusIsTheBridge.org by choosing the blue Facebook Live or the red YouTube Live button. Premiering at 6:00am and available for viewing all Thanksgiving Day.
- ▶ **December 4....One Starry Night - A Journey to Bethlehem** 3:00-5:00pm
- ▶ **December 11....Children's Christmas Program** "A Very Mixed Up Christmas Pageant" at 10:30am Worship Service.
- ▶ **All Church Conference is Monday, December 12 at 6:30 pm.** Pastor Tom will share a "State of the Church" report that will include a celebration of our progress this year and a look at our direction and goals for 2023. There will also be an opportunity to address the current separation happening in the United Methodist Church. Some United Methodist congregations are taking steps to leave the denomination through a process called "disaffiliation." This meeting will provide an opportunity for anyone to request a vote on disaffiliation. If it is requested and approved by a majority, then we would prepare for an official vote at another time in 2023. A resource guide with more information can be found on our website at JesusIsTheBridge.org under the "About Us" and "Future of the UMC" tabs.
- ▶ **Christmas Eve Worship...** Two Worship Services: 4:00pm Family Oriented Service and 7:00pm Traditional Service (No Communion)
- ▶ **Christmas Day Worship....** One Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10:00am with Communion
- ▶ **New Year's Day Worship....** One Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10:00am with Communion



November 27 is United Methodist Student Day

100% of your United Methodist Student Day special Iowa Conference offering goes to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to provide scholarships and student loans for United Methodist students. This helps to empower students as they prepare to help people suffering, while speaking the truth in love. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience or you may give online at JesusIsTheBridge.org and using the "Missions" tab. For more information go to www.resourceumc.org.



Calling ALL Kids! We are busy preparing for our RootsKids Christmas Program: **A Very Mixed Up Christmas Pageant: A Christmas Nativity Play** which will be held on **December 11th at the 10:30am worship service.** If your child is 4-years-old through 5th grade and interested in participating, we will be practicing every Sunday at RootsKids (8:30 or 10:30). We will also be learning handbells which makes our practice very important!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!





MOVING FORWARD

A Message from Your Parish Nurse Team



Over the past two years, a group of individuals has met to determine how we would proceed through the pandemic and all of the challenges it presented for our church. We want to make some changes that are in touch with the times now as so many of us have been vaccinated (how many times?) and have learned that we must be vigilant in our efforts to protect one another and ourselves. To that end, here are some things you will notice.

1. Since we no longer fog the sanctuary every week, the hymnals will be placed back in the pews!
2. Mask wearing is not a requirement, however, it is always your option to wear a mask without fear of being judged for doing so. Please remember that if you do not feel well (fever, aches, etc.), consider staying home so as not to risk exposing others.
3. Spaces used by multiple groups will have sanitizing supplies that may be used to wipe down surfaces prior to use and after use if the group chooses to do so.
4. Hospitality will continue to serve food in the manner which has been adopted over the past two years. Please contact Jo Winegar, Teri Bishop or Cheryl Ewert with ideas for future events. We look forward to helping groups plan/prepare/serve a 'food event'.

**Your Parish Nurse Team,
Brenda, Carol and Cheryl**

Our prayers continue to be with Brenda as she recovers from a back injury. She will be taking an extended period of time off to heal. If you have a need from the Parish Nurse Team please contact Carol Jackson, Cheryl Ewert or the church office. Thank you.

Missions

AIM (ASBURY IN MISSION) "DOING GOD'S WILL"

Mission of the Month for November

We have two important "Missions of the Month" for November!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing at K & K

Asbury will once again be ringing the bell for Salvation Army Red Kettle donations from the last week of November through Christmas Eve day. Last year "Jerry's Jingle" plus other Asbury family and friends collected **\$10,300** at our K & K hardware site. Watch for the Bell Ringing schedule and opportunities to sign up!

Thank You for Your Service!

On November 2nd the WINGS Group prepared 100 and served 70 meals at the Churches United Zion Church meal site.

Santa for Seniors

Asburians are once again spreading some Christmas Cheer to seniors residing in a skilled nursing facility...**this year at our neighboring Iowa Masonic Health Facilities**. We are asking church members to donate dollars for items to include in Christmas gift bags for these seniors. Patti Sorensen, Diana Mahoski and Teri Bishop are coordinating this traditional mission activity at Asbury. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience or you may give online at JesusIsTheBridge.org by using the ONLINE GIVING option and choosing the "Missions" tab. **We will deliver 75 individual gift bags to the residents on December 19th between 10:00am and Noon.** **If you are interested in helping deliver the gift bags to residents, contact Patti Sorensen at 563-343-7351.**

Thank you!

Stewards of Creation November Congregational Challenge: As we give thanks, let's show love to future generations. This includes protecting the environment: land, water and air on which our children, grandchildren and future generations will depend. A few organizations that actively plan for the future and you may consider supporting are: Nahant Marsh, Partners of Scott Co. Watersheds, Sustainable Iowa Land Trust, Iowa Interfaith Power & Light and Creation Justice Ministries. For details go to Facebook "Stewards of Creation".

Terracycle - Accepting pens, highlighters, markers, glue sticks, toothpaste tubes (caps on), dental floss containers, cereal & chip bags.

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.

Friendly Thrift Center....has been very busy and has filled many vouchers for those in need! They still need boys and girls winter clothing and hygiene items including deodorant, soap, shampoo, toothpaste & toothbrushes. They also will gladly accept hotel size shampoo, lotion, conditioner and soaps. Backpacks are also in high demand, as many of our community's homeless carry everything they own in a backpack. 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.

•**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.

•**Our Heartfelt Prayers are with**....Dennis and Jo Winegar & family on the death of Dennis' brother, Larry, on November 3. Bev Trask and family on the death of her husband, Robert, on November 13.

•**Newsletter Deadline**....Articles for the next Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00am on Monday, November 28**.

•**Adult Helpers Needed for RootsKids**....Sundays at 10:30am. Come once a month or more! Sign-Up in either Narthex—See Linda Carver for more information.

•**Adult Helpers Needed for Element 412**....Grades 6-12 Youth Group on Sunday evenings 6:00-7:30pm. Please contact Becca Johnson at beccaj@asbury-bett.org or the church office if you can help!

•**Rachel Circle**Rachel Circle meets on the second Tuesday of each month. On **December 13 we will meet at 6:30pm in Upper Fellowship Hall** to learn about Tapestry Farms; they work with refugees to provide assistance in many ways. All are welcome!

•**LIFT - Ladies In Fellowship Together**...Details of dates and events can be found on our LIFT Facebook page. You may also contact Jenny Bloomquist, Julia Hensch, Marian Paulson or Stephanie Pim. All women are invited!

•**Asbury Men's Group**....This group usually meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturday mornings at 8:00am at the church, **however in November and December they will meet on the first and third Saturday mornings**. Contact Cliff Pim (563-340-2722), Phil Paulson (309-502-9236) or the church office (355-5218) for the next meeting date, time or **ZOOM** link. All men are welcome!

•**Foundation Gift Recognitions**....Thank you to John Cramond for his gift to the Asbury Foundation in honor of his recent birthday. 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.