

Good News



Volume 3, Issue 165
MARCH 15, 2023

Our Mission:

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Traditional Service 8:30 am
Adult Classes 9:30 am
Praise Service 10:30 am
RootsKids 8:30 or 10:30
Communion on April 2

<p>PALM SUNDAY April 2, 8:30 & 10:30am LiveStream @ 10:30</p>	<p>MAUNDY THURSDAY April 6, 7:00 pm LiveStream @7</p>	<p>GOOD FRIDAY April 7, 7:00pm LiveStream @7</p>	<p>EASTER SUNDAY 6:30 / 8:30 / 10:30am LiveStream @ 8:30 & 10:30</p>
--	--	---	---



Pastor Tom

Possible Trip to the Holy Lands?

When the pastor of my youth and young adult years retired, he said that the one thing he would have done differently in his ministry was to have traveled to the Holy Lands earlier in his career rather than later. His story inspired me to be part of a tour group to Israel hosted in 1997 by Iowa Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan and organized by Educational Opportunities. I can say that reading and understanding the Bible has always been more meaningful since my trip so many years ago.

During this season of Lent we are using the resource, "Seven-Mile Miracle" as our guide. Each of the weekly lessons in the videos of the resource is filmed on location at various sights in the Holy Lands. They have brought back powerful memories and have got me wondering if Asbury members might be interested in a group trip to the Holy Lands. Other United Methodist congregations in our area are planning a trip to Israel in 2024. I have spoken with those pastors about the possibility of doing something together.

The amazing story of Jesus is not only that it happened in a specific place 2,000 years ago, but that it is also still happening in our lives where we live today. Connecting the two can make it even more powerful. If you would be interested in seeing the Holy Lands for yourself, let me know and we'll see what might transpire. You can check the Educational Opportunities website for more information at: <https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/hl24a#.ZBDEZHbMLD5>) and search for Holy Land Tours or call the Asbury church office.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tom

Quarterly Church Council will Include a Special Charge Conference

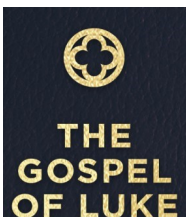
Everyone is invited to attend Church Council at 6:30 pm, Monday, March 20 in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom. We will review our current status as a church and look ahead to the coming months.

As part of the evening, we will also conduct a Special Charge Conference for the purpose of making a formal decision regarding the open Associate Pastor appointment at Asbury. A Charge Conference is required to make certain decisions by a congregation including the determination of pastoral staff needs. In the summer of 2021, our Associate Pastor position was left unfilled while we attempted a different staffing configuration. The rationale was that the funds used to support one full-time ordained associate pastor with benefits could be reallocated to hire various part-time positions with specialized responsibilities. We have found this to be a workable alternative. The Staff Parish Relations Committee and the Leadership Team have recommended that we officially discontinue the appointment since it does not look like we will seek to fill it in the foreseeable future. Only Council members will be authorized to vote, but anyone is welcome to attend. If you would like the Council meeting Zoom link, please call the church office.



MARCH 19 IS UMCOR SUNDAY † You Impact Lives through UMCOR!

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to respond with extravagant grace. Through the **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**, we are able to make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change. This special offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business," allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that **100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project**, not administrative costs. You may make your check to Asbury UMC and use the envelope enclosed or give online at JesusIsTheBridge.org by choosing "Online Giving" and "Missions/Special Giving". To give directly or to learn more about why we celebrate special Sundays go to umc.org/yourimpact



Join us as we continue to read the Gospel of Luke daily during Lent. Our resource comes to us from the Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas. You can go to JesusIsTheBridge.org and click on the "Book of Luke Online Study" link to find a reading plan, brief daily videos and even some discussion questions and links to additional resources. A bookmark can be found in the narthex that lists daily readings for each Monday through Friday during Lent.



Foot Clinic: March 27, 1:00 to 4:00
Contact Cheryl Ewert for an Appointment



Blood Drive: March 27, 2:00 to 6:00
Contact Cheryl Ewert for an Appointment



All Children Pre-K - 5th Grade!
Join us downstairs in the Treehouse
Every Sunday at 8:30 or 10:30



JR & SR HIGH YOUTH GROUP
GRADES 6-12 EVERY SUNDAY 6-7:30 PM



Here are six things you can do during Lent that do not involve giving something up.

They are, however, about adding value to your life.

Exercise Everyday—even if you just get outside for walk around the block, you will feel the difference. Pay close attention to what is around you—the sights and sounds of our world.

Memorize Scripture—there are many great offerings in our church for you to participate in a Bible study. Let this lead you to a favorite scripture and decide that you will memorize it.

Meditate 15 Minutes a Day—sit quietly and focus on your breathing. Take a deep breath in through your nose, hold it to the count of 5, exhale through your mouth. Use your diaphragm to get a deep breath. You may notice that you feel very relaxed when the 15 minutes have passed.

Volunteer at your Church or Local Nonprofit—there are many opportunities at Asbury. You might also check into going to The Friendly Thrift Center or Café on Vine.

Read Lenten Devotionals—check out one of the groups at Asbury or use the guide to read the Book of Luke.

Pray for Children and Families Around the World

Be Well Everyone, Carol and Cheryl

Missions

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

Mission of the Month for March † Zion Lutheran Church Meal Site

Our Mission of the Month for March is our monthly outreach project working with Churches United to prepare and serve a meal to homeless and those in need of an evening meal at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. Asbury has been preparing and serving a meal once a month to those in need for many years. Currently, we are serving approximately 60 meals each month.

In an effort to give more Asburians an opportunity to serve and participate in this important outreach mission, we are changing Asbury's process which has been in place since Covid times.

Effective with our May 3rd Meal Prep and Serve, we will be providing and serving a routine and fairly easy dinner menu at Zion. In March and April, we are asking Asbury members and families to sign-up to be on a team of 5 or 6 people that will be assigned no more than 2 months a year to prep the food, transport and serve the Wednesday night meal.

▶ **Please return the enclosed form to church, contact Robin James or call the church office if you are able to help!**

Thank You for Your Service! † Asbury Doing God's Will!

**Agape Plus Adult Sunday Small Group served 35 meals at Zion Lutheran Church on March 1
160 chip and cereal bags were collected in February for Terracycle!**

Stewards of Creation March Congregational Challenge..... Use less electricity for lighting by switching to LED light bulbs indoors and outside, installing dimmer switches and turning out lights when leaving a room.

Terracycle....We are now accepting multi-pack candy bags (not wrappers), pens, highlighters, markers, glue sticks, toothpaste tubes (caps on), dental floss containers, and cereal & chip bags. All may be placed in the Asbury Terracycle bin near the elevator.



**Calling All Kids!! Don't Miss the Easter Morning Egg Hunt at 9:30 and 11:30 in Lower Level
Yes, You Can Help! Please donate bags of wrapped Easter candy by April 6. 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.

•**With Heartfelt Sympathy....**Our prayers are with Brenda Sherrick and family on the death of her husband, John Sherrick, on March 2. Sophie and Nancy Orlich on the death of Sophie's son and Nancy's brother, Rich Orlich, on March 5.

•**Newsletter Deadline....**Items for the next Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00 am on Monday, March 27.**

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

•**Fun Opportunity!....**Your help is needed with **RootsKids** on Sundays at 10:30 am in the TreeHouse. Come once a month or more! Sign-up in either Narthex. Contact Linda Carver for more information.

•**Hannah Circle**All women are invited for fun & fellowship on the second Tuesday of each month! Call Donna Stradt for time and location.

•**Rachel Circle**Rachel Circle meets at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the church. **Come join in the fun and fellowship!**

•**Card Ministry....**Join them at 6:30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month in Room 118 at the church. The next meeting is on **Wednesday, April 12.** For more information go to their Facebook page, the Asbury website or contact Alinda Littrel or Linda Dudgeon.

•**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....**Meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturday mornings at 8:00 am at the church. Contact Cliff Pim (563-340-2722), Phil Paulson (309-502-9236) or the church office (355-5218) for more information or the **ZOOM** link. All men are welcome!

•**Foundation Gift Recognitions....**Thank you to Talbot Berry, Richard Jackson and David Scheib 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.