

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News



Volume 3, Issue 166
MARCH 29, 2023

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

Our Mission:

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



- † **Palm Sunday Worship** - April 2 at 8:30am & 10:30am with LiveStream at 10:30am
- † **Maundy Thursday Worship** - April 6 at 7:00pm with LiveStream
- † **Good Friday Worship** - April 7 at 7:00pm with LiveStream
- † **Easter Sunday Worship** - April 9 at 6:30am, 8:30am & 10:30am with LiveStream at 8:30 & 10:30am
- † **Easter Egg Hunt** - April 9 at 9:30 and 11:30am (No RootsKids on Easter)
- † **Easter Morning Continental Breakfast** - 7:30-10:30am - Pastries, Fruit, Juice & Coffee

The dictionary tells us that a miracle is an extraordinary event that reveals divine activity. The whole Bible is the ongoing story of God interacting with humanity from the beginning of time. The central miracle of the Bible is Easter when Jesus was alive and with his disciples even after his physical death on the cross.

During Lent we have used the theme of the "Seven Mile Miracle" as a way to learn from the seven words that are attributed to Jesus while he was still alive on the cross. Seven miles was the distance mentioned in Luke 24:13 from Jerusalem where Jesus died, to the town of Emmaus where Jesus revealed himself to two of his disciples. His miraculous presence changed their lives forever.

Now we are ready to celebrate how the miracle of Jesus continues to affect us. In our worship services during Holy Week, Easter and the Sunday after Easter we will see how the risen Jesus connects us to God and each other and how miracles continue to happen.

Your life can be changed by the presence of Jesus. It would be an extraordinary event that reveals divine activity. It's going to be a wonderful Easter. Expect a miracle.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tom



Our Special Easter Offering will be divided between two efforts to do God's will. One is the Friendly House outreach in Davenport, an inner-city neighborhood program. They try to provide the basic needs of the families which include programs for preschoolers through senior citizens. They also offer a food pantry and emergency services.

The second effort is to support the people of Ukraine through the United Methodist Committee on Relief. We all have seen the horrors of the terrible war inflicted by the government of Russia. We pray that our gifts may offer hope for a resurrection of that country after a time of devastation.

An envelope is included in this mailing for you to use for your Easter offering. You can also go to JesusIsTheBridge.org and click on the purple "V" Online Giving button. There you can make a regular donation to the church or you can make a special Easter offering for these projects by choosing "Missions" and designating "Easter" in the comment field.



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!

COMING SOON! - THE WALK BY ADAM HAMILTON

How do we walk with Christ—daily follow Him, grow in Him, and faithfully serve Him? In the Gospels, Jesus modeled for us the Christian spiritual life. The apostles taught it in their writings. And the Church has, through the last 2,000 years, sought to pursue this Christian spiritual life.

Beginning Sunday, April 16, 2023, Pam Thornton and Marian Paulson will be leading the study entitled THE WALK by Adam Hamilton. In this easy-to-read book, Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church.

This study ties in with our Discipleship Pathway—My Growth as a Disciple and explores the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith. Those who have completed THE WALK report that the things suggested are "very doable" and that it was an excellent study.

This small group, ADVENTURES IN FAITH, will meet on Sundays in Room 304 on the top level of the church from 9:30-10:25 beginning April 16, 2023. Please give prayerful consideration to joining this group. As always, there is no charge for the book; however, if you wish to make a donation to help offset the cost, you may do so. If you have questions, please contact Pam Thornton, Marian Paulson, or Linda Manning.



All Children Pre-K - 5th Grade!
Join us downstairs in the Treehouse
Every Sunday at 8:30 or 10:30
(No RootsKids on Easter)



JR & SR HIGH YOUTH GROUP
GRADES 6-12 EVERY SUNDAY 6-7:30 PM
(NO ELEMENT 412 ON EASTER)



We want to offer a Grief Share support group this Spring/Summer. In this program, you will learn how to walk the journey of grief and be supported on the way. It is a place where grieving people find healing and hope. One participant said, "it's not an easy path, but you can make it through. I've been through Grief Share three times and every time, I've healed more...I'm still healing".

There are 10 group sessions (one per week) which last approximately 2 hours each. Each participant will have a workbook for their own use; we will watch videos with testimonials; we will have discussion (no one is required to share their story but may if they choose); we will support one another throughout. Grief Share is a spiritual based program although one does not need to have certain beliefs in order to participate.

We have not determined a time or day of the week. **Please contact Carol or Cheryl regarding your interest and let us know what would work best for you.** When we have received some feedback, a definite start date will be determined. We anticipate late April or early May as a start date.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated blood on March 27th. We collected 20 viable units!!! Hooray!! The next drive is June 12; last date to donate prior to this and be eligible is April 14th.

Be Well Everyone, Carol and Cheryl

Missions

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

Mission of the Month for April † Asbury Garden Ministry

Our Garden Ministry will soon be entering its 22nd year. Since its beginning in the spring of 2002, our Ministry has taken a "bite out of hunger" by providing fresh vegetables to local food pantries, meal sites, home shelters, low-income senior living complexes, and individual needy families. About 724,000 lbs. have been harvested since its inception.

As mentioned previously, our Ministry has become more mechanized with the purchase of a new subcompact John Deere tractor, a tiller, a mower, a culti-packer, and a mulch layer. Having this equipment will allow us to be better stewards of the garden space generously donated by the Grace Evangelical Free Church. Sincere thanks for the donations received to purchase this equipment.

God has truly blessed our Ministry over the years with support from Doug Ford and Sons in Geneseo, Wallace's Garden Center, the Little Red Barn (Elmer Mess), K & K Hardware, and the Asbury Men's Group (built a new storage shed).

The Ministry would not be the success it is without the dedicated support of our volunteers. New volunteers are always welcome! This is an opportunity to add a meaningful purpose to your life. If you are interested, please call me (340-6594). We just ordered t-shirts for our volunteers. The shirts were designed by the Handicapped Development Center.

I can hardly wait to start "playing in the dirt" once again!

Yours in Feeding the Hungry, Dave Phillips, Garden Ministry Coordinator

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

Thank you to all who have signed up to help prep and serve the Wednesday Meal at Zion Lutheran Church! We have had a great response so far, with 40 people who have said they will help. **It's not too late!** For more information or to volunteer, go online to our website JesusIsTheBridge.org, or contact the church office, Steve Sorensen or Robin James.

Stewards of Creation April Congregational Challenge..... 1. Pick up litter while walking. 2. Recycle your rechargeable batteries at the Waste Commission of Scott County "Electronics Recovery Center". (Batteries - Tape each end and seal in a plastic bag.) Recycle other electronic waste (cell phones, keyboards, T.V. etc.) there or curbside on recycling day in Bettendorf and Davenport.

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.

•**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. **The office will be closed on Good Friday (April 7).**

•**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.



Tom Streeter and family on the death of his wife, Charlotte, on March 15.

Don Culp and family on the death of his son, Tony, on March 20.

Bob & Ingrid Redecker and family on the death of Bob's father, Raymond Redecker, on March 23.

•**Newsletter Deadline....**Items for the next Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00 am on Monday, April 10.**

•**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 invited for fun & fellowship on the 2nd Tuesday of each month! Call Donna Stradt for time and location.

•**Rachel Circle**meets on **Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30** in UFH. The program will be news about the Bettendorf Library Summer Reading Program. You may bring gently used/new books, magazines and/or puzzles for the library resale. **Everyone is welcome.**

•**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 Bob & Pat Ryken for their gifts to the Asbury Foundation in memory of John Sherrick and Charlotte Streeter. 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.