



Dear Asbury Church Family,

A long-held tradition at Asbury is to dedicate a special Christmas Offering to support our outreach mission work. This year's Christmas Offering will be split evenly between two important outreach missions:

Monthly "Backpack" outreach at neighboring **Mark Twain Elementary School**, and **Churches United of the Quad City Area** to support their mission work.

#### Mark Twain Elementary School Backpack Ministry

Prior to the pandemic, Asbury provided snack backpacks to students of families in need at Jefferson and Mark Twain schools. The pandemic put an abrupt end to this mission activity. We are excited that Asbury is once again partnering with Mark Twain to provide backpacks filled with nutritious snacks for designated elementary students. We purchased snack items, filled and delivered backpacks for 24 students in November and will continue this monthly mission through the end of the school year in May. The Christmas offering will help Asbury to subsidize the purchase of these snack items.

#### Churches United of the Quad City Area

Asbury is a proud and long-time member of Churches United of the Quad Cities, an ecumenical coalition of area Churches organized to feed the hungry, provide transitional housing (Winnie's Place) for women and children who are victims of domestic violence and human trafficking, and offer emergency crisis assistance. Asbury supports Churches United ministries work through volunteering at the Bettendorf Food Pantry and providing a monthly meal at the Zion Lutheran meal site. This Christmas offering is yet one other way Asburians can "do God's will" through our financial support for Churches United's Quad City wide ministries.

The enclosed envelope may be placed in the offering when you join us at worship. Checks should be written to Asbury United Methodist Church and be designated to the Christmas offering. You may also mail your envelope, bring it into the church office during the week, or give online at [JesusIsTheBridge.org](https://JesusIsTheBridge.org) and choosing "Missions" under the "Online Giving" tab.

#### Other December Outreach Opportunities & Events

Salvation Army Bell Ringing at K & K – Asbury is once again ringing the bells for Salvation Army Red Kettle donations through Christmas Eve day. Last year "Jerry's Jingers" plus other Asbury family and friends collected **\$10,300** at our K & K hardware site. You can sign-up to "Ring the Bells" at [JesusIsTheBridge.org](https://JesusIsTheBridge.org) using the "sign-up genius" app or by calling the church office.

Santa for Seniors – Asburians once again are spreading some Christmas Cheer to seniors residing at the Iowa Masonic Village skilled nursing unit. In mid-December, Asbury "elves" will be delivering 75 + gift bags stuffed with "goodies" to grateful seniors at the skilled nursing unit.

May you be blessed in your giving and receiving this Christmas!

In Christ's Service,  
Asbury In Mission Team



## Special Holiday Events and Worship Schedule

**ROOTS** kids presents **"The Christmas Evening News Hour"**

Live @ Asbury Church  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**December 10th @ 10:30am**

A Family Friendly Event For All Ages!  
Kids Drama, Kids Bell Choir and  
the Asbury Praise Team

**One Starry Night**  
*a journey to bethlehem*

**Sunday, December 3rd**  
3pm - 5pm @ Asbury Church

Tour guides escort you upon arrival to multiple scenes  
where live actors tell the story of the Savior's birth

Tours take approx 30 mins to complete - live animals inside!

Join Us In Worship  
**Christmas Eve**  
**9:30am**  
In-Person & Online

**4pm 7pm**  
Candlelight

Join Us For Worship  
**New Year's Eve**  
We Will Come Together For  
**One Worship Service**  
In-Person & Online  
**9:30am**



[JesusIsTheBridge.org](http://JesusIsTheBridge.org)

**1809 Mississippi Blvd.  
Bettendorf, Iowa**



**Asbury Website**