

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Traditional Service 8:30am
RootsKids 8:30 & 10:30am
Adult Classes 9:30am
Praise Service 10:30am
Communion on January 5

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News

Our Mission:

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



Volume 3, Issue 206
JANUARY 2, 2025

75 Years of Ministry and Beyond!

Welcome to 2025! This year Asbury UMC celebrates 75 years of ministry in Bettendorf. Throughout this year we will be taking opportunities to look back at the amazing ministries and mission of Asbury UMC for these past seventy-five years.



In January, we are starting off with the basics. I'm preaching a sermon series based on the Apostles' Creed. We will explore the core and bedrock beliefs of the Christian faith shared by millions of Christians around the world in nearly every church and denomination. We will also talk about the difference between essential beliefs and those values and opinions where we joyfully think differently.

In the Lenten Season we will be using the Adam Hamilton study, "24 Hours that Changed the World." This will also be a guide for my Lenten preaching.

Mark Your Calendar for These Special Dates in 2025:

Keep an eye on upcoming Good News publications for more details as we approach these special dates! 2025 is going to be an exciting year at Asbury UMC! You will not want to miss any of these exciting opportunities.



March 5th – Ash Wednesday Service with imposition of ashes
April 17th – Maundy Thursday Communion Service
April 18th – Good Friday Worship
April 20th – Easter Sunday
April 27th – Confirmation Sunday
May 4th – Celebrating 75 years of Ministry through Asbury UMC!

Mark your calendars for our May 4th Anniversary Celebration! We will have a single service of worship at 9:30am. We are inviting former pastors, staff, representatives from the Iowa Annual Conference and members of Asbury to join us in this day of celebration.

As we reflect on all of the ministry of Asbury UMC you may want to read a copy of our 2024 Annual Report which can be found on the church website at JesusIsTheBridge.org by choosing the "About Us" option and clicking on the "Church Council" tab. This report outlines the activities of the church throughout 2024 and all its ministries. It is a great way to learn about all the things going on at Asbury every week and month throughout the year!

I know that 2025 is going to be a special year for Asbury UMC. And I know that God is going to continue to guide us as we share the love of Jesus Christ with the Quad Cities community and the world.

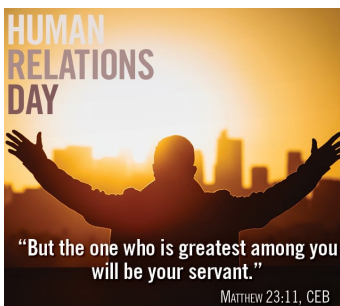
In Christ's love together, Pastor Tim

Discipleship Team Looking Forward to 2025

The Discipleship Team's goal is to help everyone move along Asbury's Discipleship Pathway to a life daily centered on God. In 2025, we will be offering supplemental reading/devotional material for some of Pastor Tim's sermon series. Our hope is that the additional material will help you reflect on the sermon topics throughout your week.

Beginning on January 5, 2025, Pastor Tim will be preaching on the Apostles Creed. The Discipleship Team is offering a daily devotional booklet with a brief scripture and prayer related to the Apostles Creed. The booklets are available at each entrance or by calling the office.

We hope this will be an inspirational way to begin the new year!



Human Relations Day on January 19 is a special Sunday across our denomination. It is focused on fostering better relationships and supporting community and youth outreach. On the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, we celebrate and take up a special offering to help bring his vision of a "beloved community" to life. Your gifts support important programs like Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services, and Youth Offender Rehabilitation. We invite you to help continue this vital work by using the enclosed envelope or you may give online at JesusIsTheBridge.org by choosing the online giving button and using the "Missions" option. To learn more about UMC Special Sundays or to give directly go to jaumc.org.



Bits and Pieces from Your Parish Nurse Team



Tis the season.... for colds, flu and COVID. There has been an increase in the number of individuals suffering from any one of these three illnesses. We are offering these reminders to help those who are not ill to stay healthy and to watch out for one another. First, if you have a fever, please stay home. If you have any of the symptoms listed below, please consider staying home. Remember to wash your hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing and always before touching food. And perhaps we should refrain from the "automatic handshake" for a while as we did when we returned to worship in the building several years ago. Back to fist-bumps maybe? It's all about helping each other stay well!

FLU SYMPTOMS: Fever &/or chills, sore throat, cough, muscle and/or body aches, fatigue, headache, runny nose &/or congestion.

COVID SYMPTOMS: Any of the common symptoms of the flu, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, vomiting, nausea.

Be Well Everyone! From Carol and Cheryl

Asbury's Ladies in Fellowship Together (LIFT) is hosting a church-wide COAT DRIVE to coordinate with their *Knit for the Neighborhood* Event. Please bring your new or gently used coats, hats, gloves & scarves to Asbury throughout January. Your items, along with the LIFT hand-made *Knit for the Neighborhood* scarves, will be blessed in worship on Sunday, February 2nd and will be delivered to Café 392 in downtown Davenport on February 8th. Thank you!

Missions

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

Rotary Annual Blanket Drive – Asbury, along with several other Bettendorf Churches, is participating in The Bettendorf Rotary Club's Annual Blanket Drive. **A Rotary Blanket Drive collection box will be at Asbury from Wednesday, January 8th through Monday, January 20th.** You can bring new or "gently used" blankets to Asbury during that time and they will be distributed during the remaining winter period to various social agencies in the Quad Cities.

Also, Thank You to all who helped to make the beautiful afghan blankets that were blessed in our sanctuary on November 24. Those 30 blankets were distributed to several social service agencies including The Center, St. Anthony's, and YouthHope in Moline.

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

Mark Twain Elementary School Backpack Ministry - We are excited that Asbury's partnership with Mark Twain to provide backpacks filled with nutritious snacks for designated elementary students is going well. With the help of Jo Winegar, who is purchasing the snack items, and a few volunteers who are filling and delivering the backpacks, we are continuing to provide backpacks filled with snacks to 36 students monthly through the end of the school year in May. **Thanks to all who have made special designated contributions throughout the year to help offset this monthly budgeted church expense.**

♥♥♥ **Thank You to Everyone who Supported our Special 2024 Christmas Offering ♥♥♥**
\$1,866 was split evenly between Mark Twain Backpack Ministry and UMCOR Hurricane Disaster Relief.

- 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.
- RootsKids**....RootsKids Children's Ministry for 3-Year-Olds through 5th Grade meets on Sundays at both 8:30 and 10:30am. Contact Rebecca Erickson at rebecca@asbury-bett.org for more information. **Adult volunteers are needed.**
- Element 412 Youth Ministry**...for youth in 6th-12th Grade on Sundays at 6:00pm. Contact Becca Johnson at beccaannejohnson94@gmail.com to receive a schedule, emails and updates! **Adult volunteers are needed.**
- 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 Tim or the Parish Nurse Team.
- Thoughts of Sympathy**....Our prayers are with the family and friends of Gus Potter. Gus died in Colorado, near his family, on December 24. The family and friends of Barbara Halpin. Barb died on December 29.
- Newsletter Deadline**....Items for the next Good News should be in the church office no later than **8:00am on Monday, January 27.**
- Bettendorf Food Pantry**....The Food Pantry always appreciates your non-perishable food and/or cash donations! There is a basket by the office door and a bin near the elevator at Asbury where you may leave donations. **Thank you!**
- Friendly Thrift Center**....**The Thrift Center will be CLOSED until January 6 for painting. They can not accept donations before January 5.** After January 5, they are in need of men's clothing (especially hats & gloves), children's coats, clothing & coats for infants and towels & wash cloths. **Thank you!**
- Hannah Circle**....All women are invited for fun and fellowship on the second Tuesday of each month! Next meeting is **January 14th. Please join us at 11:30am at Granite City for lunch.**
- Rachel Circle** Next meeting is **January 14th at 6:30pm** in the Asbury Connections Café. Our presentation will be by Jesse Brand about St. Florian Society. Please join us to share a time of learning and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!
- Card Ministry**....Next meeting is **January 8th.** To learn more about Card Ministry, go to their Facebook page, the Asbury website or contact Alinda Littrel or Linda Dudgeon. You can help support Card Ministry expenses by purchasing their beautiful cards in the church office!
- LIFT - Ladies In Fellowship Together**...Details of dates and events can be found on their LIFT Facebook page. You may also contact Jenny Bloomquist, Julia Hensch, Marian Edmund-Paulson or Stephanie Pim. All women are invited!
- Asbury Men's Group**....Join us on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of the month at **7:45am** Contact Cliff Pim (563-340-2722), Phil Paulson (309-502-9236) or the church office (563-355-5218) for more information or the **Zoom** link. All men are welcome!
- Foundation Gift Recognitions**....Thank you to Mitch Hill and Pat Tank for their recent gifts to the Asbury Foundation. 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. **This is a thoughtful way to honor your birthday or other occasions.**