

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
Traditional Service 8:30am
RootsKids 8:30 & 10:30
Adult Classes 9:30am
Praise Service 10:30am
Communion on January 4

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good News

Our Mission:

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



Volume 3, Issue 229
JANUARY 1, 2026

Covenant Prayer

Committing to Christ
in a New Year

As we enter 2026 and a new year, it is always a good time to focus on our commitment to Christ in a time of new beginnings. John Wesley created a covenant prayer that I often use in worship on the first Sunday of a new year. It is a prayer that helps us focus on the importance of our faith in Christ.

The Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

If we take this prayer seriously it is pretty humbling. It is humbling to ask God to "rank me as you will." And, to "let me be exalted or brought low" for Christ. But that is the intent of the prayer. It is an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to Christ's kingdom and to remember that as Christians we serve a living God who has given us not only life, but also salvation.

As we think about 2026 and our commitment to Christ, now is a good time to resolve to follow Jesus as closely as each of us can in the coming year.

Happy New Year!
Pastor Tim



It is with a heavy, yet joyful, heart that I announce my retirement as Asbury's Director of Engagement, effective January 15th. It has been my great honor and joy to serve you all in this position. I will miss working with you, and helping you to find that place that God has called you to serve. Most of all, I will miss your hugs and greetings on Sunday mornings at the Welcome Kiosk! God bless! – Marian Paulson

Please Join Us in Worship on January 4th for One Service Only at 9:00am
Regular Worship Schedule Resumes on January 11th at 8:30 and 10:30am

Asbury Discipleship Team's New Year Challenge!



As you think about the Wesley Covenant Prayer, the Discipleship Team encourages you to complete the challenges on the Discipleship Pathway Calendar which are designed to help you lead a life that is daily centered on God. The calendar may be found in each entryway. For more information contact Jean Black.

Community Hymn Sing
Sunday, January 4 at 3:00pm
Asbury UMC Sanctuary
All are Welcome!
(Instrumentalists meet at 2:15pm)
♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

Asbury Volunteers Doing God's Will!

MANY THANKS to the members of Asbury Men's Group, LIFT Women's Ministry, WINGS, Agape & Explorations Adult Sunday Classes and those who helped financially for combining efforts in order to provide our annual fun holiday meal, music and arts & crafts experience for guests at The Center on December 13. This outreach brings not only a good meal, but the opportunity to reach out and share holiday joy with our neighbors! Thank you!



Jerry's Jinglers 75th Anniversary Challenge a Success!

Thank you to ALL our devoted Salvation Army bell ringers for helping us reach our goal of 75 different people signing up to ring. We are happy to report we had nearly **100** different ringers at K & K Hardware ringing in the name of Asbury to help those who need assistance (many ringing multiple days!...but only counted once). Be sure to look for the display of names on the west entrance wall. A BIG thank you to coordinators Dave and Dana Nichols for their dedication and skill in keeping this ministry scheduled and organized!



Things to Let Go of As We Enter the New Year!

- Worrying about what others think of me
- Excuses
- The need to control everything in my life
- Fear of uncertainty
- Toxic Relationships
- Addiction to social media
- Neglecting my physical health
- Grudges
- Fighting things I cannot change
- Feelings of anger and resentment
- Comparing myself to others
- Unrealistic expectations
- Trying to make everyone happy
- A negative body image
- Harsh self-criticism
- Indulging in unhealthy habits and addictions

 The next foot clinic is January 26th. There are a few appointment times open. Contact Cheryl with questions. 

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 for your new or "gently used" blankets will be at Asbury in January or you may bring them to the church office. The blankets will be distributed during the remaining winter period to various social agencies and shelters for the homeless 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 23. Those 86 blankets were distributed to several social service agencies and Clarissa Cook Hospice residents. This is an ongoing, year-round ministry! Contact Carol Jackson if you would like to learn more about how you can help.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE AT ZION MEAL SITE!

A different group of Asbury volunteers host the first Wednesday dinner of each month at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. Our church purchases the food items for the meal, while the designated group for the month organizes, delivers and serves the meal to the homeless and those individuals and families in need of daily nourishment. Thank you to Sharon Johnson for coordinating the monthly groups and to Jo Winegar for purchasing the food items each month. For more information on becoming involved with the Zion Mealsite, contact Sharon or one of the AIM Co-Chairs, Jenny Bloomquist and Steve Sorensen.

• United Methodist Special Offering - Human Relations Day In January we honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy by supporting programs that strengthen communities and empower vulnerable populations. Your generosity helps fund initiatives like youth organizing, community advocacy, and neighborhood development. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience or you may use the Online Giving tab on our website JesusIsTheBridge.org and choose the Missions & Special Giving option. Thank you! For more information on Human Relations Day, go to www.iaumc.org/special-sundays-and-special-offerings

• 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.

• Newsletter Deadline Items for the next Good News should be in the office no later than **8:00am on Monday, January 26**.

• Congratulations to Meagan & Matt Moran on the birth of a son, Luke Robert on December 8. Grandparents are Julie & John Moran and Great Grandparents are Betty & John Cerny.

• Thoughts of Sympathy Our prayers are with Missy McKim and Ashley, Trevor & Dillon on the death of her husband, Shawn, on December 28.

• Friendly Thrift Center Thank you for all of your generous, wonderful warm weather donations! We still are in need of warm sweaters & gloves, men's winter coats, shoes & boots, along with all other men's items, boys pants, and travel-size shampoos, conditioners, and lotions.

• Hannah Circle Meets on the second Tuesday of each month for fun, fellowship and breakfast or lunch out at a local restaurant. Next meeting is on **Tuesday, January 13 at 11:30am for lunch at Granite City, 5270 Utica Ridge Rd.** Weather permitting, of course! Please join us for fun and fellowship! We love to meet new friends!

• Rachel Circle We will meet **Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30 in Connections Café**. Please join us!

• Card Ministry Next meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 14 at 6:30pm**. To learn more, go to their Facebook page, the Asbury website or contact Alinda Littrel or Linda Dudgeon.

• Loom Crafters There are several ways you can help in this new monthly service and fellowship opportunity of making sleeping mats for the homeless! Please join us on the second Monday of each month. Next Loom Crafters is **Monday, January 12 at 6:30pm** in Connections Café. Contact Jean Black or Pam Thornton for more information!

• Craft & Chat Next meeting of this drop-in gathering is **Saturday, January 17, from 9:00-Noon** in the Connections Café at Asbury. Bring your own supplies and work on any craft project you like, or come and help make a sleeping mat for those in need! Connect and have fun with fellow crafters. Contact Michelle Bonney for more information.

• 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 in person at the church 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!

• Asbury Foundation Thank you to Don Culp, Mitch Hill and Darlene Roseleaf 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 special occasions.**