

Good News

Our Mission:

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



JesusIsTheBridge.org

Volume 3, Issue 230
JANUARY 28, 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Traditional Service 8:30am
RootsKids 8:30 & 10:30
Adult Classes 9:30am
Praise Service 10:30am
Communion on February 1

The Elephant in the Room

Asbury family, I've been very reluctant to address this because I'm not someone who ever likes to get political in church. I know we are a diverse congregation and I respect your right to your political views. But my conscience just cannot let me not say something. And, my heart breaks.

We are watching on TV and in the news the immigration enforcement that has been going on first in Chicago, and now the Twin Cities. I've read numerous sources and tried to follow what is going on with care.

As people of faith, the United Methodist Church is on record opposing mass deportations of migrants and immigrants. Anytime you do something on such a large scale, there are bound to be numerous opportunities for errors, mistakes and really bad decisions, often making what happens not just or fair. We've seen citizens and persons with legal status, or those seeking legal status, detained in the enforcement efforts. We've seen some horrible clashes with ICE and civilians, some of which include injury and death. We've seen the lives of entire communities disrupted.

I am sure that some of you have strong feelings that if someone is here without legal status they should leave the US. I myself am not opposed to us having immigration laws and fair processes for immigration. What I get from our own Iowa UMC leaders, who help with immigration of pastors and their families, is that our current system is an expensive convoluted mess that is very hard to navigate even for experts. And, I cannot believe this is the best way to enforce the law. This whole enforcement mess needs to come to an end.

Today, I'd like you to ponder Jesus' own story of the Good Samaritan and how he told us that our neighbor is not someone who looks like us, or is from the same country we are from. Our neighbor is the person who needs us. And we are commanded to love our neighbors.

Please pray and work for solutions to the current struggle over immigration. Please pray for migrants and immigrants. Please pray that we might find solutions that, as our Methodist General Rules say, "Do no harm".

In Christ's Love, Pastor Tim

Please Join Us for Ash Wednesday Worship at 7:00pm on February 18



DISCIPLESHIP MOMENT

We hope you enjoyed the January Discipleship Challenge. Our goal for 2026 is to encourage everyone at Asbury to continue your faith journey on the Discipleship Pathway. This month we would like to help you understand what the Discipleship Pathway is.

The Discipleship Pathway is a guide to help you grow spiritually as a disciple of Jesus. The goal is to live a life daily centered on God. Asbury's Discipleship Pathway has 7 areas following our membership vows, Prayer, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness. We have also added Learn and Play, as these are also important to spiritual growth. We all start out as strangers, not knowing God. We then move on to exploring and becoming acquainted with God. As we move along the pathway we become friends, then move on to being a good friend, and finally an intimate friend with God. The Pathway shows specific things you can do to move from one level to the next in each area. As we move along the Pathway, it becomes easier to live our lives daily centered on Him. The Pathway is a personal journey and you will find that you are at different levels in different areas. The Pathway is a life long journey, so don't rush, plan to focus on one area at a time.

In the upcoming months we will talk more about each area and offer more challenges. Asbury is committed to helping you along your journey. Copies of the Discipleship Pathway can be found on the information wall.

Blessings on your journey,

Jean Black and Maggie Fioramonti Discipleship Team Co-Leaders

Element 412 Ice Skating

6th-12th Grade (friends & families welcome)

Meet at Frozen Landing

Teens must have a ride to and from Frozen Landing.
Parents can skate or hang out by the firepit!



SUNDAY
FEB 8TH 4-6PM

FROZEN LANDING
2222 MIDDLE RD
BETTENDORF
(23RD ST & MIDDLE RD)

ADMISSION
SKATE RENTAL
PAID FOR

QUESTIONS? call 563.355.5218



Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously



Building Beloved Community

A 6-week Lenten Study
with Bishop Kennetha at 7:00pm
Tuesday, February 24th
Through March 31st

Pastor Tim will host a meeting
in Room 302-303 for those
wanting to participate in this
online opportunity together.
A Zoom link will also be offered.
Books are available for participants.

Opportunities to Serve!

• **STEWARDS OF CREATION**—One of Asbury's 2026 church-wide goals is to "Seek ways to acknowledge God's creation and engage our church members in actions that support God's creation." To implement this goal, the Stewards of Creation Planning Team is inviting new members.

There are many ways to be involved. Read the Stewards of Creation 2025 annual church council report or look over the Stewards of Creation brochure, located in the entryway, to get an idea of all the specific ways you can help lead our congregation to "Do God's Will" as a steward of creation.

Our planning team usually only meets 1-2 times per year, in person, to make decisions. Most other planning and implementation is done through emails. If you are interested, please contact Sue Moseley to join our planning team!

• **GARDEN MINISTRY**—The 25th year of our Garden Ministry will be starting in less than two months. It was initiated in the spring of 2002 as an outreach ministry of our church to provide fresh vegetables to those who otherwise would not have access to them. It was inspired by Jesus' words in Isaiah 58:10 "Feed my Hungry". Currently, fresh vegetables are being distributed to over 20 organizations in our local community (food pantries; home shelters; and meal sites) along with food-challenged families. If you are interested in participating in "taking a bite out of hunger in our local community", please call Dave Phillips, 340-6594; email: phillips363@mchsi.com



Bits and Pieces from Your Parish Nurse Team Carol Jackson and Cheryl Ewert



**GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!
BY THE NUMBERS....**



- **Every two seconds** someone in America needs a blood transfusion.
- **The need is great**, extending beyond unexpected emergencies like car crashes, encompassing a wide range of medical treatments such as cancer therapies, cardiovascular and orthopedic surgeries, and organ and bone marrow transplants.
- **3% of Americans currently donate blood** despite 65% of the population being eligible to do so. Additionally, less than 20% of blood donations come from individuals in communities of color, and donations from individuals aged 19-24 have declined by nearly 32% from 2019 to 2021.
- **Nearly 7 million people** selflessly give blood every year, serving as a lifeline for countless individuals in need. This includes trauma victims, patients battling sickle cell disease or Thalassemia, as well as those who require organ or bone marrow transplants.

Are you one of those 7 million people who donate blood? If not, how about making this a New Year's resolution: *I will make it a priority to sign up this year to donate.* It takes less than an hour of your time, and you get treats when you're finished! Plus, the satisfaction of knowing that you have made a difference for someone in need.

All of our current regular donors are awesome. Please consider signing up for our March 9th blood drive at Asbury. More information will follow. Contact Cheryl or Carol with questions. Thank you for considering this opportunity!

Missions

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

world relief



AIM Mission of the Month for February is Love Our Neighbors
Please Help Support World Relief of the Quad Cities and One-Eighty!



World Relief has welcomed, advocated for, and helped integrate over 400,000 immigrants in vulnerable situations to communities all across our nation. For more information go to worldrelief.org/quad-cities. **One-Eighty**, located in Davenport, exists to bring hope, love and opportunity to people and communities impacted by crisis, poverty, or addiction. They do this by helping people build a relationship with Jesus Christ and assisting local churches and organizations in connecting with their communities. For more information go to oneeighty.org.

We, as church people, and as individuals, want to be of help to others. Often we may not know the person by name, where they live, or anything about them, but we can still be of service to provide a safer and healthier life. New clean socks can make a true quality-of-life difference!

You will find a table in the West Narthex throughout the month of February. Suggested items include rice, dried beans, peanut butter, flour, sugar, socks, underwear, hygiene products, cleaning products, coloring books, crayons & puzzle books.

Thank You for Your Service!

Thank you to Sue Eby, Lisa Delzell & Louis Cervantes, Sara Wade and Jane Fergades for serving the Zion Meal in January!



Element 412—6th-12th Grade Youth Group Beginning February 1st Element 412 will meet in the Youth Center on the **first Sunday** of each month from 9:30-10:30am. On the remaining Sundays throughout the month they will continue to meet as usual from 6:00-7:30pm. All youth are welcome! Bring your friends!!

- **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, February 9.**
- **Thank You!** Michelle and I want to thank you for the generous Christmas gift you gave us this year. It is very appreciated! We both feel very blessed to be a part of the Asbury family! In Christ, Pastor Tim
- **Friendly Thrift Center** Thank you for all of your generous, wonderful warm clothing donations! **We still are in need of warm winter items, especially for men!**
- **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, February 10 at 11:30am for lunch at Village Inn on Elmore Ave.** Please join us for fun and fellowship!
- **Rachel Circle** We will meet **Tuesday, February 10 at 6:30 in Connections Café.** There is always something new to learn with this group of awesome women. Please join us!
- **Card Ministry** Next meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 11 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, February 9 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, February 21, 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 Talbot & Angie Berry, Alex & Steph Brimeyer, Susan Eby, Jerry Finley, Bob Gallagher, Mitch Hill and Tim Tulon 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.**