



# The Asbury BEACON

October 2023

Volume 23, Number 8

## THE VISION OF ASBURY

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

## THE MISSION OF ASBURY

*To Inspire People of  
All Generations to  
Love, Learn and Lead Through  
Worship, Education, and Service.*

## THE ASBURY MOTTO

*No Matter Where You Are on Life's  
Journey, You Are Welcome Here!*

## HELLO ASBURY FAMILY!

Warm greetings in Christ!

As Summer has faded into the Autumn season, I wanted to take a moment to write and share how exciting it is to be part of what God is doing here at Asbury UMC and I am certainly looking forward to even greater things in the months and years ahead. As your pastor, I have been intentional about connecting with families. I was hoping we would have a successful "Back to Church" Sunday, but I'm not sure we got the word out well. I hope you are asking neighbors and friends to join you for worship. There are so many folks I want to meet, and if you are reading this and left Asbury for any reason, please talk with me and join us for worship. *You are always welcome.*

One of the things that has been on my heart in recent weeks is the importance of being a faithful body of Christ that gathers together as often as we can, especially on Sunday mornings. Being the new person in town, I've enjoyed getting to know you and I know there are others I need to meet and connect with, and that is on my list. I desire to fill the balconies again.....is it just a dream, or is it something we can strive to do? Every person who attends or has attended Asbury is part of the woven fabric of this church, and when knit together, we can cover so much territory. We are Asbury together. (As I hope you know, I'm not referring to vacations or required work activities, or other unavoidable conflicts that arise from time to time that affect our attendance.)

The Bible makes it very clear that our desire should be to be in fellowship together on a more increasing basis, and not less. Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV) 24 *And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

One cannot look at the events of this world very long without realizing we need the church more than ever before. The Bible also reminds us not to let our love for God to grow cold, or become lukewarm. I truly believe one of the greatest ways to keep our love for the Lord on fire is to spend time in God's presence, both at home, in the woods or the car, and in church whenever we can gather!

Faithfulness is important for the following reasons:

**Ministry Effectiveness** – Our Children and Youth see how important Christ is to us by our faithfulness, and will follow our example.

**Ministry Usefulness** – One can become involved in Ministry if they are going to be at church on a consistent basis.

**Evangelism?** Yes, Evangelism. Have you ever invited someone to attend church, and missed the Sunday they attended?

**Connection to Events** – Much of the information on events is given at church via announcements, our monthly newsletter, *The Beacon*, our church Facebook page (Asbury13601), our church website ([www.AsburyUMC.net](http://www.AsburyUMC.net)), our YouTube Channel (AsburyPgm) or the weekly church bulletin. These are just a few ways faithfulness is essential, and I'm sure you can think of many others.

Bottom line, Asbury, is we need each other, and the more we connect to each other, the stronger we will be as a church family, and the more effective we will be in our community. I am looking forward to our exciting future together and I hope you will join me as we continue to share our Wesleyan roots with the world. There's so much for us to look forward to in the future. Thanks for taking the time to read this, and I hope to see you this Sunday in Church @ 10:15! Blessings in Christ,

*Pastor  
Michael*



## ASBURY'S STAFF

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**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**  
DAN WEBB

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## *Show Me The Way*

On our recent trip to the *Sight and Sound Theatre* to see the production of "Moses," God's message to me was clear: I am not the only one who feels inadequate to do what God is asking of me. Moses didn't feel he could speak to the Israelite people, his people and God's people, or to Pharaoh. God understood, so he brought Moses's brother, Aaron, to speak for Moses. Aaron spoke God's message while Moses, with the help of his staff and the powers provided by God, was able to demonstrate God's message. Over time, with God's help, Moses grew more confident and was able to carry out God's will.

There was a time that my head was full of things I didn't understand or couldn't make sense of. When God sent me home (to Asbury), he said do not interfere with what Rev. VanWie was doing, which I have come to understand meant listen and learn. His next directive was: write down your thoughts, so I began writing them down. Next, He said share, but my question was: when and where? With God's help through the Holy Spirit, Rev. VanWie and others, I have become more confident in my sharing. God has given me a gift and every day I ask God to **Show Me The Way**.

The trip to Lancaster's Sight and Sound Theatre and to Gettysburg was a wonderful experience that cannot be easily put into words. The message that stood out to me from the Gettysburg tour was: Even though Mead won that 3-day battle, no one ever truly wins in battle and war. Special thanks to Lindsay Webb, Rev. Leon VanWie and Margie VanWie for putting this trip together and keeping it running smoothly. Special thanks to the bus driver, who had exceptional patience. Also, special thanks to Frances Goutremout for inviting me to go. It was a special time of fellowship and sharing.

I invite everyone to experience the wonderful opportunities that God provides. Blessings on your journey!

Sue Beaman

## **STEWARDSHIP IS COMING ALL OF OCTOBER!**

**October 1st: Christian Connections**  
*Membership contacting (cake)*

**October 8th: Mission**  
*Involvement in our area (cake)*

**October 15th: PSPRC**  
*Working with our staff (cake)*

**October 22nd: Trustees**  
*Repairs inside and out (cake)*

**October 29th: Finance**  
*Collecting all pledge sheets*



10th Mountain Division

## ASBURY HAS ADOPTED A PLATOON

### Who is our “Adopted Platoon?”

A platoon from Alpha Company, 210th Brigade Support Battalion, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum.



Asbury’s “Adopted” Platoon

### Our “Adopted” Platoon:

42 Soldiers from Alpha Company, 210th Brigade Support Battalion, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum.

### Duration & Location of the Deployment:

9 months (August 2023 – April 2024), Kuwait, Iraq, Syria.

### Adopt-A-Platoon Update!

Thank You!! Thank you for your contributions (three large boxes) for our “Adopted 10th Mountain Platoon,” which were mailed on Sept. 5th to 3 locations.

Soldiers are deployed and everyone there is extremely busy.

### How You Can Help:

By October 29th, please provide:

- ♦ Cards with beautiful Autumn pictures.
- ♦ Other personal items are still appreciated (Items listed on the box in the Rotunda).



Please place your items in the big box found in the Rotunda. We need 42 cards with your own nice messages! Rather than a donation of items, you may send a check to the church office annotated with “Adopt A Platoon” and Christian Connections will purchase items.

Thank you. Peace,

Jim Rafferty, Asbury Lay Leader  
Mobile: 315-408-9036

Lindsay Webb, Co-Chair  
Christian Connections Committee

# Red Bird Christmas Boxes

Christmas boxes are due by November 5, so they can make their way to Red Bird by Christmas. If you would like to fill one, please see the lists below. Plastic boxes are available at church or can be purchased, along with most items at a dollar store.

**Note:** All items should be FULL size and in their original containers, as purchased. to help items fit in the box, purchase flat bottles of shampoo, hand lotion, etc. and small round cans of shaving cream.

## RED BIRD MISSION – Adult Shoebox

- ◆ Comb and/or Hair Brush - Shampoo
- ◆ Hand Lotion
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Toothbrush and Toothpaste - Chap Stick
- ◆ Full Size Bar of Soap - Washcloth
- ◆ Disposable Razors -Shaving Cream -Nail Care Items -Socks
- ◆ Work Gloves or Mittens -Winter Stocking Hat or Scarf

## RED BIRD MISSION – Child’s Shoebox

- ◆ Comb and/or Hair Brush
- ◆ Shampoo
- ◆ Hand Lotion
- ◆ Child’s Toothbrush and Toothpaste - Chap Stick
- ◆ Full Size Bar of Soap - Washcloth
- ◆ Socks
- ◆ Mittens
- ◆ Winter Hat
- ◆ Small Flashlight
- ◆ 2 or 3 Small Toys
- ◆ 2 or 3 School Items

**Christian bookmarks, wristbands, and other spiritual items are also appreciated.**

Thank you for your generosity!

*Need some gifts for family and friends? Want to see some clever, colorful, practical crafts for sale? Come to Asbury’s Loving Stitches Quilting Group’s bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 10 to 2 in the rotunda. Also Sunday Nov. 5 right after church. We have been working all year to make items you can enjoy and help support the operating budget of Asbury. We have such things as bowl cozies, scrubbers, cup cozies, wall hangings, lap quilts, casserole carriers, Christmas napkins and many tree decorations to name a few.*





October 1 Gerald Tucker  
October 3 Mark Robinson  
October 6 Karen Hill  
October 9 Marianne Scott  
October 10 Eleanor Cerow  
October 10 Michael Rudd  
October 11 Greta Bovee  
October 13 Myrtie Schilling  
October 14 Ori Phillips  
October 14 Pam Quimby  
October 23 Catherine Mowers  
October 27 Abigail Patrick  
October 27 Andrew Rudd  
October 28 Kate Lamica  
October 29 Michelle Rudd

**Jeffrey and Kathryn Sero**  
October 6, 2007

**Herb and Deb Van Houten**  
October 12, 1985

**Willy and Darlene Welbourn**  
October 28, 1977

**Louis and Nancy Dolloway**  
October 30, 1971

**James and Carol Wright**  
October 30, 2009

**From the Missions Committee:** The Zimmerman's are no longer working as missionaries and anyone contributing to their mission work should discontinue or redirect their contributions directly to our own Mission Committee. Thank you!

### October Contemporary Service

The next Contemporary Service is Sunday, October 29th. Like every Sunday, it's the perfect time to invite a friend, a neighbor, and/or a family member to **Asbury United Methodist Church**.

We are looking for musicians! If you play rhythm guitar, bass guitar or drums, please feel free to reach out to Melanie, Praise Team Leader, at 315 783 1105 or [melanie@cortelimprovement.com](mailto:melanie@cortelimprovement.com)

### SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

submitted by Max Bovee

**October 1: 2 Corinthians 1:9**

*"We should not trust in ourselves, but in God."*

**October 8: 2 Corinthians 5:20**

*"We are ambassadors for Christ."*

**October 15: Galatians 3:28**

*"You are all one in Christ Jesus."*

**October 22: Ephesians 4:30**

*"Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."*

**October 29: Ephesians 6:4**

*"Bring your children up in the training and admonition of the Lord."*

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# ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Address Service Requested



Join us for  
SUNDAY WORSHIP  
at  
8:15 a.m.  
10:15 a.m.



Scan to visit  
Asbury's  
website



*Asbury United Methodist Church*

*No Matter Where You Are on  
Life's Journey,  
You Are Welcome Here!*



***GOD IS  
LOVE***

And whoever abides in love  
Abides in God, and God abides in Him  
I John 4:16