



The Asbury BEACON

February 2025

Volume 25, Number 2

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!*

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

- John 13:34-35

HOW CAN WE REACH OUT AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER?

Community Dinners SIGN-UP TO HELP!

Community Dinners are served at the Emmanuel Congregational Church, UCC, 119 South Hamilton Street, Watertown.

Asbury will volunteer for the Wednesday dinners until the end of April. A binder with sign-up sheets is in the Rotunda. Up to three people can sign-up for the same duty on the same day, totaling six volunteers each Wednesday.

You can sign-up for:
Set-up and Serving (4-7 p.m.)
Clean-up (5-8 p.m.)

The Asbury Mission Committee has pledged to give \$250 per month for a total of \$1,000 towards the cost of the dinners.

Prayers and Monetary Donations needed for those impacted by the wildfires in California

Support Relief and Recovery Efforts
by donating to UMCOR

As countless families and communities face the overwhelming aftermath of these wildfires, UMCOR is supporting the efforts of conference disaster response ministries across the region. Evacuees are receiving food and other essential supplies. Trained volunteers are preparing to assist where it is safe to do so. Pray for all those impacted by this disaster, as well as first responders and volunteers. The road to recovery will be long, but together, we can bring hope and healing.

TO DONATE:

Online: bit.ly/umcorusr

By phone: 1-888-252-6174

By mail: **Check made out to**
Global Ministries/UMCOR with
"Advance #901670-Calfires"
on the memo line.

Mail to: Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO
P.O. Box 9068
New York, NY 10087-9068



"Give us this day our daily bread."

HELP US FEED THE THOUSANDS!

Buy a loaf or two of bread and bring it to Asbury on Communion Sunday each month (the first Sunday of each month). The bread is taken to Urban Mission for distribution to those in need.

ASBURY'S STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
FAITH KIRCH

**ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR -
VISITATION**

JANE EASTHAM
CELL PHONE: 315-804-1350
EMAIL:
URBANMISSIONJANE@YAHOO.COM

BROADCAST MINISTRY
BOB KURTZ

CLEANING SERVICES
FRANCES GOUTREMOUT

CONGREGATIONAL CARE
PAMELA QUIMBY
DARLENE WELBOURN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
DAN WEBB

TREASURER
FAITH KIRCH

MAINTENANCE
WILLIAM NOVISKI

**MUSIC PROGRAM
DIRECTOR**
CATHERINE MOWERS

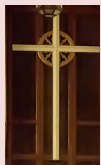
MUSIC PROGRAM STAFF

GHILYANA DORDZHIEVA
BOB MUNTZ
LYNN MORGAN
MICHELLE RUDD
LISA SMITH
LAURA WASHBURN
BINA WEST

NURSERY CARE WORKER
ANNE MARIE GIANFAGNA

BEACON/NEWSLETTER EDITOR
SUE BEAMAN
ASBURYBEACON@GMAIL.COM

PASTOR
MICHAEL TERRELL



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!*



Confirmation CLASSES

ASBURY CONFIRMATION
CLASS 2025

Any youth interested in learning more about their faith and becoming a member of Asbury UMC through confirmation, please get in touch with the pastor.

The first class session will be on Sunday, February 23, from 2-4 p.m., in the parlor. **There will be pizza!**



Join Us for the All-Church Luncheon!

The Christian Connections Committee is excited to invite you to an **All-Church Luncheon** on **Sunday, February 2**, immediately following the service.

Please bring a dish to share, but if you're unable to, don't worry - there will be plenty of food for everyone! With the snow piling up and the cold air settling in, let's come together to warm our hearts and bellies through this time of fellowship.



Also, if you're interested in hosting or helping out with our weekly **COFFEE HOUR**, please sign-up at the welcome table. We'd love to have your support in making these gatherings a success.

The February 2025 BEACON is sponsored by *Jane Eastham & Frank Massa*.

Our newsletter is a very important tool in helping us to communicate with and keep our Asbury family connected!

Thank you **Jane and Frank** for being our "BEACON ANGELS" for February.

Dear Church Family,

Well we are in the second month of the New Year. There's a lot happening around us and we are in unprecedented times.

How are you doing? I'm trying to stay in a positive mindset but it's a challenge. I share with you a scripture that I have been turning to frequently from Lamentations 3:22-23:

*"Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail.
They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."*

Each new year - and indeed, every single day - is a gift of God's grace. It's a chance to begin again, to recommit, and to draw closer to God. Whatever challenges or triumphs we experienced last year and today, we can bring them all before the Lord, knowing that His mercies are fresh and abundant for us today.

As your pastor, I encourage you to take time to reflect on two simple questions:

- 1) What is God calling me to let go of? Maybe it's a lingering hurt, a sinful habit, or a burden you've carried alone for too long. The Bible tells us to cast our cares on the Lord because He cares for us (1 Peter 5:7). Trust that His grace is sufficient to help you release what's weighing you down.
- 2) What is God calling me to take up? Perhaps God is nudging you toward deeper prayer, more consistent time in the Word, or serving in a new way within our church or community. Maybe it's reaching out to someone in need or simply being more intentional in showing Christ's love to those around you.

As a church, we have an incredible opportunity to walk this journey together. Let's make this a year of renewal, faithfulness, and love. Let's worship with hearts that are expectant, continue to serve with hands that are willing, and grow as a community that reflects the light of Christ to Watertown and beyond.

Remember, we don't walk this year alone. The same God who has been faithful through all of history walks with us into every tomorrow. God's promises are sure, and God's power is unchanging.

May we walk through these challenging times with the truth of Philippians 3:13-14:

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

I'm praying for you and your families and for all those in the US and around the world that are suffering. Let's press on together in faith, trusting in God's unending love and faithfulness.

Let us lift each other up and support those around us.

With love in Christ,

*Pastor
Michael*



BIBLE READING PLAN:

Choose YOUR OWN JOURNEY



Head out on a month-long exploration through God's Word. Each day's quest comes with some options. Choose from a prayer, a parable, a gospel reading or an epistle reading. If you have more time or use this Bible Reading Plan more than once a day, read the rest of the passages too.

May God bless you as you journey through Scripture & grow closer to him!

1. GRATITUDE

- Prayer: 1 Samuel 2:1-10
- Gospel: Luke 17:11-19
- Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. TRUST

- Prayer: Psalm 28:6-9
- Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

3. PRAISE

- Prayer: Exodus 15:1-18
- Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

4. LOVE

- Prayer: Philippians 1:9-11
- Gospel: Mark 12:28-33
- Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

5. PRAYER

- Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13
- Parable: Luke 18:10-14
- Epistle: Ephesians 6:17-20

6. OBEDIENCE

- Parable: Matthew 21:28-32
- Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

7. PATIENCE

- Parable: James 5:7-11
- Epistle: Romans 8:22-25

8. WISDOM

- Prayer: 1 Kings 3:3-9
- Parable: Matthew 7:24-27
- Epistle: James 3:13-18

9. CALLING

- Prayer: Isaiah 6:1-8
- Epistle: 1 Peter 2:9-10

10. FORGIVENESS

- Prayer: 1 Kings 8:46-53
- Parable: Matthew 18:21-35
- Gospel: Luke 23:32-34

11. JOY

- Prayer: Psalm 16
- Parable: Luke 15:1-10
- Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

12. RESTORATION

- Prayer: Psalm 51:10-19
- Gospel: John 2:19-22

13. STEWARDSHIP

- Parable: Luke 12:16-21
- Gospel: Luke 21:1-4
- Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

14. HUMILITY

- Parable: Luke 14:7-14
- Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11

15. REFUGE

- Prayer: Psalm 121
- Gospel: John 17:11-19

16. MIRACLES

- Prayer: Matthew 14:13-21
- Gospel: Mark 9:14-24

17. FRUITFULNESS

- Parable: Matthew 25:14-30
- Gospel: John 15:1-8
- Epistle: James 2:14-24

18. UNITY

- Prayer: John 17:20-23
- Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

19. PROVISION

- Prayer: Deuteronomy 28:1-14
- Parable: John 10:1-18
- Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34

20. PEACE

- Prayer: Isaiah 26:1-13
- Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

21. JUSTICE

- Prayer: 1 Kings 8:56-61
- Parable: Matthew 20:1-16

22. PERSISTENCE

- Prayer: James 5:13-18
- Parable: Luke 18:1-8

23. EVANGELISM

- Prayer: Acts 4:23-31
- Epistle: Romans 10:9-15

24. FAITHFULNESS

- Prayer: Nehemiah 8:1-13
- Parable: Matthew 21:18-22

25. SUFFERING

- Prayer: Job 19:21-27
- Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

26. GROWTH

- Prayer: Colossians 1:9-14
- Parable: Mark 4:26-29

27. MERCY

- Parable: Luke 10:30-37
- Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16

28. SALVATION

- Prayer: Acts 2:22-36
- Parable: Luke 16:19-31
- Gospel: John 3:16-17

29. READINESS

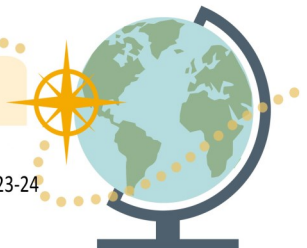
- Prayer: Luke 1:46-55
- Parable: Matthew 25:1-13

30. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

- Parable: Matthew 13:31-33
- Gospel: John 14:1-4

31. BLESSING

- Prayer: Numbers 6:24-27
- Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24





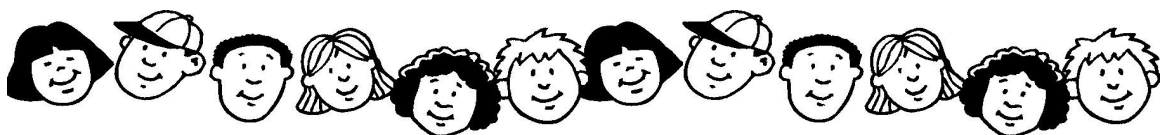
NEW DAY NEWS

“Play is the work of the child.” - Maria Montessori

Is childcare merely babysitting? In an attempt to dispel this myth, I have spent a great deal of time explaining the elements of a quality child care program. One of these elements involves planning for plenty of free play in the classroom schedule. This activity is not unplanned, as classrooms are arranged to include a block area, a dramatic play area, a writing area, an area for art, a quiet corner, an area for building with smaller toys, areas for exploring science and math concepts, and an area for sensory exploration. Childcare staff consistently communicate with children during these times, helping to guide their learning and enrich their play by stimulating their thinking, expanding their language, and helping them learn problem-solving skills.

10 Reasons Why Play Is Important

- 1) Play provides endless opportunities for children to hear and explore the power of their voice and practice using new and familiar sounds and words.
- 2) Play stimulates the development of thinking skills. It supports language development, enhances problem-solving skills, and encourages creativity.
- 3) Play unlocks opportunities for children to practice their home language (s) and encounter new words.
- 4) Play removes barriers, it is inclusive and accessible to all. All forms of communication support play; including facial expression, body language, signing, touching, eye contact, and speech.
- 5) Play supports a variety of skill, physical, large and small muscle development which will also support writing. Active play promotes muscle development, develops imagination and communication skills, and helps coordination and overall health.
- 6) Play enables children to practice, revisit, and experience deeper learning through experimentation, and repetition.
- 7) Play facilitates natural curiosity, enabling children to make connections and understand what is seen, heard, and experienced in their world.
- 8) Play enables children to develop independence, perseverance, and turn taking skills, supporting them to negotiate and build relationships.
- 9) Play provides a safe space for children to explore and learn to manage their feelings. It also helps them to build resilience and develop empathy towards others.
- 10) Play fosters a love for learning, develops imagination, and helps children grasp concepts in a fun and engaging way.




COMING IN MARCH!



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES
March 5, 2025
12 Noon and 6:00 p.m.



2025
Lenten
Bible Study



begins March 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor

How did Jesus teach the Greatest Commandment to his disciples?

In his latest book *Reckless Love*, author and Pastor, Tom Berlin writes that Jesus taught them to love neighbor first as a way to more deeply love God. In his exploration of Jesus' teaching and travels with his disciples, Berlin suggests that Jesus teaches us how to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength by showing us how to love our neighbor.

While many hope to learn to be better family, friends, leaders, and neighbors by finding a deeper relationship with God; **what if becoming a better neighbor leads you to that deeper love of God?**

In *Reckless Love*, you will consider life, and learn how loving the people around you will completely renew your faith and give you a new experience of loving God.

This six-week Lenten Bible Study begins on **Sunday, March 9th at 6:30 P.M. in the church parlor**. Additional meetings: March 16th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th, and 13th.

We celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 20th, 2025!
Mark your calendars now!!



The deadline for articles for the MARCH newsletter is **Thursday, February 20, 2025**. Please email articles and pictures to Sue Beaman at asburybeacon@gmail.com in WORD format or give them to Faith in the church office.

February BIRTHDAYS

February 1 Shevee Ives
February 3 James Wright
February 3 David Witte
February 5 Deborah Simmons
February 9 Karen Boomhower
February 12 Jean Sayers
February 17 Nicole Lamica
February 23 Kathy Ruhm
February 24 Bina West
February 24 Max Bovee

February ANNIVERSARIES

Lawrence and Kathleen Woodruff
February 14, 2004

Max and Greta Bovee
February 18, 1984



SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

submitted by Max Bovee

February 2: 1 Samuel 2:1

"My heart rejoices in the Lord."

February 9: 2 Kings 1:10

"If I am a man of God, may fire come down from heaven."

February 16: Psalm 6:6

"I am worn out from my groaning."

February 23: Psalm 11:1

"In the Lord, I take refuge."

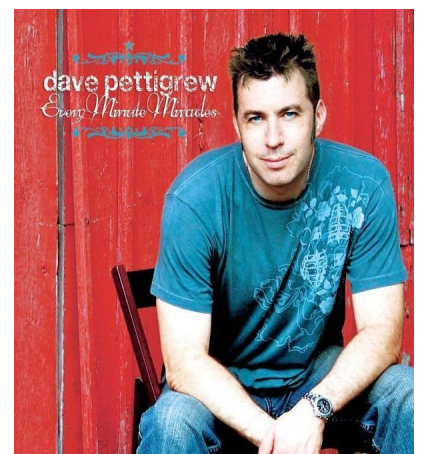
COMING IN JUNE!

Asbury Church will host a concert featuring Dave Pettigrew on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 7 p.m. Dave Pettigrew is a Christian artist that has opened for many groups, including Michael W. Smith, for King & Country, Mercy Me, Jeremy Camp, Big Daddy Weave, Brandon Heath, Sidewalk Prophets, Phil Wickham, and many more. He has graciously agreed to sing at our church as part of his tour of the eastern side of the USA this June. He is an incredible performer and gifted speaker.

Flyers will be out as the date comes closer. Admission will be a suggested donation of \$10 and a canned good for the Urban Mission.

I hope to fill the church!

Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend and spread the word!



ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

327 FRANKLIN STREET
WATERTOWN, NY 13601
315-782-3240
E-Mail: asbury@gisco.net
Website: www.AsburyUMC.net
www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601

Address Service Requested



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



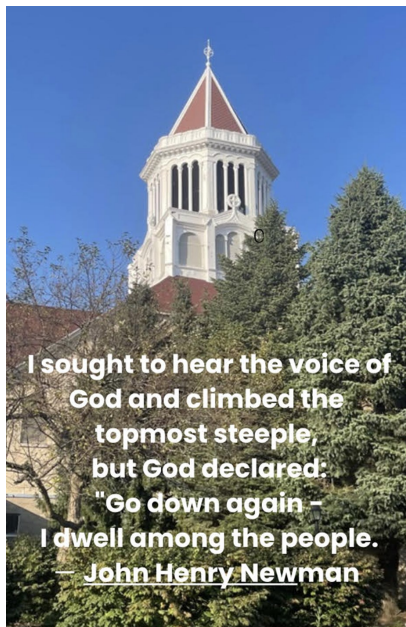
Scan to visit
Asbury's
website



Open Hearts,
Open Minds,
Open Doors...
The people of the
United Methodist
Church

Asbury United Methodist Church

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



I sought to hear the voice of
God and climbed the
topmost steeple,
but God declared:
"Go down again -
I dwell among the people."
— John Henry Newman

GOD
IS
"Light"
+
Love