



# The Asbury BEACON

April 2025

Volume 25, Number 4

## 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!*

## Warm Greetings, Friends!



We trust you are doing well and enjoying the blessings of the Lord in your life!

As we draw closer to the day that we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that without the Resurrection, we have nothing!

Paul, in his first letter to the Church at Corinth, wrote the following:

1 Corinthians 15:17-19 (NKJV) - *And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.*

There were those in the early church who were not only backing away from the claim of the Resurrection but also doing their best to get others to follow their lead. This denial of the Resurrection was a “non-negotiable” for the Apostle Paul.

It was amazing and even a bit unbelievable for so many to believe that a mere man could rise from the dead, yet we know that Jesus Christ was more than a mere man. He was the Son of God who had lived a sinless, blameless life and had died on the cross, much like any criminal from that day would die.

Paul was saying that if you remove the Resurrection from the Gospel story, then our faith is futile, and we are still in our sins. But thank God, we are not still in our sins because we recognize and receive the message of the cross and the empty tomb!

The Resurrection changes everything! We now have freedom from sin and all the condemnation that comes with it. As believers, we can take comfort in the fact that our Salvation is assured and heaven is our future! We can have hope for tomorrow, and we can be witnesses to others around us that they, too, can have this freedom as well! I need this, and I'm sure you do too!

Paul didn't start the following verses with an apology, but he declared with a bold statement, as we can see here:

1 Corinthians 15:20–22 (NKJV) - *But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.*

Jesus changes everything... let Him!

We hope to see you for **Easter Services** on **Sunday, April 20** at either the Sunrise Service at Thompson Park, at 6:11 a.m., led by Rev. Toby Schilling; our 8:15 a.m. Chapel Service, or the Main Service at 10:15 a.m. led by me.

Consider now who you might bring to church for this special celebration of Jesus Christ and His resurrection power! Please remember to bring a friend and spread the news! Let's invite folks into the church as we can share in the new life of the Easter Resurrection.

In Christ,

*Pastor Michael*



## ASBURY'S STAFF

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If you would like to donate individually wrapped candy to help fill the eggs, there is a donation box in the back of the rotunda. We will collect candy thru Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. At this time, we do not need any of the plastic eggs.

Any questions, please contact Sarah Lehman, 315-767-2641.



## ASBURY WOMEN IN FAITH

- On Sunday, March 16, the group met after church to discuss future plans. Suggestions are needed from the congregation to provide help for programs, here and abroad, which benefit women and children. A request from the Malawi Early Literacy Team, (MELT), was discussed.
- The request is to help equip The Kavingkama Technical School with basic tools to teach youth, 17-25, the building skills they need to get jobs and help their community.
- Jonathan White and Heather White are going to Malawi on April 22 to take basic tools to be used to build better housing for the community and to build easels for the schools in the area since there are no blackboards to write on. A motion was made to send \$1000 to assist in this project.
- WIF will meet Saturday, April 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor to plan the giving for the year. If you have suggestions for projects, please come or send a letter requesting funds or give us names of speakers who can come tell us about their organizations.

Thank you, Susan Snell

### HELP US FEED THOSE IN NEED!



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

**85 loaves of bread were received and taken to the Urban Mission Food Pantry on March 2, 2025**

Also, don't forget to sign up to help at the Community Dinners at Emmanuel Congregational Church. Asbury helps on Wednesdays. A binder with sign-up sheets is in the rotunda.

## Helping Children Understand Differing Abilities

Formerly called children with special needs, children with differing abilities are an integral part of our childcare and universal pre-kindergarten programs at New Day Children's Center. Having an inclusionary program benefits all children as typically developing children can learn and understand how to communicate and help their differently abled friends. Young children often have questions about children who may act and/or appear different from themselves. When your child asks a question about someone who is differently abled, consider it an opportunity to talk about a new and interesting topic rather than turning this into a topic to be avoided.

It is important to be honest and direct. If a young child says, "Why can't she walk?", you could say, "Some people walk like you and I do, and others move a different way." As children get older, a more complex response is in order. If you don't know much about the person your child is asking about, find a way to respectfully speak with that child's family to learn more or facilitate a conversation between the children themselves.

Avoid making assumptions and interpretations. Whether you know the person your child is asking about or not, avoid adding your interpretation of how a person may feel about their disability or what caused it.

There are many assumptions and misconceptions about differing abilities such as, "people with differing abilities are special and should be treated differently" or "differently abled people live hard and challenging lives." You can help your children talk about differing abilities in an accurate and respectful way by avoiding assumptions and taking the time to get to know someone on an individual level.

Children are like sponges. If you use positive language with your child they will continue to use that kind of language on their own. For example, explain that hearing aids help others hear and wheelchairs help others move around, instead of using a negative connotation such as, he can't hear, she can't walk.

It is also important to lead by example. Children look to adults for guidance on how to act, especially if they are in a new or unfamiliar setting. If you stare, point, quietly move to the other side of the street to whisper about someone, or talk down to in the presence of a differently abled individual, your child will see, hear, and internalize these behaviors. Take time to become aware of your own attitudes, beliefs, and assumptions around differing abilities before talking to your children. If you approach someone with kindness, openness, respect, and curiosity, your children will do the same.

We are all different in some way and we all do things every day to adjust to our unique circumstances. For example, someone who wears glasses uses them to correct blurry vision, just as someone who is non-verbal may use an assistive device like an iPad to communicate. None of these things are "wrong", they are just different ways of being in the world. Children use the word "wrong" because they have been socialized by adults and society's attitudes about what is considered "normal" versus "abnormal".

All children are children and all want the same things - to have friends, to play, to be loved, to laugh, to feel included, and to participate in activities together with their friends and family. The more we can relate to each other the more understanding, compassion, and interest we can develop.

Susan Gibson, Executive Director





Do You Have Your Asbury Tee Shirt or Sweatshirt Yet?  
It is not too late - there are still some available to purchase!

For more information: contact Lindsay Webb, 315-408-5099 or  
lindsaywebb1102@gmail.com.

Shirts are available for purchase in the church office.



### INVENTORY OF SHIRTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AS OF MARCH 17, 2025

#### *Old Design - "Making Disciples"*

TEE SHIRTS - \$10 each

2 - 3XL

3 - 2XL

1 - Adult Small

6 - Kids L

3 - Kids M

3 - Kids S

#### *New Design - "You Are Welcome Here"*

1 - 2XL Hooded Sweatshirt - \$20

TEE SHIRTS - \$10 each

1 - 2XL

2 - Adult XL

1 - Adult Small

3 - Youth L

**WEAR YOUR TEE SHIRT OR SWEATSHIRT TO  
special events, to volunteer, or wherever God leads you!**

### SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

submitted by Max Bovee

**April 6: Psalm 119:103**

*"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth."*

**April 13: Proverbs 12:15**

*"The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice."*

**April 20: Proverbs 15:31**

*"Whoever heeds life-giving correction will be at home among the wise."*

**April 27: Proverbs 19:21**

*"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."*



**SPRING RUMMAGE, PLANT,  
AND BAKE SALE**

**May 2 and May 3, 2025  
8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

**WESLEY HALL**

**SPRING IS HERE!  
TIME TO CLEAN UP AND CLEAN OUT!**

**NEEDED:**

**Furniture, toys, summer items, jewelry, books, puzzles,  
towels, games, antiques, working kitchen appliances, etc.**

**Pies, cookies, fudge, specialty items, snacks, etc.**

**Plants and gardening items.**

**ITEMS CAN BE LEFT IN WESLEY HALL FROM 10 AM-2 PM DAILY  
OR AFTER CHURCH ON SUNDAYS**

**NO CLOTHES OR COMPUTERS OR PRINTERS OR TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR:**

**Set up, Marking, Sorting,  
Monitoring, Check out,  
Clean up, and Fun!!**

**Call Sue Snell 315-782-8235  
to sign up!**



# CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE

## UPDATE

Spring is a time of renewal, and what better way to stay connected than through fellowship, good food, and caring for one another? Here are a few important updates from the Christian Connections Committee:

### April & May All-Church Luncheons


Mark your calendars! Our April luncheon will be held on **Sunday, April 13th**, so everyone can attend the **Salvation Army Pancake Breakfast on April 6th** - our usual luncheon date. May's luncheon will be on **Sunday, May 4th**. As always, **all are welcome** - bring a dish if you'd like, but there will be plenty for everyone. Come for the food, stay for the fellowship!


### A Big Thank You to North Country Roasters!

We want to give a huge **shout-out to North Country Roasters** for their generous coffee donation. The congregation has been loving the high-quality brew, and we are so grateful for their kindness.

### Introducing "Community Care" – Streamlining Our Prayer Requests

Our committee is launching a new program called **Community Care** to ensure that no one falls through the cracks. If you know someone who would appreciate a **visitation, prayer, or a card** (get well, sympathy, or just a friendly "we miss you"), Pastor Michael will have a notebook in the office. **You can also reach out to:**

 Contact person: **Jean Marshall**

 Phone: 315-783-3545

 Email: [jeanmarshall0927@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanmarshall0927@hotmail.com)

Thank you for being part of this caring and connected church family. We look forward to seeing you at the luncheons and working together to support our community!

Blessings,

**The Christian Connections Committee**



The deadline for articles for the MAY newsletter is **Thursday, April 24, 2025**. Please email articles and pictures to Sue Beaman at [asburybeacon@gmail.com](mailto:asburybeacon@gmail.com) in WORD format or give them to Faith in the church office.



April 2	James Baker	April 18	Alfred Gianfagna
April 3	Glen Snell	April 20	Grace Burke
April 4	Mark Smith	April 20	Leon VanWie
April 10	Lisa Smith	April 24	Peter Mowers
April 12	Lorraine Irwin	April 27	Darlene Chartrand
April 16	Jeffrey Sero		

John and Eleanor Cerow  
April 3, 1976  
Mark and Roxanne Robinson  
April 26, 1975

## A NOTE OF THANKS

*I would like to give a sincere thank you to all in our church family for their thoughts, prayers, food gifts, cards, visits, and phone calls during my hospital stay and recovery at home. The encouragement and uplift in spirit has helped sustain me these last 2 1/2 months. I have made substantial progress, but I believe we are still facing months remaining to a full, if ever, complete recovery. I was hit with Covid, pneumonia in both lungs, and possibly the flu, January 3.*

*I want to especially recognize 2 heroes from the Men's Group. They discussed my needs at a recent breakfast and came up with a plan to help me. Herb VanHouten built and installed a set of sturdy steps into my greenhouse to replace the old cinderblock ones. The next day Dr. Frank Rhode came and installed a solid handrail so I could safely walk down those new steps. These two items were a life-saver! Many thanks also to Martha Jablonski who came weekly and watered the plants in my greenhouse. The plants are very grateful!*

*This church family has brightened my days considerably and played a large part in my recovery. Sue and I both say a hearty "THANK YOU"!*

*Glen and Sue Snell*







# Memorial Service

**Gerald "Jerry" Bretsch**

Wednesday, May 7,  
11 a.m. @ Asbury UMC

**Karen M. Jamieson**

Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m.  
@ Asbury UMC

**William "Bill" Henry Hickox**

Monday, June 16, 11 a.m.  
@ Asbury UMC



## **Easter Preparations!**

If you would like to bring in Spring plants (daffodils, hyacinths, tulips, etc.) for the Easter altar, please bring them in on Thursday, April 17th, before noon. If they are to be in honor of a loved one, please let the church office know before Tuesday, April 15th.

It would be helpful if you would please place your name on the plant. If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Rhode.

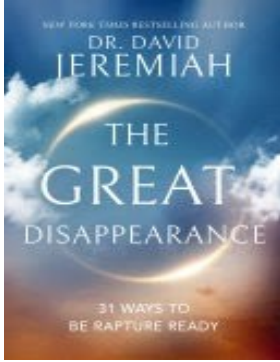
**Plant Given in Honor of:**

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**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_



**COMING IN JUNE!**



## **A Video Study by Dr. David Jeremiah – 2025 “The Great Disappearance” (How To Be Rapture Ready)**

Facilitated by Max Bovee

Six Monday Evenings: 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. @ Asbury Parlor  
June 2 – July 7

### **Schedule**

**June 2** – Introductory Video and “If We Die” – Psalm 23

**June 9** – “A Great Day”, “What’s Up With Heaven?”, “Why The Delay?”

**June 16** – “The Noah Factor”, “Salvation In The Tribulation”, “Delivered Before Destruction”

**June 23** – “Will Children Be Raptured?”, “Kept From The Hour”, “Dead Silence”

**June 30** – “At Any Moment”, “Rapture And Return”, “Shock And Awe”

**July 7** – “Live Like You Were Dying”, “The Final Invitation”, “Why Study Prophecy?”

**Synopsis:** The Rapture can happen at any time. There will be no warning sign announcing, “Get ready now – He is coming back today!” Following the departure of the saints, the seven-year Tribulation will begin, a harrowing time for anyone left behind. For those who wish to be part of the Great Disappearance, now is the time to get ready.

**Free handouts provided – Bring your Bible!**

**Questions or further information – Max Bovee: 315-232-4158**

## **Christian Artist, Dave Pettigrew Coming to Asbury**

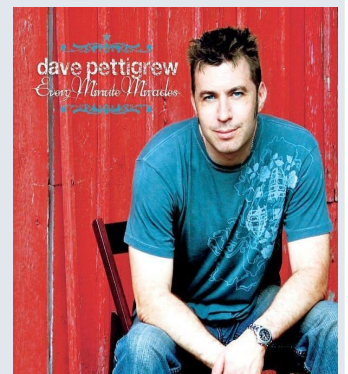
Asbury Church will host a concert featuring Dave Pettigrew on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 7 p.m. Dave Pettigrew is a Christian artist that has opened for many groups, including Michael W. Smith, for King & Country, Mercy Me, Jeremy Camp, Big Daddy Weave, Brandon Heath, Sidewalk Prophets, Phil Wickham, 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!**

Please contact **Lindsay Webb (315-408-5099 or [lindsaywebb1102@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaywebb1102@gmail.com))** with questions.



## ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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[www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601](http://www.Facebook.com/Asbury13601)

Address Service Requested



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



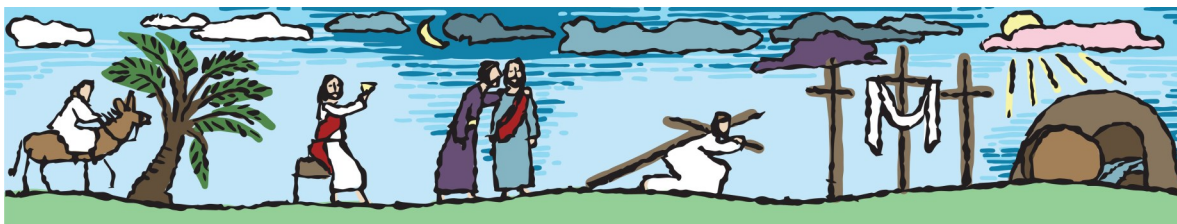
Scan to visit  
Asbury's  
website



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!***



### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday - April 13th, 8:15 a.m.** - Worship Service, in the Chapel

**Palm Sunday - April 13th, 10:15 a.m.** - Worship Service, in the Sanctuary

**Holy Thursday - April 17th, 6:00 p.m.** - Potluck and Communion, in Wesley Hall

**Good Friday - April 18th, Noon and 6:00 p.m.** - Worship Services, in the Chapel

**Easter Sunday - April 20th, 6:11 a.m.** - Sunrise Service, at Thompson Park Pinnacle

**Easter Sunday - April 20th, 8:15 a.m.** - Worship Service, in the Chapel

**Easter Sunday - April 20th, 10:15 a.m.** - Worship Service, in the Sanctuary