



The Asbury BEACON

October 2026

Volume 26, Number 10

THE VISION OF ASBURY

*To Form Disciples of Jesus Christ
Who Empowered by The Holy Spirit,
Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, and Lead
Courageously in Local Communities
and Worldwide Connections.*

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!*

Dear Asbury Family,

I know you celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month every October. Willow, Noah, and I want to express our deepest appreciation in advance for the kindness you continuously show us. While your cards, notes, and gifts are always so generous, please know that it is your prayers that we value and need the most.

We often express our gratitude to the Lord for calling us to be a part of what He is doing here at Asbury UMC. I am ever mindful of the honor it is to be called your pastor, as well as our calling to love and serve you in every way we can.

I am reminded of Paul's words to Timothy in 1 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV): *"And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."*

It is vitally important that we as pastors always remember who has called us into the ministry, as well as why He has called us. I give thanks to my pastor, the Reverend Victor R. Zaccaro, who stirred in me the call to ministry as a youngster and to my home church, the Richmondville United Methodist Church, who embraced me at Baptism and supported me by an affirming approval at the annual charge conference that began my ministry path.

Your love and support make our ministry far more effective. We look forward to even greater things in the future as God enables us, together, to impact Watertown and beyond for the sake of the Gospel.

In Christ,



ATLANTA, GA - August 3, 2026 - The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) today announced student Willow R. Terrell from Watertown, NY, has been selected to become a member of the esteemed organization. The society recognizes top scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship, and community commitment. The announcement was made by NSHSS Co-Founder and President, James W. Lewis.

"On behalf of NSHSS and our Co-Founder, Claes Nobel, a member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes, I am honored to recognize the hard work, passion, and commitment that Willow has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," said Lewis.

"Willow is now a member of a unique community of scholars — a community that represents our very best hope for the future."

"We are proud to provide lifetime membership to young scholars to support their growth and development," stated Lewis. "We help students like Willow build on their academic success by connecting them with learning experiences and resources to help prepare them for college and meaningful careers." NSHSS members automatically become lifetime members at the time of their initial membership. Each step along the way — from high school to college to career - NSHSS connects outstanding young scholars with the resources they need to develop their strengths and pursue their passions.



ASBURY'S STAFF

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PASTOR

Michael Terrell



SPECIAL THANK YOU

We wish to thank all the individuals that work on committees, usher, serve as greeters, serve communion, teach Sunday School and Bible Study, being part of the Asbury Family, and all the work that is needed, especially behind the scenes. Without you, God's work would not be able to be done.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 1	Gerald Tucker
October 3	Mark Robinson
October 6	Karen Hill
October 6	Matthew Kinnard
October 9	Marianne Scott
October 10	Eleanor Cerow
October 10	Michael Rudd
October 11	Greeta Bovee
October 13	Myrtie Schilling
October 14	Pam Quimby
October 14	Cherrie Clark
October 16	Meredith Forbes
October 16	Jim Juczak
October 23	Catherine Mowers
October 27	Abigail Patrick
October 27	Andrew Rudd
October 28	Kate Lamica
October 28	Kimberly Welt
October 29	Michelle Rudd
October 30	Alexandra Forbes
October 30	Samantha Furman



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Herbert and Deborah Van Houten	October 12, 1985
Chris and Cherrie Clark	October 14, 2007
Ethan and Kate Fesler	October 24, 2020
Willy and Darlene Welbourn	October 28, 1977
Louis and Nancy Dolloway	October 30, 1971
James and Carol Wright	October 30, 2009



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 2	Lindsay Webb
November 3	Tamara Klock
November 4	Heather Drew
November 7	Susan Chatterton
November 8	Dale Scott
November 8	Isabelle Kinnard
November 12	Linda Bennett
November 14	Martha Jablonski
November 14	Dodie Bretsch
November 24	Debbie Daily
November 28	Darlene Town



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dan and Lindsay Webb
November 9, 2002

Dr. Frank and Joanne Rhode
November 19, 1983

Dr. Grace Burke
and Charles Mosley
November 29, 1986

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 31

2:00 p.m.

Wesley Hall



As is always the case, Charge Conference sessions are open meetings in The United Methodist Church. Only church members will be able to vote.

I want to thank my Asbury family for their prayers, calls, visits, and the beautiful quilt. Everything seems to be on a positive recovery now! So glad to be home at Asbury and especially with Pam!!! Blessings, Darlene Welbourn



Agape Ringers

Agapè Ringers begin rehearsals in September. This adult bell choir is for beginner to intermediate bell ringers. So, if you have always wanted to ring, this is the group for you.

Our rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. We thoroughly enjoy ringing as well as each other's company. Generally, we plan on ringing once a month during the regular Sunday service.

This group of adults loves to "go on the road" and share their love of handbells with other congregations and other groups within our area. In the fall, we hope to visit the Summit and play for them.

We welcome you to join us and become as hooked on bells as we are. Please call me if you are interested, so that we will be ready for you to join us at our rehearsals. Looking forward to hearing from you! Lynn Morgan, Director (315) 493-2637



OCTOBER 2 & 3

Hi all! We have a pile of rummage!!! I think the rummage started the day after the Spring Sale!!! It's amazing.

The tables have been set up thanks to the people who helped after the luncheon Sunday and William. However, not all the boxes are out. We need to bring the rest out this week and start unpacking. I plan to start at 9:30 a.m. and work until noon Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday morning. I know some of you have other commitments, but just come when you can. The following week we can work Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Thanks in advance for helping.

We will also have a bake sale. Melinda is already planning her breakfast sandwiches and we have other surprising goodies!!!

We have had an overwhelming response to our request for items. Therefore, we will not be able to continue accepting items. If you have any questions, please call Sue Snell, 315-782-8235. Thank you!!

We hope to see you there. Bring a friend!!! You never know what treasures you will find.



This month's newsletter is sponsored in appreciation of Glen and Susan Snell for all the support, kindness, and work they have done for Asbury. They are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to the Snells!!!



WEEKLY COSTS

To help offset the costs of printing the weekly bulletin and streaming our worship service, you may sign up on the sheets provided in the sanctuary. The costs:

- ◆ Weekly Bulletin -- \$30.00 for one week
- ◆ Streaming -- \$38.50/Sunday or \$150.00/Month

You may mail or bring your gift to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Please note what you are paying for: one week's preparation of the Sunday Bulletin or funding one week or month of the streaming service. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.



Asbury is participating in Boo at the Zoo, Thompson Park Zoo, on Saturday, 10/17/2026, and Saturday, 10/24/2026, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Volunteers are needed for each 2-hour shift. Sign-up sheets will be coming for signups.

Donations of candy and/or snack packs of Goldfish ~~ please avoid nuts. For those who do not like to shop, we will take monetary donations and purchase additional supplies. All donations and assistance are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please see Amy Langone.



Scammers are sending emails and texts saying they are from me, using my text and email. I believe they are requesting gift cards, so help can be given to the needy. **DO NOT** fall for this scam and please report. Sadly, a few church members spent a few hundred dollars on these cards and they went to the scammer and therefore lost money. One of the text phone numbers in the scam is from Port Bryon and is: 315-776-1432.

I will never ask for anything via text or email outside of the church. Heads up and report!

Pastor Michael



For all newsletter articles and pictures, please send them to Cindy Sealing at csealing@twcny.rr.com in Microsoft Word format. You may also reach her at (315) 788-9046 or (315) 771-5251. They may also be given to Faith in the church office.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

The monthly luncheon for October will be held on Sunday, 10/4/2026, following the morning worship service.

Please bring a dish to pass.

If you are unable to bring a dish, no worries, as there is always enough to go around.

Plan on attending for some great food and fellowship. We hope to see you there!



A Christian Pumpkin

I am a Jack O' Lantern
My light will shine so bright

For I am a Christian pumpkin
My symbols tell what's right.

My nose is like the cross
on which our Savior died

To set us free from sin
We need no longer hide.

My mouth is like a fish
The whole wide world to show

That Christians live in this house
And love their Savior so!

The story starts at Christmas
My eyes are like the star

That shone on Baby Jesus
And wise men saw from far

My color it is orange
Just like the big bright sun

That rose on Easter Day
Along with Gods' own Son.

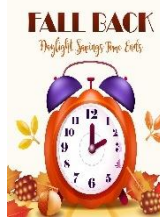
And so on Halloween
Let's set our pumpkins out

And tell the trick or treaters
What Gods' love is all about!



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday,
11/1/2026, at 2 a.m. and you will need to
turn your clocks back one hour. It is also
a good time to check the batteries in your
smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.



COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

The following is the coffee hour schedule for October, November, and December. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Smith. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

OCTOBER

4 - Churchwide Luncheon
11 - Asbury Ringers
18 - Chancel Choir
25 - Judy Cota, Daphne Battista, & Darlene Chartrand

NOVEMBER

1 - No coffee hour - Salvation Army Pancake Breakfast
8 - Churchwide Luncheon
15 - Missions Committee
22 - Trustees
29 - PSPRC

DECEMBER

6 - No coffee hour - Northern Choral Society Concert
13 - Churchwide Luncheon
20 - Finance Committee

SOCKTOBER

What is SOCKTOBER, you ask? SOCKTOBER was initially started in 2020 by Brad Montague after learning that a local shelter in West Tennessee desperately needed socks. He took the problem to a group of teens at the middle school where he volunteered, and they came up with SOCKTOBER. The campaign went viral after being championed by Kid President - a children's web series.

Why socks? Socks are among the most requested, yet tend to be some of the least donated items. As temperatures drop, proper footwear and clean, warm socks are vital for health and hygiene. Also socks provide a sense of dignity and comfort.

Starting Sunday, October 4th, there will be a collection box in the back of the rotunda for the collection of **NEW** socks. Collection will be through the month of October.

Thank you to Suzanne Wrenn for bringing me a newspaper article she had re: SOCKTOBER as an idea for Asbury to participate in. Sarah Lehman, 315-767-2641.

MEAL KITS - ROUND #3

There is a sign up in the back of the rotunda if you would like to donate particular item(s) for a meal kit or a whole meal kit. We are making up Chicken Cobbler kits and Chicken Broccoli Rice kits to be donated to the Watertown Urban Mission Food Pantry.

There are "shopping list" printouts available on the table for those who want to donate a whole kit. There is also a box to place donations in. On Sunday, October 11th, we will plan to pack the meal kits after church. Any questions, call Sarah Lehman, 315-767-2641.



BUS TRIP TO LANCASTER

Our 2026 bus trip to Lancaster, PA, to see “Joshua” at the Sight and Sound Theater was a huge success and blessing to all. It was a very powerful performance and brought tears and chills to many of us.

The camaraderie and friendships that are formed on these bus trips, along with the memories are what make these trips so special. We have had a wonderful bus driver for the past three years – Charlie who is an excellent driver and a part of our family now and the actual buses have made for a much smoother ride as well.

Please consider next year's trip back to Lancaster to see “Jonah.” The original production was done 10 years ago and apparently is a new production. All are welcome to come on this adventurous trip. You will be glad you did!



“... I hear that train a-coming, it’s coming around the bend...” As the train pulls into the station, the conductor yells, “All Aboard the Lehigh Gorge!!! Get your tickets ready!!!”

Our trip also included a short train ride by the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway in Jim Thorpe, PA. We were able to relax, share some laughs, and took some awesome pictures. We were also able to take some funny ones like the one pictured. Does anyone know these two pictured? I think they were looking for some part-time work!



FOUR SPIRITUAL TRUTHS TO LEARN FROM A PUMPKIN



1. We all begin as seeds:

2 Peter 3:18: *“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”*

God’s plan for our lives is greater than we can imagine. But God doesn’t promise the path will always be easy. So how can we know God’s plan? The truth is, we won’t always be able to know.

In the same way a seed needs daily care to grow, we must tend to our lives every day. We can provide care for our souls in countless ways: Read the Bible, pray, and sing worship songs. The more we care for our souls, the more we will know we are on God’s path.

2. We are all different but beautiful:

Isaiah 66:2: *“Has not my hand made all things, and so they came into being? This is the one I esteem: He who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.”*

Like the pumpkins, we are all different, but we are all made in God’s image. One day, if we believe in Jesus, we will all be unified and made perfect and it will be more beautiful than we can ever see or imagine.

3. God has a plan:

Jeremiah 29:11: *“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’”*

God has a plan for each and every one of us. Like pumpkins, God has to clean out our insides for us to fulfill our purpose.

The pulp in a pumpkin is sticky and gooey and must be cleaned out before the final step. Our sin is just like that – sticky, gooey – and requires God’s purification.

When we allow God to purify us and take our sins away to the compost pile, we open our hearts and lives to a new and unimaginable life. Something unbelievable from looking at a tiny pumpkin seed. Just like the pumpkins, we are full of pulp and sin before being cleaned out.

4. Be a light:

Matthew 5:16: *“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds, and glorify your Father in Heaven.”*

We put a light in our pumpkins so we can share the joy and light that only comes from God. But unlike a candle that withers away, the light our Heavenly Father provides never burns out. God offers us an eternal chance to shine.

As Halloween approaches and you prepare for the festivities, always remember to whom you belong. God knows our true character. We can never hide from Him. His desire is to come into our lives and be a light to guide us. To be a light that will never burn out. Go out into the world and be a light.

God offers all of us the chance to be made new, full of joy and full of light, shining like stars in a dark world.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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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



Asbury United Methodist Church

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



***Being a Christian is Like
Being a Jack-O-Lantern***
*God picks you from the patch and brings you in.
(John 15:16)*
*Then He washes all the dirt off you.
(2 Corinthians 5:17)*
*He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He
removes the seeds of doubt, fear, hate, and greed.
(Romans 6:6)*
He carves you a new smiling face. (Psalm 71:23)
*Then He puts his light inside of you to shine for all the
world to see. (Matthew 5:16)*

