

From The Pastor

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, beginning the Lenten season for the church around the world. Lent is a very special season of the year for Christians. It is the season we strive for a new closeness to Christ.

I love this time of year; the warmer weather, the longer daylight hours, and the world coming alive again after the winter rest. It is also a time of revival for my soul. Spending a dark winter spiritually, now gives way to the light and warmth of Christ.

Use these next few weeks as we approach Easter to renew your life with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Send more time in prayer, solitude, and study.

One opportunity we have this year at Asbury is "The Great Experiment". Consider joining the challenge of spiritual discipline, daily commitment, and meeting with a weekly prayer group. Every Lenten season is a special time of growth and renewal. But, this year a large number of us together will be striving to live a more committed life in Christ. This is exciting and makes 2012 an extra special year for Asbury as we join together in this Great Experiment Challenge. Check out this opportunity in the fellowship hall by talking with Pastor Sandy.

No matter your Lenten routine, I do hope and pray you have a very special Lent and the best Easter ever with Christ. Accepting the Challenge, Saturday Morning Men's Group, Pastor Michael
417-631-7595

asburypastor@sbcglobal.net

FB: Michael Blacksher

Next Steps:

- Dig Deeper in the Word by finishing our Romans reading. Chapters 13 through 16 this coming week.
- Prayer Step: Pray for those in need this week: the hungry, the poor, those without family or friends.
- Make a Difference Step: Give someone a extra big tip this week. It will make their day and yours too.

Staff:

Lead Pastor, Michael Blacksher:
asburypastor@sbcglobal.net

Ministries Connection Coordinator
Rhonda Bandfield rbandfield@asburyunitedmethodist.org

Music Director
Kathy Love: KalCello@cs.com

Coordinator of Children's Ministries
Lisa Thomas: kptlat@mchsi.com

Coordinator of Student Ministries
Doug Cline: doug_cline@yahoo.com

Community Outreach Coordinator
Linda Adams

Spiritual Growth Coordinator
Pastor Sandy Heer
revdrsandy@yahoo.com; 866-3745



Love God Love Others

Final Sunday to sign up for the Great Experiment

February 19, 2012

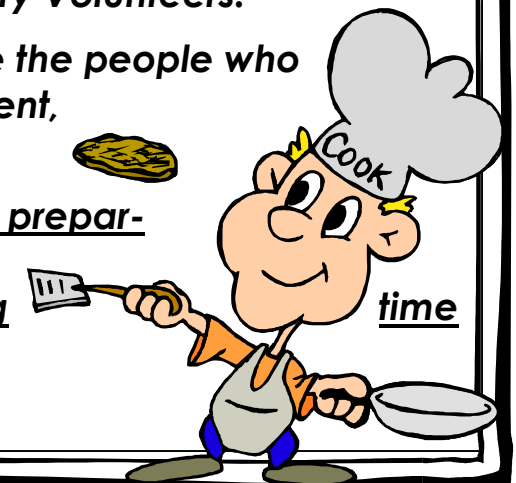
1500 S. Campbell
Springfield, MO 65807
417-865-1335
asburyumc@sbcglobal.net
www.asburyunitedmethodist.org

Check back of Bulletin
insert for details!

We celebrate the Asbury Volunteers!

**This week we celebrate the people who
make Sunday morning efficient,
friendly, and beautiful!**

**Next Sunday the staff is prepar-
ing breakfast for our volun-
teers & their families. Serving
is 9-11:00.** **time**



Asbury loves God:

8:00 Service

Includes Communion
each Sunday

Prelude

*Opening Prayer

*Hymn # 454
Open My Eyes,
That I May See

*Greeting

Prayer Time

Offering
Special Music
Carol McCain
“Grace Greater than Sin”

Doxology

*Hymn #258
O Wondrous Sight!
O Vision Fair

The Good News
Pastor Michael

Scripture Psalm 23 &
2 Samuel 23:1-7

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer
Benediction
Postlude



9:30 Service

Music led by
Alabaster

Asbury's praise band

11:00 Service

Welcome

Call to Worship
Invocation

*Hymn # 454
Open My Eyes

*Greeting

Choral Anthem
All Because of Your
Amazing Grace

Hymn #258
O Wondrous Sight!
O Vision Fair

Prayer Time
Lord's Prayer

Offering
Special Music
Carol McCain
“Grace Greater than Sin”

*Doxology

*Hymn #480
O Love That Wilt Not
Let Me Go

The Good News
Pastor Michael
Scripture Psalm 23 &
2 Samuel 23:1-7

Benediction #671
Lord, Dismiss Us
With Thy Blessing

Postlude

***We invite those who
are able to stand.**

Welcome!

First Time Guests:

It is a joy to have you worship with us today. Our hope is that you feel God's presence as we worship together. Please complete the Communication Card and accept our gift to you located just outside the sanctuary to your right as you exit under the "Welcome, Guests Start Here" sign.

The offering is an opportunity for members and friends of Asbury, moved by God's love for them, to support this ministry. The offering is an act of worship in which we do not expect visitors or guests to participate.)

Those Serving Today:

Van Driver: Gene Day

A/V: Mindy Hill

Hospitality Hosts: Jean Knapp

Ushers: 8:15: Neil Folkerts,
Carol Elmore, Loyd Morlan,
Mary Blumhost, Chris Turpin,
Bonnie Herndon

11:00 Bill Grover, Jack Gladson,
Arla Price, Joan Wilson

Acolytes: Emily Harris

Asbury Loves Others:

This Weeks Birthdays:

19 Sarah Appleby
Ken Blumhost
Bettie Miller
22 Vita Kellett
23 Carol Elmore
Marcia Long
Karrie Ridder
24 Suzanne Boyts
Ian Long
25 Stew Elsass

Joys & Concerns:

Jim & Kay Keltner; Molly Love; Karen Strick; Eugenia Perritt; Loyd Morlan; Rayetta Layton

Both the AT&T phone directory & Asbury's phone directory have Bobbie Pryor's address wrong, it is E State Hwy 174 not W.

Regular Sunday Morning Schedule:

8:00 Communion Service

9:30 Service

**9:30 Children & Adult Sunday
School**

11:00 Service

11:00 Youth & Adult Sunday School

Fellowship Time Between Services



Activities for this week:

9-1:00 Dal Vero Monday-Friday

Today: 4:30 Pastor's Class
4-5:30 Youth
4-5:30 Kid's Praise
4-5:30 56⁰

Mon.: Presidents Day

Tue.: 9:00 –10 TOPS
7:30 Alabaster

Wed.: noon Narcotics Anon.
5:30 Dinner
6:30 Ash Wednesday Service
NO Adult Bell Choir
7:00 Chancel Choir
7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Thur.: 9:30 Great Experiment

Fri.: 8:30-4:30 Home School Orch.
7pm Cowen Wedding
Rehearsal
8P NA

Sat 5:30 Alcoholics Anonymous
6:30 Cowen Wedding

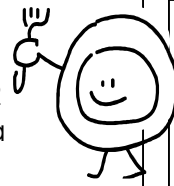
Next Sunday: Volunteer
Appreciation Breakfast
4-5:30 Youth
4-5:30 Kid's Praise
4-5:30 56⁰

Check web page for online calendar.

Paper calendar on the foyer table.

Wednesday Dinners:

\$4 for adults, \$2 for children or a hot dog plate.



Menu: Soup & Sandwiches

A quick meal this Wednesday so we can clean up and go to the Ash Wednesday Service.

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Good going Asbury!

Thanks to you, we served 44 families containing 98 individuals last Wednesday at Crosslines. Your generous donations bought the groceries; Bonnie Herndon, Ron Spargo, Jim Gilmore, Walter Boyts & Tara Johnson helped the clients.

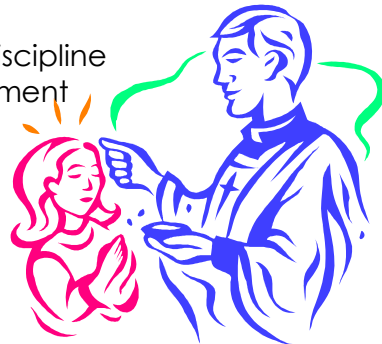
We need \$400 each month to meet our obligation to our needy neighbors.

Time for Change: Reflections on Lent

Few times in the Christian year call us to reflect on transformational change like Lent leading toward Easter. Springtime is lush with rebirth, new beginnings, and new growth. Too often, however, we want to race to the Easter Resurrection without fully embracing the Lenten process that leads there. Lent reflects the forty days that Jesus wandered in the wilderness—tempted by Satan—in readiness for a ministry destined to end in tragedy. Few of us can relate to the level of sacrifice and commitment that Jesus displayed in his forty days, yet Lent provides us with an opportunity to deepen our spirituality by engaging in regular discipline from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. The wilderness—the desert days of Lent—is the true path toward spiritual transformation.

Join us for the Ash Wednesday Service February 22 at 6:30 P.M.

Consider a Lenten discipline like The Great Experiment (see back of insert)



**The Great Experiment
Wanted: Brave Christians**

1. Who will meet once each week to pray together
2. Who will give at least 2 hours each week in service
3. Who will give at least a tithe (10%) of their income
4. Who will spend 1/2 hour daily in prayer and meditation
5. Who will fast at least once during this time
6. Who will join with others to worship weekly
7. Who will witness for God about their experience to others.

Will you accept the challenge?

Meeting dates/times:

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leader</u>
Monday, 6:30 P.M.	Collum's	Mary Bennett
Wednesday, 6:00P.M.	Asbury	Janet Bowman
Thursday, 9:30 A.M.	Asbury	Sandy Heer
Saturday, 9:00 A.M. (Men)	Asbury	Warren Heer & Chuck Ewy
Sunday, 9:30 A.M.	Asbury	Lynn Clements/or Bill Love
Sunday, 11:00 A.M. (Youth/Young Adult)	Asbury	Mary Ewy

Pastor Sandy Heer will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Check with her at the table in the fellowship hall and sign up to be a part of The Great Experiment.