



ASBURY
United Methodist Church

A FUTURE AND A HOPE:
TO LISTEN, GROW, AND LOVE WITH GOD

THE MESSENGER

MAY 2023

Dear Friends,

For the second time this year, I had someone call me about using the church for their husband's funeral. He died suddenly and they didn't have a "church home."

I'm really glad Asbury can be a resource for those in distress. This kind of situation makes me reflect on a couple of things. First, I like the idea of a church home. Home is a place where you can be you. It's not always perfect, and at times it reflects the fears and anxiety within us, but it's "home." A church home is the same. Not just a building, but a place with people who accept us, guide us, and walk with us through life. We all need a church home.

Second, work out your final plans. Don't just leave it up to your spouse or your children. None of us knows the day or hour when we will be called home. Write out your wishes in advance and let your loved ones know where those notes will be.

It seems odd to be writing about such things after the glorious resurrection stories of Easter, which remind us of our eternal hope. But friends, let's make it as easy as possible for our loved ones when we move on to our eternal "church home."

Blessings,

Tom Vansant

Pentecost is Sunday, May 28. Plan to wear red to church that day as we show our spirit!

Thank you, Asbury, for your Easter donations and volunteering for the Easter Egg Hunt. Thank you to the Youth and the crew that stuffed the hundreds of eggs with candy.

Susan Lamy
& the Education Committee

Attention Asbury Leaders!

We will be conducting our second calendaring meeting of 2023 on **Saturday, May 13, at 10:00 am**. This informal session is intended to schedule the remainder of our year at Asbury, so please be sure to attend!


		Asbury Staff			
Lead Pastor	Tom Vansant	Worship Band Leader	K.I. Emmanuel	Children's Ministries	Susan Lamy
Administrative Assistant	Julia Machin	Student Ministries	Leon Johnson	Pianist & Organist	Teresa Kays
Music Director	Kathy Love	Community Outreach	Linda Adams	Gifts That Count	Jim Wilson
1500 S Campbell Avenue Springfield, MO 65807			Pastor's Email: thomasavansant@gmail.com		
www.asburyunitedmethodist.org			The office is open Monday — Thursday		
Church Email: asburyumc@sbcglobal.net			9:00 AM – 2:00 PM		

Those Serving
This Month



Accompanist: Teresa Kays
Band Leader: K.I. Emmanuel
A/V: Steve Collum, Bill Love
Readers: Kimberlea Gray, Ruth Spargo, Nancy Lollar, Karla Gregg, Janet Bowman
Greeters: Judy Clements, John Fox, Judy Fox, Jim Enyart, George Sly, Georgianne Sly, Karla Gregg, Suzanne Boyts, Patti Blanton

UMW/UWF



Enjoy your Mother's Day breakfast with a ham and cheese or veggie quiche and also benefit the UWF/UMW mission work! Our budget includes funds for the Pastor's Help Fund and for Asbury's youth and children's programs, Crosslines and other local agencies which further women, children and youth needs, and mission work from state (in Missouri, five agencies, i.e., Della Lamb Agency in Kansas City and Susanna Wesley Community Center in the Bootheel) through national and international missions.


Order by May 8 to be able to pick up quiche on Friday, May 12 or Saturday, May 13.

Calendar*

May 2	Planning Committee—6:30 pm	
May 8	Naomi-Ruth Circle —6:30 pm	
May 10	Mary-Martha Circle —1:00 pm	
May 11	Quiche Prep —1:30 pm	
May 12	Quiche Prep —9:30 am	Pick Up —3-5 pm
May 13	Quiche Prep —9:00 am	Pick Up —11-1
May 21	One Heart in Christ Circle —8:30 am	

*All meetings are at Asbury

Thank you for the use of your facility and your service to us! On behalf of the County Clerk's office, we appreciate your support of free, fair, and secure elections in Greene County.



Shane Schoeller
Greene County Clerk

I would like to thank the choir for all of their work in preparation for the Easter Cantata, **Alleluia, Praise the Lamb!** by Don Wyrzten and Phil & Lynne Brower. We were excited as this is the first cantata that we have done since Christmas of 2019. Special thanks to our narrator Jesse Paxton, who happened to be in town for Easter Break, to our AV team with Steve Collum and Robbie Vansant, and the incredible talented soloists Margaret Weaver and Brooke Scott. Thank you to Teresa Kays for her leadership, support, and stellar accompaniment skills. We were delighted that Kim Dilley could be here from Texas to sing. To top it all off the altar area was decorated beautifully by Mark Gideon and his crew.



Blessings,
Kathy Love

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sybil Hartley, Regan Spargo, Kylie Moore, Ella Hostetler, Johnathan Love, Kathy Love, Clark Mikkelson, Janice Greene, Larry Oliver, Judy Clements, Marlene Garling, Bill Frogge, Fred Marshall, Bob Bange, Doug Clements, Bonnie Herndon, Nicole Johnson, Teresa Kays, Ron Garling

All prayer concerns will be listed for one month unless otherwise notified.

May Birthdays

- 01 Joy Whitescarver
- 17 Margaret Weaver
- 23 Warren Meadows
- 24 Brooke Scott
- 25 K.I. Emmanuel
- 27 Larry Brown
- 28 Jakob Kellett
- 29 Dennis Baier



Those we hold in loving care who are homebound or limited in their transportation:

Ann Marsh, Barbara Davidson, Bob Drake, Dixie Wooters, Gary Metcalf, Joy Whitescarver, Kathy White, Kay Keltner, Marjorie Pettit, Marlene Jones, Nicole Johnson, Peggy Fuge, Sharon Coomer, Shawna Allen, Virginia Salvog, Warren Meadows

Serving our country:

Cameron Cox, Shane Luke

Asbury will honor graduates on Sunday, May 14, at the 10:30 service. Please contact the office by **Tuesday, May 9**, if you want to honor a high school, college, or trade school graduate, and include a picture and a short biography to be read during the service.



Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Thursday, May 11, at 11:30 am. This month's restaurant selection is Whole Hog Café at 224 W Sunshine.

Pentecost Geraniums

Orders for geraniums for Pentecost Sunday will be taken from Sunday, April 30 until Sunday May 21. Geraniums are \$9.00 each. Order blanks are available in the bulletin or from the church office. You can order a geranium in honor or memory of a loved one, or to the glory of God. If you don't wish to order a flower, you may make a donation to the altar fund. Orders are due no later than May 21, and geraniums can be picked up after either church service on Sunday, May 28. The geraniums will come in a variety of colors, including red, white, peach, and pink.

MARK your CALENDAR



May 4

Mission Springfield
Worship Committee

May 8

Naomi Ruth

May 9

Trustees

May 10

Mary Martha

May 11

Lunch Bunch
Mission/Vision

May 13

UMM
Calendaring Meeting

May 14

Graduation Sunday

May 17

Crosslines Day

May 20

PSHP Graduation

May 21

Geranium Orders Due
Breakfast Church
One Heart in Christ

May 27

Jarrett Prayer Walk

May 28

Pentecost

May 29

Memorial Day —> **Office Closed** <—



Power of Love

Our Power of Love collection for May is for Newborns in Need. Their needs are:

- Newborn, 0-3mo. Sleepers and onesies
- Newborn disposable diapers
- Baby wash, lotion, and/or shampoo
- Socks
- Ribbon
- Baby fabrics: flannel, fleece, cotton, t-shirt knit
- White thread
- Poly-fil and quilt batting
- Pencils/pens/markers
- White copy paper and cardstock

If you would like to make a financial donation, please make sure checks are written out with Power of Love in the memo line. Gifts can also be given online on our giving page under the Power of Love project.

2023 Mission/Vision Team

Janice Greene: Mission/Vision Chair

Kimberlea Gray: Recording Secretary

Susan Conover: Member At Large

Amy Langston: Member At Large

Amy Meriweather: Member At Large

Renee Mikkelson: Member At Large

Bill Love: Finance Chair & Lay Member to Annual Conference

Carol Daniel: SPR Chair & Treasurer

Chuck Ewy: Trustees Chair

Glenda Hefty: Education Chair

Kathy Love: Worship Chair

Ruth Spargo: Hospitality Chair

Sheryl Hill: Mission Springfield Chair

Jay Polchow: Accounts Reconciler



Check It Out!

If your life is smooth and you see God rewarding you with the “good life,” probably this is not the book for you...OR maybe it especially is! Searching for Enough; the High-Wire Walk Between Doubt and Faith, by Tyler Staton is filled with genuine stories of people who have everything and those who have lost everything and those who have been in both positions.

Pete Greig, the author of the book on prayer we’ve been studying, wrote, “Compelling, articulate, passionate, and deeply earthed in real relationships, Searching for Enough is a book of hard-won insight outworked in the streets of Brooklyn, New York.”

Staton helps us identify with Jesus’ disciple Thomas. He wanted to believe but how could he see Jesus’ promises with what was happening? Is our faith “enough”? Is the “church” out of touch? Is finding happiness and success “enough”? Is faith in the empty tomb “enough” or is it encountering the living God?

This book is on the United Women in Faith (UMW) Reading Program in the category of Nurturing for Community.



Congratulations!



Please join in celebrating the marriage of Lauren Appleby and Evan Budd at a wedding shower in their honor on Sunday, June 4 at 1:30 pm at South Haven Baptist Church (2353 S. Campbell).

Financial News

As of 03/31/2023:

Contributions for March: \$31,016

Contributions Budget: \$19,167

Contributions YTD: \$53,374

Budget YTD: \$57,500

Other Income (Church Use, etc.) YTD: \$2,896

Other Income Budget YTD: \$ 5,613

Expenses YTD: \$63,368

Budget YTD: \$74,690

Restricted Fund Gifts (CWS, Apportionments, etc.)

Gifts for March: \$8,084

Gifts Budget: \$2,917

Gifts YTD: \$16,242

Budget YTD: \$8,750

Conference Missional Funds Paid YTD as of 12/31/22: \$11,170 (37.9%) **Remaining Obligation:** \$29,464

We are still focused on paying our Conference Missional Funds (Apportionments). Any extra giving towards these obligations would be appreciated. **Thank you for your generosity!**



The Youth would like to thank all of those who helped with the Easter morning breakfast and to those who gave to the Youth Fund. The money will be used for summer Youth activities and to help defray church camp costs!

Leon & the Youth

To avoid identity theft and spamming, no personal contact phone numbers and email addresses are published in this newsletter. If you would like to reach out to someone who is listed, please contact the office and we will help you.