



ASBURY
United Methodist Church

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

THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2024

Dear Friends,

When I left Pathways Church in 2011 for Jefferson City, one of the members wrote a poem about me titled, "Pastors Come and Pastors Go." It contained a lot of truth about who we are as Methodist pastors; we come and we go, and the church has to adjust each time to a new pastor with a new set of quirks. Since I'm officially retired, I knew from the start here at Asbury that I was just a transitional pastor, but that makes sense: we're all transitional at everything we do on earth.

Starting the first Sunday in July, Asbury will be assigned a new pastor, Rachel Stone, and a new church partnership with Bois D'Arc UMC. You will be hearing more about Rachel as the summer approaches. I hope that you will hold her up in prayer during this transition and as we here at Asbury make adjustments.

As for me, I'll still be around. I live close by, I like singing in the choir, and I need a good church with a good pastor.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call, email, text, or shout at me. I might not have answers but we can explore the transitions together. After all, we've all done this before. Pastors come and pastors go.

Blessings,

Tom Vansant

Eastertide BYOB Sermon Series on John's Letters

In this season of Easter leading up to Pentecost I will be doing a BYOB (*Bring Your Own Bible*) readthrough of John's 1st letter. We will read and explore a different chapter each week.

April

14 - Bible Read Through - 1 John 1

21 - Bible Read Through - 1 John 2

28 - Bible Read Through - 1 John 3

May

5 - Bible Read Through - 1 John 4

12 - Bible Read Through - 1 John 5

		Asbury Staff			
Lead Pastor	Tom Vansant	Alabaster Leader	Jareth Barnes	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 www.asburyunitedmethodist.org Church Email: asburyumc@sbcglobal.net			Pastor's Email: thomasavansant@gmail.com The office is open Monday — Thursday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM		



Women of the church are invited to...

... "Women Connecting thru Missions."
This is an afternoon planned to allow you to meet long-lost friends, make new friends and work on some mission projects (for Project Patricia and Newborns in Need).

You can enjoy snacks, create memories and gain some insights as you hear Dr. William and Julie Moore share their thoughts on "Why Missions?" This all happens on April 6th at King's Way UMC at 2:00 PM (registration starts at 1:30.)

Phone Ruth Spargo for questions or to "save your spot"! (We need to be sure we have enough supplies.)


Those Serving
This Month




A/V: Steve Collum, Bill Love, Robbie Vansant, Sara Love, Chuck Gregg

Greeters: Lisa Boyts, Dustin Gardner, George Sly, Georgianne Sly, Karla Gregg, Judy Clements, Bill Frogge, Heather Frogge, John Fox, Judy Fox, Suzanne Boyts, Patti Blanton

Readers: Ruth Spargo, Nancy Lollar, Janet Bowman, Mark Gideon, Karla Gregg




Family Game Night
Friday, April 5—6:00 PM



Come one, come all, early or late, we'll be playing games until at least eight! Bring a game, bring a snack, be ready for an Uno attack!

Thank You!

We held a rummage sale on March 15 and 16 to benefit the Community Help Fund and raised \$317! The following people were a huge help in setup, cleanup, and general organization:



Chuck Ewy	Jim Enyart
Ruth Spargo	Ginny Oliver
Jay Polchow	Kathy Love
Wendi Polchow	Glenda Hefty

Thank you also to everyone who donated items for sale!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Marlene Jones, Don & Debbie Jeffrys, John Fuge, Mary Hartbarger & family, Tyler Moore, Mark Paxton, Marlene Garling, Tom Vasant, Judy Clements, Sue Ann Holloway, Nicole Johnson, Teresa Kays, Ron Garling

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

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

Ann Marsh, Barbara Davidson, Bob Drake, Joy Whitescarver, Kathy White, Kay Keltner, Marlene Jones, Nicole Johnson, Sharon Swishelm, Shawna Allen, Warren Meadows

Serving our country:

Cameron Cox, Shane Luke, Tyler Moore



Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Thursday, April 11, at 11:30 am. This month's restaurant selection is Habaneros at 4406 S Campbell Ave.

MARK your CALENDAR

April 2

Election Day

April 4

Mission Springfield
Worship Committee

April 5

Camp Galilee Sr. High Retreat
First Friday Family Game Night

April 6

UWF Meeting

April 7

Brunch Church

April 8

Naomi Ruth Circle

April 9

Trustees

April 10

Mary Martha Circle

April 11

Lunch Bunch
Mission/Vision

April 13

UMM Meeting
Keynote Music Recital

April 14

One Heart in Christ Circle

April 17

Crosslines Day
Cards & Games Fun Day

April 19

PSHP Music Contest

MARK your CALENDAR

April 20

Harmony House Lunch

April 27

Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Jarrett Prayer Walk
Take Down Easter Decor

April Birthdays

02 Sharon Swishelm

07 Bruce Champ

12 Janice Greene

21 Doug Clements

Mary Ewy
Bradley Love

24 Jim Wilson

25 Sheryl Hill

27 Lynn Clements
Bill Love

28 Andrew Collum
Nadena Layton



Lions Club Pancake Breakfast

The Springfield Host Lions will be having their annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 27, from 7:00 AM until 11:00 AM. The cost is \$7.00, and children under 6 eat for free.



Power of Love

Our Power of Love collection for April is for the Pregnancy Care Center Boutique. Clients shop in the PCC Boutique using points earned from attending coaching sessions and education classes. Donations of new or gently used baby clothing size preemie up to 12 months and maternity are accepted to the Boutique. New car seats and Pack ‘n Plays are also accepted.

- Diapers – sizes preemie – 4
- Wipes
- Onesies – preemie, newborn or size 0-3 months
- Sleepers – preemie, newborn or size 0-3 months
- Baby outfits – preemie, newborn or size 0-3 months
- Baby toys
- Bottles/sippy cups
- Diaper ointment
- Pacifiers
- Towels and washcloths
- Burp cloths
- Hats/socks/booties
- Crib sheets
- New stuffed animals
- Boppy pillows
- High chairs
- Maternity Clothes
- Nursing Covers
- Gift cards – gas, Walmart, Target

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.

2024 Mission/Vision Team

Kimberlea Gray: Mission/Vision Chair

Carol Daniel: SPR Chair & Treasurer

Janet Bowman: Member at Large

Chuck Ewy: Trustees Chair

Mark Gideon: Member at Large

Glenda Hefty: Education Chair

Amy Langston: Member at Large

Kathy Love: Worship Chair

Chuck Gregg: Member at Large

Ruth Spargo: Hospitality Chair

Doug Clements: Member at Large

Sheryl Hill: Mission Springfield Chair

Bill Love: Finance Chair & Lay Member to Annual Conference

Jay Polchow: Accounts Reconciler

Asbury is a Hospitable Church...

...Just look around at the activities almost any day or evening!

Let’s show our neighbors who come here to vote how we welcome them. On Tuesday, April 2nd, we will have a table with cookies and waters—and a Welcome sign!

Please help out by donating some cookies and/or agreeing to come to the church anytime in a two hour time to see that the cookie trays and water are still set out, making it obvious that they’re for sharing.

Sign up on the bulletin board. Bring cookies by the church, or phone the church office or Ruth Spargo.

Brunch Church April 7—10:30 AM



We will have one service on this Sunday. This will be a time be together for fellowship, worship & food. Bring a brunch food item to share. The choir will be with us, and we plan to celebrate the life of Bonnie Herndon, so please bring copies of any pictures you have of Bonnie to give to her family. Also, feel free to share any special memories you have; tributes will also be read. If you have any questions, reach out to Carol Elmore or Kathy Love. Please join your church family for this special time together!

Financial News

As of 02/29/2024:

Contributions for February: \$13,875
Contributions Budget: \$16,719

Contributions YTD: \$31,103
Budget YTD: \$33,438

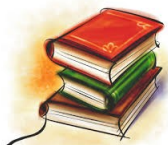
Other Income (Church Use, etc.) YTD: \$5,790
Other Income Budget YTD: \$3,842

Expenses YTD: \$33,088
Budget YTD: \$38,514

Restricted Fund Use (CWS, Apportionments, etc.)

February: \$0
Budget: \$433

YTD: \$1,000
Budget YTD: \$867



Check It Out!

A little change of pace—aimed no doubt more at women.

Beverly Lewis didn't publish any books until she was almost 50 (in the mid-90's), but since that time she's published over 100 children's and adult books. She is known especially for different series she's written portraying the Pennsylvania Amish families. In the church library we have 20 of her books, including all three of the "Heritage of Lancaster County" series.

I admit that Wednesday I chose the one that looked the shortest! The Sunroom is a work of fiction that is based somewhat on her own diary entries. This is a story of a young girl whose mother is diagnosed with cancer. It was an especially moving story for me as we have been studying that sometimes it seems that we find God on Mute. The young girl's journey of faith is inspiring.

Maybe next week I'll choose one of Lewis's longer books!



Harmony House Lunch Saturday, April 20

This month we will be providing our regularly scheduled meal for the residents at Harmony House. If you would like to donate food, please review the available slots at the link below and click on the button to sign up. If you need help with signing up, please call the church office and Julia will assist you. Refrigerated and non-refrigerated items can be dropped off at the church the week prior to April 20, or you may also bring food that morning (please have the items to the church no later than 10:30 am).

Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4BABA28A1FD0-48743899-harmony>

Geraniums for Pentecost Sunday

We will begin taking orders for geraniums to adorn the altar for **Pentecost, Sunday on May 19th**. Orders will begin **April 14th** and will continue until **Sunday, May 12th** (Mother's Day). **The geraniums cost \$10.00 each.** Geraniums can be ordered in honor of or in memory of a loved one or can be given for the glory of God. Geraniums can be picked up & taken home after the 8 am or the 10:30 am services on May 19th. Order blanks are available in the church office or from the ushers.

Holy Week Events

Maundy Thursday—March 28 at 6:30 PM

This worship service will be conducted by Fr. Nathaniel Adkins of The Table and will follow the Anglican tradition. Asbury's Chancel Choir will be musical guests, and all are welcome at this shared service.

Good Friday—March 29 at 6:30 PM

Easter Egg Hunt—March 30 at 10:00 AM

Easter Sunday—March 31

Easter Son-Rise Service—8:00 AM

Easter Breakfast—9:00 AM

Easter Musical Service—10:30 AM

All services will also be livestreamed at Asbury Live and on Zoom.

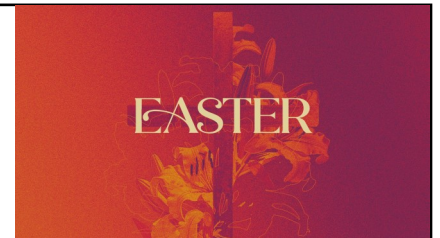
Asbury Live: <https://live.asburyunitedmethodist.org>

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/881355241?pwd=RERjbVo3UXFFK0d5M0o5OGh2L3RBZz09>

Zoom Phone #: (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 881 355 241

Password: 017646



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.