

July

THE MESSENGER

JULY 2024



ASBURY
United Methodist Church

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

Greetings, Asbury friends,

Grace and peace to you as you begin this new week and as we begin our journey together. I thank God for you and for the wonderful blessings God has poured over you as individuals and as a church.

Today opens a new chapter in the story of God at work through the people of Asbury. We know that God, being God, has far more in mind for us than we can ever ask or imagine! My husband, Tom, and I eagerly anticipate the unfolding of God's plans for Asbury and our ministry together with you.

Now is a period of settling in, not only for me as I move into the office and am introduced to people, processes, and programs; but also for all of us as we get to know one another. Below are a few bits of helpful information to get us started:

I am a Licensed Local Pastor appointed to serve both Asbury and Bois D'Arc United Methodist churches.

I serve a two-point charge, meaning I dedicate my time to serving both Asbury and Bois D'Arc.

Of course there is enough love to go around and to share with each congregation. Just as a parent loves each child, I am excited to love, learn about, and grow alongside each congregation. Each shares a common heritage, but each also enjoys distinctive qualities, unique experiences, and a special call of God.

Also like a parent, I will need to balance my time and allow for moments and days of renewal to keep fresh and energized.

Together we all will learn what this two-point charge looks like, and how best to navigate this new experience with grace and joy and patience.

My initial schedule will follow this general outline:

Mondays and Tuesdays: working in the Asbury office (office hours 9am – 2pm)

Wednesdays: writing days, working away from the office

Thursdays: scheduled meetings, home visits, community engagement, and/or Bois D'Arc office hours.

Fridays: day off

Sundays: 8:30am – 10:30am Fellowship and worship (note I leave immediately following worship to travel to Bois D'Arc to lead worship there)

The best way to contact me is:

Call the church office during office hours

Office hours are 9am – 2pm, Monday through Thursday.

Church phone number is: 417-865-1335

Email me at pastor.rachel.asbury@gmail.com

Please leave your phone number if you need me to give you a call.

Let me know if you want to schedule a time to meet in person.

Open communication is key! Please know I value healthy communication and hearing directly from you what is on your mind and in your heart. My door is open! I will listen and I appreciate open gracious conversations. I thank God for what I am already learning about you. You are hungry. You are eager to serve. You are ready and willing to continue as lay people doing the work of ministry. This is a beautiful testimony to God's Spirit at work among you and gives a solid foundation on which to build as God sees fit.

Before we start building, however, we will pause, take a breath, and return to basics—because “the main thing” is a very good place to start! We have to know what we are building and why, and we need a solid plan to follow. For that reason, our first sermon series will focus our hearts on prayer, for the work of the church begins with and hinges on seeking God's design. We will visit Paul's Letter to the Ephesians in a series entitled “Prayers for the Church.”

Come and see. Come prepared. Come and be present as God sets our hearts on things above. I'll see you on Sunday—in person if you are able, but online is an option, too. God will be among us! In the meantime, you are in my prayers.

Peace,
Pastor Rachel

The members of Asbury UMC's Mission/Vision Team
invite everyone to join us for a

Potluck Breakfast

Sunday, July 7, 2024, beginning at 8:30 a.m.


to say:

WELCOME, PASTOR RACHEL STONE, her husband TOM, and family.

Please bring your favorite / yummiest breakfast dish to share
as we celebrate Pastor Rachel's appointment to Asbury UMC.



		Asbury Staff			
Lead Pastor	Rachel Stone	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			Pastor's Email: Pastor.Rachel.Asbury@gmail.com		
www.asburyunitedmethodist.org			The office is open Monday — Thursday		
Church Email: asburyumc@sbcglobal.net			9:00 AM – 2:00 PM		



UWF

July seems to be a quieter month for activities, but lots of planning needs to be accomplished for the remainder of the year! This month's planning meeting (all members welcome) is at 6:30 on July 2nd.

Coming soon: Plans are being made for a "Hands-On" Saturday meeting.

Calendar

July 8 Naomi Ruth Circle, 6:30 PM
 July 10 Mary Martha Circle, 1:00 PM
 July 14 One Heart in Christ Circle, 8:15 AM

All local meetings are at Asbury


Those Serving
This Month



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

Greeters: Lisa Boyts, Dustin Gardner, Suzanne Boyts, Karla Gregg, Karen Nordstrom, Bill Frogge, Heather Frogge, John Fox, Judy Fox, Patti Blanton

Readers: Kimberlea Gray, Janet Bowman, Jim Wilson, Joan Wilson



Check It Out!

"Experience isn't the best teacher. Someone else's is." ...Learn the same lesson without the same heartache!

John Onwuchekwa filled his book We Go On: Finding Purpose in All of Life's Sorrows and Joys with reflections from the book of Ecclesiastes and from both the tragedies and high points of his life. He uses his own challenges, biblical insights, photography and powerful stories to explore, "Why am I here?" Through it all he concludes that we can trust God's path.

This book is in the Spiritual Growth category of the United Women in Faith Reading Program.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Debbie Jeffrys, Glenda Hefty & family, Janet Bowman & family, Jack & Becki Gladson, Marlene Jones, Tyler & Kylie Moore, Ginny Oliver, Judy Clements, George Sly, Ella Hostetler, Joy Weaver, Janet Peck, Gene Day, Mark Paxton, 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, July 11, at 11:30 AM. This month's restaurant selection is El Paraiso Mexican Kitchen at 610 W College.

MARK your CALENDAR

July 1

Welcome, Pastor Rachel!

July 2

UWF Planning Meeting
Mission Springfield

July 4

Independence Day!

July 8

Naomi Ruth Circle
PSHP Summer Info Meeting

July 9

Trustees
Worship Committee

July 10

Mary Martha Circle

July 11

Lunch Bunch
Education Committee
Mission/Vision

July 13

UMM Meeting

July 14

One Heart in Christ Circle

July 17

Crosslines Day
Cards & Games Fun Day

July 27

Jarrett Prayer Walk

July 29

VBS Begins

July Birthdays



- 01 Colton Bange
- 02 Lisa Boyts
- 05 Doug Carroll
- 08 Ron Garling
Holly Hostetler
- 10 Karen Nordstrom
- 11 Dustin Gardner
- 18 Neil Folkerts
- 22 Joan Wilson
- 23 Glenda Hefty
- 27 Louise Sloan
- 30 Jim Gilmore



Family Game Night

As many of us regulars have plans for the extended 4th of July weekend, we have moved Game Night to Wednesday, July 10th. Please join us for games and watermelon around 6pm. If it's cool enough, we'll have outdoor games, but if it's over 90 degrees, bring your indoor games and we'll be in the Fellowship Hall.

Sponsored by One Heart Circle



Power of Love

Our Power of Love collection for July is school supplies for Jarrett Middle School.

- Lots of pencils
- Spiral notebooks (70 page wide- or college-ruled)
- 2" 3-ring binders
- Colored pencils–set of 12
- Highlighters –multi-colored

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.

Vacation Bible School

We are offering a light supper for around 25 people* during the week of VBS and are looking for groups to provide a quick easy dinner, serve and clean up. Examples: hot dogs, nachos, walking tacos, pizza, corn dogs, macaroni and cheese, sub sandwiches, chips, carrots, grapes. Please visit the SignUp linked below **to sign up as a Small Group**. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4BABA28A1FD0-50097069-vbsdinner#/>

*This number may change as the date draws nearer and we have more information.



Asbury Pictures for Pastor Rachel & Tom Stone



Please stop by to have your picture taken to help the Stone's become acquainted with our Asbury church family! The pictures will be taken by the cross on the east side of the Fellowship Hall. Directions will be included there.

Please email your picture by July 11th to Nicole Hostetler at crafty_coley@hotmail.com. We will have the station set up from June 30th to July 11th. You can also send any picture of yourself to Nicole, but please be sure to include the full names of everyone in the photo!

We will also be welcoming Pastor Rachel with a potluck breakfast at 8:30 AM on Sunday, July 7th.

Financial News

As of 05/31/2024:

Contributions for May: \$12,872

Contributions Budget: \$16,719

Other Income (Church Use, etc.) YTD: \$18,733

Other Income Budget YTD: \$9,604

Contributions YTD: \$89,251

Budget YTD: \$83,594

Expenses YTD: \$91,704

Budget YTD: \$96,285

Restricted Fund Use (CWS, Apportionments, etc.)

May: \$0

Budget: \$1,500

YTD: \$433

Budget YTD: \$2,167

Apportionments

Paid YTD: \$8,215

Total Due YTD: \$26,545 (31%)

2024 Mission/Vision Team

Kimberlea Gray: Mission/Vision Chair

Janet Bowman: Member at Large

Mark Gideon: Member at Large

Amy Langston: Member at Large

Chuck Gregg: Member at Large

Doug Clements: 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