



MAY 2026



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

With all my heart I thank you.

I praise you, Lord God.

-Psalm 86:12

Dear Asbury friends,

God gives us so many opportunities to thank and praise Him. Each day brings new life and abundant love; nourishment and growth; and reminders of God's presence in our lives no matter our circumstances. We know that God is good.

We have a lot to celebrate this month! Countless blessings of working together and honoring devoted volunteers, honoring moms and women who are special in our lives, honoring graduates, and celebrating the birthday of the church and the gift of community. We know that God is generous.

We also will continue with our Resurrection Power stories of early witnesses who encountered the risen Jesus. Jesus changed everything and they wanted everyone to know it! Jesus' transforming power is still at work today. He calls us and offers us new beginnings, new life—reformed, reassured, restored, and refreshed by his life. We, too, are called and empowered to be remarkable witnesses to his love. We know that God is gracious.

May our good, generous, and gracious God fill our hearts with gratitude and praise.

In Christ,

Rachel

Pastor Rachel

Asbury Staff

Lead Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Music Director

Rachel Stone
Julia Machin
Kathy Love

Alabaster Coordinator
Children's Ministries
Student Ministries
Pianist & Organist

Kat Spohrer
Susan Lamy
Leon Johnson
Teresa Kays

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Springfield, MO 65807

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Pastor's Email:
Pastor.Rachel.Asbury@Gmail.com
The office is open Monday — Thursday
9:00 AM — 2:00 PM

The 3B Sale



**Bargains
Books
Baked Goods**



**Asbury United Methodist Church
1500 S Campbell Ave
Springfield**

**May 29 7AM – 3PM
May 30 7AM – 12PM**

Spring Cleaning? Decluttering? Downsizing?

Fill a box or two or more and bring it to church between
May 16th and 28th. UWF will be having our 3B
Sale: Bargains, Books and Baked Goods on May 29th and
30th. All donations will be welcome.

Those Serving
This Month



A/V: Bill Love, Chuck Gregg, Karla Gregg

Communion Servers:

Greeters: Joan Wilson, Karen Nordstrom,
Suzanne Boyts, Lisa Boyts, Dustin Gardner,
Judy Clements, Joyce Booth, Lincoln
Johnson, John Fox, Judy Fox, George Sly,
Georgianne Sly

Readers: Ruth Spargo, Janet Bowman,
Kimberlea Gray, Mary Blumhost

Financial News

As of 03/31/2026:

Contributions for March: \$18,173	Contributions YTD: \$45,697
Contributions Budget: \$15,333	Budget YTD: \$46,000
Other Income YTD: \$12,564	Expenses YTD: \$57,943
Other Income Budget YTD: \$10,697	Budget YTD: \$68,248

Restricted Fund Use (CWS, Apportionments, etc.)

March: \$0	YTD: \$0
Budget: \$433	Budget YTD: \$1,300

Apportionments

Paid YTD: \$0 **Annual Obligation:** \$24,393 (0% paid)

Thank you for your generosity!

May Worship Services

May celebrations include regular Sunday morning worship at 9:15am and special recognitions.

- May 3rd** Honoring our magnificent volunteers (8am-9am, everyone invited to breakfast hosted by your church staff)
- May 10th** Honoring Mothers and Special Women in our lives
- May 17th** Honoring Graduates
- May 24th** Honoring the Birthday of the Church—Pentecost Sunday
- May 31st** Honoring Community Life as a church family

Check It Out!



Surely there are times that a person realizes they wish they'd gotten the book that has been the basis of a sermon series or a small group study. Usually a copy of the book has been placed in the library, but sometimes books seem more suited to studies than "sitting down to read." We actually have a number of studies in the "old library," the small room which was the church library before the education (east) wing was built.

You might find it interesting to see copies of the most recent, [Listen to Him](#), the previous one, Adam Hamilton's [Creed](#), sets of [Bible Stories for Grown Ups](#), and [Journey through the Bible](#) divided by books of the Bible, and even big notebooks of the old Disciples and Trinity studies.

Also, remember that the whole 24-volume series of "Secrets from Grandma's Attic," published by Guideposts from 2022 to 2024 and donated by Joan Lewis, is available to be checked out from the library. I've read three of them now and marveled at the way a new mystery was fit into Grandma's past life—still questioning a little how there can be 21 more unique stories!

UWF

The Big Event for the United Women in Faith this month will be the Books, Baked Goods and BARGAINS Sale on May 29 and 30. We hope for great participation from the whole church family. Please consider donating items (the categories are wide open—almost anything!), help with the sale itself if you have some spare time and like to organize and/or meet shoppers, then Shop, Shop, Buy, Buy!! All money goes to "mission" work: i.e., from helping with Asbury children and youth camp costs, to Crosslines, to national and world outreach.



Calendar

May	11	Naomi Ruth Circle	6:00 PM
	13	Mary Martha Circle	1:00 PM
	13	One Heart in Christ Circle	5:15 PM
	20-21	Preparing for Sale	
	29-30	Bargains, Books, and Baked Goods Sale	

Looking Ahead: "Memory Quilt Project" program with Father Joseph McCormack, UWF, June 6, 10:00 AM

PRAYER REQUESTS

Susan Cox, Mary Ewy, Patty Yocum, Carol Elmore, Janet Bowman, Ann Robertson, Teresa Kays, Joe Dobbs, Carol Fritts, Judy Clements & family, Peggy Brown, Kay Keltner, John Bingham, Chris Hensley & Kat Spohrer, Amy Langston

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

Ann Marsh, Barbara Davidson, Jack Gladson, Joy Whitescarver, Kay Keltner, Marlene Jones, Sharon Coomer, Shawna Allen, Warren Meadows

Serving our country:

Cameron Cox, Shane Luke

Lunch Bunch



Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Thursday, May 14, at 11:30 AM.

This month's selection is Bambino's at 2810 E Battlefield Ste D. Contact Carol Elmore for more information.

MARK *your* CALENDAR

May 3

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

May 7

Mission Springfield

May 11

Naomi Ruth Circle

May 12

Trustees

May 13

Mary Martha Circle
One Heart in Christ Circle

May 14

Lunch Bunch
Mission/Vision

May 17

Graduation Sunday

May 20

Crosslines Day
Cards & Games Fun Day

May 29

UWF 3B Sale

May 30

UWF 3B Sale

May 31

Fifth Sunday Potluck

May Birthdays

Joy Whitescarver

Margaret Weaver

Warren Meadows

Brooke Scott

Larry Brown

Dennis Baier



Power of Love



Our Power of Love collection for May is for the Child Advocacy Center. Visit their Amazon wish list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/L88U1RER19I/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex.

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.

Graduation Sunday



Graduate Recognition Sunday is Sunday, May 17. Asbury would like to recognize all upcoming graduates from high school, college, or trade school. Please email the church office by Tuesday, May 12 with their name, a recent picture, their accomplishments, and any future plans.

**Geraniums for Pentecost Sunday
May 24, 2026**

Orders for Pentecost Sunday geraniums will begin on **Sunday, May 3**, and will continue until **Sunday, May 17**. You may order geraniums in honor of or in memory of a loved one, or they can given to the glory of God. Orders must be paid for at the time the order is placed. **No late orders will be accepted after the May 17 deadline.** Order blanks are available in the church bulletin, from the ushers, or in the church office.



The geraniums will be available for pick up after the service on May 24. Any geraniums left at the church will be given to our homebound members unless other arrangements have been made.

Asbury UMC 2026 Leadership Teams

Mission/Vision (Church Council)

Chair: Kimberlea Gray

Lay Leader: Janice Greene

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Bill Love

Class of 2026: Glenda Hefty, Doug Cline

Class of 2027: Susan Cox, Becky Dobbs

Class of 2028: Carol Elmore, Chuck Gregg, Karen Nordstrom

Nominations/Lay Leadership Development Team

Chair: Pastor Rachel Stone

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Bill Love

Lay Leader: Janice Greene

Class of 2026: Lynn Clements, Ginny Oliver

Class of 2027: Karla Carroll, Ruth Spargo

Class of 2028: Jay Polchow, Jim Wilson

Hospitality

The voting numbers weren't large on April 7th, but Asbury's Hospitality apparently was appreciated—almost all of two large trays of cookies were eaten and more than 25 bottles of water were drunk!

Many things, like the Easter Egg hunt, aren't "hospitality programs," but any time that we have an opportunity to make visitors or our "own family" feel warm, welcome and connected is a time that we are showing hospitality. Pass along your good ideas.

"Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged."

*Thank
you*

Dear Asbury family,

I am so deeply grateful for all of the countless prayers and words of support during my Dad's illness and passing. Each kind expression helped to prop me up and kept me going through this challenging season.

With tremendous thanks,

Karla Gregg & family

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.