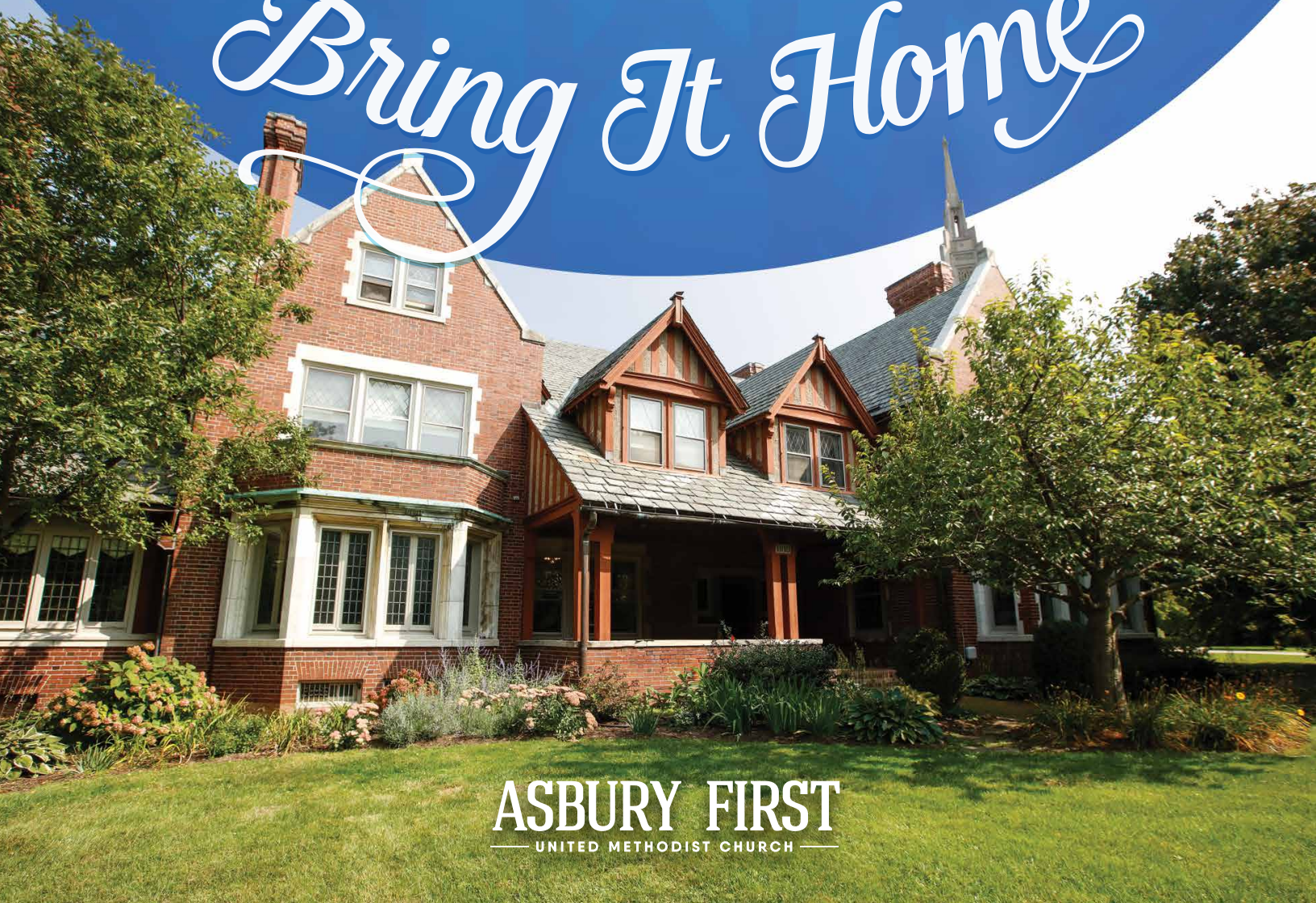




# BETTER TOGETHER

A NEW OUTREACH CENTER

*Bring It Home*



ASBURY FIRST  
— UNITED METHODIST CHURCH —





Artist's rendering of the updated Outreach Center

## What does our Outreach look like in action? In 2019 alone, Asbury First:

(Pre-Pandemic Numbers)



SERVED  
**38,000**  
MEALS



PACKED/DELIVERED  
**1,000**  
GROCERY BAGS



CLOTHED  
**6,000**  
FAMILIES



CARED FOR OVER  
**600**  
SICK PERSONS





# REMEMBERING THAT WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER.

With a mission grounded in love, and a vision to Do More Good, Asbury First embraces outreach to the community as one of our core values. For over 50 years, we have responded to the needs in our community by offering warm meals, clothing, household supplies, laundry facilities, medical care, social work counsel, and more. We've done this in inaccessible spaces, spread across our three-building campus. As the demand grows, and more guests need more services, our current facilities are no longer adequate. We need one accessible and inviting place, where our guests can access all our services. We need an Outreach Center.

1010 East Ave, a historic building we have owned since 1943, will be the site of our future Outreach Center, a fully integrated and accessible space.

Since March 2020, it has been a challenging time for us all. The COVID-19 pandemic has required us to make significant adjustments, which have impacted our personal lives and our church community. Our Outreach Ministries have certainly felt this. As news of the pandemic worsened, our dedicated volunteers made efficient and effective decisions to adjust programs, halt activities, and seek creative ways to serve our community, even if it meant doing so from home. We are grateful to all volunteers of the Dining & Caring Center, Storehouse, Grocery Bag Ministry and UR Well Clinic for their flexibility and commitment to our on-campus programs.

However, the economic challenges brought on by the pandemic have meant that more people than ever are in need of essential services, with likely more to come. When someone needs to get back on their feet, they often need multiple services: from a physical to a haircut, to an outfit for an interview for the job itself, to food in their bellies.

With your help, it is time to **Bring It Home** and get the Outreach Center built.

***The pandemic has shown the increased need for the services we provide, and with your help, we can make sure that 1010 East Avenue continues to be a home for our community.***



# ACCESSIBLE OUTREACH AT ASBURY FIRST

Outreach at Asbury First is as much about access as it is providing services. We have spent the last few years evaluating the effectiveness of our outreach programs through surveys with our guests, conversations with our volunteers, and explorations of best practices. Access to our various programs remains one of the most frequent concerns. On one level, this is about physical access for those with disabilities—something two of our ministries currently lack. On another level, however, it is about being able to access services in an efficient and streamlined manner. We have learned that our current design and structure creates a barrier for many guests, as they end up having to choose between food, clothing, or health care on any given visit when their needs often encompass all three. This is not unique to us. The Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative (RMAPI), with which we have been in conversation, has named access to basic needs as one of its core foci and suggested the need for integrated services. **By centralizing our outreach programs into one dedicated and accessible space, we remove barriers to fullness of life for our guests.**







# THE OUTREACH CENTER AT 1010 EAST AVE.

This project will consolidate our on-campus outreach ministries (Dining & Caring Center, Storehouse, URWell Clinic, and the Grocery Bag Ministry) into a newly renovated and fully accessible Outreach Center, featuring:

- A main entrance addition with an elevator serving all three floors—the lower level, first, and second floors—and a new enclosed staircase
- ADA compliant entrances, exits, and restrooms
- Added security and safety measures
- A staffed reception area within the main entrance to help direct guests to the appropriate services
- New clinic exam rooms with wash stations
- An expanded dining area for the Dining & Caring Center with natural light
- A larger and more easily accessible clothing drop off location
- New waiting area and office for the clinic
- A dedicated space for community conversations
- Improved heating, cooling, and humidity control
- New shower, laundry, and hair care facilities
- Room for a social worker
- Better storage and work flow for the Storehouse
- Larger shopping area and dressing rooms for the Storehouse
- Expanded parking
- A new terrace and accessible ramp

Renovating 1010 (a currently under-utilized space on our campus) allows us to better steward our facilities, maximize outreach resources, and provide a comfortable space for our guests.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.”

Matthew 25:35-36

## EXPANDING: OUR NEW FACILITY WILL ADD:

**Dining & Caring**  
**+1,315 sq. ft.**



Remodel Existing  
Space & Build an  
Additional Dining Room

**Storehouse**  
**+1,890 sq. ft.**



1st Floor Sorting  
& Storage,  
2nd Floor Storefront

**URWell Clinic**  
**+645 sq. ft.**



New Waiting Areas,  
Offices, Exam Rooms  
& Sinks

# OUR PANDEMIC RESPONSE

We are grateful to all volunteers of the Dining & Caring Center, Storehouse, Grocery Bag Ministry and UR Well Clinic for their flexibility and commitment to our on-campus programs. One of the many ways we have been able to respond to our community and remain a church that prioritizes outreach is through our COVID-19 relief fund.

This fund, traditionally referred to as the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, has allowed us to respond to needs surrounding back-rent, threats of eviction, and RG&E concerns from individuals who have experienced the pain of this pandemic in direct ways. From June to November 2020:

**55** INDIVIDUALS  
SERVED

**OVER \$64,000**  
IN COVID-RELIEF PROVIDED

We would not have been able to do that without the support of this congregation, grant funding dedicated to COVID-relief; and our dedicated volunteer social worker, Martha Neubert, who spends countless hours working with members of the community, referring individuals to other agencies for further support, and helping us respond to this growing need as a church. We've received countless "thank you" messages and affirmations of just how impactful this support has been to the individuals we served.

Our commitment to the community and those in need shows in the flexibility and creativity of our Outreach Ministries during this ongoing pandemic. Read on to see the numbers behind our continued work to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and tend to the sick.

*I'd like to thank each and every person who I met yesterday at the UR Well Clinic from the moment I entered the front door until I received health care. Specifically, I would like to thank the students from URM for the attention and care they provided. I'm sure, being the wonderful young human beings they are, they will make fine doctors in whatever field of medicine. Last but not least, I'd like to thank the social worker volunteer for her assistance obtaining health insurance in less than two minutes. She's definitely an angel. Asbury First, URM, and the people I've met associated with it are just wonderful to me.*

**Louise**

UR Well Clinic patient



# GROCERY BAG MINISTRY

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE

The pandemic shuttered most on-campus activities, including the Grocery Bag Ministry, but we were able to come back with limited volunteers and plenty of distance to provide essential food and groceries to those in need. Since April 2020, the GBM assisted our friends at the Ark of Jesus Church, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Light of the World Assembly of God Church, Baber AME Church, Miracle Outreach Ministry, Powerhouse Church, Zion Hill Baptist Church, and New Horizons Church (formerly West Ave Methodist), as well as our friends at the Keeping Our Promises wartime allies support program. We continue to operate in "bulk mode" with minimal volunteers, but have been able to adapt to include frozen meals in addition to bulk supplies of groceries each month. During that time:



**240**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



**6**  
VOLUNTEERS



**640**  
BAGS OF  
GROCERIES  
DELIVERED





# STOREHOUSE

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE

The need for clothing and housewares did not stop just because of the pandemic. In-person service stopped in mid-March 2020, but the Storehouse co-chairs and volunteers worked hard from home to meet the needs even when COVID restrictions limited the accessibility of the racks of clothing and shoes. In October 2020, volunteers were allowed back on campus to accept donations, sort clothing and wares, and pack bags for clients in need. During that time:



**2,270**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



**200**  
ADULTS  
**300**  
CHILDREN  
SERVED



**45**  
VOLUNTEERS  
MANY WORKING  
2 OR 3 SHIFTS





# DINING & CARING CENTER

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Due to the pandemic, a lot of food pantries and food kitchens were forced to close, leaving so many hungry all over the Rochester area. Thankfully, a small and dedicated team of volunteers and staff, were able to keep the D&CC open by transitioning to grab-n-go meals. The meals continue to be very nutritious, and we give out a lot of produce bags, and are still distributing hygiene bags, masks, and hand sanitizer. Since September 2020, the D&CC pandemic response included:



**320**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



**3,020**  
GRAB-N-GO  
MEALS  
SERVED



**4** VOLUNTEERS  
ON WEEKDAYS

**6** VOLUNTEERS  
ON WEEKENDS

*(Drastic reduction from pre-COVID  
10-15 volunteers per day)*



*“Our guests remain very grateful for our efforts. We see most of them on a regular basis. I hear: 'God Bless you and thank you for still being open' on a regular basis.”*

**Michele Cooley**  
Director of the D&CC

# UR WELL CLINIC

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE

During the pandemic, the need for medical care and physical tests essential for getting new jobs grew. Due to operational COVID-19 restrictions, the clinic initially closed, but was able to reopen in a creative way to continue to offer physicals. Thankfully, the UR Well Clinic was able to open from August 20 through November 19 with an appointment-based system and extra precautions in place. During that time:



**40+**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



**59**  
PATIENTS  
SEEN



**60** UNIQUE STUDENT  
VOLUNTEERS  
**9** PRECEPTORS  
**3** ASBURY FIRST  
VOLUNTEERS

## UR WELL CLINIC AT ASBURY FIRST: CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

Thanks to an incredible partnership between Asbury First and the University of Rochester's School of Medicine & Dentistry, we have been able to offer free health care to uninsured and under-served adults throughout the Rochester area for over 10 years. As you may know, this clinic is staffed by UR medical students working with a doctor preceptor, fulfilling clinic hour requirements and providing care to those in need. We are expanding our partnership with the University of Rochester's School of Medicine and Dentistry to include basic dental screenings and exams for patients. Each clinic room in our new Outreach Center would be equipped with dual functioning equipment—exam tables that convert to dental chairs, handheld x-ray machines, and more.



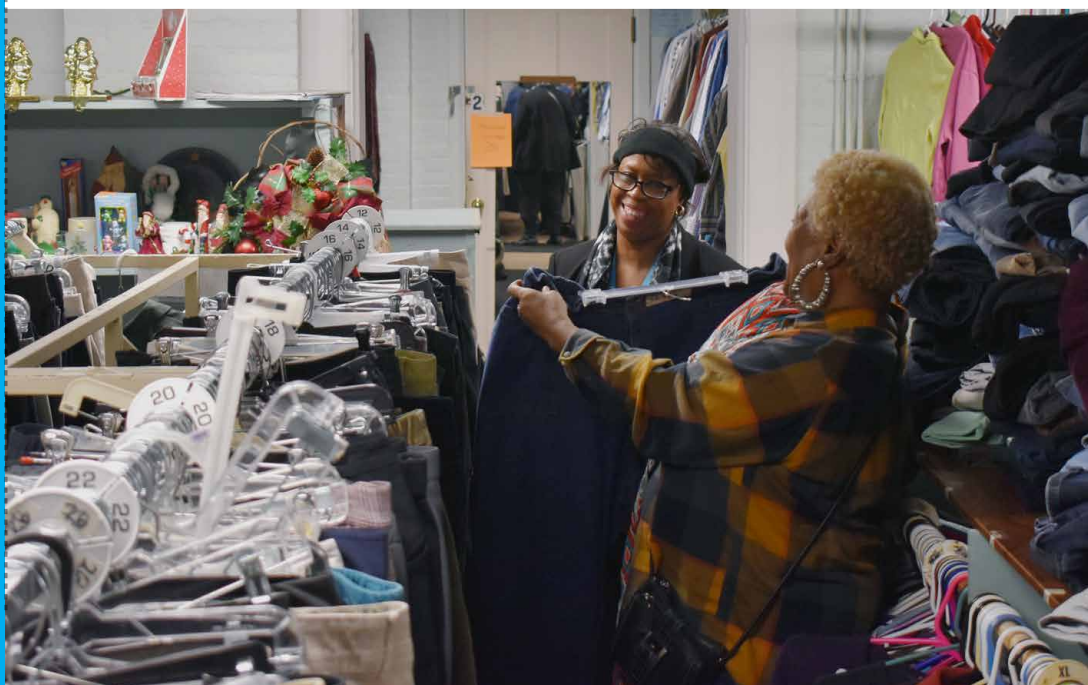
*Artist representation of new exam rooms*



*Being able to help uninsured and under-insured people in the Rochester community have access to medical care was an important mission for me. As a retired nurse, I knew I could use my skills and experience to benefit this program. I feel fortunate to have led a ministry for 10 years that has touched so many lives in a positive way. As I drove home after a clinic night, I would find myself full of gratitude and hope, recognizing that each patient received holistic care and left with positive steps toward health and fullness of life.*

**Ida Hickman**

*Coordinator for 10 Years,  
UR Well Clinic  
at Asbury First*



# BETTER TOGETHER

## Bring It Home

PLEDGE CARD

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Please accept this pledge to the Better Together capital project

\$

- One gift to be expected at this date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Weekly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s)
- Monthly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s)
- Yearly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

I would like to be contacted regarding my estate plans

\$1,000,000  
NEEDED TO  
REACH OUR GOAL

\$3.5 MILLION RAISED TO DATE

