

Asbury First NEWS SHEET

OCTOBER 2025

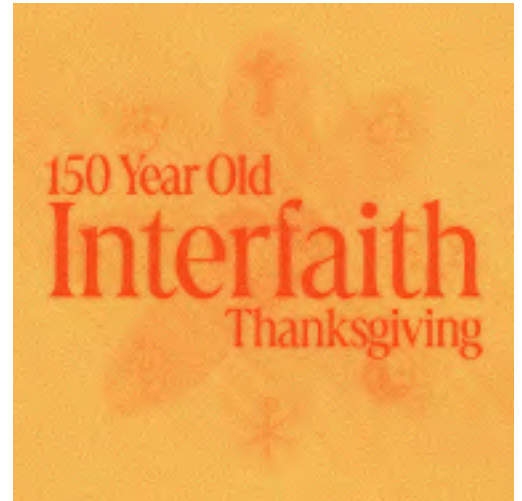
asburyfirst.org

*You're invited! Join us for upcoming
worship, fellowship, and fun.*

(585) 271-1050

150 Year Old Interfaith Thanksgiving

On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27, at 11am, Asbury First will be hosting the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service. This service is the longest running of its kind in the United States, having begun in the post-civil war years. Clergy from the Jewish, Muslim, Unitarian, and Baptist congregations met to plan this year's service. A shofar will be blown, scripture from the Koran will be read, there will be prayer all in the spirit of gratitude for all of the blessings we have been given, and for the blessing of being able to worship as one, respecting each other and our varied and diverse traditions. All people are welcome.



Save the Date: Church Conference Town Hall – October 26

On **Sunday, October 26, following worship**, we will gather for our annual **Church Conference**, which in the United Methodist Church is the once-a-year meeting where the whole congregation is invited to participate in the business of the church. Think of it as both a Town Hall and a family meeting: a time to celebrate what God has done among us, to affirm leaders for the coming year, and to take care of essential matters that shape our shared life. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this special gathering!



3rd grade Bible Sunday

Bible Sunday is a cherished Asbury First tradition, and the children will receive their personalized Bibles **during the 11 am service on Sunday, October 26.**

All families with 3rd graders and older children who haven't yet received a Bible, please call Paula Dugan at (585) 271-1050 x111 today.



Collaborative Maker's Gathering

Hey sewers, knitters, and crafty creators!

Join us for another Collaborative Makers Gathering—a laid-back, open-house hangout on **Saturday, November 15 from 1 to 4 pm in the Gathering Center.** Swap ideas, get help on projects, spread out your work, and maybe score some new-to-you fabric or yarn. Bring your creativity and let's get making!

Contact Rev. Kathy Thiel for more information call (585) 271-1050 x106



Dining In For Outreach Returns!

Dining In For Outreach, Asbury First's major annual fundraiser, is coming November 8 – 9! Gracious hosts throw a dinner party at their own expense while guests donate \$75 (or any amount that feels right) to support Outreach ministries. We'll honor some of our volunteers that Sunday in the 11 am Worship Service, and will hold a reception afterwards in the Gathering Center.

Can't attend that weekend? Choose any mutually convenient date before November 16. We encourage hosts to welcome new guests—it's a great way to make friends!

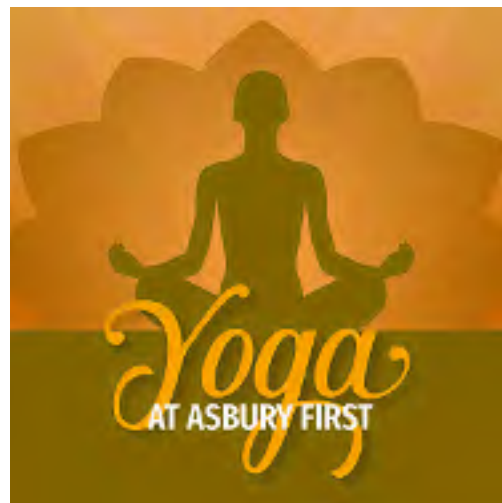
Sign up **Sundays, through October 26** in Welcome Hall, or contact Diana Carter at call her at (585) 732-7224.



Asbury Autumn Yoga Series, Tuesdays through October 28

Tuesdays at 3 pm in the Gathering Center, join us for our Autumn Gentle Yoga Series with Kelly Noyes.

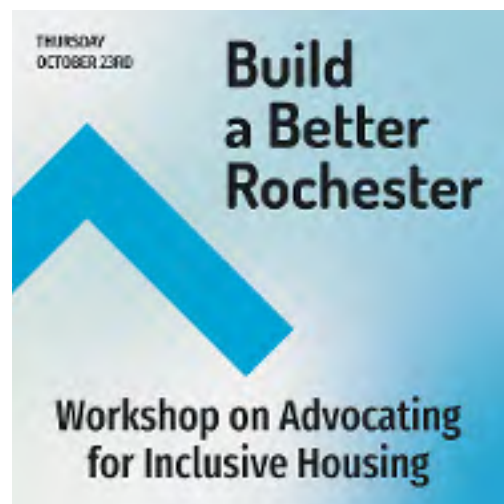
Experience a slower yoga flow as we gently draw our attention inward with mindful movement and breath. Classes are an hour long and open to participants at any level. \$10 donation is payable at the door. Wear comfortable loose-fitting clothes and bring water with you. The Winter Yoga Series will begin on *Tuesday, November 18*.



Build a Better Rochester: Workshop on Advocating for Inclusive Housing

Would you like to see a greater variety of housing options available in the Rochester area? Do you want to help create a more accessible community for everyone? The Social Concerns Committee and RASE Commission, together with many others, are sponsoring a workshop that will empower you to advocate for change. Join members of various faith communities for a free workshop on public advocacy for more housing options!

Thursday, October 23, 5:30 – 7:30 pm in the Gathering Center



East Ave Grocery Run

Join us Saturday, **November 1** for the East Ave Grocery Run, an annual fundraiser that supports food programs in Rochester, including the Asbury First Community Outreach Center. Anyone who registers as a member of the Asbury First team donates their full registration fee directly to the COC! Invite a friend to come out, enjoy a fall morning run/walk and support the work of feeding Rochester's hungry.



Covenant UMC Celebrates the 100th Anniversary of its Pipe Organ

Join Covenant United Methodist Church (1124 Culver Road at Parsells Ave.) on Sunday, October 19 at 3 pm for a concert celebrating their Austin pipe organ's 100th Anniversary. Eastman student organists from four continents will perform in this free public recital; a free-will offering supports the Eastman Student Travel Fund.



Anastasia

November 14, 15 and 16 at Asbury First

Reserve your spot now for Asbury First Community Theatre's presentation of Anastasia, the Youth Musical, about a young woman named Anya with amnesia who, with the help of a con man and an ex-aristocrat, embarks on a journey from 1920s Russia to Paris to discover her identity and find where she belongs. Call the office at (585) 271-105 to reserve your seats!



Banned Book Club

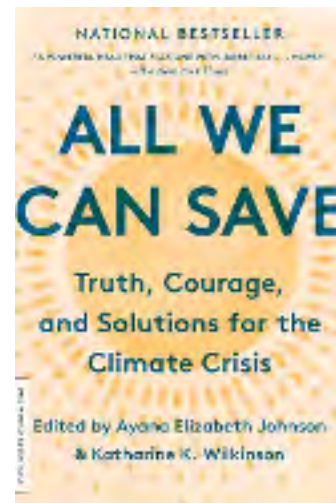
Join the Banned Book Club as we gather to discuss Ray Bradbury's monumental "Fahrenheit 451," a dystopian prediction of a future where books are burned. Join in-person **Monday, November 17, at 7 pm in the Red Room (1010)**, or via zoom.

Contact Mike Mullin at (585) 271-1050 x105 for more details.



Wednesday Morning Book Study

Join Wednesday Morning Book Club to explore "All We Can Save," a powerful collection featuring diverse women leaders—scientists, activists, farmers, and innovators—offering bold solutions to the climate crisis through essays, poetry, and art. The group meets **Wednesdays, 10 - 11:30 am in the Red Room (1010), October 22 - December 17**, with no sign-up required—just show up ready for inspiring discussions. For more information, contact Linda Clemow at programs@asburyfirst.org.



You're Invited to the Wedding of Ian Urriola and Jo Schonewolf!

Ian Urriola, former Ministry Intern (2017-2018), and Jo Schonewolf invite you to their wedding at Asbury First on **Saturday, October 25 at 3 pm**, co-presided by Rev. Dr. Michelle Bogue-Trost and Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez.

The service will be livestreamed, followed by a cookie and punch reception in the Gathering Center.

For more details, visit ianandjogetmarried.com



Habitat for Humanity Pie Sale

It's time to dream of Thanksgiving dinner and the taste of Apple Crumb, Pecan, Strawberry Rhubarb, Pumpkin, or Rumbleberry Pie from Special Touch Bakery. The Pies cost \$20 each and are baked by Special Touch Bakery (School of the Holy Childhood). This is an annual fund-raising event for the Flower City Habitat for Humanity. Order and pay for your pies in the **Welcoming Hall on Sundays – 10/26, 11/2 and 11/9**. The pies can be picked up in the **Welcoming Hall on Tuesday, 11/24 from 1:00-5:00p.m.** Enjoy delicious holiday pies while supporting Asbury First's participation in building homes for families in our community!



Social Holiness October

Beginning October 1, various groups in the church will lead discussions about current social issues and what we are doing or can do to help bring about God's kingdom here on earth. **Each discussion will begin on a Wednesday, 6 – 7 pm, and will be repeated on Sunday morning, 9:45 – 10:45 am.** These will be held both in person and on Zoom. In keeping with the spirit of the discussions, we are suggesting different colors for you to wear for each presentation.

Wednesday, October 22 and Sunday, October 26: Climate Change Update sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee; Wear green

Wednesday, October 29: The Housing Crisis, Our Personal and Collective Response by the Housing Equity Team; Wear red (Note: there is no Sunday repeat of this discussion)



Know Your Rights! Understanding your rights as a tenant

Join us for an informative Know Your Rights presentation on Eviction law! Learn about the basics of landlord tenant law and your rights and responsibilities as a tenant. This session will include information on new legislation and how it impacts tenants and landlords and what it means for housing stability in your community. **November 2, 9:45 – 10:45 am at the COC.**

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



with **Mosunmola Ojo**
and **Curtis Jones**

Thank You Asbury First!

A big thanks to everyone who donated school supplies during our Annual School Supply Drive!! Asbury First continues to show us year after year how generous they are and we could not be more grateful for your support! Your donations will make a tremendous difference to the students at School 17!



Postcards to Voters with the Civics Team

Postcarding has officially wrapped up—and what an incredible achievement it's been! Together, we printed, checked, and stamped an impressive 7,300 postcards. A huge thank-you to everyone who contributed to this amazing effort—you deserve a big round of applause!



Prostate Cancer Support Group - Summer Break

The Prostate Cancer Support Group is back! Join us on **Tuesday, October 28 at 5:30 pm in the Red Room (1010).**

We look forward to reconnecting with our community after a short summer hiatus.



ZUMBA is Back!

Join us again, **November 6, at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Center** for moving and grooving fitness fun! No prior Zumba or dance experience needed—all fitness levels welcome!

A suggested donation of \$10 is paid directly to instructor Katy Reholz.



Keeping Our Promise Seeking volunteers

KOP is seeking 4 groups of 3 volunteers each to be part of a caring circle for new families. Under the **Welcome.US** program, we can help, but we officially need three volunteers per family. This will guarantee a family \$1,000 per person in resettlement funds within 2 to 3 weeks from the Welcome Corps.

Please reach out to friends and community members if you can help by being part of a caring circle. For more information, call or text Cindy Malone at (585) 645-4060.



Keeping Our Promise Seeking volunteers

Looking for a deeper way to connect? Volunteering at Asbury First is more than helping out—it's about building friendships, discovering joy, and growing in faith.

Our Volunteer Engagement Committee is here to match your gifts and schedule with opportunities across the church. Whether you have an hour once in a while or time each week, there's a place for you: greeting on Sunday mornings, singing in the choir, teaching, cooking, office help, or serving with Outreach ministries.

The best part? Volunteering is flexible and rewarding. You'll bless the church with your presence—and find yourself blessed in return.

Ready to find your place? Reach out to the Volunteer Engagement Committee and discover the joy of serving together. Call to be connected with someone who can help you find your place.



Would You Like To Serve Communion?

There's something profoundly moving about sharing communion and we're seeking hearts called to serve during this holy time on **the first Sunday of each month**. If you've ever felt drawn to be part of this sacred experience, to help distribute the bread and cup, we'd be honored to have you join our serving team. Whether you're a longtime member or newer to our faith family, what matters most is your willingness to serve with reverence and love.

Rev. Kathy Thiel would love to hear from you and share more about this meaningful ministry. You can reach her at (585) 271-1050 x106. Come be part of something beautiful. Come serve alongside us.



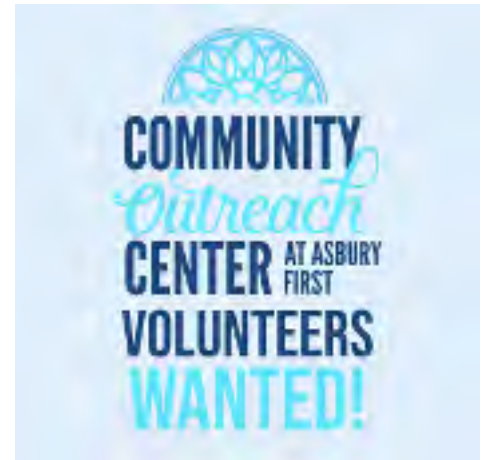
Outreach Volunteers Wanted!

Dining & Caring Center: The number of meals we are serving is rising dramatically and quickly! We are in need of more volunteer support during our meal hours. Roles include kitchen and dining room work.

Shifts are Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 6:30 – 9:30am and Sundays 11:30 am – 2 pm. Commitments can be weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly. Call Rev. Pat at (585) 271-1050 x136 to sign up.

UR Well Clinic: Greeters are needed to welcome patients to the COC on **Thursday evenings from 5:45 to 8:15 pm and Sunday mornings from 8:50 to 10 am.** You may choose the shift you'd like during a two month period which fits your schedule. It may be once a month, every two months or more! For further information, please call Sue Bickel at (585) 721-1610.

1010 Tuesday Co-Coordinator: Help us organize monthly tours of the COC aimed at introducing the ministry to members of our broader community! We are looking for volunteer support (onsite or at home) in planning and coordinating these tours. Call Rev. Pat at (585) 271-1050 x136 for more information.





Fall is finally in the air, and last Thursday, October 9, we celebrated the season at our **Older Adult Fall Gathering** at Asbury First!



These gatherings are a beautiful reminder of how the depth of wisdom and experience our older members bring enriches our entire church family.



Saturday's NAMI walk was a huge success!



NAMI, or the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization. The event helped to raise awareness and to support individuals and families affected by mental illness.





Asbury First joined communities around the country for *Enough: Plays to End Gun Violence*, youth-written plays confronting the impact of gun violence on American life.

WHY WE'RE UNITED METHODIST: The Power of Connection

Expanding Pastor Michelle's October 5 Sermon

If you've ever tried to understand how The United Methodist Church is organized, you know it's not simple. We're not congregational like the Baptists, where each church is fully independent. And we're not hierarchical like the Roman Catholics, with authority flowing only from the top down. We're something else entirely—a connectional church.

That word, *connectionalism*, goes back to John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. Wesley believed that Christians needed each other—that holiness could never happen in isolation. “The gospel of Christ knows no religion but social; no holiness but social holiness,” he said. Faith, in his view, was meant to be lived in community, and that community needed structure if it was to thrive.

So, Methodists organized. We formed “societies,” “classes,” and “bands”—small groups of people who prayed together, studied scripture, confessed sins, and encouraged one another to grow in grace. Those groups were connected to one another through circuits, preachers, and eventually conferences that gathered to plan ministry, set standards, and send people out to serve. Out of that system grew a worldwide church bound together not by hierarchy, but by covenant.

Today, that same pattern holds true. Every local United Methodist congregation is part of a larger network that includes:

- **The District**, a group of nearby churches overseen by a District Superintendent.
- **The Annual Conference**, the basic body that gathers clergy and lay members once a year to set mission priorities, ordain clergy, and oversee shared ministries.

- **The Jurisdictional or Central Conference**, which elects bishops and connects regional ministries.
- And finally, **the General Conference**, our global legislative assembly that meets every four years to set policy and revise our shared Book of Discipline.

It's a system that takes coordination and patience but it also creates remarkable strength. Because of our connection, a small church in upstate New York can help build a hospital in Congo, support disaster relief in Florida, and send youth to mission sites across the country. Clergy are appointed, not hired, which means pastors serve where the Church collectively believes they are needed most. Churches share in one another's successes and bear one another's burdens.

At its best, connectionalism reminds us that we are never alone. The prayers, gifts, service, and witness of one congregation ripple outward through the entire denomination. When we baptize a child, we promise—along with United Methodists everywhere—to nurture that child in faith. When we give to the offering plate, it joins with gifts from others to change lives near and far. When we gather for worship, we join millions around the world.

Our connection is our superpower. It's what makes us more than a collection of churches—it makes us a movement. It's not always easy, but it's always worth it. Wesley might have said it himself: We do more together than we could ever do alone.

Stay tuned for more in this series of understanding the United Methodist Church!

Connecting through Volunteering



One of the most life-giving ways to connect with others—and with your own sense of purpose—is through volunteering. At Asbury First, we believe volunteering is not just about getting the work of the church done, but about building relationships, deepening faith, and discovering joy along the way.

Our Volunteer Engagement Committee exists to make those connections easier. Their role is to listen, guide, and match people's gifts, skills, and availability with the wide variety of opportunities across our ministries. From welcoming guests on Sunday morning, to helping in the office during the week, to joining a choir, preparing meals, teaching a class, or lending a hand at a community outreach project—there is a place for everyone.

And the best part? Volunteering is flexible. Opportunities range from one-time commitments to ongoing roles, weekday or weekend, front-facing or behind-the-scenes. You can choose what fits your schedule and interests. Many discover that what begins as “helping out” quickly becomes something more: a source of friendships, a sense of belonging, and the satisfaction of making a difference.

Think of the joy on the face of a child welcomed by a Sunday School teacher, or the gratitude of a guest receiving a warm meal in our dining ministry. Consider the quiet relief of a staff member when someone steps in to lend a hand with a project, or the smile of a newcomer greeted warmly at the church door. These are not small things—they are glimpses of God's love at work through us, and they ripple far beyond the moment of service.

Volunteering also reminds us that faith is meant to be lived. We grow when we step outside our comfort zones, share our talents, and allow ourselves to be needed. Time and again, volunteers tell us that they began serving because they wanted to help, but they continue because of how much they receive in return: encouragement, community, and the deep joy of knowing they've made a difference.

We often say that volunteering is a gift to the church—and it is. But it is also a gift to yourself. In giving your time, you may find your own spirit renewed. In sharing your talents, you may discover new strengths. And in serving alongside others, you may find that what you receive is even greater than what you give: joy, connection, and the reminder that together, we are the body of Christ.

If you're ready to explore where your gifts and passions might connect, the Volunteer Engagement Committee would love to help you find your place. Because when we serve together, we grow together.

30 years of Music and Community:

A Conversation with Asbury Orchestra's Founder

As Asbury's church orchestra celebrates its 30th anniversary, we spoke with its founder, Laurie Kennedy, to reflect on three decades of bringing musicians together in worship.

It's hard to believe the orchestra is celebrating 30 years. Can you tell us how it all began?

Time has flown! As a music educator, I was noticing that only hired, professional instrumentalists participated in Asbury First's worship services, accompanying the choir or performing solos. While the music was beautiful, I began to wonder if the church would be open to having non-professional musicians play in worship. During a maternity leave when I had some time to devote to a project, I started asking others if they thought there were folks with instruments "under their beds" who might be interested in playing together. Jeff and Aileen Fraser, fellow music teachers, thought it was a great idea. Our then-Senior Minister Bob Hill encouraged me, and the orchestra was born.

What made the timing right for launching something like this?

The Eastman School of Music had recently started a program for seniors whereby they took lessons and participated in an ensemble. Several Asbury First members had joined that group and were excited to have another opportunity to play. Dave and Shirley Pethebridge had picked up the tuba and bass clarinet, and Ted Doerner had recently begun to play oboe. Ted told me that although he had played trombone in high school he wanted to try something different. He walked around his home looking in closets to find the instruments his kids had played, and of the many choices, he opted for the challenge of studying oboe.

Who can participate in the orchestra, and how do you make it work for musicians of different skill levels?

The group has always been open to anyone with 2-3 years or more of performance experience. This included seniors just beginning, as well as kids of all ages. If the music is too difficult, I rewrite the parts to make them accessible. The glue

that has held the group together is the professional and experienced musicians who have come to share their love of music with the church and each other. Jeff and Aileen were always at rehearsals leading their sections. Rick Kuempel, on trombone, sat next to my son for eight years providing support for every note and adding jazz riffs that Andrew would copy. Today, members like Brian Donat, Jolene Harrigan, Faith Chan, John Ormsbee, Tammi Vinci, Annette and Jim Farrington, among others, continue to provide models for less advanced players, and their accomplished technical skills enhance our sound. We're also grateful that our wonderful organist Duane Prill lends his support and time, particularly to make sure that we sound great as we accompany the hymns.

Tell us about the special commission for your 30th anniversary.

The realization that this would be the 30th year came at the same time that I learned of Jeff Fraser's bequest to the church to support instrumental music. Having heard two of David Temperley's compositions during worship the previous year, I wondered if he might be willing to help us celebrate by composing a piece specifically for our group. I asked and he came back with a resounding, "Yes!" His work, *Meditation*, is in honor of those who have supported and participated in the work of making music and building community.

Looking back on 30 years, what has made this experience so special?

It has been a joy to lead a group of folks who come because they love to play, and to watch as young and older musicians develop new skills and new friends. Among all of Asbury First's groups and activities, we are a unique space where people of all ages sit and work together toward a common goal, each participating to the best of their ability. Orchestra members come from all walks of life. We have several long-time players who are not members of Asbury First, but who nonetheless love to make music with us. Together, we create and share our musical offering.

Any final words for potential new members?

If you have ever played a band or orchestra instrument you are welcome to join our group! We will play Christmas Carols in the Gathering Space December 21st. Rehearsals begin in Wesley Hall on December 7 and December 14, 9:30-10:30. Dig out your instrument and join us!

CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

Wednesday Morning Study Group

Wednesdays, 10–11:30 am , 1010 Red Room and Zoom (zoom.us/j/8924819492) PW 578697)

All are invited to join this book discussion group as we meet in-person and on Zoom on Wednesday mornings. Some have been a part of this group for years, while others come and go depending on availability and the books that we are reading. We will begin our next book on **March 5**, *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*, by Heather McGhee. For more information, please contact Mike Mullin at mmullin@asburyfirst.org.



Lectio Divina

Tuesdays, 8:30–9 am, Zoom (zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)

Lectio Divina is a contemplative practice on reading scripture. A passage of scripture is read, then there is silent meditation, then the passage is read again, then more silence, and then discussion. The silence is an opportunity to reflect upon what you experienced in the scripture. This half hour opens and closes with prayer. All are welcome. For more information please contact Rev. Kathy Thiel at kthiel@asburyfirst.org or at 585-271-1050 x106.



Tuesday Women's Fellowship

Tuesdays, 9:30–10:30 am, Zoom (zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)

Looking for a way to stay connected to your Asbury First friends during the week? Want to meet new Asbury First friends? All women, all ages, are welcome to join the Tuesday Women's Fellowship via Zoom, 9:30–10:30 am each week. Bring your coffee or tea, and perhaps a treat, zoom in and enjoy an hour of devotion, sharing, and connection. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Elizabeth Church, coordinator, at emchurch418@gmail.com. Hope to see you soon!



Asbury First Women's Art Class — Watercolor Painting

(On Hiatus for the Summer but returning in the Fall)

Fridays, 1 – 3 pm, 1040 Room 205 (upper level, bell choir room)

Now meeting on Friday afternoons, the Asbury Art Class is exploring watercolor and card-making. Watercolor is a terrific medium for capturing the form and surprise of the natural world. Please email Linda Clemow at soulsourcestudio1@gmail.com for more information and to register.



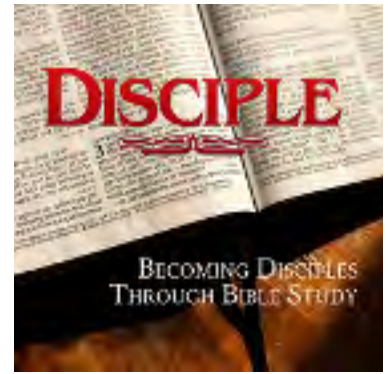
CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

Disciple IV Bible Study

Tuesdays, 2:15 - 3:15 pm, Zoom (zoom.us/j/8347173468 PW 200)

Have you ever wondered what the Bible really says—and if it truly has any meaning for us in modern times? If so, then you're not alone. Most Christians have never really read the Bible, and many wonder if it's antiquated teachings truly transcend time. If you would like to grapple with these questions, then you are encouraged to join in the Disciple Bible Study.

Disciple IV spends the first half the year looking at the *Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament*, and the second half of the year focused on the Gospel of John and Revelation. The Disciple IV Bible study will be starting later this spring. Please contact Mike Mullin for more information or to sign-up contact mmullin@asburyfirst.org

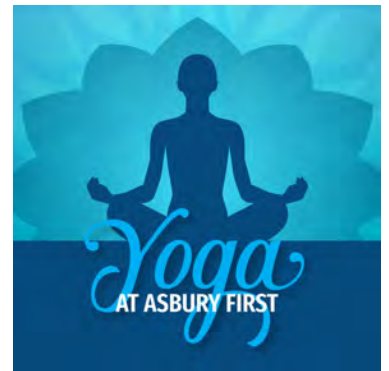


Yoga at Asbury First

Tuesdays, 3 pm, Gathering Center, \$10 pay at the door

Join us for our weekly sessions of Gentle Yoga. This gentle attention can help both to bring inner awareness to your body, as well as clarity and peace to the mind!

Classes are an hour long and open to participants at any level. \$10 at the door, you're encouraged to wear comfortable loose-fitting clothes, and to bring a towel and water with you.



Men's Devotional Group

Wednesdays, 7 am, Zoom (zoom.us/j/8347173468 PW 200)

Men of all ages are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings via Zoom as we discuss topics of faith, life, and more. Each week, a different member of the group leads us in a devotion for our time together. These can be instructional, reflective, conversational, and more. This is a wonderful group to make and build connections, and we hope that you will drop in to join us! or more information, please contact Mike Mullin at mmullin@asburyfirst.org.



CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

Prayer Shawl Ministry

4th Wednesday of the Month, 3–4:30 pm, Library

A prayer shawl is a simple shawl or a lap blanket knitted by members of our group. It is symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. The knitting itself is very simple and we have “experts” on hand to help you if you are a beginner. The group meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday. Clergy and lay members of our church identify those who may benefit from our ministry and a shawl, and they're delivered by ministers or congregation members. Questions? Contact Meredith Pixley at meredithpixley@gmail.com.



Carvers of Hope

4th Tuesday of the Month, 6:30–8 pm, Room 203

Carvers of Hope is a wood carving ministry that helps people who find themselves in the very difficult places of life. Its members carve handmade crosses as a reminder of the hope Jesus brought to us through the cross. All materials, wood, and carving tools are provided, as well as carving lessons. No prior skill is needed to carve crosses with this group. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact John Smalt at jhsmalt@gmail.com.



LGBTQ+ Advocacy Meeting

3rd Sunday of the Month, at 9:45 am, 1040 Youth Room (lower level)

Asbury First's LGBTQ+ Advocacy Group continues to hold meetings seeking new ways to support the LGBTQ+ community. Meetings are held in the Youth Room (in the lower level of the church). Anyone affiliated with LGBTQ+ community and allies are welcome to attend. We will be planning for events, outreach, and educational opportunities in our community. Youth and adults are welcome! For more information, please contact Deb Bullock-Smith at (585) 271-1050 x117 or at dbullocksmith@asburyfirst.org.



As The Spirit Moves Us

Sundays, 9:45–10:45 am, Room LL03 and Zoom (zoom.us/j/6174865464 PW Disciple)

As The Spirit Moves is a class founded on forming a welcoming community to study Biblical events through scripture as well as Christian-based literature. All are welcome, and every voice is heard as we become better together.

For more information about this class, please contact Mike Mullin at mmullin@asburyfirst.org or at 585-271-1050 x105.





CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in gratitude of past and present church members, and in loving memory of Patricia Jane Pauly by her family. Jane was a devoted, active member of Asbury First for over 60 years. Among the many areas in which she participated, she especially enjoyed singing in the Sanctuary Choir. Jane's Celebration of Life service will be held Sunday, August 31, at 2 pm.

If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please contact Jeanne Ristau at (585) 223-4356, preferably two weeks ahead of requested date.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

We offer our prayers and concerns for all those who are ill at home, hospitalized, or in hospice care.

We want to be able to visit and pray with those who are in the hospital. If you know someone who is in the hospital and would like a pastoral call, or if you yourself are in the hospital or have a date for surgery, please call Rev. Kathy Thiel who will be most glad to be with you in that moment. (585) 271-1050 x106.

Stay up-to-date with events, links, and information with our online calendar, or call (585) 271-1050.

asburyfirst.org/events

To submit an announcement, email communication@asburyfirst.org, call the church office at (585) 271-1050, or fill out the online form at asburyfirst.org/bulletin-announcement.

If you'd like to receive regular paper communications, please call the church office at (585) 271-1050.