

## **Asbury First UMC Town Hall & Church Conference**

February 1, 2026

### **Call to Order**

Pastor Michelle at 12:26 PM

### **Link to View the Town Hall**

[Link to Feb 1, 2026 recording](#)

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### **Opening Prayer and Devotion**

Pastor Michelle

Pastor Michelle reminds us that when Jesus called his first disciples and started his ministry, it was from a moment of disruption. John the Baptist has been put in prison, and instead of retreating knowing the same could happen to him, Jesus steps out regardless. This matters for us today because the call still comes in times of change and disruption for us. The call then and now, “Follow me,” comes not when all is perfect or life is quiet. And the work before us today is not disconnected from that call: celebrating ministry, naming leaders, receiving gifts, making decisions about resources and responsibility is what it means for us at Asbury to follow.

We are not simply maintaining an institution, we move into this church conference to keep the mindset of answering Jesus’ invitation to follow.

### **Governing Board Introduction**

Michelle noted that the Governing Board members who were present were sitting behind her:

Paul Campbell (nominated), Jonathan Carroll-Nellenback, Tim Mahan, Chuck Hanrahan, Dawn Riedy, Dave Allen (nominated). Absent today were Christy Leshar, Peter Owh, and Erica Friedman Coburn (nominated).

### **Celebrating the 2025 Ministries and Mission of the Church**

Pastor Michelle

Though we spent time celebrating the ministry of the church in our Charge Conference in November, a lot has happened in the life of the church since then. Let’s take a moment to recognize and celebrate the ministries and work that Asbury has been about since we last gathered.

Members of the assembled Town Hall called out various ministries or individuals:

Our dining center	Our music programs and choirs	Our community as a whole
The new Christmas giving tree	All our new members	Helping kids learn to read
Grocery bag ministry	All our volunteers	Church on Sunday is so great my kids are asking to come!
The Storehouse	Dawn Riedy and her work leading finance	A generous congregation
Cookies and coffee time, and the volunteers who put it on	Alter guild and all they do to in the sanctuary and beyond	Seeing more art in worship
Discipleship and youth group ministries	The library	The technology team expanding our reach
Warm welcomes every Sunday	Clean sidewalks this winter	Caregivers in nursery school and daycare

Pastor Michelle drew the celebration of ministry to a close by noting that we have done all of this good work in a world that has not made any of the work easy, and that none of the work is done to perfection – it is a constant practice and our offering.

### Receive the Final Nominations Report

Pastor Michelle

We approved some of the nominations found on the Town Hall handout at the November Town Hall. The report before the congregation today is as complete as any living document can be, so if anyone feels there are any errors, we ask that you please bring them to us. Today, we must formally elect three new members of the Governing Board who were not in place in November. We are putting forward:

- Dave Allen, who will serve as liaison to the Staff-Parish Relations Committee
- Paul Campbell, who will serve as liaison to the Property Stewardship Committee
- Erica Friedman Coburn, who will serve as the liaison to the Social Concerns Committee

You have a ballot with all three names on it, and a fourth blank option in case you want to write in a name. You can vote for up to three names, so if you write in a name, then you can only vote for two others. Please vote, and we will collect and tally the votes.

Results of the vote:

Class Year	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
2028	Dave Allen	68	0	3
2028	Paul Campbell	69	0	2
2028	Erica Friedman Coburn	69	0	2
2028	_____	—	—	—

## Approve Rev. Pat Dupont's Adjusted Compensation Package for 2026

Pastor Michelle

We approved Pat's adjusted compensation package in November, but we did not yet know what his healthcare contribution would need to be at that exact time. His total compensation is \$99,850, which includes salary, housing allotment, pension, and health insurance. Because his health insurance situation has changed, we are making a one-time change to his salary to offset the health insurance change. The new compensation package is lower than it was when we approved it in the fall, but it is making his overall package right with him.

The vote before the congregation is to vote formally to make the adjustment to Pat Dupont's compensation package for 2026.

If you approve of this adjustment, please raise your hand. (Show of hands)

If you do not approve of this adjustment, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

If you abstain, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

**Outcome:** The adjustment is unanimously approved by the congregation.

## Finance Updates

### 2025 Reforecast Budget Results

Dawn Riedy

First, a huge thank you to the 2025 Finance Committee who worked so hard to continually refine the budget as we went through the year last year!

Fred Aten (Investment Committee Liaison)	John Ormsbee (Staff)
Michelle Bogue-Trost (Staff)	Dawn Riedy (Outreach Committee Liaison, Chair)
Deb Bullock-Smith (Staff)	Joe Stankaitis (Generosity Team Liaison)
Angie Burch (At-large, Past Chair)	Scott Turner (Audit Team Liaison)
Paul Campbell (PSC Liaison)	Beth Wilkens (SPRC Liaison)
Jim Connell (Property Care Liaison)	Ellen Williams (At-large)
Tim Mahan (Financial Sustainability TF Liaison)	Mark Wright (At-large, Past Chair)

We're sharing the results of the **2025 General Budget** first, and the bottom line is thanks to very generous giving in December of 2025 we ended up:

- Exceeding budgeted revenue by 7%
- Expenses were tightly controlled and under budget by 2%
- This all resulted with a positive budget variance at the end of the year

We made significant progress toward reestablishing appropriate cash reserves. Also, if we had *not* taken on the Second-Mile Giving, we would have ended up with a negative cash variance again, so that extra push to give was truly critical to ensuring a positive outcome in our 2025 General Budget cycle.

And the results of the **2025 COC Budget** are similar, noting this was the first year for both COC pledging and a new budget format:

- Revenue exceeded budget by 2%
- Transfers in was a mix of legacy and new gifts
- Expenses were under budget by 11%

We had positive cash variance here as well, putting the COC on a path to sustainably growing its services.

## 2026 Budgets for Approval

Dawn Riedy

We're presenting simplified 2026 General and COC Budgets here, but the more detailed view was emailed about a week ago and copies are available if you'd like to request one via this email: [finance@asburyfirst.org](mailto:finance@asburyfirst.org).

### 2026 Proposed General Budget

General Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	Comparison
Starting Fund Balance	(131,432)	57,013	
REVENUE			
Pledged Giving	1,207,494	1,479,481	
Second Mile Giving	250,764	0	Net (3%)
Other Individual Giving	217,931	145,000	
Endowments	352,946	362,752	
All Other Revenues	227,142	155,698	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>2,256,277</b>	<b>2,142,931</b>	<b>(5%)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,067,832</b>	<b>2,106,126</b>	<b>2%</b>
Revenue/Expenses	188,445	36,805	

0% increase when compared to 2025 RF Budget



- This represents a balanced budget with no use of one-time funds
- The budgeted individual giving is 3% less than total individual giving in 2025
- We'll continue to rigorously budget expenses and take a multi-pronged approach to managing facilities and custodial expenses
- We have budgeted a contingency fund of \$36,805

## 2026 Proposed COC Budget

COC Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	Comparison
Starting Balance	622	81,778	
REVENUE			
Transfers IN	87,900	48,690	2026 = legacy only
COC Pledged Giving	264,195	277,052	
COC All Other	163,794	145,000	
DCC, Storehouse	68,470	92,582	
GBM/CG/UR Well	Via Transfers IN	4,740	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>584,358</b>	<b>568,064</b>	<b>(3%)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>503,203</b>	<b>558,889</b>	<b>11%</b>
Revenue/Expenses	81,155	9,175	

1.5% decrease when compared to 2025 RF Budget



- This represents a fully funded budget
- It is the ministry teams' collaborative plan for sustaining and growing COC operations
- Transfers in are now legacy funds *only* (9% of budgeted revenue)
- Again, a multi-pronged approach to managing facilities and custodial expenses
- We have budgeted a contingency fund of \$9,175

Chuck Hanrahan (chair of Governing Board) came forward to manage the vote of the budgets, noting the congregation will vote on these separately.

If you approve of the 2026 General Budget, please raise your hand. (Show of hands)

If you do not approve of the 2026 General Budget, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

If you abstain, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

**Outcome:** The 2026 General Budget is unanimously approved by the congregation.

If you approve of the 2026 COC Budget, please raise your hand. (Show of hands)

If you do not approve of the 2026 COC Budget, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

If you abstain, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

**Outcome:** The 2026 COC Budget is unanimously approved by the congregation.

## Receiving the Gift of a 2025 Bequest

Chuck Hanrahan

As a congregation we need to vote to formally accept a bequest from our good friend, Dr. Wayne Turnblom. He designated a total of \$70,000 to Asbury in a bequest, with \$20,000 direct to our General Endowment and \$50,000 to our Property Stewardship Endowment. It was through conversations with him that the seeds of the Property Stewardship Endowment were planted and with this gift it will be established.

If you accept this request, please raise your hand. (Show of hands)  
If you would not accept this request, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)  
If you abstain, please raise your hand. (No show of hands)

**Outcome:** The bequest is unanimously accepted by the congregation.

### **Town Hall Closing**

Pastor Michelle

Another packet was available as you came into the sanctuary today highlighting the work of the ministries of the church at Asbury. Please pick one up on your way out and read it. Any other questions?

With none surfaced, Michelle commented that Asbury is an amazing place to be, and she is honored and blessed to serve as pastor.

Town Hall & Charge Conference adjourned at 1:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Christy Leshner

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<b>Next GB Meeting</b> (5:30 PM, Smart Room)	February 9, 2026
<b>Next Town Hall</b> (after 11 AM service, Sanctuary)	<i>Date TBD, 2026</i>