



Asbury Church

a United Methodist
Community

1-May-2022

Church Council Members



I want to thank all the members of Church Council

- Gene Davis
- Ed Dougherty
- Judy Ehninger – Lay Member to Annual Conference
- Jim Flynn – Trustees Chair
- Sarah Kinzel– SPRC Chair
- Tim Lebrecht – Church Council Chair
- Pastor Barbara Lee*
- Debbie Lynch
- Charley Myers – Asbury In Missions Chair
- Israel Olivieri*
- #####– Finance Chair
- Pastor Eric Yeakel*

* = Non-voting member

Mission and Vision



Mission: To lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ

Vision: That the group of people worshiping together...

- Attend ***worship*** regularly
- ***Serve*** Christ through church and community involvement and service
- Actively participate in at least one ***small group***
- Establish and live a ***giving*** plan
- ***Invite*** others to worship and Asbury activities

Worship: Attend Worship Regularly



Worship Options:

In-Person:

Asbury has successfully worshiped in-person since February 2021. We pray that in-person worship will rebound to numbers at least as high as pre-COVID and then some.

Online: Online worship continues to be a very important format of worship.

Services and type of worship through the summer

Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary:

9:30 am

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary:

11:00 am



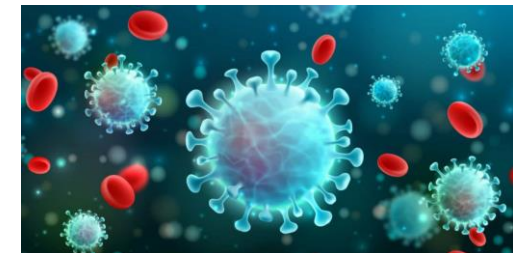
Worship: COVID plan - flexibility



COVID-19: We pray the worst is behind us, but we do not know.

Thoughts from Former U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said on Sunday

- "I think this year (2022) is really a transition year," he said. "I think this is going to be the year when this becomes more of an endemic illness. There's not going to be a defined point in time when that happens."
- He added that COVID-19 will likely settle into a "seasonal pattern," adding that he expects prevalence levels to begin to fall in the summer but rise in the fall.
- Gottlieb also said the decision to lift mask mandates from public settings is a "difficult situation," as it tells people to "take matters into their own hands in terms of protecting themselves."
- Our plan here at Asbury is.....

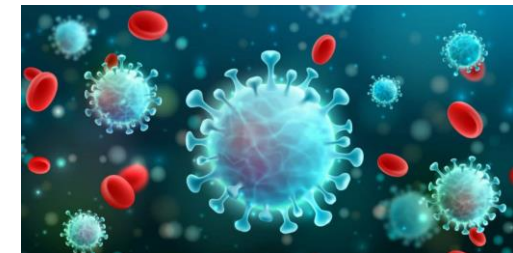


Worship: COVID plan - flexibility



In-person worship will have the following guidelines

- Asbury will be following CDC guidelines by state/county
- We will not be taking any unique requirements as long as the CDC guidelines remain in the green. If the CDC re-institutes a mask requirement for indoor group meetings we will follow their guidance.
- The plan is to get back to where we were pre-Covid for many items. We plan to re-introduce things as change makes sense.
- **Patience and Grace** – please be mindful of those that still wish to wear a mask, adhere from shaking hands/hugs, etc. We are all here to worship as a community of believers, and we need to respect each others wishes and respect the rules that Trustees, and Church Council have put into place.
- **Please get vaccinated** if you are not.



Worship: Attendance Results 2022



Attendance in 2022

Month	2022		2022		2022	
	In-person		Online		Total	
January	123	30%	286	70%	409	
February	154	40%	231	60%	384	
March	210	49%	218	51%	428	
April *	240	56%	189	44%	429	
Average	174		237		411	
* Excludes Easter						
Jan - April	2022		2021		Pre-Covid	
Avg Attendance	411	84%	377	77%	488	

As you can see our in-person numbers are growing at a nice rate. We are up to 56% of people attending in person vs online but the online audience is significant. We encourage everyone to attend in person as they feel comfortable. One thing we cannot deny is that an online presence is now more important than ever.

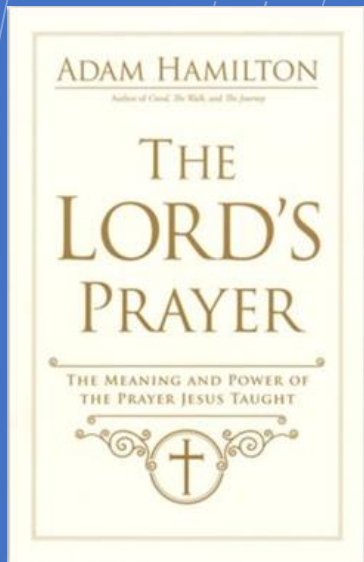
Vision: Small Groups



Small Groups: Asbury's building is now open for small group use. Please make sure to work with the office to schedule your group to meeting rooms of choice. Your group may also choose to stay virtual. Many have found a mix of virtual and in-person to be optimal.

- Bible Study
- Men's Groups
- UMW Circles
- Prayer Group
- Sunday School Classes – Adult and Children
- Seasonal Studies –
 - We recently completed the Lenten Study of the Lord's Prayer

Work with the Asbury's Spiritual Focus Team to help with any small group issues. They can be a direct link to solve the issue or elevate to Church Council or Committee leadership.



Vision: Small Groups

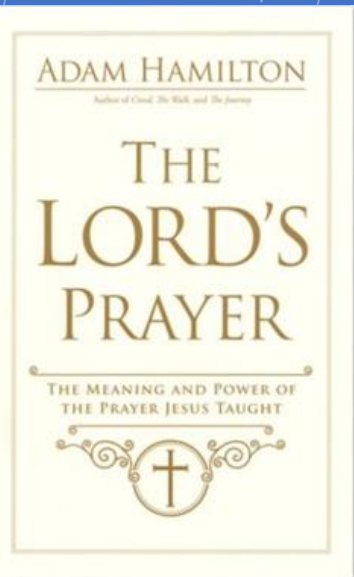


Lenten Small Groups

- Goal: At least 50% of Asbury attendees are part of a small group
- 2022 Lenten Study: Adam Hamilton's "The Lord's Prayer"
 - 5 special Lenten groups were formed – roughly 50 people participated
 - Comments have been positive on studying something familiar with
 - New leadership approach championed by the Spiritual Focus team. Groups each had a coordinator and alternate leadership. No one in those groups had to lead more than 1 week. Differing leadership styles furthered the richness of the material studied.
 - Utilized AmplifyMedia for videos and material (cost covered by Asbury)

Confirmation:

- 2022 Confirmation Class has 10 members and has been meeting in person
- Confirmation Sunday is June 5. Please plan to attend to welcome these wonderful young people into Asbury Church



Vision: Service Opportunities



Asbury Volunteers – WE NEED YOUR HELP! You can find a list of areas where volunteers are needed. Look on our website under Connect ... Next Steps ... Serve. You will find many opportunities to serve as an individual or as a group. As in-person attendance grows our need for volunteers has also grown. Please consider helping with our services, hospitality opportunities, and tasks associated with our online service and video needs.

Upcoming items – Rise Against Hunger (May 14) and Asbury Service Day (May 21)

Ongoing Needs: Ramos Elementary Volunteers, Meals on Wheels, Allentown Food Banks

AIM (Asbury In Mission) – Dispersed \$21,000 in December

- Local Missions served: 14
- Regional/National Missions served: 5
- Global Missions served: 14

United Methodist Women – 7 Circles are currently meeting.

Give to International, National and Local Missions plus support our Youth with UMW Scholarships. Thank you UMW!!!



Vision: Service Opportunities



How can you serve in 2022?

- Look for monthly opportunities posted online
- Volunteer to assist with worship – ushers, run sound/video, etc.
- Help ensure online worship is captured – you will have a significant affect on how others are able to worship.
- Sing in the choir – a service and small group combination.
- Offer to coordinate seasonal small group sessions.
- Serve on Asbury's Leadership committees

Ask how ***YOU*** can you share God's love within our community and with those around you? What has God put on your heart?

Vision: Giving



Giving and expense Results 2022

Summary:

- Giving year to date has been strong.
- ***Thanks to everyone for living their giving plan!***
- Mortgage has been consolidated and is now held by American Bank
- Investment sub-team to Church Council has been created to watch over endowment and invested savings account. New monies from Salem UMC have been strategically combined with Asbury assets.
- All PPP loans have been forgiven.
- Asbury Preschool Budget is now kept separate from the overall Operating Plan of the Church.

Vision: Giving



Giving and expense Results 2022 compared to 2021 (through Q1)

	2022	2021	\$ Difference	% Difference
Income:				
Offering Income	\$ 319,457	\$ 267,959	\$ 51,498	19%
Room Uses Fees	-	710	(710)	-100%
Operating Interest	390	55	335	609%
Other Income	2,194	2,215	(21)	-1%
Total Income	\$ 322,041	\$ 270,939	51,102	19%
Expenses:				
Admin/Finance	\$ 20,457	\$ 16,735	\$ (3,722)	22%
Apportionment	-	-	-	0%
Mortgage	29,306	29,040	(266)	1%
Personnel	131,757	128,215	(3,542)	3%
Program Expense	10,721	5,770	(4,951)	86%
Property	64,152	43,049	(21,103)	49%
Total Expenses	\$ 256,393	\$ 222,809	33,584	15%
Net Operating Income	\$ 65,648	\$ 48,130	17,518	36%

Vision: Giving



Giving and expense Results 2022 compared to budget through Q1

	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Differnce	Difference
Income:				
Offering Income	\$ 319,457	\$ 266,250	\$ 53,207	20%
Room Uses Fees	-	500	(500)	-100%
Operating Interest	390	-	390	100%
Other Income	2,194	22,353	(20,159)	-90%
Total Income	\$ 322,041	\$ 289,103	32,938	11%
Expenses:				
Admin/Finance	\$ 20,457	\$ 24,875	\$ 4,418	-18%
Apportionment	-	29,250	-	0%
Mortgage	29,306	29,400	94	0%
Personnel	131,757	146,103	14,346	-10%
Program Expense	10,721	16,725	6,004	-36%
Property	64,152	60,712	(3,440)	6%
Total Expenses	\$ 256,393	\$ 307,065	(50,672)	-17%
Net Operating Income	\$ 65,648	\$ (17,962)	83,610	

Vision: Giving



Needs and Challenges to date and upcoming

Needs/Expenses:

Capital:

- Large Sink Hole repaired during Q1 2022
- Plans to update the Youth Lounge
- Modernization of Asbury
- Continue to evolve the Sanctuary for a better online experience

Operating:

- New Employees needed:
 1. Associate Pastor or Associate to the Pastor
 2. “Producer” for Online Services
 3. Associate Organist

Vision: Inviting



By invitation, new people have joined worship and small groups, some from out of state.

- **Online Services have a loyal following;** Please share a link to these services with a friend. Invite someone to your small group.
- **New Activities:**
 - Asbury's 100th Anniversary Celebration (Fall 2022)
 - Planning more through the year as COVID allows
 - Targeting a greater focus on Hospitality as part of the "Close the Gap" Initiative

Everyone – please take advantage of the ability to invite others. Its as simple as forwarding an email or a link to the webpage.



New Initiative – Close the Gap



Closing the Gap Campaign

- Closing the Spiritual Gap
- Closing the Generational Gap
- Closing the Justice Gap
- Closing the Opportunity Gap



Groups are either formed or being formed to deep drill each of these.

- **Goal:** To identify tasks and efforts to “Close the Gap” either from the effects of COVID-19 on the Church or from direction that the Allentown area and/or our church has gone.
- **Consider:** If you are asked to help in any of these efforts prayerfully consider giving of your time and talents.

Conclusion



1. Asbury Church continues to follow our Mission and Vision during 2022 regardless of the existence of the pandemic – with God’s help we have creatively and respectfully moved Asbury forward.
2. We need your help!
 - Be flexible! Please pay attention to COVID related issues. Flexibility and patience will be a must as we move into in-person worship and service/small group interaction in a COVID world.
 - Volunteer – please engage in Asbury’s opportunities for worship, giving, serving, participating in small groups, and inviting.
3. Be Ready for a meaningful and exciting 2022.

Questions ???