



**Asbury**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6822 Grand Avenue  
Duluth, MN 55807

The Reverend  
Cindy M. Rasmussen

Sunday Worship — 10:00 am

Office Hours  
Mon-Weds-Friday 9:00 am—1:00 pm  
Tues-Thurs 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

# Messenger



## Celebration

### Celebration of Ruby's Ministry!

**A**fter 50 plus years of faithful service through her gift of music and leadership, Ruby Slennes will be retiring as our choir director.

**Join us on Sunday, May 20, to celebrate Ruby's ministry!**

We are very grateful for her ministry and happy she will remain a member here at Asbury with us.

To celebrate, we will have cake and ice cream after worship ~ hope to see you there!

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### Spring Fest — Sunday, May 6

**T**he Christian Education Committee is having a Spring Fest on Sunday, May 6 at Asbury UMC. There will be crafts for the children and games during Sunday School.

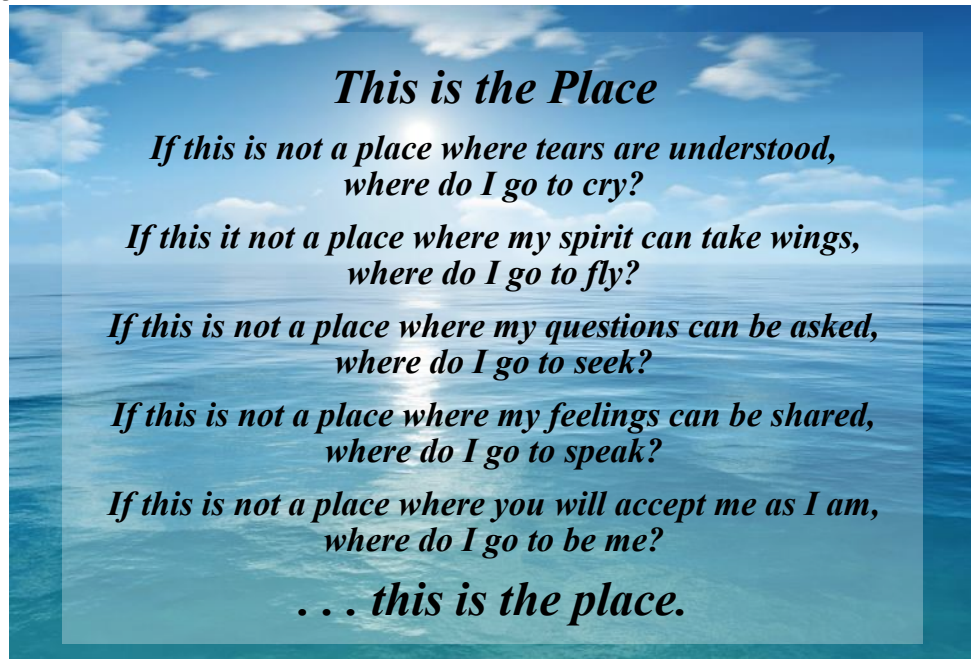
We invite everyone to join us in a **potluck** after worship which will include a **Taco Bar, salads and desserts**. There is a sign-up sheet available in the narthex to help us plan for the potluck.

Spring Fest will be **A LOT** of fun and **EVERYONE** is invited! Join us in this great way to welcome Spring!



# Cindy's Corner

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**Y**ears ago I found this poem tucked inside a hymnal in a church near Fort Collins, CO. It was not signed so I don't know the author. That day as I read it, I remember wondering if the person who wrote it was a member writing their experience of the church or a visitor seeking a place of safety and refuge.

I was reminded of this poem (which took some time to locate in my files!) when I returned to church from leading the morning book study at Hillside UMC on Wednesday, April 25. The book, *The Turquoise Table*, shares the experience of a woman, Kristin Schell, who responds to the human desire to connect and belong. An idea started taking shape for her when she read the Bible verse, "Take every opportunity to open your life and home to others." (*Romans 12:13*)

Every opportunity? What if my house is messy? What if I have a bad hair day? How can I find the time? Through a variety of events, a turquoise picnic table found a home in her front yard. Quickly the turquoise table became a "place" for conversation, not just the usual surface stuff but instead the deep conversations of life. Schell writes: "*Without thinking about it, we skipped past the shallow and dove right into the deep end. We had gone from strangers to friends in zero to 60 seconds flat. Maybe the art of conversation isn't lost after all. We just need more practice at it.*" (p 76).

That Wednesday morning our conversation focused on some questions: What makes you feel like you belong? What does it feel like to be invited into someone's life through conversation? Is it easy or difficult for you to be vulnerable, to share deeply? What happens when we "show up for people"? Do we allow people to "show up" for us?

As communities of faith we are called to be a "place" that provides compassion, listening, belonging, understanding, accountability, forgiveness, and hospitality. We are called to be the "place" where God's love is found and experienced ~ within us, among us, and made known through us. We are called . . . and this is the place!

Peace, Pastor Cindy

# Asbury News



## Thank You!

Dear Pastor Cindy and Asbury members and friends :  
My heartfelt thank you for all the prayers for my grand nephew Race Klassen. He has been discharged from the hospital and will continue outpatient therapies. He has made amazing progress but still has a long journey ahead.  
— Donna Mickelson



Dear Pastor Cindy and members and friends of Asbury UMC:  
Thank you so much for your congregational contribution of 138 pounds of food and your cash donation of \$1523.21 which has been designated for CHUM's Food Shelf. This gift, made during the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign, makes a difference in how much and what foods are available to the 500-600 families we serve at the CHUM Food Shelf. As you know, during March, all gifts of food and cash are proportionally matched making your contribution work even more. The CHUM Food Shelf also obtains food from vendors at a lower cost making each \$1 stretch to \$7 in value! Thanks for participating in CHUM's March Food Drive!  
— Lee Stuart, CHUM Executive Director

Dear Members of the Asbury Congregation:  
Thank you for choosing the Valley Youth Center for your offering this past month. Your giving efforts have given us the equivalent of feeding 80 kids with a meal after school; providing 8 hours of outdoor recreational activities to our youth and providing 8 hours of after-school tutoring. Donations received at the end of the first quarter, assist us in getting ready for the full swing of spring and into the summer. In 2018, our activities include many outdoor, nature-based activities including but not limited to paddling, kayaking, climbing, sailing and swimming. The remainder of the school year will also bring more tutoring hours and later programming hours. Your generosity will help, and we sincerely thank you.  
— Russ Salgy, Agency Director, Valley Youth Center

### Message From Our Sponsored Child

We recently received correspondence and a drawing from Katerin, our sponsored child at Compassion. It is written here verbatim as translated from Spanish to English .

*Dear Sponsors Friends:*

*I'm joyful to greet you through this letter. Hoping you're doing well. This time I'll share with you my dreams, When I grow up I want to be a psychologist. I'd like to see the snow and to sail on a ship. I'd like to meet Jesus one day and meet you my sponsors. Hug you and talk to you to have a picture with you. Those are my dreams. What are yours? Thank you for the nice letter you sent me. Thanks for your greetings and prayers. I ask you to please keep praying for me and my family that God help us and keep us safe. I'm going to start classes in the center. I'm graduating from the English workshop where I learned a lot of things about the English Language. I'd like to prepare myself in this language and be a professional. I say goodbye with affection. I send you tons of hugs. Love you so much and blessings!*  
— Katerin Paola Lopez.



### Outreach/ Communion Offering . . .

May's offering will go to the Love Offering for the Minnesota Annual Conference in St. Cloud, MN, May 30 to June 1.

### Attendance . . .

April 1, EASTER!	133
April 8	84
April 15	SNOW DAY!
April 22	95
April 29	78

### Scripture Readers . . .

May 6	Jan Akervik
May 13	Leo Lambert
May 20	Carrie Sutherland
May 27	Dale Thorpe



- 2 Greg Fox
- 3 Caroline Carlson  
Matt Nylund  
Emily Rager
- 5 Julie Brackett  
Terry Olson
- 6 Brendyn Peterson
- 8 Sharon Parendo  
Rod Ridgewell
- 9 Terrie Gimpel
- 10 Daniel Barry
- 12 Jack Anscomb
- 14 Arianna Thieling
- 16 Ruby Slennes  
Phyllis Wolden
- 17 Barb Downs
- 19 Carol Lonetto
- 23 Louise Taraldsen
- 25 Candy Kokotovich
- 27 Bernice Seehus
- 28 Dean Peterson
- 29 Ben Nylund
- 30 Trevor Robinson

*Not included?  
Please contact the church office at 624-0061.*



# Calendar

## May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 9:00 am Kiwanis, FH  9:30 am Bone Builders, WR	<b>2</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 9:30 am UMW Board Meeting, WR <b>10:30 am</b> The Turquoise Table, Hillside UMC 6:00 pm, Youth Choir 6:30 pm, Adult Choir	<b>3</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR  <b>10:00 to 11:00 am,</b> <b>2nd Harvest Food Dist</b>	<b>4</b>   Dumpster Pick Up	<b>5</b>
YOGA classes are held Wednesdays at 5:30 pm in Asbury's Fellowship hall. Contact Cheryl Zupec, 218.343.4478 or <a href="mailto:czupec@hotmail.com">czupec@hotmail.com</a> for more information.						
<b>6</b> RIPPLE EFFECTS SPRING FEST LOVE OFFERING 10:00 am, Worship/Birthday/ Communion/Sunday school 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH	<b>7</b>  6:00 pm, CS Pack 3116, FH  6:30 pm Praise Team	<b>8</b> 9:00 am Kiwanis, WR 9:30 am Bone Builders, GR 1:30 pm Membership, WR 2:00 pm Knitting Klub, GR 5:15 pm Outreach, WR	<b>9</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH <b>10:00 am, Area UMW Spring Mtg., 1st UMC</b> 6:00 pm, Youth Choir 6:30 pm, Worship	<b>10</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR  4:00 pm SPRC, WR	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  8:00 am to 1:00 pm  Damiano Center Volunteers
<b>13</b> ASCENSION SUNDAY MOTHER'S DAY 9:15 am, Adult Choir 10:00 am, Worship No Coffee	<b>14</b> 8:30 am Gardening Team  6:00 pm, CS Pack 3116, FH  6:30 pm Praise Team	<b>15</b> 9:00 am Kiwanis, FH 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR 1:00 pm Love/Hope Circle, Sandwich Loaf, WR 7:00 pm Ad Council, WR	<b>16</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 8:30 am Pastor Cindy @ CHUM 6:00 pm, Youth Choir	<b>17</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>CHUM Spring Assembly</b> 7:00 pm Faith Circle, WR	<b>18</b>   Dumpster Pick Up	<b>19</b>  10:00 am Private Party, FH
<b>20</b> PENTECOST 10:00 am, Worship/Praise/ Last day of Sunday school Teacher Appreciation 11:00 am Ruby's Pantry FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH	<b>21</b> 8:30 am Gardening Team  9:30 am, Green Door Book Club, WR  6:00 pm, CS Pack 3116, FH	<b>22</b> 9:00 am Kiwanis, FH  9:30 am Bone Builders, WR  2:00 pm Knitting Klub, WR 4:30 pm, ADC	<b>23</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR  <b>MESSENGER DEADLINE</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10:00 am, Worship/ 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, FH	<b>28</b>  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Kiwanis, FH  9:30 am Bone Builders, WR	<b>30</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH	<b>31</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR  <b>MESSENGER EMAILS/MAILS</b>		
			<b>May 30—June 1 MN Annual Conference, St. Cloud, MN</b>			



## Duluth Area UMW to Meet — May 9

On Wednesday, May 9, the Duluth Area UMW will meet in the Lakeview Social Hall at First United Methodist Church, 230 East Skyline Pkwy, Duluth.

Registration will take place from 10:00 to 11:00 am. A Continental Breakfast will be available during registration time. Cost is \$8.00.

The program, featuring Mary Hansen, will begin at 11:00 am. Mary will speak on the Haiti Mission Trip.

Please RSVP by May 4 to FUMC at 727-5021 or contact Pat Nelson, 391-0957, who will call in registrations from Asbury UMC.

Please be at Asbury UMC by 9:30 am on May 9 if you would like to ride share.



## 2018 Rummage Sale Success

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our annual spring rummage sale. It couldn't have happened without the help of those who set up the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 21, after coffee and fellowship time; those who brought stored boxes of items in from the garage; everyone that kept bringing in more new treasures all week; the workers who sorted and priced goods; and all those who worked the day of the sale and then helped pack up what was left to go to the Salvation Army.

And, of course, a huge thanks to everybody who bought "treasures"!

The 2018 sale brought in \$2,046.75 which will be applied to paying our 2018 MN Annual Conference Apportionments. Well done!

## Meatball Dinner Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who sold tickets, worked to prepare the meal, serve the meal, cleanup after the meal and all who bought the leftover meatballs and bread. **Because of your efforts we were able to serve 396 people and provide Asbury UMC a check for \$2,839.91** which will go toward paying our 2018 MN Annual Conference Apportionments.

And, we also were able to provide leftover mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw and cakes to the Damiano Center.

## UMW Meetings

- UMW board members will meet in the Wesley Room on Wednesday, May 2.
- Love/Hope Circle's final meeting for the season will be at 11:00 am on Tuesday, May 15, for a sandwich loaf lunch in the Wesley Room. Lois Stromgren will prepare the loaf and Sharon Picconatto will provide the dessert. Members will be collecting a Thank Bank donation.  
**Love/Hope Circle will reconvene at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, September 18.**
- Faith Circle will hold its final meeting of the season on Thursday, May 17, at 6:00 pm for dinner at the Tavern on the Hill in Duluth.  
**Please RSVP to Jan Akervik by Wednesday, May 16, 626-1539.** Members will collect for the World Thank Bank offering at this meeting.  
**Faith Circle will reconvene at 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 20.**
- Knitting Klub members meet at 2:00 pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in the Wesley Room. Come join us!
- Green Door Book Club members meet at 9:30 am on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Wesley Room. The next meeting is May 21. In June, members will meet at Ruth Thorpe's home. Details to come. Thereafter, members will reconvene in September.

## Summer Donut Sale — June 8

Our summer donut sale (\$4.00 per dozen) will be the morning of Friday, June 8 from 7:00 to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Order sheets will be in the narthex soon. Donuts can also be purchased at the sale on June 8 from 7:00 to 11:00 am.

Workers are needed to mix batter on Thursday, June 7 at 8:30 am. On Friday, June 8, we need help for donut rolling/cutting out, frying and bagging the donuts. We start at 6:00 am, but please come when you can. Please consider volunteering some time as it is a lot of fun! Please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex if you can help, or call Bev LeClair at 628-2680.



# United Methodist Women

## Mission U and Mission U, Too 2018

Mission U will be held at the Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN, July 13 to 15. Registration is open from 9:00 to 10:00 am. The opening worship service will begin at 10:45 am.

Leading the Spiritual Growth study, "Embracing Wholeness" will be Kim Harris from the Minnesota UMW Conference and Rachael Bachenberg from the Missouri UMW Conference.

The issue study "What About Our Money," will be led by Cindy Waldt from our MN Conference and Faye Abram from the MO Conference.

Our repeat "Missionary Conferences in the United Methodist Church" will be led by Rob Odem, a pastor from the Wisconsin Conference.

Study books are available from the resource center at [www.umwresourcecenter.org](http://www.umwresourcecenter.org).

Registration is available online. Fees remain the same as last year : \$395/double occupancy, \$425/ single occupancy. Meals included.

Mission U, Too will be held at two different locations this year: On July 28 at Detroit Lakes UMC and August 4 at The Well, Rosemount UMC.

Questions? See Jan Akervik for more information.

## Asbury News

### Gardening Team Perennial Plant Sale

The Asbury Gardening Team's Annual Perennial Plant Sale is scheduled for 11:00 am on Sunday, June 3, in the Fellowship Hall. We will be selling divisions of some of our existing plants from Asbury's gardens and also plants from the Gardening Team members' home gardens. There is always a great selection of plants at very cost-effective prices. *If anyone has plants to contribute to the sale, they are most welcome!*

The money raised from the plant sale is used to purchase the annual plants that go into the pots at the entrance to Asbury and in the planter beneath the outdoor sign.

Monies are also used for other gardening items as needs arise.

The Gardening Team meets Monday mornings at 8:30 am throughout the growing season starting May 14 (if it is 50 degrees or better), unless it's raining or a holiday. We meet briefly in the Fellowship Hall to discuss plans for the day and then continue on outdoors. We welcome any and all who are interested in helping out.

Thank to you everyone for all of your support in the past and your help in the future.

— Asbury Gardening Team



### TREASURER'S REPORT

3/31/18

#### GENERAL FUND:

Beginning Cash Balance, 2/28/18	\$ 5,790.80
Deposits (includes Roof Repair contributions)	\$ 32,449.83
Total to account for	\$ 38,240.63
Checks Written	<\$ 17,800.91>
Balance on Hand, 3/31/18	\$ 20,439.72

Unpaid Bills through 3/31/18 (includes apportionments),	<\$ 5,918.55>
Net Ending Balance at 3/31/18	\$ 14,521.17

### Ripple Effects To Sing May 6

On Sunday, May 6, a musical group called the "Ripple Effects" will be leading worship. Come join us for this exciting experience.!

### Need a Scholarship For Education?

Scholarship Sunday will be June 10 this year. (See page 7 of this Messenger for information regarding Asbury scholarships).

**The deadline for submitting applications is May 22.** Applications may be downloaded from the website at [www.asburyduluth.org](http://www.asburyduluth.org), obtained in the church office or please submit a request at [asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com](mailto:asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com).



Scholarships

**Pastoral Care:** Because of the privacy act, hospitals no longer telephone churches to let us know that one of our members have been admitted. Please notify the church office (218-624-0061) if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care for illness, hospitalization or surgeries. In the case of an emergency and there is no answer at the church, call Pastor Cindy at 218-464-0304.

# Asbury News

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## ATTENTION STUDENTS OF ALL AGES!

### **Carol B. Maida Memorial Scholarship**

The **Carol B. Maida Scholarship** is financed through the permanent Endowment Fund of the Asbury United Methodist Church. This Award is named in honor of Carol B. Maida, who was active in her Church and her Community.

#### **Purpose**

To recognize members of Asbury United Methodist Church who possess the qualities of Compassion, Perseverance, and Positive Attitude through support and encouragement with their post-high school and adult education.

### **Robert & Aileen VanKleek Memorial Scholarship**

The **Robert & Aileen VanKleek Scholarship** is financed through the permanent Endowment Fund of the Asbury United Methodist Church. This Award is named in honor of Robert & Aileen VanKleek who were active members of Central Avenue and Asbury UMC. Robert was also principal at Denfeld High School.

#### **Purpose**

To recognize the academic accomplishments and participation in the congregational life of members of Asbury UMC through support of their post-high school and adult education.

### **Requirements for Eligibility**

Applicants must be **Full Members** of Asbury United Methodist Church of Duluth on the date of application. They must also have been a Full Member of the congregation for at least one year prior to the application deadline date. Applicants must also be enrolled or accepted into a post-high school degree or certificate program either full-time or part-time.

### **Selection Criteria**

An application for these scholarships is available:

- ◆ in the church office, 624-0061
- ◆ via e-mail request at [asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com](mailto:asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com) or
- ◆ via the website at [www.asburyduluth.org](http://www.asburyduluth.org) (click on download application).

Applicants must complete and submit an Application Form along with supporting material, which must include:

- ◆ Final or most recent official high school transcript.
- ◆ Evidence of enrollment or acceptance into a post-high school degree or certificate program.
- ◆ Most recent transcript of grade report form if already in a post-high school program.
- ◆ Description of their Leadership and Participation in Community, School, Asbury UMC, and statement of future goals.

Applicants may be required to have a personal interview with the Scholarship committee.

### **Application Deadline**

In order to receive consideration for these scholarships, application and supporting material **MUST** be received in the church office by **Tuesday, May 22, 2018**. Recipients will be announced on Scholarship Sunday on June 10, 2018.

Asbury United Methodist  
PO Box 7135  
Duluth MN 55807

Return service requested

## Meet Our Staff



Pastor:.....Cindy M. Rasmussen  
Administrative Asst.: .....Shirley Brandt  
Choir Director: .....Ruby Slennes  
Organist .....Phyllis Kruell  
Praise Team Leader .....varies  
Custodian: .....Dan Mokros  
Ad Council Chair: ..Bonnie Schroeder-Palmi  
Treasurer: .....Pat Anscomb  
Lay Leader:..... Steve Kokotovich  
Trustees: ..... Terry Olson  
UMW President.....Jan Akervik  
SPRC Chair .....Cathy Sampson  
Worship Chair ..... Ruth Thorpe  
Christian Education: ..... Cheryl Parendo  
Christian Education: .....Sandy Winklesky

This newsletter is e-mailed/mailed monthly by Asbury UMC, Duluth MN.

**EDITORS:** The Rev. Cindy M. Rasmussen; Shirley Brandt, Admin. Asst.

### CHURCH OFFICE:

218-624-0061 ~ asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com ~ www.asburyduluth.org

**NEXT MESSENGER DEADLINE: May 24 for June 2018 Messenger.**

Please submit all articles of interest to Shirley in the church office by the deadline listed above.  
Items may be dropped off, e-mailed or mailed. Thank you.

## Worship With Us

Every Sunday at 10:00 am.

### NOTE:

1st Sunday of each month we share Holy Communion,  
2nd Sunday we recognize those celebrating birthdays.  
3rd Sunday our music is led by our Praise Team.  
***Every Sunday we give thanks and celebrate  
God's great gifts and presence in our lives.***



### Asbury's Mission Statement

*Asbury United Methodist is a caring, Christian community which welcomes all persons as God's children.  
We will strive to grow in spirit and seek God's vision of hope, love and peace in the community and world.*