

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

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# Messenger



sbury United Methodist Church is a strong, solid congregation that provides a faithful presence in our community and the world and . . .

#### IT COULDN'T BE DONE WITHOUT YOU!

Our ministries include participating in community outreach; supporting, encouraging and mentoring our children and youth in their faith; caring for one another during the difficult times in life; celebrating with one another and sharing our joys; studying and learning together as we deepen our faith; working on various projects throughout the year; worship that includes beautiful music, meaningful sermons and a space for God's presence to be experienced. And there is much, much more!

Every year our annual Stewardship Campaign reminds us of what we do and how we are all an important part of financially supporting our church and ministries. Members and friends of Asbury will soon receive a letter in the mail that includes information about our annual budget and a pledge card for you to return on:

#### Commitment Sunday — November 18

As a part of our worship that day, we will offer our 2019 pledge cards indicating our estimate of giving for the next year. If you are not able to attend worship that day, please mail or bring the card to the church office by December 9.

Asbury United Methodist Church is a vital, spirit-filled community of faith. Our ministries touch, support and change lives here at church, in our community and in the world.

## IT COULDN'T BE DONE WITHOUT YOU! EVERY \$ COUNTS!

With you in Christ's service, The 2019 Stewardship/Finance Committee

# <u>Cíndy's Corner</u>

he word is out! After much thought, prayer, and reflection, I have decided to retire from 30 years of local church ministry on June 30, 2019. As I prepare to begin this new chapter in my life, I do so with deep gratitude for my years of ministry and the many wonderful, faithful people that have been a part of this journey with me.

Reflecting on my decision, words from Mary Oliver, one of my favorite poets, comes to mind:

We shake with joy, we shake with grief. What a time they have, these two Housed as they are in the same body.

There is great joy in anticipating this next step into retirement and also feelings of sadness in leaving Asbury Church and people I have grown to love.

One of the positive things about making this decision nine months before it happens is that there is plenty of time to prepare for your new Pastor and think again about what is the focus and vision for Asbury United Methodist Church. Change and transition can be difficult but it can also offer an opportunity to reflect on and evaluate what has been and dream new dreams about what can be.

In the gospel reading this past Sunday, Mark cuts to the heart of faith through Jesus' encounter with Bartimaeus, the blind beggar. We hear how Bartimaeus begs, shouts, shouts even louder, and then jumps up, throws off and is healed. He then began to follow Jesus.

An important part of the story is when Jesus asks Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?" In the simple brilliance of that question, Bartimaeus was forced to decide what was really important in his life.

Bartimaeus' answer is the answer of mature faith. "Teacher, I want to see," he says which



I believe means more than just his physical eyesight. In Bartimaeus' answer, I think he wanted to see the way things really are so that he could follow Jesus, wherever he would lead him.

The question Jesus asked of Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus also asks of us. What DO we want Jesus to do for us? Heal us? Make us whole? Give us courage? Help us see? Or would we honestly prefer that he simply keep walking and leave us alone?

These next few months here at Asbury will provide an opportunity to take a step back and respond to Jesus' question What do you want me to do for you, as individuals and as a community of faith. And in the simple brilliance of that question, we are invited to discern what is really important!

Blessings, Pastor Cindy

**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.

### Thank You!

Dear Pastor Cindy and Asbury United Methodist members and friends: Thank you for the use of the church to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. And, a huge thank you to everyone who sent cards, came to the celebration and gave us congrats!

— Dennie and Sharon Parendo

Dear Pastor Cindy and Asbury United Methodist:

Thanks to the members of Asbury for all the prayers and cards that I have received these past few months. I am not sure how I would have managed without your prayers and support. I am making progress and hope to be able to return to church soon.

— Barbara Little

#### Dear Lydia Project Friends:

Thank you all for your willingness to take on a project of this magnitude, all as a way to welcome the world to General Conference in Minneapolis in May of 2020. Thanks to your generosity and hard work, we have already received pledges for just over 6,000 scarves to be presented to delegates, alternates, dignitaries and honored guests. What an amazing feat! This is a testimony to your dedication and commitment to provide radical welcome to all GC2020 participants.

- Rev. Maryanne Korsch, Lydia Project Host Team Chair

#### **Asbury Lydia Project Commitment Update**

A sbury UMC has committed to providing 200 scarves to the Lydia Project. To date we have about 52 scarves in hand so we are a little over a quarter of the

way there. We just have 148 more to go! Obviously, we could use more help!

Thanks so much to all our generous knitters and crocheters who have helped so far! You are very much appreciated!

As a reminder, all scarves should measure 60 inches in length and 6-7 inches in width and should be stitched in bright purple, washable yarn (think Vikings' purple).

Please go to https:// www.minnesotauma.org/lydiaproject if you need more specific information.



# Community Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00 pm Asbury United Methodist Church

You are invited to join us in worship as we give thanks in word, song, prayer, scripture and message:

One Who Gave Thanks: The Story of the Ten Lepers

If you would like to sing in a combined choir, meet in the Asbury Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm on November 20.



#### Outreach/ Communion Offering . . .

October's offering of \$185 went to World Communion. November's offering will go to Bethany Crisis Nursery.

#### Attendance . . .

October 7	61
October 14	92
October 21	89
October 28	114

#### Scripture Readers . . .

November 4	Ruth Thorpe
November 11	Sue Soder
November 18	Shelly Vaneste
November 25	Leo Lambert



- 1 Bill Swanstrom
- 3 Chris Nylund Matt Wrazidlo
- 4 Steve Kokotovich
- 5 Kale Hanson
- 7 Nancy Olson Avon Power
- 8 Jenean Nelson
- 10 Cheryl Lambert
- 12 Cathy Sampson
- 13 Barbara Little
- 15 Jim Anderson Pat Johnson Taelor Rolland
- 19 Jeffrey VanDell
- 20 Pat Nelson
- 21 Bill LeClair Paulette Ozzello
- 24 Jim Faue Jane Herrick Fletcher Wrazidlo
- 28 Scotty Lund
- 29 Bobbi Gimpel

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



# **Calendar**

# **November 2018**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Fellowship hall Contact Cheryl czupec@hotma	are held Wednesdays at unless there is a sched Zupec, 218.343.4478 or iil.com for more informa 'alley Fellowship Club	uling conflict.		9:30 am Bone Builders, WR  10:00 to 11:00 am, 2nd Harvest Food Dist  10:30—11:30 am Adult Study, "Moses"	Dumpster Pick Up	3
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS Asbury Singers Rehearsal 10:00 am, Worship/ Communion, Sunday school 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH	6:00 pm CS Pack 3116, FH 6:30 pm Asbury Singers & Praise Team	7:00 am to 8:00 pm ELECTION DAY 9:00 am SVFC, WR 9:30 am Bone Builders, GR	8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 9:30 am UMW Board Meeting, WR	9:30 am Bone Builders, WR	9 to November	10
9:00 am Asbury Singers Rehearsal 10:00 am, Worship/Birthday/ Children's Church John Strunk preaching 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH	9:00 am to 4:00 pm Kitchen Cleaned 6:00 pm CS Pack 3116, FH 6:30 pm Asbury Singers & Praise Team	9:00 am SVFC, FH 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR 2:00 pm Knitting Klub, WR	14 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH	9:30 am Bone Builders, WR 7:00 pm Faith Circle, WR	Dumpster Pick Up	17
18 COMMITMENT SUNDAY 10:00 am, Worship/Praise/ Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH	9:30 am, Green Door Book Club, WR 6:00 pm CS Pack 3116, FH 6:30 pm Asbury Singers & Praise Team	20 9:00 am SVFC, FH 9:30 am, BB, WR 1:00 pm Love/Hope Circle, WR 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Service	21 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 8:30 am Pastor Cindy @ CHUM MESSENGER DEADLINE	THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED	23  OFFICE CLOSED	9:00-10:30 am Free Community Breakfast, Our Savior's Lutheran 10:00 am
9:00 am Asbury Singers Rehearsal 10:00 am, Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH	26 6:00 pm CS Pack 3116, FH 6:30 pm Asbury Singers & Praise Team	9:00 am SVFC, FH 9:30 am, BB, WR 2:00 pm, KK, WR 5:30 pm Finance, WR 6:00 pm Trustees, GR 7:00 pm Ad Council, WR	28 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 6:30 pm Worship, WR	9:30 am Bone Builders, WR 6:00 pm Christian Ed, WR  MESSENGER EMAILS/MAILS	30  Dumpster Pick Up	

#### Ad Council Meeting Minutes — 10-16-18

#### **Opening**

Bonnie Schroeder-Palmi called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Pastor Cindy provided a prayer.

#### Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the September 18, 2018, Administrative Council were reviewed. Jan Akervik made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. **M** – **Jan A.**, **S** – **Steve K.** 

#### Lay Leader's Report - Steve Kokotovich

Steve stated that this is a very busy time for our church with all of the fundraising activities happening. Though we are very fortunate to have so many event volunteers, we need to be mindful of volunteer burnout.

#### Treasurer's Report/Finance - Pat Anscomb

The September monthly summary was given. Balance on Hand, 9 /30/18 is \$13,463.96. As of 9/30/18, we have paid \$11,516.00 of our 2018 Apportionments with a balance due of \$11,516.00. This is 50% of our 2018 Apportionments. Pat presented a financial report from Larry Scanlon. It stated that our Balance Sheet is strong, but we are under budget in the pledges and other envelope giving.

#### Staff Parish Relations Committee – Cathy Sampson

Cathy stated that because Pastor Cindy is retiring this coming June, the current focus of the committee is to obtain input from church groups and members so we can create a list of common values and goals for the church profile that will be helpful to the Bishop and Cabinet in the appointment process.

#### Trustee's Report – Pastor Cindy for Terry Olson

Cindy read a letter from Terry Olson stating that after serving for 10 years as Trustees Chair, he will be resigning December 31. We thank Terry for his years of faithful service.

The committee is continuing to gather information on the best way to repair or replace the front doors.

The Trustees are creating a list of long and short term projects and maintenance needs of the church.

A Church Building Needs Committee is being created with representatives from Trustees and UMW Board to review the projects and maintenance list and to make recommendations on how best to use the proceeds from pasty money.

#### United Methodist Women - Jan Akervik

The Pantry was successful earning \$5,577.95 to date. There are still additional items left to sell.

The UMW is in the process of looking for a kitchen cleaner. This Fall, a person will be cleaning the kitchen for \$550. If lower bids come in, we may try a different cleaner for next Spring.

Faith Circle has decided to discontinue the layette project. Leftover layette items will be sent to area agencies that serve young children.

The UMW will continue to serve children and families through donations raised at the annual Advent Tea.

We will be having a Spring rummage sale on April 27.

#### Outreach and Missions Team - Steve Kokotovich

Serving began at the Damiano Center on October 6. December 1 will be the next serving.

The West Duluth Community Breakfast is at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on the fourth Saturday of the month. Our church is and will be helping with this project in the future

Denny and Sharon Parendo are in charge of the Salvation Army Toy Drive. The Outreach Committee will be sending a gift of money to Kat, the child the Sunday School sponsors, for Christmas.

#### Education Team - Cheryl Parendo and Sandy Winklesky

Last Sunday was Children's Sabbath. Two 3rd graders received their Bibles. October 28 is the Fall Fest, with a potluck after the church service.

TREASURER'S REPORT 9/30/18	
GENERAL FUND:	
Beginning Cash Balance, 8/31/18	\$ 10,385.39
Deposits	\$ 24,610.34
Total to account for	\$ 34,995.73
Checks Written	<\$ 21,531.77>
Balance on Hand, 9/30/18	\$ 13,463.96
Unpaid Bills through 9/30/18 (includes apportionments) Net Ending Balance at 9/30/18	\$ 5,758.00 \$ 7,705.96

December 16 is the Sunday School Christmas Program. Plans for it will be discussed at tomorrow night's education committee meeting.

#### Worship Team – Pastor Cindy for Ruth Thorpe

We have received quotes to upgrade our sound system. We will continue to gather information and work with the Trustees to make a decision.

#### Nurture/Congregational Care Team – Sandy Winklesky

No reports from the Scholarship or the Visitation Committees.

For the Membership Committee, Patty Bennett reported that we have had three transfers of membership from Lester Park UMC join our church.

#### Pastor's Report - Cindy Rasmussen

Pastor Cindy reported that there are a number of things to work on and finish before she retires next June.

Asbury is hosting the West Duluth Community Thanksgiving on Tuesday, November 20, at 7:00 p.m.

The Moses Study is going well with 16 to 18 people attending. Members of Bernice's Bible study group have been attending.

Remember to attend the Community Breakfast at Our Saviors on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Pastor Cindy is going on vacation from November 6-15. Rev. John Strunk will be preaching on November 11.

Every Member Commitment pledge drive begins on October 28.

Commitment Sunday is November 18.

The Asbury Singers did a great job last Sunday! Fortunately, we will hear more from them in the future.

The Hanging of the Greens is on Saturday, November 24, at 10:00 am.

#### Old Business - none

#### **New Business**

The sign in the kitchen stating *Kitchen Helpers Only*, will be taken down and only put up for church suppers.

The activity bags for the children to use during church need to be more prominently displayed.

We are looking for the old confirmation pictures of the church and we're hoping someone will be able to tell us of their whereabouts.

The recipients of the Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings were decided: \$500 to CHUM, \$150 to TPUMMS and the balance will go to UMCOR.

We will also put an article in the Sunday bulletin for additional donations to UMCOR to help with the hurricane relief effort.

#### Closing

Next Ad Council meeting is November 27, 7:00 p.m.

The January Ad. Council meeting is January 15, at 7:00 p.m.

Steve Kokotovich made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. **M – Steve K., S – Pat A.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Patricia Bennett, Recording Secretary

#### **All Saint's Day Service of Remembrance**

On Sunday, November 4, we are giving loving tribute to the members and friends of Asbury United Methodist Church who have died this past year. In Christ's love and with deep gratitude for the lives of our loved ones, we will light a candle in remembrance of:



Henry "Pete" Walter Paczynski Steven Samberg Barbara Ann Schwartz Bernice "Be" Helen Seehus

Family members are invited to take the candle home with them following the worship service.

#### **CHUM Church**

Join us at CHUM Church on Sunday, November 11 and every second Sunday of each month. We meet at Peace UCC, 1111 11th Ave. E., Duluth and intentionally invite people of all levels of ability who wish to worship in an accessible, welcoming and inclusive environment. Worship is open to all. Join us for pre-worship activities at 4:00 pm and worship at 4:30 pm with a light supper following. For more information contact Sue Anderson, CHUM Church Coordinator, 740-24908 or sanderson@chumduluth.org.

#### **Fall Festival a Huge Success!**

Thank you to everyone attending, bringing food to share and setting up and cleaning up. The kids had fun and we had some great costumes. Thank you so much!



Check out the new stained glass parrot mosaic in the washroom connected to the Fellowship Hall!

Phyllis Kruell created it and has hung it to add to the décor of the room.

Thanks for sharing your creative talent with all of us Phyllis!



#### **Offering Support In Times of Disaster**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, as well as several other recent disasters, please consider supporting the United Methodist Committee on Relief's (UMCOR's) response to disasters in the U.S.

If you would like your contribution to be reflected on your Asbury

giving statement, please make your check out to Asbury UMC and write U.S. Disaster Response Advance #901670 in the memo line.



If you would like to contribute on-line with a credit card, please go to https://www.umcor.org and click on Current Disaster Response.

If you would like to send a donation directly to UMCOR, please make your check out to UMCOR, write U.S. Disaster Response Advance #901670 in the memo line and send to: Advance GCFA, PO Box 9068 GPO, New York, NY 10087-9068.

Thank you!

#### **My Health Care Directive**

A dvance Care Planning is a process that helps you think about, talk about and make choices for future health care decisions. While it is not an easy topic, it is an important tool for loved ones to have if you become ill and cannot speak for yourself. The "My Health Care Directive" is a document created by you so that your wishes can be followed.

A representative from Age Well Arrowhead came to Asbury on a morning last spring to help lead persons through the process of creating a Health Care Directive. There has been interest in having another opportunity to meet during evening hours for people who are not able to come during the day.

If you would be interested, please contact the church office, 624-0061, and put your name on the list. If we have enough people committed to attending we will contact Age Well and set up a date for another meeting.



#### **Hanging of the Greens**

The Hanging of the Greens is scheduled to take place on Saturday, November 24 at 10:00 am. Come for an hour or whatever time you can give to help prepare the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Whatever time you can spare will be very much appreciated. Many hands make light work!

#### **Children's Christmas Program**

This year's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 16 at 10:00 am. The program's theme will be disclosed in our December Messenger.

On Saturday, December 15, there will be a Christmas program dress rehearsal from 10:00 to noon. Pizza will be served.

The Christian Ed team would like parents to know that it is very important that children attend each Sunday school session going forward, especially those children with roles in the program.



# CHILDREN'S SABBATH





October 14 was Children's Sabbath Sunday at Asbury UMC. Third graders Kari Kokotovich (I) and Kale Hanson (r) received their bibles.

Our newly formed Sunday School choir led by Ruby Slennes enchanted the congregation with "This Little Light of Mine" and will sing again on upcoming Sundays.

Our newly formed Asbury Singers also made their debut. Our Asbury Singers will sing again on December 9, December 24, February 24 and April 21.



#### **Order Deadline is Friday, November 30**

We will again be decorating our sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season with beautiful poinsettias. Flowers may be taken home following the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve worship. Please complete the order form below and place it along with your check for \$10.00 made out to Asbury UMC in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Additional forms will be available on the back table in the narthex.

Your Name:	Phone:
Color choice (please circle) Red	Marble (Red & White)
In Memory of:	
In Honor of:	
In Celebration of:	
Office Use Only Date paid: Check #:	Poinsettia - \$10.00 x TOTAL =

## **United Methodist Women**





#### **Layette Closet Closed**

The Layette Closet began at Central Avenue Methodist Church and was brought to Asbury UMC when the churches merged 26 years ago. Since that time, Faith Circle has worked with Salvation Army Social Services to provide what was called a "girl bag" or a "boy bag" for a mother needing to have a start with items necessary for a new child. These bags contained diapers, bottles, onesies, sleepers, blankets, bibs, booties, hats, sweaters, a snowsuit in winter and a few outfits. Many persons contributed new or gently used items to our closet. Each year our Advent Tea collected a free-will offering to help purchase items necessary to fill a bag. These bags were worth approximately \$175.00 each.

In the past, the Salvation Army has had many calls for these bags. This year they have only needed four bags. After meeting with Nancy, the social worker at the Salvation Army, we have determined that it is time to seek other charities that need our help. Therefore, Faith Circle has voted to discontinue collecting baby items and disperse the items on hand to other charities in need.

The Advent Tea will continue to collect a free-will offering and each year it will be donated to one of the charities that the Circle determines to support. At this time we have determined to support Bethany Crisis Shelter, Safe Haven Resources and the West Duluth YMCA.

Thank you to everyone for your support of this important outreach project for so many years. We hope you will continue to assist the new efforts put forth by Faith Circle in supporting the mission of UMW to help women, children and families in need.

#### Spring Rummage Sale Is Back! — April 27

Many people asked if we could reconsider having our Spring Rummage Sale again for 2019. It seems that many people are finding they have things to donate and would like to see them go to OUR church rummage sale. The UMW Board has listened and has decided to once again chair this event!

With that in mind, we need many volunteers to step forward and help with the process to make it successful. Setting up all the items and working on the

#### **UMW Meetings**

- UMW board members will meet in the Wesley Room on Wednesday, November 7.
- Love/Hope Circle will meet at 1:00 pm in the Wesley Room on November 20. Mable Ridgewell is hostess.
- Faith Circle will meet at 7:00 pm in the Wesley Room on November 15. Pat Anscomb is hostess and will share devotions.
- 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 November 19.

day of the sale, to first sell and then pack up any remaining items, takes time and effort. We are hoping many people will find the time to help. We have proven to be good team workers on big projects and encourage you to come work with us so we have another good sale. The proceeds will once again go toward paying our apportionments.

Start to save your household treasures for the big sale on Saturday, April 27. **NO clothing or electronic items.** We will start accepting items the Monday after Easter. We will need helpers starting that Monday, April 22. Please put us on your calendar!

#### Annual Advent Tea — December 4

Our annual Advent Tea will be held on Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 pm. The theme this year is "Angels Among Us."

Our program featuring soloist Peggy Radakovich and Phyllis Kruell on piano, starts in the Sanctuary so please enter through the doors upstairs. Guests will join their hostesses downstairs following the program.

Please consider being a table hostess and inviting seven guests to join you for this special event. Each hostess decorates her table and provides a dessert for her guests to enjoy.

A sign-up sheet for hostesses will be on the table in the narthex on November 4.

This is a wonderful evening of fellowship and a lovely preparation for the Advent season. Please contact Cheryl Parendo, Pat Anscomb, Nancy Olson or Donna Mickelson for more information.

#### Asbury United Methodist PO Box 7135 Duluth MN 55807

Return service requested



 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: November 21 for December 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.