



Asbury

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6822 Grand Avenue
Duluth, MN 55807

**The Reverend
Cindy M. Rasmussen**

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Office Hours

Monday — Thursday
9:00 am — 1:30 pm

Friday: 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

Messenger



**Spring Fest
Sunday
May 5**

Please join us

for a morning of fun and excitement
as we welcome
the season of Spring —
a time of new life and new beginnings!

Worship at 10:00 am

The children will perform the skit
“The Legend of the Rainbow”
with special music and a few surprises.

Taco Bar Lunch

Taco Bar fixings will be provided by
the Education Committee!
If you can, bring a salad or dessert to share —
Sign-up sheet in the Narthex
OR just come,
we always have plenty of food for everyone!

Hope to see you there!



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Cindy's Corner

The Easter story begins in darkness, at a time that was not yet light. Mary was eager to go to Jesus' tomb, making her way in the darkness. She didn't expect God's miracle of resurrection grace but Mary discovered that the rock had been rolled away, the tomb was empty, and she heard Jesus softly speak her name – Jesus has risen! She ran as fast as she could to tell the others.

One of the important messages of Easter is of eternal life, and the promise that our physical death is not the end of us, or our loved ones. Easter also reveals to us that even while we are still physically alive, there are parts of us that can actually die away and be made new.

Very often when I officiate at a funeral or memorial service, I include a quote from Jim Taylor's paraphrase of Psalm 23. It ends with these words; "In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with me." All through life, I have found goodness in people. When life ends I expect to be gathered into the ultimate goodness of God."

As Christians facing death, we believe that when our life on this earth, our mortal life has ended, we have the assurance that death is not the end – but a journey on to a new kind of beginning.

It is interesting to note that after Jesus' resurrection, his followers were terrified. They hid behind locked doors, and didn't have a clue what to do next. I often wonder if it was because they could feel that it wasn't only Jesus' resurrection that changed them, but their own.

Which brings me to another promise of Easter. I believe our faith is clear in stating Jesus' resurrection is not only the resurrection of those who have died, but also the resurrection of the living. Out of the chaos of the survivor's life, stability will emerge and the world will be re-created in a new way. Out of the pain of the one who suffers comes a sense of healing and wholeness, a renewal of spirit. Out of the



confusion and fear of those who struggle to find the right way in life, to do the right thing, a sense of direction, a glimmer of light becomes clear to guide our way.

We are blessed with the messages and promises of Easter:

- It means Love from God and by God even when we feel most unlovable.
- It is Acceptance by God even when we think we should not be allowed near God.
- It means Forgiveness for the times we have lost our way and brought harm to ourselves and/or others.
- It holds the Possibility for a new beginning, for new life to rise like a Phoenix out of the ashes of our experiences.
- It is an Opportunity – a God-giving opportunity to live as Easter people, as people of grace.

Living in this grace, means living in the grip of transforming love, literally allowing God to change us, to transform us, even when we want so desperately to stay the same, to remain in what we know.

We have good news to share this Easter because the truth of the story is that in the end love is stronger than hate, life is stronger than death, and that the power of evil can never, ever conquer the power of goodness made know in and through Jesus.

This is not just our hope. . .
This is God's Promise!

Cindy

Asbury News



Thank You!

Dear Pastor Cindy, UMW and Members & Friends at Asbury:

Thank you for your congregational contribution of \$653.97 (members & friends) and \$964.32 (UMW) to CHUM for the March FoodShare Campaign. Your gift has been designated for CHUM's Food Shelf. I hope you will join us on May 4 for a new unique fundraising and awareness event. "Walk a Mile In These Shoes" will take place in Leif Erickson Park. Participants will experience the harsh realities of homelessness, poverty and food insecurity and navigate local resources available. Sign up as a team or an individual. There will be prizes for the most money raised. More information and the link to register can be found on CHUM's website at www.chumduluth.org. — Lee Stuart CHUM Executive Director

Outreach/ Communion Offering . . .

March's offering of \$678.97 went to the CHUM Food Shelf. April's offering of \$225 went to UMCOR. May's offering will be our Love Offering.

Attendance . . .

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| March 31 | 66 |
| April 7 | 71 |
| April 14 (Palm Sunday) | 104 |
| April 18 (Holy Thursday) | 36 |
| April 21 (Easter) | 127 |
| April 28 | 103 |

Scripture Readers . . .

| | |
|--------|-------------|
| May 5 | Jan Akervik |
| May 12 | Leo Lambert |
| May 19 | Dale Thorpe |
| May 26 | Sue Soder |



Staff Parish Relations Committee — Looking Ahead To June 16

Pastor Cindy's last Sunday at Asbury UMC will be June 16.

Please make plans to be a part of this special day as the Asbury and extended UMC family celebrate Cindy's 30 years in ministry.

We will gather to wish her well as she enters a new and exciting phase of her life.

A Sunday Forum

On Sunday, May 19, after the church service, Asbury will have an opportunity for members to come together at the front of the Sanctuary to hear a bit more about the outcome of the 2019 Special General Conference vote for the Traditional Plan.

This vote has ramifications for the United Methodist Church. Active conversations are happening, plans are being drafted and next steps are being proposed. This forum is meant to increase our awareness and understanding of what has and is happening and Asbury UMC's position and place in anticipated change. Please see Pastor Cindy if you have questions in the meantime.



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.

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
23 Louise Taraldsen
25 Candy Kokotovich
28 Dean Peterson
29 Ben Nylund
30 Trevor Robinson

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

Asbury News

Need a Scholarship For Education?

Scholarship Sunday will be June 9 this year. (See page 6 of this Messenger for information regarding Asbury scholarships). **The deadline for submitting applications is May 19.** Applications may be downloaded from the website at www.asburyduluth.org, obtained in the church office or please submit a request at asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com.



Scholarships

Free Yoga Class For a Pack of Diapers!

Attend the Wednesday Yoga Group in Asbury's Fellowship Hall on May 1 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm for **FREE** when you bring a pack of diapers to support UMW's May Diaper Drive. This is a great way to try out a very gentle yoga class and also help a good cause.

All ages and levels of experience are welcome. This is an on-going class each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Please call Cheryl Zupec at 218-343-4478 or email at czupec@hotmail.com for more information.

Wednesday Summer Worship Is Back!

This popular event has returned! Wednesday evenings...once per month...outside at 6:00 pm. A short worship service will be held outside and then we will share a meal inside. Hot dogs, buns, chips and beverages will be provided. We will have a fire so hot dogs can be roasted. Please bring a dish to share.

Cheryl Parendo will provide activities for children after supper.

Dates and worship leaders are as follows:

- June 12 – Pastor Cindy
- July 17 – Pastor Katherine Cornell with help from Phyllis Kruell and Ruth Thorpe.
- Aug. 14 – Pastor Katherine

We hope to see you there.

Outreach Opportunity — May 4!

Asbury volunteers will be helping prepare, serve and clean up a Saturday meal at the **Damiano Soup Kitchen on Saturday, May 4 from 8:30 am until 1:30 pm.** There is a sign-up sheet on the back table in the Narthex. Four to six volunteers are needed. Volunteers need to be able to stand for long periods of time, work the entire 5-hour shift and be at least 16 years old. **We currently need 3 more volunteers.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: 3/31/19

GENERAL FUND:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Beginning Cash Balance, 2/28/19 | \$ 8,050.52 |
| Deposits | \$ 17,195.33 |
| Total to Account for | \$ 25,245.85 |
| Checks Written | <\$ 16,336.88> |
| Balance on Hand, 3/31/19 | \$ 8,908.97 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Unpaid Bills through 3/31/19 (includes apportionments) | \$ 5,871.00 |
| Net Ending Balance at 3/31/19 | \$ 3,037.97 |

Perennial Plant Sale — May 19

The Annual Perennial Plant Sale is May 19 after church in the Fellowship Hall. Money raised from this sale is used to cover our expenses for plants, soil, fertilizer, tools, etc.

We will be dividing and replacing some of Asbury's plantings so we'll have a variety of those plants for sale. Most welcome are plant donations from your gardens as well. We truly appreciate and thank you all for your support.

— Judy Pearson, Facilitator



March FoodShare Campaign Results

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the March FoodShare Campaign. Donations plus several pounds of groceries went to the CHUM Foodshelf. Monetary donations totaled \$1,743.29 of which \$678.97 were from Asbury member/friends, \$964.32 from the UMW and \$100 from the Spirit Valley Fellowship Club.



2019 Love Offering for Mission — May 5

The Love Offering is collected within Minnesota United Methodist churches and delivered to the annual conference session. It will be received during the Minnesota Annual Convention held June 18-20 at the River's Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud, MN.

This year's Love Offering will include two parts — a financial offering and an offering of names (see page 8 of Asbury's April Messenger for more info).

We will be collecting the Love Offering on Sunday, May 5. Please put your donation marked "2019 Love Offering" in the offering plate. (Checks should be made out to Asbury UMC.)

Calendar

May 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| <p>YOGA classes are held Wednesdays at 5:30 pm in Asbury's Fellowship hall. Contact Cheryl Zupec, 218.343.4478 or czupec@hotmail.com for more info.</p> | | | <p>1 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH</p> <p>9:30 am UMW Board Meeting, WR</p> <p>5:30 pm FREE Yoga Class with pack of diapers donation</p> | <p>2 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>10:00 to 10:45 am, 2nd Harvest Food Dist</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Dumpster Pick Up</p> | <p>4</p> <p>8:30 am to 1:30 pm Damiano Volunteers</p> |
| <p>5 SPRING FEST 9:00 am Asbury Singers Rehearsal 10:00 am, Worship/ Communion/SS 11:00 am TACO BAR, FH 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH</p> | <p>6 6:00 pm, CS Pack 16, FH</p> <p>6:30 pm Praise Team</p> | <p>7 9:00 am SVFC, FH</p> <p>9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> | <p>8 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH</p> | <p>9 9:00 am, Pastor Cindy @ West Duluth</p> <p>9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>1:00 pm Membership, WR</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> |
| <p>12 MOTHER'S DAY 10:00 am, Worship/Birthday/ Children's Church</p> | <p>13 6:00 pm, CS Pack 16, FH</p> <p>6:30 pm Praise Team</p> | <p>14 9:00 am SVFC, FH</p> <p>9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>2:00 pm, Knitting Klub, WR</p> | <p>15 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH</p> <p>8:30 am, Pastor Cindy @ CHUM Clergy</p> | <p>16 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>7:00 pm Faith Circle, WR</p> | <p>17</p> <p>Dumpster Pick Up</p> | <p>18</p> |
| <p>19 10:00 am, Worship/Praise Last day of Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, FH 11:00 am Sunday Forum 11:15 am Trustees, WR 6:00 pm, BS Troop 16, FH</p> | <p>20 9:30 am, Green Door Book Club, WR</p> <p>6:00 pm, CS Pack 16, FH</p> | <p>21 9:00 am SVFC, FH 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR 1:00 pm Love/Hope Circle, WR 7:00 pm Charge Conference Ad Council, WR</p> | <p>22 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH</p> <p>MESSENGER DEADLINE</p> | <p>23 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>10:30 am Duluth Area UMW Two Harbors</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 9:00-10:30 am Free Community Breakfast Our Savior's Lutheran</p> |
| <p>26 10:00 am, Worship</p> <p>11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, FH</p> | <p>27</p> <p> Office Closed</p> | <p>28 9:00 am SVFC, FH</p> <p>9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>2:00 pm, Knitting Klub, WR</p> | <p>29 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH</p> | <p>30 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR</p> <p>MESSENGER EMAILS/MAILS</p> | <p>31</p> <p>Dumpster Pick Up</p> | |

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

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 at asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com or
- ◆ via the website at 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 **May 19, 2019**. Recipients will be announced on Scholarship Sunday on June 9, 2019.



Duluth Area UMW to Meet — May 23

The Duluth Area UMW is meeting in Two Harbors on Thursday, May 23. Registration is at 10:30 am with the program at 11:00 am and lunch following. The program will feature high school students from DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) in Two Harbors. More details will be in upcoming Sunday bulletins.

Spring Meatball Dinner Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who sold tickets, worked to prepare and serve the meal and helped clean up after the meal. We are able to provide Asbury UMC a check for \$3,562.54 which will go toward paying our 2019 MN Annual Conference Apportionments.

2019 Rummage Sale Thank You!

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our annual spring rummage sale on April 27. Thanks to everyone who donated items, worked during the week to set up and again on Saturday for the sale. The workers appreciated the treats provided and the lunch made by Mary DeMars. All items not sold will be donated to the Salvation Army.

Thank you, too, to everybody who bought “treasures”!

The 2019 sale brought in \$1,510.00 which will be applied to paying our 2019 MN Annual Conference Apportionments. Well done!

Mission U Too To Be Hosted By Asbury

Mission U, Too 2019 session will be hosted by Asbury UMC on Saturday, July 27. The day begins at 8:45 am with check-in and will conclude by mid-afternoon, usually around 3:00 pm. Cost for the day is \$40.00 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

The featured study for this day is “Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship.” In Mark and Radical Discipleship, the author explores the timeless issues of poverty, gender, justice, liberation and equality using Mark as a guide.

The stories of women in Mark are a particular focus in this study and how, often unnamed, they are prominent among Jesus’ followers and in Mark’s recounting of the Gospel Story. Study books are available through the UMW Resource store online, www.umsmissionresources.org.

Please plan now to be a part of this day-long retreat. Pre-registration is required and should be available soon. Please watch the *fresh Connection* for more information or check the Minnesota UMW website at www.minnesotaumc.org/unitedmethodistwomen.

UMW Meetings

- UMW board members will meet in the Wesley Room on Wednesday, May 1.
- Love/Hope Circle will meet at 11:00 am in the Wesley Room on Tuesday, May 21 for a sandwich loaf luncheon. No meetings will be held during June, July or August. The next meeting will be in the Wesley Room at 1:00 pm on September 17.
- Faith Circle will meet on Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 pm at Barker’s Island. **Please call Jan at 626-1539 by Monday, May 13** to make your reservation. Collections for the World Thank Bank and the Sunshine Fund will be taken. There will be no meetings in June, July and August. The next meeting will be at 7:00 pm in the Wesley Room on September 19.
- 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 (June, July, August excluded) in the Wesley Room. The next meeting is May 20.

Summer Donut Sale — June 7

Our summer donut sale (\$4.50 per dozen) will be the morning of Friday, June 7 from 7:00 to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Order sheets will be in the Narthex soon. Donuts can also be purchased on the day of the sale from 7:00 to 11:00 am.

Workers are needed to mix batter on Thursday, June 6 at 8:30 am.

On Friday, June 7, 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

UMW Diaper Drive In May

When the final distribution of layette items was completed, many of the charities we supported told us of their appreciation for all that had been done to support their mission. The one item they still request is the need for diapers in sizes 1 to 4.

The UMW has made the decision to have a Diaper Drive during May to coordinate with Mother's Day. A

Pack-and-Play will be set up in the Narthex the beginning of May and we would appreciate your support of a pack or more of diapers.

Target and Walmart have good prices on their brands or you might use a coupon, if you find one in the paper, to purchase other brands.

Let's support many Moms this Mother's Day with a package of diapers!

Asbury News

Steve O'Neil Garden Program

The residents at Steve O'Neil Apartments maintain two garden plots during the summer to grow vegetables and flowers. CHUM is looking for a volunteer with a pickup truck and the help of 3-4 people to pick up six yards of Garden Green compost at WLSSD, then drive to the two garden sites to unload the compost and spread it onto the garden plots



We hope to have the first one

completed by May 15 and the second by May 31. Our plan this year is to grow potatoes, onions, carrots, kale, cabbage, tomatoes, garlic, cucumbers and pollinators for the indispensable insects.

The garden program helps us learn to cook healthful food for our community. Please email Mary Lu at mllarsen@chumduluth.org or call 218-740-2484 if you can help!

Mark Your Calendars — July 15-18 Adventure Day Camp

Adventure Day Camp will be held July 15-18 at Horace Johnson Boy Scout Camp at Island Lake. Bussing will be provided. The camp is for youth who have completed K through 7th grade. Registration forms are on the table in the Narthex. **Registration deadline is June 23, 2019.**

If you have completed 8th grade and are interested in serving as a youth counselor, forms are available on the table in the Narthex. Adults who would like to serve in any capacity during camp are most welcome as well.

Extended Care (supervised play at Hillside UMC before and after camp) will again be offered this year in the morning from 7:30 am to 9:30 am and after camp from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

National Letter Carriers Food Drive

The 27th Annual Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive will be Saturday, May 11 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. This is the largest single-day food drive in the country, and your help will continue to make this event as beneficial as possible to those in need!

In 2018, nearly 80,000 lbs of food was donated in the Northland! The National Association of Letter Carriers, Head of the Lakes United Way, and Northland Food Shelves, are asking you to please fill one or more bags with non-perishable, non-expired food and place them by your mailbox by 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 11.

Volunteers (see below) will help letter carriers collect the food, as well as distribute it to the local food shelves. Your donation is particularly important as the school year ends. Families with children who receive school meal programs are more likely to visit the food shelf during the summer. This is your opportunity to keep these families well-nourished.

The most needed items are high proteins and cupboard necessities including canned tuna, peanut butter, pasta, rice, canned vegetables, canned fruits, and beans. To be mindful of resources and volunteers, we ask that you please avoid donating expired, unlabeled or dented cans and homemade foods.

Volunteer and Stamp Out Hunger

CHUM is seeking teams of two people with a car, van or truck to assist a letter carrier to pick up food on a route. Start at 9:00 am and return between noon and 3:00 pm. Volunteers will be walking and carrying grocery bags. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Please email Svandaele@chumduluth.org if you can help.



Asbury United Methodist
PO Box 7135
Duluth MN 55807

Return service requested

Meet Our Staff



Pastor:.....Cindy M. Rasmussen
Administrative Asst.:Shirley Brandt
OrganistPhyllis Kruell
SS Choir DirectorRuby Slennes
Praise Team Leadervaries
Custodian:Dan Mokros
Ad Council Chair: ..Bonnie Schroeder-Palmi
Treasurer:Pat Anscorb
Lay Leader:..... Steve Kokotovich
Trustees:Donna Mickelson
.....Tom Houle, Dale Thorpe
UMW President.....Jan Akervik
SPRC ChairCathy 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 22 for June 2019 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.*