

**Asbury**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
A Place For All. No Exceptions.

6822 Grand Avenue, PO Box 7135  
Duluth, MN 55807  
218-624-0061

**The Reverend Katherine Cornell**

**In-Church & Online**  
**Sunday Worship 10:00 am**  
[asburyduluth.org/about-us/worship/](http://asburyduluth.org/about-us/worship/)

**Office Hours**  
Monday-Thursday: 10:00 am to 3:30 pm  
Closed each Friday  
and the 1st Monday of the month.

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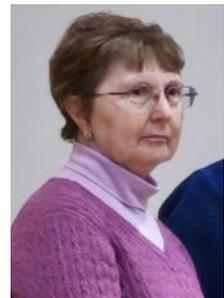
# Messenger

## UWF 2025 Awards

The UWF 2025 awards were presented on UWF Sunday, January 25, 2026. The Special Mission Award was awarded to Donna Mickelson, Gifts to Missions honorees were Cindy Yewell and Sharon Picconatto and the Special Recognition honoree was Phyllis Wolden. Gifts in Memory were made to Joyce Park, Flossie Johnson and Ruth Bloomquist. Presentations were made by Bev LeClair and Dawn Jones, UWF co-presidents.

**Donna Mickelson**, her husband, Steve, and their three children joined Asbury UMC in the mid-1990s. Donna and family were looking for a church closer to home having moved from the Lincoln Park area to Norton Park and wanted a church with an active youth group. In the early years, Donna helped with Sunday school and sometimes hosted or co-hosted a table at the Advent Tea (now she helps with the planning session each year). She directed the annual Sunday School program for a few years and still helps with costumes. Donna has served or is still serving on many of Asbury's committees including being the chair of the Scholarship Committee and still serving as a member, being chair of the Worship Committee, working with the Landscape/Gardening Team, serving with Christian Education for a few years and has been on the UWF Board for about four years helping with the Fall Pantry, donut, pie and pasty making and rummage sale. She has served as a Trustee, co-chairing the committee for several years and still serves as a member-at-large. In that capacity, Donna helps Asbury UMC find lower cost church insurance and reviews the current coverage each year to assure Asbury is receiving the best rate. She has been Asbury's wedding coordinator for over 10 years, helps with funerals as a contact person for the UWF, is a scripture reader and an usher. She says, "Thank you so much for this Special Mission Award."

**Cindy Yewell** and her husband, Tom, joined Asbury UMC in 2024 represented by her brother and sister-in-law, Ted and Mary Jo Plys. She is a member of the Faith Circle and has joined the UWF Board of Directors. During pasty, donut and pie making time, she works alongside the "Holy Rollers" and enjoys every minute of the fun conversations and laughter. Most recently Cindy became a member of the Fine Arts Team and helps with the Laundry Love project. She says, "My renewed faith and cherished friendships are truly a gift. Thank you for this recognition and for welcoming me into your family."



Donna Mickelson



Cindy Yewell



From L to R: Sharon Picconatto and UWF co-president Bev LeClair.



From L to R: Phyllis Wolden and UWF co-president Dawn Jones.

Photos by Karen Goley



## A Penny For Your Thoughts



**F**ebruary always seems like a hard month because of the sustained bitter cold around us. By this time, I am tired of all the white stuff and eager for days of going outside without having to bundle up.

February is also often the beginning of Lent in our church calendar year, marking a season of introspection: taking a good look at our humanity and our deep need for love and grace.

This inward-looking process is not always comfortable or enjoyable, like enduring the cold. And yet, February is also a month when love is celebrated, and the Lenten journey itself holds the promise of resurrection. In the same way that the coldest days of winter remind us that spring is drawing closer, Lent reminds us that God is always at work, even when growth feels hidden.

This month, I invite you to a simple practice of noticing. Pay attention to what in your life drains your energy and what brings you joy. Notice the moments you feel most like yourself, most connected to God, or most open to others.

These small observations can become holy ground, helping us discern where God may be calling us to let go, and where God may be inviting us to lean in.

At Asbury, we believe God's words and ways lead to abundant life; not only for ourselves but our community and the world around us. As we notice what shapes us during this season, we are also invited to notice one another. Who might need a listening ear? Where might love be made visible through a simple act of service or kindness? How might we live out our calling to be an active and welcoming church, where "all" truly means "all"?

Lent is not about perfection; it is about honesty. It is about making space for God's grace to meet us exactly where we are and to gently shape who we are becoming. My prayer for each of us this month is that, even in the cold and the waiting, we remain attentive to God's presence, to one another, and to the signs of new life already stirring among us.

Blessings and Peace,  
Katherine

**Pastoral Care:** 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 case of emergency and there is no answer at the church, please contact Pastor Katherine at 828-263-2035 or email at [kcornell@wnccumc.net](mailto:kcornell@wnccumc.net).  
Pastor's day off is on Friday and she works from home on Mondays.

# Asbury News



## Thank You!

Dear Bev, Dawn and UWF Board Members:

The idea that I was nominated for an award on UWF Sunday is still incredible. I don't feel deserving. I am honored and grateful to be chosen. *Phyllis Wolden*

Dear Asbury UWF:

On behalf of the Duluth Public Schools, we wish to thank you for donating 7 holiday baskets for families in need. *John Magas, Superintendent*

Dear Asbury UWF:

Thank you so much for your generous \$400 gift to Safe Haven. We are grateful for your generosity and that of countless others who have selflessly volunteered or donated to Safe Haven's mission. *Carin Skogg Director of Philanthropy*

Dear Asbury United Women in Faith:

Thank you for your donation of \$900 to CHUM which will allow us to continue to provide food, shelter, advocacy and a caring community for some of Duluth's most vulnerable residents. *Gracia Swensen, Donor Relations Manager*

Dear Asbury United Women in Faith:

Thank you for your gift of \$550 to Life House Duluth. With your contribution, Life House can provide unconditional support to teens, young adults and young families as they work toward achieving their goals. *Sophie Clock, Community Impact Director*

Dear Asbury United Women in Faith:

The volunteers of Kids Closet are so grateful to you for your generosity of \$400 to help the children of Duluth. Because of your support, no young child in Duluth has to go to school unprotected from the cold. We have been able to serve every child referred to us for the 25 years that the current team has been in charge. We wish you could be with us to hear the gratitude of the parents as they pick out just the right clothes for their children. *Char Kerelko, Coordinator*

Dear Asbury United Women in Faith:

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$200 to The Salvation Army. Because of thoughtful friends like you, we are able to provide a welcoming place where people can find both practical help and the comfort of fellowship. Your support makes it possible for us to share God's love with our neighbors in need, offering hope and encouragement to those facing difficult times. *Captain Anthony Nordan, Corps Officer*

Our February free-will Outreach Offering collection is for Second Harvest Food Bank

### Attendance . . .

Jan. 4	48 In-church/45 views
Jan. 11	55 In-church/50 views
Jan. 18	48 In-church/63 views
Jan. 25	62 In-church/65 views



### Scripture Readers . . .

Feb. 1	Jan Akervik
Feb. 8	Pam Perich
Feb. 15	Terry Olson
Feb. 22	Dave Stromgren



- 2 Scott Tollefson
- 4 Jeanne Rychlak
- 6 Peter Downs
- 7 Melissa Finnely  
Harmony Garafalo
- 11 Craig Vanneste
- 17 Jean Dunkin
- 19 Carol Cherne  
Kim Herrig  
Kendall Lepisto  
Kathy Levinski
- 24 Andrea Mattila
- 25 Jennifer Nylund
- 28 CJ DeSantell  
Kayla Skorich

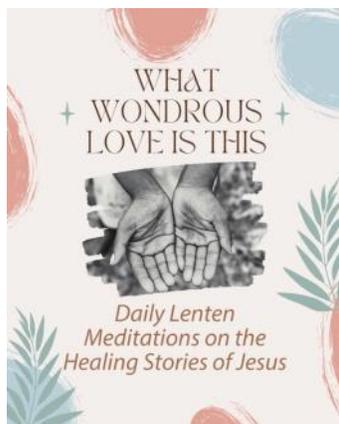
*Not included?  
Please contact the church office at 624-0061.*

### Lenten Reflections Preview

This year's Lenten Study, *What Wondrous Love Is This*, will be made up of six weekly video witnesses for each week of Lent, as well as original daily devotionals. These witnesses and devotionals will be posted on the Minnesota Annual Conference's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaUMC>

We hope these resources help you grow and learn as we walk through the Lenten Season and approach the miracle of Easter.

Look for more information as we draw closer to Ash Wednesday, February 18!



# Asbury News

Continued from page 1 . . .

**Sharon Picconato** joined Asbury UMC in the mid-1990s with husband Ray. She rarely said no when asked to help with Asbury's many projects. Sharon managed Asbury's Memorial Fund for several years. She is a counter for Sunday's collection of offerings once a month and also participates with Laundry Love and the Church-School Partnership Team along with volunteering at the Damiano Center to prepare meals for the Center's lunch program. Sharon says, "From day one Ray and I were welcomed with open arms. I love Asbury UMC and always will."

**Phyllis Wolden** was born into a Methodist family at Central Ave Methodist church where she attended Sunday school, was confirmed, was part of the choir, married her husband, Dick, 68 years ago and had their son and daughter baptized. Along the way she and Dick joined First UMC with other family members but as years passed they were drawn to Asbury UMC by the friendliness and warm welcome. Phyllis has worked on projects like pasties, donuts, pies, meatballs and the Fall Pantry. She has been a past point of contact for funerals for the UWF, is a member of the Love/Hope Circle, serves on the Visitation Committee and UWF Board and is a member of the Knitting Klub. Phyllis says, "After 25 years here at Asbury UMC, it is a blessing to be part of this church."

## Taking Down the Green

A huge thank you to the crew that came in and took down all the Advent/Christmas decorations. It was accomplished in a matter of about two plus hours. Your help is always appreciated! Many hands working together makes the take down go quickly and we have such a fun time working together!

## Mitten Tree Drive Thanks

Thank you for contributing to this year's Mitten Tree Drive. From your generosity, we collected 204 pairs of socks, 24 hats, 14 pairs of gloves, 25 pairs of mittens, 14 scarves and 24 pairs of children's underwear. All of these items were divided and delivered to MacArthur, Piedmont and Stowe Elementary Schools where they were happily received.

## Resource for Lent

Experience a transformative Lenten Journey with *The Sanctuary for Lent 2026*. The booklet contains brief readings for each day in Lent, from Ash Wednesday (February 18) through Easter Sunday (April 5), including a suggested scripture, a short devotion, and a short prayer or practice—all based on the Revised Common Lectionary. This resource is in the Narthex. It was made possible by a generous, anonymous donation.

# Worship In February

There are three ways to participate in worship:

- 10:00 am at Asbury UMC on Sundays. Join us live at 10:00 am and join us for fellowship, coffee and treats in the Fellowship Hall after worship.
- 10:00 am livestream service on Sundays via YouTube as the live service is taking place. An email with the YouTube link and an online worship bulletin is sent out prior to each Sunday.
- Or, you can watch the YouTube service at anytime by logging in using the link provided for each Sunday.

**February Worship Theme:** This month on February 1 we begin as always with a celebration of Communion and consideration of God's directive for us to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. On February 8 we continue to explore what God is calling us into as we look at Isaiah's words from God that invite us into active work with God. We are led by our Praise Team on February 15 as we celebrate the ways in which God redirects our lives through transfiguration. Our mid-week service on Ash Wednesday, February 18 at 6:30 pm will mark the beginning of Lent. Finally, the Asbury Singers will sing and we will lean into God's mercy as we begin our Lenten journey on February 22.

### **February 1**

Scripture Passages:

*Matthew 5:1-12; Micah 6:1-8*

Message: "What Is Good?"

### **February 8**

Scripture Passages:

*Matthew 5:13-20; Isaiah 58:1-12*

Message: "Call To Action"

### **February 15**

Scripture Passages:

*Matthew 17:1-9; Exodus 24:12-18*

Message: "For What You Know"

### **February 22**

Scripture Passages:

*Genesis 2:15-17; Matthew 4:1-11*

Message: "Mercy On the Wilderness Road"

# Calendar

## February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00 am, Asbury Singers 10:00 am, Worship/ <b>COMMUNION</b> 10:15 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 6:00-7:15 pm, Yoga, FH 5:00-7:00 pm Youth at Norton Park UMC	<b>2</b>  OFFICE CLOSED  5:30-8:00 pm Meeting in FH	<b>3</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH	<b>4</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH  9:30 am UWF Board Meeting, WR  5:30 pm, YOGA, FH  6:30 pm, Praise Team	<b>5</b>  8:00 am Pasty Making, FH  9:30 am Bone Builders, WR	<b>6</b> 6:00 am Pasty Making/ Baking, FH  12:00-2:00 pm <b>PASTY SALE</b>  Dumpster Pick Up	<b>7</b>  6:30 am Pasty Baking, FH  10:00 am-NOON <b>PASTY SALE</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 am, Asbury Singers 10:00 am, Worship/ <b>BIRTHDAY</b> 10:15 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 6:00-7:15 pm, Yoga, Narthex	<b>9</b> Betty Conklin <b>Celebration of Life</b> 10:00 am, Visitation 11:00 am, Service 12:00 pm, Luncheon  2:00 pm Knitting Klub, WR	<b>10</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH  1:00 pm Love/Hope Circle, WR	<b>11</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH  1:15 pm Communications, WR 4:00 pm Worship Team Mtg., WR 5:30 pm, YOGA, FH 6:30 pm, Praise Team	<b>12</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH	<b>13</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>14</b> 
<b>15</b> 9:00 am, Praise Team 10:00 am, Worship/PRAISE 10:15 am, Bible Bingo 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 6:00-7:15 pm, Yoga, FH 5:00-7:00 pm Youth at Norton Park UMC	<b>16</b> 9:30 am Green Door Book Group, WR  	<b>17</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH 1:00 pm, Love/Hope Circle, WR 4:30 pm Charge Conference Ad Council, WR & Zoom	<b>18</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 10:30 am Membership Mtg., WR 5:30 pm, Yoga  6:30 pm <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>19</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH 11:00 am <b>Lenten Study</b> 1:00 Faith Circle, WR  <b>MESSENGER            DEADLINE</b>	<b>20</b> OFFICE CLOSED  Dumpster Pick Up	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 am, Asbury Singers 10:00 am, Worship 10:15 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH	<b>25</b> 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH  5:30 pm, YOGA, FH  6:30 pm, Praise Team	<b>26</b> 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH  11:00 am <b>Lenten Study</b>  <b>MESSENGER            EMAILS/MAILS</b>	<b>27</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b>  9:00-10:30 am Free Community Breakfast, Our Savior's
<p>Gentle Yoga meets on Wednesdays, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise specified). Call Cheryl Zupec at 218-343-4478 for more info.</p> <p>Asbury Singers practice each Sunday except Praise Sunday from 9:00 to 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. They practice at 9:30 am on Sundays they sing.</p> <p>The Praise Team practices each Wednesday at 6:30 pm and on Praise Sunday at 9:00 am.</p>						

# Asbury News

## Pasty Sale — HELP NEEDED!

Your help is needed for making pasties on February 5, 6, 7. We peel veggies and make dough on Thursday, roll out crusts, fill crusts, crimp, cook, bake and package on Friday, and bake more pasties on Saturday. We also need a clean-up team — not difficult but necessary! Please see schedule below for times to help and sign up on the board in the Narthex.

### Pasty Sale Work Schedule

#### Thursday, February 5

8:00 am Mix crust. This is not hard and we will teach you.  
Men and women peel veggies.

#### Friday, February 6

6:00 am — 2:00 pm  
Preparation and baking of pasties.  
NOON Four people are needed for clean up, **six volunteers would be great!**

#### Saturday, February 7

6:30 am — NOON  
Pasty baking—come and learn how to bake pasties.  
NOON Six people needed for clean up, **8 or more would be terrific!**

**COME WHEN YOU CAN AND STAY FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN!**

### Pick Up Times:

Friday, February 6 from NOON to 2:00 pm  
Saturday, February 7 from 10:00 to NOON  
**All pasty orders need to be picked up by NOON on February 7.**



From left to right, Asbury Church-School Partnership Team members helping with the Giving Tree at Laura MacArthur Elementary School. Santa (Mr. Harris from Laura Mac), Paul Rigstad, Sue Baker, Sharon Picconatto, Greg and Sheila Fox. Seated is Alice Brenny.



## Camp Minnesota

Pastor Katherine and the Christian Education team encourage all children and youth to attend camp this summer.

Registration is open and started on January 21, 2026.

Application forms and informational brochures are available on the table in the Narthex. For more camping information, including details on all events, retreats and how to get involved please visit:

[www.campminnesota.org/campsessions](http://www.campminnesota.org/campsessions)

More information regarding scholarships, etc., will be in the March Messenger or go to [asburyduluth.org](http://asburyduluth.org)

## AUMC 2026 Events

**April 21, 2026, 4:30 to 6:00 pm**  
**DRIVE THROUGH MEATBALL DINNER**  
**Preorder tickets to reserve dinner — limited tickets at door**  
**\*Preorder container of meatballs.\***  
Preorders call 218-624-0061.  
**Deadline to preorder and pay: April 12**  
Checks made out to Asbury UWF or exact cash please!

**June 5, 2026**  
**DONUT SALE**  
**Preorders recommended. Call 218-624-0061.**  
**Deadline to order: TBD**

**September 11-12, 2026**  
**PASTY SALE**  
Call 218-624-0061 to order.  
**Deadline to order: NOON on September 7**

**October 1-2, 2025**  
**APPLE PIE SALE**  
**Preorders recommended. Call 218-624-0061.**  
**Deadline to order: TBD**

**October 10, 2026**  
**FALL PANTRY**  
**9:00 to 11:00 am, Fellowship Hall**  
homemade apple pies (frozen to take-and-bake); freshly fried donuts; 350 pasties (come early!); pickles, jams, jellies and more;  
Cookie Table; breads, baked goods; craft/knit items

**October 10, 2026**  
**DONUT SALE**  
**Preorders recommended. Call 218-624-0061.**  
**Deadline to order: TBD**

**December 5, 2026**  
**ADVENT TEA**

# Asbury News

## Ad Council Meeting Minutes — 1-20-26

### Opening

Sandy Winklesky, Ad. Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The council met in the Wesley Room. Pastor Katherine led us in prayer.

### Secretary's Report

Minutes of the November 18, 2025 Ad. Council were reviewed. Pat Anscomb made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**M – Pat Anscomb, S – Steve Kokotovich**

### Lay Leader's Report – Steve Kokotovich

Steve asked us to be conscientious about the work we ask Shirley to do. Her work load is already overextended.

### Treasurer's Report – Pat Anscomb

The monthly summary was presented. Balance on Hand, 12/31/2025, is \$6,251.66.

As of December 31, 2025 we have paid 70% of our 2025 Conference Apportionments with a balance due of \$5,509.28.

Pat made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**M – Pat Anscomb, S – Bev LeClair**

### Staff Parish Relations Committee – Barb Kokotovich

The committee met on January 8 and set the calendar for the year.

### Trustee's Report—Nancy Wagner

The committee met on January 14 and discussed projects that they would like to complete this year. They made plans to complete these projects.

They also discussed the church insurance which will need to be dealt with soon.

### United Women of Faith – Bev LeClair

This coming Sunday is UWF Sunday.

Pasties will be made in the first week in February.

Bev reminded us that we also need to be conscientious of the Men's Coffee group and not overload them with work.

### Outreach and Missions Team – Steve Kokotovich

Domiano continues.

The Parendo family delivered the toys collected for the Salvation Toy Drive this December.

Asbury will host the Rhubarb Festival again in 2026.

CHUM will be hosting the Winter Extravaganza.

Steve presented the Outreach Endowment Fund Distribution for 2025.

Winter Out West is on January 31.

### Education Team – Sandy Winklesky for Alice Brenny

The Children are studying the Miracles of the Old Testament and learning new songs.

### Worship Team – Pastor Katherine

Debbie Merrick will be preaching this coming Sunday, which is also UWF Sunday.

Lent starts February 18, with a 6:30 pm service.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

12-31-25

### GENERAL FUND:

Balance on Hand 11/30/25	\$ 3,565.26
Deposits	\$ 238,588.08
Total to Account for	\$ 242,153.34
Checks Written	<\$ 235,901.68>
Balance on Hand, 12/31/25	\$ 6,251.66
Unpaid Bills through 12/31/25 (includes apportionments)	<\$ 5,509.28>
Net Ending Balance at 12/31/25	\$ 742.38

### Nurture/Congregational Care – Sandy Winklesky

Membership Committee – The committee will meet Wednesday, January 28.

Visitation /Committee – no report

Scholarship Committee – no report

### Pastor's Report – Katherine Cornell

Pastor Katherine discussed the 2026 Mission and Ministry Plan form that is to be completed. Larry Sampson and Steve Kokotovich will meet with Pastor Katherine to complete this plan so it can be presented at the February Ad. Council meeting.

Pastor Katherine said Devotionals for Lent will soon be available.

For the Lenten Bible Study, we will be participating in the Conference Lenten Bible Study.

Pastor Katherine met with Patricia Benson and they have set up guidelines and boundaries for building relationships. If you would like to know more about this please talk to Pastor Katherine.

There will be a Constitutional Observance Training at Our Saviors Lutheran Church on January 29, at 5:30 pm.

### Old Business

none

### New Business

Pat Anscomb presented the 2025 Actual vs. Budget and the 2026 Budget. The plan is for the church to pay 100% of our apportionments for 2026.

### Closing

The next Ad. Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17, at 4:30 pm.

Barb Kokotovich made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**M – Barb Kokotovich, S -Pat Anscomb**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bennett, Recording Secretary

## Elected Leadership Report Correction

**Please Note:** On the elected leadership report in the January 2026 Messenger, please add Cindy Yewell and Patty Bennett to the Fine Arts Team. Member Judy Pearson has retired from the Team. We thank Judy for her many years of service.

# Kid's Corner



## LOVE CODE BREAKER

Change some of the letters below to reveal this verse!

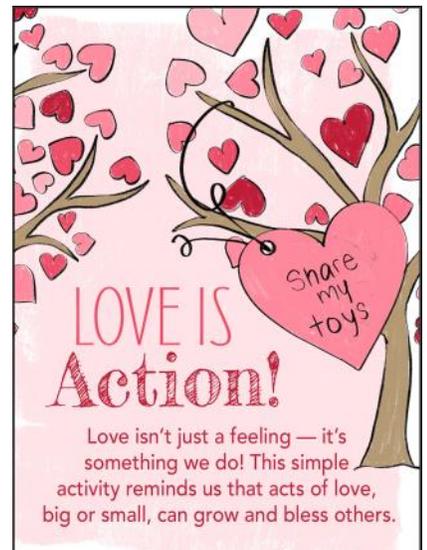
**Change:**

C's to L    Z's to H    P's to R  
 J's to A    Q's to T    X's to E  
 K's to O

(The other letters stay the same.)

" L \_ \_ \_ X \_ \_ \_ C \_ K \_ P \_ D \_ Y \_ K \_ U \_ P  
 C \_ K \_ V \_ X \_ Q \_ Z \_ X \_ C \_ K \_ P \_ D \_ Y \_ K \_ U \_ P  
 \_ G \_ K \_ D \_ W \_ I \_ Q \_ Z \_ J \_ C \_ C \_ Y \_ K \_ U \_ P  
 Z \_ X \_ J \_ P \_ Q \_ J \_ N \_ D \_ W \_ I \_ Q \_ Z \_ J \_ C \_ C  
 Y \_ K \_ U \_ P \_ S \_ K \_ U \_ C \_ J \_ N \_ D \_ W \_ I \_ Q \_ Z  
 J \_ C \_ C \_ Y \_ K \_ U \_ P \_ M \_ I \_ N \_ D \_ J \_ N \_ D  
 W \_ I \_ Q \_ Z \_ J \_ C \_ C \_ Y \_ K \_ U \_ P  
 \_ S \_ Q \_ P \_ X \_ N \_ G \_ Q \_ Z \_ "

**Mark 12:30**



### What you need:

- Construction paper (brown for the trunk, pinks and reds for hearts)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Markers or crayons

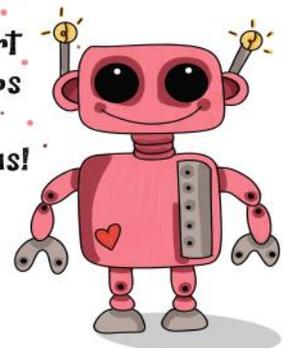


### What you do:

1. Cut a large tree trunk and branches out of brown paper and glue it onto a sheet of paper or poster board.
2. Use colorful paper to cut several hearts — these will be your "leaves."
3. On each heart, write loving actions like "share my toys," "pray for others," or "help clean up."
4. Glue the hearts onto the branches to create a full, love-filled tree.
5. Hang it somewhere visible as a reminder to put love into action every day!



**My heart beeps for Jesus!**



Answer: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

# United Women in Faith



United  
Women  
in Faith



## UWF Reading Program 2026 Books

The UWF Reading Program has recently added the following 2026 books to their library:

### Education for Mission

*Grace Can Lead Us Home* by Kevin Nye  
*The Happiest Man on Earth* by Eddie Jaku  
*Don't Look Back* by Achut Deng & Keely Hutton  
*The Little House of Hope* by Terry Catusus Jennings  
*Zion Learns to See* by Terence Lester & Zion Lester



### Leadership Development

*Heart of Fire: an Immigrant Daughter's Story* by Mazie K. Hirono  
*The Book of Hope* by Jane Goodall & Douglas Abrams with Gail Hudson  
*Michi Challenges History* by Ken Mochizuki  
*Something, Someday* Amanda Gorman  
*The Light She Feels Inside* by Gwendolyn Wallace

### Nurturing for Community

*Finding Me* by Viola Davis  
*The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict & Victoria C. Murry  
*Welcoming and Affirming* by Leigh Finke  
*The Women* by Kristin Hanna  
*The In-Between* by Katie Van Heidrich  
*The Talk* by Alicia D. Williams

### Social Action

#SAYHERNAME by Kimberle Crenshaw & the African American Policy Forum  
*Seventy Times Seven: the True Story of Murder and Mercy* by Alex Mar  
*From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry* by Paula Yoo  
*We are Still Here* by Traci Sorell  
*When the Schools Shut Down* by Yolanda Gladden

### Spiritual Growth

*A Faith of Many Rooms* by Debie Thomas  
*Good Enough* by Kate Bowler & Jessica Richie  
*Red, White, and Whole* by Rajani Larocca  
*Penny Preaches* by Amy Dixon & Rob Dixon

Please feel free to check out these UWF Reading Library books located in the Wesley Room. We also encourage you to participate in the reading program by completing the reading log form available in the library. If you have questions about the UWF Reading Program please contact Patty Bennett, 218-349-5547.

## Pint-size Canning Jars Needed

Have you enjoyed your pickles, jams and jellies from last year's Fall Pantry? Don't know what to do with the empty jars? We will gladly reuse your jars within a few months to make more delicious goods for the Fall Pantry. Please bring your empty pint-size jars and leave them in the kitchen. We currently do not need any quart-size jars.

There also is always a need for gallon ice cream buckets with lids. Please leave them in the kitchen, too.

## UWF Meetings

- UWF board members meet at 9:30 am in the Wesley Room on the 1st Wednesday of each month. **The UWF Board will meet February 4.** Cathy Sampson will be our hostess and provide devotions. **The Board members will meet from 8:00 to 9:30 am on February 4 to mix ingredients for pasties** before our meeting.
- Love/Hope Circle meets at 1:00 pm in the Wesley Room on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. **Love/ Hope Circle will meet on February 17.** Pledges will be taken at that time.
- Faith Circle meets at 1:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Wesley Room. **Faith Circle will meet on February 19.** Dawn Jones will share our devotions and be our hostess. We will discuss the pros and cons of our Pasty Sale, continue to collect pledges, and talk about other business.
- Knitting Klub meets at 2:00 pm in the Wesley Room on the 2nd Monday of the month. **The Knitting Klub will meet on February 9.**
- Green Door Book Group meets at 9:30 am in the Wesley Room on the 3rd Monday of each month. **The Green Door Book Group will meet on February 16.**
- **Bone Builders Plus meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30 to 10:30 am. On Thursday, February 5, they will meet in the Wesley Room due to pasty preparation.** They do not meet on holidays or if there is a special event at Asbury. Bone Builders Plus is a program to improve balance, muscle strength, bone density and increase energy. Call Jan at 218-626-1539 for more info.

Asbury United Methodist  
PO Box 7135  
Duluth MN 55807

Return service requested

## Meet Our Staff



Pastor:..... Katherine Cornell  
Administrative Asst.: .....Shirley Brandt  
Music Coordinator/Organist: .....Phyllis Kruell  
Praise Team Leaders.....varies  
Custodian: ..... Martin Larson  
Ad Council Chair: .....Sandy Winklesky  
Treasurer: .....Pat Anscomb  
Finance .....Larry Sampson  
Lay Leader/Outreach: ..... Steve Kokotovich  
Trustees: .....Nancy Wagner, Terry Olson  
UWF President.....Bev LeClair, Dawn Jones  
SPRC Chair .....Barb Kokotovich  
Worship Chair .....Renee Randa  
Christian Ed.: Alice Brenny/Sandy Winklesky  
Scholarship ..... Shelly Vanneste  
Membership ..... Candy Kokotovich  
Visitation .....Karen Gokey

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

**EDITORS:** The Rev. Katherine Cornell; Shirley Brandt, Admin. Asst.

**CHURCH OFFICE:**

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

**NEXT MESSENGER DEADLINE: February 19 for March 2026 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 Vision & Mission Statement

**Vision:** At Asbury UMC, we believe God's words and ways are key to abundant life for ourselves and our community.

**Mission:** Asbury UMC is a welcoming, active church that exists to serve, grow, build, and bless our congregation, community, and the world.