



Asbury

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A Place For All. No Exceptions.

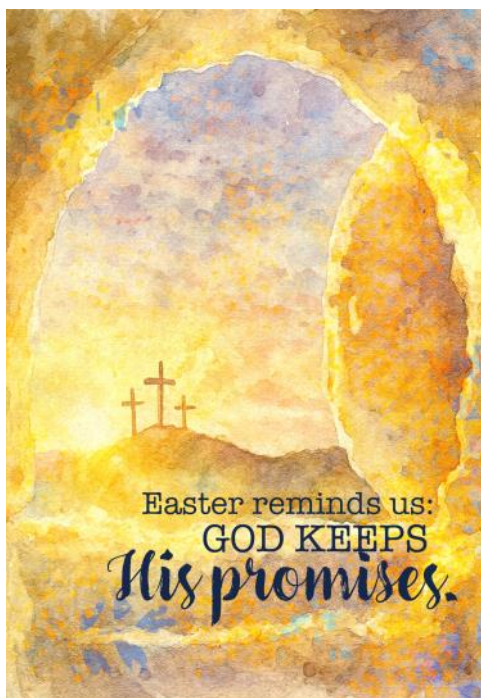
6822 Grand Avenue, PO Box 7135
Duluth, MN 55807
218-624-0061

The Reverend Katherine Cornell

In-Church & Online
Sunday Worship 10:00 am
asburyduluth.org/about-us/worship/

NEW Office Hours
Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am to 2:30 pm
Closed each Friday
and the 1st Monday of the month.

Messenger



Remaining Schedule for LENT

April 2 6:30 pm
Maundy Thursday

April 3 6:00 pm
Good Friday
Ecumenial Service,
ELIM Lutheran,
6101 Cody Street

April 5 **EASTER SUNDAY**

Table of Contents

A Penny For Your Thoughts	2
Sharing the Journey	3
Pastoral Care Info	
Asbury News	4-9, 11
Worship Notes	
April Birthdays	
Thank You!	
NEW Office Hours	
Letter from Genesis	
Calendar	
Laundry Love Event	
Visual Aids from Joyce Park	
Worship in April	
Scholarships Apps	
Upcoming Events	
Ad Council Minutes	
Treasurer's Report	
Kid's Corner	
March FoodShare	
Grandma's Dinner Volunteers	
Landscape Team	
Calling All Graduates!	
United Women in Faith	10-11
Reading Library Book Review	
Diaper Drive	
Quart Jars NEEDED!	
Donuts Are Coming	
UWF Meetings	
5 Star Unit Recognition	
Meet the Staff	12

Take-Out-Only Meatball Dinner — April 21

Mark your calendar. Asbury's Take-Out-Only Meatball Dinner will be held on April 21 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. (**ADVANCE TICKET SALES PREFERRED. LIMITED TICKETS AT THE DOOR!**)

Please get your tickets from Asbury members selling tickets or call the church office at 218-624-0061. Tickets need to be **picked up and paid for by April 12.** A check made out to Asbury UMC or **exact cash** would be appreciated.

Tickets are **\$15.00.** Get your tickets and bring the family and your friends!

Please return all unsold tickets to Gary W. by April 12.

NEW! \$10.00 for container of six meatballs and gravy. Prepayment required.

Our popular meatball dinner requires a lot of workers. We need your support and your help so please also consider volunteering some of your time. There will be a sign-up board in the Narthex. Dinner profits will go towards paying our 2026 MN Annual Conference Apportionments.



EASTER
MORNING
CHANGES EVERYTHING.



A Penny For Your Thoughts

Finding Joy In Relationships

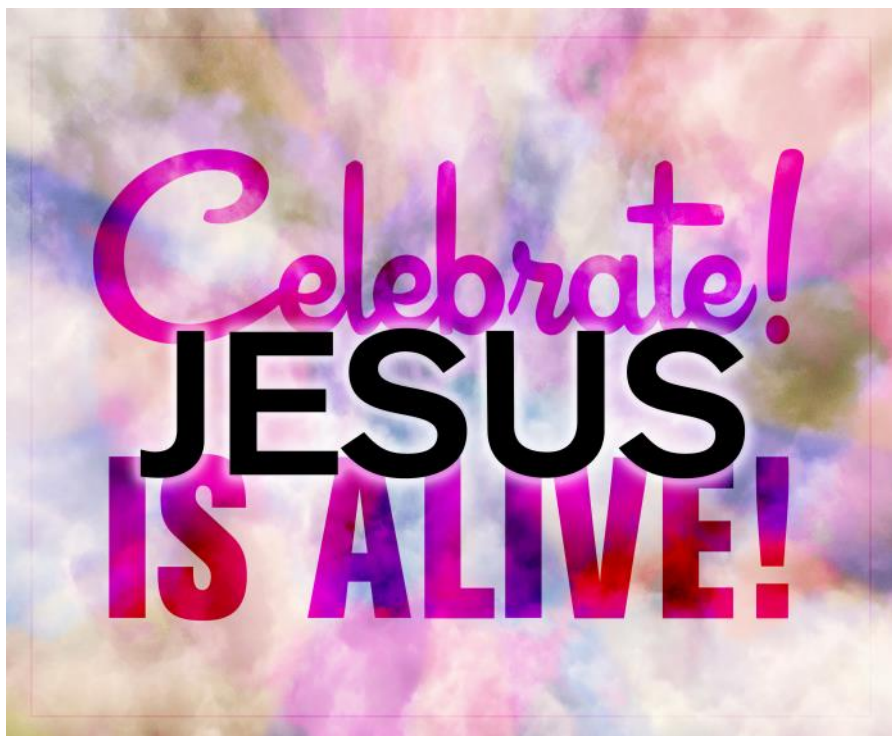
Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! These Easter greetings proclaim the fundamental truth that God heals us in our faith and, in turn, empowers us to repair relationships with all of creation. Jesus Christ came, lived, died, and rose again so that we might be reconciled to God and, in turn, reconcile with one another and with the created world. The truth of sustaining and repairing relationships brings great joy to our lives because we are, by nature, communal people, which brings me to the theme of my Sabbatical time away.

When I wrote the grant to fund my Sabbatical, the committee asked me to consider, "What makes my heart sing?" My answer is "relationships." Relationship with God, with my husband and family, with friends, with the Asbury community, and with nature are the things that make my heart sing.

During my time away, April 9 — July 20, I will intentionally focus on renewing, strengthening, and finding joy in relationships. Brian and I will visit friends and family in Florida, travel to China for our oldest son's graduation from college, invite family and friends to celebrate our youngest son's graduation from high school (you're invited too — look for the invitation in the May Messenger), travel to Washington State to enjoy nature with another friend, and travel to North Carolina for a Spiritual Renewal Retreat, as well as a family vacation.

While I am gone, Rev. MaryAnne Korsch will care for you, lead worship most Sundays, and provide leadership and stability for our congregation throughout my Sabbatical. You will find her article on page 3 of this Messenger with information on how to reach her.

Later this season, you will meet Rev. Karen Schuder, who will preach and lead services on



July 12. Rev. Schuder wrote the book "Resilient and Sustainable Caring," which explores how to build resilient relationships. As a church, we serve, grow, build, and bless our congregation, community and the world. Such engagement can deplete us, so I hope we can grow in our resilience as we care.

As part of my Sabbatical grant, I have invited Rev. Schuder not only to preach on July 12 but also to work with our Leadership Team to conduct a workshop with our congregation in the Fall, when I return. We will have her books available at a discounted price for purchase in August.

While I am gone, I will explore what I can do to tend and care for the relationships in my life. I invite you to join me on this same journey as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, who continues to invite us into a relationship with God and our neighbor.

See you soon!

Blessings and Peace,
Katherine



Sharing the Journey

Dear Friends at Asbury,

I am looking forward to greeting you all in person in the coming weeks, as I assume pastoral duties among you during Pastor Katherine's renewal leave. When she asked me (almost two years ago!) if I'd be willing to take on this responsibility, "YES" was an easy reply. I know Asbury to be a congregation of strong faith and people with willing, servant hearts. I trust that ministering with all of you will be a grand adventure and a great blessing.

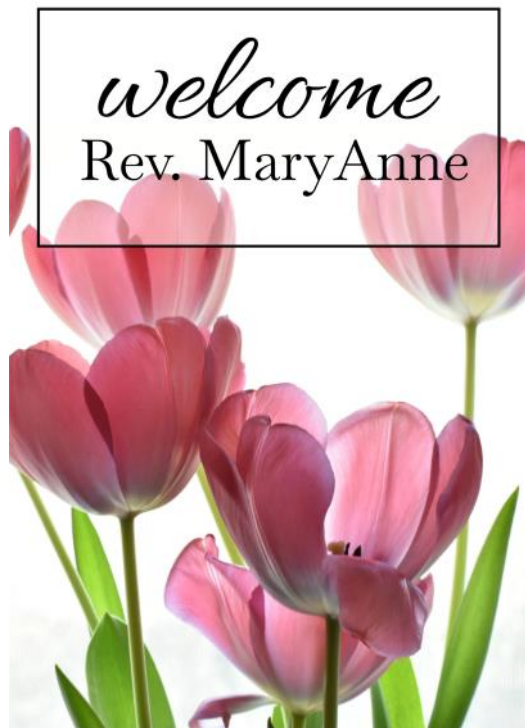
We will officially begin our time together after the Easter holiday, although I have been meeting with Pastor Katherine over the past couple of weeks to get me off to a running start. It has been wonderful to meet with your Administrative Council and SPRC as well, and these meetings have helped me get the "lay of the land" and put some names and faces together. During the three Sundays in April after Easter, I hope you will take a moment to make and wear a name tag — this will help me continue to know who's who.

I also hope you will make it a point to be in worship in person as often as practical. Spring can be a very busy time, of course, but tending to our spirits when life feels overwhelming can be a powerful way to stay balanced and focused.

On our first Sunday together, on April 12, I will be preaching on my three very favorite Scripture passages — one from Isaiah, one from Philippians, and one from the Gospel of John.

Later in the month, we will honor God's creation (April 19) and reflect on how we hang on to hope in tough times (April 26). Your presence will encourage all of us, and enrich your walk with God.

While Pastor Katherine is on renewal leave, we've agreed that I will work a half-time schedule. In general, this means I'll be in the church office two



days per week, usually Wednesdays and Thursdays, along with Sunday mornings.

However, you are ALWAYS welcome to reach out by email (Maryanne.korsch@gmail.com) or phone calls/texts (218.343.8813) when needs or questions arise. I do work an occasional shift at St. Mary's Hospital as a chaplain, but will get back to you as soon as possible if I'm unable to reply right away. If social media is your thing, I'm happy to connect there as well.

I look forward to these weeks with a happy heart. Your prayers during this time are most welcome, and we will all be in prayer together for Pastor Katherine as she takes this intentional opportunity to renew her spirit.

Many blessings on the journey,

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

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 Rev. MaryAnne Korsch at 218-343-8813 or email at maryanne.korsch@gmail.com. Rev. Korsch will be in the office on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Asbury News



Thank You!

Dear Asbury Members and Friends:

My thanks to the congregation for all your cards, thoughts and prayers. I am happy to share that the surgery was successful. I am recovering well and am now cancer free. I truly appreciate everyone's support. — Steve Hill

Dear Asbury United Methodist Church and UWF:

Thank you so much for your financial contribution to Companies to Classrooms. Your donation means a lot to teachers. I was able to get supplies for my kindergarten classroom. Thanks for your generosity!

— Jill Gates, Congdon Park School

Dear United Women in Faith:

Thank you for supporting Companies to Classrooms. Your generosity helps my art students at North Shore Community School explore, create and grow as young artists each month. — Alisa Austin, Art Teacher

Dear United Women in Faith:

Thank you for keeping the Valley Youth Center so close to your hearts. Your giving throughout the year is so helpful. — Russ Salgy

Dear Pastor Katherine and Asbury United Methodist Church:

We are keeping you and your congregation in prayer. Know God's light is shining on you as you shine God's light into the world.

— St. Mark's UMC, Iowa City

Asbury UMC Office Hours Changing

PLEASE NOTE: Starting April 1 office hours for Asbury are **9:00 am to 2:30 pm** Monday through Thursday. The office is closed every Friday and is closed the first Monday of each month.

Letter From Our Sponsored Child Genesis

Hello dear friends, Genesis says she hopes you are doing well and are very happy with your family. Genesis says she is grateful for your support and for sharing with her. Genesis would like to ask you what your favorite song is. Genesis would like to ask for your prayers for her whole family. Genesis always prays for you, that God will keep you and bless you always. Genesis sends you lots of hugs with much love. May God bless you always.

— *Translated verbatim by Milton O.*

Genesis had some questions to answer. She replied that she learns the most about God from her parents. In her project, the things she is learning about

God are being obedient and praying and the things she is learning about the Bible are the books of the Bible. Genesis favorite thing learned about Jesus is being obedient and that Jesus protects her. Her favorite song to sing at her project is The White Dove. When she prays to Jesus, she prays mostly for her parents that God will take care of them and she prays for you. Genesis favorite Bible story is David and Goliath. Her favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13: *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*



Our April free-will Outreach Offering collection is for UMCOR

Attendance . . .

Mar. 1	71 In-church/52 views
Mar. 8	68 In-church/50 views
Mar. 15	SNOW STORM
Mar. 22	71 In-church/44 views
Mar. 29	92 In-church/36 views



Scripture Readers . . .

April 5	Terry Olson
April 12	Dale Thorpe
April 19	Jan Akervik
April 26	Candy Kokotovich



- 1 Sheila Fox
- 3 Larry Scanlon
- 9 Patty Bennett
Alexandra Kokotovich
Sharon Picconatto
Dick Wolden
- 12 Bev LeClair
- 14 Sarah LeClair-Erola
- 20 Drew Lundgren
- 23 Keith McGraw
Peter Thibault
- 27 Sue Carlson
Judy Pearson

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

Calendar

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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>			<p>1 BREAD MAKING, FH 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 9:30 am UWF Board Meeting, WR 5:30 pm, YOGA, FH 6:30 pm, Praise Team</p>	<p>2 9:30 am Bone Builders, WR 11:00 am Lent Study 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>3 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 pm Good Friday Service ELIM Lutheran Dumpster Pick Up</p>	
<p>5 EASTER SUNDAY 10:00 am, Worship/ COMMUNION Pastor Katherine will be on sabbatical from April 9 to July 20. Rev. MaryAnne Korsch will join us April 12.</p>	<p>6 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>7 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH 11:30 am MS Support Group, FH 1:00 pm Bill Guldner service at WLB, visitation at noon. 2:00 pm, Advent Tea Meeting, WR</p>	<p>8 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 11:00 am Ron Brosdal service at Asbury, visitation at 10:00 am 5:30 pm, YOGA, FH 6:30 pm, Praise Team</p>	<p>9 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH</p>	<p>10 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 9:00 am, Asbury Singers 10:00 am, Worship/ BIRTHDAY 10:15 am, Bible Bingo 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH</p>	<p>13 2:00 pm Knitting Klub, WR</p>	<p>14 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH</p>	<p>15 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 5:30 pm, Yoga, FH 6:30 pm, Praise Team</p>	<p>16 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH 1:00 Faith Circle, WR</p>	<p>17 OFFICE CLOSED Dumpster Pick Up</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY 9:30 am, Praise Team 10:00 am, Worship/PRAISE 10:15 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 5:00-7:00 pm Youth at Norton Park UMC Scholarship apps due.</p>	<p>20 CUPCAKE MAKING 9:30 am Green Door Book Group, WR</p>	<p>21 NO Bone Builders 4:30-6:00 pm DRIVE-THROUGH MEAT BALL DINNER MESSENGER DEADLINE</p>	<p>22 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 5:30 pm, YOGA, FH 6:30 pm, Praise Team</p>	<p>23 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH 1:00 pm, Finance Meeting, WR 3:30-6:00 pm Laundry Love Mtg., FH 4:00 pm, Worship Team Meeting, WR</p>	<p>24 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>25 9:00-10:30 am Free Community Breakfast, Our Savior's</p>
<p>26 9:00 am, Asbury Singers 10:00 am, Worship 10:15 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Fellowship, FH 11:15 am, Scholarship, WR</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH 4:30 pm Ad Council, WR</p>	<p>29 8:30 am Men's Coffee, FH 5:30 pm, YOGA, FH 6:30 pm, Praise Team</p>	<p>30 9:30 am Bone Builders, FH MESSENGER EMAILS/MAILS</p>		

Asbury News



Laundry Love Event

On Thursday, April 23 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm all churches and volunteers involved in Laundry Love will be having a “Connect & Learn” event in Asbury UMC’s Fellowship Hall.

This event will be a time of learning about the mission of Laundry Love and will provide a getting acquainted opportunity for the many volunteers throughout Duluth who work hard at making this service sustainable and successful.

Anyone who has an interest in learning more about Laundry Love, please plan to attend.

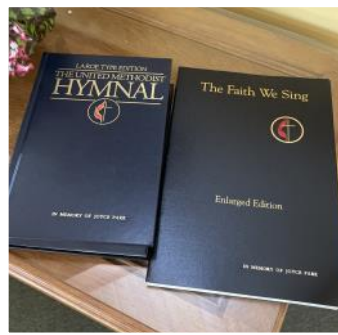
Please see or call Sue Baker, 320-297-1400 with questions.

Visual Aids Available

Joyce Park’s family, in honor of her memory, requested her memorial funds be used to purchase large print pew hymnals and several different magnifying aids to assist those who are visually impaired.

A display of the large-print UMC hymnal and the large-print The Faith We Sing hymnal are on a table in the Narthex and available for use during worship services. There are also some magnifying glasses and other visual aids for use.

After Easter Sunday all resources will be located near the large print Bibles at the back of the sanctuary for future use.



Worship In April

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.

April Worship Theme:

In April, we begin with the wonderful celebration of resurrection and new life on Easter Sunday! We then welcome Rev. MaryAnne Korsch to Asbury UMC as she shares her faith journey on April 12. We turn our attention to the care of creation near Earth Day on April 19 with our Praise Team. Finally, we welcome our Asbury Singers and look at hope in hard times on April 29. Please join us for a wonderful month of worship!

April 5

Scripture Passages:

Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

Message: “A New Start”

April 12

Scripture Passages:

Isaiah 41:10; Phillipians 1:6;

John 1:1-5, 14

Message: “An Accidental Methodist”

April 19

Scripture Passages:

Genesis 2:2b-9, 15; Psalm 148

Message: “To Till and Keep the Earth”

April 26

Scripture Passages:

Isaiah 42:5-9; Isaiah 12:2-6

Message: “Hanging On To Hope”

Asbury News

Scholarship Applications Available NOW!

Scholarship Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026. Scholarship information is listed below. Completed applications are **due by Sunday, April 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.

The Carol B. Maida Memorial 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. The purpose of the scholarship is to recognize members of Asbury who possess the qualities of Compassion, Perseverance, and Positive Attitude through support and encouragement with their post-high school and adult education.



The Robert & Aileen VanKleek Memorial 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. The purpose of this scholarship is 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 UMC 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, 218-624-0061
- ◆ via e-mail at asburyumcduluth@hotmail.com or
- ◆ via www.asburyduluth.org

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 **April 19, 2026**. Recipients will be announced on Scholarship Sunday on May 3, 2026.



AUMC 2026 Events

April 21, 2026, 4:30 to 6:00 pm
DRIVE THROUGH MEATBALL DINNER/\$15

Preorder tickets — limited tickets at door

Preorder \$10 container of meatballs & gravy

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 \$7/DOZEN

Preorders recommended.

Call 218-624-0061.

Deadline to order: **TBD**

June 27, 2026

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

RHUBARB FESTIVAL

Asbury UMC Parking Lot

September 11-12, 2026

PASTY SALE/\$7.00 EACH

Call 218-624-0061 to order.

Deadline to order:

NOON on September 7

August 4, 2026

5:00 to 6:30 pm

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PICNIC

Asbury UMC lower lot

October 1-2, 2025

APPLE PIE SALE/\$16 EACH

Preorders recommended.

Call 218-624-0061.

Deadline to order: **September 28**

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, Silent Auction

October 10, 2026

DONUT SALE \$7/DOZEN

Preorders recommended.

Call 218-624-0061.

Deadline to order: **October 8**

Asbury News

Ad Council Meeting Minutes — 3-17-26

Opening

Sandy Winklesky, Ad. Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. The council met in the Wesley Room. Pastor Katherine led us in prayer.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the February 17, 2026 Ad. Council were reviewed. Barb Kokotovich made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

M – Barb Kokotovich S – Pat Anscomb

Lay Leader's Report – Steve Kokotovich

No report

Treasurer's Report – Pat Anscomb

The monthly summary was presented. Balance on Hand, 2/28/2026, is \$16,804.05.

As of 2/28/2026 we have paid 0% of our 2026 Conference Apportionments with a balance due of \$19,349.00.

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

M – Pat Anscomb, S – Steve Kokotovich

Finance Report

No report

Staff Parish Relations Committee – Barb Kokotovich

The committee is gearing up for Pastor Katherine's sabbatical. The next meeting is March 26 at 4:30 pm.

Trustee's Report - Nancy Wagner

The Trustees meet tomorrow at 9:30 am.

We have an excess of water usage at the church. Please make sure that the toilets are not running before you leave the bathroom, and report to a Trustee which toilet is the problem so we can replace that toilet.

United Women of Faith – Bev LeClair

The meatball dinner is coming up on April 21.

Bread making for the dinner is on April 1.

Meal prep and cupcake making is on April 20.

Outreach and Missions Team – Steve Kokotovich

We have received our second \$50,000 Outreach donation from an anonymous donor.

Seven Asbury members went to the CHUM Winter Extravaganza.

The CHUM Winter Assembly was also attended,

Laundry Love is now being done at two locations.

Our CHUM food drive is currently in progress.

Working at Damiano continues.

Education Team – Sandy Winklesky

The children will be participating in the Palm Sunday service.

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

The last day of Sunday School will be on May 17.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

2-28-26

GENERAL FUND:

Balance on Hand 1/31/26	\$ 10,787.76
Deposits	\$ 72,782.29
Total to Account for	\$ 83,570.05
Checks Written	<\$ 66,766.00>
Balance on Hand, 2/28/26	\$ 16,804.05

Unpaid Bills through 2/28/26

(includes apportionments)

<\$ 2,360.18>

Net Ending Balance at 2/28/26

\$ 14,443.87

Worship Team – Pastor Katherine

The Maundy Thursday service is on April 2, at 6:30 pm.

The Good Friday West Duluth Community Church service is at Elim Lutheran on April 3, at 6:00 pm. Come at 5:30 pm if you wish to sing in the choir.

Because of last Sunday's church service cancellation due to snow, both the Praise Team and the Asbury Singers will be singing this coming Sunday.

Nurture/Congregational Care – Sandy Winklesky

Membership Committee – Candy Kokotovich

A new member informational meeting is set for March 29, after the worship service.

The committee is looking for pictures for the picture board.

There will be a Ministry Fair on September 20, 27 and October 4.

Visitation Committee – a meeting is scheduled for May 20, to plan for the 80 Plus Luncheon.

Scholarship Committee – Scholarship Sunday will be on May 3.

Pastor's Report – Katherine Cornell.

Pastor Katherine would like our church to develop an inclement weather policy.

Pastor Katherine introduced Rev. MaryAnne Korsch, who will be our minister while Pastor Katherine is on sabbatical. This begins on April 9 and ends on July 20. Pastor Katherine will be back in the office on July 21.

In memory of Joyce Park, large print hymnals and magnifying devices will soon be available for the worship services.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Closing

The next Ad. Council meeting will be on Tuesday, April 28, at 4:30 pm.

Bev LeClair made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

M – Bev LeClair, S - Barb Kokotovich

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bennett, Recording Secretary

Kid's Corner



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV


























- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Jesus | 5. cross |
| 2. weary | 6. endured |
| 3. endured | 7. scorning |
| 4. opposition | 8. shame |



- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Jesus | 5. perfecter |
| 2. lose | 6. him |
| 3. pioneer | 7. faith |
| 4. sinners | 8. hand |



- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. eyes | 5. right |
| 2. us | 6. grow |
| 3. joy | 7. God |
| 4. heart | 8. throne |

"... fixing our  1 on  1, the  3 and  5 of  7. For the  3 set before  6 he  3 the  5,  7 its  8, and sat down at the  5  8 of the  8 of  7. Consider  6 who  6 such  4 from  4, so that you will not  6 and  2  2  4."

Hebrews 12:2-3 NIV

Answer: "... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."



The butterfly reminds us of new life and the Resurrection. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead and brings us the hope of new beginnings. This simple craft helps children celebrate that joyful truth.

What you need:

- Light-colored construction paper
- Card stock
- Glue
- Paint
- Paintbrush
- Paper towel or baby wipe

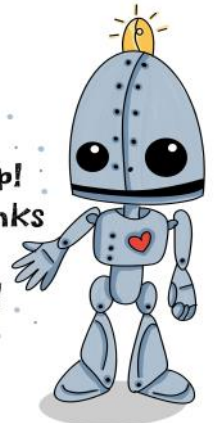


What you do:

- Cut out a butterfly body from the construction paper.
- Glue the butterfly body onto the card stock.
- Use a paintbrush to coat the palm of one hand with paint.
- Press your painted hand beside the butterfly body to create a wing.
- Repeat with your other hand to make the second wing.
- Clean your hands with a paper towel or baby wipe.
- Optional: Add Luke 24:5-6 (NIV) around the butterfly or on its body:

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"

Beep boop!
Jesus thinks
you're
awesome!



United Women in Faith



United
Women
in Faith



UWF Reading Library Book Review

We have two fiction books in the UWF Reading Library that are written by bestselling author Kristin Hannah. The *Four Winds* is a story of the challenges the farmers of the Great Plains endured during the Great Depression. The book is located in the Social Action category of the library.

The second Kristin Hannah book, *The Women*, is a story about women who served as nurses in the Vietnam War and the challenges they faced both during the war and after they came home. This book is located in the Nurturing for Community category.

Both of these books about trying times in American history show the sacrifice, commitment and heroism many women endured. They are must reads that emphasize the bravery and spirit women share to make a better life.

UWF Diaper Drive — Plan Ahead!

The UWF diaper drive for moms and babies will begin on Sunday, April 26 and run through Sunday, May 17.



A Pack and Play will be set up in the Narthex to collect diapers. Sizes 1 - 5 are preferred. **Watch for sales on diapers!**

If you cannot be in church or drop them at the church, you may send a check noting on the memo line “diaper drive” and a UWF member will purchase diapers for you. Please make your checks out to United Women in Faith (UWF).

Diapers will be donated to Bethany Crisis Shelter, Star of the North Maternity Home and the YMCA West Duluth. Thank you for your generosity.

NEEDED!

The UWF is looking for quart-size canning jars. Have you finished the delicious pickles you bought at the Fall Pantry? How about returning any jars to be reused for the upcoming Fall Pantry on October 10.

It won't be long before we will be canning. Please bring canning jars to the kitchen.

We thank you!



**FRESH DONUTS
JUNE 5!**

**More info to come in the
May Messenger**

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 April 1.** Candy Kokotovich will be our hostess and provide devotions.
- Love/Hope Circle meets at 1:00 pm in the Wesley Room on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME. Love/Hope Circle will NOT meet on April 14 as they will be busy preparing for the meatball dinner.**
- Faith Circle meets at 1:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Wesley Room. **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME. Faith Circle will meet on April 16.** Bev LeClair will share devotions and be our hostess. We will get ready for the meatball dinner on April 21 and discuss our annual diaper Drive on May 1-10.
- Knitting Klub meets at 2:00 pm in the Wesley Room on the 2nd Monday of the month. **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME. The Knitting Klub will meet on April 13.**
- 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 April 20.**
- **Bone Builders Plus meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30 to 10:30 am. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.** They do not meet on holidays or if there is a special event at Asbury. **NO MEETING ON APRIL 21.** Bone Builders Plus is a program to improve balance, muscle strength, bone density and increase energy. It helps to prevent falls and improve dexterity. Participants enjoy increased socialization. Call Jan at 218-626-1539 for more information.



5 Star Status Recognition Congrats!

Asbury UMC United Women in Faith were one of seven local units to receive 5 Star status by achieving the requirements for all five channels of giving. The five channels of giving are Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering.

The other units were Centennial-Roseville, Park-Brainerd, Freshwaters-Princeton, Hamline, Moose Lake and Milaca.

Asbury News

CHUM March Food Drive Ends April 6

CHUM's Food Shelf collection ends on April 6. If you would like to contribute, please mark your monetary donations for "CHUM Foodshare" on the memo line of your check or offering envelope and drop into the offering plate on April 5.

Serving Up Lots of Spaghetti! — June 19

Grandma's Marathon is seeking volunteers for three different shifts for their Michelina's All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, June 19: the

1st Shift is 9:00 am to 3:30 pm for set up and serving the lunch crowd, the **2nd Shift is 12:30 to 7:30 pm** for additions as the crowd grows; and the **3rd Shift is 3:00 to 10:00 pm** for the dinner crowd and clean up.

Grandma's Marathon will provide Asbury United Methodist Church with an

honorarium per hour for each volunteer which will go toward paying Asbury's MN Annual Apportionments for 2026.

It is easy to participate as no real food service experience is needed. People come to the food service line and provide a ticket. The volunteer then provides a plate of spaghetti and marinara sauce, with or without meatballs, salad, bread and cookies. Volunteers also are needed for milk, ice cream and coffee during the dinner. Lots of moving parts, but really simple tasks. Each volunteer will receive a Grandma's T-shirt, a delicious meal and a fun time serving the community.

Please sign up or call the church office by April 30. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Grandma's Marathon needs about 80 volunteers for the dinner so your help will be very much appreciated.



Asbury Landscape/Garden Team 2026

Asbury's Landscaping/Gardening Team will start a meeting mid to late May in the Fellowship Hall. Start date and time TBD. Members meet from May through the end of September/beginning of October unless it is raining or it is a holiday. We will be discussing a possible plant sale for 2026.

The Team is always looking for more volunteers. You don't need any experience, just a willingness to help keep the landscaping/gardens at Asbury as beautiful as they are now.

— Pam Perich, Landscape/Garden Team Chair

Calling All Graduates

Will you be graduating in 2026? Will you be having a grad party? Please let the church office know (218-624-0061) and send in your grad party invite or information on your party so we can put it in the May Messenger.

We will be recognizing our graduates on Sunday, May 31



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
Landscaping/Garden.....Pam Perich

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: April 21 for May 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.