

WELCOME

We extend a cordial welcome to each person worshipping with us today. If you need any assistance, please call on our ushers or greeters. They would be glad to help you. Following the service, please join us in the Social Hall for refreshments and fellowship. We hope you have a meaningful worship experience and will leave Asbury renewed, fulfilled, and challenged!

**The flowers for today's worship service
are given in honor of our girls
by Chris and Kelly Beaver.**



Mission Statement

Asbury Memorial UMC is a place where all people, individually and collectively, develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we become a living example of people who love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.

Our Tithes and Offerings

Weekly Budget Need - \$11,217.14

Given Last Sunday - \$6,626.00

Year-to-Date Budget Need - \$213,125.66

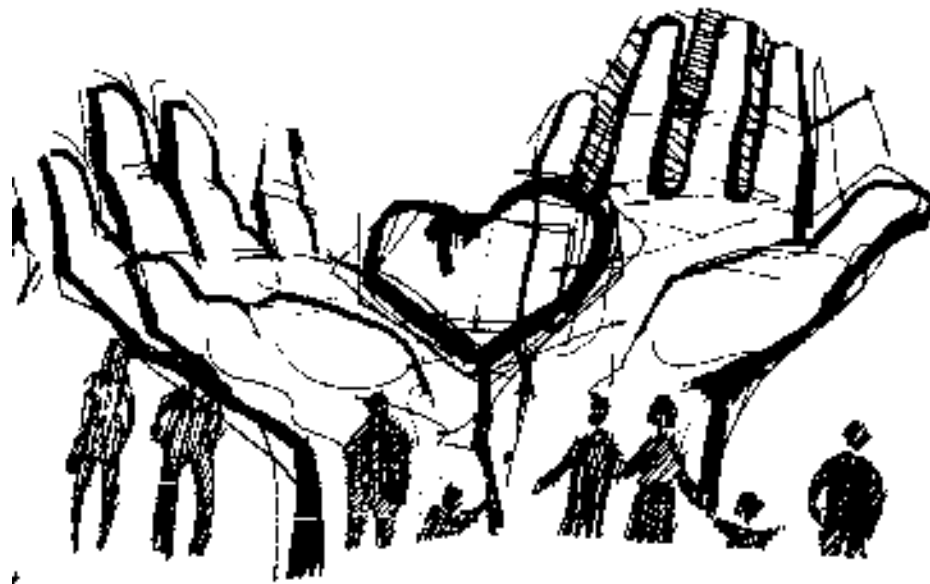
Year-to-date Received - \$214,997.52

Rev. Billy Hester, Senior Minister
Randy Canady, Church Administrator
Laura Angell, Youth Director
Detective Santana Willis, Security

Ray Ellis, Minister of Music
Claudette DeLong, Office Manager
Ashley Stroud, Children's Ministry
Kay Deffley, Organist/Pianist

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E-Mail: church@asburymemorial.org

**Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church**
May 21, 2017
11:15 A.M.



***Spiritual Gifts
Sunday***

6th Sunday of Easter

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE Asbury Musicians

ANNOUNCEMENTS Kathy Hodges

CHIMES Preparing hearts and minds for worship

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day the Lord hath made;

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: The God who raised Jesus from the dead
raises us to new life daily.

**All: Glory be to God our Creator,
to Jesus our risen Christ,
and to the Spirit our Comfort. Amen.**

*HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* No. 89

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Jan Durham

Silence & Reflection

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever.

Choral Amen

Asbury Choir

SCRIPTURE Acts 7:55-60

One: For the Word of God in scripture and story,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,

All: we give thanks.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Online Giving Cards are in the red pads and in the narthex so online givers can participate in the offering. We recognize and bless the gifts that are brought to the table and those that are given through automatic payment.

OFFERTORY Asbury Choir

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN *God, How Can We Forgive?* see insert
**

SERMON **The Necessity of Forgiveness** Rev. Hester

LITANY OF COMMITMENT & GIFTS see insert

OFFERING OF AREAS OF INTEREST CARDS

In a spirit of prayer, the congregation is invited to bring their "Areas of Interests Cards" forward to place in the wheelbarrow. The cards will be used to find servers, helpers, teachers and other workers for a variety of our ministries in the Fall. Please feel free to spend time in prayer at the altar. We thank you for your service and your ministry.

*HYMN *Forward Through the Ages* No. 555

*BENEDICTION Rev. Hester

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Here I Am, Lord* Congregation

The congregation is invited to "sign" and to "sing" the following:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

*POSTLUDE Asbury Musicians

* Please stand as you are able.

**Children are invited to attend Children's Church (K-3rd & 4th-6th grades)

LITANY OF COMMITMENT & GIFTS

One: When vision fails us, when the way is long and dusty,
we rely on our commitment to the God who sustains us.

All: We are committed to the inward and the outward journey.

One: Through prayer and outreach, through peacemaking and activism,
we open our hearts and the world to God.

All: We are called to living out God's word.

One: In this place, we find love and conflict, joy and sorrow.

All: We commit to intimacy, even when it is painful.

One: God has blessed us with an abundance of resources.

All: We will be generous in sharing what we have received.

One: Commitment transforms promise into reality,
timidity into courage, pain into joy, and intention into action.

**All: In the promise of transformation, we bring our selves to God
and to this community once again.**

One: God of love and of life,
we take time to look within ourselves and acknowledge the gifts you
have blessed us with. Help us to direct our lives in a way that best uses
our own unique combination of gifts. May our education help us to
discover where our strengths and interests lie. May our faith help us to
overcome any anxiety or timidity about using our gifts. May we also be
open to serving in new ways as your Spirit leads us. Help us to affirm
others and to support them in the talents they have. Bless us as we serve
others in the church, in our community, and in the world as we build the
kingdom of God on earth.

And now as children of God, we pray together saying...

All: Eternal God,

**Thank you for the blessings you have given us. Help us always to use
our gifts and talents in ways that demonstrates kindness, humility,
and compassion. Keep our hearts and minds open to the direction of
the Spirit, who calls us to celebrate our gifts by sharing them with
others. So today, we come before you expressing our desire to
deepen our relationship in this local expression of the Body of Christ,
sharing our gifts with others who worship at Asbury Memorial and
with others in the wider world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**