



Asbury United Methodist Church

Asbury Trails

January 2021

John Wesley's New Year Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.
 Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
 Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
 Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
 exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
 Let me be full, let me be empty.
 Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
 I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.
 And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
 thou art mine, and I am thine.
 So be it.
 And the covenant which I have made on earth,
 let it be ratified in heaven.
 Amen.



Asbury in Service

Despite the pandemic, Asbury performed several acts of service in December.

The Care Ministry prepared and delivered holiday gift bags for shut-ins and those who have lost someone this year.

Advent Day for children went virtual, with 11 children participating over Zoom.

On Christmas Eve, members of Asbury, led by Dave and Dru Ann Kuntz, delivered approximately 90 pies to places where people have to work on Christmas Eve.

Thanks to all those who organized these ministries and to everyone who helped make them successful!

UMC Virtual Choir

Listen to the UMC virtual choir sing carols.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/christmaschoir>



Asbury United Methodist Church
 10,000 Candelaria Rd NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87112
 Phone: 505-299-0643
www.AsburyABQ.org
church@AsburyABQ.org

Rev. Joe Whitley, *Senior Pastor*
 Gil Flores, *Lay Pastor*
 Kevin Chavez,
Director of Music
 Ismael Renteria,
Organist, Accompanist
 Ivory Conrad,
Office Administrator
 Richard Ramsey,
Building Manager

Terry Fisher, *Mother's Day Out Director*

(For staff e-mail addresses please see our website - www.asburyabq.org)

NM Annual Conference
 Bishop Earl Bledsoe, *New Mexico & Northwest Texas Annual Conference*



Come Worship With Us!

TRADITIONAL SERVICES:
 SUNDAY MORNINGS 8:30 & 10:30 A.M.

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE:
 SUNDAY MORNINGS 11:00 A.M.

FACEBOOK:
 SUNDAY MORNINGS
 9:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Asbury - a Great Family Church and a Great Church Family!

A Letter from the Reunification Committee

Dear Faithful Members and Supporters of Asbury UMC,

First off, we wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas. We pray this finds you healthy and in anticipation of soon celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. We're writing to provide you with an update on plans to further re-open our church in the New Year.

The Reunification Committee has met and continues to carefully assess the impact of Covid-19 in our nation, state, and community. We've particularly noted that there are still many cases, significant hospitalizations, and a high spread-rate in Bernalillo County. There is also a real possibility that cases of the Coronavirus may increase following the holidays.

We are optimistic that restrictions at Asbury can be loosened in the near future. To work towards this, the Reunification Committee will meet again on January 17 to assess our circumstances. By God's grace, we'll be able to announce that good progress has been made in our mutual fight against the spread of the virus and that the church is moving ever-closer to full-reopening.

We appreciate your continued faithfulness and generosity to Asbury and your ongoing support of our work. Thank you also for your prayers; please know that we lift you up as well, that you all remain safe and healthy throughout this Christmas season and our New Year.

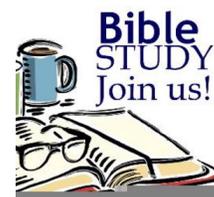
In Christ's Love,
Asbury Reunification Committee

Virtual Bible Study

Starting Friday, January 22, at noon on the GoToMeeting platform, Lynn Southard will lead an interactive study on The Apostle Paul's letter to the Church at Corinth that we know as First Corinthians.

The Church Paul established at Corinth through God was engaging in practices that were disobedient to God Himself but could be overcome with God's help.

If you would like to take part, email or call Lynn.



Lynnsouthard@rocketmail.com
505 804-5756

Revised Lectionary Readings

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January 3, 2021	January 10, 2021	January 17, 2021	January 24, 2021
Second Sunday after Christmas	Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord	2nd Sunday after Epiphany	3rd Sunday after Epiphany
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalms 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:1-18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genesis 1:1-5 Psalms 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Samuel 3:1-10 Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalms 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

Asbury United Methodist Women 2021

Happy New Year! The Asbury United Methodist Women Executive Committee wishes all its members a wonderful new year! We pray that everyone has a healthy, safe, happy and hopeful 2021.

Hails & Farewells: The Executive Committee is sorry to say goodbye to our long time Secretary, Frances Wright, and Membership Coordinator, Beth Hodgson. Both Frances and Beth have served in these positions on our Asbury UMW Board for more years than we can count and made a real difference in our community. Thank you Frances and Beth! We are happy to announce that Jill McCarty will be filling the Secretary's position and Franny McQuien will fill the Membership Coordinator's position. Thank you for stepping up to fill these important positions!



2021 Executive Committee: Please pray for the members of the Asbury UMW Executive Committee: Vicki Kerley, President; Kay Martinez, Vice President; Jill McCarty, Secretary; Marjorie Bahm, Treasurer; and Mission Coordinators: Darlene Anderson, Mission Education & Interpretation and Social Actions; Carolyn Sparks, Spiritual Growth; Franny McQuien, Membership Nurture & Outreach; Marjorie Bahm, Communications; Tibby Jerome, Secretary of Program Resources; Ann Plante, Nominations Committee Chairwoman; and Glenda Tennyson, Historian; and Circle Chairwomen: Jane Fuller, Elizabeth Circle; Darla McGregor & Ann Plante, Hannah Circle; and Kay Martinez, Ruth Circle.

When Can We Meet Again?: We are planning a Zoom meeting for Thursday, January 7, at 9:30 a.m. We will start our year with our Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Carolyn Sparks, leading us in prayer and self-denial. Please watch for emails concerning this meeting.

Birthdays in January: Please wish Carolyn Sparks a Happy Birthday on the 6th, Gale Reese on the 11th, Marjorie Bahm on the 23rd, and Betty Chowning's birthday is on the 27th. Happy Birthday ladies!

Mission Giving (Pledges) for 2021: The pandemic is worldwide! It's something we have in common with everyone, in every community, everywhere. We are all hurting, scared, and tired of this. It is one thing that unites us all. Fortunately, we are richly blessed with our Father's grace and the promise of a vaccine within the next few months and the hope that we'll get back to normal soon. But others might not be as lucky and may need our help more than ever. With the ongoing economic insecurity this year, donations to our mission partners have suffered, and the lives of the women, youth, and children our pledges have supported in the past are also suffering. Can you afford to give a little more this year? If you have never given before, can you open your heart and give this year? Please make your check payable to Asbury UMW and send it to Marjorie Bahm, 3437 Juan Tabo Blvd. NE, ABQ, NM 87111. All donations are tax deductible.

Response Magazine for Women in Mission: When you give \$100 or more to Mission Giving you will receive a year's subscription to the UMW response magazine. This reward winning magazine is filled with compelling articles about the hundreds of missions we support around the world and how we are changing lives through Christ. Please make your check payable to Asbury UMW and send it to Marjorie Bahm, 3437 Juan Tabo Blvd. NE, ABQ, NM 87111.

New Address: Barbara O'Neil has moved to Tijeras. Her new address is 3 Nature Pointe Dr. Zip is 87059. Same telephone number. Please update your yearbook. Bobbie Olesen has also moved but we don't have a new address for her. If you have any information about Bobbie please let us know.

New Yearbook: Please send any changes to the yearbook to Marjorie Bahm (marjoriebahm@gmail.com) or call or text (505) 332-8456. We hope to have the 2021 Yearbook out before the end of January.

Thanks!: Katie Lopez wants everyone to know how thankful she was to receive a gift card this Christmas from the Asbury UMW. We send gift cards to all of Asbury's college students at Christmas as part of our campus outreach program. This year we sent gift cards to 8 college students.

Asbury Pies: The Asbury Cafe kindly donated several pies to us for sale. Proceeds will support our Mission Giving. If you would like to purchase a pie, please call Marjorie Bahm at (505) 332-8456.

Please pray for each other and our mission partners.

Send any updates or inquires to Marjorie Bahm at marjoriebahm@gmail.com or call me [\(505\) 332-8456](tel:5053328456)

Church Women United

Church Women United, an ecumenical Christian women's group, will gather together via Zoom on Friday, January 8 at 9:30 a.m. Following a fellowship time, we will participate in the Human Rights Celebration, "United to Serve." There will be information on humanitarian aid to support the 1300 refugees and asylum-seekers residing in a network of 11 shelters and homes as well as those being returned to Ciudad Juarez. To join the meeting, contact Marilyn Stoops at mstoops@swcp.com.

Library News

"It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people." John Wesley

A New Year, New Books to Read.

Yes, the Asbury library has new books for your reading enjoyment. Currently it is somewhat difficult to visit the library but it is not impossible. The library is always open when the building is open. As I write this in late December, that would be on Sunday mornings between and during the services and on Monday mornings when Ivory is in the office. In January the Reunification Committee will be assessing if or when the building should be open at other times.

There has been a problem with tax exempt status from one of our usual online book sellers, so until that is settled the number of new UMW books is limited. We plan to order others as soon as possible.

In the meantime, here is what is new:

UMW Education for Mission:

Gum Moon: A Novel of San Francisco Chinatown by Jeffrey L. Staley

Spiritual Growth:

Adamant: Finding Truth in a Universe of Opinions by Lisa Bevere

Dinner by Candlelight: Comfort and Joy for Advent by Kevin Louise Schaner

Beyond Loneliness: Gift of God's of Friendship by Trevor Hudson

Nurturing for Community:

Lifesaving Church: Faith Communities and Suicide Prevention by Rachael Keefe

The Living Gospel: Reading God's Story in Holy Lives by Robert Ellsberg

Leadership Development:

#NotYourPrincess by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale

Follow That Map! by Sheri Tan and Shirley Ng-Benitez

Speaking Well: Essential Skills for Speakers, Leaders and Preachers by Adam Hamilton

Failing Boldly: Falling Down in Ministry Can Be the Start Rising Up by Christian Coon

You may search our digital card catalog from the computer in the library, your home computer or your smart phone on the Asbury web site Library Page or go directly to www.asburyabq.org/AsburySearch.htm. Use the search function of your browser to find any combination of words, numbers or letters in any column. Books currently on the UMW Reading Program have UMW in the Subject column and are found on the wooden cart in the library.

Unfortunately, regular staffing of the library is not guaranteed at this time, but we are a self-service library and you are more than welcome to visit at any time. Just follow the instructions on the signs in the library to check out or return a book. As always, you may contact us by e-mail at librarian@asburyabq.org with any questions, suggestions, requests or to place a hold on a book.



By Pat Phipps,
Asbury Librarian

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10,000 Candelaria NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112.
Rev. Joe Whitley, senior pastor; Barbara Lewis, editor.

Opinions expressed in articles are those of the individual authors and may not reflect the opinions held by the church. Please e-mail articles by the **23rd** of the month to trailseeditor@asburyabq.org.

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