

ASBURY GATHERINGS
Children’s & Youth Ministry Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:00 P.M. Asbury Fellowship Hall Meal & Study, Please join us. 3 Churches 1 Mission / Asbury - Pruitt Hill - Tate Chapel
Community Outreach Morning Pointe Senior Center <i>Thursdays</i> 10 A.M. Come share scripture and encouragement with our beloved seniors. Our guest pianist is Rev. Rebecca Prenshaw (Nancy Worley’s Daughter).
Bible Studies / Small Groups X’ianity: Christianity 101 Sundays, at 10:00 A.M. in the Asbury Library. Interested in attending the Contemporary Service and looking for a Sunday School class? Join Pastor Chase for Christianity 101, a welcoming discussion of the foundations of the Christian faith. Whether you're new to Christianity, exploring your faith, or simply looking to connect with others, everyone is welcome. Foundations: A New Member Class Postponed till Rev. Crickenberger is back from Paternity leave. The Bible Told Them So Begins Tuesdays at 6:30 P.M. in the La Rue Room. Join us for an 8-week study exploring faith, history, and our call to live as compassionate witnesses. All are welcome! (Pastor Sharon). Official start: September 8, 2026; you still have time to join us; we have 5 remaining slots. Gardening with Gratitude is a small group rooted in faith, community, and the simple grounding joy of getting our hands dirty - together. The group will meet on September 17, 2026, on the third Thursday of each month from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. For additional information, please contact John Reviere.



14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE 30th DAY of August 2026

TEN O’CLOCK

MORNING WORSHIP

August 30, 2026

THE GATHERING

Prelude & Bringing In The Light

Instrumental Music

The Greeting

We welcome you, and we pray that this time together will be a blessing in your life.
† At the sound of the bells, please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Lifting Our Voices in Praise*

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

UMH# 57

The Apostles Creed*

See Insert

UMH #881

† Afterward, the people may be seated.

Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Passing Of The Peace*

The Children’s Message

Don Stansfield III

Prayer of Confession

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

Call to Prayer

Prayer Hymn

“Take Time To Be Holy”

UMH #395 Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Ronald Wong

The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Ronald Wong

*Please stand in body or spirit, and silence cell phones and electronic devices in the Sanctuary.

Church Services and Attendance for August 23, 2026			
Sunday School	15	Livestream Views *Contemporary Service	305*
Traditional Service 10 A.M.	51	Children’s Church	4
Contemporary Service 11:15 A.M.	23	Children’s Chapel	24
Books & Brew (Tuesdays)	4	Children’s Church & Youth	35
Gardening with Gratitude Monthly - 3rd Thursday	Canceled	Van Dreal Covenant (Bi-Weekly - Wednesday)	Sep 2
A Place of Grace Monthly - 1st Sunday	September 6	Morning Pointe Senior Center (Thursdays)	22
Prayer Requests			
Pray for our military men and women. Please keep all those serving in our nation's armed forces in your prayers. Pray that God will surround them with His protection, grant them wisdom, strength, and courage, and bring them safely home to their loved ones. May the Lord also comfort and sustain their families. Alex Whitaker, Air Force pilot; Lincoln Taylor, Navy pilot; Jackson Renner, Army Reserve.			
Please keep Brenda Currens in your prayers as she recovers from recent surgery and awaits the results of recent tests. Pray for healing, strength, peace, and comfort for Brenda and her loved ones during this time			

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM			
Preaching:	Rev. Sharon Bowers		
Liturgist:	Sherin Whitfield		
Children's Message:	Don Stansfield III		
Prayers:	Rev. Ronald Wong		
Nursery Host:	Hostess		
Music:			
Sound / Livestream:	Christian Martin / Fletcher Sherrill / Zy Neal		
ANNOUNCEMENTS			
Please keep Maddie, Chase, and Emory in your prayers as they receive their son, Leo Harlan. Pray for good health and God's peace and blessings as they receive this precious new addition to their family. The Bible Told Them So Tuesdays, at 6:30 P.M. in the La Rue Room. Join us for an 8-week study exploring faith, history, and our call to live as compassionate witnesses. All are welcome! (Pastor Sharon). We will officially start September 8th, so you still have time to get your book and join us. Gardening with Gratitude Looking for a way to connect through faith, fellowship, and gardening? Gardening with Gratitude meets Thursday, September 17, from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. and will continue on the third Thursday of each month. For more information, contact John Reviere.			
SCAN WITH YOUR PHONES CAMERA FOR MORE INFORMATION			
View Our Prayer List		View Our Coming Events	
Give Online		Join our Livestream	

MORNING WORSHIP

August 30, 2026

Proclaiming The Word		
The Scripture Lesson*	Matthew 16: 21-28 NRSV	
The Message	The Joy of the Cross	Rev. Sharon Bowers
Response To The Word		
Giving Our Tithes & Offerings		
† An offering is collected to support the mission of Asbury UMC to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.		
Please register your attendance in the red folder in your pew, and let us know if you are visiting, would like to become a member, or are interested in more information.		
Offertory Prayer	Rev. Ronnie Wong	
Offertory Song	Song of Giving	
Doxology	See Insert	UMH #95
Hymn of Invitation	"Where He Leads Me"	UMH# 338
Sending Forth		
Benediction*	Rev. Sharon Bowers	
Peace*	Minister: The Peace of Christ be always with you. People: And also with you.	
Postlude*	Instrumental Music	
*Childcare is available under the Sanctuary, an usher can guide you.		

Liturgy for Worship
The Apostles Creed I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. **Universal
Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below, Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen
The 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, forever. Amen.

Pastoral Blessing
As you start this new week, begin by knowing there is real joy in following Christ. In the days ahead, when the road seems to be impassable, when the next step seems invisible, and when you are tempted to retreat to known territory, may you launch out in the deep and get ready for the haul. May you have a life that denies self, takes up the cross, and follows Jesus in the good time and the bad time, and may the grace of God be yours now and in the future.
Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon
Liturgist: Loving God, we confess that we want the comfort without the cross. We want success without sacrifice. People: Forgive us, O God, we pray. Liturgist: We often desire the crown but without enduring the cross. We choose the easy way instead of doing the difficult. People: Forgive us, O God, and teach us that in Christ Jesus we can do “hard things”! Liturgist: We confess there are times when we have within our power the ability to help, and yet we look the other way. People: Turn our eyes upon you. Grant us the vision to see, the faith to believe, and the courage to do all things. Liturgist: Too often we remain silent when we should speak up and say something. We hold others to a higher standard than we do ourselves. People: Forgive us, O God, and give us courage to act by faith and speak those things that are not as though they were. All: Open our ears to the good news that we can deny ourselves, take up the cross and follow You. Remind us that we are loved lavishly. Liturgist: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.