

ASBURY GATHERINGS

Children's & Youth Ministry Building Bridges & True North Wednesdays at 5:15 - 7:00 P.M.

Asbury Fellowship Hall | Meal & Study Please join us!
3 Churches 1 Mission / Asbury - Pruitt Hill - Tate Chapel

Tiny Seeds | Tuesdays 10:00 A.M. Chapel for 3-4 year olds - Day Care students.
and staff. Rev. Sharon Bowers and Ms. Sandra Fox leading.

The Valley (Contemporary Worship Service) Asbury | **Sundays at 11:15 A.M.**
Asbury Fellowship Hall, Rev. Ronnie Wong, Preacher

Community Outreach

Morning Pointe Senior Center Thursdays | 10 a.m. Come share scripture and
encouragement with our beloved seniors. Our guest pianist is Rev. Rebecca Prenshaw,
daughter of Nancy Worley.

Bible Studies / Small Groups

X'ianity: Christianity 101 — Sundays at 10:00 A.M. in the Asbury Library. Join Ryan
McMillan for a welcoming discussion of the foundations of the Christian faith while Rev.
Chase Crickenberger is on paternity leave. Everyone is welcome!

The Bible Told Them So Tuesdays at 6:00 P.M. in the La Rue Room. Join us for an 8-
week study on J. Russell Hawkins' book, The Bible Told Them So. Together, we will
examine the history of faith during the Civil Rights Era and reflect on how we can live out a
compassionate, faithful witness today. All are welcome for thoughtful conversation and
community learning! There are **3** remaining slots; books can be picked up at the office.

**New Bible Study: Forgiveness, Finding Peace Through Letting Go| October 1 (6 weeks),
Thursdays | 6:00–7:30 P.M.** Join us this fall as we explore forgiveness with Adam Hamilton
and discover how letting go of grudges can open our hearts more fully to God's grace.
**Bring a friend and join us for this meaningful study! ** Interested? Please sign up through
Church Center. For more information, please contact John Reviere.



19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE 4th DAY *of* October 2026

TEN O'CLOCK

201 SOUTH MAIN STREET, GREENEVILLE, TN 37743

WWW.ASBURYLIFE.ORG . (423) 798-1050

MORNING WORSHIP
October 4, 2026

THE GATHERING

Prelude
& Bringing In The Light

“Instrumental”

Paulette Johnson

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*
The Apostles Creed*

“Standing on the Promises ”
See Insert

UMH #374
UMH #881

Passing Of The Peace*

† Afterward, the people may be seated.

The Children’s Message

Don Stansfield III

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

Call to Prayer

Diane Whittenburg

Prayer Hymn

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” v 1
UMH #496
Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Ronald Wong

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

The Scripture Lesson*

Philippians 3:1-14 NRSV

Diane Whittenburg

The Message

Full Court Press
The Joy in Knowing Christ

Rev. Sharon Bowers

*Please stand as you are able, and silence cell phones and electronic devices in the Sanctuary.

Church Services and Attendance for September 27, 2026			
Sunday School	19	Livestream Views Traditional *Contemporary	237 *89
Traditional Service	38	Children’s Church	1
Contemporary Service	21	Daycare Chapel (Tuesdays)	20
Books & Brew (Tuesdays)	3	Children’s Church & Youth (Wednesdays)	51
Gardening with Gratitude Monthly - 3rd Thursday	Oct 15	Van Dreal Covenant (Bi-Weekly—Wednesday)	3
A Place of Grace Monthly - 1 st Sunday	Oct 4	Morning Pointe Senior Center (Thursdays)	18
Prayer Requests			
Please keep our military men and women and their families in your prayers, specifically Alex Whitaker (Air Force Pilot), Lincoln Taylor (Navy Pilot), and Jackson Renner (Army Reserve). Pray for God’s protection, wisdom, strength, and peace as they serve, and for their safe return home.			
Please keep the family of Lou Ella Coleman in your prayers. She gained access to heaven on Tuesday, September 29 at 5:30 P.M.			
Continue to lift up our unhoused people as “winter is coming” and Asbury will once again host the Warming center.			
Please continue to pray for Rebekah Taylor and Lisa (Alice Russell’s Daughter) as they defeat cancer.			

View
our
Prayer
List



View
Our
Coming
Events



Give
Online



Join
our
Live-
stream



TODAY’S WORSHIP TEAM	
Preaching:	Rev. Sharon Bowers, Lead Pastor
Liturgist:	Diane Whittenburg
Children’s Message:	Don Stansfield III
Nursery Host:	Hostess
Organist / Pianist:	Paulette Johnson
Music:	Chancel Choir
Sound / Livestream	Christian Martin / Fletcher Sherrill / Zy Neal
ANNOUNCEMENTS	
Foundations: A New Member Class has been postponed until Pastor Chase returns from paternity leave.	
The Bible Told Them So Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the La Rue Room. Beginning September 22, 2026. Join us for an 8-week study exploring faith, history, and our call to live as compassionate witnesses. Books are available. All are welcome!	
Throughout the month of October , Asbury UMC is collecting canned pork and beans for My Neighbor's House . Donations may be placed in the Sisters by Grace classroom or brought to the church office. Thank you for your generosity as we share Christ's love by caring for our neighbors in need.	
New Bible Study: Forgiveness, Finding Peace Through Letting Go October 1 (6 weeks), Thursdays 6:00–7:30 P.M. Join us this fall as we explore forgiveness with Adam Hamilton and discover how letting go of grudges can open our hearts more fully to God's grace. **Bring a friend and join us for this meaningful study! ** Interested? Please sign up through Church Center. For more information, please contact John Reviere.	

MORNING WORSHIP		
October 4, 2026		
RESPONSE TO THE WORD		
	† An offering is collected to support the mission of Asbury UMC to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.	
Giving Our Tithes & Offerings	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. Sharon Bowers
Anthem (Organ Offertory)	"Instrumental"	Paulette Johnson
Doxology	See Insert	UMH #95
HOLY COMMUNION		
Holy Communion	A Service of Word and Table	UMH #12
Giving of the Bread & Cup		UMH #12
Hymn of Invitation*	"Are Ye Able	UMH #530
SENDING FORTH		
Benediction*		Rev. Sharon Bowers
Peace*	Minister: The Peace of Christ be always with you. People: And also with you.	
Postlude*	"Instrumental"	Paulette Johnson
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.

Prayer of Confession
Let us pray together: Gracious and loving God, We confess that too often we have placed our confidence in what we have accomplished rather than in knowing You. We have held tightly to our titles, our traditions, our successes, and our own understanding of righteousness. We have allowed our past to define us. We have carried old hurts, old failures, old disappointments, and old divisions into places where You were calling us to move forward. Forgive us, O God. Help us to count as loss whatever keeps us from knowing Christ more deeply. Free us from the need to prove ourselves. Free us from comparing ourselves with others. Free us from anything that keeps us from loving our sisters and brothers as one family in Christ. On this World Communion Sunday, remind us that Your table is bigger than our differences. Amen.
Pastoral Blessing
Remember that God is not finished with us yet. So we surrender our past, we trust You with our present, and we place our future in Your hands. Help us keep our eyes on the prize. Help us keep pressing. Help us keep loving. Help us keep growing. Help us keep reaching. And above all, help us keep knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our prize, Amen.

World Communion Sunday Word and Table II (UMH 12-15)

On the first Sunday in October, United Methodist congregations joined many Christian churches across the globe in celebrating [World Communion Sunday](#).

World Communion Sunday began as World-Wide Communion Sunday at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1933. The Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr and his congregation sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of Christian churches, regardless of denomination. Rev. Kerr appropriately chose the sacrament of Holy Communion to symbolize this unity.

“The term [Holy Communion](#) invites us to focus...on the holiness of our communion with God and one another,” states [This Holy Mystery](#), The United Methodist Church’s official statement on the sacrament.

In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, which included all of the predecessor denominations of The United Methodist Church, adopted World-Wide Communion Sunday. The global celebration occurs on the first Sunday in October.

In connection with the celebration of World-Wide Communion Sunday, the Methodist Church collected a special offering for the Fellowship of Suffering and Service. The Methodist Commission on Overseas Relief, the forerunner of today’s [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#) received half of the offering. The other half was divided between two agencies that ministered to military members: the Methodist Commission on Chaplains and the Methodist Commission on Camp Activity. Continued on the next page.

World Communion Sunday Continued

World Communion Sunday was adopted by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1936 and endorsed globally in 1940 by the Federal Council of Churches (Now the National Council of Churches) to promote ecumenical cooperation and Christian Fellowship.

Today The United Methodist Church celebrates World Communion Sunday with congregations all over the globe. Followers of Jesus Christ in large churches and small, on farms and in cities, in ornate buildings and under tents, gather to receive the bread and cup of Holy Communion.

- Some will receive cubes of bread. Some will tear from a common loaf. Some will receive a wafer.
- Some will drink from a common chalice. Some will dip a piece of bread into the cup. Some will have individual glasses.
- Some will use wine; some juice. Some will offer both.
- Pastors will lead a variety of liturgies, in many languages. Clergy will dress traditionally, formally, and casually.

Despite the differences in our denominations and traditions, we celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. In The United Methodist Church, World Communion Sunday continues to be a special giving Sunday. The monies raised today help provide scholarships for racial and ethnic minority students in the US, and students worldwide. Give generously to The United Methodist Church’s World Communion offering. Your gifts will assist those whom God has gifted to learn and to serve in the name of Jesus Christ.