

**SPECIAL  
SUNDAY**

**“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is,  
‘What are you doing for others?’”**

*- REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.*



## HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Human Relations Day is one of six churchwide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church. This day invites congregations to strengthen communities, especially those facing poverty, injustice, or lack of opportunity. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of the "beloved community." Human Relations Day calls us to build relationships rooted in dignity, equity, and love

**SCAN WITH YOUR PHONES CAMERA FOR MORE INFORMATION**

View Our  
Prayer List



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Our  
Coming  
Events



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stream



 A United Methodist Church

2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

THE 18TH DAY OF JANUARY 2026

TEN O'CLOCK

201 SOUTH MAIN STREET . GREENEVILLE, TN 37743

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

## MORNING WORSHIP

JANUARY 18, 2026

### THE GATHERING

Prelude & Bringing In The Light

""My Jesus, I Love Thee"  
arr. Don Hustad

Ed Logan

### 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\*      "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus "      UMH #462

The Apostles Creed \*      See Insert      UMH #881

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\*      † Afterward, the people may be seated.

The Children's Message      Don Stansfield III

Prayer of Confession      See Insert      Liturgist

### CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

Call to Prayer      "Spirit of the Living God"      UMH# 393  
Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer      Rev. Sharon Bowers

The Lord's Prayer      See Insert      Rev. Sharon Bowers

### Attendance for January 11, 2026

Sunday School	14	Livestream Views	399
Traditional Service 11 am	60	Children's Church	03
Contemporary Service 10 am	15	Daycare Chapel	23
Morning Pointe Senior Center	23		

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM	
Preaching:	Rev. Sharon Bowers, Lead Pastor
Liturgist:	Jeff Taylor
Children's Message:	Don Stansfield III
Organist/Pianist:	Ed Logan
Music:	Choir
Sounds/Livestream:	Christian Martin / Fletcher Sherrill / Zy Neal

<b>Children's Ministry</b> Wednesdays 5:15–7:00 p.m. Asbury Fellowship Hall / Rotating Locations 3 Churches 1 Mission / Asbury-Pruitt Hill-Tate Chapel
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<b>Community Outreach</b> <b>Morning Pointe Senior Center</b> Thursdays   10-10:30 a.m. Come share scripture and encouragement with our beloved seniors.
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<b>Bible Studies Coming In January</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>Wrestling with Doubt: Finding Faith</i> by Adam Hamilton</b> A small-group study that creates a safe space for the honest questions many Christians carry quietly, offering guidance for discovering a deeper and more resilient faith. Mondays   Beginning January 12th   6:00 p.m. Contact John Reviere for additional information.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>Spiritual Practices for Soul Care</i> by Rev. Dr. Barbara L. Peacock</b> For those longing for a richer experience of God, this study introduces forty practices that help integrate spiritual disciplines into everyday life. Wednesdays   Beginning January 28th   11:00 a.m. **</li> </ul>

<b><i>Pursued: God's Relentless Love for You (Women's Bible Study)</i> by Jennifer Cowart</b> Explore the sweeping story of Scripture to see how God faithfully and lovingly pursues His people throughout biblical history—and continues to pursue us today. Mondays   Beginning January 26th @ 6:00 p.m. **
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\*\* Contact Rev. Bowers or Kathy in the office if you have questions or are interested.

<b>MORNING WORSHIP</b>		
JANUARY 18, 2026		
<b>PROCLAMING THE WORD</b>		
The Scripture Lesson*	James 1: 2-4, 12	Jeff Taylor
The Message	Count It All Joy!	Rev. Sharon Bowers
<b>RESPONSE TO THE WORD</b>		
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.	
Offertory Prayer		Rev. Sharon Bowers
Anthem (Organ Offertory)	"Be Glad, My Soul" arr. J.G. Walther	Ed Logan
Doxology	See Insert	UMH #95
Hymn of Invitation*	"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"	UMH #140
<b>SENDING FORTH</b>		
Benediction*		Rev. Sharon Bowers
Peace*	Minister: The Peace of Christ be always with you. People: An also with you.	
Postlude*	"When in our Music, God Is Glorified" Arr. Charles Ore	Ed Logan
Childcare is available in the children's area , an usher can guide you.		

## 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

## Committee Spotlight - Administrative Council

As we begin a new year of service, we give thanks for our Administrative Council and its leadership under **Chair Bill Brown**. We pray for wisdom, unity, and joy as they guide the mission and ministry of our church. Please keep them in your prayers as they serve faithfully in this new year.

### Duties of the Administrative Council:

The Administrative Council is the primary body responsible for coordinating and guiding the ministry and mission of the local church. Its duties include:

- Vision & Mission
  - Ensuring that all ministries and committees align with the church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ
  - Prayerfully discerning goals and priorities for the life of the church
- Coordination of Ministry
  - Coordinating the work of all committees, teams, and ministries
  - Avoiding duplication of efforts and encouraging collaboration
- Oversight & Accountability
  - Providing leadership and oversight for the spiritual and administrative health of the congregation
  - Reviewing ministry reports and evaluating progress toward goals
- Strategic Planning
  - Engaging in short- and long-term planning for growth, outreach, and discipleship
  - Responding faithfully to the needs of the congregation and community
- Connectional Responsibility
  - Supporting the work of the United Methodist Church beyond the local congregation
  - Upholding the Book of Discipline and conference expectations
- Spiritual Leadership
  - Leading with prayer, faith, and discernment
  - Modeling servant leadership, unity, and Christian witness

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Let us know you're here:** Check in on the Church Center app, complete a connection card at [www.asburylife.org](http://www.asburylife.org), or sign the red registration pad in your pew. Everyone—visitors and members alike—are welcome to connect. Please let us know if you would like to become a member or learn more about our church. Visit our online church calendar at <https://asburylife.org/coming-up-at-asbury>.

- We are excited to invite you to partner with us by sponsoring and praying for a middle or high school student (grades 6-12) to attend Resurrection 2026, a premier Christian youth conference held at the LeConte Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Please see bulletin insert for additional information. Please include "Resurrection 2026" in the memo line of your check or write on your offering envelope. Thank you
- Accessibility Update We're grateful to share that two wheelchair-accessible seating areas are now available in the sanctuary. These spaces are located near the back of the sanctuary, adjacent to the narthex on both the left and right sides, and are designed to offer clear sightlines, comfort, and full participation in worship. Handicap-accessible parking is available in the ACEC lot, with easy access to the elevator at the breezeway entrance. A ramp is also available at the main street entrance. If you or someone with you would benefit from these accommodations, please feel free to use them. No special request needed.
- UMW—All Ladies Welcome to our next meeting this Wednesday, January 21st at 11:30 pm. Our hostess is: Sandra Fox, meeting location 225 Chuckey Overlook, Chuckey, TN. Contact Doris Allen 423-329-9092 for more information.

## Prayer Requests

- Please continue to lift in prayer the young people and adults who will be attending **Resurrection 2026 on January 23-25**. Pray that God will move powerfully, making this a life-changing experience where the presence and power of Jesus Christ are deeply felt. Ask the Lord to open hearts, renew spirits, strengthen faith, and ignite a lasting desire to follow Christ. Please also pray for safe travel, impactful worship, and that the fruits of this weekend will continue to transform lives long after it concludes.
- Rev. Linda & Allen Bass, both are undergoing cancer treatment's.

## Prayer of Confession

Leader:

Merciful God, sometimes life is hard, and we carry sorrow, disappointment, and regret. Help us to remember that even in the night, God's joy is at work.

**People:** Remind us that you always bring healing, hope, and new beginnings.

Leader: We admit that fear, anger, and misunderstanding sometimes take hold of our hearts.

**People:** Teach us to let go and let God!

Leader: We confess that we have doubted Your goodness and forgotten that Your joy is our strength.

**People:** Forgive us, Lord.

**All:** Help us release our burdens into Your care, acknowledging that God's mercy is greater than our mistakes, and God's grace is stronger than our fear. 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.

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above the heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

## Pastoral Blessing

### Count It All Joy

When tears fall from your eyes, and it feels like your plea falls on deaf ears, may you remember that God is as close as the faintest cry of your heart.

When friends and family feel distant, and the road feels longer than you expected, may you know that you are not walking alone—God's presence surrounds you even now.

When trials test your faith and the weight feels heavy, may perseverance take root within you, shaping strength, wisdom, and hope.

And when joy feels hard to find, may God give you the grace to count it all joy—not because the struggle is easy, but because God is faithful and the blessing is on the other side.

Go in peace.  
Go in courage.  
Go knowing that God is near, your faith is growing,  
and joy—deep, lasting joy—is still yours.  
Amen

