

NEWS, EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

January Donations:

Asbury Food Cupboard: hand, body lotions, canned fruit

Asbury Baby Box: diapers

January 5, 2022: UMW 7pm

January 9, 2022: All Acme Receipts are due by this date.

January 10, 2022 – Admin board 7 pm

January 16, 2022: Human Relations Day-Your gift supports ministries of social justice and outreach. The community Developers Program. United Methodist Voluntary Services Program Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

The Custodian Job here at Asbury is available If you are interested or have someone in mind that might be interested, please contact the office.

Asbury is in need of acolyte and greeter co-ordinators. Please see Sharon if interested. Thank you

OFFICE HOURS: 9 am – 12:30 pm. Tues-Thurs

Pastor Mike Contact Information

email: pastormike@outlook.com

Asbury 330-484-4500: asburyridgeaveumc@outlook.com

www.asbury-ridgeave.org

Pastors Moment

The curtains are often drawn in God's waiting room. It's exciting to gaze ahead, but faith grows best in the dark. Life in the sunshine is so exhilarating that we seldom notice our faith beginning to droop. It's when things are dim, that spiritual life mushrooms.

God's saints accomplish great things while staggering around in dazed bewilderment. 'By faith,' says Scripture, 'Abraham, . . . went out, *not knowing* whither he went.' (Hebrews 11:8) 'I go bound in the Spirit to Jerusalem,' said Paul, '*not knowing* the things that shall befall me there.' (Acts 20:22) The disciples were frequently stunned or mystified by Christ's words and behavior. The psalmists were forever asking, 'Why?' (Psalm 10:1; 22:1; 42:9; 43:2; 44:23; 74:1; 88:14) And in the midst of his suffering, Job didn't have a clue what was going on.

In the gloom, qualities like faith, grit, and dedication, are stretched to limits we have never before reached. Yet life seems so oppressive we are oblivious to our triumphs.

Sometimes life seems hopeless. Every day it feels you've slumped another notch. To maintain even a glimmer of faith in such darkness is a spectacular victory. It may take everything you've got just to hold on. But do it. You are pumping spiritual iron.

Earth sees us flattened on the wrestling ring canvas in faith's fight. Heaven sees us forming on the canvas of the Great Artist.

Half-completed works of art look ugly. All that matters, however, is the finished masterpiece. Forget appearances. Yield to the Artist. The result will be breath-taking.

'Dark Blessings' by Grantley Morris



ASBURY

*United Methodist Church
7344 Ridge Ave SE
East Sparta, Ohio 44626*



Pastor Mike Bradford

January 2, 2022

*Asbury's mission is
to serve God, to make disciples,
and bring faith into the community.*

Order of Worship

Sunday, January 2, 2022

*Those who are able, please stand

Greeting & Announcements

Prelude *We Three Kings*

*+Hymn We Three Kings on screen (254)

Call to Worship *Isaiah 60:1-5*

Leader: Arise, Jerusalem, and shine like the sun.

**Congregation: The glory of the LORD
is shining on you!**

Leader: Other nations will be covered by darkness,

**Congregation: but on you the light of the LORD
will shine;**

Leader: the brightness of His presence will be with you.

**Congregation: Nations will be drawn to Your light,
and kings to the dawning of Your new day.**

Leader: Look around you and see what is happening.
Your people are gathering to come home!

**Congregation: Your sons will come from far away;
Your daughters will be carried like children.**

Leader: You will see this and be filled with joy;

All: You will tremble with excitement...

Sharing of Praises & Concerns

+Hymn *There's a Song In the Air on screen (249)*

Pastoral Prayer

Children's Moment

Children will remain in their seats for today's video clip
(You can find the Children's Video on our Website)

Presenting Ourselves & Our Gifts

*Doxology On Screen (95)

Today's Video

Today's Message

Matthew 2:1-12

Jesus is Here: "We Have Seen His Star..."

Communion *hymnal (12)*

Sending Forth/Sending the Light

*+Hymn *The First Noel onscreen (245)*

Benediction

Prayer Requests

ASBURY

Keith & Melanie B, Heppe Family, Mark H, Debbie M,
Neading Family, Karlene R, Charlotte & Lee R,
Robinson Family, Susie W.

ASBURY FRIENDS

Eldon C, Sammy J, Lori K, Pauline L, Virginia M,
Dave N family, Jack S, Joe T, Cindy W, Kevin, Andy, Janie,
Mason, our nation and our world.

HOMEBOUND & SKILLED CARE RESIDENTS

Barbara B, Phyllis C, Hallie F, Florence H,
Della J, Stan T, Anna T.

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS

Austin B, Ana R, Jacob R,
Kyle R, Lloyd R, Brian R.

Asbury extends sympathy to the family of Dave Naus.

*+Musical arrangement or lyrics may differ
from the hymnal.*

*Attendance for December 26, 2021
Sunday School 22 Worship 38*

2022 ASBURY FINANCE UPDATE

Needed each week -- \$1,599

Collected last week -- \$2,582

