



**Asbury United Methodist Church**

Wellman, IA

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Pastor Lisa Crow**

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**Sunday School: 9:30 AM    Worship: 10:30 AM**

## June 2026

**VBS Update** Once again, Kalona UMC and Asbury UMC will be teaming up to offer a fantastic Vacation Bible School experience! The big event will run from Sunday, July 26 through Wednesday, July 29, 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Kalona. More details will be coming soon, but for now, mark your calendars!



There will be a **PLANNING MEETING on Sunday, June 14 at 1:00 PM at Kalona**. Asbury VBS volunteers, please plan to attend!

### **PowerPoint & Sound Tech Training:**

We are looking for a few new people to join our A-V team that creates PowerPoint slides and runs the computer system during worship. Some of this work can be done from home! Mike will be offering training for new people and a refresher course for the current team on Sunday, June 7 after worship. Please speak to Mike if you think this is a way you could serve our church!

**Annual Conference June 11-14:** Please be in prayer for Pastor Lisa and our Lay Delegate (Bill Pooch-KUMC / Melody Rowe-Asbury) as they represent our church at Annual Conference in Des Moines June 11-14. Meg

Nagel will be preaching on Sunday, June 14th, so come ready to hear an inspiring message!

**Pastor Lisa Away for Vacation:** Pastor Lisa will be away for vacation from Monday, June 29 - Monday, July 6. If you are in need of emergency pastoral care during her absence, please contact Pastor Alyssa Nantt (Washington) at 410-443-1115.

**Congratulations, Church!** Asbury received recognition from the Iowa Annual Conference for achieving 100% of our Apportionment giving for 2025! Apportionments enable United Methodist churches to work together to support ministries at the state, national, and global level. Through apportionments, we contribute to ministry efforts that are much broader in scope than any individual local church could accomplish. Our 100% Apportionment recognition reflects both the faithful giving of our congregation AND our consistent efforts to reduce expenses. Thank you for all the ways you made this achievement possible in 2025!

**Nursery Available During Worship:** We are excited to announce that Asbury now offers nursery care during worship! The nursery is located just next to the restroom. Following the children's message, children aged newborn-2nd grade are welcome to come play and learn about Jesus, allowing their parents to relax and focus on worship. All nursery attendants have passed a background screening and love children! So rest assured that your little ones are in good hands.

## Pastor's Note: Faith—Marathon vs. Sprint?

Recently, I was reminded about the difference between running a sprint and running a marathon. Even if you aren't a runner, you probably remember running in PE as a child, maybe even running the mile for the Presidential Fitness Test (that was the *worst!!*). I'm sure it's nothing new to you, then, the differences between sprinting a short distance and running a longer distance. When you watch people who are running a sprint, you see them explode out of the blocks as quickly as possible and run as hard and fast as they can the entire race. At the end of the race, they lean into the finish line— heads forward, arms outstretched. They are out of breath, but they usually jog a little bit further than the finish line and circle back around to see their results. Sometimes they are even able to be interviewed (I have yet to understand why they can't wait a minute to ask them questions).

When you watch people running a marathon, it is a much different scene. No need for blocks at the starting line. They don't even start with all of the runners at the starting line. The gun goes off and the runners begin to jog. If the runners go out too fast, they won't have enough left in the tank to finish the race. Along the route there are aid stations that provide energy gels, water, electrolytes, and nutrition. There are also outhouses, medical tents and encouragers. At the end of the race, it is a very different scene than that of a sprint. The runners of a marathon cross the finish line and oftentimes collapse. People are there at the finish line to cover them in Mylar blankets and tend to their injuries and dehydration in a medical tent. I have seen people puking, lying on the ground, and even passing out at the end of a marathon.

When we think about our faith journey as running the race, I think there are times for both sprinting and marathon running. Sometimes we are sprinting to meet deadlines like having everything ready for Sunday or VBS. But for the long haul, we should be thinking about our faith journey as a marathon. Faith is, after all, a life-long journey. If we try to do too much at once, we are likely to get burned out and are in danger of falling away from the church and our faith all together. We need to have stations along the route that help to nourish us. Small groups where we can learn about God and deepen our faith. Encouragers that run alongside us so that we don't give up. And pastors and lay people who are there to tend to any wounds we may suffer along the way.

It's important to remember to rest along the way, too. After all, even God rested after completing creation. Jesus modeled rest for us throughout his ministry as he was continually going off on a mountain to pray. As we think about the ways that we need to care for ourselves and others, I wonder. Do you find that you are trying to do too much, constantly feeling like you are sprinting? Short seasons of sprinting are ok, but no one can sprint for very long without completely exhausting themselves. Maybe you feel like you are on the verge of burnout and need to find a better pace. The most important thing is that we continue to run the race— that is, to continue to learn and grow in our faith. To grow in our love of God and love of neighbor.

This journey of faith is meant to be a blessing to you and to the people that God puts in your way. So, as you are "running the race" that is laid out in front of you, I am cheering you on to continue to run with endurance, to find a pace that is sustainable for a lifelong journey. And to remind you to rest, too. You are an important part of the work that God is doing in this church, and we need you to stick around!

*"So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter."-- Hebrews 12:1-2a*

Running alongside you,

Pastor Lisa

## Scripture Readings for June

### Scripture Readings for June 1-7:

Monday: Job 38:39—39:12, Psalm 29,  
1 Corinthians 12:1-3  
Tuesday: Job 39:13-25, 1 Corinthians 12:4-13  
Wednesday: Job 39:26—40:5, John 14:25-26  
Thursday: Proverbs 12:22-28, Philippians 2:19-24  
Friday: Isaiah 26:1-6, Philippians 2:25-30  
Saturday: Isaiah 31:1-9, Luke 11:14-23  
Sunday: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5, Matthew 6:24-34

### Scripture Readings for June 22-28:

Monday: Genesis 22:1-14, Exodus 13:2, 1-16; 22:29;  
34:19-20, Psalm 13  
Tuesday: Genesis 22:15-24, Hebrews 11:1-19  
Wednesday: Genesis 23, Romans 6:12-14  
Thursday: Romans 6:15-19, Matthew 10:40-42  
Friday: Romans 6:20-23, Matthew 11:1-6  
Saturday: Matthew 11:7-15, Malachi 4:1-6  
Sunday: Romans 7:1-6, Romans 7:7-13

### Scripture Readings for June 8-14:

Monday: 1 Kings 21:1-16, Galatians 2:15-21,  
Psalm 5:1-8  
Tuesday: 1 Kings 21:17-29, Luke 7:36-50  
Wednesday: Galatians 3:1-5, Luke 8:1-3  
Thursday: Galatians 3:6-9, Luke 8:4-15  
Friday: Galatians 3:10-14, Luke 8:16-18  
Saturday: Galatians 3:15-18, Luke 8:19-21  
Sunday: Luke 7:36 – 8:3, Galatians 3:19-22

### Scripture Readings for June 29 – July 5:

Monday: Romans 7:14-25, Matthew 11:16-19,  
Psalm 45:10-17  
Tuesday: Genesis 24:1-9, Matthew 11:20-24  
Wednesday: Genesis 24:10-27, Matthew 11:25-27  
Thursday: Genesis 24:28-51, Matthew 11:28-30  
Friday: Genesis 24:52-67, Matthew 12:1-8  
Saturday: Song of Solomon 2:8-13, Matthew 12:9-14  
Sunday: Matthew 12:15-21, Matthew 12:22-32

### Scripture Readings for June 15-21:

Monday: Genesis 19:1-11, Matthew 10:24-25, Psalm  
17  
Tuesday: Genesis 19:12-29, Matthew 10:26-33  
Wednesday: Genesis 19:30-38, Matthew 10:34-39  
Thursday: Genesis 20, Romans 5:12-21  
Friday: Genesis 21:1-7, Romans 6:1-4  
Saturday: Genesis 21:8-21, Romans 6:5-11  
Sunday: Matthew 10:24-39, Genesis 21:22-34

## **JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES!!!**

- 8 Carol Roush, Nora Pennington
- 10 Leah Kelley
- 12 Joe Semler, Jodee Seward
- 13 Marilyn Powell
- 15 Janice Berger
- 18 Alison Meade
- 22 Emily Pennington, Pastor Lisa Crow
- 23 Jared & Becca Droll, Nathaniel Crow
- 26 Jerry Nelson
- 27 Phil Conaway
- 28 Becky Swartzendruber

<b>Finance Summary</b>	
General Budget and Conference Claims	
Year-to-date offerings	31,179.49
Year-to-date expenses paid	(37,069.23)
Year-to-date overage/(shortfall)	(5,889.74)

Date	Ushers	Coffee Servers
6/7	Powells	Powells
6/14	L&M Whetstine	Donna Palmer
6/21	E&S Whetstine	E&S Whetstine
6/28	Beans & Cooper/Ehrenfelts	Beans

Date	Nursery Coverage										
	Alissa	Becca	Carol	Deb	Donna	Emily	Genea	Kym	Melody	[Emma]	[Lucy]
6/7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date	Sound/PowerPoint Coverage						
	Lori	Anita	Donna	Mike	Maria	Emily	Gracyn
6/7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6/21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date	PowerPoint Prep					
	Lori	Anita	Donna	Mike	Emily	Gracyn
6/7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6/21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date	Song Leader					
	Lori	Maria	Mike	Pam	Melody	Shauna
6/7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

