



## Asbury United Methodist Church

Vision: To Make Disciples and Share God's Love

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Website: [www.asbury-wellman.com](http://www.asbury-wellman.com)

Moody Colorado, Pastor

Church Office: 319-646-2417 Parsonage: 319-646-2734

Cell Phone: 319-458-0496

Adult School 8:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m.

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## February 2018

### **Asbury Scholarships:**

Applications are now being accepted for Asbury UMC scholarships. These scholarships are available to members of Asbury, children, or grandchildren of Asbury members. If interested, go to [www.asbury-wellman.com](http://www.asbury-wellman.com) to download your application. If you have further questions, call 646-2417 or email Shauna at [asburyumc2@netins.net](mailto:asburyumc2@netins.net). **The application deadline is April 1.**

### **Methodist Student Scholarships:**

The Iowa United Methodist Foundation has posted a list of scholarship opportunities for current and future college students. The deadline for these scholarships is March 15th. For details please visit <http://www.iumpf.org/scholarships>

**Valentine's Boxes:** Asbury will be sending care packages to our college students for Valentine's Day. Good things to include are pens, highlighters, stamps, popcorn, trail mix and all sorts of snacks! Please place your gifts on the table at the back of the church. Parents, please update the church office with your students' addresses!

**Lenten Study:** Asbury will be holding a Lenten Study on Tuesday Mornings, 10:00 AM, between February 20 and March 27. Please speak to Pastor Moody about obtaining the book.

### **Low-cost Counseling Available:**

Kate Slater from West Union Mennonite is working toward a Master's degree in Counseling. Over the next six months, to meet her degree requirements, she will be offering low-cost counseling to people in the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids area. For clients without insurance, this is a good opportunity to receive affordable care in a private practice setting (Cornerstone Brief Therapy in Cedar Rapids and Coralville).

Although she has a special interest in Christian counseling, Kate provides counseling for clients of any faith or no faith background. If you or someone you know could benefit from counseling support, please contact Kate at [kslater@paloaltou.edu](mailto:kslater@paloaltou.edu) or at 319-895-2395. The initial session is free of charge and subsequent sessions are \$25. This fee can be negotiated if cost is an obstacle.



## Pastor's Note

### The Problem is the Flesh

On January 24, 2018, the Olympic Doctor Larry Nassar was finally sentenced after seven days of testimonies of his victims. Over 160 women came forward to condemn Larry Nassar. He was sentenced to 175 years of imprisonment for molesting the girls. On top of this sentence is the 60 years sentence already given him by the County Court for child pornography. He is 54 years old and could be dead even before he could start his second sentence.

One of the lectionary readings on January 21st was Corinthians 7:27-31. Here, Paul discussed the troubles that women go through. Paul says that whatever the case may be there will be trouble in the flesh. He warns everyone to carefully discern his/her individual calling from the Lord and overcome temptation. Paul set an example for choosing the concerns of the Lord's affairs in the world as the key to overcoming the temptations of the flesh.

Although the human has greater intelligence than any animal in the planet, this world has seen mind boggling heinous crimes worst than all fierce animals combined. What could be the causes of two world wars than the very temptations of the human flesh with all its worldly desires and ambitions? The victims of sexual abuse named the accused as an "evil monster." The judge called him "sick" who should have sought treatment for his disease. His disease was feeding the temptation of his flesh. His choice to feed his flesh at the expense of the very young girls made him evil.

Left alone, the flesh is more inclined toward godlessness. This is every human's inheritance from Adam. Such is but natural tendency. The success of Jesus becomes an offer of help to break the natural tendency. Jesus' Spirit helps us to overcome temptations. Jesus came down in the flesh. He fasted forty days and became hungry. He was subjected to powerful temptations at the time that he was vulnerable to the cravings of the flesh. Jesus declared, "Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the flesh is weak but the spirit is willing." (Matthew 26:41).

The experience of Faith and Salvation is an experience wherein the believer is grasped by the grace of God like what a bachelor experiences when falling in love. But we know the Spirit of the Lord because Jesus sets the believer free. The devil's grasp is opposite. When the devil grasps a human, the human is enslaved and obeys the whims of evil in various forms of addiction of the flesh.

In the next life, the believers shall live in heaven leaving behind the flesh. No more hunger. No more pain. No more cravings and desires of the flesh. Since the flesh is causing so much trouble in the world, the new form that God would give the believers would be something that will no longer be vulnerable to temptations. If only the humans could tame the flesh on earth, this planet could be heaven. By Jesus it is possible, if only the world would be willing to hear Him.

The same flesh that praises God could be the same flesh that speaks evil lies. The body is a representation of something, it can be either evil or godly. So, let your body be counted for the godly side. Remember James 4:7, "Submit yourselves unto God. Resist the devil and the devil will flee." Amen.

**Finance Summary  
January 2018**

General Budget and Conference Claims

<b>YTD Needs</b>	10,296.00
<b>YTD Gifts</b>	7,893.00
<b>Overall YTD shortfall</b>	(2,403.00)



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES!!!**

- 1 Caleb Debler, Pastor Moody
- 2 Diane Pippert, Peyton Greiner
- 3 Ryan Swartzendruber
- 4 Amanda Miller
- 5 Tracy McVey, Ben Roush, Bob Swartzendruber
- 6 Harold Murphy, Kevin Cortum
- 7 Melanie Stutzman
- 8 Randy Jirsa
- 14 Jim Goodrich
- 16 Blake Albright
- 17 Brandon Edgington
- 18 Becca Droll
- 19 T.J. Powell, Tom Moss, Jeff Bean
- 25 Linda Kempf
- 28 Genea Bean

