



“LORD, WHAT
DO YOU
WANT TO DO
THROUGH
ME?”

Letter from Senior Pastor Gayla

Almost 62 years ago, a dream began in Prairie Village. That dream was to build a Methodist Church in a growing part of Kansas City. Houses were being built, young families were moving in, and there was a need for a place where those families could worship and grow in faith. For over six decades, Asbury has been a place where people have gathered to worship, learn, sing and serve. Lives have been changed as people have found a place for fellowship and community. The generosity of those who came before us has been a strong foundation upon which our church has been built.

Building on the foundation that is our rock, we look to the future. There are new visions and dreams – new people and new opportunities for ministry. We are preparing our church to continue in this great legacy of ministry that has been handed to us.



The opportunities for ministry and growth this campaign provides our exciting. They allow us to not only build on what has been, but also give each of us the opportunity to be part of what God is still doing here at Asbury Church.

I invite you to join with me as we pray together, "Lord what would you have me do?" This question will help you reflect upon your commitment to Asbury and this campaign. Those young families who 60 years ago built this place where we know worship might've asked that same question. We are blessed because they responded in faith and courage. May God use each of us to be a firm foundation--a rock -- upon which the church continues to be built.

Blessings,
Rev. Gayla Rapp

The Story Began

Almost 62 years ago, a group of 10 adults and 4 children met in Prairie Village home to worship and grow together in faith. In 1955, the conference appointed Rev. Al Hager to serve as the senior pastor at Asbury Church. From those beginnings, Asbury has continued to grow with the additions to the church facility including Sunday school rooms for adults and children, space for Asbury's excellent music ministry, along with the chapel and sanctuary—both beautiful places for worship. These spaces have enabled Asbury to provide vibrant ministry to people of all ages and stages of life.

The Story Continues

Now, a new dream has been revealed to us. A dream that builds on the faithfulness of the past and a bright, emerging vision of the future that God is giving us. A special task force has been meeting to help bring that vision into focus through five areas of impact that will prepare Asbury to continue to live the story of the faith and commitment to Asbury Church. Just as Jesus told Peter, "you are Peter, and upon this rock, I shall build my church," we seek to build a solid foundation upon which progressive and inclusive Christianity will be practiced and preached for many years to come.



5 Areas of Focus for the UPON THIS ROCK Campaign

First Impression: Projects to make a powerful, positive first and lasting impression including a more visible reception area, renovation of bathrooms, additional lighting, and renovation of interior entrance to the Office/West-Sanctuary



Sanctuary & Worship :

Continuing excellence in worship and the celebration of important events that celebrate life through upgraded audio and visual equipment, creating ease of movement by moving pews, updating windows and flooring

Conversation & Community:

Respecting the importance of community and education by renovating the welcome center space for easier movement, updating Sunday School classrooms for adults and children to include technology and furniture to enhance education, updating the Hager Hall kitchen, and remodeling the office are to include additional meeting spaces for classes and small groups

Environmental

Stewardship: Upgrading the HVAC system and providing better and brighter lighting throughout the facility that is environmentally sustainable and efficient



Mission: Commitment to tithing (10%) of the campaign funds toward mission invested in the Asbury Foundation to provide scholarships for Asbury members going on mission trips.

Please Pray Daily

- That Asbury United Methodist Church continues to provide vibrant ministry to people of all ages and stages of life.
- That through the five focus areas of the campaign, we will continue to live the story of the faith and commitment of Asbury Church.
- That we focus on our relationship with God.
- For those in leadership of Asbury United Methodist Church and the **Upon this Rock** Campaign.
- **Lord, What do you want to do through me?**

Key dates

February 21-22
Gratitude Sunday

March 7-8
Celebration Event

March 14-15
Commitment Sunday

March 28-29
Announcement Sunday



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