

Ashland City United Methodist Church
2226 Oak Street, Ashland City, TN 37015



PASTOR: Allison Gilliam
Pastor's Cell: 615-945-8974
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30-11:30
acgishggsmom2004@gmail.com

Church Office: 615-792-4631
churchoffice@ashlandcityumc.com
Office Hours: Mon 8:00-12:00 Tues-Thurs 8:00-10:30

February 1, 2026



Dear Friends,

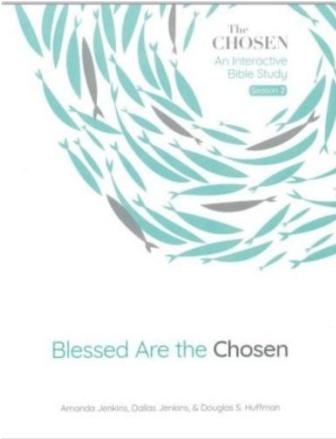
Wednesday, February 18, 2026 is Ash Wednesday. Ashland City United Methodist Church will offer an Ash Wednesday worship service with the imposition of the ashes at 7:00 pm. The ashes from the burning of last year's palm fronds from Palm Sunday are placed on the forehead of those who wish to participate as a sign of repentance and a reminder of our mortality. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season of preparation for the celebration of Easter. This holy day is not a holiday from work, school, or most other obligations, so if we are not intentional in our observance it is likely to resemble any ordinary Wednesday. Joe Lovino, from United Methodist Communications, offers some ideas to help us find ways to remember the holy in the midst of our routines.

1. Worship – Ashland City UMC offers an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm.
2. Serve – Make it a great day for others.
3. Give – Consider giving to your church, a charity, or a service project.
4. Abstain/Fast – Consider giving up gossip, defensive attitudes, or anxiety.
5. Pray – Pray your way through the day by praying for people you see.
6. Make Something – Pray by making something with your hands whether it is crafting, woodworking, or cooking a meal.
7. Be Still – Could you set aside an hour to be still and quiet and listen for the voice of God?
8. Clean something – As you clean or reorganize, consider how God cleanses us and renews us.
9. Burn something – Gather up those unwanted papers and safely burn them to remind yourself that our Savior has taken away our sins. They are no more.
10. Forgive and Seek Forgiveness – As we pray for forgiveness, we should also seek forgiveness from those we have wronged and offer forgiveness to those who have wronged us.

Consider how you will spend your time of preparation this Lent.

Blessings,

Allison

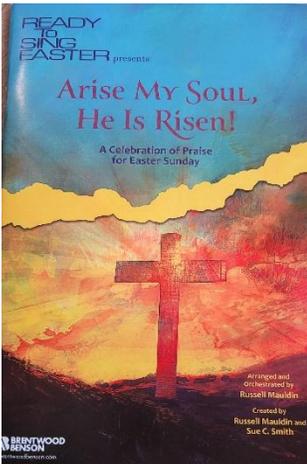


PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

The Pastor's Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 am.

We will be studying the life of Jesus using "*The Chosen*" television series, season 2 and *The Chosen Interactive Bible Study*, Season 2: *Blessed Are the Chosen* book. Please let Allison know if you would like her to order a book for you. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Fellowship hall.

EASTER CANTATA



The Ashland City United Methodist Church Chancel Choir will present their Easter Cantata on Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026 at the 10:00 am worship service. Mark your calendars.

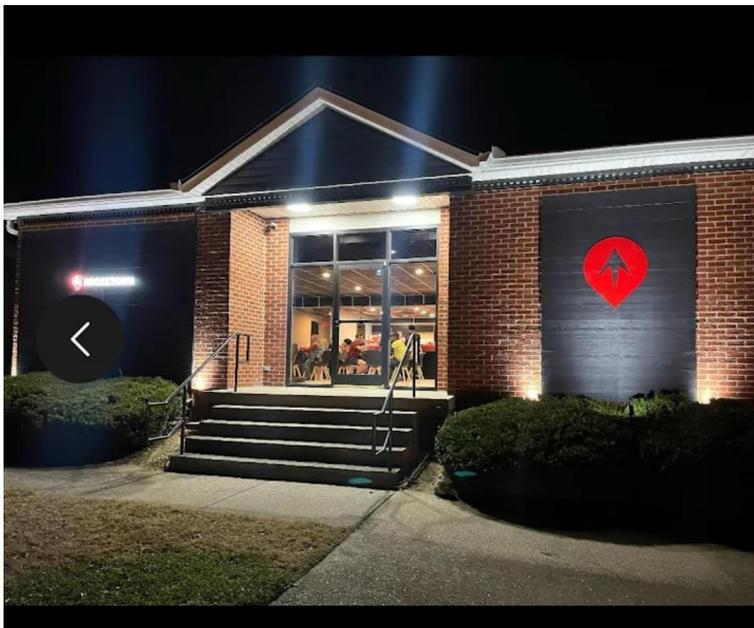
CELEBRATING WITH YOU

Ashland City UMC family and friends celebrate with Ares Hernandez-Ordonez, the son of Julio and Josephina Hernandez-Ordonez, who was baptized and became a full member of our church on November 16, 2026. We express our gratitude to his family for catering the fellowship meal following the service. The food was delicious and the opportunity to fellowship with Ares' extended family cherished by all.



We are proud of Ares, who chose to continue to explore God's calling upon his life by attending the Chrysalis Spiritual Retreat sponsored by the Upper Room. The retreat was held January 17-19, 2026 at Fellowship UMC in Murfreesboro, TN. We will continue to pray for Ares and nurture him in the Christian faith.

ROCKETOWN CHEATHAM GOING STRONG



Rocketown Cheatham is going strong under the leadership of Kylee Read. Kylee and her staff are making a difference in our community by providing a safe place for youth ages 12-18 to be and become. Rocketown is a place for teens to have fun, make friends, and launch a life of purpose and faith. Our Cheatham County location offers safe, welcoming after-school programming designed to help young people grow, connect, and thrive. They are open Monday through Friday from 2:30pm – 6:30 pm. Rocketown's Tuesday night family meal has been well attended by the students and their families. They receive a

free meal and a devotion. The amazing staff at Rocketown Cheatham has opened extended hours during school breaks and snow days to provide the youth a safe, warm place to be. Cheatham County is blessed to have this opportunity for our teens.

SENIOR JOY TRIP



The senior JOY trip for January was canceled due to inclement weather. We will reschedule for Wednesday, February 25, 2026. We will be going to Outback in Clarksville. Bus riders please meet at the church at 10:00 am or meet us at the restaurant at 11:00 am. Please text Allison 615-945-8974 or call the church office 615-792-4631 to make reservations.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Paul Randall Dickerson will be releasing a four-part series of **Monday Meditations** for the season of Lent. They will be available on YouTube on the Ashland City United Methodist Church Channel and on the Ashland City United Methodist Church Facebook page. Stay tuned and be ready for real talk regarding our struggle with temptation and sin! Thank you, PDR, for helping us start our weeks with focus.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The United Women in Faith of Ashland City United Methodist Church met Friday, January 9, 2026 in the fellowship hall. Penny Casteel presided over the meeting. Jane Barnes began her term as vice-president. She presented a program about our call to serve and challenged us to set

goals for 2026. The group chose the following goals: creating a little library outside with books available to the neighborhood, jail ministry, summer feeding program for children, trips to the Upper Room and Scarrit Bennett Center, participate in the Women's retreat at Beershaba Springs (May 1-3), increase participation and membership, and take a trip to Cheekwood in the spring. The women have started a new year in the reading program. Glenda Jacoway is our coordinator for that program and we have a library with books from these categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. The library includes children's books. The United Women in Faith invite any ladies to join them, members and friends, on the first Friday of each month at 10:00 am.

TO THE UWF:

Many heartfelt thanks for your donation to Ashland City Meals on Wheels. You have continually helped seniors in Cheatham County receive meals. May your blessing overflow for helping those less fortunate. *Sincerely, Tina Smith*

LADIES EVENING CIRCLE

The Ashland City UMC Ladies' Evening Circle met on January 12, 2026. They watched a video bible study, Images of God: God as Divine Warrior. They discussed God's presence in our lives and the struggles that we face. After discussion, there was a time of prayer for each of the participants. All ladies are welcome to join the Circle. The group is led by Debbie Fitzhugh. They meet the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm.

TO THE CONGREGATION:

My delay in writing is in no way indicative of the appreciation I have felt for the "goody bag" Allison and her friends brought before Christmas. I have enjoyed it so much, and especially it means so much to be remembered. I often think of all of you and the joys we had working together. Thanks again so very deeply. *Love, Patty Sue Harper*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Dennis Barnes, Bob Batson, Earl Batson, Carin Casey, Helga Childers, Jane Crisp, Patsy DeLemos, Lucille Downs, Peggy Eades, Laura Guthrie, Cecelia Hudelson, Butch Jacoway, Clint Johnson, Adrian Johnson, Cheryl Maxson, Mac McGlasson, Linda McMahan, Lanny Morrison, Joe Nicholson, Roy Salas, the Anderson family, Ruth Sapp, Angie Williams, Katherine Wisdom

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Linda Head Atteberry, Monte & Janie Binkley, Susan Callahan, Scott Cobb, Vivian Cook, James Gupton, Denise Jackson, Kevin & Michelle Jones, Joanna Low, Evan Land, Dian Lynch, Bobby Mansfield, Anna Shaver, Faye Silva, Sandra Smith, Tina Stout, Brenda Weathers, Jason White, Hugh Lowe & Family
Our World, Country, State, County, & City

SHUT IN LIST

Patty Sue Harper 203 Overlook Ct. White House, TN 37188

John Haywood, 25196 Hwy 12 S., AC

If you would like to add/remove someone from the Prayer List, call the church office or send us an email.

ON THE CALENDAR

UWF will meet February 6th 10:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 9:30 am

Ladies Circle meet February 9th 6:00 pm

Choir Practice Sundays after service

Al-Anon Mondays 6:00 pm

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Giving</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
01/04/26	\$3,860	33
01/11/26	\$2,630	42
01/18/26	\$1,425	32
01/25/26		NO SERVICE

Weekly budget needs: \$3,931

Ways To Give

In person on Sunday during worship

By mail: 2226 Oak Street, Ashland City, Tennessee 37015

Text the word 'give' to 833-967-1168, wait a few seconds, it will reply with a link.

Click on the link and follow the instructions. You can use this for a one-time gift or set it up for regular giving. You can use a bank card or credit card There is a small fee. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Pastor Allison at 615-945-8974.

Click on the link below or type it into your search bar.

<https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=433abe7a-95a9-4af1-afa5-7616d78da9de>

You can also give online using our website www.ashlandcityumc.com. You can use your credit card, bank card, or checking

account by clicking on the "give online now" button on the page labeled "give".

February Anniversaries

Lanny and Debbie Morrison 2/19

February Birthdays

Wanda McMahan 2/04

John Albright 2/06

Karsten Binkley 2/21

Ann Binkley 2/24

David Courson 2/25

March Anniversaries

Jen Shaver & Cheryl Maxson 3/21

Dennis & Jane Barnes 3/27

March Birthdays

Mary Scruggs 3/02

Tom Arnold 3/07

Alex Dickerson 3/09

Linda Nicholson 3/10

Debbie Fitzhugh 3/15

Cecelia Hudelson 3/15

Natalie Johnson 3/24

Bob Fitzhugh 3/24

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FACEBOOK LIVE – Ashland City UMC MISSION STATEMENT OF THE CHURCH

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

MORNING PRAYER

“New every morning is your love, great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord.”
Page #877 UMH

Bible Verse for the Month

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.

Psalm 143:8

May the Lord direct your hearts into God’s love and Christ’s perseverance.

2 Thessalonians 3:5

Quote for the Month

“Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?”

Abraham Lincoln

“In the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter, for in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed.”

Khalil Gibran