



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

Our Vision Statement

In all aspects of our lives, we will strive to be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

SUNDAY SERVICES

HERITAGE WORSHIP
8:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

OPEN DOOR WORSHIP
5:00 p.m. in the Wesley Center

Senior Pastor
Eric S. Yeakel

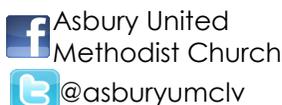
SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

During our 9:30 Worship Service and Sunday School time, we have childcare for infants through three year olds. During our 11:00 Service, we have childcare available for infants through PreK.

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., M—F
1533 Springhouse Road
Allentown, PA 18104
Phone: 610-398-2577
Fax: 610-366-1108
www.asburylv.org

Publicity Requests:
<http://publicityform.asburylv.org/>



THE LENTEN

faith in action... imagine your life changed.

FEBRUARY 18, 2016



PASTOR'S COLUMN

If you are a regular visitor to our church and you've been thinking about becoming a member of Asbury, I'd like to invite you to join me next Sunday from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room for our Adult Inquirers Class. This gathering is the official process for joining the church. I'll share with you a bit of the church's mission and vision, what it means to be a part of a United Methodist congregation, how you can get involved in the church and the expectations we have for our members. You will also hear about missions, children's ministry, youth ministry and our care ministries at Asbury. It is an inspiring and informative gathering; I hope you'll join us. Please contact Laurie Wallace Theisen (ltheisen@asburylv.org) or the church office for more information or to let us know you will be attending.

If you missed worship last Sunday, I encouraged each of you to take the Lenten Challenge of reading the entire Gospel of John during the season of Lent. I believe every Christian should make it their goal to read through a gospel at least once a year. Our sermons, various small groups and the devotionals on the back of the sermon notes will all be centered on John during the 40 days of Lent.

Next week we will be focusing on the miraculous signs of Jesus. In John's gospel there are always two levels at which each story can be read: There is the straightforward level in which water is changed into wine, or the eyes of a blind man are opened. But often there is a deeper level which is answering the questions, "Who is this man Jesus? How does he affect our lives? What is required of us?" In Week 3 of this series we will look at the answers to these deeper level questions.

See you in worship!
Pastor Eric



A Lenten Journey

We would like the congregation and guests alike to have a participatory experience during the forty days of Lent, and are inviting the Asbury community to bring sticks (twigs or small branches) from home (maybe from a recent storm or early spring clean-up) and to offer these sticks at the foot of the cross that is in the Sanctuary hallway. These sticks serve as a visual representation and metaphor of our awareness of our shortcomings, failures, burdens, and sin. Sticks are not easy to work with, as they are brittle, dry, unyielding, stubborn, and rigid – prone to breaking under the slightest pressure. They symbolize our human frailties. During this time of Lenten contemplation, we bring these sticks to the cross, and that makes all the difference.

Sticks may be brought in at any time during the Lenten journey, as we continue to reflect upon our lives and prepare to celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection, knowing that we are continually being made new by God's love and saving grace.

“Keep In Touch” Update

The Keep In Touch Committee provides a “ministry of presence” to Asbury’s members and their relatives and friends who are living in retirement facilities or who are generally confined to their homes. Currently, 26 members are visited monthly by 11 members of the Committee, and 4 persons are contacted by phone. Committee members visit in hospitals and rehabilitation centers weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, while the pastoral staff visits in hospitals on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Additionally, 41 members receive cards made by the Sunday School children at Easter and Thanksgiving. A Committee member sends cards at Christmas, birthdays and notes of support to members experiencing loss of a loved one. Communion is offered to our homebound members a minimum of three times a year.

We are always anxious to expand our ministry of presence. If you know of someone who would like a monthly visit, please let us know. If you have a relative or friend who has moved to this area and does not have a church home, we are willing to visit.

This is a rewarding ministry we provide. Our visits are a mutual ministry; as we share God’s love with a listening ear and caring spirit, we are grateful to the members who inspire us with their stories. If you are interested in serving with this team of dedicated visitors, contact Chairperson Judy Whitby (jmwhitby@aol.com or 610-432-1848) or Pastor Glenn Asquith (gasquith@asburyiv.org or 610-398-2577).



Save the date of 3/6 for the **Spring Blood Drive** facilitated by our Parish Nurse Health Ministry. Miller-Keystone Blood Center will have their coach on-site from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to accept your generous donations of the Gift of Life.



COMMUNION BREAKFAST

AN INVITATION TO ALL WOMEN OF ASBURY CHURCH

Annual Lenten Communion Breakfast

Saturday, 3/5, 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon in the Wesley Center

This year’s service will feature Amy Enders as speaker and gospel singers from the Mt. Zion United Methodist Women’s Choir in Leesburg, Virginia. This is a very special Lenten service to share fellowship, worship and communion with other women. Please bring canned goods and/or non-perishable food for Allentown’s Food Banks.

2016 UMW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are now available as a hard copy from the UMW box in the workroom or as an email from Linda McCreight (lindamcc@ptd.net). Forms and required supporting documents must be submitted by Friday, 4/15.

APPLICATIONS for the Dilcher, Clarke and International Studies Scholarships will be available shortly. Please contact the church office for more information.



Thank you to the members of Asbury for the many prayers, cards, visits, flowers, and phone calls during my recent heart surgery and recuperation. I especially would like to thank Garth Olson for filling in as Interim Director of Chancel Choir and Frank Arbushites and Carol Lenhart for sharing their Sunday morning keyboard skills. Thanks also to Pastor Glenn and Pastor Eric for their visits and prayers. The power of prayer has been a source of peace and healing for me and for my family during these past weeks. We feel blessed to be part of a congregation which truly expresses the love of Christ.

Ken Schneider

PRAYERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

For those who are sick or in the hospital

Lord, we ask your mercy and healing for all those currently hospitalized, recently discharged or in rehab, especially Cathy Kaiser, Richard Fahringer, Sarah Fullton, Bill Reed and Ken Benson. Have mercy on those in pain; grant them peace.

For those who need your special help

Lord, we affirm that your power is infinite and that you love us all like a devoted parent. Gratefully acknowledging your love and mercy toward us, we lift up these people who need your special help. Strengthen Gil & Diana White as they recover physically and emotionally after being involved in the 60 car pile-up on I-78 last week. Comfort those impacted by the unexpected passing last Saturday of Collin Brown’s friend and classmate, Britny.

For those who mourn

Lord, we ask comfort for all who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially the family of Andy Cousins, a friend of Steve Strauss. Please keep the families of Elinor Carter and former Asbury member Mark Dinger in your care, as they both passed away this week. Reassure everyone affected by loss that your mercy and love are endless.

Lord, in the midst of winter, when the days are cold and windy, remind us of the warmth of your love and compassion.

Cal Wick

With thanksgiving for our joys

Phil & Dot Hess celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary on Valentine’s Day. Longtime Asbury member Rolland Rodgers observed his 96th birthday, also on Valentine’s Day; greetings may be sent to Rolland at 2123 Kirkland Village Circle, Apt. 209, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

For our congregation

Lord, grant us a true understanding of your power to touch the lives of all people.

For our children

Lord God, shed your light upon our children and bathe them with the joy of your redemption.

For the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, lead us from fear to love, from darkness to light. Help us to find the courage to follow you, day by day. May love and light bring peace to our world.

For the missions we support

Gracious Lord, this week we remember Drew & Amanda (Bringhurst) Dolan, members of Asbury, living in Boston and in mission at the Mosaic Boston Church, a ministry focused on the young adults of Boston.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT



Contact Pam Unrath,
Director of Children's Ministries,
for information on all
Children's Ministries activities & opportunities
(punrath@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577).

Child care is available each week at the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service for infants and one-year-olds in Room 214 and for two-year-olds in Room 223. Child care is also provided during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service in Room 223.

3rd Grade Bible Presentation will be on Sunday, 2/28! Please join us in celebrating this special occasion with our 3rd Graders at the 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. worship services.

Throughout this season of Lent, Children's Ministries will practice being the hands and feet of Christ as we take part in raising funds for Heifer International. Over the coming weeks, children will be working together with their families to complete extra chores and make some changes in their everyday attitudes and behaviors in order to earn change they can offer to our group collection. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, or if you would like to join us in making a positive difference in the lives of others, please contact Pam Unrath in the church office.

Save the date! The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, 3/19, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in lending a hand with this exciting event, please contact Pam Unrath in the church office.

Asbury's Children's Ministry is seeking a patient, loving individual to join our child care team! This position requires availability approximately 2 Sunday mornings each month (from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m.). This individual should be willing to obtain Child Abuse and Criminal background clearances and participate in the Safe Sanctuaries training. This is a paid position. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pam Unrath in the church office (610-398-2577 or at punrath@asburylv.org).



Contact Aaron Forney, Director of Youth Ministries,
for information on all
Youth Ministries activities & opportunities
(aforney@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577).

Confirmation Classes begin this Sunday, 2/21, and will take place during the Sunday School hour (9:30 to 10:30 a.m.). It's not too late to get involved! Contact Aaron Forney (aforney@asburylv.org) if you still want to be part of Confirmation but were not able to attend the information session. Visit www.asburyym.org/confirmation for more information!

Last week we talked about how living a life to satisfy the desires of the flesh will lead to death. We continue our Youth Group series *The Walking Dead* by moving from living a life in the flesh to a life in the Spirit. Youth Group meets Sunday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge.

Sunday School is a chance for us to dig into our faith and dissect what it means for our lives, all while we get to know each other more as we work to live as part of God's community.

- ◇ **Middle School Sunday School Topic:** TBA. Middle School Sunday School meets on Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Room 106.
- ◇ **High School Sunday School Topic:** All year we're exploring topics related to loving our neighbor. Come explore new ground with us this week! High School Sunday School meets on Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Youth Lounge.

If you missed our last Youth Group series, "Refuel," all of our info from that series, including video teaching and lesson notes, is available at:

www.asburyym.org/lessons/refuel!

Not sure if an event will take place because of winter weather? Visit www.asburyym.org or check our [Facebook page](#), [Twitter feed](#), or [Instagram feed](#) before leaving home! (No accounts are required.) Also, make sure you're signed up for the Asbury Youth Ministries weekly email, which will also send notifications if events are cancelled.

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

is designated for the Winter Warming Station in the Fountain Park Pool Building on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive at 10th Street in Allentown. Operated by the Lehigh Conference of Churches, this facility offers overnight emergency shelter to those without homes. It is open daily from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. and has bathroom/shower facilities with bunk beds for up to 38 people. Two trained monitors are on duty each night. Please place your contributions in the "Change For Change" containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.



Asbury
in Mission

MISSION PARTNER TO VISIT ASBURY

Our long-term mission partner, Rev. Donna Jones, will be visiting Asbury on **Sunday, 2/21**, to talk with us about the impact of her mission, Emerging Ministries, on the youth of North Philly. Rev. Jones, formerly pastor of Cookman UMC, runs an alternative school for marginalized teens. Stop by Room 217 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on the 21st to hear her stories and learn how you can support this important ministry. Rev. Jones will also share her message at the 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. worship services in the Sanctuary.



Start cleaning out your closets!
Asbury's Annual Missions Yard Sale
will be held on Saturday, 6/18,
from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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Sunday, February 21

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - 108
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 217
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Pack 12 Pinewood Derby - Sanct Hallway/
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Alternative Worship - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - WC
- 6:30 p.m. John: Gospel of Light & Life - 208
- 6:30 p.m. Disciple 2 - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - 108/YL
- 7:00 p.m. Dig Deep - 106

Monday, February 22

- 11:00 a.m. Cooking for Daybreak - WC Kitchen
- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Trio - Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12 - WC/106
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men - 215
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Praise Band - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees - Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206
- 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee - 215
- 7:00 p.m. Sr. High Girls - Offsite
- 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 61025 - 108

Tuesday, February 23

- 9:15 a.m. Preschool Dental Health Day - Parlor
- 12:30 p.m. Program Staff Meeting - Aldersgate
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 654 - 219/221
- 6:00 p.m. Gress Mt. Ranch Board Meeting - Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball - WC
- 7:00 p.m. OA - 108

Wednesday, February 24

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group - 231
- 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study - 108
- 11:30 a.m. Keep In Touch Food Ministry - WC Kitchen
- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - WC
- 5:30 p.m. Garden of Eatin' - WC

Wednesday, February 24 (continued)

- 5:40 p.m. Faith Ringers - 206
- 6:30 p.m. Asbury Quilters - 204
- 6:30 p.m. Launching into Bible Study - 210
- 6:30 p.m. Journey 101: Loving God - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers - 108
- 6:45 p.m. LV Wheelmen - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. The Barn Small Group - 208
- 7:00 p.m. Let's Read Together - 215
- 7:10 p.m. Apostle Ringers - 206

Thursday, February 25

- 9:30 a.m. Deborah Circle - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Open Door Band Rehearsal - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meetings - 210/211/215/217
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON - 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir - 102

Friday, February 26

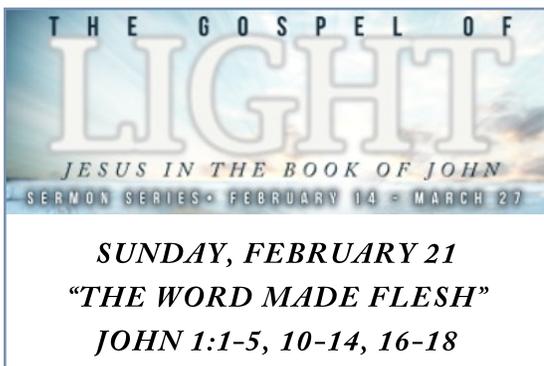
- 8:30 a.m. Piano Tuning - 102/106/108/Sanctuary
- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meeting - 211

Saturday, February 27

- 5:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 26 Blue & Gold Banquet - WC

Sunday, February 28 / 3rd Grade Bible Presentations

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - 108
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 217
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:30 p.m. Adult Inquirers - Aldersgate
- 2:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meetings - 210/211/215/217
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Alternative Worship - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - WC
- 6:30 p.m. John: Gospel of Light & Life - 208
- 6:30 p.m. Disciple 2 - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - 108/YL



Our Staff

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|--|------------------------|
| Eric Yeakel, Senior Pastor | eyeakel@asburylv.org |
| Garth Olson, Director of Worship | golson@asburylv.org |
| Glenn Asquith, Director of Congregational Care | gasquith@asburylv.org |
| Laurie Wallace Theisen, Director of Lay Ministries | ltheisen@asburylv.org |
| Pam Unrath, Director of Children's Ministries | punrath@asburylv.org |
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