



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

MARCH 10, 2016

TENEBRAE
faith in action... imagine your life changed.

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/>

 Asbury United
Methodist Church
 @asburyumclv



PASTOR'S COLUMN

We recently had our first Adult Inquirers Class of 2016, and I am excited that all 14 people who took the class will be joining Asbury on April 10. In 2015, we had 45 individuals unite with Asbury, which was the largest number of new members in ten years. It's wonderful to see us get off to a great start in 2016 as well. God continues to be doing great things here at Asbury.

I am also excited to announce that the Fellowship Hall renovations are almost complete. I hope you have had an opportunity to look at the renovated space. We are planning on having the first Open Door Service in the new space on April 3. I want to encourage everyone to come out to support and celebrate our evening worship alternative at Asbury. Our Children's Sunday School will begin using the space the following week on April 10. This will be a wonderful way for our children to have an age appropriate worship experience with updated technology.

Next Sunday, March 20, we continue with our sermon series on the life of Jesus in the Gospel of John. One major theme in John's account is that it is precisely in his suffering that Jesus is revealed to be the long-awaited messianic king. It is here we see his glory as he suffers and dies on the cross, giving himself to save the world. On this Palm/Passion Sunday, we will see why this matters for us.

See you in worship!
Pastor Eric

Maundy Thursday



You are invited to experience a moving and meaningful Tenebrae Worship Service on Thursday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The service will include brief message, Holy Communion and the musical work entitled "*The Seven Last Days*," which combines narration with music provided by the Asbury Chancel Choir and a small chamber ensemble. This musical journey depicts the events of Jesus' last seven days as described in the book of Matthew. "Tenebrae" is Latin for "shadows," and its purpose is to re-create the emotional aspects of the passion story, although the story isn't over until Easter Sunday.

REMINDER: Order forms for Easter plants are due Monday, 3/14. Forms are available on the website or at the Welcome Desks. Cost is \$9.00 per pot, and plants may be picked up after the 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. services on Easter Sunday, 3/27.



RADICAL HOSPITALITY / CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND CARE

SUSANNA CIRCLE will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 3/14, at Barbara Reighard's home, 7924 Blossom Heights, Fogelsville (610-398-8558). All women are welcome! Join us!

PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, 3/15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room. All knitters and crocheters are welcome. Please contact Pam Grossman (610-398-8066 or pm.grossmann@gmail.com) or Dale Begany (610-216-9517 or dbegany@hotmail.com) for more information.

UMW MARCH COLLECTION: This month the UMW is collecting supplies to assemble Hygiene Kits for Church World Service (CWS) to deliver domestically and internationally when needed. If you can help, we need individually-wrapped bars of soap, individually-packaged toothbrushes, nail clippers, wide-toothed combs, and washcloths. The collection box is located near the elevator on first floor. Contact Debi Olphin for more information or to make a monetary donation. Thank you!

PEP (People Enjoying People) CLUB will gather in the Parlor/Community Room at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, 3/18, for fellowship and refreshments. A program will be presented by *Sing for America*. All interested adults are invited to attend.

PRAYER AND SHARE TOGETHER: Asbury regularly hosts two Christian support groups for Lehigh Valley women: one for women with loved ones who are struggling with emotional issues such as depression, anxiety, bipolar; and another for those who are afflicted themselves. Next meetings for both groups: Tuesday, 3/15, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M. in Room 210. For more information, contact Linda (610-395-8756).

SCHOLARSHIPS: Guidelines and applications for the Dilcher, Clarke, International Studies and UMW Scholarships are available in the church office and on the Asbury website. Application deadline for the 2016-2017 school year is 4/15. Details are available at: www.asburyym.org/scholarships

PLAYERS NEEDED TO JOIN THE ASBURY SOFTBALL TEAM
If you are interested and/or need more information, please contact Jeff White (610-530-2188 or jeffery.white@verizon.net).

Upcoming Events

Journey 101: Serving God

Begins Wednesday, 4/6, and meets for six weeks from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 217

Congregational Chats

Sunday, 4/10 at 12:00 noon and Wednesday, 4/13 at 6:15 p.m. in the newly renovated Worship Center (formerly known as Fellowship Hall)

Asbury Work Day

Saturday, 4/30, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

More information on these events will be forthcoming.



Thank you to the loving, caring friends at Asbury who kept my sister, Jane, in their prayers during her extended illness. The prayers certainly played a great part in the strength she found to fight such a lengthy battle to survive. Now she is at peace. Thank you, also, for the concern, prayers and cards for our family during her illness and passing. God bless you all.

*Louann & Bill Cline Barb, Steven & Greg Jaindl
Jim & Brian Cline & Families*

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has received the retirement request from Carol Lenhart, our Associate Organist, effective February 2016. Carol has been on the Asbury organ bench as a worship leader for 23 years. Her great love of music has always enriched our Sunday morning services and though we announce her retirement, we'll share many memories of her skill and joy in making our organ sing.

Thank you from Miller-Keystone Blood Center and the Parish Health Ministry! Last week's Blood Drive collected 21 pints! Your willingness to donate "The Gift of Life" is deeply appreciated.



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 Nora Rice, Joan Holoman, Jonathan Scherer, Robert Lenz, Doris Gibson, Marty Carhart, Bill Reed and Ken Benson.

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: Steve Wisocky asks healing for his friend, Erv, as he battles in his second round of cancer. June Samph asks healing for a 4 year old who is hospitalized due to seizures. Cindy Schessler and Anita Quayle ask healing and strength for their brother, Tim. Shirley Offutt lifts Jonathan Scherer up for healing and asks comfort for Brandy and Josh who lost their mom and dad a week apart. Jamie asks healing for Donna Tessitore. Tommy, age 2, needs healing from pneumonia at DuPont Children's Hospital. Lynda Heist asks prayers for her son, John, who has serious health issues.

For our congregation

We follow the example of Christ when we treat others the way we want to be treated. Lord, help us to develop the compassion to do this.

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself;

May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service;

May the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our souls.

-Wm. Temple

For those who mourn

Lord, we ask comfort for all who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially the Holoman family upon the sudden passing of son, Tommy. Reassure them of your unending mercy and eternal love.

For the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, you have made the world and all its people. We ask now that your spirit move among us, guiding us to truth and to the peace which passeth all understanding.

With thanksgiving for our joys

We thank you, God, for the warmer weather which blessed us this week. We thank you for peace in our communities. We thank you for the beauty of the Lehigh Valley.

For our children

We ask that you grant our children a deeper understanding of the needs of the helpless and inspiration to fill those needs.

For the missions we support

Our mission prayer today is for the Bruce Family who serve the indigenous Awa in the mountains of Ecuador. Be with them and guide them and their faith community as it continues to grow. We pray that the hearts of the Awa may be open to receive the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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.

This Sunday, 3/13, all Children's Sunday School Classes will begin their Easter journey by studying Palm Sunday and Passover. **All children should report directly to their classrooms this week at 9:30 a.m.**

JAM (3rd - 5th Grades) will take place on **Sunday, 3/13**, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. in Room 210. Hope to see you there!

Kids' Club will be held on **Friday, 3/18**, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. We hope you will join us for dinner, games, crafts, snack, fun and more! Please RSVP to Pam Unrath by 3/14. Children are encouraged to bring a friend!

Our Lenten mission project is underway!! This year, our children are striving to "Bee more like Jesus" as we take part in raising funds for Heifer International. From now until Easter Sunday, 3/27, 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.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, 3/19, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (Egg hunting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.). Registration flyers will be distributed at Sunday School and are also available in the Community Room or outside the Wesley Center.



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

The Bible contains human laments of there being nothing new under the sun. We live in a world of remakes and rehashed ideas. The Bible tells us that the people Jesus encountered found him to be amazing... but do we? Even when we do, we often feel that we need to distance ourselves from him because we're not worthy of him. Yet an interaction he had with a woman at a well tells us otherwise. Jesus longs for a relationship with us, and as we celebrate Easter, we remember that our mistakes will never be large enough to separate us from his amazing love and grace. As we wrap up our series *The Real Jesus*, we'll discuss how to make sense of who Jesus truly is.

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:** "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Perhaps you have seen those words of wisdom on a motivational poster or bumper sticker. Life is filled with different kinds of difficulties, and we all must figure out how best to respond to them. In the second part of our lesson *Lemonade*, we'll discuss our choice to respond in mature and God-honoring ways when those situations come our way. 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.

Keep up-to-date with us online! Sign up for our [weekly email](#) and visit www.asburyym.org or check our [Facebook page](#), [Twitter feed](#), or [Instagram feed](#). No accounts are required to access any of the social media accounts.

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

is designated to help send youth from La Trinidad UMC to camp this summer. Please place your contributions in the "Change For Change" containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.



Join us for another fantastic **Mission Brunch** on **3/13** from **9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the Wesley Center. Proceeds from this month's brunch will help send youth from La Trinidad UMC to camp this summer.

EVERLASTING LIFE MINISTRIES will host an Easter Dinner for less fortunate inner city families on Saturday, 3/19. The meal will be served at 12:00 p.m. at Bethany E. C. Church, 224 N. 6th St., Allentown. Their needs are as follows: servers, fresh or frozen hams, fresh fruit, canned goods, paper products, baked goods, and cash donations. If you can help with any of these requests or desire more information, please call 610-776-4009 or visit www.ellallentown.org.

YARD SALE

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.

SAVE THE DATE!
Volunteers are needed the week of
July 10, 2016 to facilitate the
Vacation Bible School at Cookson
Hills Center in Oklahoma. More
information will be available soon.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, March 13

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Mission Brunch - WC
- 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
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 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
- 6:15 p.m. JAM - 210
- 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



Wednesday, March 16 (continued)

- 5:40 p.m. Faith Ringers - 206
- 6:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt Prep Meeting - 104
- 6:30 p.m. Asbury Quilters - 204
- 6:30 p.m. Launching into Bible Study - 210
- 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers - 108
- 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers - 106
- 6:45 p.m. Sarah Circle - 217
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting - Aldersgate
- 7:10 p.m. Youth Choir - 106
- 8:00 p.m. Apostle Ringers - 206

Thursday, March 17

- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 6401 - 106
- 6:00 p.m. Open Door Band Rehearsal - WC
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON - 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir - 102



Monday, March 14

- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Trio - Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12 - WC/106
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 6608 - 210
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men - 217
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Praise Band - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Sr. High Girls - Offsite
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206

Friday, March 18

- 9:30 a.m. P.E.P. Club - Parlor
- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Kids Club - WC/106/108

Tuesday, March 15

- 9:00 a.m. Clergy Breakfast - WC
- 12:00 p.m. District Meeting - Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry - Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. Church Council - 217
- 7:00 p.m. AIM - 106
- 7:00 p.m. Prayer and Share Together - 210
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball - WC
- 7:00 p.m. OA - 108

Wednesday, March 16

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

Saturday, March 19

- 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Entire Building

Sunday, March 20 / Palm Sunday

- 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
- 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



THE GOSPEL OF
LIGHT
JESUS IN THE BOOK OF JOHN
SERMON SERIES • FEBRUARY 14 - MARCH 27

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2016
"THE FAREWELL DISCOURSE"
JOHN 15:8-10

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 |
| Aaron Forney, Director of Youth Ministries | aforney@asburylv.org |
| & Leader of Open Door Worship Band | |
| Karen Bowermaster, Director of Preschool | preschool@asburylv.org |
| Cristina Lenner, Director of Communications | clenner@asburylv.org |
| Tom Gibson, Business Administrator | tgibson@asburylv.org |
| Frank Taylor, Head Custodian | ftaylor@asburylv.org |