



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 Worship Center

Senior Pastor
Eric S. Yeakel

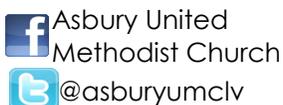
SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

During our 9:30 Worship Service and Sunday School time, we have childcare for infants through two 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 VINE
faith in action... imagine your life changed.

JANUARY 19, 2017



Pastor's Column

Do you struggle with the evil and injustice in the world? Does it shake your faith? Many people in our country today have walked away from God because they believe he has allowed injustice in the world. We all want to rid the world of injustice. But we can only recognize injustice if we first know what justice is. We don't always agree about what is just. So, who gets to define justice? Next week we will continue our series of messages "Who Needs God" by looking at the topic of evil and injustice in the world.

If anyone had a reason to stop believing in God because of injustice, it was Jesus. The man who stands at the center of all we believe was treated extraordinarily unfairly. The man who taught us all people have inherent value was executed. The man who defined good and just was treated unjustly. Evil and injustice are not arguments against the existence of God. They are evidence of our need for his mercy and grace.

If you know someone who struggles with believing in God because of injustice and evil in the world please consider inviting them to worship next Sunday, January 29th. If you have enjoyed this series and want to share the messages with someone, you can view them on our website at asburylv.org. You can find messages by clicking on the worship tab and then clicking on the drop box section "Who Needs God Sermon Series."

*See you in worship,
Pastor Eric*



Pastor Eric will be offering a new small group called *Starting Point* beginning Wednesday, 2/8. *Starting Point* is the ideal small group for those with questions about faith and those who want to learn more about the Bible and Christianity. We will meet on Wednesday evenings for 8 weeks from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 217, 2/8 through 4/12 (except Ash Wednesday, 3/1). For more information, or to register for the class, please email info@asburylv.org. Be sure to invite someone to this small group who you think would like to explore who God is and what Christianity really about!



**Saturday, February 4th
9:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming a member of Asbury United Methodist Church, please join us on 2/4 for the next Adult Inquirers' Class. Please contact the church office if you are interested in attending or would like more information. Lunch is provided.

RADICAL HOSPITALITY / CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND CARE



ASBURY PARISH NURSES HEALTH MINISTRY OFFERINGS

- **ALTERNATE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**—An alternate Grief Support group called “Caring in a Nutshell” will be offered by Asbury’s Parish Nurses & Health Ministry and is open to all members and friends of Asbury United Methodist Church who have suffered a loss. This group will meet for 5 weeks on Monday afternoons beginning Monday, February 27 thru March 27 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room. Participants will work in a small group setting supporting each other while exploring techniques and topics introduced to help grief turn to growth in daily living patterns of life. Sharing & caring helps to enable one to establish new goals and become involved with ways to cope with a quality of living. To register for this class or for more information please contact Doris Farrar at 610-395-2749.
- **HOLISTIC HEALTH EVENTS PLANNING MEETING**—Parish Nurses & Health Ministry will hold a brief meeting on Sunday, January 29th, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. after church services. This meeting is open to all. Our goal is to explore suggested ways to promote making our congregation healthier in mind, body, and spirit. Some topic suggestions for consideration are: yoga, dealing with bully issues, free blood pressure screenings, nutrition, autism awareness, improved balance, dental tips, etc. Possible approaches include: Mini classes, health fair, stations on Sunday mornings, etc. Come share your thoughts, needs, and talents. For more information please contact Doris Farrar at 610-395-2749.
- **BLOOD DRIVE –Save the date—Sunday, March 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Members are encouraged to give the “gift of life” by donating blood for the Miller Keystone Bank. Sign-up dates will be announced.

AN EIGHT-WEEK GRIEF SUPPORT CLASS is currently being offered by Bill Arnold, Director of Congregational Care, and is open to all members and friends of Asbury who have experienced a loss. Participants will work in a small group setting supporting each other while exploring the book, “Beyond the Broken Heart.” The class meets Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room, and begins January 19. Please contact the church office if you wish to attend or email Bill Arnold at barnold@asburylv.org.

THE GATHERING SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will be studying the Book of James from 1/29 through 2/26. The Gathering Sunday School Class is a group of about a dozen adults who enjoy fellowship, friendship, support and in-depth discussion. We welcome new members and visitors to join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Aldersgate Room (downstairs across from the office) for fellowship, Bible study and discussion. We welcome new Christians who are beginning their spiritual journey as well as life-long Christians with a deep and solid grounding in their faith.



DONATIONS NEEDED FOR ALLENTOWN WARMING STATION—For the month of January the UMW would like to help the Allentown Warming Station, an emergency shelter for homeless people run by Everlasting Life Ministries, and located at Fountain Park, 1000 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Allentown. We are collecting “NEW” socks, underwear and t-shirts for men and women. Please place items in the designated bin by the UMW Bulletin Board, near the elevator on the lower level. Contact Gary Millsbaugh if you wish to make a monetary donation.

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, in rehab or recently discharged, especially Marty Carhart, Ken Benson and Jack Denny. We ask you to have mercy on all those in pain and grant them your peace.

For those who mourn

Lord, we ask comfort for all who mourn the loss of loved ones. Reassure them of your unending mercy and eternal love.

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:

Dave Torrey asks healing for his son, David, now recovering from surgery at home after an auto accident. Kim Wisocky asks comfort and healing for her cousin, Michelle, as she recovers from an infection. Lauren Neel's parents ask safe travels for her in Europe.

For our congregation

Lord, we thank you for many blessings which multiply as we share them.

*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
Psalm 27:1*

For the world, its people and its leaders

Where there is war, Lord, bring the peace of Christ. Where there are natural disasters, bring relief from suffering. And wherever there is spiritual turmoil, bring transformation.

With thanksgiving for our joys

We celebrate the joy of a 40th wedding anniversary for Mary and Greg Novak. Thank you for safe travels.

For our children

We are your children, Lord, who ask your immense patience and wise guidance. Help us to be good role models for the children in our care.

For the missions we support

Our mission prayer today is for the Allentown Rescue Mission and their quest to serve those in need. The Rescue Mission shelters, feeds, and trains men who suffer from addiction and homelessness while introducing hope and salvation to them through Jesus Christ.

AMEN!

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).

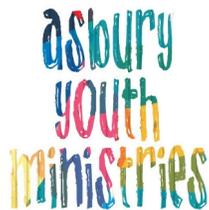
Children's Sunday School:

CHILD CARE is available during the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service for infants & one-year-olds in Room 216 and for two-year-olds in Room 214. Child care is also provided during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service in Room 214.

Throughout January, **BLAST** will be taking a closer look at how the pursuit of "Knowledge" shows up throughout the Gospels. This Sunday, January 22nd, we will open our Bibles to Luke 4:1-13, as we take a look at the story of "Jesus being Tempted in the Wilderness". Our bottom line for this week is: "discovering what God says, helps us make the wise choice".



JAM (3rd-5th graders) will meet on **Sunday, February 12th** from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. in room 210. Please RSVP to Pam Unrath by Friday, February 10th. We hope to see you there!



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

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:** Have you ever learned something incorrectly, then learned the correct way, but had trouble remembering to do it the correct way and instead did it the first way you learned it? So did the people of Galatia. We'll talk about that and more as we continue "No Lie: Galatians." **Middle School Sunday School** meets on Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Room 106.
- ◇ **High School Sunday School Topic:** How do the relationships we have with people now change as our lives change (when we graduate, go to college, get a job, build a family, etc.)? What does God intend them to be? Come join the discussion in "Murder and Relationships, What Do They Have in Common?" **High School Sunday School** meets on Sunday mornings, 9:30- 10:30 a.m., Youth Lounge.



GOD MADE US TO BE CONNECTED. But with what? How? Are we too broken? What do we need to do on our end to get reconnected? And what do all of those rules that God gave us mean, anyway? Join the discussion in our lesson "Lost Signal" as we continue our "Starting Point" series. **Youth Group** meets on Sunday night from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM in the Youth Lounge.

The dates for our 2017 high school **WEST VIRGINIA WORK WEEK MISSION TRIP** are in! This year's trip will be July 16-22. We're looking forward to another fantastic year of serving God through this week. Start to pray for the trip and the family we'll be serving, and watch for registration to open in the next few weeks!

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

January's CFC is designated for the Kingdom Life Family Center, which sponsors a local food bank that serves over 210 families each month. While the program supports families from all over the Lehigh Valley, it focuses mainly on families in the Parkland School District. Please place your contributions in the "Change For Change" containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Worship Center.



On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank Asbury for your donations of 26 bags in November and 30 bags in December. Because of your caring and sharing, we are able to feed those less fortunate in our community. We are currently serving between 200 and 250 families per week. Thank you for your donation.—M. Rosenberger, Corresponding Secretary, AAEFB.



Asbury Endowment Fund—Gifts specifically made to the Asbury Endowment Fund are gifts that keep on giving. Because the Fund's principal may never be invaded, and only the income earned on the principal is paid out annually, your gift (and the thought behind it) will benefit the Church "forever."

This Week @



Sunday, January 22

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 217
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12 - 215/217
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Alternative Worship - Worship Ctr.
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - Wesley Center
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - YL/108

Monday, January 23

- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Trio - Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. The Shack Small Group - 215
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Praise Band - Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12 - Wesley Center/106
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 61025 - 108
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees - Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206

Tuesday, January 24

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group - 231
- 10:00 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study - 108
- 12:30 p.m. Program Staff Meeting - Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 661 - 208
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball - Wesley Center
- 7:00 p.m. OA - 108

Wednesday, January 25

- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - Wesley Center
- 5:40 p.m. Faith Ringers - 206
- 6:20 p.m. Apostle Ringers - 206

Wednesday, January 25 (continued)

- 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. Lehigh Wheelmen - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Let's Read Together - 215
- 7:10 p.m. Youth Choir - 106

Thursday, January 26

- 2:00 p.m. Asbury Quilter Retreat - 215/217
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 12 Pinewood Derby Practice - Wesley Ctr.
- 6:30 p.m. Grief Support Group - Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON - 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir - 102

Friday, January 27

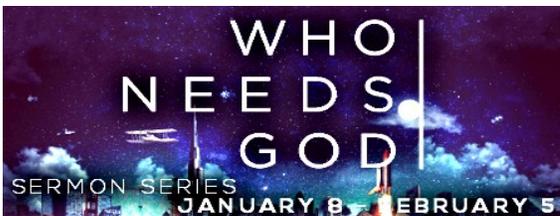
- 9:00 a.m. Asbury Quilters Retreat - 215/217
- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - Wesley Center

Saturday, January 28

- 8:30 a.m. Asbury Adult Basketball - Wesley Center
- 9:00 a.m. Asbury Quilters Retreat - 215/217

Sunday, January 29 / UMW Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 217
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Pack 12 Pinewood Derby - Wesley Center
- 4:30 p.m. Girl Scout Derby - Wesley Center
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Alternative Worship - Worship Center
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - Wesley Center
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - YL/108



January 22, 2017
"The God of Jesus"
John 14:7-9

Our Staff

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