



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

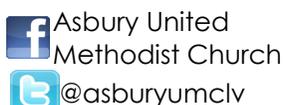
SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

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.

FEBRUARY 23, 2017



Pastor's Column

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Please join us for our Ash Wednesday Service this coming Wednesday night (3/1) at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Lent is the 40-day season leading up to the commemoration of Christ's crucifixion and the celebration of his Resurrection. The 40 day length of the season is taken from Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. Christians typically fast from something during the season of lent to identify with Jesus. Lent is a season of introspection, repentance and intentional spiritual growth.

The Ash Wednesday service is a beautiful and meaningful way to begin your Lenten journey. The imposition of ashes as a sign of repentance and a reminder of one's mortality ("ashes to ashes, dust to dust") goes back over 3,000 years. The Hebrew people would place ashes on their heads as a public sign of repentance.



I am excited to announce that 8 individuals will become members of Asbury on Sunday, 2/26, at various services. They have each completed the Adult Inquirers Class and are ready to take the next step of membership.

For those interested in joining Asbury, our next Adult Inquirers Session will be Sunday, 5/7, following the 11:00 worship service. Adult Inquirers Class is the avenue for people to learn about Asbury Church and possibly join the church. We encourage people to take some time to learn about our specific mission & vision, ministries, and United Methodism before making a decision about becoming a full member.

See you in worship!
Pastor Eric

On Sunday, 4/30, we're not going to do church. We're going to be the church.

We will not have Worship Services, or Sunday School, or Small Groups or any activities here at Asbury Church. Instead we will be partnering with several other churches to unleash over 2,000 servants into the community. It's called [#LoveLehighValley](https://www.facebook.com/lovelehighvalley). There will be over fifty opportunities for people of all ages to serve between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. We will spread mulch, paint parking lots, fix playgrounds, clean up trash, plant flowers, paint schools, prepare information packets at a hospice, write letters to servicemen and women, and so much more. More information about the service projects and how to register will be available soon, so be sure to save the date.

<http://www.asburylv.org/portal2/NewsEvents/ChurchNewsEventInformation/entryid/1151/Default.aspx>

RADICAL HOSPITALITY / CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND CARE



NEW POLICY FOR WESLEY CENTER KITCHEN

Beginning 3/1, the Wesley Center Kitchen will be locked. If you need access to the space, please contact a member of the custodial staff or make other arrangements with someone in the church office.

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 2017-2018 academic year is 4/15. Details are available at: www.asburyym.org/scholarships.

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 who have suffered a loss. This group will meet for 5 weeks on Monday afternoons beginning Monday, 2/27, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room. To register for this class or for more information please contact Doris Farrar at 610-395-2749.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will resume meeting on Thursday, 3/9, at 9:30 a.m. in the Aldersgate Room on the lower level of Asbury. Helen Noneman will lead the devotions. Everyone attending is requested to find a childhood photo of themselves, place it in an envelope and bring it to the meeting. Attendees will try to guess the identity of the children in the photos for a time of fun and fellowship. All women are welcome. If the Parkland School District has a weather-related delay, the Circle will not meet.

Service Opportunities Available

Best friends with your computer? A **Multimedia Technician** for the 11:00 a.m. and summer 10:30 a.m. services is needed. This is a 1 to 2 service commitment per month and is especially needed during our summer months. Training will be provided.

Coordinator(s) and/or small group service project helpers for the Great American Bake Sale are needed. This is held in conjunction with the Annual AIM Yard Sale, which is Saturday, 6/17/17. The Great American Bake Sale supports "No Kid Hungry" in the United States. The program connects US children in need with nutritious food and teaching families how to cook healthy. Our GAB coordinator would contact the Asbury bakers via email and telephone and ask for donations of baked goods. They would set up for GAB in the lower entrance on Friday evening 6/16/17 and secure volunteers to cover the bake sale on Saturday, 6/17/17 in approximate 2 hour shifts. Previous coordinators will provide advice on coordinating the event.

Asbury UMW Annual Bazaar Coordination Committee members are needed. Wendy Wright and Cyndi Frank need at least two helpers to assist them with the 11/4/17 Annual Bazaar. If you would be willing to Chair/Co-Chair the Bazaar, Wendy and Cyndi would love to help you!

Please contact Cyndi Frank (frankcj@ptd.net or 610-799-6079) for information on any of these service opportunities.



BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, 3/19 ~ 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 Blood Center. Sign-up dates will be announced.

PRAYERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

Lord, thank you for this new day. Thank you for a chance to begin again, free of the limitations of yesterday. Today may I become more fully a reflection of Your love and radiance.

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 Ken Benson, Lynda Heist, Joan Potter and Joan Donham. We ask you to have mercy on all those in pain and grant them your 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: Mary Freeman, Tea Kratzer's cousin; Karen Alexa, daughter of Shirley Marsh; Nancy Seay, mother of Paige Seay; Brandon, a friend of Elizabeth John; Tina, sister of Dolores Ehly-Young; Mike Doane, brother of Jennifer Springer; Corey, family member of Shirley Offutt; All those affected by drug abuse and addiction

For the world, its people and its leaders

There is nothing you cannot do, O Lord. We ask for peace in hearts around the world. We ask, in faith, for your guidance for our leaders, that they might make the right decisions.

For those who mourn

Lord, we ask comfort for all who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially Tim Holt's sister and niece on the death of his nephew. We also lift up Henry Rappold on the passing of his mother. Reassure them of your unending mercy and eternal love.

For our congregation

Come into our hearts, Lord Jesus. Keep us close and guide us to be faithful disciples.

With thanksgiving for our joys

We celebrate the joy of Tim Dietrich's birthday. We give thanks for our own Ruth Yeo's 105th birthday!

For our children

Lord, save our children from evil. Help them to make decisions which make things better.

For the missions we support

Our mission prayer today is for Cookson Hills Center in Oklahoma, in their leadership transition and for the new acting director of the camp, Deborah Humfrey.



INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT



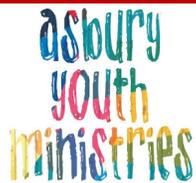
Contact Pam Unrath,
Director of Children's Ministries,
for information on all
Children's Ministries
activities & opportunities
(punrath@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577).

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 the month of February children attending **BLAST** have been taking a closer look at the way "love" shows up throughout the Gospels. On 2/26, the last Sunday in February, we will open our Bibles to the book of Luke and will discover how the story of *The Good Samaritan* teaches us to "love others because we all matter to God."

It is estimated that there are 940 weeks from the time a child is born until they graduate from high school. That is 940 Sundays to help them build a strong foundation in faith. Asbury's Children's Ministries is inviting you to partner with us to create engaging, meaningful experiences for our children to learn and grow in their relationship with their faith community and, most importantly, their Creator.

We are seeking volunteers to assist with a variety of tasks such as participating in Skits/Storytelling, teaching Sunday School Classes, being a Parent Assistant in the classroom, volunteering at Kids' Club, JAM, VBS and more. Please contact Pam Unrath to discuss how you might serve in Children's Ministries. We would love for you to join us!



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

Confirmation, the class that will lead to you becoming a member of the church, will begin with a kick-off meeting for parents and students on Sunday, 3/19, with an information session at 10:45 a.m. in the Worship Center. More details will follow, but make sure to save the following dates: 4/22 (trip to Philadelphia), 5/21 (rehearsal), and 6/4 (Confirmation Sunday). For full info, visit www.asburyym.org/confirmation. Also, we need some input from you! If you're not part of our Asbury Youth Ministries email list, visit www.asburyym.org/email to be sure that you get our poll to help us tailor Confirmation to you.

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 cut a hole in a roof and dropped your friend into it? No? Good. But what if that friend needed help, and the only way to get that help was to get that friend inside of a building that had no way to get inside other than through the roof? What then? We'll continue our series "The Miracles of Jesus" with a look at a situation where this was the choice a group of men faced; and what they did about it, in our lesson "A Hole in the Roof." **Middle School Sunday School** meets on Sunday mornings, 9:30—10:30 a.m. in Room 106. **NOTE: Meet in Room 108 on 2/26.**

- ◇ **High School Sunday School Topic:** Throughout the year, we'll be exploring topics that relate Christian things we do in our everyday lives and how our faith will be rewarded with glory through salvation. Come join the discussion! **High School Sunday School** meets on Sunday mornings, 9:30—10:30 a.m. in the Youth Lounge.

Would you date yourself? Ok, weird question. But when you're thinking about the good qualities in the type of person that you want to date, do you already have those qualities yourself? What does it look like to possess the qualities of love itself? How do you set goals to develop the qualities like the person you're looking for has? We'll talk about it in the third and final week of our Youth Group series, "Relationship Goals," in our lesson *Self-Goals*. **Youth Group** meets on Sunday night from 6:30—8:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge.

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



Change for Change

February's CFC is designated for the Allentown Warming Station. Our Mission Partner, Everlasting Life Ministries, has contracted with the City of Allentown to operate this shelter in the Fountain Park Pool House on Martin Luther King Blvd. The Warming Station is a 38-bed facility that began serving homeless men and women in November 2016 and will continue operating through April 2017. It serves those in urgent need who have no place to sleep for a variety of reasons. Please place your contributions in the "Change For Change" containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Worship Center.

DR. CHRIS HENA TO VISIT AUMC

We are extremely excited to announce that our long-time mission partner, Dr. Chris Hena, will be visiting Asbury Church on Sunday, 3/12. Dr. Hena will be updating us on her ministry and the new Waterfield Health Clinic in Kakata, Liberia.



Please join us at 9:30 a.m. on **Sunday, 3/12**, in Room 217 to meet Dr. Hena, learn about her mission, and learn how we as a congregation can support her work. Following the 11:00 a.m. worship service we will have a light lunch in honor of Dr. Hena in the Parlor. All are welcome! Freewill donations will help cover the cost. If you can join us for lunch with Dr. Hena, please RSVP no later than 3/6 to missions@asburylv.org.

This Week @



Sunday, February 26 / New Members

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 217
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:30 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206
- 4:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12 - 215/217
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Service - Worship Center
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - Wesley Center
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - YL/108



Wednesday, March 1

- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - Wesley Center
- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - 102



Thursday, March 2

- 9:00 a.m. Keep in Touch - Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12 - 210/215/217
- 6:30 p.m. Grief Support Group - Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON - 108

Friday, March 3

- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - Wesley Center
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12 - 217

Saturday, March 4

- 8:30 a.m. Asbury Adult Basketball - Wesley Center
- 10:00 a.m. LWA Ride Leaders' Meeting - 217
- 5:30 p.m. Beitler Music Club Recital - Sanctuary

Sunday, March 5 / Communion

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



Monday, February 27

- 11:00 a.m. Cooking for Daybreak - Wesley Center Kitchen
- 1:00 p.m. Caring in a Nutshell - Aldersgate
- 5:30 p.m. Open Door Band Rehearsal - Worship Center
- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Trio - Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Praise Band - Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12 - 108
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees - Aldersgate

Tuesday, February 28

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group - 231
- 9:00 a.m. Clergy Breakfast - Wesley Center
- 10:00 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study - 108
- 12:00 p.m. District Superintendent Meeting - Aldersgate
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 654 - 219
- 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Women Board Meeting - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 661 - 208
- 7:00 p.m. OA - 108
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball - Wesley Center

February 26, 2017
"Providential Relationships"
Proverbs 13:20 & I Corinthians 15:33

Our Staff

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