



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

JANUARY 6, 2013

THE VINE

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

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
8:00 AM in the Sanctuary

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
9:30 AM in the Sanctuary

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
11:00 AM in the Sanctuary

OPEN DOOR WORSHIP
11:00 AM in the Wesley Center

Teaching Pastors
Mark Moore and Eric Yeakel

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

During our 9:30 Sunday School time, we have separate infants/one-year olds, and two year old childcare classes. During our 11:00 Services, we have childcare available for infants through PreK.

OFFICE HOURS

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

 Asbury United
Methodist Church
 @asburyumclv

A NEW BEGINNING

You may recall that just about a year ago I stood at all of our services and shared with you that my prostate cancer, for which I had been treated in 2006, had apparently returned and I needed to undergo an extended season of radiation therapy. You, as a congregation, blessed Karen and me with your prayers, many kind notes and cards, numerous meals and other expressions of love and support. I shared with you a few months ago that my first post-treatment diagnosis indicated that there are no traces of the cancer. (I will not be deemed 'cancer free' for five years.)

Why do I write this? This treatment gave me the opportunity to begin again. The past – my cancer – had been removed; a world of new health lies in front of me. As we begin this new year, we all have the opportunity to begin again. Whatever shortcomings, whatever failures, whatever slip-ups you had are in the past, and new opportunities await us all.

I truly hope and pray one of the opportunities you embrace is the opportunity to grow as a disciple of Christ. Commit yourself to worshipping every Sunday you are in town. Join a small group or Bible study so that you may grow in knowledge and relationship. Sign up for a mission that will stretch your faith. I have never heard anyone say that becoming a devoted disciple of Jesus was easy. And I have never heard anyone say they regretted growing as a follower of our Lord!

My prayers for a rich, Christ-filled 2013 are with you! Go over the top for Jesus!

Pastor Mark

ASBURY CONNECTION

Asbury Connection is a ministry for young adults/post high school into their early 20's. Whether our young adults are joining the military, working, or heading off to college, Asbury Connection attempts to maintain a connection of Christian fellowship through love, prayer and communication.

Twice a year we send care packages full of goodies to our young adults to let them know we are thinking about them, and just to keep them connected. One of the new outreach activities we introduced over the past year are autumn and spring greeting cards, created by our own Asbury 5th Grade Sunday School Class. It is a wonderful way to connect our young adults with a memory of Asbury Sunday school, and a great outreach by our 5th Graders, who have tons of fun decorating the cards. Some of our young adults even come back to visit the Sunday school class to say thanks.

Each week our volunteers send out inspirational emails to our young adults. They may give them a brief diversion from their day-to-day activities, and a reminder that Asbury, and GOD loves them. Here is a sample of one of those emails:

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY - PATIENCE

The story is told of a young Christian who went to an older Christian for help.

"Will you please pray for me that I may be more patient?" he asked. So they knelt together and the old man began to pray. "Lord, send this young man tribulation in the morning; send this young man tribulation in the afternoon; send this young man..." At that point the young Christian blurted out, "No, no, I didn't ask you to pray for tribulation. I wanted you to pray for patience." "Ah," responded the wise old Christian, "it's through tribulation that we learn patience."

Romans 5:3 We also have joy with our troubles, because we know that these troubles produce patience.

Lord, help me to use my trials and tribulations to grow my faith, character and especially patience. Amen.

With Love, Your Asbury Connection

We are always looking for new ideas to keep our young adults connected. Please feel free to share any you may have, and/or join our group, by contacting Dot Hess at hessdp@ptd.net.

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Congregational Life & Care



CALLING ALL 4TH- 5TH- 6TH- 7TH GRADERS who are interested in playing handbells in 2013! We will be starting rehearsals at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, 1/9, for all who are interested. Parents — please contact Barb Griebel (bgriebel@asburylv.org or 610-799-2640) **ASAP** if your child would like to participate.

ASBURY CONNECTION MEETING (for volunteers of the ministry that keeps our post-high school members connected to our church family) will be held at Asbury on Wednesday, 1/9, at 7:30 PM in Room 108. Contact Dot Hess (hessdp@ptd.net or 610-391-9212) for more information.

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, 1/15, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. in Rooms 208/210. A DVD on "God Loves Messy, Broken People" by Christian comedian Anita Renfroe will be shown. Call Linda Curry Bartholomew (610-395-8756) for information

CHURCH AND SOCIETY continues to need plastic shopping bags for bagging fresh produce for the Salem United Methodist Church Food Bank. Please make sure these are the regular shopping bag size and also that there are no holes in them. The produce is heavy and often there is a large quantity to bag for families. Please bundle the bags and place them near the elevator on the lower level. Thank you.

EMERGENCY HELP AVAILABLE: In the event of an emergency (such as a power outage), Asbury has taken steps to become a shelter for members of the congregation. We have shower and kitchen facilities, camp pads and internet connections. The church answering service will be prepared to help with any information you may require and will arrange to have someone meet you at the church.



United
Methodist
Women



The Dorcas/Martha Circle will meet at 9:15 AM on Thursday, 1/10, in the Parlor/Community Room. Doris Farrar will present a program entitled "Exercise and Humor." Sybil Kinard will lead the devotions. Donna Zimmerman and Deb Goodwin will be hostesses. In January the Circle will be collecting cans of coffee for the Food Bank

The Knitting Angels Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet in the Aldersgate Room at 9:30 AM on 1/12. For more information, please contact Judy Mellman (610-432-4673).

Susanna Circle will have its annual after-the-holiday dinner on Monday, 1/14, at the Fairgrounds Hotel, 448 N. 17th Street, Allentown. Please call Tea Kratzer (610-821-0258) no later than Sunday, 1/6, to make your reservation and to select your entree for the evening. Lorraine Horn will tell us about her recent trip to Russia with a talk entitled "Russia: Past and Present." Please join us! All women are welcome! The all-inclusive cost of the dinner is \$27.

Prayers of Our Congregation

"Our Father and our God, as we stand at the beginning of this new year we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future." Rev. Billy Graham

For those who are sick or in the hospital

Lord, we ask your mercy and healing for all those currently hospitalized or recently discharged, especially Ashley B., Paul P., Elaine G., Bruce K. and Beth S. Jesus, we ask you to have mercy on all those in pain, both physical and mental and grant them your peace.

For those who need your special help

We ask healing for Allan G.'s sister-in-law, Siobhan, recently diagnosed with breast cancer. We ask that Liz P.'s second kidney stone surgery is successful and frees her of pain. We ask, Lord, that you be with Karen and her family as they face an ugly divorce.

For our congregation

Lord, give us the discernment and grace of the three wise men who knew just what to bring to the baby Jesus.

For the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, inspire hearts and minds throughout the world to lead each other to peace and understanding.

For our children

Our Jesus loves each one of us, just as we are right now; especially the smallest and youngest.

For those who mourn

Lord, we ask your mercy and comfort for the families of all those who have passed from our lives into your arms, especially the family of a friend of the Frays, Mike, who passed away on Christmas Eve.

With thanksgiving for our joys

Our joys are endless when we know You, Lord of Love.

For the missions we support

Let us pray for Turning Point as they minister to the needs of victims of domestic violence.

A•men

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adv., interj.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

CHILDREN



Faith & Fun Alive Sunday School

- ☺ 4th/5th Grade Large group is in Fellowship Hall today.

Teaching Ministry Team

- ☺ Our 1st meeting of the new year is this Wednesday, January 9 at 6:30 PM in Aldersgate. RSVP to Wendy or Linda whether or not you are attending.

Kidz Klub

- ☺ All kids (Ages PreK/4 through 5th Grade) are welcome to join us on January 18 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM for our monthly Kidz Klub. Come be warm & cozy in our winter wonderland! Dinner, sports, movie & hot chocolate! Sign up in the Community room or outside the Wesley Center. Volunteers needed!!

Contact Linda Arleth in the church office(610-398-2577 or larleth@asburylv.org) for information on all Children's Ministry activities and opportunities.

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasures chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."
Matthew 2:11

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

Asbury In Mission (AIM)

January

CHANGE FOR CHANGE this month is designated for Hurricane Sandy Relief. Please place your contributions in the containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.

CAR WASH TICKETS AVAILABLE

Get your car washed and help children with autism! Kuhnsville Car Wash coupons to help benefit Autism Speaks may be obtained from Nancy Miltenberger. They are "Gold" package coupons for \$11 each and are good through 2/1/14, so you have over a year to use them! Fifty percent of each ticket sold (\$5.50) goes towards Autism Speaks to help in the mission of autism research, awareness, advocacy and family services. Please contact Nancy (610-737-5774 or nlmily@yahoo.com) to order and arrange for delivery.

CARE NET

In honor of Sanctity of Life Sunday, Christian Singer/Songwriter & Dove Award Winner Mark Schultz is performing a concert on 1/19 at Calvary Baptist Church, Easton, PA at 7:00 PM to benefit CareNet of the LV. CareNet is a national organization which provides pregnancy support services, resources and life skills to women, men and youth; and is a ministry partner of Asbury. There are two ticket options: General Admission at 7:00 PM for \$13.00 or Gold Circle-Reserved Seating and Meet and Greet w/ Mark at 6:00 PM for \$50.00. Tickets can be obtained by calling 317-363-2443. For additional information, call Judy Burkholder (610-433-7289).

YOUTH



Hope everyone had a great holiday season and is refreshed for a new year!

The Children's & Youth Handbell Choirs will be starting again this spring! If you're in 6th or 7th grade and want to ring, please contact Barb Griebel (bgriebel@asburylv.org) to let her know you're interested! Practices will start this month and will be held on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 PM.

This Sunday, 1/6/13, Youth Group will be back at our normal time (**6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**). Last week's article listed an incorrect time; please disregard it.

Youth Sunday (2/10/13) is coming up! Mark it on your calendars and contact Aaron Forney (aforney@asburylv.org) if you want to be involved!

You may also contact Aaron in the church office (610-398-2577) for information on all Youth Ministry activities and opportunities.

ADULTS



UMW READING PROGRAM

"Aging With Grace," What the Nun Study Teaches Us About Leading Longer, Healthier and More Meaningful Lives, by David Snowdon. This long-term research project involving 678 Catholic nuns (ranging in age from 74 to 106) offers many practical ideas. It finds that attitude, faith and community can add years to our lives. It studies the role of heredity and connection between linguistic ability and Alzheimer's. It discusses which foods promote longevity and the connections between strokes, depression and Alzheimer's. This is a warm, encouraging book that isn't a trial to read.

"Living In the Labyrinth," A Personal Journey Through the Maze of Alzheimer's, by Diana Friel McGowin. This large-print, very short book describes what it is like to have Alzheimer's and gradually lose more of your abilities to function. One can identify with the writer and feel her embarrassment and sense of isolation. The book offers hope and a sense of direction.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

2013 OFFERING ENVELOPES

By now you should have received your boxed set of offering envelopes for 2013 in the mail. If you have not yet received them and/or wish to have a set, please contact Sara Brown in the church office (sbrown@asburylv.org).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, January 6 / Communion

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow Sunday School- 200
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Open Door Community Worship- WC
- 12:30 p.m. Music Staff- Aldersgate
- 1:00 p.m. Church of God- 106/108
- 2:00 p.m. AFC Basketball- WC
- 4:00 p.m. Adult Inquirers Class- FH
- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Basketball- WC
- 6:30 p.m. SNL/JHE- YL/108
- 6:30 p.m. Swim Official Meeting- Aldersgate

Monday, January 7

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Aide- 204
- 5:00 p.m. AFC Basketball- WC
- 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12- FH/106
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Guys- 208
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Girls- YL
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts- 108
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers- 206
- 7:30 p.m. Praise Band- Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 8

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Aide- 204
- 9:00 a.m. Zumba- FH
- 11:30 a.m. Program Staff- Aldersgate
- 1:00 p.m. AGO Meeting- 106
- 6:15 p.m. Brownie Troop 6926- 219
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 6244- 106
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Share Together- 208/210
- 6:30 p.m. UMW Board Meeting- 215
- 7:00 p.m. Mark Moore Bible Study- 108
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball- WC
- 7:30 p.m. OA- 204
- 7:30 p.m. Priscilla Circle- Aldersgate
- 8:00 p.m. Worship Ministry- 108

Wednesday, January 9

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group- 231
- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Aide- 204
- 9:00 a.m. Keep in Touch- Aldersgate
- 10:00 a.m. Mark Moore Bible Study- 108
- 12:00 p.m. Telecom Pioneers- Parlor
- 1:00 p.m. AA (open)- 108
- 5:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 5:00 p.m. Asbury Quilter Tea- Aldersgate

Wednesday, January 9 (continued)

- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Dinner- WC
- 5:30 p.m. Children's Bell Rehearsal- 206
- 5:30 p.m. Daisy Troop 6075- 219
- 6:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 6:00 p.m. Chili Cook-off Planning- 202
- 6:00 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers- 108
- 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers- 106
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12- 210/211/215
- 6:30 p.m. Teaching Ministry Team- 217/223
- 6:30 p.m. Lay Leadership Meeting- Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 7:10 p.m. Youth Choir- 106
- 7:30 p.m. Asbury Connection- 108
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir- 102

Thursday, January 10

- 9:00 a.m. Zumba- FH
- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Aide- 204
- 9:15 a.m. Dorcas Martha Circle- Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Open Door Worship Rehearsal- WC
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON- 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir- 102

Friday, January 11

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Aide- 204
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12- 210/211/215
- 7:30 p.m. Youth Coffee House- WC

Saturday, January 12

- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry- Aldersgate
- 12:00 p.m. Private Party- Parlor

Sunday, January 13 / Baptism

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow Sunday School- 200
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Open Door Community Worship- WC
- 12:30 p.m. Bulletin Board Meeting- Aldersgate
- 12:30 p.m. Kennedy Baptism Reception- Parlor
- 1:00 p.m. Church of God- 106/108
- 2:00 p.m. AFC Basketball- WC
- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Basketball- WC
- 6:30 p.m. Serendipity Group- 208
- 6:30 p.m. SNL/JHE- YL/108
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Committee Meeting- 106



PAUL HOFFMAN



Paul is one of our faithful "52-Sundays-a-year" servants! He heads up the Sound & Light Ministry, which means he schedules & trains all volunteers to run the board and handle set-ups in the Sanctuary. In addition, he runs Sound & Lights for many Sunday morning services. We can hear (and see) them now, Paul, thanks to you!



Our Staff

Mark Moore, Senior Pastor
 Eric Yeakel, Associate Pastor
 Laurie Wallace Theisen, Director of Lay Ministries
 Linda Arleth, Director of Children's Ministries
 Aaron Forney, Director of Youth Ministries
 Tom Gibson, Business Administrator

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Saturday
 February 2

We are signing up golfers for Asbury's Indoor Miniature Golf Event starting 1/6. Stop by the Community Room and register early to get your choice of tee time. We are still looking for 3 hole builders for the event. If you would like to participate, please contact Dick Black at 610-967-5532, or see him in the Community Room between services.