



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

FEBRUARY 17, 2013

THE LENT

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 CHALLENGE FOR LENT

Last year, after a period of prayer and discernment, our church adopted as its mandate a call to live out the 'Five Practices of Fruitful Living' – Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, Intentional Faith Development and Extravagant Generosity. As we enter this season of Lent, I would like to offer you a challenge. Would you be willing to each week, in a very specific manner, live out each of the five practices? Here are some possibilities:

- † **Radical Hospitality** – Make a point of greeting someone you do not know. Offer them a warm word, a big smile and an outstretched hand.
- † **Passionate Worship** – Worship is not a spectator sport! Come and sing your praises passionately, pray passionately, listen for God to speak to you – passionately!
- † **Risk-taking Mission and Service** – Commit to serving in a way that will stretch you. Seek God's direction and accept a risky challenge in service to someone.
- † **Intentional Faith Development** – Read a great book on faith. Join a small group. Attend a growth seminar.
- † **Extravagant Generosity** – Decide to give at a level greater than you have ever given. Trust God to provide!

These are just a few examples – you can certainly think of many more. However you do it, take the Lenten challenge to really grow as a disciple of Jesus. And please share your stories with me so I can celebrate with you!

May your Lent be full of growth as you walk with God!

Pastor Mark

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The primary purpose of the church building, grounds and facilities is to enable the Vision and Ministry of the congregation. The Board of Trustees is the committee that is responsible for overseeing, maintaining and upgrading all of the church property, including the parsonage. The Trustees perform these duties within the operating budget constraints. They also execute specially funded projects to beautify the church. The Business Administrator on church staff regularly participates in the activities of the Trustees and provides budgetary accounting guidance.

Asbury's Board of Trustees meets on the fourth Monday of the month, except for the months of July and December. The committee is made up of laity who serve three year terms. The committee members are appointed to three class years, which are staggered, so that each year continuity is maintained.

Current Board of Trustees Members

Bob Reighard – Chairperson (bnbplus7@ptd.net)
Tom Gibson – Business Administrator (tgibson@asburylv.org)
Doug Frank Chuck Goodge Bryan Nyce Sandy Silvonek Rich Snyder

CHANCEL CHOIR NEWS

According to a number of scientists, an "attitude of gratitude" can contribute to creating a happy life. Articles in magazines and on the internet suggest all kinds of ways to cultivate an "attitude of gratitude" in order to increase happiness. Merriam Webster defines gratitude as "the state of being grateful: Thankfulness." We, as Christians, have so much to be thankful for and creating an "attitude of gratitude" should be relatively easy for us. One of the ways the "experts" suggest is to keep a Gratitude Journal in which you write about good things that happen to you each day. Another way is to make a Gratitude Visit. We in the Chancel Choir like that suggestion! Why not make a Gratitude Visit one Thursday night at 7:30 pm and join us as we sing praises to our God in gratitude for the many blessings He has given to each of us. This can be the first step in beginning your journey to creating an "Attitude of Gratitude" and, hopefully, a happier life. We would love to welcome you into our choral family. Our rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. You are welcome to contact our Director, Ken Schneider (610-845-0708 or kenmar@windstream.net), Robin Fitch (610-391-0198 or fitch5@rcn.com) or just stop in!

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Congregational Life & Care



Ruth Yeo will celebrate her 101st birthday on February 18. Cards may be sent to: Luther Crest Health Center, Room 588, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104. Happy Birthday, Ruth!

THE CRAFT GROUP will meet at 9:30 AM on Monday, 2/18, at Faye Vibbert's home. Bring your own hand craft or plan to paint simple designs. Contact Faye (610-398-0516) for more information.

FEED THE BIRDS: In memory of Bonnie Reeve, birdfeeders will be hung outside the windows of the Community Room. A team is being formed to take turns filling the feeders (supplies will be provided). Please contact Laurie Wallace Theisen in the church office if you can help.

FAMILIES ON THE GROW is hosting a progressive dinner on Saturday 2/23. There will be 3 stops — appetizers, main course, and dessert. The first stop will begin at 4:00 pm. For more information, please contact Paul Wood (610-437-1862 or paewood@rcn.com).

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS:

- ◆ Nursing students from Cedar Crest College will be in the Community Room and outside Wesley Center on 2/17 to take blood pressures and provide information about the shingles vaccine.
- ◆ Caring in a Nutshell (Grief Support Lunch) will be held from 12:30 to 2:00 PM on Monday, 2/25, in the Aldersgate Room. Contact Doris Farrar (610-395-2749) to let her know you will attend.
- ◆ Miller-Keystone Blood Center will hold a blood drive at Asbury on 3/10, from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Sign-up in the Community Room starting 2/17. Anyone 17-99 may donate. **Give the Gift of Life!**

Celebrity Judges Chosen for Chili Cook-off

Your Chili Cook-off Team is excited to introduce our panel of Celebrity Judges for the 5th Annual Awesome Chili Cook-off to be held March 16th from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at Asbury Church. They are:

	Diane Stoneback Senior Food Reporter The Morning Call	
	Darryl Dawkins NBA Retired	

Come join us for fun, food and fellowship as we support the ministries of the Lehigh County Conference of Churches.

THE ALLENTOWN ECUMENICAL FOOD BANK thanks everyone who contributed to the 13 bags of food recently donated. Because of your caring and sharing they are able to serve between 200 & 250 families per week.

Prayers of Our Congregation

"All of this is done by our Lord for forgiveness of our sins, and for life everlasting with Him."

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 Elaine G., Anne S., James B., Doris N., and Nicholas D. 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 your help and strength, Lord, for Connie F., the sister of Anita Q. & Cindy S., who is in critical condition as a result of complications from diabetes. Continue to strengthen and heal Maynara, Jim & Sarah F.'s granddaughter. Be with all those affected by the recent blizzard in New England.

For the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, help the powerful realize that serving and encouraging others is true power. Sometimes it seems that the world teeters on the brink. Renew our faith in your plan of peace and blessings for all of us.

For our children

Thank you for the sweet blessing of children everywhere, and the pure joy they inspire.

For our congregation

Lord, open our hearts this Lenten season, so that your love and compassion may enter.

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 Sean Casey, a college student who passed away suddenly last week.

With thanksgiving for our joys

We thank you for the beauty of flowers, and for the colorful blooms that burst forth from a bulb, bringing hope in the midst of a dark winter. We celebrate with Dot I. who observed her 90th birthday this past week. Former members Al & Randi P. welcomed a new grandson, Isaac Charles, born to Charles & Jennifer on 2/7.

For the missions we support

The mission prayer this week is for Kevin Bruce and family. They are missionaries working in ministry to the Awa Indians in the mountains of Ecuador.



INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

CHILDREN

Faith & Fun Alive Sunday School

- ☺ 4th/5th Grade Large Group meets in Room 104 on 2/17.
- ☺ Sunday 2/24 – Mission Celebration for all children Ages 3 – 5th Grade. All children will meet in the FH from 9:40-10:20. We will have time to look at pictures of our past mission efforts, and will then kick-off our Lenten Project for Heifer International. The kids will have a fun time learning about how they can help others by making donations to buy pigs, goats, chicks, cows and other animals to help people lift themselves from hunger and poverty. Activities & snacks are part of the morning. Drop-off and pick-up in the classrooms.

Kidz Klub

- ☺ Next Kidz Klub is 3/15 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The Theme is "Rebirth – Summer in the Winter." Sign-up outside the WC and in the Community Room starting 3/3.

Vacation Bible School

- ☺ Put the dates on your calendar NOW! Join us July 29-August 2 at "Everywhere Fun Fair – Where God's World Comes Together." A VBS Core Team is now being formed. If you want to help organize and plan this year's VBS, contact Linda as soon as you can. We have lots of fun planning and having fellowship time together. Also needed: Coordinators for the different stations and activities (storytelling, music, crafts, games, snacks, decorating) and VBS Family Night. Planning starts now!! Registration will start mid-May.

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

Play Days

- ☺ Registration for the 2013-2014 PlayDays Program begins 2/24. (PlayDays is a weekday program for 1 & 2 year olds.) Visit the website (www.AsburyPlayDays.org) or contact Bev Kerch (610-395-4310) for information on how and when to register.

YOUTH

- ⇒ A huge thank you to the congregation for allowing us to share in worship through Youth Sunday this past Sunday! And congratulations to all of the students who participated and were part of the planning process – you did a fantastic job! If you weren't able to make it, the theme was keeping God as the center of our worship and not getting caught up in our own human-made traditions. Check out Mark 7:3-9, Matthew 6:25-34, Luke 10:38-42, and Colossians 2:6-10 to see what the scriptures have to say; and check out David's awe and reverence in Psalm 92:1-9 – how can we be more like that in our spiritual lives, not caught up in how worship is done or not done, but how our hearts are overflowing with the love of Christ.
- ⇒ This past Friday's Coffeehouse was cancelled due to weather. Some of you have asked if it will be rescheduled, but unfortunately due to other events being scheduled, we'll have to wait until next month's Coffeehouse (March 8 – mark it on your calendar!).
- ⇒ 8th Graders will be receiving a letter with Confirmation information – if you haven't received this letter, please visit www.asburyym.org to get all the information you need about the Confirmation journey!

Contact Aaron in the church office (aforney@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577) for information on all Youth Ministry activities and opportunities.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: Information on the Dilcher, Clarke, UMW, and International Studies Scholarships is now available at the Welcome Desks, near the Youth Bulletin Board on the lower level, and on Asbury's website.

ADULTS

Available at the Welcome Desks and on the tables in the Narthex are the following items to guide you in your spiritual journey through Lent:

- † A complete listing of all the Small Group Lenten Studies that are being offered, with contact information. This list is also available on the website.
- † Asbury's 2013 Lenten Devotional, which is also available on Asbury's website, www.asburylv.org.
- † Free prayer calendars for February, highlighting our various Mission Partners that always stand in need of prayer.

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

Asbury In Mission (AIM)



CHANGE FOR CHANGE this month is designated for the Salem UMC Food Pantry, whose mission is to provide healthy, fresh food to low-income families. Please place your monetary contributions in the containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.

mission mission mission



**SUNDAY BRUNCH
FEBRUARY 17
9:00 AM TO 12:30 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Gather your church friends and family and plan on having brunch to support a good cause; "Stop Hunger Now." Too many people in the world suffer from malnutrition and hunger, and wonder from where or when the next meal will come. "Stop Hunger Now" offers us the opportunity to feed others. First, we raise funds to host an event where we will package nutritious meals for others. Help us raise the needed funds to host a packaging event at Asbury!

Brunch will be a variety of foods, including eggs, waffles, potatoes, fruit, variety of breads, ham, salad and many other items. Mark your calendar, bring your check book, and give generously.

mission mission mission

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

ASBURY ENDOWMENT FUND

Do you know that over 50% of all people at the time of their death do not have a will or living trust? "Later" can be too late. Don't delay having your will drawn. Make sure your estate plans are in place so that your wishes will be carried out to benefit your family. Gifts you plan for the Asbury Endowment Fund through your will can help your church continue to minister and serve.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 17 / Communion

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Mission Brunch- FH
- 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
- 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. SNL/JHE- YL/108/FH
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217

Monday, February 18 / President's Day

Office Closed / Building Opening at 5:30 p.m.

- 5:30 p.m. AFC Basketball- WC
- 6:30 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Guys- 208
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Girls- YL
- 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee- Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers- 206
- 7:30 p.m. Praise Band- Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 19

- 9:00 a.m. Zumba- FH
- 9:30 a.m. Lenten Small Group- Aldersgate
- 12:30 p.m. Program Staff Meeting- Aldersgate
- 6:15 p.m. Brownie Troop 6926- 219
- 7:00 p.m. AIM- 106
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball- WC
- 7:00 p.m. Mark Moore Bible Study- 108
- 7:30 p.m. OA- 204

Wednesday, February 20

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group- 231
- 10:00 a.m. Mark Moore Bible Study- 108
- 1:00 p.m. AA (open)- 108
- 3:00 p.m. Parkland Press Meeting- Aldersgate
- 5:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Dinner- WC
- 5:30 p.m. Faith Ringers (children's bells)- 206
- 6:00 p.m. DS Committee Meeting- Aldersgate
- 6:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 6:00 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers- 108
- 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers- 106

Wednesday, February 20 (continued)

- 6:30 p.m. Teaching Ministry Team- 215
- 6:30 p.m. Asbury Quilters- 204
- 6:30 p.m. Sarah Circle- 108
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217
- 7:00 p.m. Church & Society- 202
- 7:00 p.m. SPRC- Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 7:10 p.m. Youth Choir- 106
- 8:00 p.m. Apostle Ringers- 206
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir- 102

Thursday, February 21

- 9:00 a.m. Zumba- FH
- 10:00 a.m. Palmer Seminary- Parlor
- 12:15 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 215
- 6:30 p.m. Parkland Service Unit 722- FH
- 7:00 p.m. Open Door Worship Rehearsal- WC
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON- 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir- 102

Friday, February 22

- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12- FH

Saturday, February 23

- 9:00 a.m. Garden Writers Workshop- 217/Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. NARANON Meeting- 108
- 5:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 26 Dinner- WC

Sunday, February 24

- 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
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Mission Celebration- FH
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Open Door Community Worship- WC
- 1:00 p.m. Church of God- 106/108
- 2:00 p.m. AFC Basketball- WC
- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Basketball- WC
- 6:00 p.m. Church Council- 215
- 6:30 p.m. SNL/JHE- YL/108/FH
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts- Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Dig Deep- 106



MARSHA JOHNSTON

Marsha organized the 2012 UMW Bazaar as its chairperson, even while on crutches! She also is the long-time leader of the Henritz Sunday School Class, and in January of 2013 took over as Chairperson of the Church & Society Ministry Team. She has held various leadership positions at Asbury since she became a member in 1976. Thanks, Marsha!



UMW Communion Breakfast

Saturday, March 2
9:00 AM ~ Wesley Center
Speaker ~ Cheryl Trent
Special Music ~ Julia Schultz
All women are invited!



Mission Project

School supplies or scholarship donations for the Neighborhood Center of Harrisburg.

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
& Leader of Open Door Worship Band
Tom Gibson, Business Administrator
Larry Hein, Head Custodian

mmoore@asburylv.org
eyeakel@asburylv.org
ltheisen@asburylv.org
larleth@asburylv.org
aforney@asburylv.org
tgibson@asburylv.org
lhein@asburylv.org