



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

FEBRUARY 24, 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

REPENTANCE: LENT HAS BEGUN

The Season of Lent began last week with Ash Wednesday. The ashes imposed on the forehead at the beginning of Lent are a sign of our repentance. The Hebrews would publicly express their repentance by placing ashes on their heads or faces. Jesus makes reference to this in Matthew 11:21. In order to understand our need for repentance we first need to understand the term "sin."

The word "sin" in Greek means *to miss the mark* and in Hebrew it means *to stray from the path*. God has this way that he created us to be, but we all stray from that path. When we stray too far we end up hurting other people. We also hurt ourselves and we get caught up in this cycle of doing things we don't even want to do. In order to break that cycle we need to repent.

Repentance involves the entire person, the head, the heart and the hands. "Repent" in Greek literally means *to think differently afterwards* and signifies a change of thinking that leads to a change of heart. Our change of heart ultimately leads to a change in behavior. It was not enough, John said to the multitudes who came to be baptized, to step into the water. Repentance needed to be accompanied by a change in life; there needed to be fruit that was born of repentance. During this season of Lent we need to ask ourselves, "Where in my life do I need to see fruit born of repentance?"

Pastor Eric

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY TEAM A FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY HEALTH MINISTRY

Our mission is to integrate Health & Faith by encouraging individuals to live healthier lives. We do this by seeking members to help us with screenings, plan educational outlets, refer members to community resources, & visitations. We are always seeking new members to help with these goals. Medical backgrounds are helpful but we appreciate anyone willing to help us meet the above goals. We promote holistic health through spiritual, physical, & mental wellness. The Health Ministry connects all these needs in harmony between a person and God. We like to work closely with the pastors to promote this mission.

Coming events include the Spring Blood Drive on Sunday, 3/10, in Fellowship Hall. We encourage families to give together the gift of life. One unit of Blood will save 4 to 5 lives. Please sign up in the Community Room. Teens may donate at 17, and if you are in good health you may give until you are 110. Stop by and ask questions - limitations are always being revised to permit giving.

Student nurses from Cedar Crest College will be at Asbury to take blood pressures and offer education on the Shingles vaccine. *Caring in a Nutshell* is a support group held monthly for those that have lost a loved one. It offers coping tips and support for the journey through the grief experience. Check out our Health Board in the hall on the 2nd level for more tips and information.

The Annual Teddy Bear Clinic for the preschoolers will be held on 4/17. Safety education and hand washing is promoted for them along with their favorite teddy bear.

Team member Karen does monthly blood pressure checks, and is available to guide you for medical concerns. Doris offers referrals to community resources, and assists when needed with the visitation group. Shirley guides many dealing with addiction issues. Kim is our specialist with diabetes concerns. We are open to expand to meet your needs. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Doris (610-395-2749 or lafalot111@hotmail.com).

Doris Farrar, RN BS

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Congregational Life & Care

GARDEN OF EATIN' CAFÉ (our Wednesday Night Dinner Event) will feature "roast beef, with the works" on 2/27. Dinner is available from 5:00 to 7:30 PM in the Wesley Center, and everyone is invited. There is no set fee—give what you can. Volunteers for prep and clean-up are always needed. Contact Mike Fisher (917-478-3854) if you have any questions or would like to help. Hope to see you there!

ASBURY CONNECTION monthly meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, 3/6, in Room 108. Join us for an interactive presentation on "What Parents Can Do to Support Our Children as They Begin Their Journey into Adulthood" with Linda Lantaff, Asbury member and Academic Planner at KU. We encourage High School Senior Parents and new members to join us! For more information contact Dot Hess (610-391-9212 or hessdp@ptd.net).



Scheduler for Communion Assistants

A coordinator is needed to schedule the volunteers who assist in serving communion for the 9:30 & 11:00 Sanctuary Worship Services. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the church office.

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS:

- ◆ 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 this week. Anyone 17-99 may donate. **Give the Gift of Life!**

Prayers of Our Congregation

"Thanks be to Christ the Lord, who brought us life by his death on the cross."

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., Doris N., Kate B., Karen D. 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 M.'s Aunt Pat, who is in hospice care. Be with Sharon B.'s grandmother, Helen C., who is hospitalized.

For the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, we pray that skillful and godly wisdom will enter into the hearts of our world leaders and that they will do your will.

For our children

We pray for the children of our church, for the children of our city, for the children of our world. May each day bring them enough hugs for a smile, enough friends for security, and enough adults to provide guidance. May we never get in the way of letting the children come to you.



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



Jaccii Farris
Reporter
WFMZ



Darryl Dawkins
NBA Retired



Dr. Irving Cotto
District Superintendent

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

Asbury's UMW (United Methodist Women) has joined Facebook! Please check out our site by visiting www.facebook.com and searching for UMW of Asbury UMC Allentown. Comments and suggestions are always welcomed and may be directed to Amy Benninger or Nancy Sheffield, or emailed to umw@asburylv.org.

For our congregation

Lord, open our hearts this Lenten season, so that your love and compassion may enter. Stir the hearts of our members to serve in the way you would have them serve.

For those who mourn

Bless those who mourn with the comfort of your love, that they may face each new day with hope. May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.

With thanksgiving for our joys

We are thankful for the joy of new life—two new grandchildren in one week for Don & Anita Q., and the news of twins to be born to Sharon B.'s daughter.

For the missions we support

The mission prayer this week is for Mercy and Truth Children's Home of the Himalayas (MATCH HIM). MATCH HIM is an orphanage for poor children in Nepal which provides a safe, secure home for children without families.



AMEN

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

CHILDREN

Faith & Fun Alive Sunday School

- ☺ **Sunday, 2/24, is our Mission Celebration!** All children (Ages 3 – Grade 5) will meet from 9:40-10:20 AM in Fellowship Hall for a program celebrating our mission partners. Children should be dropped off and picked up in their classrooms. 4th & 5th Graders will meet in FH at 9:30 and should be picked up in Room 205 at 10:30 AM..

Kidz Klub

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

Community Easter Egg Hunt

- ☺ This year's Egg Hunt will be Saturday, 3/23, at 10:00 AM in the Wesley Center – for all kids Ages 1 – 12. Bring a favorite breakfast food to share for our continental breakfast. There will be crafts, treats, and, of course, the Egg Hunt! Flyers with sign-up information are in the Community Room and outside WC. We are also asking for monetary donations or donations of plastic Easter eggs. If you would like to help us with filling Easter eggs on Wednesday, 3/20, at 6:00 PM, or on the morning of the Egg Hunt, please contact Linda Arleth (larleth@asburylv.org) or Jaylyn Brisendine (jlyn32@aol.com).

Vacation Bible School

- ☺ Join us July 29 – August 2 for “Fun Fair – Where God's World Comes Together” for ages PreK/4 – 5th Grade. Registrations will begin mid-May. If you would like to help on our Core team for planning, or be a coordinator of one of our Rotation Stations, please contact Linda Arleth.

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

YOUTH

- ⇒ **CONFIRMATION** is starting on Sunday, 3/3, with a welcome time for parents and students. This and all Confirmation classes will take place during the Sunday School hour, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM, in Room 108. Rich Kropp and Nate Diffenbaugh are returning as teachers! Visit www.asburyym.org for more information.
- ⇒ Who are you? A faith community doesn't work without active sharing – figuring out who Jesus is, who you are in relation to him, and how you can share your story. At Youth Group this week we'll be talking about what faith means to you. Join us in the Youth Lounge on Sunday from 6:30 PM – 8 PM.
- ⇒ If you'll be finishing 9th grade this summer, you're eligible to attend the West Virginia Work Week this summer! The trip is July 14-20 and registration will begin soon!
- ⇒ If you've attended the West Virginia Work Week in the past, from the first trip in 1994 up through this summer, mark your calendar for a reunion being held at Asbury on Friday, November 29! This will be a great night of sharing experiences and celebrating the wonderful opportunities this trip has provided.

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.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

- ◆ Interested in electronic giving? Go to the “Online Giving” section on our website, or call Suzanne in the office for instructions on how to set up recurring deposits.
- ◆ “I Give Electronically” cards are now available in the pew racks for those folks who give online but would still like to have something to put in the offering plate.
- ◆ Have you received an inheritance? If so, consider gifting a part of the inheritance to the Asbury Endowment Fund in memory of the loved one who remembered you.

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

Asbury In Mission (AIM)



CHANGE FOR CHANGE this month is designated for the Salem UMC Food Pantry. Please place your monetary contributions in the containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.



Beloved in Christ,

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel and the medical work that the Lord has called me to do here in Kakata, Liberia.

Several Months ago, when I finally decided that I was leaving the organization that I had worked with for more than 20 years, many were surprised. Some were even bold to say I was “foolish”-- how could I leave a stable job with all its security for something so uncertain like Healthy Women-Healthy Liberia. However, the Lord spoke very clearly to my heart that I was supposed to return to Liberia and serve His people. I am glad that I listened to His report and followed my heart. It is with great joy and delight that I serve the people here daily under such challenging conditions -- lack of supplies, medications, good water, electricity, even proper examination rooms and my own fear of getting malaria someday. Nevertheless, in the midst of all the challenges I can see how the Lord is working out even the smallest details of our lives here. Many are recovering from diseases that they have struggled with for years. They returned to see me with big smiles and little gifts like; chickens, pineapples, bananas, papayas and etc. It is wonderful to watch the changes in their behaviors and attitude towards their own health. Their openness toward the gospel is overwhelming. Many have asked to come along with me to the church that I attend. What a blessing!

Thanks for making it possible to serve the people here in this distant land.

In Him,
Dr. Chris Hena

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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
- 5:00 p.m. Church Council- 217
- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Basketball- WC
- 6:30 p.m. SNL/JHE- YL/108/FH
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 215
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts- Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Dig Deep- 106



Wednesday, February 27 (continued)

- 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Dinner- WC
- 5:30 p.m. Daisy Troop 6075- 219
- 5:30 p.m. Faith Ringers - 206
- 6:00 p.m. Karate- FH
- 6:30 p.m. Asbury Quilters- 204
- 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers- 106
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12- 210/211/215
- 7:00 p.m. Let's Read Together- 208
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217
- 7:00 p.m. LV Wheelmen- 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



Monday, February 25

- 12:30 p.m. Caring in a Nutshell Lunch- Aldersgate
- 5:00 p.m. AFC Basketball- WC
- 5:30 p.m. Brownie Troop 6027- 108
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men- 215
- 6:30 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Guys- 208
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Girls- YL
- 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12- FH/106
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts- 108
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees- Aldersgate
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers- 206
- 7:30 p.m. Praise Band- Sanctuary

Thursday, February 28

- 9:00 a.m. Zumba- FH
- 12:15 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 215
- 7:00 p.m. Open Door Worship Rehearsal- WC
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON- 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir- 102

Friday, March 1

- 12:00 p.m. UMW Set-up- WC
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 12- 210/211/215

Saturday, March 2

- 9:00 a.m. UMW Communion Breakfast- WC
- 9:00 a.m. Childcare- 223



Tuesday, February 26

- 9:00 a.m. Zumba- FH
- 9:30 a.m. Lenten Small Group- Aldersgate
- 12:30 p.m. Program Staff Meeting- Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 6244- 106
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball- WC
- 7:00 p.m. Mark Moore Bible Study- 108
- 7:30 p.m. OA- 204

Sunday, March 3

- 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. Confirmation Class- 108
- 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. Cub Scout Committee- Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. SNL/JHE- YL/108/FH
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Small Group- 217

Wednesday, February 27

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group- 231
- 10:00 a.m. Mark Moore Bible Study- 108
- 1:00 p.m. AA (open)- 108
- 5:00 p.m. Karate- FH



ALLAN GOW

Allan is another new member who has jumped right into participation in many Asbury ministries. In addition to being part of the Men's Small Group, he does Multi-media for our worship services and is an active member of Asbury In Mission. He has also participated in several mission trips, including the Senior High Youth Work Trip to West Virginia in the summer. Thank, Allan!



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

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