



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

SEPTEMBER 1, 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

WORSHIP

8:00 AM in the Sanctuary

WORSHIP

9:30 AM in the Sanctuary

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

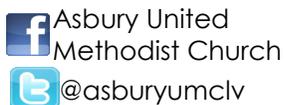
During our 9:30 Sunday School time, we have childcare for infants through three year olds. During our 11:00 Services, we have childcare available for infants through PreK.

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

Publicity Requests:

<http://publicityform.asburylv.org/>



In the last two days, at least ten people have said to me 'Where did the summer go?' Hard to believe it is Labor Day weekend – the summer is over, schools are opening, the beautiful colors of fall will be here soon, and – I have even seen Christmas decorations being sold!

As we enter a new ministry year here at Asbury, I want to challenge each person who calls themselves a part of this wonderful church to live into the great commission that Christ gave us. His last words to us were to go to the world and spread the Gospel, teach what he had taught, and make disciples. How can we do that?

It is not hard. Start by simply inviting someone to join you for church. On Sunday, September 8, we will start our new year with the **Blessing of the Backpacks**. We are asking every student to bring their backpack to church where we will bless them, asking God to grant each one a happy, healthy, productive year in school.

Who in your neighborhood, your school, your office, your gym can you reach out to and invite? Pray about that – and when you feel the Spirit lead, be bold and ask! You just might change the life of someone!

See you in church!

Pastor Mark

PARTICIPATE IN PASSIONATE WORSHIP!



If you have ever wondered what it is like to ring handbells, September is a perfect time to learn! New handbell groups for children, youth and adults will begin on Wednesday, 9/11. Beginners and experienced ringers are welcome. Contact Mrs. Griebel by 9/1 (bgriebel@asburylv.org or 610-799-2640), or Carol Lenhart (clenhart@asburylv.org) to reserve your place at the bell table.

Kindergarteners and First Graders ~ Joyful Noisemakers Need You!

Children enrolled in Kindergarten or Grade 1 are always welcome to join the Joyful Noisemakers, Asbury's vocal choir with the youngest members! Beginning 9/4, Joyful Noisemakers rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:00 PM in Room 108 and share a song in worship at least once each month, September through May. Come out and join us as we share the gift of music, learn about God's amazing love through song, and enjoy fellowship of Asbury friends. For additional information, please contact Tina Lebrecht (610-298-8433 or tnt94@ptd.net).



Blessing
of the Backpacks

On Sunday, 9/8, all children, youth and adults are invited to bring their backpacks/briefcases to church for **Blessing of the Backpacks**. Children and youth will have their backpacks blessed during our Large Group Times in Sunday School, and all backpacks/briefcases will be blessed at all 4 worship services. Join us next Sunday for our Fall Kick-off Celebration!

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

FACING THE MONSTER OF MODERN SLAVERY... WITH FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

The Henritzy Class will host Carol Hart Matzker on Sunday, 9/8, at 9:30 AM in Room 204. Carol is the author of "Facing the Monster: How One Person Can Fight Child Slavery." Human trafficking is one of the study topics this year for the UMW. Everyone is welcome to come—bring a friend and meet Carol. She grew up at Asbury, was married here, and is the daughter of Bill & Evelyn Hart.



THE ASBURY UMW is once again participating in the District Ingathering to be held on 10/5. Any of the following items will be greatly appreciated: Diapers (cloth and disposable), Underwear (children and adult) Baby Clothes (especially infant

sizes), Mittens, Hats, Socks (all ages), Sweaters, and Nightwear. Items should be new (tags attached if possible). All donations benefit our local Salem Thrift Shop in Allentown. Please look for the Ingathering Tub on the lower level. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Malick (484-515-7612). Thank you for your support of this program!

UMW CIRCLE MEETINGS ~ ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!!

- ◇ **Susanna Circle** - Meeting at 7:00 PM on Monday, 9/9, at the home of Elouise Schreffler, 1717 Glacier Ct., Allentown. Kathy Parks will speak about the Ingathering program and how it benefits the Salem Thrift shop. Donations for Ingathering will be accepted at the meeting.
- ◇ **Dorcus/Martha Circle** - Meeting at 9:15 AM on Thursday, 9/12, in the Parlor. Program will be presented by Peter Bond, Director of the Aspires Mentoring Program. Collection for September will be diapers and baby wipes for CareNet.

JOIN THE "FAMILIES ON THE GROW" for a campfire and cookout on Saturday, 9/14, at 5:00 PM in the Asbury grove. Chicken, paper products and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. For more information, contact Paul Wood (paewood@rcn.com or 610-437-1862).

DIG DEEP: Do you want to live out your faith more genuinely? Join us alternate Sundays (9/29,10/13,10/27,11/10,11/24,12/8) from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in Room 106 as we study John Ortberg's book "The Life You've Always Wanted." Contact Linda Woolbaugh (610-398-9370 or woolbaughs@ptd.net) or Cindy Brown (610-799-3634 or crjbrown@gmail.com).



In the beginning of August, Friends of the Parkland Community Library held their 23rd Annual Used Book Sale at Asbury United Methodist Church. It was a great success and was able to raise funds for library programs. FPCL would like to thank Asbury for their generous hospitality. Without this wonderful venue, we might not have been able to continue our used book sale tradition. We were warmly welcomed and supported in our sale. This is another example of the commitment to the community that Asbury continues to show. Many, many thanks!
Friends of the Parkland Community Library

From Gail Wotring: Elaine Glasser, my mother, enjoys reading the worship bulletin and "The Vine" each week. It helps her to feel somewhat connected with the church she loves. Thanks you for making this possible.

From Joan Donham: Thanks so much to the Rowlands for delivering the altar flowers to me last week. They were lovely!

Prayers of Our Congregation *How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!*

For those who are sick or in the hospital

Lord, we ask your mercy and healing for all those currently hospitalized or recently discharged, including MaryAnn K., Chuck E., and Barry Z. 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

Lord, we affirm that your power is infinite and that you love us all like a devoted parent. In the knowledge of your love and mercy toward us, we lift up these people for your care: Joyce & Bill M.'s daughter-in-law, Tammy, who has heart valve problems; Janet, a dear friend of Amy's, that everything goes smoothly on Monday; Amy's Aunt Jeanne, that her health continues to improve with her pacemaker; Jim and Sarah F.'s granddaughter, Maynara, as she struggles with life issues; Jon Y. as he recuperates from a traumatic brain injury; Healing for Connie, a friend of Sue & Beth.

For our congregation

Lord, we ask your blessing on your people here at Asbury and everywhere around the world. Help us to be true disciples of Jesus Christ.

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 the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, bring peace and salvation, mercy and grace to all those suffering in the Middle East.

With thanksgiving for our joys

Thank you for new beginnings! Thank you for a last great celebration of the season, Labor Day, when we honor all those who toil. Thank you for our souls' salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord!

For our children

Lord, watch over all the children now beginning a new school year. Keep them safe and help them learn in an atmosphere of love and kindness.

For the missions we support

Our prayer this week is for Teen Haven, an inner-city Lancaster outreach program advancing the kingdom of God by reaching urban youth with the gospel, discipling them to maturity and equipping them to be leaders in their communities. We pray that they are able to sustain the ministry through very needed and generous financial support.



INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

CHILDREN



Faith & Fun Alive Sunday School

- ☺ **PreK – 5th Grade will meet in Fellowship Hall on 9/1 for Sunday School.**
- ☺ **Next Sunday, 9/8, is Fall Kickoff Sunday!** We have classes for all kids, infant through 5th Grade. Childcare is available for infants/ones in Room 214 and for two year-olds in Room 223. Our new Rotation Format will start with three and four year-olds meeting and being picked up in Room 216. Kindergarten – 5th Grade will meet in large group for Children's Worship, and then rotate between rooms for Bible Skills, Art, and Creative Drama/Games. Please see the parent letter coming in the mail for details of the schedule and drop off/pick up rooms for each age level.
- ☺ **Our Kids Need You!** We are praying for new volunteers with a heart for kids and for Christ! Join our SS team of leaders & shepherds – fun, experiential and engaging! Contact Linda Smith or Wendy Wright this week to find out how you can be a part of our team – support, training, and fellowship all provided!

Kidz Klub

- ☺ **Sign-up for our next Kidz Klub** – Friday, 9/20, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. Come for dinner, games/sports & Fall activities! Sign-up outside the Wesley Center or in the Community Room. Contact Pam Unrath for more information.

Contact Linda Arleth Smith in the church office
(610-398-2577 or larleth@asburylv.org)

for information on all Children's Ministry activities and opportunities.

Welcome back this week to our PlayDays & PreSchool directors, teachers, children and parents. We are excited to have our halls and classrooms filled once again with laughing children! May God bless you in the new school year.

asbury youth ministries

Summer is nearly over. For those of you who went back to school this week, we hope you had a great first few days; for those of you who are going back on Tuesday we hope you enjoy the final few days at home. The end of summer means that we go back into our fall schedule – for school, at home, and in Youth Ministries! Please check out the information below to be sure you know what's happening and be a part of it all!

- ⇒ Summer Youth Group concluded this past Sunday. We hope you had a great time!
- ⇒ Summer Sunday School is meeting for the final time this Sunday, 9/1.
- ⇒ Both Sunday School (9:30–10:30 AM) and Youth Group (6:30–8:00 PM) will begin on Sunday, 9/8.
- ⇒ 6th Graders (and Parents of 6th Graders!): We want to take some extra time to welcome you into Youth Ministries. Please join us on Sunday, 9/8, at 6:00 PM in Room 108 to meet the adult leaders and learn more about Youth Group and Asbury Youth Ministries, and to get some time in the Youth Lounge before the 7th-12th Graders come at 6:30 PM.
- ⇒ Our Adventure Day at Pocono Plateau is on Sunday, 9/22. We'll be doing team building exercises and the Flying Squirrel! For more information and to sign up, visit www.asburyym.org!

Watch for a mailing with more information coming out soon!

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

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



Change-For-Change

The 2013 Annual CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, 10/13, and this month's CFC is designated to support that event. We all care about hungry people, but what can one person do? You can support the local CROP Hunger Walk to raise your voice against hunger and raise funds to help hungry people around the world and here in our own area. Please place your contributions in the designated containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

ASBURY ENDOWMENT FUND

Memorial gifts to the Asbury Endowment Fund meet two important needs at once. First, they allow you to express your feelings at the loss of a loved one or a valued friend. Second, your gift helps support Asbury's mission and ministry for years to come. Appropriate notices are sent to the bereaved family indicating the fact that your memorial gift was received. (The amount of your gift, of course, is not disclosed.)

FALL 2013 SMALL GROUP STUDIES FOR ADULTS

Description	When	Where	Time	Contact	email
<i>The Life You Always Wanted by John Ortberg</i>	9/29 to 12/8	Room 106	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Linda Woolbaugh	woolbaughs@ptd.net
Book of Ephesians Study	Begins 9/4	Fellowship Hall	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	Jeff Paiste	paisteja@gmail.com
Book of Ephesians Study	Begins 9/8	Room 217	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	Jeff Paiste	paisteja@gmail.com
<i>Hearing God's Voice through the Static</i>	Begins 9/10	Aldersgate Room	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Christina Lenner	lennerc@yahoo.com
Bible Study	Begins 9/11	Room 108	10:00 -11:00 a.m.	Pastor Mark	mmoore@asburylv.org
Bible Study	Begins 9/11	Room 217	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Pastor Mark	mmoore@asburylv.org
<i>The Bible Mini Series (New Testament)</i>	Begins 9/11	Room 215	6:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Pastor Eric	eyeakel@asburylv.org

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 1 / Communion

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Summer Sunday School- FH
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Summer Sunday School- YL
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Open Door Community Worship- WC
- 1:00 p.m. Church of God- Sanctuary/106/108

Monday, September 2 / Labor Day

Office & Building Closed



Tuesday, September 3

- 12:30 p.m. Program Staff Meeting- Aldersgate
- 6:30 p.m. Preschool/PlayDays Parent Orientation- Sanc.
- 6:30 p.m. UMW Board Meeting- 106
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Ministry Team- Aldersgate
- 7:30 p.m. OA- 204

Wednesday, September 4

- 8:45 a.m. Keep in Touch- Aldersgate
- 8:55 a.m. Preschool Open House
- 9:00 a.m. PlayDays Open House
- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group- 231
- 1:00 p.m. AA (open)- 108
- 6:30 p.m. Asbury Quilters- 204
- 6:30 p.m. "The Bible" Class- 215
- 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers- 108
- 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers- 106
- 6:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting- Aldersgate

Wednesday, September 5 (cont.)

- 7:10 p.m. Youth Choir- 106
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir- 102

Thursday, September 5

- 8:55 a.m. Preschool Open House
- 9:00 a.m. PlayDays Open House
- 6:00 p.m. Open Door Worship Rehearsal- WC
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON- 108
- 7:00 p.m. Church of God Bible Study- 106
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir- 102

Friday, September 6

- 1:00 p.m. AA (open)- 108

Saturday, September 7

- 10:00 a.m. Church of God- 106/108

Sunday, September 8 / Fall Kickoff

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Celebration - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow- 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. Hospitality Team Luncheon- Parlor
- 1:00 p.m. Church of God- Sanctuary/106/108
- 6:00 p.m. Labyrinth Team Meeting- Aldersgate
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 6th grade Welcome- 108
- 6:30 p.m. SNL/JHE- YL/FH/108



**Servant
of the
Week**

KIRK BROWN

Kirk has shared his artistic talent & vision with numerous Asbury ministries through the years. If it makes Asbury more beautiful, or worship more meaningful, he has probably had a hand in it! Kirk is a Liturgist, Lay Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, does Children's Time, and sings in the Chancel Choir. He has also designed & executed many of Asbury's Sanctuary banners, plants annuals in the church's flowerbeds & pots, and decorates the Sanctuary beautifully at Christmas. Thanks, Kirk!



OUR CHURCH'S
**FINANCIAL
HEALTH**

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Copies of Asbury's financial picture (as of 7/31) are available at both the upper and lower level Welcome Center desks. Updates will be issued monthly as they become available.

Our Staff

Mark Moore, Senior Pastor	mmoore@asburylv.org
Eric Yeakel, Associate Pastor	eyeakel@asburylv.org
Laurie Wallace Theisen, Director of Lay Ministries	ltheisen@asburylv.org
Linda Smith, Director of Children's Ministries	larleth@asburylv.org
Aaron Forney, Director of Youth Ministries & Leader of Open Door Worship Band	aforney@asburylv.org
Beverly Kerch, Director of PlayDays	playdays@asburylv.org
Karen Bowermaster, Director of PreSchool	preschool@asburylv.org
Tom Gibson, Business Administrator	tgibson@asburylv.org
Larry Hein, Head Custodian	lhein@asburylv.org