



The Asbury Update

Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
Rev. Billy Hester

Volume 23, Number 11
December 2017



Church Christmas Party, December 10th at 6 PM

Great food, great friends, and a great spirit! Join us for our Church Christmas Party on Sunday, December 10th. Bring casseroles, veggies, desserts, or any other wonderful dishes to share with others. Festivities begin

at 6 o'clock. We'll top off the evening with some visitors from the North Pole!

Caroling to Our Homebound Members

December 17th

Join us on the 17th for caroling to our homebound members. We'll have a sandwich lunch together after the worship service then load up in cars and caravan to various homes, including Azalealand Nursing Home. As we bring joy to others, we experience joy ourselves! Come catch the Spirit!



Joy to the World!

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service & Caroling, 7:00 PM



There is nothing quite like the Christmas Eve Service at Asbury! The extraordinary service combined with the sanctuary filled with old members, new members, and visitors alike help make this a transforming experience. Just as powerful as the service itself is the caroling in the neighborhood that follows and its conclusion at Miss Virginia's house.

It is simply an extraordinary night.....as Christmas Eve should be!

“BIG” COFFEE HOUR - December 3



We'll have our BIG Coffee Hour December 3rd. If you are able, please bring food items to share with others. You can drop them off in the kitchen when you arrive at church.

1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401

www.asburymemorial.org

912-233-4351

912-233-5026 fax

H A P P Y
B I R T H D A Y !

Having a Birthday? Call the office at 233-4351
or e-mail us at church@asburymemorial.org.

D e c e m b e r

- 3rd Carol Chambers**
Brenda Steiner
- 4th Linda Ostrow**
- 5th Rachel Porter**
Frank Ramsey
- 6th Bonnie Kaar**
Kathryn Osborne
Barbara Schafer
- 7th Natalie Munro**
- 9th Beth Ballance**
Janet Wagner
- 10th Robert Crisp**
- 11th Ruthie Deffley**
- 14th Dawn Bosché**
Maggi Nicoletta
- 16th Kelsey Hines**
Virginia Holliday



- 17th Lawrence Staab**
- 18th Shelby Hines**
- 19th Joni Shackley**
- 20th Chris Jenkins**
- 21st Larry Fall**
Holly Perry
- 22nd Colin Stewart**
- 23rd Suzanne Devlin**
Mary Pulwarty
- 24th Pat Andres**
Chris Fahey
David White
- 25th Roger Amerson**
Holly Burnett
Cheri Sheridan
- 26th Judy Amerson**
- 27th John Naylor**
- 28th Kim Johnson**
- 30th Christy Crisp**



- 12/08 Aaron & Erin Dalton
- 12/12 Bob & Carol Walls
- 12/19 Preston & Kathy Hodges
- 12/27 Jim & Dottie Klutz



From the Church Staff

We hope you and your family have a wonderful holiday! It is our honor and privilege to serve you and Asbury Memorial UMC!

The church office will close Monday, December 25th and reopen January 2nd.



Here We Grow Again!
We welcome our newest members who joined on
November 7th:

Dennis Armstrong
Rich Billig
Mignon Holt
Monica Lekuch
Lew Leopard
Kathleen Leopard

Claire Marich
John Marich
Sam Ruggere
Barbara Ruggere
Elizabeth Sprague
Joe Virant
Kathy Virant

Children's Church Leaders

Grades K-3rd

Tom & Betsy Davis
Subs: Ashley Bolfik-Stroud

Grades 4th-6th

December 3
Ashley Stroud
December 10
Ruthie Duran Deffley
December 17
Ashley Stroud
December 24
Ruthie Duran Deffley
December 31
Andrea Harrelson

Nursery Volunteers

December 3
Christy Crisp, Cindy Beauchamp
December 10
Bonnie Kaar, Nancy Cvetan
December 17
Mary Ann Donahue, Phil Devlin
December 24
Margarita Bourke, Diane Meseroll
December 31
Bonnie Kaar, Linda Aiken

Nursery services are provided for preschool children for the programs and services on Sundays and Wednesdays.

We are in need of additional volunteers!
If you would like to volunteer in our nursery, please call the church office.

December Youth Updates

What's happening this month?



Date	Day	Activity	Time
December 2nd	Saturday	Christmas Tree Pick up	10 am -12 pm
December 6th	Wednesday	Celebrate December Birthdays Joint event with Children and Family Ministries Santa's Helpers Event We will be decorating cookies with kids so parents can do some shopping	6 -8:30 pm
December 13th	Wednesday	Games and gathering	6 -8 pm
December 17th	Sunday	Caroling to homebound Annual Youth Christmas Party and Ice Skating	1 pm
December 20th	Wednesday	NO YOUTH—Christmas Break	
December 27th	Wednesday	NO YOUTH—Christmas Break	

CHRISTMAS TREE AND GREENS FUNDRAISER

A reminder to be sure to pick up your Christmas Tree and Greens order on Saturday, December 2, 2017 from 10:00am until 12:00pm. Our youth and volunteers will be available to put a fresh cut on your tree and help load your order.

A warm thank you to everyone who supported our AMUMC Youth Group Christmas Tree and Greens Fundraiser this year and in years past! You are truly a blessing! This fundraiser and future fundraisers throughout the year help to cover the cost of our mission trips and youth trips throughout the year. We are so thankful to have such amazing support from our Asbury Family and beyond!

Thank you, again, for your support!

Please feel free to contact Christina Kincade with any questions – chris@focht.net

A Message from Chris Kincade, Assistant Youth Director:

I wanted to share some thoughts from an activity we did in November with the youth group. We discussed how important it is to be thankful, and we asked some questions of each youth about things they are thankful for in their lives. I wanted to take a moment to share some with you today, as it is an excellent reminder of why what we do here at Asbury Memorial is so important. May we continue to be the light, the way forward, and an amazing support system every step of the way for our amazing youth!

I am thankful for the following about Asbury Memorial UMC:

- For being an accepting and caring church home
- Youth Group and WNS
- Love
- How open and accepting it is
- The congregation that kept my faith here
- It's an amazing environment
- For all of the amazing people here and all the things they have given my family. For all the love you feel when you see all of your friends! I Love Asbury!
- Providing me with opportunities to share my talent with others
- They are very creative. Lots of fellowship
- For fellowship and youth leaders
- For being open and welcoming to everybody
- If I feel bad about something, Asbury will make me feel better
- Friends and fun times
- A safe place

I am thankful for the following about Asbury Memorial Youth Group:

- That everyone is accepting and friendly
- Good memories with friends
- Love
- How much love we all have for each other
- Everyone that's in it from the middle schoolers to youth leaders
- I get to spend time with amazing people in an amazing place
- For the friends I have made and the trips I have gotten to take. And for the memories we all have made! I love youth group!
- Support. Cheering me up when I am down
- The people
- To go on the camping trips
- I look forward to coming to it on Wednesdays to talk to people and have a mental break from school
- Awesome times
- Friendships



Poinsettia Order Form

If you would like to have a Poinsettia placed in the sanctuary for the service on Sunday, December 17th, please complete the form below. Indicate at the bottom of the form if your plant is to be "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" a Love One. Completed forms, along with payment, may be placed in the offering plate or you may mail it to the church office. Checks are to be made payable to Asbury Memorial UMC.

Price of a poinsettia is \$12.50

Deadline for orders is Monday, December 11th.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

_____ No. of Poinsettias

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

You may pick up your Poinsettia after worship on Sunday, December 17th or 24th or leave them for our Christmas Eve service and pick them up Christmas Day.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Asbury's Rev. Pat **Youngquist**, who was recently hired as the Executive Director of Union Mission Inc.

“NEXT”

Asbury's Young Adult Fellowship Group

Young adults (ages 19-35, no children) meet the second Sunday of the month in the *** immediately after the church service. If you have any questions, or would like to be added to our Facebook group, please contact Rachel Veazey at raveazey@outlook.com



ASBURY MEMORIAL THEATRE COMPANY

Auditions for this spring's Asbury Memorial Theatre production, Neil Simon's *Plaza Suite*, will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Monday, January 8 and Tuesday, January 9, at Asbury Memorial. Parts are available for male and female actors from about 25 to 55+. The three couples could be played by the same two actors, or by different actors for each act. In addition, there are wonderful walk-on roles for a waiter/bellhop, maid, secretary and bride. Actors should be prepared to do cold readings from the script. If necessary, callback auditions will be scheduled for Thursday, January 11 at 6:30pm.



Thank you to all who have turned in 2018 pledges. We have received quite a few but understand some of you may have been out of town on Commitment Sunday and may not have had a chance to turn in your card. Please pray about your pledge commitment for 2018 and know that it is never too late to turn in a pledge. Pledge cards can be returned in the mail or placed in the collection basket any Sunday morning.



Art Sale FOR PUERTO RICO

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2017
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

**ASBURY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1008 East Henry Street (at Waters Avenue)
Savannah, Georgia 31401**

**Savannah Artists Donate Their Art.
Savannah Musicians Perform.**



ALL PROCEEDS FOR PUERTO RICO

To donate artwork or help with this cause:
Contact Sandy Branam at 912.353.9171 or 912.657.2097
or sandybranam31404@gmail.com

10 O'CLOCK HOUR ADULT STUDY

2017 FALL SCHEDULE (NOVEMBER 5 – DECEMBER 31)

November 5

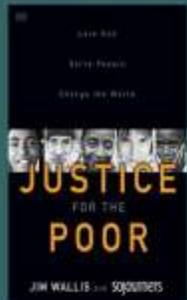
God on Broadway Revisited



This week we will discuss the last God on Broadway worship service (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*), reflecting on the meaning and message that was delivered so creatively.

November 12 – December 17

Justice for the Poor – Jim Wallis and Sojourners



Justice for the Poor recaptures the biblical vision that links poverty with justice. Jesus' life and teaching shows a deep compassion toward the poor and marginalized. His messages often highlight the injustices shown to the poor and the prejudices the well-off have against them. How can we learn from the poor? What is our responsibility to care for the poor and to advocate for justice on their behalf?

December 24

Christmas Eve – no 10 O'Clock Hour

December 31

Reflections on 2017 and hopes for 2018

Sunday Morning Adult Study is open to everyone. If you can't make it every week, you are welcome to come whenever you can — each week is structured to stand on its own. Join us beforehand for coffee, tea, and fellowship.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups.



The Busy Bees will not be meeting the month of December. Please join us on January 8th to start the New Year of fellowship and of course Clown doll Making!

The Monday Seekers of Wisdom Group



*Becoming Wise
An Inquiry into
the Mystery and
Art of Living
Krista Tippett*

Mondays at 1:30 pm for lunch and study

Convener – Pam Parker Kress

Facilitator for this study – Susan Bolinger

*'Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living –
Krista Tippett*

(book, study guide and podcast interviews)

The last session for this year will be December 11th.

Join us on January 8th to continue the study.

In *Becoming Wise*, Krista Tippett has created a master class in living for a fractured world. Fracture, she says, is not the whole story of our time. The enduring question of what it means to be human has become inextricable from the challenge of who we are to one another. She insists on the possibility of personal depth and common life for this century, nurtured by science and “spiritual technologies,” with civility and love as muscular public practice. And, accompanied by a cross-disciplinary dream team of a teaching faculty, she shows us how.

Reviews

“If you measure the worth of a book by the volume of scribbles you pen in the margins, the stars emphatically drawn, and the sentences underlined, Krista Tippett’s *Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living*— a compendium of wisdom, at once intimate and expansive—stands a serious shot of emerging both splattered and cherished. Tippett, the Peabody Award-winning radio host and National Humanities Medalist, is a master of what she terms ‘generous listening,’ an act ‘powered by curiosity,’ and a ‘willingness to be surprised, to let go of assumptions and take in ambiguity.’” —*Chicago Tribune*

“ ‘Becoming Wise’ challenges all forms of dogma, in science, politics and philosophy as well as religion, and it affirms the holiness of the body and the glory of the inquiring mind. While our dominant media suggest that humans are incorrigibly selfish and greedy and cruel, Tippett and her conversation partners demonstrate that the longing to lead a good life, a moral life, remains powerful and pervasive in our day....” —*Washington Post*

On Being Studios is the producer of the public radio show/website/podcast *On Being with Krista Tippett* as well as the website/podcast *Becoming Wise*.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups.

Women's Group

Please join us Thursdays, from 7-8:30 pm

All women are invited!

Leadership is shared but not required. Topics vary by leader, and are always thought-provoking. Most importantly, we pause, pray, share and spend sacred time together each Thursday getting to know each other. We also laugh--a lot! It is always a blessing to gather together.

Join us to share your perspective as we get to know each other more deeply.

We **can't wait to see you. Questions? Susan Bolinger (convener) 218.213.2127**



Men's Group



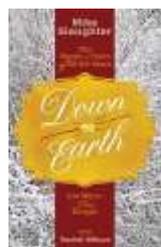
Asbury has a study, sharing & support group for men that meet every Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All men are welcome. The group gathers on the 2nd floor of the Education Building. For more information, email Dwight Campbell at dcampbell58@gmail.com, Bill Jahn at viajahn@gmail.com or Wayne Bland at wbland11541@comcast.net.

Down to Earth

Mondays, November 13th – December 18th

6:30-8:00 pm

Facilitator: Rev. Grady Mills



Have we ever really grasped the miracle that took place in Jesus' birth? Join Mike Slaughter and Rachael Billups as they help us explore through weekly readings, devotions, videos and discussions about what the Christmas miracle means to us. Using story and Scripture, they challenge us to respond during Advent, Christmas, and thereafter, with down-to-earth love, humility, lifestyle and obedience.

Books will be available at the first night of study for \$20.00 (includes study book and weekly devotional book). For additional information contact Rev. Grady at 912-346-7501 or g61743wmii@aol.com.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups.

Course in Miracles
Facilitator: Rev. Marilyn Leigh
Thursdays
4:30 to 6 p.m.



The Course in Miracles study group is dedicated to the study and practical application of A Course in Miracles to our daily lives. Our group allows the Course to guide us in becoming and expressing the Love that is the truth about us. It teaches the true meaning of forgiveness and challenges us to put God first in our lives.

A Course in Miracles is an open group. You may join at any time. The only thing that you need is the Third edition of A Course in Miracles which includes the text, workbook, teacher's manual and two pamphlets. It is available from the facilitator, Reverend Marilyn Leigh or may be obtained from Barnes and Noble or as an eBook from Amazon. Join us as we journey together to God, the journey with no distance.

We meet on Thursdays at 4:30 P.M. in The Asbury Memorial social hall. All are welcome. Contact Rev. Leigh by email at Revleigh@yahoo.com with any questions.



Reconciling Ministries Network
Reconciling ministries will not meet this month.

Follow their news on Facebook @ Asbury Memorial Reconciling!

“Our Time”

A Fellowship Group for Parents with Young Children

Our Time meets the first and third Sundays of the month at 10 am on the second floor in the youth room. If you should have any questions please contact Ruthie Deffley at rdurandeffley@gmail.com or Nick Deffley at nicholasdeffley@gmail.com.
Come connect with other Asbury parents!

Mission Moments December 2017

The construction team has been busy working on repairs to a storage shed at Wesley Community Center. We have paid for a main beam and several smaller beams to be replaced on a member's home before it collapsed and also replaced the flooring. Our work was stopped by lack of money and we are so blessed to have received an anonymous gift of \$1,000 which will allow us to complete the work needed on the home.

Christmas is upon us and we have already had people volunteer to provide coats for 19 of our Refugees in town. The coats will be collected by December 10th and distributed before the holidays.

Wesley Community Center will have name cards on the Christmas Tree in the Social Hall on Sunday December 3rd for many of the families from the day care center that are in need of Christmas gifts. All gifts are to be returned by December 17th at the latest and if possible by Sunday the 10th. Unlike previous years we are asking gifts to be returned unwrapped and in an easy to open Christmas Bag. Please do not buy extra gifts as that may mean one child in a family gets more than another.

Thank you for your support throughout the year, and Merry Christmas everyone!

Thank you for the great work at Wesley Community Center

Recently some of our members went to our United Methodist ministry on Drayton Street, Wesley Community Centers, and helped them out. They replaced the siding on the WCC's storage shed and organized the interior. Thank you Bill Jahn, Billy Aiken, Nancy and Tom Parker for all of your efforts.



HANGING OF THE GREENS



2017 Budget Offering

October 29th—\$12,733.28
November 5th—\$16,133.55
November 12th—\$12,783.00
November 19th—\$16,639.50
November 26th—\$12,165.78

2017 Weekly Budget Need
\$11,217.14

2017 YTD Budget Need
\$527,205.58

2017 YTD Received
\$545,082.17

MEMORIALS

***A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund
in memory of Bill Schmidt by
Neil & Tina Austing.***

***A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund
in memory of Fred Scott by
Neil & Tina Austing.***

***A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund
in memory of Chet Mattson by
Neil & Tina Austing.***

***A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund
in memory of Janie Shuman by
Neil & Tina Austing.***

***A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund
in memory of Susan Hooper Powell by
Dewilla Hooper.***

PRAYER REQUESTS



Asburians

Pat Andres, Laura Angell, Andy Becker, Jean Butcher, Thurman Butcher, Randy Canady, Betty Cooper, Gretchen Dodd, Andrea Harrelson, John Hohnerlein, May Johnson, Judith Kessler, Danny Lewis, Kirstie Mosier, Marie Parker, Brenda Spencer, Cabell Stewart, Jean Stewart, Gina Williams, Diane Williamson

Family Members & Friends

Dewy Ambos, Sharon Bowdoin, Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Caplan, Ruth Cook, Bill Dodge, Bobby Godwin, Betty Grice, Richard Grice, Allison Hall, Brianne Jones, Jeanie Knight, Donna Miles, Catherine Guiton Price, Patsy Sallette, Neola Waller

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- † We extend our love and sympathy to Bill & Ann Anderson in the death of Bill's mother, Eleanor Anderson.
- † We extend our love and sympathy to Chloe Lynch & Lindsey Lynch in the death of their grandfather, Ernest Lynch.
- † We extend our love and sympathy to Carrie Collins in the death of her close friend, Carolyn Carson.

Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401-7128
INT.ID 206896
Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026
www.asburymemorial.org

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Permit #133
Savannah, GA

Return Service Requested



Flowers in the Sanctuary

Supplying the flower arrangements for the worship service is a wonderful way to commemorate a date that is important to you or a loved one. Please check the 2017 Flower Chart in the narthex and sign up. The cost is \$60. For more information call the church office at 233-4351.

Special Funds

One way to honor or to remember a loved one is with a memorial or an honorarium to some of our different funds such as the Trustee Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, the Hester-Children Education Fund or one of our Mission Funds.

Newsletter Information

If you have an announcement for "The Asbury Update," please send it to the church office in writing by the 15th of each month. Contact Claudette DeLong, Office Manager at 233-4351 or email to church@asburymemorial.org
Office hours are 9 AM to 4 PM, Monday thru Friday.

Mission Statement:

Asbury Memorial is a place where all people can develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we seek to love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.