



The Asbury Update

December 2019

Asbury Memorial Church
Rev. Billy Hester
Volume 32, Number 12
December 2019



Church Christmas Party, December 8th at 6 PM

Great food, great friends, and a great spirit! Join us for our Church Christmas Party on Sunday, December 8th. 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 15th

Join us on the 15th 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 places including Azalealand Nursing Home. As we bring joy to others, we experience joy ourselves! Come catch the Spirit!



Candlelight Christmas Eve Service & Caroling, 6:30 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!

NO "BIG" COFFEE HOUR in December

1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401
www.asburymemorial.org
912-233-4351

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



December

8th Aaron & Erin Dalton
12th Robert & Carol Walls
14th Cathy & Eddie Solomons
15th Lew & Kathleen Leopard
19th Kay & Philip Barrett
19th Preston & Kathy Hodges
22nd Charlie & Dian Ribbens
24th Carol & James Anderson
26th Bob & Betty Perry
27th Jim & Dottie Klutz
31st Anne Westbrook & Todd Baiad

1st Tim Guyer
Dale Hughes
2nd Bryn Linton
3rd Ashelyn Carden
Carol Chambers
Brenda Steiner
4th Veronica Branham
Devon McCaskill
Linda Ostrow
5th Claire Casey
James Hamrick
Rachel Porter
Frank Ramsey
6th Bonnie Kaar
Kathryn Osborne
7th Sandra Katz
Natalie Munro
9th Beth Ballance
Lilith Via
Janet Wagner
10th Marty Coolidge
Robert Crisp
Glenda McNew
11th Ruthie Deffley
14th Dawn Bosche
Harper Dalton
Maggi Nicoletta
16th Oliver Branham
Virginia Holliday
17th Payton Harn
Lawrence Staab
19th Joni Taylor

20th Wanda Daniels
Sullivan Jump
21st Larry Fall
Holli Perry
Lyle (Ike) Reeve
22nd Colin Stewart
23rd Suzanne Devlin
Mary Pulwarty
24th Pat Andres
Chris Fahey
David White
25th Roger Amerson
Holly Burnett
Cheri Sheridan
John Stewart
26th Judy Amerson
Eva Ciccodicola
27th Barbara King
John Naylor
28th Kim Johnson
30th Christy Crisp



The church office will close at noon on Tuesday December 24th and reopen on Monday December 30th.

Missions and Social Concerns

Thank you to everyone who participated in our November Mission activities:

Chatham County Family Justice Center Update

The Chatham County Family Justice Center will be the first of its kind in Georgia and a model for other centers as a one-stop-shop providing services for victims of family violence including domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, and crimes against women. Today, victims in Savannah may need to separately access 10 agencies to get support and services. The FJC's vision is to provide one safe location where all the needs of victims are met, violence is stopped, families heal, and hope is realized.

Many Asburians have spent many, many hours helping to get the FJC open:



Handy Hands built walls, installed security doors, dry walled, painted, etc. Dave Lewis was our outstanding construction leader. Jason Zimmer, Tim Steinhauser, Randy Bolinger, and Susan Bolinger participated.

Kevin Ambrey purchased materials for Frankie Fortier's amazing original Artwork. It is being turned into a special appliqué to brighten the children's area. Tim Burkett provided beautiful and clever security-focused space design. Lance Wilhelm was an all around right-hand-man.



Missions and Social Concerns (cont'd)

Congregations in Service

Asbury led a project through "Congregations in Service" to clean, organize, paint and plant pots at FJC. "Master Gardener" Marty Coolidge led the planting efforts, while Jane and Jerry Thimme, Phyllis Carlino, Sandra Katz, Kathy Oakley, and Susan Bolinger worked on the other activities. Margaret Cook-Levy helped make no-sew blankets, some of which will be used at FJC.



FJC Grand Opening

The Family Justice Center will have its grand opening on December 16 at 10:30 a.m. Please come by to see what we've been doing in Asbury's neighborhood--the FJC will be a game-changer for all of Savannah. Address: 2005 Waters Avenue (north end of shopping center that faces 36th Street).



Habitat for Humanity Faith Build House

Asburian Kevin Ambrey, Habitat's construction manager, led Lindsey Rogers, Leslie Mathews, Mary Kessler, Mike Matheny, Jim Burris, and Susan Bolinger in assembling kitchen and laundry cabinets, painting trim, pouring a concrete pad, etc. This was Asbury's 2nd work day at the Garden City Faith Build home. We were the first crew to work on the house, putting up studs on the foundation to begin framing the house. It was a delight to have soon-to-be homeowners walk us through their rooms in the nearly finished home!



Missions and Social Concerns (cont'd)

Church Wide Mission and Service Opportunities in December

Handy Hands: God on Broadway Set Building

Thank you to all of the Handy Hands who were behind the scenes helping "Set God" Tim Steinhauser build sets for God on Broadway. A lot of time went into building and resetting the sets. Tim and Patty Steinhauser, Jason Zimmer, Dave Lewis, Rhonda and Steve Reed, Ray Ellis, Bill and Kathy Oakley, John Marich, Sandy Golden, Linda Combs, and Randy and Susan Bolinger joyfully worked behind the scenes.



If you're interested in helping next year, please talk to Tim Steinhauser.

Christmas Gifts for Families in Need (December Mission Partners of the Month)

As we prepare our families and homes for a bountiful and blessed season, let's remember and help those struggling, especially this time of year. We're grateful for the support of our Asbury family.

Christmas gifts are being collected and shared with these community organizations and people in our congregation:

The Wesley Community Center

<http://www.wesleyctr-savh.org/Our-Programs>

Inspiritus (formerly Lutheran Refugee Services) <https://weinspirit.org/refugees>

Park Place Outreach

<https://www.parkplaceeyes.org>

Gift lists are available during Coffee Hour in the social hall after worship.

Gifts can be put in a gift bag, clearly labeled, and left in the social hall no later than December 8.

Your generosity is, always, greatly appreciated! Thank you!

Missions and Social Concerns (cont'd)

Church Wide Mission and Service Opportunities in December

December 7 (and prep work week of December 2-6):

Barnes House, a Part of Union Mission

Join Handy Hands in tearing down a small stage, painting and decorating the family room at Barnes House, a permanent home for women who formerly were homeless due to mental and/or physical challenges.

Location: Atlantic and Anderson.

December 9:

Shelter from the Rain Annual Christmas Concert

Grab some friends, join Asburian and *Shelter from the Rain* board member Lauren Dutko, and get in the spirit of Christmas as we serve as ushers, greeters, etc. for an incredible Christmas concert fundraiser. 15 people needed.

Location: the Historic Savannah Theatre.



December 15:

Christmas Caroling

Make merry music caroling for Asburians who are home bound and in area nursing homes after the Sunday service.

Locations: various.

Asbury Missions and Social Concerns Planning Committee:

Marty Coolidge, Lee Davison, Lauren Dutko,

Kathy Oakley, Lindsey Rogers, Susan Bolinger (chair)

One on One Conversations!

This is an exciting time in the life of our church! We are unified in an unprecedented way and ready to grow in our faith and mission together. To this end, a church-wide initiative has been launched which will involve every person in the congregation. Our plan is to have congregants talk one-on-one together in order to know one another better and to strengthen our relationships. Through one on one conversation, we can talk about the things that are most important to one another, and share our hopes and dreams together. We can also identify the fears that creep into our everyday lives and the things we would like to change in the world.

A dedicated team of folks has gathered and trained to lead these important conversations and you can look forward to receiving a call in the next several weeks from someone in this church community who wants to spend about 45 minutes with you to learn more about your thoughts and experiences. There is no catch. They will not be looking to sell you anything or convince you to join any group, just to talk. I hope that you receive this gift of listening with an open heart and mind. And know that your participation in this church-wide conversation is SO IMPORTANT. It will take us to a new place of deeper understanding of our strengths, our gifts and our care for one another, helping us to understand what it means to be a truly inclusive church.

Congratulations!!



Congratulations to Bette Hunter on becoming a great grandmother, and congrats to great aunt & uncle, Kim & Steve Johnson, as they celebrate the birth of Hannah Kate Hunter on October 24th. The proud parents are William & Emily Hunter and grandparents are Phil and Cindy Hunter.

Congratulations to Kathleen & Lew Leopard on the birth of their grandson, Colt James Leopard, born October 23rd.



Congratulations to Mimi & Spencer Numer on the birth of their twins, Ellenmarie Birdsong Numer "Birdie" and Warren Paul Thomas Numer "Win", born October 30th.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

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

New Scripture Study Launching in December

“Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.”

Acts 17:11

For United Methodists, Scripture is considered the primary source and standard for Christian doctrine. Asbury Memorial is excited to offer this opportunity to expand your scriptural literacy and knowledge in an approachable way. Starting on December 3, 2019, Bible novices to experts, and everyone in between, are invited to join Rev. Danny Beam in interpreting and applying the Scriptures found in the upcoming week's lectionary. Come find out what the lectionary IS.

Examining the Scriptures

Tuesdays

6:30-7:30pm

Asbury Memorial Conference Room

Leader: Danny Beam

Each study date stands on its own, so all are welcome to any study. Come as you can to understand how we approach the Bible in order to truly understand what is written. Come: grow in faith, knowledge and confidence as “noble” Christians.

The Painting Group



Grab your watercolor brushes, paint and paper. The Painting Group is starting again! Beginners and more advanced painters are welcome. Sessions will be in the Social Hall.

*Dates are as follows:
December 5 & 19*

2020 dates:

*2nd & 4th Thursdays from January through May, 10 am to 12 pm.
If you are interested in joining the group, contact Carol Anderson at
andersoncarol61@gmail.com.
Everyone welcome!*

Men's Group

The Men's Group meets on Thursdays at 7 pm in the Youth room which is located on the second floor of the education building.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

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

10 o'Clock Hour

10 o'Clock Happenings in December: Join us as we continue our Faith in Action series. We will have some exciting presentations from people who live their faith.

Dec. 1st: Tom Kohler, former director of Citizen Advocacy, will talk about "A Bigger We", creating inclusive communities.

Dec. 8th: Scott Stanton, aka Panhandle Slim, will share his passion for creating "art with a message." We are lucky enough to have his painting of Jesus in the hall.

Dec. 15th: Dottie Klutz, our own wonderful story teller and story keeper, will lead us in "Story as Gift." We will not meet on Dec. 22nd and 29th.

Join us for these interactive sessions and expand your thinking about how you put your faith into action.

Questions: email Kathy Hodges at kathleenhodes@gmail.com

The Monday Seekers of Wisdom Group

This group meets on Mondays at 1:30 pm in the Social Hall.

Monday Wisdom Seekers are reading and discussing Barbara Brown Taylor's *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*. Join us each and every Monday afternoon at 1:30 in the social hall. Have a specific question? Email katesagegreene@comcast.net

Course in Miracles

Facilitator: Rev. Marilyn Leigh
Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30 pm



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 pm. in The Asbury Memorial social hall. All are welcome. Contact Rev. Leigh by email at Revleigh@yahoo.com with any questions.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

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

Wednesday Night Study Small Group

The Wednesday Night Study Small Group meets in the conference room from 6:30-8 pm. New members are welcome! Our goal is to get to know ourselves, each other and God better through dynamic study and conversation.

We are reading 'This I Believe' a collection of short but powerful essays edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman. Most of the essays are available to read and listen to online at thisibelieve.org

We are keeping these *animating questions of our time* in mind as we read:

- 1) What do I believe?
- 2) How did I come to believe it?
- 3) How might conversation, examination, light, prayer, and pondering change my belief?
- 4) What does God ask of me regarding this belief?

Questions? Text or call Susan Bolinger at 218.213.2127.



Reconciling Ministries Network

Join us for our next meeting Sunday, December 1st at 1:15 p.m. in the sanctuary.
Follow our news on Facebook @ Asbury Memorial Reconciling!



The Busy Bees meet on Monday mornings at 10 am. They welcome new sewers. If you should have any questions, please contact David Grice at degrice@comcast.net or Cindy Telljohann at cyndytel@gmail.com.

Green Team News!



Many thanks to everyone who helped with the Pecan & Honey Harvest café. It was our first time to have a presence at the Harvest. We came together to learn, participate, and serve. Our next meeting will be on January 23, 6:30 pm in the Asbury social hall.

For more information about the **Green Team** please email Carol Anderson. at andersoncarol61@gmail.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Joining us in June, July, August September and November were:

Carlton Angell

Neil Austing

Tina Austing

Jeanine Byers

Marty Coolidge

Bob Corey

Jan Corey

Johnnie Eason

Delores Ellis

Katie Farmer

Stacey Fuller

Debra Gibson

Ellie Gonye

Tim Harris

George Lindsay

Laura Lindsay

Marion Manigo

Carol Melton

Virginia Moryadas

Adele Packert

Amy Porch

Scott Porch

Katherine Raffray

Lindsey Rogers

Faustina Smith

Linda Socks

Becca Terrett

Pam Walker

Ellie Weathers

Cory West

Temperance West

Lila West

Barbara Wilkins

Joe Zeigler

Peggy Zeigler



Man of La Mancha

DIRECTOR TRAVIS SPANGENBURG MUSIC DIRECTOR WARREN HEILMAN

AUDITIONS: 6:30 pm, December 9 and 10, 2019

Prepare for cold readings of material from the play—you may prepare a monologue if you desire. Please bring printed sheet music to sing (with a copy for the music director), preferably in the style of the show. Music will be available if you don't have anything prepared.

CALLBACKS: December 12, 2019

Callback readings and songs will be from *Man of La Mancha*.

REHEARSALS BEGIN: (around) January 6, 2020

PERFORMANCES: March 6-8 and March 13-15, 2020



ASBURY MEMORIAL THEATRE

1008 East Henry Street, Savannah, Georgia
(at the corner of Henry and Waters Avenue)
asburymemorial.org/theatre | 912.233.3595 (info)



Poinsettia Order Form

If you would like to have a Poinsettia placed in the sanctuary for the service on Sunday, December 15th and December 22nd, 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 Loved 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 Sunday, December 8th at noon.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

_____ No. of Poinsettias

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

You may pick up your Poinsettia after worship on Sunday, December 22nd or leave them for our Christmas Eve service and pick them up after that service.

From the Connection Corner

If you're looking for more information about events happening at Asbury or how to get involved, come to the Connection Corner at Coffee Hour in the Social Hall after worship! There will be lots of new information each Sunday, and friendly people who want to help knit you into our community.

The Connection Corner is looking for a volunteer

We're looking for a volunteer to do a one-time data entry project from our 'where have you lived' and 'transformational movies, books, music, other' giant post-it wall exercises. We want to capture this information in a document to keep in a binder at the Connection Corner for new people to look at and add their information and answers to. Come to the Connection Corner to volunteer!

Acolytes Needed

Parents/Guardians, we are still looking for more children ages 8 -13 that are interested in becoming acolytes for the church services. It is a great way for the children to participate and learn more about the services. There will be training for all acolytes coming soon. For more information, please contact Gerry Harman at gharman527@gmail.com.

The acolyte sign-up site is open for the months of November, December and January. To sign up, please go to the following website: tsu.me/4uc8rs (The password is Asbury Memorial).

Coming Soon...



A Place at the Table

2019 Budget Offering

October 27th—\$15,436.83
November 3rd—\$14,989.00
November 10th—\$7,352.00
November 17th—\$15,717.50
November 24th—TBA

2019 Weekly Budget Need

\$13,170.00

2019 YTD Budget Need

\$605,820.00

2019 YTD Received

\$598,499.20

PRAYER REQUESTS
Asburians



Laura Angell, Pat Annel, Dani Birzer, Jean Butcher, Anita Clay, Wendy Ciccodicola, Linda Combs, Dianne Connor, Shane Conner, Margaret Cook-Levy, Gretchen Dodd, Verna Enyeart, Ellie Gonye, Betty Haldeman, Chase Harrison, Geoff Harrison, Cynthia Herold, Roy Hill, John Hohnerlein, Harriet Jandrlich, Barbara King, Pam Parker Kress, Jack Lewis, Cynthia Linthicum, Scott McCoy, Brenda Mills, Grady Mills, Frances Monson, Eric Mullins, Sharon Page, Marie Parker, Colleen Robinette, Nancy Saltsman, Erin Smith, Roberta Smith, Geri Spears, Brenda Spencer, Deborah Staab, Cabell Stewart, Carolyn Stuber, Pete Vasta, Kenn Waters, Diane Williamson, Marie Winters, Joe Zeigler

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Robert Smith & Neal Saye in the death of Robert's grandmother, Mollie B. Smith.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Nate, Beth, Taylor & Renah Tyson in the death of Nate's father, Alton "Bud" Tyson.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Carolyn, Holli, Kate, Ian & Lucy in the death of Carolyn's nephew, Ethan Wasserburger.*



Family Members & Friends

Rain Alves, Kenzie Alves, Steve Amerson, Dewy Ambos, Natalie Beam, Wayne Black, Sid Case, Ryan Collins, Linda Cowart, Larry Daniels, Peter DeCordova, Janice Dorminey, Sara Driggers, Ruchi Ferro, Dan Goff, Catherine Price Guiton, Matt Hearn, Priscilla Hearn, Roland Hill, Elsie Hilliard, Lisa Lopinski, May May Neidhardt, Joe Overton, Dal Poston, Barry Thurstin, Jan Newton Smith, Robert Smith, Sr., Vanessa Smith, Rev. Eric Titus, Carolyn Walters, Paula Watts, Paul Westbrook, Melvin Wiley, Leola Williams



Asbury Memorial
Church
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INT.ID 206896
Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026
www.asburymemorial.org

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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 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 Children's Fund, Youth 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 Thursday.

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.