The Asbury Update

Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
Rev. Billy Hester

Volume 30, Number 1
January 2019

2019 IS HERE!

If you are United Methodist, this is a very big year for you...a year we have been waiting for with great anticipation. The Council of Bishops called a Special Session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church to be held February 23 - 26 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and to act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 to examine our denomination's position on human sexuality and to explore options to strengthen Christian unity.

The Commission produced three plans to be voted on. The plan that the majority of the Commission recommends is called, "The One Church Plan" which removes the negative LGBT language from The Book of Discipline. It also allows for UM ministers to perform same sex marriages and allows for same sex wedding ceremonies in UM churches. This is the plan that would best match our ministry and theology at Asbury. The other two plans are not a good match for Asbury. One is not practical, and the other is neither Christian or Wesleyan.

Hopefully, the One Church Plan will pass. It would definitely pass if only delegates from the United States were voting. But since we are a global denomination, the delegates from Africa and Asia also have votes. When their more conservative votes are joined with the conservatives from the United States, it is very difficult to pass anything progressive. We'll see what happens.

No matter what happens, we will continue to pursue doing ministry with open arms and integrity at Asbury Memorial. If the denomination chooses to do otherwise in February, our Church Council and church members will be in dialogue with each other about future endeavors.

All will work out...one way or another. God will do God's thing! (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Love and Blessings,

Billy

NEW MEMBER CLASSES THIS MONTH

Rev. Hester will be leading two classes for people interested in becoming members of Asbury Memorial. The classes will be after the worship services on January 20th & 27th. Lunch will be provided by our Hospitality Team. To know how many people to prepare for, please contact Candace Jenkins at the church office or you can email Billy at bghester3@comcast.net if you would like to participate.

"BIG" COFFEE HOUR, JAN. 6th

On the first Sunday of the month, we encourage folks to bring food to share with others at Coffee Hour after the service. Please drop off food items in the kitchen when you arrive at church. Thanks!

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.

J a n u a r y

4th Elizabeth Jackson
5th Mary Prokop
6th Angie Jenkins
7th Pam Limehouse
8th Gabe Beauchamp
Gloria Moses
10th Neal Saye
11th Carlton Angell
Parker Hall
Mary Jensen
Zan Reeve
Jeri Sasser
Henry White
14th Candace Jenkins
Nancy Meyer
Jade Via
15th Wayne Bland
Winnie Munro
Charles Strain
16th Robbie Jenkins
Stephen Swanger
Diane Williamson
17th Cheri Hester
Jean Hester
Lawrence Hyde
Ginger Veitinger
18th Candice Parsons
19th Kate Strain
20th Kitty Diefenbach
Sanford Jones

21st Mike Sasser
22nd Ray Ellis
23rd Pat Alley
Barbara T. King
24th Tom Davis
Fitz Kincade
Colin Knox
Jennifer Knox
Claire Marich
Kevin Strong
Anne Westbrook
Pat Youngquist
25th Dylan Richards
27th KT Aull
Kathryn Murph
29th Donna Danley
Koel Strong
31st Rebecca Dayoub
Medicus Roberts

1/05 Ryan & Pam Boland
1/06 Tim & Lisa Senters
1/10 Chuck Long & Kenn Waters
1/16 Omkari & Cate Hill-Williams
1/17 Larry & Jackie Fall
1/28 Joe Drake & Cheri Sheridan

Congratulations to Vicki Cronk who welcomed her 1st grandchild!! Lillian Marie Cronk was born Friday, November 30, 2018. She weighed 7lbs and 8 oz.

Congratulations to Sandra Mydell who welcomed her great grandson!! Noah was born in London on October 30, 2018. He weighed 7lbs and 2 oz.

MISS VIRGINIA'S 95th BIRTHDAY!!

The Asbury church family was thrilled to celebrate Miss Virginia's 95th birthday with her on Sunday, December 16th with a cake in the Social Hall after the service. We feel blessed to have Miss Virginia in our lives and are very grateful for all the ways she serves at Asbury.

We love you dearly, Miss Virginia!

Women's Group: A January Four-Part Series on Billy's Advent Sermon Themes

Please join the Women's Group at 7:00 pm on Thursday evenings in January (10, 17, 24 and 31--no meeting January 3rd) for a four-part series on Billy's Advent Sermon Themes.

January 10: Hope
January 17: Peace
January 24: Yet to be revealed!
January 31: Yet to be revealed!

7:00-8:30pm in the Conference Room

Come for uplifting conversation and fellowship. Please feel free to invite a friend!

January Youth Updates

Jan 2nd	*Wednesday*	*NO YOUTH - OFF*
Jan 9th	Wednesday	January Bdays Burn pit / Resolutions 6:30 – 8:00
Jan 16th	Wednesday	Regular Youth Meeting 6:30 – 8:00
Jan 23th	Wednesday	Regular Youth Meeting 6:30 – 8:00
Jan 30th	Wednesday	Regular Youth Meeting 6:30 – 8:00

December Recap

"THANK YOU!!!!"

We would like to extend a HUGE "THANK YOU" to all who supported us again this year with our annual Christmas Trees and Greens Fundraiser! We are still finalizing the numbers, but it was a wonderful fundraiser for the youth again this year thanks to YOU, our amazing congregation! Your support means the world to these teenagers. They are all very excited about future mission work they can complete now with the help of your generosity and support!

We would also like to thank Claudette, Randy, and Candace in the church office for all of their help handling orders, pickups, and everything in between during the weeks! And of course, Billy, for all of the terrific announcements and support!

Again, we thank each and every one of you who supported us financially, through prayer, or through your gifts of time and energy! You are a blessing to this youth program!

We had a wonderful Fall Retreat at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA, where we all stayed in Yurts! Yes, it rained all weekend, one of our vans got stuck in the mud, and we had a flat repair that turned into a flat replacement, but we still made memories that will last a lifetime! This group of amazing young people pulled together and found fun, laughter, and joy amidst all of the twists and turns. It was a reminder to us as Youth Leaders why we love these young people as we do. They teach us each and every day about God's love and Grace. Thank you, AMUMC Youth Group and Leaders, for another amazing year! We cannot wait to see what 2019 has in store for us all! Blessings to you and yours!

2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council Chair – Janet Wagner
Council On Ministries Chair – Kathy Hodges
Secretary – Debra Skinner
Treasurer – Mike Skinner
Lay Leader – Preston Hodges
Staff-Parish Relations Chair – Bernie Colclasure
Trustee's Chair – Roy Hill
Finance Committee Chair – Cynthia Herold
Stewardship Chair – Helen Downing
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference – Wayne Bland
Hospitality – Chris Beaver / Lance Wilhelm / Sally Jilek
Congregational Care Ministries – Carol Klein & Rhonda Reed
Missions & Service Ministries – Susan Bolinger (chair) & Margaret Cook Levy
Technology Committee & Promotional Material – Frank Ramsey
Eastside Concerned Citizens Rep – Carrie Collins
Asbury Memorial Theatre – Barbara Gooby
Epworth Ambassador – Barry Parker
Members at Large:
(through 2020) Mary Ellen Campbell, Danny Lewis and Debra Skinner
(through 2021) Lyn Carden, CeCe Coleman and Hai Dang

From the Connection Corner:

Did you know we have at least 3 people in our congregation who have lived in Saudi Arabia? Where have you lived? Beginning January 6, come to the Connection Corner in the Social Hall after worship and join other Asburians in writing your name, cities, states and countries where you have lived, studied, worked or served so that we may find other connections to each other. Just this week I discovered that one of Pat Stewart's childhood friends worked with my mother in Minneapolis!
See you in the Connection Corner!

Susan Bolinger

Love Walk 2019

It's A Love Thang!

Saturday, February 9, 2019

Wesley Community Center

1601 Drayton St.

3.6 mile walk starts at 9 am

Here We Grow Again!

We welcome our newest members who joined in November:

Janie Atkinson
Bob Francischetti
Bobby Soletta
Betty Haldeman
Bob Haldeman
Wes Hardcastle-Orr
Thomas Hunter
Robert McEwen
Gail Lange
Sherry Giddens
Harriet Jandrlich
Michael Jandrlich
Patty Lewis
Medicus Roberts
Patty Steinhauser
Tim Steinhauser
Liz Urness
Kent Urness

TAKING DOWN THE GREENS

6:00 P.M., Sunday, January 6th

Please help us take down the Christmas decorations and enjoy good fellowship with your church family.

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is now closed on FRIDAYS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church

presents a Winter Concert

How Sweet the Sound

A CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR VOICE, PIANO & VIOLIN

including Bach, Grieg, Puccini & Britten

Sanford Jones, Pianist Rebecca Flaherty, Soprano

Marvin Keenze, Pianist Effie Mydell, Violinist

Monday, January 28, 2019 7:00 – 8:00 PM

1008 E. Henry Street Savannah, GA 31405

Admission by donation. Light refreshments following the concert.

ISCAP

International Student Climate Art Project

ART SHOW & SALE

FEBRUARY 9, 2019, 1-4 PM

ASBURY MEMORIAL UMC SOCIAL HALL

CLIMATE ART ✻ ENVIRONMENTAL ART

REPURPOSED MATERIALS ART

LOVE-PLANET-EARTH ART

(DONATED BY STUDENTS AND ADULTS)

PRICED FROM $2 TO $200

PROCEEDS TO HELP FUND ISCAP AND

ASBURY MEMORIAL UMC'S CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

1008 East Henry Street, Savannah, GA 31401

asburymemorial.org 912.233.4351

(monitored parking available behind the church)

@teamiscap

twitter.com/teamiscap

Carol Anderson, Coordinator

www.iscapartproject.com

teamiscap@gmail.com

Wildlife Center of Savannah

SCCPSS

savannah art association

Greater Savannah International Alliance GSIA

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

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

10 o'Clock Hour

10 o'clock Hour on Sundays are viewing Living the Questions 2 which has added some new voices. Discussions will follow.

The Busy Bees meet Monday mornings at 10 am for fellowship and of course Clown Doll Making! 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.

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.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

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The Green Team Corner

Thanks to all of you who came out for the Green Team's Fall program and meeting. Many thanks to presenters, Alan Kindler and Susan Karlson. Our next program meeting will be Thursday, January 24, 6:30pm—8:00pm in the Asbury Social Hall.

Men's Group

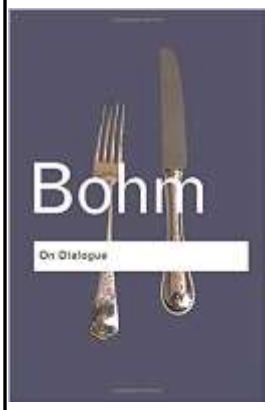
The Men's Group meets on Thursday nights at 7 pm in the Youth room. They are exploring "Living the Questions" by watching the 20 minute video followed by thoughtful conversation.

The Monday Seekers of Wisdom Group

Mondays at 1:30 pm

Convener – Pam Parker Kress / Facilitator—Jan Wright (daughter of Val Osborn Utsey)

On Dialogue



When we hear the word "dialogue," we often understand it to mean a conversation between two people, but that is not what scientist David Bohm had in mind when he wrote *On Dialogue*.

"Never before has there been a greater need for deeper listening and more open communication to cope with the complex problems facing our organizations, businesses and societies. Renowned scientist David Bohm believed there was a better way for humanity to discover meaning and to achieve harmony. He identified creative dialogue, a sharing of assumptions and understanding, as a means by which the individual, and society as a whole, can learn more about themselves and others, and achieve a renewed sense of purpose."

Our last study for 2018 explores creative dialogue and how it can help us with difficult discussions and contribute to better relationships and society.

Sign up at the Connection Corner or the bulletin board before you enter the Social Hall.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups

The Power of Myth

Starts Wednesday Nights in February at 6:30 pm

Study will be held in the Conference Room

Facilitator: Susan Bolinger

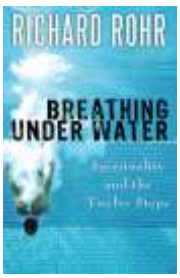
The Power of Myth, currently running on Netflix, is one of the most popular tv series in the history of public tv, and continues to inspire new audiences even 25 years after its original broadcast. Celebrated journalist Bill Moyers and mythologist Joseph Campbell explore what myths can tell us about our lives. This deeply fascinating conversation feels critically relevant to 2018.

Breathing Under Water, Richard Rohr

Starts on Sunday, January 13th , Sundays at 10 am

Co-facilitators: Ruthie Duran Deffley, Andrea Harrelson & Steve Johnson

Study will be held in the Conference Room



A perfect writer on the subject of the Twelve Steps, Rohr explains how the renowned AA program is preeminently spiritual and has the power to rescue people from the tidal wave of compulsive behavior and addiction by helping them 'breathe under water' and discover God's love and compassion. Rohr identifies the core Christian principles in the Twelve Steps and connects them to the message of the Gospels.
To sign up or for more information, contact Ruthie at rdurandeffley@asburymemorial.org or sign up at the Connection Corner.
All welcome! Childcare is available.

Reconciling Ministries Network

The next meeting will be January 6th at 1:15 pm in the sanctuary.
Follow our news on Facebook @ Asbury Memorial Reconciling!
In Christian service,
Lance

"NEXT"

Asbury's Young Adult Fellowship Group

Young adults (ages 19-35, no children) meet the second Sunday of the month in the Conference Room immediately after the church service. If you have any questions, or would like to be added to our Facebook group, please contact Alex Swanger at alex.hearn11@gmail.com.

Painting Group

Thanks to all who have participated so far in the painting group.
We'll get our paints and brushes out again on Thursday, January 17th.
Contact Carol Anderson if you have any questions or if you are considering joining the group in January at andersoncarol61@gmail.com

MISSION & SERVICE MINISTRIES MOMENTS
JANUARY 2019

A Big Thank You to Margaret Cook Levy
Margaret has very ably lead this committee and its work for many years. We are grateful to her for using her talents and grace to skillfully help Asburians be the hands and feet of God to many in our congregation and in Savannah. Thank you, Margaret!

Thank you, thank you, thank you!
...for the kindness, generosity and care that went into purchasing gifts for families of Wesley Community Center and the Lutheran Services of Georgia refugee families! They were greatly appreciated and helpful.

Union Mission has two immediate needs: gently-used sleeping bags to provide for overflow guests on cold evenings; and gently-used men's clothes, particularly men's jeans, shirts and work boots. Please bring any donations to Asbury and leave them on the stage in the Social Hall. Thank you in advance!

Looking ahead to February:

Wesley Community Center's Love Walk February 9: "It's a Love Thang!"
Move your feet with Asbury friends! The Love Walk directly benefits the homeless and low-income women, children, and families who rely on Wesley's services including Georgia quality rated early childhood education programs, youth camps, and Crisis Intervention (emergency assistance with food, personal hygiene items, utilities, and rent, financial literacy, SNAP assistance and case management).

Asbury's Youth Group will be collecting dollars and food on Super Bowl Sunday through the Souper Bowl of Caring. 100% of donations will be used locally in Savannah!

MEMORIALS

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Jeannie Knight by:
Joan Byrd

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of John Ashley Beam by:
Joan Byrd

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Eleanor Anderson by:
Joan Byrd

A Gift has been given to the Emergency Fund in memory of Carolyn Golden by:
Jane Thimme
Elizabeth DuBose
Vickie Harold

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Carolyn Golden by:
Joan Byrd
Ann & Bill Anderson
Linda Tuck
Jeanne Hutton
Janet Dixon
Jane Fishman
Jennifer Lindsay
Janice Browning & Jimmie Abner
Patricia A. Williams
Geri & Marie Spears
Tammy Waller & Betsy Variagas

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Jean Stewart by:
Patricia McFadden
Claudia & David Hazelwood
Ken, Kerry, Kathy, Karyl, & Kelli Stewart
Clifton L. Sasser

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Chris Wilburn by:
Angelle & Charles Reichert

Volume 25, Number 12
January 2019

2018 Budget Offering

November 24th—$11,699.42
December 2nd—$12,786.00
December 9th—$9,303.70
December 16th—$34,911.76

2018 Weekly Budget Need

$12,254.63

2018 YTD Budget Need

$612,731.50

2018 YTD Received

$636,103.36

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *We extend our love and sympathy to David Grice & John Naylor and family in the death of David's Aunt, Louise Craft.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Chriss & Dan Nelson in the death of their close friend, Khristina Martin-Paez.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Helen & Callie Downing in the death of their close friend, Wick Searcy.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Sandy Golden & Catherine Gilbert, Meg, Marshall, & Hayden Lego in the death of Sandy's daughter, Carolyn Golden.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Vicki Cronk in the death of her brother-in-law, William Winston Cronk.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Ed Jones and family in the death of his father, George Ernest Jones, Sr.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to the Dale & McCaskill families in the death of Susan Dale McCaskill, an Asburian.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Valori Armstrong and family in the death of Valori's daughter, Wizer Henison.*
- *We extend our love and sympathy to Kenn Waters and Joe Driggers in the death of their friend, Jeanelle Sikes.*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Asburians

Billy Aiken, Laura Angell, Pat Annel, Danny Beam, Andra Bowers, Jean Butcher, Carrie Collins, Shane Conner, Gretchen Dodd, Mickey Dodge, Ellie Gonye, Karl and Judy Graham, Wes Hardcastle-Orr, Chase Harrison, Geoff Harrison, Cynthia Herold, Jamie Kelso, Chris Kincade, Barbara King, Monica Lekuch, Lynn Lord, Scott McCoy, Brenda Mills, Grady Mills, Frances Monson, Eric Mullins, Nancy Munoz, Andy and Sharon Page, Lauren Page, Marie Parker, Mary Pulwarty, Keith Purtee, Colleen Robinette, Roberta Smith, Maria Spears, Brenda Spencer, Cabell Stewart, Diane Williamson, Marie Winters

Family Members & Friends

Dewy Ambos, Sharon Bowdoin, Jesus Castillo, Ryan Collins, Tim Cook, Nolan Donaldson, Sara Driggers, Patrick Ebert, Amelia Foster, Mary Alice Garvin, Judy Graham, Betty Grice, Richard Grice, Leslie Gross, Catherine Price Guiton, David Hamilton, Shirley Harris, Matt Hearn, Randy Matthews, Donna Miles, Bruce Monson, Charlotte Naylor, Jay Northcut, Phil Pinault, Harold Saye, Piper Schwartzburt, Linda Sickler, Jim Skoronsky, Robert Smith, Sr., Serenah Tyson, Kiara Vega, Catherine Wallace, Carolyn Walters, Chris Waszcazk, Paula Watts, Melvin Wiley, Jerome Williams, Mary Wise, Dale Wolfe, Rebecca Wood

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

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Savannah, GA

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 2019 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.