



The Asbury Update

May 2020

Asbury Memorial
Church
Rev. Billy Hester
Volume 33, Number 5
May 2020

“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39

Greetings to all, sisters and brothers in Christ!

This has been a strange time in the life of the world and the life of the Church. I offer this opening scripture **to you as an assurance that we are never alone. We are God’s people and God has chosen us to live with abundance and grace and confidence.** I am so grateful for each of you and pray for you daily. I am happy to **hear that public health officials are moving away from the term “social distancing” to “physical distancing.”** Words matter. We are not socially isolated from one another, but physically apart at this time. Our doors may be closed but we join one another in our hopes, dreams and prayers for one another. We are a living and vibrant community with God in our midst. This quarantine time has been a strong reminder that the **church is not a building, but US, God’s people. God’s chosen people. We are the light of the world.**

Pandemic lingo gets it wrong again when it comes to using “non-essential” in terms of work and people. There are no non-essential employees and as Christians, we know that there are no non-essential people. We may not be employed in emergency work, but each and every one of us is essential by nature. We are one body and the community needs every one of us and our gifts. This is a time to reflect on what we have to contribute to the community that is essential for this time. The answer will vary. Some can sew masks, some can write notes, some can raise or donate money to feed the hungry, some can encourage our leaders to make prudent decisions, some employ others, some can bake, some can nurture children, some can pray, some can call, some can model peace by being still and knowing that God is present with us in the crisis. We all are integral to the health and welfare of our church family and our nation. I challenge you to think about what makes you essential at this time and place. Because God knows: we need you and we need one another to be whole. I celebrate all the ways that you are special and the part that you are playing in managing the stress of this time of high anxiety.

Please, please, take care of yourselves. You are precious. May you find lifegiving ways to care for yourselves: **rest, hydrate, eat well, laugh, work, sing, pray, rant, journal, garden, walk and just breathe. “Be still and know that I am God.”** The pandemic has stressed every person in new and sometimes dramatic ways. If you find yourself experiencing feelings of sadness, fear, anxiety, suicidal ideation, depression, anger or any new behaviors like changes in eating or sleeping, find and use the mental health services that are listed in the newsletter. We have good public resources to help us through these days and we have one another. These days will pass and we want to make sure that we plant the seeds now for being in a healthy place when we are no longer in crisis. I love you and I appreciate having you in my circle. May you be happy. May you be safe. May you be at peace. --Rev. Claire Marich



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

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!

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

May

2nd Mike Flatt

Beth Harn-Via

Zaida Hester

Tommy Schafer

3rd Lynne Allen

Jack Lewis

Les Sears

5th Andy Becker

Susan Bolinger

6th Mary Alice Garvin

7th Marlon Harman

Scout McCaffity

9th Bill Kelso

Emma Varland

12th Mike Skinner

Tom Wages

14th Don Stahle

17th Joan Byrd

Kathy Consentino

Dylan Linthicum

Sara Linthicum

Keith Purtee

19th Joe Driggers

20th Brian Clyatt

21st Melanie Raulerson

23rd Patty Steinhauser

24th Geoff Harrison

25th Carla McCaffity

Roberta Smith

26th Pauline Munro

27th Gerry Harman

29th Sandy Golden

Tina Smith

31st Thomas Hunter

Alex Swanger



May

1st Colin & Jennifer Knox

1st Kelly & Kim Limehouse

4th Bill & Jamie Kelso

7th Suzanne & Andy Becker

7th Josh & Valerie Branham

11th Pat & Mary Prokop

13th Nancy & Thomas Parker

15th Bonnie & Jeff Kaar

15th John & Wendy Mason

17th Wes & Jack Hardcastle-Orr

17th John & Claire Marich

21st Chris & Barbara Gooby

24th Bob Francischetti & Bobby Soletto

27th Lawrence & Deborah Staab

28th Trina & Jake Dunn

30th Danny & Barbara Beam

31st Spencer & Carla Luke



Quarantine has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told 'no' if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides.





Greetings, Asburians!

We offer you some new options for staying connected. As our ability to interact in person grows more restricted, we need to remember that we are not alone: that we are still a vibrant faith community and God is present in the messiness of our lives to love us, lead us and witness our daily strife and pleasures.

Here are some ways to stay connected and some comforting resources:

Daily Noontide Devotions Monday-Friday

Each weekday at 12pm noon, a short, live devotion and prayer will be held via Zoom.us at

<https://zoom.us/j/121907484>

There are also links on the Church Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/asburymemorialumcsavannah/>

and the Church's webpage: www.asburymemorial.org

Sign up for Zoom at www.zoom.us and tune in on weekdays for live devotions together. Children of God of all ages welcomed.

Encouraging Words

Dial 912-358-0842 to hear a recorded message of encouragement and grace. These messages will change frequently and are available 24-7 whenever you need a little pick-me-up. No Facebook account or computer needed!

Worship on Sundays

We will continue to tune into worship on Sundays at 11:15am.

Just go to www.asburymemorial.org and click on the worship link.

And for the children and the child in all of us, check out the beautiful Godly Play stories posted through the church website or through the Asbury Memorial YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsUjjriKobiASeidLeU6AFA>

Who knows what lies in store for us from week to week? Tune in and see...

Online Devotionals

From our own Methodist tradition is the Upper Room which can be seen online

here: <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

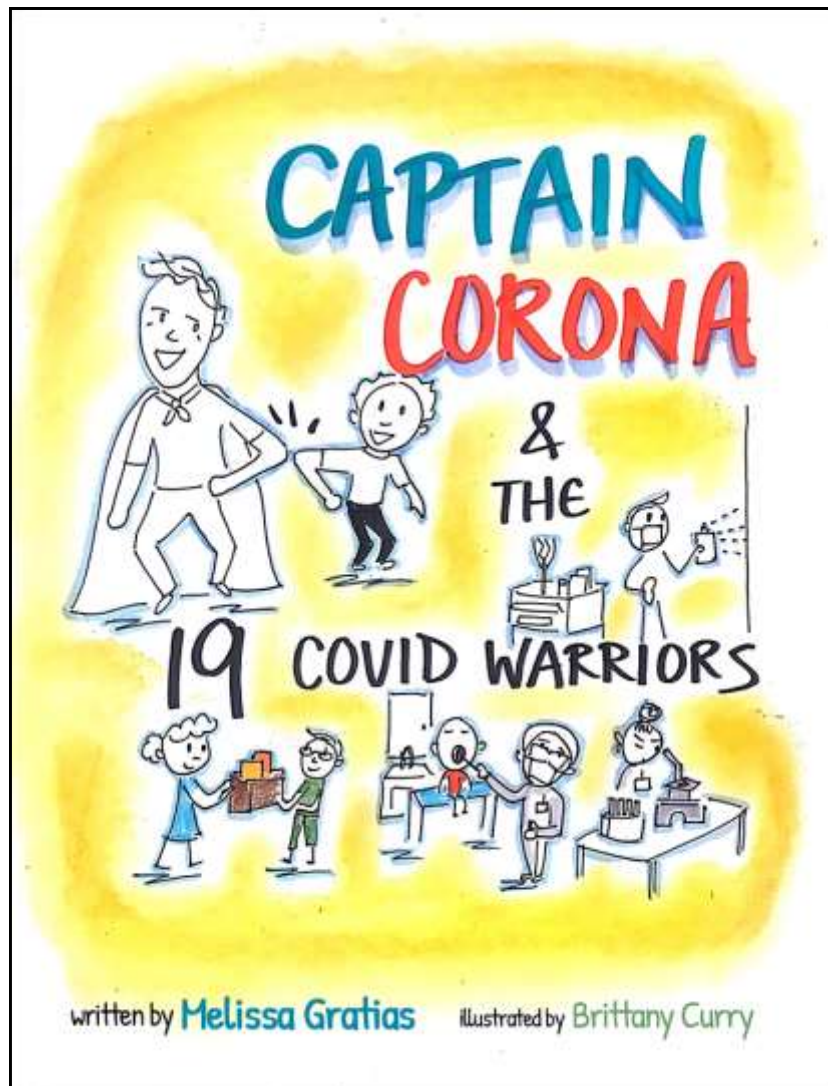
And the Daily Devotional from the United Church of Christ is found here: https://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional

And for a 5 minute self-compassion focused yoga exercise for gentle body movement see the following YouTube video.

Thanks to Vira Salzman, the director of the county suicide prevention center for this

find: <https://youtu.be/o4BqtJOLX6s>

Wishing you many avenues to find deep connections to your spirituality and community until we gather in person again.



From Asbury's own, Dr. Melissa Gratias!

Amid this scary time of quarantines, social distancing, and the spread of COVID-19, children (and adults!) need to see the good things that are happening – and all of the helpers as well.

Captain Corona takes a group of children on a journey to see 19 groups of brave people whose selfless efforts keep us all safe.

Coronavirus is scary for kids. But, if we look hard, we will see so much to admire in our world: medical staff who are treating sick people, custodians who are cleaning, truckers making sure to bring us the things we need, and teachers who are providing lessons online.

When we focus on the helpers, we may even decide to be a better helper ourselves. We are all in this together. Captain Corona will help us find the way.

This eBook and all the resources below are yours for free. Please share these resources with others. <https://melissagrattias.com/captaincorona/>

Be well, friends. We are all in this together.

BUNNY IN THE CITY: Community helps feed ‘the essentials’

Excerpt from the article

Asbury’s own, Meg Lego

As many of us take our shelter-at-home summons seriously, I think we should give shout-outs to our local do-gooders for reaching out to promote, support and feed our often overlooked “essential” businesses and people.

Proud to pose in a Savannah Strong t-shirt in front of his No. 1 pizza joint Screamin’ Mimi’s, I leave Karl to head over to Celebritees to talk with **Meg Lego** about her wicked wonderful T-shirts and yard signs.

“We started this movement to help struggling small businesses. We sell the shirts at cost and they in turn sell them to their customers for \$12 each. The profit from each sale goes directly back to that business so hopefully they can use it to pay employees or to help with daily operating cost,” shares the designer.

Proud to learn that 30 local businesses have sold over 3,000 gray with black letters Savannah Strong t-shirts.

By Bunny Ware

Posted 04/18/20



Dear and precious people of Asbury Memorial Church.

I miss you dearly and eagerly anticipate the day when we all might be back together again, not so eager however, to act imprudently.

When the Revolutionary War was going badly Thomas Paine wrote those famous words to rally the nation yet to be: "These are the times that try Men's souls" he said, and went on to observe "that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value."

What is it that is most dear to us, we who call ourselves Asburians? I believe it is each other. Whether it's Helen Downing conducting virtual Bible study, the choir, Men's Group and Staff meetings on Zoom, Chris Kincade Zooming with the young people, the dial in for an Encouraging Word, Rev. Claire and Rev. Billy providing on line daily devotionals, Ruthie Deffley and Margarita Bourke recording the weekly Godly Play stories, Pat Prokop's orchestration of the virtual Sunday morning service from Rev. Billy and Cheri Hester's backyard and the living rooms from all around Savannah or Candace Jenkins organizing a calling tree and staying in touch with so many and Carol Anderson starting a project to send cards to members of our congregation who live alone and then other members of our congregation who, on their own volition, reach out to others in a myriad of ways...this is what makes Asbury a "safe place to land." We are all in this together, staying connected giving and receiving support.

These are trying times indeed but the way Asburians have responded to each other is nothing short of, well...Christian in the full sense of what it means to be followers of Jesus.

So, stay safe, stay well and continue to reach out to each other in love as I will continue to do.

Preston Hodges
Lay Minister

Quarantine Thoughts

I used to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.

I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.

PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog..... we laughed a lot.

I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?

I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.

I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!

Do not call the police on suspicious people in your neighborhood!
Those are your neighbors without makeup and hair extensions!

Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year".... I'm offended.



Are you missing being with one another for Sunday worship and having that lovely opportunity to place your contribution in the offering plate? Well, have we got options for you! We have multiple ways for you to continue your support of Asbury Memorial and have listed them below. Thank you for your gifts!

Mail:

Mail your contribution by check to:
Asbury Memorial Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401



Website:


Log on to our website:
www.AsburyMemorial.org



Complete the form as directed.
You can set it up to be a recurring donation!



Mobile App:

From your smartphone:
Download the free *GivePlus*  app from the App Store or Google Play
Open the *GivePlus* app and follow the simple directions
You can setup an account or just give as a guest
Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring

Text Giving:

From your mobile phone:
Send your contribution amount to 912-307-3206
Donate anytime, anywhere
Use easy debit/credit card registration
Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring



Church Office:

Call the church office at 912.233.4351



Both our Finance Chair and Stewardship Chair would also want to remind you,
“It is NEVER too late to make and pay a pledge!”





The 2020 Census is here and we need your help to assure that Chatham and surrounding counties have a complete count! Please continue to help spread the word about the importance of completing the Census. The next one won't happen for another 10 years!

We all have the COVID-19 crisis to navigate through but please consider to doing the following:

Take the Census online:

<https://my2020census.gov>

Complete the Census by Phone: call 1-844-330-2020

Like the Facebook Page and repost information:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChathamCountyCensus2020/>

Follow on Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/chathamcounts2020/>

Wishing you and yours safety and good health in the days ahead!



Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line 866-399-8938



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities



The Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line provides 24/7 free and confidential assistance to callers needing emotional support or resource information as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emotional Support Line is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals and others who have received training in crisis counseling.

A partnership between The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities, Beacon Health Options and Behavioral Health Link

**Georgia Crisis
& Access Line**

1-800-715-4225
mygcal.com

Sponsored by the
DBHDD

Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL)

1-800-715-4225

GCAL is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year to help you or someone you care for in a crisis



CARES Warm Line

1-844-326-5400

Substance Abuse Challenges
Call or Text Every Day of The Year
8:30AM - 11:00PM



COVID-19 Hotline

(844) 442-2681

The State of Georgia has a new COVID-19 hotline. If you believe that you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to the novel coronavirus, please contact your primary care doctor or an urgent care clinic. Please do not show up unannounced at an emergency room or health care facility.

PEER SUPPORT
FOR GEORGIA
888-945-1414
24/7/365
www.peer2peer.center

Peer2Peer Warm Line

Operating since the opening of the Peer Support and Wellness Center of Decatur in 2008, the warm line provides Georgians the opportunity to receive peer support over the phone 24 hours a day.

How to contact the Peer2Peer Warm Line

Call 888-945-1414 (toll-free) statewide, or locally:

Decatur: 404-371-1414

Bartow County: 770-276-2019

Colquitt County: 229-873-9737

Henry County: 678-782-7666

White County: 706-865-3601



Feel Alone & Financially Insecure?

We're here to help!

Step Up Savannah helps in your journey towards financial security by connecting you with the right resources.



**step up
savannah**

Follow us on



StepUpSavannah.org

GET REMOTE HELP WITH

SNAP

**MEDICAID
HEALTHCARE RESOURCES**

CAPS

TANF

WIC

APPLY REMOTELY FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS AT THESE LOCATIONS:

STEP UP SAVANNAH

Kimberly Paulk
912.330.6445
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
By phone appointment only

ST. MARY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

Johnetta Ferguson & Linda Youth
912.447.0578 Ext. # 5
M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
By phone in order received

FIRST HISPANIC BAPTIST CHURCH

Anabel Perez
828.244.2485
Lunes y Martes 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Solo por cita telefonica

MOSES JACKSON ADVANCEMENT CENTER

LeQuinton Kates & Sara Williams
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
912.525.2166
By phone appointment only

SAVANNAH TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Jessie Jones
912.509.0771/ snap@savannahtech.edu
Hours based on client need
By phone appointment only

WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTERS OF SAVANNAH, INC.

Valeria Flowers
912.447.5711/
flowerstv_wcc1601@yahoo.com
hours based on client need

By phone appointment only

FORSYTH FARMERS MARKET

Tasha Cunningham
347.861.9824
Hours based on Clients Need

By phone appointment only



THESE REMOTE SERVICES ARE FOR THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Verna Enyeart in the death of her husband and Asbury member, George Enyeart.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Daniel Folsom in the death of his aunt, Margie Dominey.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Cheri, Billy, Christy, Wendell & Wesley Hester and Chelsea & Chris Bradt in the death of Cheri's mother and Asbury member, Jean Butcher.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Lance Roberts, Thomas Hunter & Robert McEwen in the death of Lance's husband and longtime friend of Thomas and Robert and Asbury member, Medicus Roberts.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Wesley Oak and Asbury friends in the death, Paul Osterman.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to James Mullins & Charles Richardson in the death of James' aunt, Norma Weiss.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Claudette DeLong in the death of her next door neighbor, Paul Dold.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Tara, Kevin & Rosser Redd in the death of Tara's mother and Asbury member, Colleen Robinette.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Pat, Mark, Sydney & Taylor in the death of Pat's ex-husband, Mark's father, Ernest Stewart.*

MEMORIALS

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Jean Butcher by
Kim Malphrus & Kimberly Smith *Jennifer & Jim Hausch*
Laura Armitage *Jennifer Lindsay*
Gloria Moses *Debbie Williamson*
Chuck & Ann Seyle *Judy Wilburn*
Pat & Howard Hackney *A L & Sue Addington*
Gordon Baker & Tom Lewis *Cheri Sheridan & Joe Drake*
Janet Dixon *Mike & Debra Skinner*
George & Laura Lindsay

A Gift has been given to the Choir Fund in memory of Jean Butcher by
Donna Bradt
Pat & Mary Prokop
Karl & Judy Graham

A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Joyce Crosby by
George & Laura Lindsay

HONORARIUMS

***A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in honor of Wendy Ciccodicola for her outstanding benevolence for others by
Gloria Moses***

***A Gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of Kay Deffley for making face masks for others by
Pat & Mary Prokop***

***A Gift has been given to the Renovation Fund in honor of Margaret Cook Levy's 80th birthday by
Eileen Lobel
Lynne & Robert Norton***

2020 Budget Offering

March 29th—\$11,826.15

April 5th—\$16,858.50

April 12th—\$27,353.00

April 19th—\$16,479.17

April 26th—TBA

2020 Weekly Budget Need

\$13,830.00

2020 YTD Budget Need

\$221,280.00

2020 YTD Received

\$211,634.06

PRAYER REQUESTS



Asburians

Dona Baker, Andra Bowers, Rosalind Carter, Becky Case, Anita Clay, Wendy Ciccodicola, Carrie Collins, Linda Combs, Shane Conner, Margaret Cook Levy, Vicki Cronk, Gretchen Dodd, Mickey Dodge, Sam Durham, Ellie Gonye, Betty Haldeman, Chase Harrison, Geoff Harrison, Donna Haynes, Cynthia Herold, Roy Hill, John Hohnerlein, Harriet Jandrlich, Sanford Jones, Barbara King, Jack Lewis, Cynthia Linthicum, Scott McCoy, Darcy Melton, Ginger Miles, Brenda Mills, Grady Mills, Frances Monson, Virginia Moryadas, Eric Mullins, Marie Parker, Barbara Ruggere, Nancy Saltsman, Roberta Smith, Geri Spears, Maria Spears, Cabell Stewart, Carolyn Stuber, Pete Vasta, Kathy Waters, Kenn Waters, Diane Williamson, Marie Winters, Joe Zeigler

Family Members & Friends

Steve Amerson, Joanne Anderson, Dewy Ambos, Lisa Brown, Karen Browning, Sid Case, Linda Cowart, James Thomas Crosby, Larry Daniels, Peter DeCordova, Nolan Donaldson, Janice Dorminey, Sara Driggers, Sterling Saltsman Eyer, Pamela Fralin, Dan Goff, Larry Grice, Catherine Price Guiton, Matt Hearn, Priscilla Hearn, Elsie Hilliard, Annette Jenkins, Lynette Jones, Susan Karlson, Lindsay Kessler, John Leopard, Eddie Lewis, Kenny Lewis, Kim Lewis, Sherry Kennedy, Stephanie Marich, Ronny Martin, Tom Marze, Zach Ostermann, Don Purdy, Grayson Romanowski, Millicent Scoggin, Jan Newton Smith, Frank Stanton, Emery Stanyek, Don Stubbs, Rev. Eric Titus, Jerome Williams

Asbury Memorial
Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401-7128
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.