

# February Birthdays

- 5 Suzanne Cooler Iris Dayoub Becca Terrett Bob Walls
- 6 Kay Deffley
- 8 Valori Armstrong Linda David
- 9 Carolyn Lewis
- 10 Laurie Fahey
  Tom Lewis
  Mollie Robinson
  Grayson West

- 11 Clara Spivey
- 12 Danny Beam
- 13 Ryan Gage Wendell Hester Wesley Hester Judy Jones
- 14 Mimi Mangrum Numer
- 15 Erin Ganter Carolyn Sanders
- 16 Val Osborn Utsey
- 17 Zoey Karr Libby Mills

- 18 Sherry Woo
- 19 Danny Edwards
- 20 Debra Skinner
- 21 Kelly Limehouse Nancy Munoz
- 22 Parker Collins
- 24 Sandy Carroll
- 27 Jan Michaels
  Ray Sears
  Donna Waller

Jebnuary Anniversaries

23RD
ANN & BILL
ANN & BILL
ANN & BILL
ANN & ANDERSON
ANDERSON
ANDERSON
STEVE & CLAYTON
STEVE & CLAYTON
GAGNE

## FEBRUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
						10:00a SING: Spring Retreat
						@AMC
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury Memorial 1:00p	5:30p SING Rehearsal 7:00p SMART	3:00p IMPROV Class @AMC		11:00a Blood Drive @ AMC 7:00p		
JUST Congregational Meeting	Recovery @ WO			Men's Group		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury Memorial	12:30p Wisdom Seekers 5:30p SING Rehearsal	6:30p Ministry		7:00p	5:30p Parent's Night Out	
6:00p 2nd Sunday Seekers	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	Round Table Meeting		Men's Group	6:30p Renewal of Vows Ceremony	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Sunday AMC	5:30p SING Rehearsal 7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	6:30p Finance Committee Meeting		7:00p Men's Group	7:30p ATC Broadway Week Finale Concert	2:00p Anne Gooby Memorial Service
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Sunday AMC	12:30p Wisdom Seekers 5:30p SING Rehearsal 6:30p St Andrew's Academy Choral Concert 7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	6:30p Church Council		7:00p Men's Group		

## Explore Our Sacred Calling

#### Featuring the Enneagram

Please mark your calendars to join us for a day of exploring our sacred calling as individuals and as a church. The hope and prayer is that this will be a day of personal and churchwide transformation that will usher in an energized and joyful era of deeper connection and service to our community. The day will be divided into three 2-hour segments: 10:00-12:00 Session 1, 12:00-2:00 Lunch at Finches, 2:00-4:00 Session 2.

Bec Cranford is a self-identified Bapticostal-misfit from Atlanta, Georgia floating in the mystical world of ecumenism and interfaith conversations. She's also one tough mother and an urban missiologist wrestling with just practices and charity. She currently works as a spiritual director, adjunct professor at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, and Director of Mental Health Services at Georgia Works, a program for formerly incarcerated and unhoused men in Atlanta.

Mitch Cohen is an IFS and Enneagram Coach Practitioner, Rabbi, Spiritual Director and Grief Counselor. He was Certified as a Life Coach in 2002, with a focus on difficult life transitions, grief related to suicide and religious trauma. Mitch applies Internal Family Systems (IFS), Enneagram and Jungian shadow, complex and dream work in his work with clients. Mitch is an International Enneagram Association Accredited Professional.

A May 2020 graduate of Zeitgeist Non-faith-based Spiritual Director program, Mitch supports anyone on their individual personal spiritual journey, regardless of their beliefs or past observance or faith tradition – or no faith tradition. He has been teaching Jewish mysticism, Enneagram and Internal Family Systems for spiritual growth, Yoga and interfaith spirituality since the mid-1990's. Mitch recently co-authored a book, Men and Grief: Stories of Growth through Struggles with Trauma and Loss. Among the causes he supports are: The Link Counseling Center; The Jung Society of Atlanta; One River Foundation; Zeitgeist – Atlanta's Interfaith Home for the Spiritually Independent; and The Interfaith Community Initiative. Mitch serves on the Board of Zeitgeist-Atlanta.

## **FEBRUARY 15, 2025**

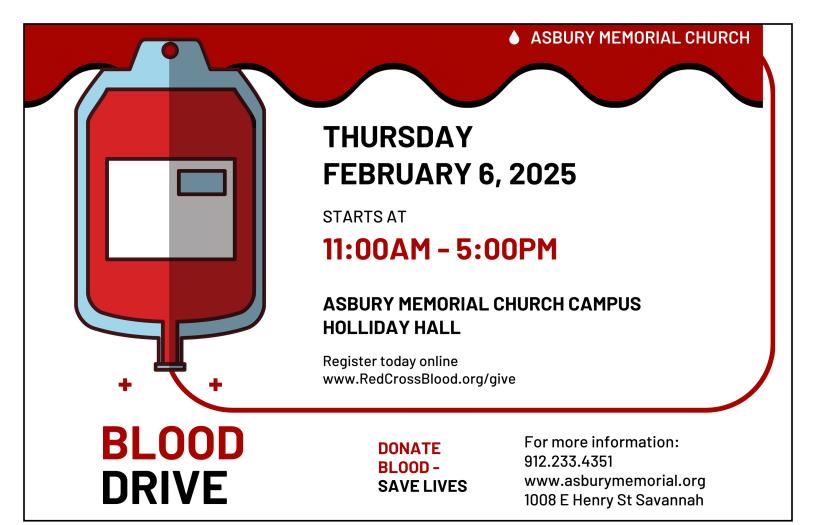
10 am - 4 pm Wesley Oak Church



**Bec Cranford**Author. Artist. Advocate



Mitch Cohen
Enneagram Coach
Practitioner





## Cook and Connect with Creativity

Joy Cottage at Wesley Oak

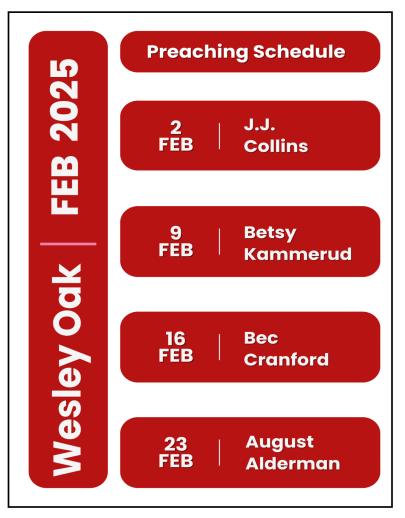
Every fourth Cottage! Sunday, we invite you to a Joy Cottage where food, friendship, and creativity come together!

As we gather to prepare and enjoy a delicious meal together, you'll have the chance to cook, mingle, and forge new friendships.

But the fun doesn't stop with dinner!

Join Us for Suppers at the At the end of each meal, we welcome a few brave souls to showcase their delightful evening at the talents. Whether you have a poem to recite, a song to sing, or a craft to display, we encourage you to share what you love to do with the group!

> Please come join us for an unforgettable evening of good food, even better company, and inspiring creativity. We can't wait to see you there!





## Renewal of Vows Ceremony on February 14, 2025

Every Valentine's Day, Rev. Billy and Cheri, lead a beautiful and heartfelt marriage renewal of vows ceremony at Asbury Memorial Church. This cherished tradition, spanning over two decades, invites married couples - church members and guests, regardless of orientation - to reaffirm their commitment in a warm and inclusive setting.

The ceremony has even adapted to changing times. In 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was held virtually, allowing couples worldwide to participate.

By 2023, they offered both in-person and virtual options, accommodating diverse preferences and ensuring the tradition's continuity.





Friday, February 14, 2025 6:30pm Asbury Memorial Church

Rev. Billy Hester emphasizes the ceremony's significance, stating, "Any married couple—gay or straight—who would like to renew their vows with us, free of charge, is welcome to join us."

This inclusive approach reflects Asbury Memorial's commitment to celebrating love in all its forms.

Participants often express profound appreciation for the experience and return each year to join in the ceremony. "We fell in love with the ceremony and the officiating couple, Rev. Billy Hester and his wife, Cheri.

Whenever possible, we have returned each Valentine's Day."

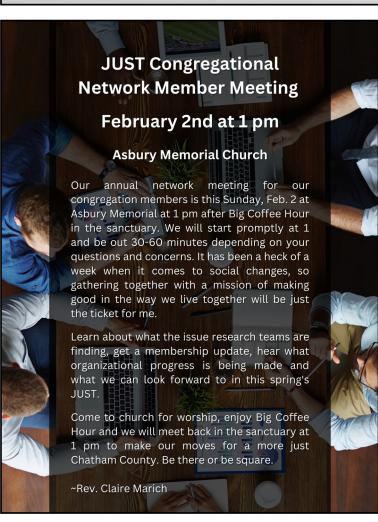
Asbury Memorial's Children and Families Director, Chris Kincade, will also be offering a Parent's Night Out on February 14th at Asbury Memorial Church so parents can enjoy the ceremony while the kids have a fun event of their own.

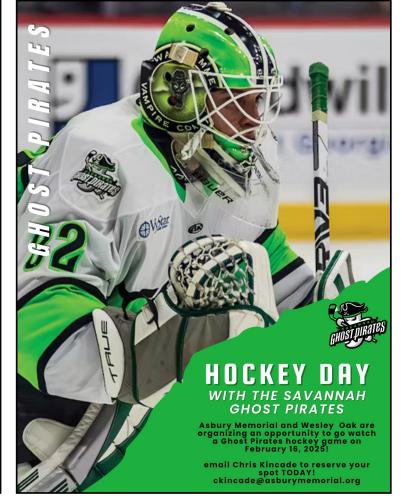
As Valentine's Day approaches, Asbury Memorial Church continues to uphold this beautiful tradition, inviting couples to celebrate their love and commitment in a ceremony that honors the past, celebrates the present, and embraces the future.



Asbury Memorial Church invites everyone to join in the Renewal of Vows ceremony this Valentine's Day, February 14th at Asbury Memorial Church. Ceremony starts at 6:30pm.







# Second Sunday Seekers Group meets on the second Sunday of each month at 6:00p 'at Parker and J.J. Collins' house.

This group is for anyone who wants a safe space to ask questions, share thoughts, and hear different perspectives about all things spiritual and theological. Let's get together to discuss the sacred mysteries, the frustrating questions, the ethical dilemmas, and moral

There is no agenda, no book to read, and no expectations. Just bring an open heart, an open mind, your humility, your curiosity, and your kindness.

conundrums.



## WISDOM

QUESTIONS?
Contact Trish Haverkamp at trish.haverkamp@gmail or 610.334.1981

Women's Book Club Meets 2x a month

2nd Monday of each month @ I2:30 via Zoom 4th Monday of each month @ I2:30, typically in person

## Memorials

A gift has been given in memory of Chris Wilburn by Judy Wilburn

A gift has been given in memory of Robert "Bob" Perry by Betty Perry A gift has been given in memory of Suzie Williams by Gaye Rountree

A gift has been given in memory of Jimmie Hilton by Coastal State Bank

## CONFIRMATION

## **Confirmation Classes Begin March 9th**

We are excited to announce that Confirmation Classes will be offered for youth in the 6th grade or above starting on March 9th. These weekly spiritual formation classes, led by Rev. Billy Hester and Beth Tyson, provide a wonderful opportunity for young people to explore the foundational tenets of the Christian faith.

The classes will guide participants through meaningful discussions and spiritual growth, culminating in a special Confirmation Ceremony during the worship service on Sunday, April 10th. Youth who choose to be confirmed will officially join the church. Additionally, if a youth has not previously been baptized, they may be baptized on this special day.

This is a significant step in the spiritual journey of our youth, and we warmly invite all eligible participants to consider joining these transformative sessions.

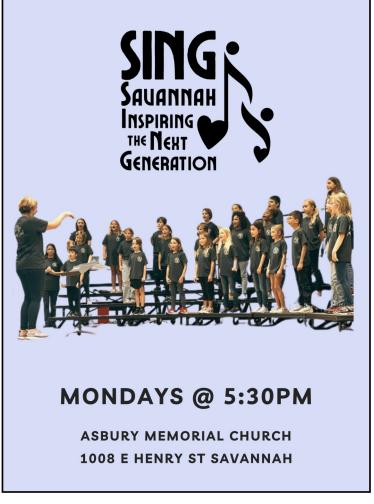
To register or for more information, please contact:

Beth Tyson at btyson@vniconnects.com

or the church office at church@asburymemorial.org.

We look forward to sharing this meaningful journey of faith with our youth.





## CREATIVITY CORNER

spotlight: Angust Alderman













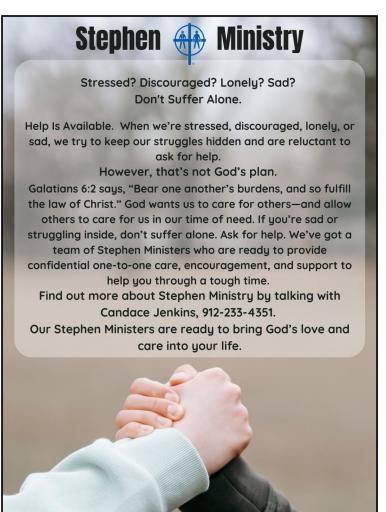




## WESLEY OAK'S BOOK EXCHANGE

Wesley Oak has a book exchange!

Do you have a book you just loved? Did you read something that inspired you? Is there a book you think others would enjoy reading? Donate it!! Everyone is encouraged to participate in the donating and borrowing of books. Once you read the book, just return it back to the library at Wesley Oak. Borrowers are encouraged to write a little something in the book for the next person to read.











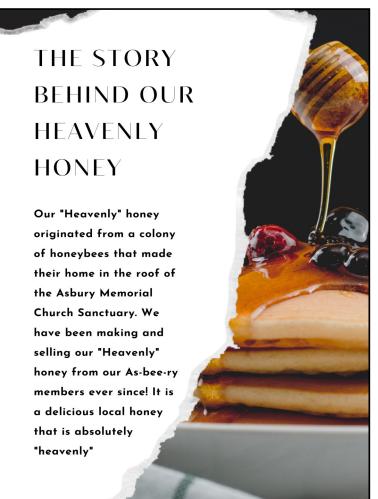
MLK PARADE 01.20.2025



MEMBERS OF JUST HAD THE HONOR OF JOINING VARIOUS GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN COMMEMORATING THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AND HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE, EQUALITY, AND SERVICE. PARTICIPATING IN THE MLK PARADE IS A PROFOUND EXPERIENCE THAT ALLOWS INDIVIDUALS TO CONNECT WITH DR. KING'S ENDURING VISION FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY.

BY WALKING IN THE PARADE, JUST BECAME PART OF A LIVING TRIBUTE TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT THAT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED & ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK THAT REMAINS. THE PARADE SERVES AS A POWERFUL PLATFORM FOR UNITY, BRINGING TOGETHER PEOPLE FROM SO MANY DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS TO CELEBRATE DR. KING'S IDEALS. WHETHER PEOPLE MARCHING SOLIDARITY OR WITNESSING THE VIBRANT DISPLAY OF CULTURE, HISTORY, RESILIENCE, THE PARADE PARTICIPANTS CONTRIBUTE TO PRESERVING HIS DREAM FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.







## WESLEY OAK CHANCEL CHOIR

COME & JOIN IN!

THE CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSES ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 8:30 A.M. EACH WEEK. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF THE MUSIC AT WESLEY OAK CHURCH, PLEASE CONNECT WITH J.J. COLLINS, DIRECTOR.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!



## When Shadows Fall

The members of Asbury Memorial and Wesley Oak extend our love and sympathy to:

Robert Smith in the passing of his cousin, Glen Ashe, Jr.

Kimmi Sampieri in the passing of her mother, Sandy Sampieri

Pamela Lewanda in the passing of her nephew, Joe Theriault, Jr.

Chris and Barbara Gooby in the passing of Chris' mother,
Anne Gooby

Nancy Austin in the passing of her friend & neighbor, Robert Ryan

Jennifer Lindsay & Kay Barrett in the passing of Jennifer's aunt and Kay's sister-in-law, Mary Ellen Caruso



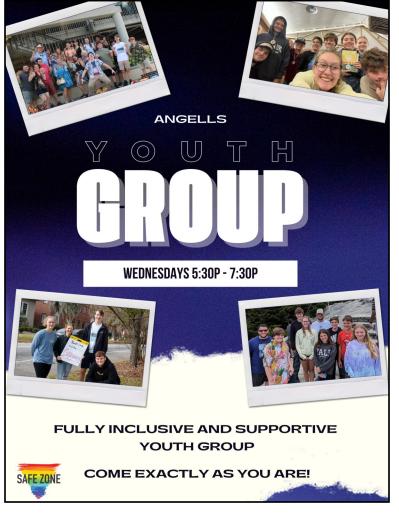
## Congregants of Asbury Memorial and Wesley Oak

DiAnne Amerson, Pat Andres, Jim Burris, Kathy Consentino, Margaret Cook-Levy, Marty Coolidge, Mary Cronk, Vicki Cronk, Gale Dick, Sam Durham, Ray Ellis, Deb Gibson, Bubba Hughes, Pam Karacostas, Tom Lewis, Marion Manigo, Brenda Mills, Virginia Moryadas, James Mullins, Marie Parker, Mark Pohl, Frank Ramsey, Pat Stewart, Bob Townsend, Val Osborn Utsey, Beverly Vasta, Curtis Veal, Kenn Waters, Lance Wilhelm

## Family Members and Friends

Jennie Belle, Roland Hill, Claude House, Wesley Hurt, Jackie Lewis, Alex Ormond,
Rev. John Ruehl







"Creative Corner" to ckincade@asburymemorial.org



The Salvation Army has started the "Sage Brigade" a senior program of many activities. Top of the list is Sr. Fitness, using light weights and cardio for a 45-minute fitness class that incorporates music from the 50's, 60's, 70's up to the present. The format is a warmup w/o weights, followed by weights and cardio, and finishes off with a cool down. Great for everyone from beginners to advance. Weights are provided. No floor work. \$25 for the entire year. The fee includes other fun activities like crochet, line dancing, and much more. Registration is at the door when you come for your first class.

Senior Fitness Classes (no age requirement to attend classes)

#### Led by Asbury Member, Linda Socks

The Salvation Army – 3000 Bee Road, Savannah

Mondays & Wednesdays @ 11:45 am. Some holidays excluded.



1 in 4 children in South Georgia live in homes where having enough food is a struggle every day.

P.A.C.K. is committed to packing and delivering over 10,000 bags a month to children in Chatham county and the surrounding areas.

## VOLUNTEER Mondays & Thursdays 10am - 12pm

4 Mall Terrace Savannah

www.packsavannah.com

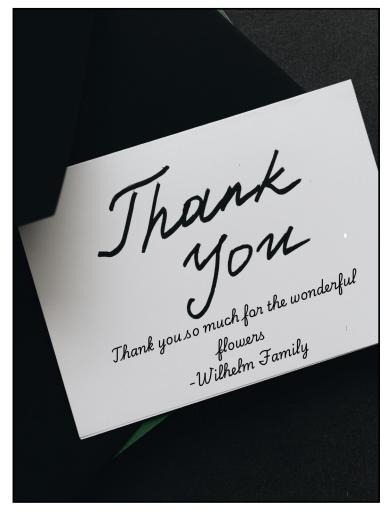




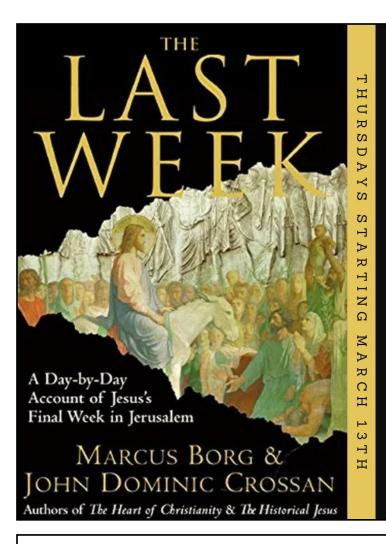












## LENTEN STUDY

Rev. Hester will be leading a 5-week Online Study during the season of Lent. The study will be using Marcus Borg & John Dominic Crossan's book, The Last Week, which recounts the last week of Jesus' life before he was crucified. It has been said by many people that this book transformed their perspective and experience of Holy Week (Passion Week).

We are excited about this opportunity for those who live in our area and those who live far away to be able to have this experience together. The study will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm starting March 13th. The five Thursdays will be March 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 10. The study will be 90 minutes – ending at 8:00 pm. We will email the link for the Study in early March.

In order to get the most out of the experience, participants should have a copy of The Last Week. Copies can be purchased on Amazon through this link: https://www.amazon.com/Last-Week-Gospels-Really-Jerusalem/dp/0060872608

If you have any questions or if you are unable to get a copy of the book, please contact Rev. Hester at bghester3@comcast.net. We'll help you get a copy.

## WE HAVE MULTIPLE WAYS FOR YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT OF ASBURY MEMORIAL 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
- Click on the Give Now button
- Complete the form as directed.
- You can set it up to be a recurring donation!



#### **Text Giving:**

- From your mobile phone:
- Send your contribution amount to 833-690-5966
- Donate anytime, anywhere
- Use easy debit/credit card registration
- Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring

# HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH A SANCTUARY CHAIR DEDICATION

Each Sunday as we gather for our services, there's a sense of sacred connection that fills the sanctuary. This connection is made even more meaningful as we notice the names of loved ones carefully etched into the nameplates on our beautiful sanctuary chairs. These nameplates are more than just engraved markers—they tell stories of love, remembrance, and enduring faith.

Seeing the name of a cherished family member or friend serves as a tangible reminder of their presence, legacy, and the role they played in the life of the church community. It's a beautiful way to honor their memory while contributing to the spiritual life of our congregation.

If you would like to remember or honor a loved one in this special way, we invite you to complete an order form and submit it to the church office. Forms are conveniently available both in the church narthex and the office.

The cost of \$250.00 goes directly towards the upkeep and maintenance of our beloved sanctuary, helping to preserve this sacred space for generations to come.

By dedicating a chair in honor of someone special, you participate in a tradition of generosity and love that supports our worship environment and celebrates the lives that have touched us so deeply.

## A Beautiful Way to Remember or Honor a Loved One in a Special Way

We encourage you to prayerfully consider this opportunity. If you have any questions or need assistance with the form, please do not hesitate to contact the church office. Thank you for being part of this meaningful act of remembrance and for supporting the spiritual heart of our community.



## SMART RECOVERY FOR INDIVIDUALS

Do you want to address an addiction problem or harmful habit? With our practical tools based on cognitive and motivational psychology and addiction research, SMART Recovery helps you make and sustain positive changes that lead to a balanced life.

Through our meetings, tools, and strategies, SMART can help you stop harmful habits and behaviors, including addiction to alcohol and other drugs, or negative behaviors related to relationships, sex, spending, gambling, eating and exercise disorders, and self-injury.

SMART Recovery is unique. Our science-based approach emphasizes self-reliance, self-resilience, and self-empowerment. With SMART, you are the expert on your recovery. You choose how to personalize your plan for successful change. There's no requirement to commit to a lifetime of SMART Recovery meetings. You decide when and if the time is right to move on.

### **SMART and Other Recovery Groups**

SMART Recovery believes that people find their own paths to successful recovery. For some, that path may include 12-step programs or other support groups. Although SMART's approach differs from those of other organizations, it does not exclude them. We recognize and support the fact that many individuals benefit from participating in more than one support community.

#### **Get Started**

Ready to get started? SMART Recovery hosts online and face-to-face meetings around the world. Our online message board is an excellent forum to learn about SMART and get 24/7 support.

#### Learn More

Visit www.smartrecovery.org to search for local meetings and to join our online community.





#### LOCAL MEETING INFORMATION

Mondays 7:00-8:30pm

Wesley Oak Church 3124 E. Victory Drive Savannah, GA 31404

All are welcome!

#### LOCAL CONTACT

Ruthie Duran Deffley 912-312-0079 ruthie@healthymindga.com

#### CONFIRM MEETING DETAILS\*

http://www.smartrecovery.org/meetings

\*Meeting times, days, and locations are subject to change. Please confirm meeting details prior to attending.

## Asbury Memorial Church

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

**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 \$70.

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 Properties Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, Family and Children's Ministries Fund, Youth Ministry Fund, Laura Angell Scholarship Fund, Pet Memorial Fund or one of our Mission Funds.

### **Newsletter Information**

If you have an announcement for "The Asbury Update," please email Chris Kincade at ckincade@asburymemorial.org.

## **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.