

# Birthdays

1st Ainsley Hopkins

3rd Will Gratias
Betsy Haun
Betty Hohnerlein

4th Lynne Chappell Kurt Purtee Steve Reed Peggy Zeigler

5th Bev Blank Jody Shaaf

6th Susan Cooper Liam Foster Kathy Sikes 7th Jamie Parks Judy Wilburn

8th Aaron Crisp

9th Philip Branan

10th Kay Barrett Margaret Cook-Levy Nate Tyson

11th Linda Combs
Mickie Townsend

12th DiAnne Amerson Pam Boland Ann Crowder Stephen Tisinger 13th Kurt Diefenbach Brenda Mills Debbie Wright

14th Betty Hunter Cate Via

15th Sally Jilek

16th John Mason

17th Eric Gratias

19th Natalya Kay

20th Mary Flanders

21st Chris Gooby

22nd Rich Batten Bo Curler Lauren Dutko Betty Franklin 23rd Gloria Fulwood
Lew Leopard
Sandra Mydell
Penny Pennington
Carolyn Perry

24th Rhonda Reed Bob Townsend

25th Rena Howell

26th Bernie Colclasure

28th Abigail Jenkins

29th David Murph Linda Tippins

30th Tim Burkett
Vicki Cronk
Josh Solomons
Deborah Staab

31st Katie Farmer Cynthia Linthicum Kate Perry



1ST VIRGINIA & ED BROWN 1ST LAURA & PAT PICONE 4TH
JAY MARSHLICK
&
TIM ETHRIDGE

9TH MELISSA & ERIC GRATIAS 19TH ALEX & STEPHEN SWANGER

22ND DEBORAH RAY & KIMMI SAMPIERI 26TH
JANE & JERRY
THIMME

28TH DIANNE & ROGER AMERSON

### MARCH 2024

					1	2
9:30a 3 Sunday Service @ WO 11:15a Sunday Service @ AMC 1:00p Lenten Study @ WO	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	5 6:30p Properties Committee Meeting	6 5:30p - WNS 6:00p Youth Group 6:30p Taize Service AMC 7p Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30p Staff Relations Committee Meeting AMC 7:00p Men's Group	8	9
9:30a Service @ WO 11:15a Service @ AMC 1:00p Lenten Study @ WO 3:00p Intl Women's Concert @ AMC 6:00p Second Sunday Seekers Group	12:30p Wisdom Seekers 7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	6:30p Ministry Round Table Meeting	13 5:30p - WNS 6:00p Youth Group 6:30p Taize Service AMC 7p Choir Rehearsal	7:00p Men's Group	15	16
7 9:30a Sunday Service @ WO 11:15a Sunday Service @ AMC 1:00p Lenten Study @ WO	7:00p JUST Rally @ AMC  7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	6:30p Finance Committee Meeting	2 5:30p - WNS 6:00p Youth Group 6:30p Taize Service @ AMC 7p Choir Rehearsal	21 6:00p Third Thursday Documentary Night @ WO 7:00p Men's Group	22	23
24 9:30a Palm Sunday Service @ WO 11:15a Palm Sunday Service @ AMC	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO	6:30p Church Council Meeting	5:30p Youth Group 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	7:30p Maundy Thursday Service @ AMC	29 12:00p Good Friday Service @ WO 7:30p Good Friday Service @ AMC	30 10a - 12p Easter Egg Hunt @ WO
31 9:30a Easter Service @ WO 11:15a Easter Service @ AMC						



# FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR OF JOY

### **How Can I Give?**

Okay. You've made your pledge of financial support to the church for 2024. Thanks! Or maybe you haven't pledged, but you (and your family) have decided that you want to give to Asbury/Wesley Oak on a regular basis. Again, thanks. I'm happy for all of us who give. I was given the title, "Director of Joy," because I want to emphasis the joy of giving.

That said, the "joy of giving" happens when one actually gives. This may bring us to ask, "Well, how to do it? How, exactly, can I give to my church?" Fortunately, there are many ways to feel the joy of giving: in person, by mail, or online. Here I'll focus on giving while in worship, and save online giving for another article. So, here follows some suggestions for giving in person during worship.

My first thought about giving in person is actually the easiest. Give cash when the offering is received in worship.



If you like to give cash and want the church to keep a record of it, you can put your offering in an envelope with your name on it (and address, if the church doesn't have it yet) Better yet, call the church, tell us that you intend to give in cash, and ask for a personal contribution number.

You can then put the number on an envelope containing your cash contribution. This identifying number helps the church staff record your giving, so that at the end of the year, we are able to give you a statement summarizing your contributions through the year.



### 2024 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE



A second way to give when you're in the congregation during worship is to place your personal check into the offering plate. Again, if you have a contribution number, you might put that in the memo line of the check. A bonus when you give by check is that you're able to designate your gift for special needs or specific projects, like the flower fund, the property fund, the Stephen Ministry, or God on Broadway. If you made a pledge, remember that gifts designated toward special funds should be in addition to your undesignated gifts that fulfil your pledge toward the church's budget.



A third and final possibility that I'd note for giving during worship is to use the QR code marked "Give Now" that is printed in the bulletin each week. Using your smart phone's camera to scan this code will bring you to a website where you may give to the church via a credit or debit card. You may even designate your offering for the annual operating budget (marked "Asbury Memorial Church") or any of several designated funds. (Please remember that if you give from your credit card, the cardgranting institution charges the church a fee of about 3%.)

The worship bulletin is also sent to all on our email list. So if you're worshiping online, you may use this same QR code, "Give Now," for giving "electronically." I'll have more to say about how to give online in an upcoming article.

For now, have a bit of fun, and celebrate the joy of giving during worship in one of these ways!

~ Rev. Richard Allen Stewardship Committee Member



Maundy Thursday	March 28th	Asbury Memorial 7:30PM		
Good Friday	March 29th	Wesley Oak NOON	Asbury Memorial 7:30PM	
Easter Sunday	March 31st	Wesley Oak 9:30AM	Asbury Memorial 11:15AM	

### Mar 6th

Beef Stroganoff with Egg Noodles Steamed Mixed Cabbage Sweet Baby Carrots Rolls

Feb 28th

### Baked Ham Baked Apples Slaw

Mac n' Cheese Whole Wheat Roll

#### Mar 13th

Chicken Tetrazzini w/ noodles Steamed Broccoli Garlic Bread

### Mar 20th

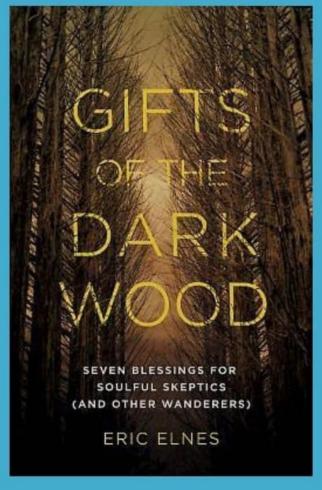
Roasted Turkey Breast
w/ Gravy
Cranberry Sauce
Roasted Mashed Potatoes
Vegetable Medley
Rolls

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS WINTER 2024

Register online or through the church office

### LENTEN BOOK STUDY

# GO DEEPER THIS LENTEN SEASON



Book discussion and short videos featuring guests including: \*Nadia Bolz-Weber \*Parker Palmer \*Brian McLaren \*Winnie Varghese

JOIN US FOR A WEEKLY BOOK STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP.

EVERY SUNDAY FROM 1:00-2:00 P.M.

STARTS FEBRUARY 18, 2024

AT WESLEY OAK CHURCH

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more information contact Ruthie Duran Deffley at ruthie@healthymindga.com or 912-312-0079 (text or call)

### **COASTAL INTERFAITH GREEN TEAM**



### **WORMSLOE PLANTATION**

Each month the Coastal Interfaith Green Team organizes a Green Team Saturday, an opportunity to get out and visit environmental organizations in the Savannah area. These events give members of our congregation the chance to see first-hand the good work that Savannah area environmental organizations are doing and to build a community of people who are interested in creation care and environmental justice. Some of the organizations we visited in 2023 included the Tybee Marine Science Center, CORE Composting, the City of Savannah Water Works, and the Ogeechee Riverkeeper.

#### January 2024

"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace, the mountains and the hills will burst in to song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands." Isaiah 55:12

Our first Green Team Saturday of 2024 took us to Wormsloe Plantation to help plant new trees and to care for previously planted trees. The Wormsloe Historic Site is lined with nearly 400 live oak trees which were planted by Noble Jones, the founder of Wormsloe almost 300 years ago. We had a chance to continue the work of planting and caring for trees on this beautiful property.

This event was sponsored by the Savannah Tree Foundation which recently received a \$1,000,000 four-year grant to fund its Canopy Corps program which addresses tree inequity and provides green job training opportunities in Chatham County. The grant was awarded by the Georgia Forestry Commission as part of its federally-funded Trees across Georgia program, created by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

The program features a year-long arboriculture apprenticeship for individuals facing barriers to employment, especially those who are not traditionally represented in the arboriculture field. Participants in the program will attain the skills necessary to work in the tree industry or a related field. As a significant part of this program, apprentices will plant trees in historically underserved neighborhoods to increase tree canopy and address tree inequity in Chatham County.

For more information on this and the many other programs of the Savannah Tree Foundation see https://savannahtree.org/about-us/







### **COASTAL INTERFAITH GREEN TEAM UPDATE CONTINUED**

### **FEBRUARY**

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you. Or the birds of the air and they will tell you. Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you. Or let the fish of the sea inform you." Job 12:7-10

Our Green Saturday outing for February was a visit to Oatland Island Wildlife Center.

The Oatland Island Center dates back to 1927. It was first a retirement home for railroad employees. Later it served as a research center to study mosquitos and mosquito-borne diseases. Since 1974 it has served as an outdoor educational center for thousands of Savannah-Chatham County school students. While visiting we saw many animals such as bobcats, bison, and bald eagles. Many of these animals have been injured and are in the process of being rehabilitated for eventual release. Some have injuries that cannot be rehabilitated and are permanent residents of the Center.

For more information about Oatland Island Wildlife Center, you can visit their website at www.sccpss.com/schools/oatland



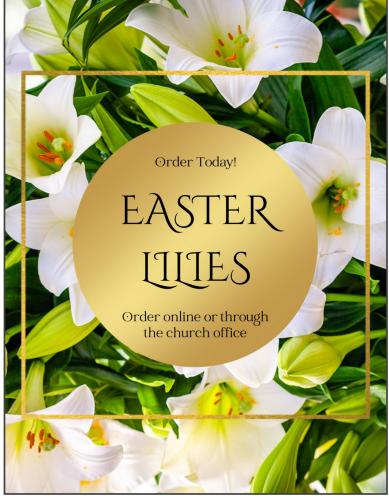
#### **Take Action**

Both trees and animals have much to teach us. One particular animal that is crying out for help is the North Atlantic Right Whale. Right Whales are some of the most endangered whales in the world and are rapidly declining toward extinction, largely due to vessel strikes and entanglements in commercial fishing rope. Approximately 360 Right Whales remain of which only 70 are reproductive females. Right Whales spend much of the summer and fall feeding in the waters off New England and Canada, in the winter months pregnant females migrate to the Georgia and North Florida coasts to give birth. Based on the last three calving seasons, a right whale calf born in Georgia or Florida waters

has a 1 in 14 chance of being struck by a boat before it turns one year old. Indeed, a Right Whale calf that died from a blunt force trauma injury consistent with a boat strike washed up on the North Beach at Tybee Island in February. The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has proposed rule changes that would extend 10-knot speed limits that now apply to vessels longer than 65 feet to boats 35-65 feet in areas where NOAA determines right whales are present.

Please write to your elected Representative and Senators asking them to support this lowering of vessel speed limits. To find contact information for our elected officials go to My Voter Page https://mvp.sos.qa.gov/s/





### MEN'S GROUP

Asbury Memorial and Wesley Oak Men's Group

We welcome all men to join us Thursday nights for fellowship and discussion.
We talk about what is on our minds: a theological point or question, an interesting book or current events.

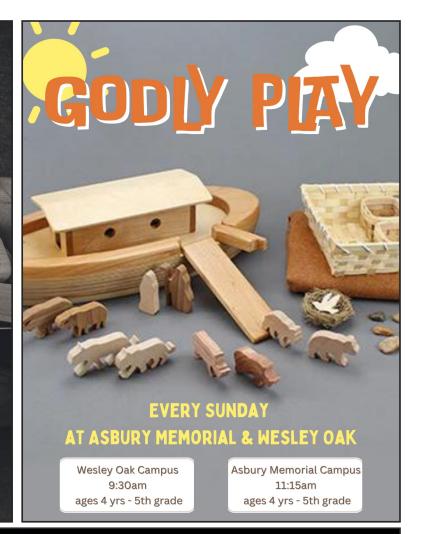
What's on your mind?

If you're looking for a way to connect, make new friends, participate in some fascinating discussions, and get to know others, please join us! We have a great time and all from the comfort of our homes.

Should you have any questions, contact Gregg Walther at gdw0517@gmail.com

We meet Thursdays 7:00-8:30 via Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 844 3633 5506, passcode: Asbury





### 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.

### Financial Health

General Budget as of January 2024

YTD Budget Goal

\$59,385

Actual YTD Expenses

\$55,116.29

Actual YTD contributions

\$66,418,42

Actual Ahead / Behind if Budget Spent

\$7,033.45

Current Contributions to Expenses Ahead/Behind \$11,302.13



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.



We invite you to

### Men's Group



### Men's Group

Facilitator:
Gregg Walther
Thursdays,
7:00pm—8:30pm

We welcome all men to join us Thursday nights for fellowship and discussion. We talk about what is on our minds: a theological point or question, an interesting book or current events.

If you're looking for a way to connect, make new friends, participate in some fascinating discussions, and get to know others, please join us! We have a great time and all from the comfort of our homes

ZOOM ID: 844 3633 5506 passcode: Asbury

### STUDY GROUPS & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups. We are excited about the rich and varied opportunities for adult study and fellowship, some via Zoom. We hope that you will join in one or more of the programs.

### Wisdom Seekers

Facilitator: Trish Haverkamp

2nd & 4th Mondays, 12:30pm—2:00pm

If you have any questions about the group, please email Trish Haverkamp at trish.haverkamp@gmail.com

Zoom Meeting ID: 864 8291 0310

Passcode: Asbury





### A 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.

If you are interested, contact Rev. Marilyn Leigh at <a href="revleigh@yahoo.com">revleigh@yahoo.com</a>

# When Shadows Fall

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

Beth and Nate Tyson in the passing of Beth's father, Don Lanier

Frances Williams in the passing of Frances' brother, Andrew Williams



# Prayer Requests

### **Asburians**

Finn Alford, DiAnne Amerson, Pat Andres, Gordon Baker, Lyn Carden, Margaret Clay,
Dina Consentino, Sheri Coffey, Carrie Collins, Gretchen Dodd, Sam Durham, Jimmy Drake,
Katie Farmer, Jo Fausnacht, Ellie Gonye, Gerry Harman, Chase Harrison, Preston Hodges,
Dale Karacostas, Judith Kessler, Rev. Marilyn Leigh, Jack Lewis, Marion Manigo,
Brenda Mills, Virginia Moryadas, Marie Parker, Frank Ramsey, Mike Skinner, Greg Socks,
Cabell Stewart, Pat Stewart, Steve Tisinger, Kenn Waters, Judy Wilburn, Diane Williamson,
Peggy Zeigler

### Family Members and Friends

Traci, Julie Alderman, Tommy & Delleen Altizer, John Beam, Max Clements, Linda Cowart, Sara Driggers, CT Harper, Priscilla Hearn, Joe & Mary Jurgenson, Jackie Lewis, Matt Moll, Pat Munoz, Tony Munoz, Leonard Nicoletta, Steven Odrezin, Fredia Peggs, Eddie Solomons, Linda Southerland, Christi Yunkunis

## 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 912-307-3206
- Donate anytime, anywhere
- Use easy debit/credit card registration
- Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring

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



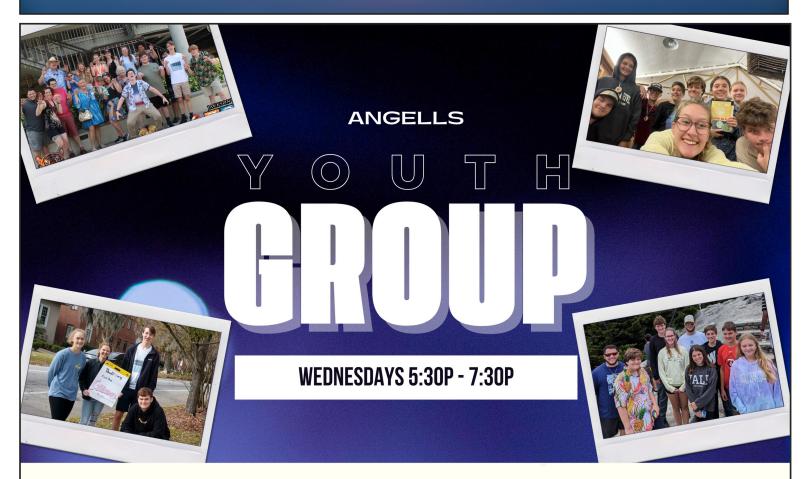
# Memorials

Gifts have been given to the
Properties fund in memory of
Bob Perry by:
Betty Perry
Elizabeth Smith
Donna & Thomas Flavell
Ruth & Todd Foster

A gift has been given to
the Properties fund in
memory of
Joan Hester Byrd
by:
Elizabeth & John Lacy

### Honorariums

A gift has been given to the Godly Play fund in honor of Jennifer Lindsay's 50th birthday by: Kay Barrett

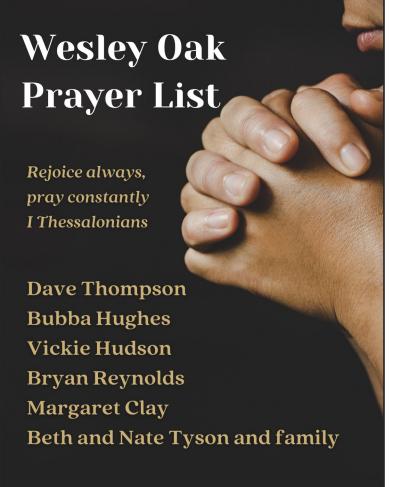


FULLY INCLUSIVE AND SUPPORTIVE YOUTH GROUP.

COME EXACTLY AS YOU ARE!







### COME HELP IN THE GARDEN!

Have you ever wished you had the space for a big garden with a ton of sun? Guess what...you do! Wesley Oak has had a long-standing tradition of putting in a garden every year. We cannot do it alone. We have a small team, but we need more help. We need people to help plant, water and weed on a regular basis through the fall. The Joy Garden Team is starting to plan out the layout and plots, work out infrastructure needs and will be getting to work – pretty much now! If you have time, love to be outside and could help out on a weekly or bi-weekly basis please let us know. We will work up a schedule (you set your own times, we just need to make sure we have days covered) and will act you in the loop ASAP.

BIG NOTE: You do NOT need to be a gardener. This is a fun thing and we want all to be able to reap the rewards. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. Go Spring!



### Thank YOU!

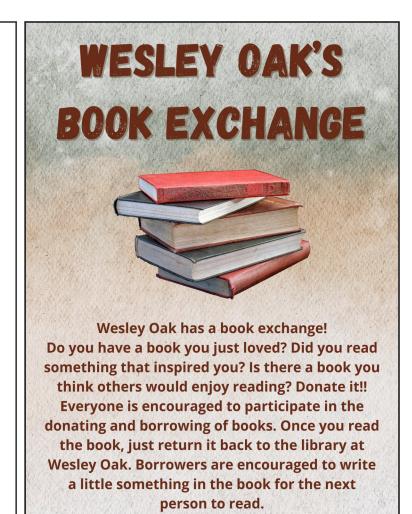


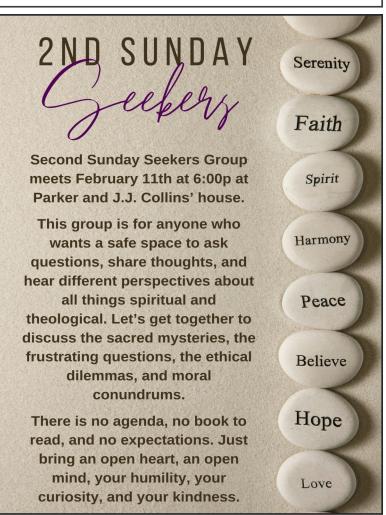






A huge THANK YOU to all who participated in the Share the Love Balloon Fundraiser for the youth at our Wesley Oak campus! Your support means the world to us! ~ Angells Youth Group







# 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!

### 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** 

Non Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit #133 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 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.