

Set Clocks Back
One Hour Saturday
Night, November 5!



Please
remember your
**COMMITMENT
CARDS!**



Friday, November 11
Asbury's Organ
Recital Featuring
Dr. Michael Stefanek!



Please
Consider
Volunteering
or Donating
to help CESP!



the ASBURIAN

Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
VOLUME 59, ISSUE 9 November 2016



*To Remember and
Give Thanks*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

WORSHIP

Pastor's Column 2

Music 3

EXPLORE

Sunday Schools 4

Youth 5

CARE

Asbury News 8

SERVE

UMW 4

Asbury Service Project (ASP) 9

Opportunity Shop 9

FINANCE

SPRC 7

LEADERSHIP

ACDC 11

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11

OFFICERS OF OUR CHURCH

Calvin Peacock, Leadership Team Chair

Dave Harris, Leadership Team Vice-Chair

Kim Bradshaw, Staff-Parish Relations Chair

John Marshall, Board Of Trustees Chair

Pam Ollinger, Finance Committee Chair

Sharon Dashiell, ACDC Board Chair

Mick Roberts, Lay Leader

Sara Lewis, UMW President

Shelly Marshall, Chairman, BOD, Opportunity Shop

Carlton Bradshaw, Chairman, BOD, ASP

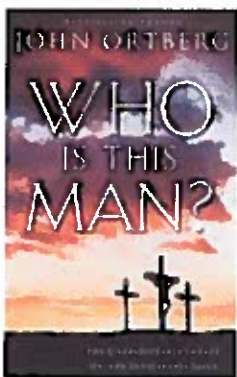
Editor: Karen Corwin

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Matthew 16:15

"And what about you? Who do you say that I am?"

In our Tuesday night study group, we have been studying John Ortberg's book entitled *Who Is This Man?: The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable Jesus*. John shares that, "Jesus is history's most familiar figure, yet he is the man no one knows. His impact on the world is immense and non-accidental. From the Dark Ages to Post-Modernity he is the Man who won't go away... His life and teaching simply drew people to follow him. He made history by starting in a humble place, in a spirit of love and acceptance, and allowing each person space to respond. His vision of life continues to haunt and challenge humanity. His influence has swept over history, bringing inspiration to what has happened in art, science, government, medicine, and education;



he has taught humans about dignity, compassion, forgiveness, and hope...and all of this is double-edged because his followers have wreaked so much havoc, often in his name." John also reminded us that although many times when someone dies their

sphere of influence begins to diminish

immediately, Jesus' sphere of influence has increased exponentially since he died and is worldwide.

Our group has had to ask ourselves challenging and disturbing questions about our own faith and who we believe Jesus is. We have asked ourselves questions such as what we seek from Jesus, do we see all people through the eyes of our faith and if we are willing to rearrange our lives in ways that we can know Jesus more deeply? We have also looked at the radical teachings of Jesus and challenged ourselves to begin to practice one or more of those teachings. We have been stretched and grown in our faith through this study and have encouraged and supported one another. We must be intentional about growing in our faith or we risk becoming complacent in the way we live and respond to situations and to others.

Religious research often shares that more is learned and lived in circles than in pews. I believe we need both, times of corporate worship and small groups to grow our faith. If you are interested in becoming part of a small group or if you are interested in starting a small group please contact me or the church office.

Benita Harris

All Saints' Day: To Remember and Give Thanks

Cora Lou Adams

David Hughes

Thomas C. Roe, Sr.

Ann Brown

David P. Largey

Donna Stone

Hilda "Peggy" Cannon

Larry McKinney

Marilyn Strait

Russell Dashiell

Mae Mealy

O.H. "Ollie" Thompson, Jr.

Shirley Dashiell

Tiffany Moisan

Eloise Wilkins

Mary Forbes

Janice Potter

John Wolter

Steve Gurkin

Paul Rendine

Harry Womack

Dear Church family,

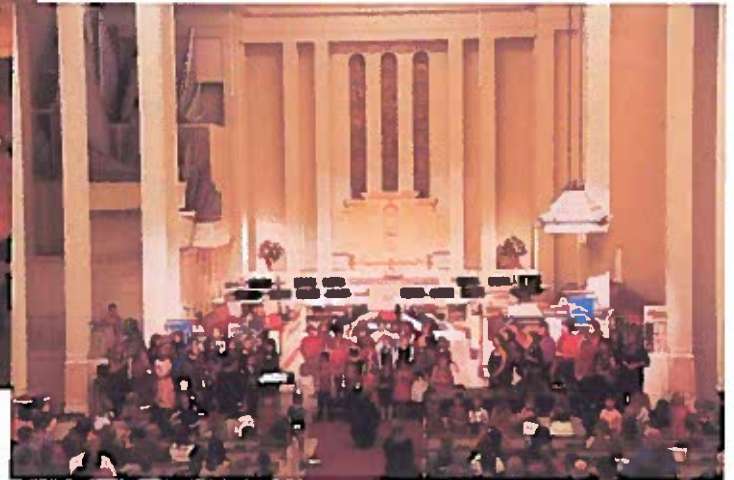
As some of you may have already noticed, our handbell choirs have brand new acrylic music stands to use for rehearsing and playing in worship. They are pleasing to the eye, light weight, and very efficient for placement of bells & chimes on the table. On behalf of the handbell choirs, I want to say Thank You for your continued support of our music ministries which allows us to improve our resources to enhance worship and music.

I would like to invite you to an organ recital that I will be playing on Friday, November 11 at 7 p.m. here in the Sanctuary. The program will feature works by J.S. Bach, Louis Vierne, Barbara Dennerlein, John Williams, and more. Admission is free and all are welcome. I hope to see you there!

Please mark your calendars and spread word around for our exciting Advent & Christmas programs coming up in December. Our adorable children and youth will be kicking off the season sharing some beautiful, uplifting music at their Christmas program on Saturday, December 3 at 4 p.m. The following week we will be having our annual Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 11 at 7 p.m. This candlelight service will feature scripture readings, congregational hymn singing, and music sung by the Chancel Choir.

Michael Stefanek

**Asbury's Children and Youth Christmas Concert:
"On this Very Christmas Night" Saturday, December 3!**



Asbury's Children and Youth present "On this Very Christmas Night", Saturday, December 3rd at 4 p.m. You will not want to miss this wonderful opportunity to get into the Christmas spirit! Join us for a musical celebration of the Christmas season presented by all of our singing and ringing choirs: Little Mozarts, Cherub Choir, Kingdom Kids Singers and Ringers, Celebration Singers and Revelation Ringers.

The Wired Word Class 10 a.m.

Have you ever considered joining an adult Sunday school class, but don't feel like you have a lot of time for preparation?

Why don't you consider joining us in the Catley Library at 10 a.m. for *The Wired Word*? Each week you will receive a lesson via email concerning a current national or international event or topic. The lessons contain thought provoking questions and relevant scripture, which leads to interesting classroom discussions. There are no materials to purchase and the lessons are independent of one another, so if you miss a week you aren't falling behind. If you are interested in joining us, just send John and Shelly Marshall an email at mrsjmarshall@msn.com so they can add you to the list to receive your lesson.

The Lounge Class 9:50 to 10:45 a.m.

The Lounge Class, meeting in the Mackey Room, is designed to have the class members select and lead the weekly topic and encourage dynamic discussions using contemporary and traditional materials in the second half of the class.

November 6

Frankie Shipper: Embracing an Adult Faith
Session 4: Practice

November 13

Don Cathcart: Dalai Lama Awakening

November 20

Joanne Doyle: Embracing an Adult Faith
Session 5: Community

November 27

*OPEN CHAT: THANKSGIVING
WEEKEND*

Bible 101 Study Class 10 a.m.

Bible 101 is having lively discussion about: *The Bible and Your Work*, a study that is based on *The Theology of Work Project*, edited by William Messenger. This study is proving to be very challenging to all of us who attend this class. November 27 marks the beginning of the Advent season, and we will begin a new study. *Down To Earth*, by Mike Slaughter. The theme of this study is: When Heaven Comes Down To Earth God Gets Redefined. Mike Slaughter, lead pastor of Ginghamburg Church in Tipp City Iowa, has become known as an early innovator of Small Group Ministry. This study features a DVD. Everyone is invited to join us at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Fox Room.

United Methodist Women (UMW)

Circle Meetings

Dorcas: at the home of Ruth Beauchamp on Tuesday, November 8 at 7 p.m. with Connie Boccia co-hosting

eCircle: monthly online e-meeting; contact Brenda Potts for copy at markpotts210@comcast.net or 410-603-7420

Eve: at the home of Lori Conaway on Wednesday, November 16 at 7:15 p.m.

Joanna: at the home of Carol Bisker on Monday, November 14 at 10 a.m.

Acts 2:42-47

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

Longing for Belonging

Kara Powell, a leading researcher for youth in the church, says that young people want a church that is *warm* not *cool*. By this, she means that youth want warmth and connection; they want to build meaningful relationships as they also connect with God. Words like *welcoming, accepting, authenticity, hospitality, belonging, and caring* are all words that are attractive to a young person in the context of the church. Kara says that across the board in statistical analyses, these attributes of *warmth* outweigh any kind of program or ministry. Note that warmth doesn't mean *nice*. It means that the church is like a real and authentic family. No amount of flashy music, enhanced worship spaces, or *cool* ministries will ever match the desire of young people for the church to be a family.

I think one of the most valuable things about our church when it comes to opportunities for young people, is the small groups that are available to them. Youth Group, puppets, ASP, bell and voice choirs all provide a space for young people to work and grow together. They have the opportunity in those ministries to find purpose and meaning as they grow close to adult volunteers and one another. The small groups function in many ways like a family, as they have to find ways to work together for a common purpose despite differences among them. When a young person can *belong* despite their unique personhood, they can better live into their calling as the person God created them to be.

I believe this is a major part of our vision as a church: to foster a community where many small groups of people are working together to be Christ to the world. I believe the best way to think of these small groups is to consider them small families or little churches within the big church. We all long for such community, but it is especially valuable to young people today who are growing up in a culture of individualism and materialism. It is a culture that does not promote such family connection, belonging and relationships. So let us be intentional about creating space for young people to belong here at Asbury. Support youth by volunteering to simply be a presence, a safe sanctuary adult, or a helper in one of our several youth ministries.

Eric Warner, Associate Pastor

Salvation Army Stockings Available November 6

Stockings will be available at both Welcome Centers Sunday, November 6, so please take one (or two or more) to help a child with gifts for Christmas. Fill it with items such as gloves, toothbrush & toothpaste, books, toys, etc. for a girl or boy from infant to 12 years old. Close the top of the stocking with the Santa topper and write on it boy or girl and the age. Filled stockings are due Wednesday, December 7, and may be placed in the box across from the office or by the Welcome Center desk in Fellowship Hall.



I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart. Psalm 138:1

As Thanksgiving approaches, I remember a tradition that my Grandmother Wolff started many years ago. It was important to her that each member of her family took time after the Thanksgiving meal to recognize and reflect upon God’s blessing during the year. Each of us had to state some things for which we were thankful.

As a child, I saw this time of openly giving thanks as a roadblock to dessert and an intrusion upon my privacy. While I am still more comfortable with silent reflection, as a Christian I understand I need to share my gratitude for God’s abundant gifts. Through the Stewardship Devotional and Grandmom’s tradition, I am encouraged to be intentional in my thanksgiving. Intentional gratitude can be shown in prayers, actions, and gifts. During this season of Thanksgiving, I encourage you to be intentional in your gratitude. We have so much at Asbury for which to be thankful. Thank you for your continued support of all the ministries through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your witness and your service.

Sara Lewis

Generosity and Stewardship

The year is winding down and once again, fall is here. This is the season that brings us Thanksgiving and leads into our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, Christmas. For some, these holidays are reminders of the fact that we are called upon to share our blessings.

While we are in the midst of our Generosity/Stewardship Campaign, I wanted to be sure to let you know that we are forever grateful for the faithful generosity of the congregation of Asbury Church.

What does “Generosity and Stewardship” mean? A look at the dictionary says: generosity - readiness or liberality in giving; stewardship- one who manages another’s property, finances, or other affairs. In reality, isn’t this what we are doing when we consider the fact that God has truly been the source of all the blessings we enjoy? God is the owner and we are the manager or “steward” of what He has entrusted us with.

As we recognize God as the owner of everything, in turn our giving is not nearly as “painful” as it might be if we view ourselves as the “owner”. Testimony after testimony has been given in our Boundless Devotional about the faithfulness of God providing as these important steps of faith are taken.

An update on our 2017 pledges, as of October 27, we had received 181 pledges totaling \$497,671. We need each family’s pledge to get the funding to support the 2017 proposed budget. We would like to exceed our 2016 pledges of \$597,370 in order to fund additional ministry request and some normal increases in operating costs. If you have not already done so please prayerfully consider making a commitment by honoring God with your financial generosity. Your pledge commitment is essential to the health and growth of our church. We are grateful for each dedicated pledge and each one really does make a difference.

	Jan - Sept	Budget
Income & Expenses	16-Actual	2016
Pledge Contributions	\$451,485	\$669,247
Plate Contributions	\$22,319	\$40,520
Special Contributions	\$2,499	\$10,000
Endowment	\$10,884	\$10,884
Rentals	\$23,347	\$25,576
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$171	\$5,108
Gain/loss on stock	\$0	-\$100
Total Income	\$510,705	\$761,235
Property Expenses	\$99,557	\$152,072
Ministry Expenses	\$189,346	\$276,028
Administrative Expenses	\$86,602	\$115,225
Apportionments	\$69,954	\$91,595
Employee Benefits	\$83,816	\$126,315
Total Expenses	\$529,275	\$761,235
Net	-\$18,570	\$0

News from Staff-Parish Relations Committee

The announcement was made during the church business meeting/luncheon on World Communion Sunday, but for those of you who were not able to attend, SPRC wanted to let you know that Eric has informed us that he will be leaving his position as our Associate Pastor, after much prayer and discernment. His discernment is leading him to other ministries – more relational ministries, particularly with the elderly.

Eric has been our Associate Pastor at Asbury since July 1, 2013. He has supported and participated in many areas of our church including Worship Ministries-preaching and teaching; Supporting the Care Ministries; Leading New Member Classes; re-starting the United Methodist Men's group; Youth events including: Confirmation, UMYF, Acolytes & Crucifers, Youth Rally, ASP, etc.

He will be leaving Asbury June 30, 2017. We are thankful to have played a part in his ministry and look forward to the next seven months of his continued leadership. We wish only the best for Eric and have been blessed to share this part of our journeys together with him.

Benita shared with SPRC a new vision for the staff. SPRC took some time to pray and discern this new direction. The SPRC approved, and received the approval of the Leadership Team, to take the Associate Pastor's position and create two new positions for the church staff – the Associate Pastor position will become...

(1) Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Ministers primarily to grades 6-12 including involvement of the families of the youth in the life of the congregation; the youth ministry program and all that encompasses.

(2) Director of Adult Spiritual Formation and Membership

Responsible for developing, educating and implementation of small group ministries at Asbury. Follow-up with all visitors and connecting people with groups and ministries available at Asbury.

SPRC will work on creating a formal job description for both positions and will work on hiring the new positions that will begin July 1, 2017. Please join us in praying not only for Eric's new appointment, but also for the new positions for our church staff.

UMW & eCircle Ornament Fundraiser

UMW & eCircle will be selling ornaments for \$10.00 each. They are a depiction of one of our beautiful stained glass windows and will be available for sale following worship services on November 20 and December 4 in the Welcome Center. Proceeds benefit UMW's mission projects. For more information contact Brenda Potts at 410-603-7420 or email her at: markpotts210@comcast.net.

POINSETTIAS ON SALE NOW!

Poinsettias will be placed on the altar this year on Sunday, December 11. If you wish to give a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out and return the form located in the Welcome Centers to the church office, with payment, before Thursday, December 1.



ASBURY NEWS

UMW's Parent's Afternoon Out Drop and Shop!

Sunday, December 11 from 2-5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, UMW is hosting a Parents Afternoon Out for shopping! Drop-off the kids for a Polar Express themed get together with movies, crafts, and games with PJs welcomed! Registration starts November 1 for only \$10/child ages 4-10, forms available in the Welcome Centers. Make checks payable to Asbury UMW and return to the church office no later than December 4. All kids must be preregistered, no walk-ins.

Calling All Church Members to Lend a Hand to Help the Homeless

Through December we are asking families and individuals to help those less fortunate by putting together a "Happy Hygiene" or "Cozy Cot" bag to make our CESP (Community Emergency Shelter Project) visitors more comfortable and feel welcome. We suggest taking your children shopping with you or let them help collect gently used items from your homes to create these bags. If you would rather donate money for this project, please put your check in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office with "CESP" on the memo line. The bags will include the following:



"Happy Hygiene" - bath towel, washcloth, regular-size soap, regular-size deodorant (toothpaste/brushes will be added later) and put these items in a jumbo Ziploc bag.

"Cozy Cot" - 2 FLAT twin sheets (NO fitted), blanket, pillow, pillowcase (tie all this together with string).

You may also sign up on either of the posters on display in the Welcome Center or Fellowship Hall and take a "hand" to help you remember. All the bags are due December 31, 2016, but we would appreciate you bringing them to the church office before then, if possible.

Questions? Please call Sharon Dashiell at 410-742-0076. On behalf of eCircle, we thank you in advance for helping us help others in need!

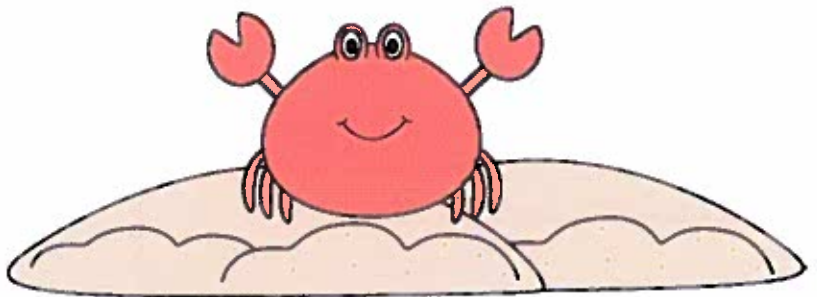
CESP (Community Emergency Shelter Project)

As the days turn colder, it is time to start thinking about snowy, blustery nights and the many homeless men who face these frigid conditions. Asbury has provided a safe, warm place for many men during their stay with CESP over the years. If you would like to help us with CESP this year, we would greatly appreciate your participation. If interested, please feel free to contact me at 301-357-7326 or by email: MikeC0327@netzero.com Thank You!

Michael Campbell

2017 Women's Retreat at Camp Pecometh

The next Women's Retreat will be held March 3-5, 2017 at Camp Pecometh in Centreville, MD. We are expecting this year's to be even better than last year's! "By the Sea" will be the theme and is "shore" to bring lots of comradery, faith-building and fun for all involved! Registration begins in December.



The Opportunity Shop

158 W. Market Street Salisbury, Maryland 21801 410-749-9777
 Store Hours: Thursday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Donations can be dropped off Monday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Asbury Service Project (ASP) Update

The ASP ministry year is off to a great start, having served a dinner at Christian Shelter, providing food at the first annual Asbury Family Fun Night and building a wheelchair ramp for a family in need in Princess Anne. The group also worshiped together at the October 16 CAYR service, where Mason Olinde shared the awe-inspiring story of his ASP experience.

Mason's team served a woman whose home had physical needs, but the woman herself had a much deeper need. She had found herself in a hopeless situation which had led to depression. As Mason shared, her hope was restored by the loving care of the ASP organization, and by Mason's team, who had put their faith into action on her behalf. Perhaps the greatest service provided by this ministry is to shine God's light in the darkness, to bring hope to the hopeless.

Please continue to support this ministry with your prayers, presence and finances. Those who are planning to go on the trip in June each need to raise \$350 and participate in group community service and fundraising activities. Pancake breakfast dates for your calendar are: November 13, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 12. Last year, the taco and baked potato dinners proved to be a big hit, and so we have scheduled one for April 14. Our remaining Work Skills / Safety Training sessions are scheduled for: March 18, April 22, May 20.

There will be a special Adult meeting after the pancake breakfast on Sunday, December 11. This meeting is for all adults who plan to go on the trip in June. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call me at 410-896-2776, or visit our web site www.asburyweb.org (ASP). Carlton Bradshaw

Kingdom City



In Kingdom City, the children have been learning how to be cheerful givers of not only our money, but our time and talents. This year in Kingdom City, we have started our new "Bible Verse Challenge"! The kids took it seriously and spent time learning 1 Peter 4:10 that says: *"Each of you should use whatever gifts you have received, to be faithful stewards of God"*. We finished off our unit with a fun field day where the kids continued to learn

what it means to give to others. At the end of field day, Mick Roberts rewarded the kids with the opportunity to throw pies in his face! God provided us with an absolutely beautiful day for our field day, and I think it's a day the children will always remember.

Next up in Kingdom City is "Christmas Around the World" and the kids will get to learn the art of puppetry! Our next Deliverable is a puppet show on December 18 in the Fellowship hall. All are invited to attend.



Thanksgiving

In thinking about the subject for the November Asburian, Thanksgiving becomes the obvious choice for many reasons. Some of the most prominent are right here at Asbury.

- 1) Asbury is truly a loving and caring church family to each other and to the community.
- 2) The Asbury church family as a whole and individually strive on their faith journey to learn more about their relationship with Christ.
- 3) For many in the Asbury family, their faith journey has led them to start or join ministries to put their faith into action.
- 4) The future of the Asbury family continues to become brighter with a substantial increase in youth and young adults starting their faith journey at Asbury.
- 5) Asbury is blessed with a faith-filled and talented staff.
- 6) Asbury is equally blessed with many faith-filled and talented people who have stepped up to volunteer in the many roles needed to lead and support the ministries of Asbury.

We ask you to take a moment and add your reasons for being thankful for the Asbury church family. Consider thanking God for His continued guidance in our faith journey so that we might better serve his Son in our families and communities.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (New International Version)

¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Calvin Peacock

The First Annual Asbury Drive-In and Fall Family Fun Night was a SUCCESS!



Some 27 cars entered the car show, lots of people enjoyed line dancing, the kids had a wonderful time with all of the games and the food was a hit! Looking forward to an even bigger, better one next year.





ACDC had several events and activities that went on throughout October. We were very successful with our Scholastic Book Fair that took place during the week of October 10. Race for Education fundraiser mailers were mailed on October 12. We are slowly receiving donations and can't wait to announce how much money the parents and children will raise at our walk on November 10 & 11. Money raised from this event is earmarked for smart boards and new playground equipment. We will keep you posted.

ACDC held a Family Fun Night on October 26. Families were able to come out and enjoy a puppet show hosted by Asbury United Methodist Church's Puppets for Christ and make ice cream sundaes.

Our kindergarten play was quite a success and the students really did a fantastic job under the direction of their teacher, Danna Abbott. The kindergarten truly demonstrated wonderful performance skills and all were delighted with the show.

We will be having two upcoming fundraisers for our school. On November 9, we will be participating in a Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser to benefit our school and the need for new classroom equipment. On December 13, we will be partnering with Barnes & Noble for a Gift Wrapping/Bookfair. Come on out and shop for some books for Christmas and then have your ACDC families wrap them for you. Both of these events will help our school purchase some much needed new items for our classrooms. Please consider coming out and showing your ACDC support!!

WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!

We look forward to the holidays and all of the wonderful events and activities that will be ongoing here at ACDC. We will be sure to keep everyone in the loop about our happenings.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIALS

Bill Carey

Vernon Wilkins

David Hughes

Bill & Marlene Rinnier

Thomas Roe

George & Barbara Whitehead

The Vingt Cinq Club c/o

Delmarva Power

Rotary Club of Salisbury MD

Bill & Shirley Cropper

Louise Smith

Vernon Wilkins

Chip & Ruby Dashiell, Jr.

Robert Holloway

James & Bette Taylor, Jr.

Electronics Collection

Do you have old, unwanted electronics? Worn out batteries, or an electric motor that doesn't work any longer? Wondering what is the best, safest way to dispose of them? The answer is simple. Just bring any electronic items: televisions, radios, tape players, printers, etc., to Asbury UMC parking lot on November 5 between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon. There will be folks on hand to help unload your donations from your vehicle. The City of Salisbury will have a large truck to take the items to be recycled, when possible, or dismantled and disposed of properly. Please call Lou Rimbach at 410-370-6561 with any questions regarding this collection.

Senior Pastor: Rev. Benita Harris
Associate Pastor: Rev. Eric Warner
Visitation Pastor: Rev. Bill Sterling

Administrative Office Manager: Karen Corwin
Administrative Assistant: Sheri Burchard

Director of Music Ministries: Michael Stefanek
Director Children and Care Ministries:
Heather Harman

Director Finance and Building:
Janice Wilkinson

ACDC: Director: Casey Taylor
Asst. Director: Danna Abbott



**Daylight Saving
Time ends
November 6! Set
your clocks back an hour
before you go to bed Saturday
night!**

Website: www.asburyweb.org
Email: asbury@asburyweb.org
Fax: 410-749-2914
Phone: 410-749-2131

Asbury United Methodist Church
1401 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Maryland 21801



the ASBURIAN

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Salisbury, Maryland
Permit No. 29