

**ASP  
Commissioning  
June 4 at 10 a.m.**



**Summer Service  
Hours  
8:45 a.m. in the  
Garden  
10 a.m. in the  
Sanctuary**

**VBS**



**July 9-13  
See page 8**



**Church Office will  
be Closed Fridays  
Starting June 2**



# the ASBURIAN

Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church  
VOLUME 60, ISSUE 5 June/July 2017



***Welcome to Summer!***  
**We're Glad You're Here!**

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## OFFICERS OF OUR CHURCH

Calvin Peacock, Leadership Team Chair  
Dale Cropper, Leadership Team Vice-Chair  
Kim Bradshaw, Staff-Parish Relations Chair  
Carol Walston, Board Of Trustees Chair  
Sara Lewis, Finance Committee Chair  
Sharon Dashiell, ACDC Board Chair  
Mick Roberts, Lay Leader  
Sara Lewis, UMW President  
Suzanne Press, Co-Chairman, BOD, Opportunity Shop  
Priscilla Basehart, Co-Chairman, BOD, Opportunity Shop  
Carlton Bradshaw, Chairman, BOD, ASP

Editor: Karen Corwin

# PASTOR'S MESSAGE



## **Experiencing the Community of Faith – First Hand**

Galatians 6:2 asks us to “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” What makes a congregation a real faith community that actually and literally bears one another’s burdens? The Alban Institute in an article on this same topic states, “The congregation as a church is a local body of believers whose religious hope is expressed in their life together and in their ministries of service and worship...”<sup>1</sup>

Many times we focus on the external work of the church to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and to serve those in need, and Asbury does this very well. We are called to share the love and grace of God outside of the walls of the church. But we also must focus on the care of those that choose Asbury as their faith community. I have always known that the body of Christ at Asbury was loving and concerned about its members. Many people have shared how they have been loved and cared for during wonderful times of celebration and during difficult times of hardship and grief.

I have experienced that love and support on a number of occasions, but in the last four months of Ken’s illness the support of this community has been overwhelming. The prayers, the hugs, the cards, the emails, the texts, the multiple acts of kindness from meals, to transportation to Washington, to items delivered to the hospital when we were in need, to offers of help from so many people which have cemented the important concepts of community and building relationships for Ken and I. You have born our burdens with us, and our lives have been nourished and renewed during this difficult time because of the love and service of the faith community here at Asbury.

I am not sure we can ever express in words what you have meant to us, but I do know the true meaning of faith community has been expressed and lived out through each of you. May God continue to bless each of you and the ministries of this church as we grow and mature in our faith together!

Pastor Benita Harris

## **Hebrews 6:10-12**

*For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers, as you still do. Our great desire is that you will keep on loving others as long as life lasts, in order to make certain that what you hope for will come true. Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God’s promises because of their faith and endurance.*

<sup>1</sup><https://alban.org/archive/what-makes-a-congregation-a-real-faith-community/What Makes a Congregation a Real Faith Community>. Posted on July 27, 2007 by Alban.

Dear Church Family,

We had a wonderful ending to our spring music season! Asbury's children & youth did an amazing job leading worship and music on Mother's Day . Their end of year music program on May 16 was filled with uplifting music showcasing their God-given talents. I'm very grateful to Heather Harman, Pam Ollinger, Melissa Graham, Carol Walston, Danielle Comeau, Vera Street, Angela Roberts, and Nan Richerson for the outstanding commitment and guidance they provide to the future of the church. A big thanks to all the parents for the support you provide our youth in music, because without you it would not be possible.

The Chancel Choir had a marvelous season my first year. I'm so pleased to have the opportunity to work with such an amazing group of people every week. We concluded the choral year by singing a fun arrangement of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" on Memorial Day weekend, a tradition at Asbury.

I am also grateful to Sharon Birch for directing our Jubilate Bells and Chiming Belles. What a wonderful asset to our music program! Every month, these dedicated adults enhance our worship services through ringing glorious music.

Finally, I'd like to thank our Praise Band for providing meaningful music at our CAYR services. Unlike our other music ensembles, Praise Band is in session year round, as a majority of them lead our summer garden services so an extra big thanks for their commitment.

We will continue to have wonderful music over the summer at our garden and sanctuary worship services, featuring soloists and special music. In the fall we will commence another great season of music at Asbury with some exciting programs...stay tuned!

If you or someone you know is interested in singing or playing an instrument at any of our worship services, please feel free to contact me via email [michael@asburyweb.org](mailto:michael@asburyweb.org) or phone (410) 749-2131.

*Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with timbrel and dance; Praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!*

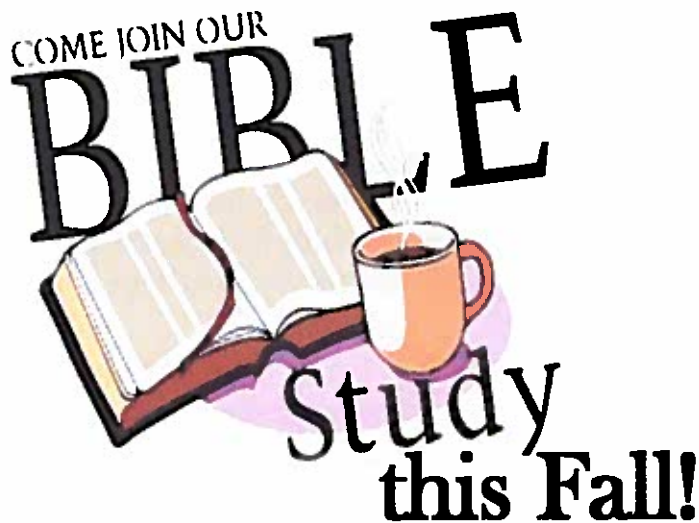
~Psalm 150: 3-6

In Christ,

**Registration is now OPEN for Asbury's Little Mozarts for Fall 2017 for current Little Mozarts, Asbury and ACDC Families!**

Little Mozarts is a Christian-based preschool music class based, in part, on the Musikgarten "God's Children Sing" curriculum. We are a part of Asbury UMC's music ministries, so **there is no charge!** Little Mozarts is for Children ages 3 & 4 (must be 3 by September 1). 30-minute classes are held at Asbury UMC on Tuesday nights at 4:30 and 5:30 p.m., September-May. To register or for questions, contact Heather Harman at 410-749-2131 or [heather@asburyweb.org](mailto:heather@asburyweb.org)





Adult and Children's Sunday School will resume in the fall. Enjoy your summer!

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**Bible 101**

Bible 101 has finished its study of The Book of Genesis, and has enjoyed studying the chronology of the Old Testament, including The Creation, Fall, Flood and the Tower of Babel. We learned about the genealogy of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph and where the twelve tribes of Israel settled after Joshua led them across the Jordan River and into the land that God had promised them. It has been a fruitful fall, winter and spring for us as we have also observed Advent and Lent with special studies. We will resume our class meetings in the fall. If anyone is interested in more information please contact Carole Brence at (410) 546-9434.

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**UMW June/Summer 2017 Circle Information**

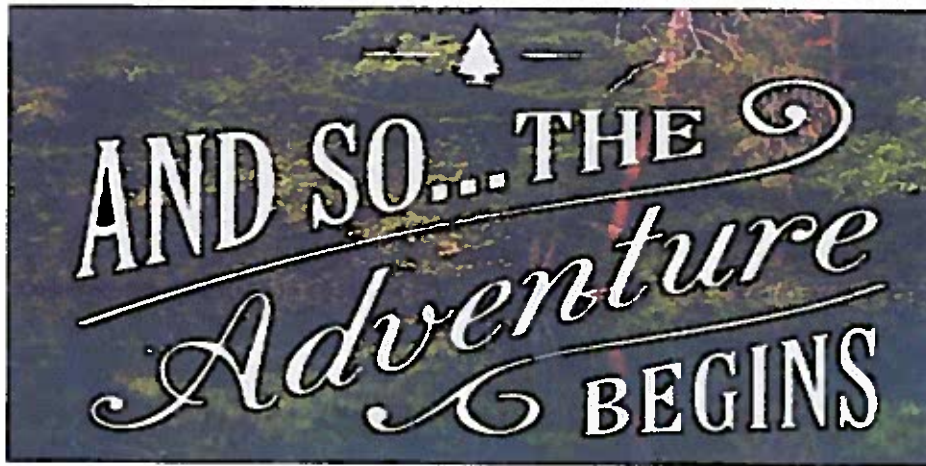
**Dorcas:**

- ◆ Dorcas social picnic (spouses & significant others are invited!!!) Tuesday, July 11, at Bill & Shirley Cropper's home. Social time at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m.
- ◆ No regular meetings in June, July, and August
- ◆ Next regular meeting - September 12 in Mackey room at 7:30 p.m.; Connie Boccia, hostess.

**eCircle:** By email/correspondence; contacts are as follows: Brenda Potts and Robin Holloway at markpotts210@comcast.net or (410) 603-7420

**Eve:** Family picnic: date, time and place TBA

**Joanna:** June 12: Lunch at Washington Hotel in Princess Anne. Carpool meeting at church parking lot at 11:15 a.m., leaving shortly thereafter.



*1 Corinthians 15:58*

*58 As a result of all this, my loved brothers and sisters, you must stand firm, unshakable, excelling in the work of the Lord as always, because you know that your labor isn't going to be for nothing in the Lord.*

### **Until We Meet Again**

As I consider my four years at Asbury, I can't really put into words what it has meant to be one of your pastors, except to say that I have fallen in love with this church and community. With Pastor Benita's leadership, a team of staff members that works so well together and self-giving volunteers, I've been made witness to the best practices of ministry time and time again. I have been stretched and challenged to my limits, which has resulted in tremendous growth for me and has resulted in successful ministry. I will always see Asbury as a refuge where the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ prevails. I am also very hopeful for Asbury's future, as I consider the amazing work that has gone into growing the church and the grace of God that has been ever-present. The leadership of Asbury, the many members, and people who are active in Asbury's ministries are profoundly gifted and generous. From the hospitality of being invited into your homes for one of my favorite things – food – to the work done in the kitchen of the church to prepare meals for the homeless, my parting memories are priceless and numerous.

I am saddened to leave my community, the many relationships, and the fruitful ministry of Asbury behind, but I feel as though I am being prepared to fall in love with Sudlersville, MD, where I will serve as pastor of a two-point charge. The two churches I am going to be serving are St. Paul's UMC in Ingleside and Calvary-Asbury UMC in Sudlersville. These two churches are about 10 minutes apart in northeast Queen Anne's County. St. Paul's is preparing for a major building project and Calvary-Asbury supports many ministries such as Celebrate Recovery and the Emmaus community. These two healthy churches are vibrant due to amazing pastoral leadership, and I hope to continue that legacy of healthy leadership.

My last Sunday at Asbury will be June 11. It will be a Sunday full of mixed emotions. However, I am thankful for the opportunity to worship with you one last time as one of your pastors. I hope you will come out so that we can celebrate together God's work in us and through us. Thank you for being a part of making my time at Asbury one of the most formative and nurturing experiences in my life.

Eric Warner, Associate pastor

# FINANCE

Summer can be such a wonderfully refreshing time for us as we go our separate ways for various vacations, cookouts, family reunions, and the list goes on!

Without a doubt, we are all in need of breaks such as this, and indeed Jesus Himself knew what it was like to be in need of a break from the duties of the day as we read in Matthew 14:22-23 (KJV) <sup>22</sup> *And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.* <sup>23</sup> *And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.*

We often look at Jesus as the kind of person who would have stayed praying and ministering to every last person that came to Him, yet we see here that He actually “sent the multitudes away” which indicates that He needed a break, AND that He sent not just 1 or 2 people away, but “multitudes”!

Someone once said if we don’t “come apart”, then we will “come apart”. In other words, take a break.

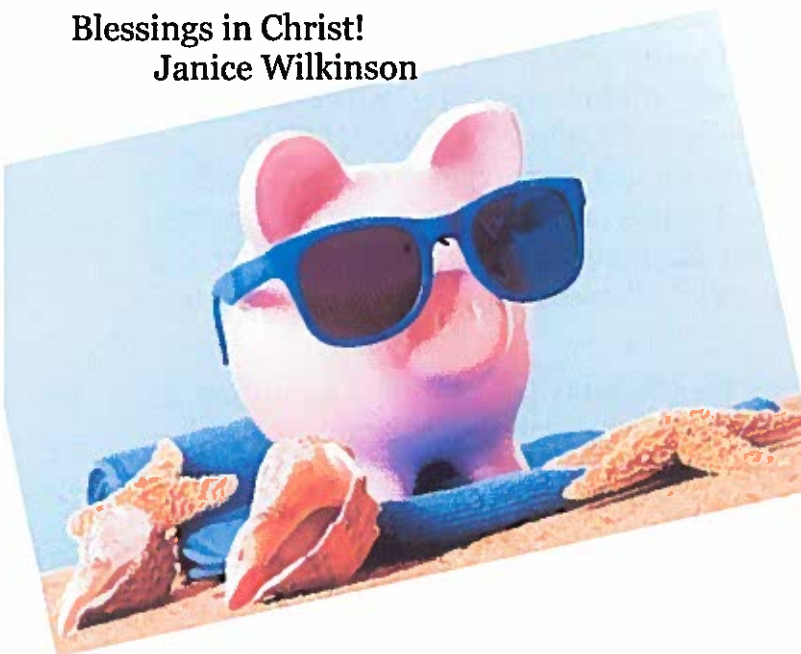
Let me just gently remind you that if you are able to take a break and need to miss some services here at Asbury, the work of the ministry here continues throughout the summer months, and often is a time of “ramping up” for ministry to take place in the fall and winter months ahead.

We continue to appreciate both your financial and prayerful support during this time, and would encourage you to take care of your tithes and offerings either before or after you return from vacations.

Please remember we also offer online giving on our website at [www.asburyweb.org](http://www.asburyweb.org). You can also contact me and sign up for Electronic Funds Transfer. We currently have 54 givers donating this way. Some current EFT participants mentioned that it felt strange not to put something in the plate as it passed by each week but as time went on they didn’t even think about it. Of course, with finances always on my mind I told them they could always drop an extra dollar in the plate!! God loves a cheerful giver!!

If you have any questions about donating, please don’t hesitate to contact me. We want to make giving as part of your worship as easy as possible.

Blessings in Christ!  
Janice Wilkinson



	Jan - April	Budget
	17- Actual	2017
Pledge Contributions	\$252,334	\$668,399
Plate Contributions	\$11,410	\$35,000
Special Contributions	\$5,144	\$9,700
Endowment	\$10,309	\$10,309
Rentals	\$12,946	\$26,876
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$90	\$607
Gain/loss on stock	(\$504)	-\$100
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$291,729</b>	<b>\$750,791</b>
Property Expenses	\$59,211	\$141,330
Ministry Expenses	\$89,823	\$292,901
Administrative Expenses	\$42,095	\$123,335
Apportionments	\$36,852	\$93,923
Employee Benefits	\$37,768	\$121,366
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$265,749</b>	<b>\$772,855</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$25,980</b>	<b>-\$22,064</b>

## UMC Official Positions on Social Issues

As members of the United Methodist Church, it is important to be familiar with the positions our church takes on a variety of social and public policy issues. Chaired by Rev. Dr. Susan Henry Crowe, the General Board of Church and Society in Washington D.C. is actively engaged in supporting policy and legislation addressing these positions.

The Social Principles are revised and approved every four years at the General Conference and cover a wide range of issues pertaining to the Natural World, the Nurturing Community, the Social Community, the Economic Community, the Political Community and the World Community.

To learn more about what your church supports and to see how you can become involved, pick up a copy of the Social Principles and the current communications from Washington on the Church and Society tables in the Welcome Center outside the Sanctuary and the entrance lobby of the Fellowship Hall.

For more information on the work of the Church and Society Ministry at Asbury, feel free to contact either Lou Rimbach (410) 370-6561 or Virginia Mayer (410) 749-5707. New members are always welcome.

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### **Volunteers: They Help Keep the Church Running...thank a volunteer!**

There is a special group of people who help in the church office answering phones, opening the security doors and assisting everyone who comes through them, corralling the Administrative Office Manager. Then there are the volunteers who help with bulk mailings like the monthly Asburian, which needs to be folded, stickered and labeled several hundred times and other mailings that crop up at the last minute. The volunteers are called upon to bake for events (both planned and unexpected) and to assist wherever needed. Our church would not run the way it does without these special people who give of themselves when called and many who just pop up offering their help. I want to thank them personally and as a member of the Asbury Community for all of their selfless efforts. Next time you stop in the office or see someone putting together a bulk mailing in the library, or setting up for a meal at an event, please thank them for their help and service to Asbury! If you would like to volunteer, please contact me in the office.

Administrative Office Manager  
Karen Corwin



# ASBURY NEWS

## Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Calling all heroes...Hero Central VBS is coming to Asbury!

It will be held Sunday-Thursday, July 9-13.

Registration starts June 1st! Go to link below:

<http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/AUMCSalisbury2017>

Contact Heather at the church office at (410) 749-2131 or [heather@asburyweb.org](mailto:heather@asburyweb.org) for more information!

Let's make this a Heroic VBS!



## Job Positions Available

Job Positions for Director of Youth & Family Ministries and

Director of Adult Spiritual Formation and Membership are still available.

Please see church office or our website under "download" for more information.

## OPPORTUNITY SHOP Needs Your Help

Help, help, help...Summer clothing is desperately needed for our Opportunity Shop. Our merchandise is critically low and we are looking for any and all donations (clean and odor-free, please). As you are trying on those summer clothes, doing your spring cleaning of

household items, cleaning your sheds or basements, remember if it works and is in usable condition, we can sell it and the money will be distributed back into our community. We can receive donations any Monday or Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



## Ellegood Award

The Ellegood Award was established in 1969 by Maria Louise Ellegood to memorialize the the faithful service of her parents, James E. Ellegood, who was the superintendent of Sunday School for some 30 years, and Rosa Wood Ellegood, who served as a Sunday School teacher and active worker for the church. Maria requested that this award be presented to "that boy and girl, members of Asbury between the ages of 15-17 years old, who, in the judgement of the Asbury Sunday School Board, have been most helpful during the year in building standards of Christian character in service, and in faithful, punctual attendance at Sunday School." The 2017 Ellegood Award recipients are Hannah Burchard and Joshua Harman. Congratulations!





### *The Opportunity Shop*

158 W. Market Street Salisbury, MD 21801 410-749-9777

**Store Hours: Thursday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

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

#### **Asbury Service Project Update**

The Christian Shelter, located at 334 Barclay Street in Salisbury, has been providing for the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of homeless women, men and children in our community for over 35 years. The dedicated staff and volunteers of the Shelter share the good news of Jesus Christ while providing temporary emergency shelter and meals to those in need. In recent years the guest population has grown, and is comprised of more families with children than ever before.

For the past two years, your Asbury Service Project team has been serving one Sunday dinner each month at the Shelter, starting in October and ending in May. This local expansion of our ministry gives us the opportunity to meet and serve those in need in our local community. Meal expenses present a bit of a challenge; the cost of each dinner averages about \$100, which cannot come from our ASP fundraising. If any groups or individuals are interested in sponsoring a meal, please contact Carlton Bradshaw. Further, ASP is not able to serve these meals June – September, but the need remains. If any groups (Circles, Sunday School Classes, etc.) are interested in serving a dinner at the Shelter during these months, please contact Carlton.

As we make final preparations for our mission to Logan County, WV June 17-25, we are overwhelmed by the support of our church family. This community has turned out to support our pancake breakfast and dinner fundraisers, sponsor our participants, and most importantly, to hold in prayer the ASP mission team and the dear people we serve. Thank you!

In His Service,  
Carlton Bradshaw



**\*\*\*Save the Date\*\*\***

**World Communion Sunday: October 1, 2017**

**One Service at 10:30 a.m. followed by Fellowship Lunch and Annual Meeting.**

**More information will be provided as the date gets closer.**

## Hyde Presentation 2017

In 1997, Paul S. Hyde endowed a very generous scholarship as a memorial to his mother, Carrie E. Hyde. Paul was an educator with a long career in Wicomico County schools, and a strong belief in public education. He served as a Sunday School teacher at Asbury for over 30 years, and as a UMYF leader for more than 5 years.

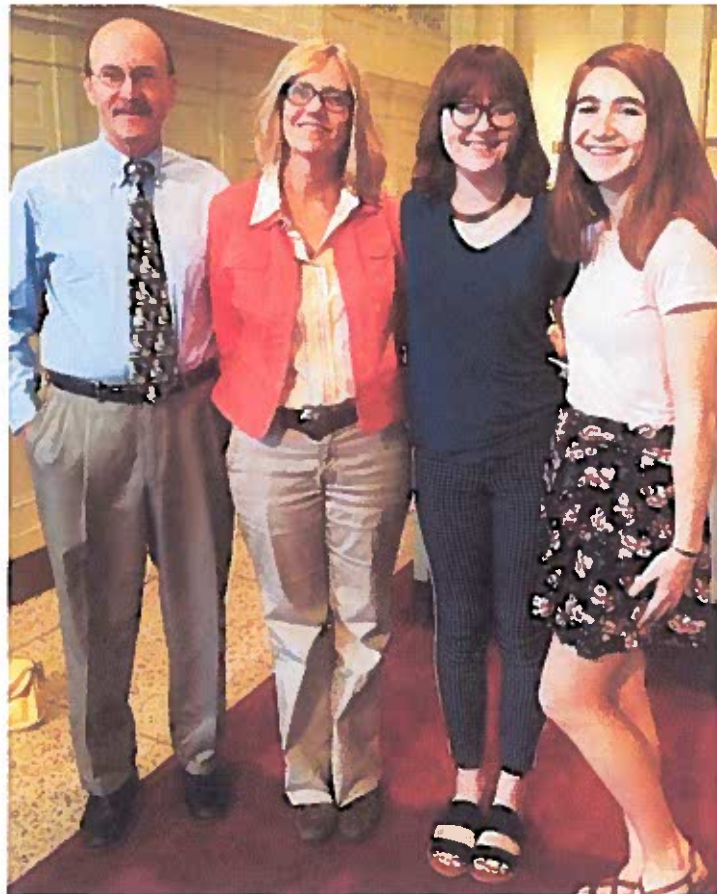
Per Paul Hyde's specifications, the Hyde Memorial Scholarship is to be given to one or two graduates of a public high school in Wicomico County, who are members of Asbury United Methodist Church, and who are active in the church Sunday School and other church related activities. These recipients must also exhibit a better-than-average academic record in high school, and have been accepted into a 2 or 4 year college or university.

We are pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2017 Hyde Scholarship is Allison Foster, daughter of Keith and Holly Foster. She has been a regular participant in Asbury's Sunday School since preschool. She achieved perfect attendance in many of her younger years, and has remained faithful to attending, even as a busy teen with a part time job, school work, and many other outside activities. Her Sunday School teachers agree that she is an active participant in class, with thoughtful and insightful contributions to discussions. Allison was the 2016 recipient of the Ellegood Award for excellence in Sunday School attendance and participation. She serves as a crucifer for worship services and has participated in many of Asbury's ministries over the years, including: Music, Puppets for Christ, Children's Christmas Craft Workshop, Fall Festival, Angel Tree, ASP, CESP, Joseph House and VBS, just to name a few. Beyond Asbury's walls, Allison is active in her school French Club and is the Secretary for the French Honor Society. She has also participated in the Leo Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Psychology Club, and has received numerous awards for academic honors and service. Allison truly embodies Paul S. Hyde's specifications for the recipients of the Hyde Memorial Scholarship.

Allison Foster will graduate from James M. Bennett High School. She will attend Hofstra University, where she has been accepted into the Honors College. Allison plans to study Journalism, with the goal of becoming a writer for an online news source in hopes of bringing light to social inequalities.

In the words of one of her references "...Her interactions with others bear out her kind nature and giving heart." And from another reference... "At her core, Allison is the type of person you want to have as your best friend, your neighbor...She is honest, respectful, dependable, and ever present to do what is asked of her without complaint".

In Allison's own words from her essay: "Besides my friends and family, there is one specific community that I have valued over any other—a community in which I feel at home, comfortable, and welcomed. Asbury United Methodist Church and its congregation of caring, kind-hearted people have been a constant asset to my entire life."





We have had a truly wonderful school year here at Asbury Child Development Center! Our summer program is currently running and the students are really having a wonderful time enjoying all of the exciting activities and hands-on fun! We are currently enrolling for our 2017-2018 school year and have openings in our 2's, 3's and afternoon 4's programs. If you would like to gather some more information about our wonderful school, please call (410) 742-7058 or email Casey Taylor at casey@asburyweb.org.

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DEATHS

Benjamin "Sullie" Culpepper  
4/13/2017  
Delmas Thomas  
5/7/2017

### BAPTISMS

4/30/2017  
Kinleigh Paige Jackson  
Dana Cathryn Door

5/07/2017

Timothy Allen Timmons  
Emilia Rose Elizabeth  
Szczurko

5/14/2017

Jayden Miguel Dillard

5/21/2017

Sadie Paige Madruga  
Kenzie Jane Madruga

### CONFIRMANDS

5/14/2017

Jayden Dillard  
Shannon Dorsey  
Riley Forrestal  
Brooke Podlaszewski  
Cameron Tull  
Rylee-Gale Cropper  
Izabelle Devies  
Allie Donovan

### NEW MEMBERS

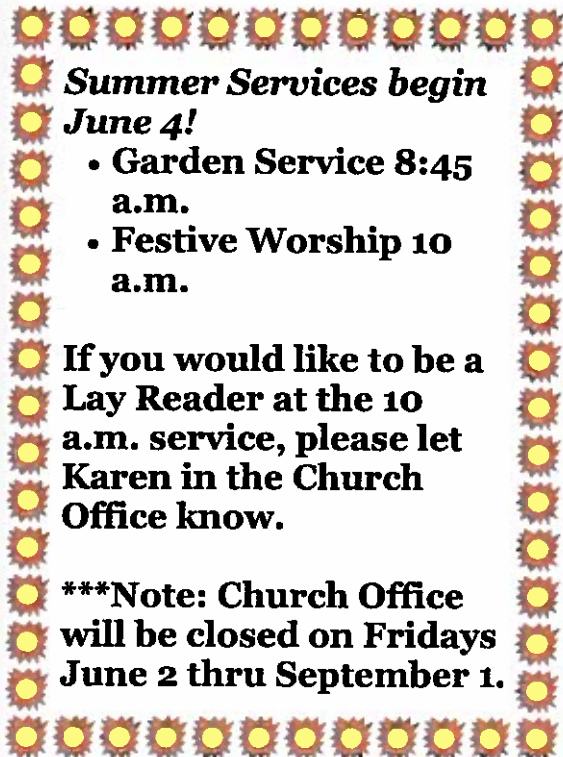
4/30/2017  
Jessica Jackson  
Dana Door  
5/07/2017  
Brooke & Mike Madruga  
Joe & Jeanne Duval  
Greg Putnam  
Tim Timmons

### MEMORIALS

**John Strait**  
Tom & Beth Hershey  
Constance Gilhooly  
Friends of John & Marilyn  
(Anonymous)  
Robert & Bonnie Travis  
Dick & Lou Marshall  
Fred & Doris Webster

### Del Thomas

Louise Smith  
Sonny & Sylvia Chiofolo  
Frank & Frankie Shipper  
Suzanne Erskine  
Bill & Shirley Cropper  
Jim & Nadine Jackson  
Ruth Beauchamp  
Werner & Carolyn Gruber  
Mary Fulton  
Robert & Bonnie Travis  
Delma Tingle, Leslie Waggoner,  
Ann Scott Loppes & Families  
Brian Cordrey



**Summer Services begin June 4!**

- Garden Service 8:45 a.m.
- Festive Worship 10 a.m.

**If you would like to be a Lay Reader at the 10 a.m. service, please let Karen in the Church Office know.**

**\*\*\*Note: Church Office will be closed on Fridays June 2 thru September 1.**

**CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS =**

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

**Garden Service 8:45 a.m.**  
**Festive Service 10 a.m.**



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Website: [www.asburyweb.org](http://www.asburyweb.org)



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