



**Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
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the ASBURIAN



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Editor: Lydia Childs

A Message from Pastor Tom Pasmore



Welcome to the season of Advent! This is a time in the life of the church when we wait. I don't know about you, but I am tired of waiting. This has been the longest twenty months that I remember in my life. You all have suffered through this waiting too, the community has suffered, the United Methodist Church has suffered, and the nation has suffered. If we have to wait any longer, we may break.

But, friends, Advent is not the end of the story. We may be waiting, but the Good News is that December 25th will arrive again, and there will be a celebration of the birth of Christ. And then Epiphany will come with God's gifts and graces overflowing in the Scripture and hopefully in our hearts. We need Christ and love and grace now more than ever.

In addition to Christ and love and grace, Christmas and Epiphany are about community. Mary learns of the gift she carries in community with Gabriel. Bethlehem is so full of community that there is no room at the inn. The animals of the stable were together in community. The shepherds shared in community as they tended their flocks by night. Even the angels were so overcome with joy that they appeared in community. And, finally, there wasn't one wise man but three who traveled together. Community is at the core of these celebrations and the reason that we celebrate corporately in worship. We need each other, in community, now more than ever.

As we emerge from the cocoon of this pandemic, and journey through Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, let us hold fast to the love that we share. May God's blessings bring us unity in the midst of our divisions. May Christ move us towards community. And may the Holy Spirit empower us to be the Good News that the world needs now more than ever.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Blessed Epiphany,

Pastor Tom





Dear Church Family,

As we enter this “Calm and Bright” Advent season, don’t be fooled because our music ministry is busy preparing for all of our wonderful worship services and programs. Heather will highlight the children’s music program in her article, but I’m excited about what is planned for this year! Our annual Lessons and Carols service returns for “in person” worship on Sunday, December 19 at 7:00pm featuring inspiring scripture, * meaningful music from the choir, and timeless Christmas carols.

On Christmas Eve, December 24, we will have beautiful music provided at all of our worship services celebrating the Birth of Jesus. The 4:00pm service will feature music from our children, 5:30pm will be an outdoor walking service with some singing, 7:00pm will feature the Praise Band, and 10:30pm will feature the Chancel Choir and other special music. After Christmas we will have a combined service on Sunday, December 26 at 10:30pm with more Christmas carols.

Some very exciting news as we look forward to next year. We will be putting on a production of the famous musical “Godspell” on Palm Sunday weekend in Fellowship Hall using the full resources of our stage! Please mark your calendars now to attend and share with friends. Please stay tuned for performance details as we get closer. There will also be opportunities for church members to fill some of the various roles for this production and we will share more information on this as we move forward.

Happy a Blessed Advent, Christmas, and Holiday Season!

Dr. Michael Stefanek

Director of Music Ministries



*In the spirit of giving,
we thank you for
your generosity!*

It’s hard to believe that Christmas and the New Year are arriving quickly. The leaves have turned colors and have fallen over the last several weeks, and it is getting colder. It doesn’t seem like that long ago when spring was just starting. I personally would like to see a little snow this winter, but don’t tell my wife.

Genesis 8:22 reads “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease”. There are changes from hour to hour, day to day, week to week, month to month, but there is always one constant, God. Lamentations 3:22-23 reads “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness”.

Thank you for your consistent giving (time, monetary, prayers) to the church so Asbury can continue to be a beacon for the community. There are many individuals and groups from Asbury that positively impact Salisbury and the surrounding areas. It is this giving back to the church that grows exponentially to the world around us. It’s like throwing a pebble in a pond where the initial impact is felt but the ripples can extend a great distance.

I would also like to personally thank the outgoing finance members of the class of 2021. The members include Jim Martin and Mike Madruga. Their service and contributions to the church are a great asset and much appreciated.

I wish you a safe and happy holiday season. God bless and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Brian Lewis

Finance Committee Chair



Finance

- Finance statement for January- October reports a deficit of (\$9,521). With only two months left in the year we are praying for our income to catch up with our expenses. We have faith we can accomplish this by everyone “pitching in”. We pray all 2021 pledge commitments can be fulfilled. Can you give over and above your commitment and/or giving? Every extra dollar donated is a blessing! In this season of giving, we would like to encourage you to place Asbury at or near the top of your list.

- Christmas offering-we have budgeted to receive \$5,000 through the special Christmas offering envelopes. You will find these envelopes in the pews during the month of December and in a Christmas letter mailing from Pastor Tom. At this wonderful time of the year, when we see the generosity of our Lord, we ask that each of our church members and attendees consider giving generously to the Christmas offering.
- 2022 Generosity Pledges- even though we have not finished 2021 yet, the Finance Committee is working faithfully on the operating budget for next year. You can help us create a realistic budget by returning a pledge card to let us know of your giving intentions for 2022. Each pledge makes a difference and gets us closer to closing the income and expense gap.

	Jan-Oct 2021 Actual	Jan- Dec 2021 Budget
Pledge Contributions	\$492,151	\$600,000
Unpledged Giving	\$49,333	\$60,000
Plate Contributions	\$11,900	\$20,000
Special Contributions	\$5,011	\$11,500
Endowment	\$12,126	\$12,125
Rentals	\$30,846	\$29,325
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$136	\$4,402
Gain/loss on stock	(\$730)	(\$500)
Total Income	\$600,773	\$736,852
Property Expenses	\$81,153	\$109,181
Ministry Expenses	\$232,327	\$307,767
Administrative Expenses	\$107,063	\$126,985
Apportionments	\$79,799	\$94,563
Employee Benefits	\$109,952	\$150,136
Total Expenses	\$610,294	\$788,632
Net	(\$9,521)	(\$51,780)

We praise God for the generosity of each and every one. We look back in thanksgiving over the past, and know that the same God who has met all our needs will meet us again!

A blessed Christmas is wished to all!

Janice Ilczuk

Director of Finance & Building



Asbury Child Development Center

All of our children have been so busy creating, learning, and exploring over the past couple of months. They have created so many fabulous projects and displays. They have continued to learn and grow each and every day! We are so very proud of our students here at ACDC!

December is a very busy time around Asbury Child Development Center with lots of activities and events planned. On December 1st and 2nd the 3's classes will be taken part in a "Nativity" program. On December 14th and 15th all the students participate in the annual ACDC Christmas Program.

Our school hopes that you all have a wonderful holiday season and enjoy time with your families and friends. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

ACDC is starting to plan for next school year's registration, which will take place for current students and their siblings on Wednesday, February 16th. Member Registration - AUMC Church members may register the week prior to priority registration (Feb. 7 - Feb. 11th). Open registration will take place on March 16th.

Registration information will be available for pick up mid-January. Please call 410-742-7058 to schedule a tour. If you have additional questions do not hesitate to contact anyone in the office. Thank you!

Casey Taylor, *ACDC Director*

Children's and Youth Concert

Family Christmas Concert and Brunch

ASBURY UMC: FELLOWSHIP HALL
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11
10:00AM

Come and enjoy a concert given by Asbury's Children and Youth Choirs and Ringers, followed by Brunch and a visit from a SECRET guest!



Youth and Family Ministries



If you are a youth, parent, or grandparent and would like to receive my weekly **Youth Update** emails filled with announcements, pictures, and updates on what we are learning about, please send a message to brooke@asburyweb.org

First Friday Youth Group

Our November event was a Friendsgiving dinner! We had a blast with amazing food, fun games and a great service project. Thank you to ALL the hands who helped make this night a success from Birthday kit donations to helping

decorate, make food, and provide encouraging words.

We were able to create 21 full Birthday kits along with a small box of extras that guests can add to their box if needed. December's First Friday event is based on the Netflix series Nailed It! The youth will work in teams to recreate beautiful treats- will they look like the picture? Will they..... Take a more "avant garde" approach with their decorating? We'll see!

Confirmation

Yay!! We are back and ready for a 2022 Confirmation class in collaboration with a couple other churches in the area. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more about what it means to be a United Methodist and giving some thought to your faith journey. The Confirmation team is meeting the first week of December to firm up plans and make a schedule. Please let Brooke know if you are interested in joining us.



What age is this for? 8th grade and up

When are we starting? Sunday, January 30, 2022 2:00-4:00pm

How many sessions will we have? 6

What if I'm not sure if I want to be a United Methodist?

That's ok, you have the choice at the end of our time to either say "yes" or "no" or "not yet", it's totally cool!

WAVE 2022

If you are a reader of my emails, then you already know that the annual Peninsula-Delaware Conference Youth Rally has a new name to go along with our new association with the Baltimore-Washington Conference, WAVE (they were specific that it is **not** The WAVE). There is bound to be a lot of familiar content, but we have two new age groups who haven't been able to experience the excitement for themselves yet, so all of this will be new to a lot of you.

There is still time to sign up for this super fun event. Registration packets are posted outside my office or I can send you a digital copy if you would like.

—**Brooke Christensen**, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*

Wesley Foundation

What is the Wesley Foundation?

The short answer is that we are the United Methodist presence on SU's campus and we are housed at Asbury. A slightly more interesting answer is that we are **aspiring** to be an anti-racist and LGBTQ+ affirming space for the church curious, church questioning and church loving student. I emphasize "aspiring" because we might not all be in the same place and that's ok. Not sure if you're on board with our aspirations? This is a great place for questions and GENTLE discussion.

So what are we up to?

Bible Study

Sunday mornings on the Fellowship Hall Lobby couches at 12:00pm there is a Young Adult Bible Study led by SU student Joseph Hayden. There is always an interesting discussion and I make sure we always have snacks! Who is a Young Adult? Generally, anyone over 18 can be a "young adult" we would love for you to join us!

–Brooke

Puppets for Christ Spaghetti Dinner is Back!!!



Please come out to support Puppets for Christ's annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Friday, January 28th. This year's show will be entitled "Comin Alive". Entertainment will begin at 6:00pm with dinner following. Ticket sales will begin on Sunday, January 9, 16 and 23 at each service, which gives you 3 Sundays to buy your tickets! Ticket prices are \$10/adult, \$5/children (4-12) and children 3 and under are FREE. The ticket sale deadline will be January 23rd. Tickets will not be sold after this date. **No Exceptions!**

There will be NO sales at the door! Also, reservations for parties of 6 or more can be made when you buy your tickets.

Won't you join us for a night filled with wonderful entertainment and delicious spaghetti? We hope to see you there!



Poinsettias—Christmas Eve Bulletin

At Christmas time many people choose to remember or honor their family and friends. By making a donation and recognizing these special people in the Christmas Eve bulletin, you will also be supporting our Altar Guild fund.

Poinsettias will be placed in the church this year on Friday, December 3. If you wish to sponsor a poinsettia in memory/honor of a loved one, please fill out a form located in the Welcome Centers and return to the church office with \$5.00 donation before Friday, December 10.

The money that is collected will be used for the ongoing maintenance and replacement of the flowers. Flowers will remain in the church.

ASP Asbury Service Project Update



Ruth lives alone in the home where she and her husband raised their children near Mountain City, TN. In declining health, and unsteady on her feet, Ruth manages with help from friends and extended family. Financially, she receives enough to meet her basic needs, but not much more. Ruth has experienced a great deal of tragedy in her life; the bodies of her husband and two sons are buried in her front yard. Despite her circumstances, Ruth remains upbeat and loves to talk to anyone who visits.

Her home, while basically sound, had a few deficiencies that made it challenging for Ruth to move about safely. Unable to afford home repairs, Ruth has managed as best she can, and has fallen more than a few times. This past June, one of your ASP work teams spend the better part of a week at Ruth's home, stabilizing her basement stairs and constructing an outdoor walkway to provide her with safe passage from her house to her driveway. Beyond that, the team spent time with Ruth, getting to know her and showing her that the Body of Christ cares for her.

This was the experience of one of the five work teams that you sponsored in mission to Appalachia this year. It is a mission of making homes warmer, safer and drier, but moreover it is a mission of sharing Christ's love in relationship with his children. "Feed my lambs."

Pancake breakfasts are back! Our first breakfast in nearly two years took place on Sunday, November 14. The turnout was fabulous, demonstrating once again the support of this wonderful congregation for the ASP mission. Pancake breakfasts are scheduled each month through April. We look forward to seeing you there.

We have also resumed our local service activities, which include serving dinners once each month at the Christian Shelter and building wheelchair ramps, in partnership with Chesapeake Housing Mission. Our first ramp build took place on October 23, and our remaining builds are scheduled for:

March 19

April 9

May 7

There is still room for our group to grow. Registration for high school students and their parents remains open through December 31. Thank you, Asbury, for your continued support of this longstanding ministry!

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 410-896-2776.

Carlton Bradshaw

Troop 421 News

Troop 421 has continued gathering weekly for scout meetings. These meetings consisted of preparing for Klondike, organizing future campouts, and completing the Personal Fitness merit badge. The monthly campout was held at Janes Island where the girls went fishing, had a scavenger hunt, and practiced cooking and fire building skills. Scouts aided and attended a flag retirement ceremony to honor Veterans Day.

Debbie Dinkel
Scoutmaster Troop 421

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The Joy of Giving



It's Angel Tree Time Again!

The Angel Tree Prison Fellowship Program provides children of incarcerated parents with Christmas gifts, and provides the parents with a means of staying in contact with the children. Angel Trees will be set up in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 28 and Sunday, December 5. Pick out an angel tag, register with a volunteer and go shopping! We have 15 little angels this year, and each child has two different tags, a “toy” gift and a “clothing” gift. Each Angel gift should be \$25-30. We also have Angel tags to provide each family with a grocery card for their

holiday dinner. The gift and tag must be returned, unwrapped, to the church no later than December 15th. Don't want to go shopping, but still want to participate? Bring in your Angel tag and a check made payable to Asbury with “Angel Tree donation” in the memo line. We'll do the shopping for you! Call Sheri at the church office if you have any questions.

Salvation Army Stockings - Drop Off By December 8!

Salvation Army stockings and toppers are available today, at both Welcome Centers, so please stop by and get one or (several) to fill so a needy child can have Christmas. The stockings can be filled for an infant to a 12 year old child. After filling the stocking, attach the topper and mark it with boy or girl and the age. You can place your filled stocking in the big Christmas box by the Welcome Center in Fellowship Hall or the Christmas box in the hall across from the office; they need to be turned in by Wednesday, December 8th.

Thank You!!!



UMW Fruit Fundraiser Extended to December 12th.

In 2020, Asbury's UMW gave \$2,500 in support of six missions that focus on youth in our community: *One Year to Empowerment, Horizons, Team 360, Epoch – Hebron, Delmarva Kids Café, and Scouts BSA Troop for Girls.*

Just like last year, there are no forms to fill out. You will order your fruit on-line from the Florida Indian Website, and it will be shipped to you, or to your recipient selection.

The deadline to order has been extended to December 12th!

<https://shop.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/1018083>

Please share the link with friends, family, neighbors, colleagues, etc. If you do not want to purchase fruit for yourself, please consider supporting HALO and Christian Shelter by sending them fruit for the holidays.

Halo – 701 Snow Hill Road Salisbury, MD 21804

Christian Shelter – 334 Barclay St. Salisbury, MD 21804

Thank you for your support!

Advent 2021

Calm and Bright Devotion

You are invited to engage in Christian devotion this advent season - spending time with God - using the word of the day, prompts, and scriptures in this calendar. Notice many of the focus words come from our worship series' song *Silent Night*. Follow the prompt or respond to the word or verse by taking a picture, creating something with your hands (art, a meal/dessert, woodworking, sewing, knitting, etc.), journaling, praying, serving, singing/listening to a song, reaching out, whatever and however you sense the Spirit leading you to do or be for that day.

Tip: Advent is about actively waiting with anticipation: Prepare the night before and write the next day's word on a post-it note, putting it somewhere visible so you are reminded of the day's focus right from the start.

Many blessings on your Advent journey,

Kristen Wall-Love

Director of Spiritual Formation and Membership

kristen@asburyweb.org



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
28 Peace Luke 2:1-6	29 Silent Spend 10+ min in silence today	30 Holy 2 Tim 1:9 What does holiness mean to you?	1 Tender Eph 4:31-32 Look for opportunities to be tender today.	2 Calm 2 Timothy 1:7 Soothe someone with your calm today.	3 Sleep Identify one way you can increase your physical rest this weekend.	4 Reflect: Talk to God about your week. Where did you feel closest to God? Furthest away?
5 Joy Psalm 86:9-17	6 Sing: Zeph 3:17 How does it feel to know that God is singing over you? What is your fav song of praise to God and why?	7 Shepherds Luke 2:15-20 Who has shepherded you recently? Show your appreciation.	8 Awe Luke 2:8-14 Recall the last time you were struck with awe.	9 Honor Psalm 86:11 What is one way you can honor God today?	10 Alleluia What can you praise the Lord for/about this week?	11 Reflect: Talk to God about your week. Where did you feel closest to God? Furthest away?
12 Love John 1:1-5	13 Pure 1 John 1:9 Confess an area of your life lacking purity. Pray for help.	14 Radiant: Luke 11:36 Where have you seen God's love radiated lately? Where is God calling you to radiate love?	15 Dawn Gen 1:3-5 How can you actively care for God's creation today?	16 Grace John 1:16 Name at least 5 things for which you are grateful—give thanks to God.	17 Redeem Eph 5:2 What can you offer to God today?	18 Reflect: Talk to God about your week. Where did you feel closest to God? Furthest away?
19 Hope Isaiah 9:2b-7	20 Light 2 Cor 4:6 Actively search for ways to shine Jesus' light into the darkness this week.	21 King Luke 6:46 Self-examination: Confess any places in your life that Jesus is not Lord or King. Pray for help.	22 Wonderful Counselor Isaiah 9:6 In what ways do you need God's counsel in your life? Ask.	23 Worship Matt 2:9-11 What does worshipping God look like in your daily life?	24 Emmanuel-God with us: Matt 1:23 In what ways do you sense that God is with you in your life?	25 Christ the Savior is Born! Welcome Jesus! Celebrate the love of God made human!
26 Renewal Rev 21:1-6 What is being birthed in you this season?	27	28	29	30	31	

Dear Faith Family,

In 2022 Asbury will be offering 4X4 groups as a way to help us commit to connecting in community and Christ (see graphic at right). (A church that is used for building community is fellowship.) Here's the deal with 4x4s:



1. Beginning in January, Interested parties sign up by checking “4x4” box on the connection card. Easy peasy.
2. 4 households will be assigned to each group and notified. Households can be married couples, single folks, families—any combination of people living in the same home.
3. The goal is to build relationships by meeting once a month for 4 months with your 4x4. Then we switch groups to get to build community and fellowship with more folks. (You can opt out at any time.)
4. To start, one household in each 4x4 will be assigned to plan the first month's get together, then it is up to each group to decide how to proceed with each month's activities. This can literally be anything that involves coming together in any way. In person is best, but sometimes there are limitations. **The point of this is simply to be together—fellowship.** No books, lessons, or agenda! How about game night, a meal, a walk, a bonfire, an outing to an event—the sky is the limit!
5. Fear not, introverts! These 4x4s are small in size and meant to be quite informal and relaxed. If you would like some tips, I am happy to send you an article *The introvert's guide to community* (written by an introvert—so not me!).
6. Introverts and extroverts—there are many benefits of 4x4s. You get to:
 - a. explore relationships with many folks, but in doable, organized, small chunks
 - b. deepen relationships with those you click with
 - c. get to know & learn about those you may not click with as well
 - d. be an active participant in building community in your church—intergenerationally and across all worship services. What an opportunity! You are a rock star!!!



Which brings us to January's spiritual practice—SURPRISE-It's fellowship! It's almost like this was planned to go together...In case my excitement did not come through, I strongly encourage you to sign up for a 4x4. Other suggestions-Make a commitment to:

-attend worship every Sunday you are in town (worship is its own spiritual discipline and can lead into fellowship)

-join an adult Sunday School class (we have three to pick from!)

-join at least one temporary small group this year

-start a small group around a topic that you are passionate about or want to learn alongside others about

If you already participate in some or all of these, pray about where God is leading you in terms of fellowship here at Asbury. If it would help to share your commitment with another person to increase accountability I'm your gal (your specific commitment to the practice of fellowship, that is—I am happily married lol)! Of course if you have questions or want to bounce some ideas, I am here for you, friends.

On the journey with you,

Kristen Kristen Wall-Love · Director of Spiritual Formation and Membership · kristen@asburyweb.org

Hands and Hearts Ending Homelessness



Hands and Hearts ending Homelessness, formerly the Community Emergency Shelter Project is a community-based effort to provide safe, temporary, emergency, overnight shelter and hospitality to homeless men in Salisbury, Md.

Hands and Hearts Ending Homelessness would first of all thank you again for your support and generosity over the past years to assist with this mission. We opened a new location on November 6th for men for the next 6 months. This is a huge undertaking, and we are asking the churches and the community to once again help with volunteering for shifts and supplying food each day.

Listed below is the basic information that you will find helpful:

Location:

- Community Building of Park Seventh Day Adventist (behind the church)
- Deere Run Drive (across from the Shorebird Stadium and beyond Holt Paper)

Commitment from Asbury: January 22 through February 4, 2022.

- As we have done before, we will supply breakfast, lunch and dinners.
Supply volunteers to work the shifts from 4:45pm-7:45am and 7:45pm-10:45am at the registration desk.
- Supply male volunteers for the overnight shift from 10:45pm-7:00am.

Asbury Contacts: General Information: Sharon Dashiell – sharondashiell@comcast.net

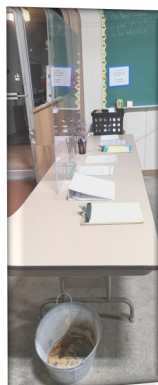
- Meal Sign-ups: Shelly Marshall – shellymarshall413@gmail.com
- Volunteers: Michael Campbell – ctsv540@gmail.com

Additional Information:

We are in dire need of help for the commitment Asbury has made for January. Please pass the word, and offer to volunteer/prepare a meal by googling “hands and hearts ending homelessness”. This will send you to the sites to sign up to supply a meal or volunteer thru the 6 months. (You do not have to stay to serve dinners).

For more information and easy access, please visit these websites:

- **Check in volunteers:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F49ACAE2DA6F4C43-check>
- **Meals:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F49ACAE2DA6F4C43-meal>



Open Hearts Open Minds

Greetings from the Open Hearts, Open Minds adult Sunday school class. We are beginning the fall classes with a series entitled All the Places You Can Go.....How Will You Know?

“Very rarely in the Bible does God command someone to “Stay.” He opens a door, and then he invites us to walk through it—into the unknown. And how we choose to respond will ultimately determine the life we will lead and the person we will become. In fact, to fail to embrace the open door is to miss the work God has made for us to do.”

“In All the Places to Go . . . How Will You Know?, bestselling author John Ortberg opens our eyes to the countless doors God places before us every day, teaches us how to recognize them, and gives us the encouragement to step out in faith and embrace all of the extraordinary opportunities that await. So go ahead—walk through that door. You just might do something that lasts for eternity. So join OHOM to explore this topic.”


2016 Christian Book Award finalist (Nonfiction category)

The next study will be Growing Older and Wiser by Sandy and Dale Larsen, a LifeGuide Bible study.

You can't change the fact that you are getting older. And, indeed, you may not want to! Age brings many gifts and opportunities for continued growth. In nine-session LifeGuide® Bible Study, Dale and Sandy Larsen help you discover the Bible's perspective on aging. You'll discover how God can effectively and powerfully use those who have grown wiser with the passing years.

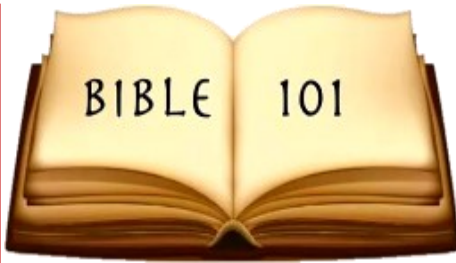
Come and join us for the discussions surrounding these topics.

OHOM 2021 Fall Curriculum Schedule



Date	Topic
12/05	Session 4: When the Kids are Grown Up
12/12	Session 5: Wiser by Faith
12/19	Christology Moment: Advent Wrap Up
12/26	What will the New Year Bring?





The Bible 101 Class will continue **THE STORIES JESUS TOLD** until Nov. 28.

Our study for Advent: **ALL the GOOD** *A Wesleyan Way of Christmas*. It is written by a diverse group of Wesleyan scholars who serve as ministers and professors at Duke Divinity School and Emory University. The study is guided by John Wesley's "means of grace". After Advent, we will explore the **Book of Judges** and *the Books of The Minor* prophets. *All are welcome to come and join us and learn more about the scriptures in The Holy Bible!!*

B.A.S.I.C.

The BASIC Adult Sunday School class meets every Sunday from 10-10:45am in the Catley Library. **All are welcome!**



Reconciling Community



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

The Reconciling Community will have its first 2022 quarterly meeting on Sunday, January 16 after the 11am service (between noon and 12:15pm) in the Catley Library. Please feel free to bring a snack or beverage.

As a reminder of what we're about, here's our mission statement:

*We declare our members to be a **Reconciling Community within Asbury United Methodist Church**. We affirm and celebrate that all people are created in God's image and each person has sacred worth. We welcome all with radical hospitality, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, or gender identity, and we invite other members of Asbury to join our ministry. We acknowledge our differences and seek not to erase them, but to use them as a source of strength and power as we humbly serve our God and journey together toward greater understanding, mutual respect, and love for each other.*

We are called to provide a safe haven for LGBTQ individuals and others who feel marginalized, and we are guided by the values of openness, respect, tolerance, and the radical hospitality.

Feel free to call (410 548-5620) or email Frankie Shipper (fcshipper@gmail.com) with questions or meeting topic requests.

Altar Guild

December

All Members
Sharon Dashiell, *Chair*

January

Brenda Martin, *Chair*
Carolyn Conners
Nancy Farley
Norma Dobrowolski

2021 UMW Women of the Year

United Methodist Women

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2021 UMW Woman of the Year award. Given annually at the UMW Christmas Tea, this award is for a member of the Asbury UMW who has shown exemplary service to the UMW and Asbury UMC. Please place your nomination in the Woman of the Year box in the Welcome Center near the Sanctuary. In the nomination, please indicate why this person is deserving of the Woman of the Year Award. The deadline to submit a nomination is Sunday, December 1.

UMW Christmas Tea

All women of Asbury are invited to UMW's Annual Christmas Tea on Sunday, December 12th from 3-5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy fellowship, wonderful appetizers, and delightful music from Dr. Wright and Salisbury University's Music Department. Find out who will receive the 2021 UMW Woman of the Year award. Please rsvp by December 5, 2021 to circle leader or flora.glasgow1@gmail.com. All UMW members attending should bring an appetizer or dessert, and a kid's personal hygiene item for Salisbury Urban Ministries after school program. Recommended items are: Hairbrushes, combs, kids shampoo, body wash, Kleenex (small packs), and small bottles of hand sanitizer, if possible.

UMW Circle

Joanna – Carol Bisker

Circle Joanna will meet on December 13th at 10AM at the home of Carol Bisker for a holiday brunch. Each member is asked to bring a covered dish to share.

Dorcas – Susan Cropper

Dorcas will meet on December 14 at the home of Susan Cropper, 415 Midland Terrace at 10:00 am. We are adopting a family from Life Crisis for Christmas.

Eve – Amy Cropper

Christmas party at Amy Cropper's house on December 15 at 6:30pm.

Women--are you looking to build relationships, spiritually grow, and serve God in your community? If you are not part of a United Methodist Women (UMW) circle, you are invited to check out circle Deborah, which meets the last Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Contact Maggie Fulkrod at 410.937.8104 or mfulkrod1@verizon.net.

The Opportunity Shop



Opportunity Shop Updates

We are always in need of winter clothing (clean, odor free, no holes or tears)

Holiday decorations, and all housewares.

Upcoming holiday closures:

Closed November 22-26 for Thanksgiving

- No sales or donations accepted at this time.

Closed December 13-31 for Christmas

- No sales or donations accepted at this time.

If you wish to make a donation while we are closed, please call the church for an appointment.

We will reopen Thursday, January 6th.

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!



Christmas Eve Services

Asbury United Methodist Church will celebrate the Christmas holiday with four services on Christmas Eve at 4:00, 5:30, 7:00 and 10:30 pm, all with distinctly different styles:

4:00pm - Filled with the sounds and sights of the season, this service will be a family focused worship experience. Traditional hymns will be sung on organ and piano.

5:30pm - An outdoor worship experience that will begin in front of the sanctuary on the brick patio. We will walk all the way around our facility, singing and reading the story of Christmas. The service will culminate with the singing of Silent Night in front of the outdoor nativity scene that faces Camden Ave.

7:00pm - A contemporary Christmas worship experience with music provided by the Praise Band from our very own Come As You Are (CAYR) service. A relaxed, yet meaningful way to celebrate Christ's birth.

10:30pm - A stirring, traditional Christmas worship experience filled with hymns, carols and special music.

All services will include a celebration of Holy Communion and singing with candle light. Children are welcome to come in their pajamas! For younger children, there will be glow sticks available instead of candles. Nursery will be closed on December 24 so our nursery staff can enjoy the worship services with their families.



Asbury News

Church Office Holiday Closures

Our church office will be closed Monday, December 27 thru Friday, December 31, 2021.

Get Involved with your Church and Community

Interested in a ministry, but not sure if it's for you? Or maybe unsure just what you're interested in? Talk to Kristen Wall-Love, our Director of Spiritual Formation & Membership.

We have lots of ministries serving lots of different interests. Let Kristen find one for you, or go to a meeting and experience it for yourself. Get involved! You'll be glad you did! Call the church office at 410-749-2131 or email Kristen at kristen@asburyweb.org.

Camden Avenue Farmers Market

Come out and support your hardworking farmers and artisans every Tuesday from 2:30-5:30pm. Remember, when you support our market every Tuesday you are keeping TRUE local farming operations going--**THANK YOU SO MUCH**. See you on Tuesday!

Salisbury Urban Ministries

- ♦ **Lazarus Food Pantry:** Hamburger/Tuna/Chicken Helper, Boxed side dishes (potato, noodle, rice.) Canned soup
- ♦ **Kids Café:** bottled water, sturdy paper plates

Donations can be dropped off in the hallway near the Sanctuary. If you prefer to order online, please deliver to Salisbury Urban Ministries 326 Barclay Street, Salisbury, MD 21804. **Thank you for supporting this important ministry!**

***PLEASE NOTE:** Salisbury Urban Ministries' office and programs will be closed Dec. 20th through Jan. 2nd. If having donations shipped, please avoid these dates. The Lazarus Food Pantry will re-open to clients on Thursday, Jan. 6th.

Kid's Cafe: The Kid's Café is looking for volunteers to do phone or virtual mentoring with the children in the program (ages 6 through 10, in grades 1 through 4) once a week. This would involve contacting the child and asking if they need help with homework and such. Background checks are done on all volunteers working with the children. For more information, please call the Salisbury Urban Ministries' office at 410-749-1563.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Church Announcements

MEMORIALS

John David Sweigert
Dean & Alice Anne Wells

DECEMBER MEETINGS

Date	Day	Time	Meeting
8	Wed	7:00pm	Leadership Team
9	Thurs	5:30pm	Finance Committee
14	Tue	12Noon	Board of Trustees

JANUARY MEETINGS

Date	Day	Time	Meeting
11	Tue	12Noon	Board of Trustees
12	Wed	7:00pm	Leadership Team
13	Thurs	5:30pm	Finance Committee
26	Wed	7:00pm	UMW

*** Meetings are subject to change, please check with church office for verification of date, time and location. * All meetings will be held in the Library, unless other arrangements are made.***

*May the Lord Bless you at Christmas,
and may He give you peace and happiness
as you serve Him each day
of the coming year!*

Asbury Staff

Are you receiving a printed Asburian but would rather see it in color, on our website? Or would you rather not receive it? Please let us know.



Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tom Pasmore
Pastor of Care Ministries:
Rev. Genevieve Jones Brown
Administrative Office Manager: Lydia Childs
Administrative Assistant: Sheri Burchard
Director of Music Ministries: Michael Stefanek
Director of Children and Care Ministries:
Heather Harman
Director of Finance and Building: Janice Ilczuk
Director of Adult Spiritual Formation and
Membership: Rev. Kristen Wall-Love
Director of Youth & Family Ministries:
Brooke Christensen
Maintenance Worker: Bob Love
ACDC Director: Casey Taylor
ACDC Asst. Director: Danna Abbott



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the ASBURIAN

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