









Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church **VOLUME 102 · ISSUE 51· FEBRUARY 2024**

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Adult Spiritual Formation & Membership

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OFFICERS OF OUR CHURCH

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Editor: Lydia Childs

From the desk of PASTOR TOM PASMORE

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.'

- John 15:12-15 (NRSV)

When I was in seminary, my evangelism professor, the Rev. Dr. Leonard Sweet, called this passage from John the *Titanium Rule*. I'm not sure if he gave the passage this name or it came from someone else, but he always called it the hardest passage in the Bible. In his words, "Anyone can follow the Golden Rule. Without any help from anyone else, I can treat you the way that I want you to treat me. But it takes all the grace of God for us to love each other the way that Jesus first loved us." As hard as it is to follow the Titanium Rule, this is what it takes for us to be the church.

The New Year has gotten me thinking. I believe that we are called to love the way Jesus loved as the Titanium Rule tells us, but the problem is how do we live that out in a tangible way here in Salisbury, Maryland in the year of our Lord, 2024? What are we going to do this year to make strides in that direction? These are challenging questions to answer, and while I have some ideas, I will need your help to answer them fully. Let me take a few moments to lay out some changes that are coming our way.

The first area of focus is staffing. We will be working to find new directors to fill the role that Dr. Michael Stefanek has occupied in the ministry of Asbury for the last eight years. While I am sad to lose Michael as a colleague, I know that God has better things in store for him and for us. Plus, he and Chris will remain friends and continue to reside in Salisbury. SPRC is also working through some other options to help us maximize ministry here in the church. These will be announced as they happen.

In addition to staffing, we will be focusing on community ministries and missions. Where are there other opportunities for us to be active in helping greater Salisbury become the community that God wants it to be? The JMB Partnership will continue to expand. Our focus on youth mental health issues is still an opportunity to change lives. I'm sure that there are other opportunities out there. We are also working on identifying new missionaries to join us in a covenant relationship. Church and Society is currently building a potential partnership.

I pray this list gives you a chance to reflect about what you see happening at Asbury this year. If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch with me. Corner me on Sunday (which is sometimes a challenge), give me a call (410-749-2131), or send me an email (tom@asburyweb.org). May God bless us as we seek to live into the Titanium Rule, right here in Salisbury.

Blessings and Peace to you all,

MUSIC MINISTRY

Dr. Michael Stefanek, Director of Music Ministries



Dear Members of Asbury Church,

I'm so grateful for the amazing opportunity to have served as Director of Music Ministries from 2016-2024. I have several fond memories of my time here. I have thoroughly enjoyed enhancing worship through music, especially at the organ. It's been an honor to lead the Chancel Choir, adult/youth bells, and Woodwinds over the years. I have enjoyed playing piano for the children's choirs led by

Heather Harman and helping their faith grow through music. Their Christmas programs were always a lot of fun. We also experienced the well-known composer/artist, Mark Miller, who spent an entire weekend at Asbury. He worked with the kids and adults which culminated in a concert. He then shared his gifts with us in Sunday morning worship.

I have memories of Steel Pans, One Voice, Celebration Singers, Chiming Belles, and the Jubilate Ringers that were part of our music ministry during my tenure. I'm also grateful for all the dedicated members of the Praise Band who provide music for the CAYR service. A big thanks to all the volunteers that have given and continue to give their time and talents to Asbury's music program in a variety of ways. I'm grateful to the staff at Asbury for all their hard work and for helping the music program "behind the scenes."

There are so many meaningful worship services that I have been a part of over the years but some of my favorites include: World Communion Sundays that featured the Steel Pans, Lessons & Carols by Candlelight featuring choir and Woodwinds, Christmas Eve, Palm Sundays that featured choir cantatas with orchestra, uplifting Easter services with brass/timpani, and tranquil garden services during the summer where we felt the breath of God as the wind blew through the trees.

Over the years, I have invited a number of guest organists to play recitals on Asbury's world-class pipe organ. We also had a Lenten noon series that I started before the pandemic hit. These short community programs featured a variety of musicians including organists, choirs, woodwinds, and instrumentalists. In 2018 we did the Ascension Oratorio of J. S. Bach with choir, soloists, and orchestra. As many of you recall, we have also been blessed with having the American Spiritual Ensemble perform at Asbury over the years. That's always been a wonderful treat! Our choir joined St. Alban's Choir to present the Duruflé Requiem with ASE in 2020, an experience to be cherished.

I am going to miss my church family here at Asbury. I'm so grateful for the outstanding support that I have received. I'm excited for what the Lord has in store for me in this next chapter of life. I pray for the future of Asbury and its music program.

God Bless.

Michael Stefanek



FINANCE

2023 Giving/Financials

As we close our operating budget for 2023, I want to thank everyone for your faithful giving to Asbury Church. The work of the church could not go on without the consistent, generous gifts of God's people through your donations. One of the greatest indications of our love for the Lord and His church is both our desire to give, as well as the action of giving.

Through your desires and actions, the church operating budget was able to end last year with a deficit of \$4,213. The operating reserve was used to cover this deficit. We had budgeted to use \$39,630 from the operating reserve. Through your generous Close the Gap contributions of \$31,520, we were able to greatly reduce the amount needed to balance the budget. Our beginning of the year (1/1/2023) operating reserve of \$172,206 was used to cover the \$4,213 deficit, thus resulting in a carryover reserve of \$167,993 to 2024.

Note: An operating reserve is an unrestricted fund balance set aside to stabilize a nonprofit's finances by providing a cushion against unexpected events, losses of income, and large

Income & Expense Comparison	2023 Actual	2023 Budget
Pledge Contributions	\$536,269	\$590,000
Unpledged Giving	\$90,039	\$65,000
Plate Contributions	\$45,350	\$25,000
Special Contributions	\$13,414	\$12,800
Endowment	\$27,705	\$27,705
Rentals	\$43,636	\$32,825
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$18,131	\$14,040
Gain/loss on stock	(\$55)	(\$500)
Operating Reserve (if needed)	\$0	\$39,630
	\$774,487	\$806,500
Property Expenses	\$102,941	\$111,522
Ministry Expenses	\$306,293	\$316,473
Administrative Expenses	\$139,370	\$142,038
Apportionments	\$97,272	\$97,272
Employee Benefits	\$132,824	\$139,195
Total Expenses	\$778,700	\$806,500
Net	(\$4,213)	\$0

unbudgeted expenses. When an unexpected financial shortfall occurs, having cash reserves to tap can help a nonprofit sustain itself and continue to meet its mission even in very tough times.

We thank you not only for your desire to give, but in your actions to help reduce expenses. Examples of this include: turning lights/heating and a/c units off when leaving rooms, reducing paper/copier usage, researching best prices when making ministry purchases, informing the church office when meetings are cancelled so that the utilities can be turned off, etc.

If you have any questions about Asbury's financials, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email – janice@asburyweb.org or by calling the church office.

Janice Ilczuk

Director of Finance & Building



2024 Budget

The Finance Committee is in the process of finalizing the budget for this year. We meet monthly to review our financial status and will keep you, our members and friends, updated through the Asburian, bulletin and email blasts.

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Ways you can help support this year's budget:

- Pray over your giving for ministries and operations.
- Fulfill your 2024 pledge commitment.
- If you have not yet made a pledge commitment for 2024, it is not too late- pledge cards are in either welcome center or you can email janice@asburyweb.org of your giving intentions.
- Remember when not physically at church you can give online through our website: asburyweb.org.
- Sign up for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Once you supply us with your banking information we take care of setting up the automatic transfer. We have over 50 members/ friends who enjoy giving in this manner. Then, you don't have to worry about having cash or checks with you.

With your help and support, we look forward to watching Asbury's ministries thrive in 2024. It's a New Year, and a New Beginning!

Janice Ilczuk, Director of Finance & Building Finance Committee

STAFF SPOTLIGHT - JANICE ILCZUK

Hello Asbury!

I am Janice Ilczuk, your Director of Finance & Building. I started working here part-time in 2003, and 20 years later I am still hanging around. I was born in Salisbury and grew up in the town of Delmar. I am the youngest of 6 – I have 3 brothers and 2 sisters. I always say we were like the Brady Bunch, but I could never find our Alice to cook and clean! In 1985, I married Barry Wilkinson, who was from Hebron. We moved to Annapolis, then to Kent Island, and then back to the Eastern Shore, as we wanted to raise our children near family. We have 2 daughters, Megan and Hannah, and watching them grow up was the joy of our





life. Unfortunately, in 2007, during a family camping trip, Barry suffered a fatal heart attack. I spent the next few years devoting my time to the girls – we became an awesome trio! I am very proud of the women they are today. Both graduated from Salisbury University; Megan with a Business Degree, and Hannah with an Elementary Education Degree and a Masters in Reading Intervention. Megan and her husband Jake have a 5-year-old son, Chase (who has me wrapped around his finger), and they are expecting a second child in May. Hannah and her husband Brandon married in 2023.

As we all know, God is good all the time. He blessed me with another wonderful man in my life, Michael Ilczuk, and we married in 2018. Mike has 2 sons, 1 daughter and 5 grandchildren. Needless to say, we stay very busy with our family and do the best we can to enjoy life each day. I love to decorate for all holidays – stop by occasionally and check out the tree by my office – the decorations change monthly. I hope it brings a smile to everyone!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSMATES HONOR RUTH CAMPBELL



At its first meeting in January, the Open Hearts Open Minds Sunday School class surprised class member Ruth Campbell with a gift to honor her life of continuing service to others. Specifically, the class wanted to commemorate her consecration as a Deaconess and Home Missioner in April and then commissioning by our district conference in June.

Ruth's handmade bowl is engraved with her consecration date and a listing of the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Ruth's giving attitude and example remind us of the Scripture's counsel "to keep in step with the Spirit."

CALLING ALL ASBURIANS - THE ALTAR GUILD WANTS YOU!

I never thought of myself as the Altar Guild type. But I was looking for a way to serve Asbury, and I thought I would give it a try. Eight years later, I am glad I made that decision. I made friends, learned more about the church, and experienced the pride of making Asbury glow with beauty.

I was working full-time when I joined, so I was not able to make the monthly meetings. No one minded, and the meeting minutes were timely sent and perfectly complete. Everyone was helpful and made sure we newbies knew what to do. Thanks to our past presidents, we have a detailed manual, a weekly checklist and well-marked cabinets in the Sacristy. Our job is to prepare the altar for worship, but our work is far from mundane. It is a spiritual undertaking for us to assist in the preparation of the church for worship.

Please join us for an informational tea on Sunday, March 3rd, in the Soul Cafe after the 11:00 service. All are welcome – men and women—to join us. This isn't your mother's Altar Guild! You can also contact me at jeanlaws@comcast.net or 410-430-8714 (call or text).

Jean Laws, President

PUPPETS FOR CHRIST

Amy Cropper, Director

Due to high demand, not only are we rescheduling our spaghetti dinner show, but we will be performing the same show on a **SECOND** date. This will allow more people to be able to attend.

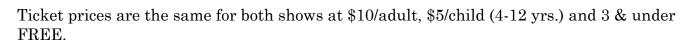
Friday, March 15 at 6:00 pm - Spaghetti Dinner & Show Sunday, March 17 at 3:00 pm - Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundae & Show

(***NO SPAGHETTI AT THIS SHOW)

THE GREEN TICKETS FOR JANUARY 19 MUST BE EXCHANGED FOR NEW TICKETS, OR YOU MAY REQUEST A REFUND.

For those who have already purchased tickets, you may immediately begin contacting Amy Cropper to exchange your tickets for either show. From February 1st thru February 17th, we will only be handling exchanges and/or refunds.

There will be a short presale starting February 18th if you would like to get a head start, or if you wish to add more tickets to your party. On February 25, March 3 and March 10 we will be set up for ticket sales, refunds and exchanges after the CAYR service and before and after the 11:00 service. If you had already bought the green tickets for January 19, please bring them at this time so they may be exchanged or refunded.



Please contact Amy Cropper at puppetboss@comcast.net or at 410-726-2847 with any questions.

Thank you for your continued support of Puppets for Christ!

JAMES M BENNETT (JMB) PARTNERSHIP NEWS



Our faith-based partnership has love to spread in February! On February 4th & 11th, notecards will be on tables in the Fellowship Hall and the Narthex. We encourage all Asburians to write a message for staff members at the high school detailing how teachers, staff, or other individuals made a difference in your life. Please address your note to the relevant staff member ("Building Maintenance," "Sports Coach," "Math Coach," etc.) and place in the box provided for completed cards. These cards will be taken, along with a sweet snack, to the school for their "Clippers Choose Love" week, February 12-16.

Asbury chooses love too!



The Asbury Service Project has started out 2024 strong with our Pancake Breakfast, Sunday School Assembly and group meeting all happening in January. As we roll into February, we will be serving at Christian Shelter on February 4 and then our next Pancake Breakfast will be on February 11.

I am excited to say that we now have 44 people who are committed to going on our annual trip to Appalachia in June! That's almost a 50% increase over last year! Of the 44, 20 of them are youth, which is more than double last year! This will allow us to have 6 work teams in Appalachia, making a strong presence as the hands and feet of Christ. It is great to see this new growth, as COVID had affected ASP participation in churches everywhere.

This time of year is also when our team members are working hard to raise the remaining funds they need to go on the trip. This year everyone is required to raise a minimum of \$400. Of the \$400, only \$25 stays here with our team. The remaining \$375 is what we have to submit to ASP to cover the fee for each individual who is going on the mission trip. Obviously, to help cover our travel and other trip expenses we have to ask that members raise additional funds and to also help make our car washes and pancake breakfasts a success...and we appreciate ALL of your support as well!

Since 1973, the Asbury congregation has been a key partner in our ministry. If you wish to donate to the ASP ministry, or help sponsor an individual on our team who is still trying to reach their goal, please contact me at: dale73@comcast.net or 410.430.3164.

Another way that you can donate is through our QR code. This is new for us this year. All you do is scan the code, enter your amount and add a note with any specifics you wish. This allows us to accept donations via Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo, and credit cards. There will be a small processing fee for using this service.



Peace in Christ.

Dale Cropper

WESLEY FOUNDATION



We have not met for the month of January while Salisbury University is on winter break.

Our first Bible Study meeting for the semester will be on February 4th.

Our February social gathering will be **bowling** on Tuesday, **February 6th** from 6:00-8:00.

--Brooke

LUNCH & LEARN WITH PASTOR TOM



Everyone is invited to attend the first Lunch & Learn of the spring on Sunday, February 25. Pastor Tom will be sharing information about Asbury, the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference, the Northeast Jurisdiction, and the upcoming General Conference of The United Methodist Church. If you have questions about what is going on in the denomination, annual conference, or church, this is the place to get those

questions answered. 2024 should prove to be a pivotal year in the life of the church, and much may happen this year.

The Lunch & Learn will begin at 12:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall, with a light lunch provided by the Church & Society committee. A speaker presentation and Q&A session will follow. We will finish by 1:45 pm. Please RSVP to Lydia Childs in the church office at 410-749-2131.

Grebroory Altar Guild



Jean Laws, Chair
Priscilla Basehart
Connie Boccia
Nancy Farley
Star Weaver





Ash Wednesday Worship Service February 14 7:00 pm Sanctuary

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Heather Harman, Director of Children and Care Ministries



Children's Sunday School Update!

With Christmas and New Year's Eve falling on Sundays this year, we took a nice long 'winter nap' from Sunday School, so we are reenergized and ready for a new year! Sunday School is such an important part of spiritual formation for the kids...it's a place where they can learn about the bible alongside of friends and caring adults and grow in their faith. Attendance has been down and we would really love to see some familiar faces return in the New Year!

In February, we will embark on a new unit called 'WOW' that is all about the miracles of Jesus. ASP has issued a challenge for us to raise \$500 by May 5th, so please remember to send in an offering with your child/ren each week. We can do it!!

February 4: Regular Sunday School Day

February 11: Family Pancake Day (no Sunday School...enjoy breakfast in

Fellowship Hall!)

February 18: Regular Sunday School Day

February 25: Family Sunday School Day: Lent Prayer Stations (attend

together as a family!)

We could use a few more dedicated leaders and helpers to join our Sunday School team. Please talk to Heather if you are interested.



ASBURY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Casey Taylor, Director of ACDC

ACDC is starting to plan for 2024-2025 school year. Registration, which will take place for current students and their siblings is on Wednesday, February 14th. Member Registration - AUMC Church members may register their child the week before priority registration (Feb. 5-Feb. 9). Open registration will take place on March 13 @ 9:30 in Fellowship Hall and will be by lottery.

If you need registration information or would like to schedule a tour, please call 410-742-7058 or email casey@asburyweb.org. If you have additional questions do not hesitate to contact anyone in the office. Thank you!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Brooke Christensen, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Confirmation

As of writing this article we have 4 youth signed up for Confirmation with Asbury. We will be joining forces with Trinity, Bethesda, St. John's and Riverside UMC again this year. There are six, 2-hour sessions where the youth will take a deeper look at not only the Christian faith as a whole, but also the United Methodist Church and decide for themselves if they are ready to become members.

We will be inviting the congregation to participate again through contributing to the Confirmation blessing bins. Look out for more information in the next Asburian as to what sorts of things the youth like.



Soup Sale benefitting the Souper Bowl of Caring AND Middle School Mission Trip

Two great causes wrapped up in one fundraiser!



Bob Love and Brooke are coordinating a Soup Sale benefiting both the Middle School Mission Trip and the Souper Bowl of Caring.

Just like Bob's Soup Sale last year we are offering 3 soup choices at \$20/quart:

- Broccoli and Cheese
- Chicken and Rice
- Loaded Potato

Order forms are located in the Welcome Centers at

Asbury. There is also a digital order form in the weekly eblasts, the website and on our Facebook page.



Orders are due by Wednesday, February 7

We are cooking on Saturday, February 10 from 8am-12pm and soup pick up is the same day from 12-1

If you have interest in helping us cook we would love to have you! Talk to Bob or Brooke about joining us.

Needs

Our Youth program is in need of a couple more **Sunday School teachers**. Second adults would also be great but we really need a couple adults who are interested in teaching. We have a great curriculum with all sorts of ideas and resources and I am always here to help so you would not be out on your own. Please search your hearts and let brooke@asburyweb.org know if you can help.

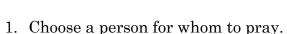
ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Kristen Wall-Love, Director of Spiritual Formation and Membership

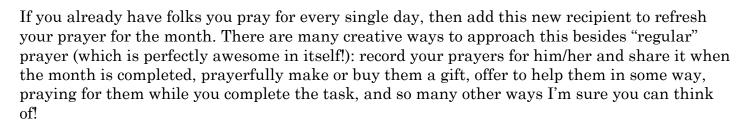
We need

Dear Faith Family,

Well, here we are in a brand new year! More opportunities to deepen our relationship to God and others—what a gift! In that vein, we continue on with our monthly spiritual practices. February's practice is prayer, but we are going to aim for a specific kind of prayer. Let's call it "Focused, Enduring Prayer" (FEP). Here are some suggestions for how to live into the practice this month:



- 2. Pray for that person daily in the month of February. Carve out a few minutes to pray for this person separate from your other prayers.
- 3. Put this person's name and picture up in your spaces so they are constantly in front of you. This is your reminder to pray.
- 4. Tell this person, or not—up to you!



Prayer makes a difference and is a powerful tool to change our hearts and deepen our relationships all around. Commit to FEP by emailing Kristen@asburyweb.org.



Walking the Journey with you,

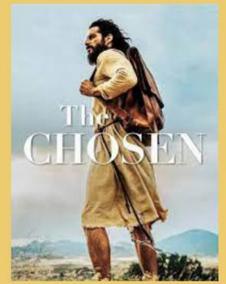




Freestyle Adult Sunday School IN THE LIBRARY, 10:00 AM

We will begin by discussing the first season of "The Chosen," a popular creative series based on the gospel texts. **All are welcome.**

Come and be part of the conversation! (No preparation required)





If you would like to journey through the Psalms this year as a self-led endeavor, please email Kristen for the reading schedule. You are also welcome to join our discussion group Monday evenings at 7pm.







If you would like a copy of a devotional workbook that goes along with our Lenten worship series, email Kristen. Better yet, join our Lenten series discussion group, Tuesdays at 7pm. Let Kristen know you are coming.

NEW MEMBERS

Peggy Koval

Along with her husband, Andy, Peggy attends the CAYR worship service.



Born August 21, 1954 in Nyack, NY to Russ and Mary McCandless, Peggy Koval is a retired CASAC (Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor) who worked with youth in the field of prevention. Married to Andy Koval on August 27, 1972 they joyfully renewed their vows at a ceremony at Poplar Hill Mansion with their four children and two grandchildren present.

Peggy began her volunteer service at a very young age, helping at church, in the community for political campaigns and various service projects, in the schools and as a Scout Leader (both Boy and Girl Scouts). Two short-term mission trips to Guatemala fulfilled her dream of mission work.

"I know I have found my 'home' when I find myself missing my Asbury church family when we travel.

Kelly and Steve Garner Steve and Kelly attend the CAYR worship service.

Kelly and Steve Garner live in Seaford, Delaware and have been attending Asbury UMC since December, 2023. Both Kelly and Steve volunteer their time supporting local and national mission activities. Kelly serves on the Nanticoke Young Life planning committee serving Western Sussex County. They also support Love I.N.C. in Seaford by providing meals and serving those who are in need. They have also volunteered at the Passion Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, helping support college age students on their faith journeys. Kelly works at The Insurance Market in Laurel, Delaware as their Commercial Lines Manager. She oversees employees in their Laurel, Salisbury and Milford offices. She has been with the agency for 38 years.

Steve retired in 2022 after spending 48 years in public education. He worked for the Caroline County Public Schools, the Seaford School District and the Delaware



Department of Education. During his career, Steve spent time in various school, district and state level administrative roles, as well as teaching adjunct courses at Salisbury University. Steve and Kelly enjoy spending time with their family and they both enjoy attending contemporary Christian concerts.

NEW MEMBERS

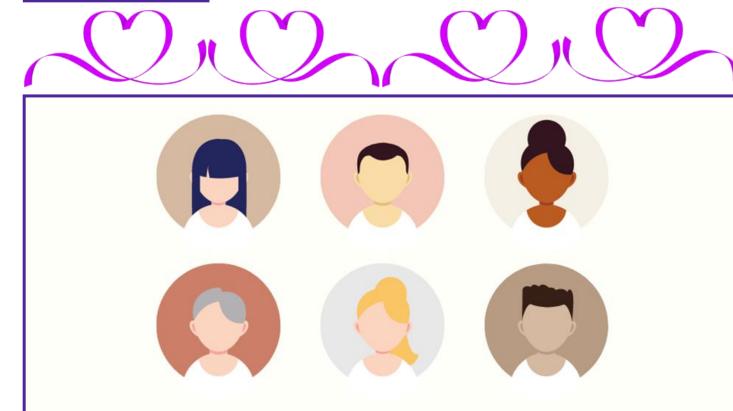
Charles Carpenter

Charles, along with his wife Marsha, attend the Festive worship service.



Charlie and his wife, Marsha, began attending Asbury Church nearly two and a half years ago. They are originally from Berea and Richmond, Kentucky. They moved to the Eastern Shore in 1972 when Charlie began his career with Perdue Farms. He retired after 47 and a half years with the company. Marsha is a retired United Methodist pastor and a member of the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference. Her charge conference is here at Asbury.

They have two sons. Chris and his wife, Kelly, and their three children live in Lutherville, MD. Chad and his wife, Joanna, and their four children live in Georgetown, DE. Charlie and Marsha enjoy living on their farm in Princess Anne.



ARE YOU OUR NEXT

Member?

The Spring Membership Event is Sunday, April 21st at 12:30pm

RSVP TO KRISTEN@ASBURYWEB.ORG

UWIF Woman of the Year - Susan Cropper!



United Women in Faith celebrated Asbury women, both past and present, in their annual Christmas Tea on December 17, 2023. The entertainment this year was the Salisbury Children's Choir, who put on an outstanding performance of Christmas music. Hygiene items were collected for James M. Bennett High School

to support our Faith-based partnership. The newest officers for UWIF were installed and the much-

awaited Woman of the Year was announced at the end of the program. 2023's Woman of the Year was described by her peers and church members as "a great listener," "always willing to help," and "a fabulous role model." Susan Cropper was all smiles as she was pinned and given flowers to celebrate her dedication and faithful service to both Asbury and the wider community. We are so lucky to have her gifts shared so readily.



Congratulations, Susan!

CIRCLE NEWS

Deborah Circle: Maggie Fulkrod

We meet the last Tuesday of the month at the church, 6:30-8pm. Next meeting Feb 27th. All women are welcome! We will continue our study of the book "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools." Contact Maggie Fulkrod with questions mfulkrod1@verizon.net

Dorcas Circle: Susan Cropper

Dorcas Circle will meet Tuesday, February 13th at 10:00 am at Asbury in the Fox Room. We will continue our discussion of Joyce Meyer's book, 110 Ways to Simplify your life.

Eve Circle: Amy Cropper

Eve Circle meets on February 21st at 7:15 pm in the Mackey Room with Jessie O'Shield and Amy Pusey hosting.



Joanna Circle: Carol Bisker

Joanna will meet on Monday, February 12 at 10 am at the home of Carol Bisker. We will collect our annual UWIF pledge and start on our Easter cards.

OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, SPRING 2024



As the new year begins, this adult Sunday School class continues to explore the issues of what is means to be a Christian and what does that look like. In the fall we used Bishop Reuben Job's series entitled Three Simple Rules. During Advent, Dr. William Willamon's <u>Advent and Incarnation</u> emphasizing the period of time during which the Jews awaited the coming of the Messiah, questions related to Incarnation. He also addressed what God and Jesus have called Christians to do as we wait for the Second Advent of Christ. Our spring study is taking us back to using the DVD series Saving Jesus.

<u>All are welcome</u> to join us in the Mackey Room at 9:45 am when we share joys and concerns before beginning the lesson for the day at 10:00 am

Spring 2024:

DATE	SESSION
1/7	The Work of Christmas
1/14	"What's does it mean to be a Christian in today's world?"
1/21	"What's does it mean to be a Christian in today's world?"
1/28	Saving Jesus: Jesus's Ministry of Compassion
2/4	Saving Jesus: Jesus's Ministry of Compassion
1/11	Saving Jesus: Who killed Jesus?
2/18	Saving Jesus: Who killed Jesus?
2/25	Saving Jesus: The Atonement
3/3	Saving Jesus: The Atonement

DATE	SESSION
3/10	Saving Jesus: Resurrection of Christ
3/17	Saving Jesus: Resurrection of Christ
3/24	Saving Jesus: Why Jesus is Worth
Psalm	Saving?
3/31	EASTER — OPEN CHAT
4/21	Saving Jesus: Why Jesus is Worth Saving?
4/28	TBD
5/5	TBD
5/12	TBD
5/19	TBD

February







ASBURY NEWS

Opportunity Shop

Donations:

Monday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Or call the church for an appointment!

Sales: Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Looking for ways to help? We need volunteers to work as cashiers on Thursdays, and if you are cleaning out your closets, we need household items and clothing! All items need to be clean and functional. Tax receipts available.

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!

158 W. Market Street, Salisbury, MD Check us out on Facebook.

Salisbury Urban Ministries Donation requests for January:

Lazarus Food Pantry

- Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper
- Bottle Water

<u>Kids Cafe</u>

- Hot/Cold Cups (no Styrofoam)
- Paper Plates 8"

Men's Welcome Center

- Bottle Water
- Crackers
- Ramen Noodles
- Vienna Sausages

Please drop off your donations in/near the large pots in sanctuary hallway. If you prefer to order online, have your donations delivered to: Salisbury Urban Ministries, 326 Barclay St., Salisbury, MD 21804. Or call 410-749-1563

***Please note that with the winter weather coming, if Wicomico County Schools are closed, Salisbury Urban Ministries will be closed as well.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIALS

DEATHS

NEW MEMBERS

Scott Turner Vic & Jean Laws Audrey Adams, 1/11/24

Peggy Koval, 12/10/23

John Alder

Steve & Kelly Garner, 12/10/23

Don & Debbie Cooper

Charlie Carpenter, 1/21/24

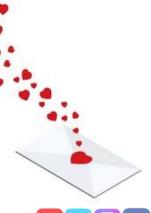


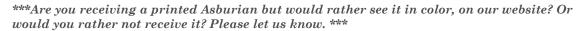
Bruce & Debbie Dashiell



MEETINGS SCHEDULE			
Date	Day	Time	Meeting
7	Wed	6:00 p.m.	SPRC
8	Thu	5:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
13	Tue	5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
21	Wed	7:00 p.m.	Leadership Team
27	Tue	10:00 a.m.	Altar Guild
21	Wed	6:00 p.m.	UWIF











Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tom Pasmore Administrative Office Manager: Lydia Childs Administrative Assistant: Sheri Burchard

Administrative Assistant: Sheri Burchard
Director of Music Ministries: Michael Stefanek
Director of Children and Care Ministries:

Heather Harman

Director of Finance and Building: Janice Ilezuk 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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