

the ASBURIAN

Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
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Editor: Lydia Childs



From the desk of
PASTOR TOM PASMORE



So, we find ourselves in the midst of another Lent. Ash Wednesday has come and gone and we are eagerly waiting for Easter to arrive. Fredrick Buechner reminds us of the importance of this holy season in his book, *Whistling in the Dark*. I have included an excerpt here that helps us embrace this season of reflection and repentance.

In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask, one way or another, what it means to be themselves.

If you had to bet everything you have on whether there is a God or whether there isn't, which side would get your money and why?

When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it that you most like and what do you see in it that you most deplore?

If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?

Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?

Is there any person in the world, or any cause, that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?

To hear yourself try to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.

Amen.

Reflecting and repenting with you,

Pastor Tom

Frederick Buechner, *Whistling in the Dark An ABC Theologized*, (New York: HarperCollins, 1988), pp.74-75.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Dr. Michael Stefanek, *Director of Music Ministries*



Dear Asburians,

We have wonderful things happening in our music ministry program to celebrate. Our chancel choir has added four new members! This is such a blessing and we pray for continued growth as we move into the future. Revelation Ringers, our youth handbell group, has also been doing an amazing job enhancing worship through music. These kids are very dedicated and are having a great time sharing their love of music.

The Salisbury Children's Choir, under the direction of Alice Wigfield, has moved over to Asbury for rehearsals. I am happy that we are providing a place for them to develop their God-given talents to be shared with the greater community. Not only will they be building relationships with one another, but also will be seeking collaborations with our music ministries at Asbury.

Please mark your calendars to join **Michael Stefanek and Augustine Mercante in concert on Friday March 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Asbury** for a musical journey through Lent. The concert will feature works by Bach and Vivaldi, as well as spirituals arranged by Harry Burleigh, Margaret Bonds, Hall Johnson, and others. Tickets are not required but there will be a Free Will Offering.

Praised for his "lyrical intensity and the way he polishes each word with lapidarian ecstasy", Augustine Mercante enjoys an active career performing repertoire from the Baroque to the newly-created, touring regularly with the American Spiritual Ensemble and performing with organizations throughout Delaware and Philadelphia including Opera Philadelphia, Tempesta di Mare, Brandywine Baroque, Delaware Choral Arts, Delaware Choral Society, and the Southern Delaware Chorale. He has appeared at festivals both locally and abroad including the Tanglewood Music Festival, Clifford Brown Jazz Festival, Serafin Summer Music Festival, Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Wilmington Fringe Festival, and the International Gluck Festival.



Gus completed his Artist Diploma in Germany as a Fulbright Scholar studying with soprano Edith Wiensand, performing at the Prinzregenten theater in Munich and the Nurnberg Opera. He holds degrees from the University of North Texas and the University of Delaware, where he was honored to be the inaugural recipient of the Robert King Memorial Scholarship. He has twice been awarded fellowships from the Delaware Division of the Arts, and can be heard on clarinetist Christopher Nichols' recording Almost All-American on the Albany label.

Gus and his husband, Justin, live in Wilmington, Delaware where Gus maintains a private teaching studio, teaches at The Music School of Delaware, and is the festival manager for Serafin Summer Music. Learn more at www.augustinmercante.com.

Cherub Choir and Kingdom Kids will be sharing their music selections with us on Palm Sunday, April 2 at the CAYR service.



On Easter Sunday, April 9 we will have uplifting music at all our worship services. EMA have joyous organ and piano music. CAYR will be led by the Praise Band. The Festive service will feature the chancel choir joined by brass & timpani.

FINANCE

Income & Expense Summary	January 2023 Actual
Pledge Contributions	\$89,745
Unpledged Giving	\$5,078
Plate Contributions	\$5,105
Special Contributions	\$0
Endowment	\$0
Rentals	\$9,508
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$10
Gain/loss on stock	\$0
Total Income	\$109,446
Property Expenses	\$15,479
Ministry Expenses	\$23,565
Administrative Expenses	\$12,167
Apportionments	\$13,672
Employee Benefits	\$11,136
Total Expenses	\$76,019
Net	\$33,427



ASBURY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Casey Taylor, Director of ACDC



Member registration and Priority registration was well attended. Open registration will take place on March 15th @ 8:00am. If you know of anyone interested in attending ACDC, please have them call 410-742-7058 or they can stop by ACDC to pick up registration information.

EGG MY HOUSE!



ACDC is excited to bring back our “Egg” fundraiser for April!!!

Celebrate Easter by letting us “EGG” your front yard on April 8th between 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Your children will wake up to a yard full of plastic filled Candy filled **EGGS** to be delivered to your yard for Easter morning fun!

25 filled eggs = \$25

50 filled eggs = \$40

(Eggs will be filled with a variety of candy and small trinkets)

Proceeds will benefit Asbury Child Development Center’s Playground Renovation. Please contact Casey Taylor casey@asburyweb.org

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Heather Harman, *Director of Children and Care Ministries*



Easter Egg Hunt!

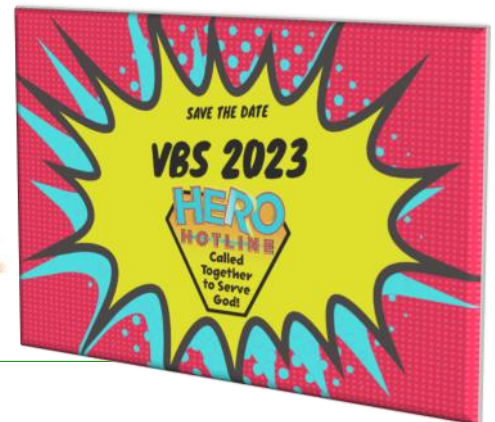
The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Easter Sunday, April 9th, during the Sunday School hour from 10:00-10:45 a.m. Children will hunt for eggs in the Disciples Garden at scheduled times with their classes. We have plenty of plastic eggs, but we will need things to stuff in the eggs, and that is where you can help! There will be boxes at both Welcome Centers where you can drop off individually wrapped candy, stickers, or treats that will fit inside of a plastic egg. Contact Heather with any questions: heather@asburyweb.org

Flowering Cross on Easter Sunday

We will once again enjoy creating a Flowering Cross on Easter Sunday. Please plan to stop and place flowers on the Cross, which will be located on the front brick area outside of the main Sanctuary doors. We will have some flowers here, but we also love when people bring a variety of flowers to share!

Save the dates for Hero Hotline VBS July 9-12, 2023!

In the depths of a colorful underground cave is the beating heart of the hero community, the Hero Hotline Headquarters, where everyone's gifts are valued and every hero has a role to play! Be sure to get these dates on your calendar now!



AFGHAN FAMILY UPDATE

Our Afghan refugee family is thriving in Salisbury due to their capabilities, hard work and support from Asbury's congregation, Salisbury University and the Delmarva Muslim Community.

Azim, the dad, is employed as a full-time accounting clerk in Dining Services at Salisbury University and got his driver's license late in the fall. Tahmina, his wife, is enrolled in two English language courses at SU. Hamid, her brother is a part-time housekeeper at SU while he prepares for additional schooling to supplement vocational training he received in Afghanistan. Two elementary age children are happy and doing well at Pinehurst School. The soon-to-be 3 year old will start pre-school as soon as a placement becomes available.

Applying for permanent resident status has proved to be the most daunting and difficult part of their journey, second only to their escape from the Taliban and 11-month stay in a refugee camp in Abbu Dhabi, UAE. Upon entry to the U.S. in July 2022 they were granted humanitarian parole, which is valid for two years. Even finding an immigration attorney has been tedious and the actual process is complicated, expensive, and extremely time consuming. Happily, we located a willing attorney and the process has begun.

Another lunchtime gathering and opportunity to learn more about Afghanistan and our family will be forthcoming in the spring after Easter. Watch for a date announcement.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact any of the following: Robin Holloway, RHHolloway@yahoo.com or 410-749-0477 or Charles Emery at charlescemeryms@gmail.com or 443-899-9950.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Brooke Christensen, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*



Youth Group

For our February social gathering, Bethesda UMC hosted a live action game of Among Us. If you don't have any teens in your life who started playing during the pandemic, it is basically a murder mystery game where the "crew" needs to figure out who the "imposter" is before the imposter "kills" all the crew members. It's similar to Mafia or 7-Up Stand Up if you've heard of those. No matter if it makes sense, they had a great time!

Service Days

This month the youth will be participating in another trash clean up day! Just like we did in the Fall, on Sunday, March 19th the youth will not meet for Sunday School at Asbury or be at the 11:00 service, but will be outside our walls serving our community.

Confirmation

We have 7 Confirmands this year! Just like last year, we would love for the congregation to participate in filling up love buckets for them. Notes, candy, little fun things, these are all great ideas to show them we love them and want to celebrate this journey with them. If you would like to participate, here are the names of the participants.

Ben Harris

Ben West

Paden Creel

Shannon Tayman

Olivia Szczurko

Nathan Madruga

Nick Cropper



Seniors

Calling all families of **High School** and **College Seniors!**

I need some information from you so we can celebrate you!

1. Please send brooke@asburyweb.org a **picture** as soon as you can- the higher the resolution the better for the digital sign out front
2. With your picture send: **What school you are graduating from** and **how you would like your name to appear in print**
3. I also need to know: **What you are hoping to do next year** and a **favorite Asbury memory you have**
4. Save the date! Sunday, May 14 is Senior Recognition Sunday



We have resumed our routine of Sunday Bible Study and monthly social gatherings. This semester we added a second intern, Michelle! If you see Shemar or Michelle around the church be sure to say hi.

Stay tuned for more information about a Sweet Frog fundraiser we will be having in May!

--Brooke

ASBURY SERVICE PROJECT UPDATE

In 2018, with the passing of Steve Dashiell, Asbury and ASP lost a beloved long-time friend and supporter. The final, tangible act of Steve's love for the ministry came in the form of a donation in his honor. The ASP Board of Directors saw this as seed money for something God had not yet revealed to us, and so it was separated from the general funds, waiting for God to reveal what He would have us do with it.

All seeds germinate in God's time, and this one would take four years. During that timeframe, your ASP group has constructed dozens of wheelchair ramps in partnership with Chesapeake Housing Mission, using one of CHM's tool trailers for each build. The Holy Spirit started stirring the hearts of several of us to expand the local repair / construction ministry beyond CHM projects, to widen our circle and to provide opportunities for others in our congregation to serve.



This would require a tool trailer of our own, and we had no idea how that could come to be. Then we quite unexpectedly won a one-time grant from Exelon which, together with the Steve Dashiell memorial fund, would go a long way toward purchasing either a trailer or the tools to equip it, but not both. We discussed purchasing a trailer and appealing to our community for help stocking it, but we were concerned that any such appeal might diminish the generous financial support we receive each year for our mission to Appalachia. And so we waited on God...



At this year's ASP kickoff meeting, we were surprised with the gift of a brand-new enclosed tool trailer from Buchanan Subaru! God had provided in abundance, and to top it off, we then received a very generous donation of new tools from DeWalt. Thanks be to God, He has equipped us, and now it is up to us to use what He has provided to help His children. Be on the lookout for future invitations to join in construction / repair projects around our community.

Our Asbury Service Project team continues to prepare for our upcoming mission trip to Appalachia, by serving dinner at the Christian Shelter the first Sunday of each month (through May), two more pancake breakfast fundraisers on March 12 and April 16, and wheelchair ramp builds in partnership with Chesapeake Housing Mission scheduled for March 25, April 22, and May 13. Note that these ramp builds are skills training opportunities for our folks who plan to go on the trip; the aforementioned local service opportunities will be announced separately.

Thank you, Asbury, for your continued support of this longstanding ministry. Love strong!

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

Carlton Bradshaw

HYDE SCHOLARSHIP

Attention graduating seniors interested in applying for the Hyde scholarship: applications are due in the church office **no later than 4:00 pm on April 14, 2022**. Hard copies are available in the Welcome Centers, so students can review and ensure they meet the requirements first. The official application can be found on the church website. You will need to use Adobe Acrobat to edit the pdf form.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Kristen Wall-Love, *Director*

Dear Faith Family,

In *Streams of Living Water*, Richard Foster emphasizes the important connection between the Holiness Tradition (“the power to *be*”) and the Charismatic Tradition (“the power to *do*.”) “Power is not an end in itself, it was never intended to be. Healthy spiritual power is, of necessity, tied to spiritual growth. And it is right here, at the linkage between spiritual power and spiritual growth, that we see how intimately connected are the Charismatic and the Holiness Traditions” (*Streams*, 103).

This month, as we explore the spirit-empowered life, you are invited into an area of spiritual growth that is impossible *unless* it is empowered by the Holy Spirit. We want to invite you to pray for your “enemies.”

Because Jesus knows what’s best for us and wants us to be children of (and more like God in heaven), he invites us to love our enemies and to pray for them—those people we find especially difficult (Matt 5:44-45). Some days when we simply can’t *love* them, we may be able to at least pray for them. *The Message* puts it this way: “When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves. This is what God does . . . Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.”

But praying for difficult people is itself difficult because we don’t know what to say and because many times we don’t even wish them well. So in our efforts to “live generously and graciously toward others”, we learn by doing. Begin where you are. Briefly share with God how difficult this is for you and ask for help. Then imagine that person as a child. Behold God beholding them. Notice God’s tender care. As much as you can, agree with God’s care of them, and, when you are ready, ask God to lavish his loving kindness upon them...Praying for (and loving) difficult people may require an element of “fake it till you make it” with the intention that we desire most of all to “make it”—to be transformed into Christlikeness.

Because some of us take a little longer to put things on, especially in certain situations, there’s room to grow into this practice. Praying for difficult people often occurs in layers. We may begin with: O God, help me to even want to pray for them. [Help me to be willing to be willing.] Theoretically, I want to “love my enemies,” but maybe not. We “pray as we can, not as we can’t.”

Come to the 3rd
Thursday gathering to
discuss the Charismatic
Tradition (Life in the
Spirit). RSVP to
kristen@asburyweb.org.
March 16th at 7pm

We trust that our small steps of obedience create an opening for the Holy Spirit to move within us, heal us, and transform us. Asking the Spirit to enable us to pray for our enemies is one way we can “plug into” divine power. “Jesus Christ knew what He was talking about when He advised us to pray for our enemies,” writes Agnes Sanford. “He was no idealist, He was the world’s most uncompromising realist. He knew that when we become so completely immersed in God that we can actually pray for those who hate us and despitefully use us, then His power flows through us so strongly that we can ask what we will and it shall be done unto us” (*The Healing Light*, 158).

Spiritual Practice: Praying for Difficult People—Suggestions:

Enter into the process wherever you are and adapt as needed. Here are some ideas.

- Ask God to help you discern who the difficult person to pray for might be. (This might be easy!)
- Tell God your difficulties in doing this and ask for help. For example: “I’m going to pray for X but this is difficult for me.”
- Ask God to show you what to pray. You might pray phrases from Scripture (see below) and then say, “Holy Spirit, please help me to mean it!” Or you might simply ask God to give that person wisdom and understanding.
- Going the extra mile: You might ask God to show you what loving this person would look like (loving—engaging the will for what is good, what is best for that person).

It’s OK not to have warm feelings when you do this. You’re cooperating with God at this moment, not with the person.

Prayers from Scripture might include:

- Psalm 23, understanding that this is the enemy who sits across the table from you, or phrases from Proverbs about wisdom and understanding (e.g. Prov 2:6).
- “And this is my prayer, that Xs love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help X to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ X may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of you, O God” (from Phil 1:9-11).
- “I ask that X may be filled with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that X may lead a life worthy of you, Lord, fully pleasing to you, as X bears fruit in every good work and as X grows in the knowledge of you” (from Col 1:9-10).
“I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that X may be strengthened in his/her inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in Xs heart through faith, as X is being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that X may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that X may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (from Eph 3:16-20).

The purpose for this exercise is to help you be with God in prayer in the difficult places in your life and to invite the Holy Spirit’s transforming power to work within you in those places. (adapted from Jan Johnson via Renovare Institute)

Questions for reflection:

- What effect do I think praying for a difficult person had on me? What did praying for this person reveal about me?
- As Jesus invites, “come and be like me...” what transformation (freedom) do I sense may be opening to me as I move forward?
- What (if anything) did this exercise show me about the role of the Holy Spirit in my own spiritual growth?

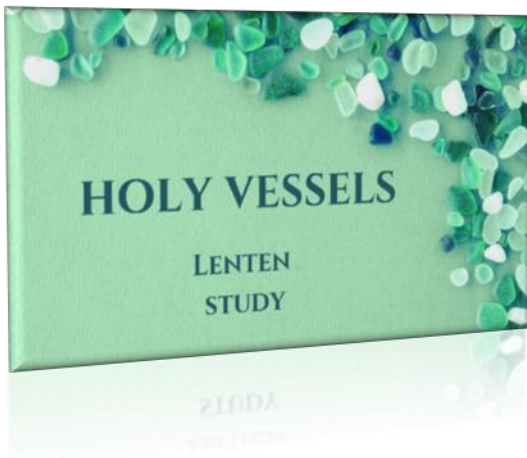


On the journey with you,

Kristen Wall-Love,

Director of Adult Spiritual Formation & Membership

kristen@asburyweb.org



Mondays
Feb 27-April 3
7pm
All Welcome





A note to all Asbury women:

If you would like to make new friends, strengthen your faith, learn more about what it means to be embraced by Asbury, have fun... then come join one of our 4 circle groups. In fact, we have some UWIF ladies that belong to more than one circle! You won't be sorry!! Contact the church office or Connie Boccia, Membership Chair, at 410-603-0253.

Circle News

Joanna Circle – Carol Bisker

Joanna will meet on March 13 at the home of Carol Bisker at 10 a.m. to make Easter cards.

Eve Circle – Amy Cropper

Eve meets on March 15 at 7:15 p.m. at Tracy Locke's house.

Dorcas Circle – Susan Cropper

Dorcas will meet on Tuesday, March 14th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fox Room at the church.

Deborah Circle – Maggie Fulkrod

Deborah Circle's next meeting is March 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the church. All women are welcome--please contact Maggie Fulkrod 410.937.8104. We just finished up our study on simplicity and fasting and are pondering our next endeavor. We meet the last Tuesday of each month.



Brenda Martin Chair

Robin Evans

Sara Lewis

Emily Saulsbury

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



The **Bible 101** class is starting a new study for LENT on Feb. 26. “EMBRACING THE UNCERTAIN” by Pastor Magrey de Vega of Hyde Park UMC in Tampa, Florida.

Pastor deVega describes LENT as: “an invitation to engage life’s uncertainties not ignore them.” We will look deeply into our hearts as we explore the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord in all four Gospels!



Come join us in the **Open Hearts, Open Minds** adult class. **ALL** are welcome to attend this Sunday School class held in the Mackey room. We convene between 9:45-10:00 with joys and concerns before beginning the lesson. Our collection each Sunday is used to support 4 local and 1 international charities: ASP, Habitat for Humanity, the Village of Hope, Afghan Refugee project, and Covenant Mercies, where we have supported the same Ugandan child for 7 years.

On February 5, Pastor Tom explained the Catalyst Initiative and its goals. This past Sunday, we briefly examined the Epistles of Paul and learned about the controversies among scholars and theologians who believe that not all the epistles were written by him. The lesson looked at Paul the Radical, Paul the Liberal, and Paul the Conservative.

For this spring, we have chosen the curriculum Saving Jesus, Redux, from the Living the Questions Project. This series is an exploration of a credible Jesus for the 21st Century. The premise underlying the conversations asks the question: “Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian right or discarded by the secular left”? There are 12 conversations beginning with Jesus through the Ages to the wrap up of Why Jesus is Worth Saving.

Here is the schedule:

3/5	What can We Know About Jesus? (and How?)
3/12	The World Into Which Jesus Was Born
3/19	Jesus’ Birth: Incarnation
3/26	Teachings of Jesus: Wisdom Tradition
4/2	Jesus’ Program: The Kingdom of God & Ministry of Compassion 2 sessions
4/9	Easter

4/16	Who Killed Jesus?
4/23	The Atonement
4/30	The Resurrection of Christ
5/7	Why is Jesus Worth Saving?
5/14	Asbury’s Foundation
5/21	Sessions Assessment

****On May 14, Prof. Ray Thompson will lead a discussion of Asbury’s roots.*



NEW ADDITION TO SANCTUARY



If you are in the Sanctuary for a service or program and find yourself with a restless child DON'T LEAVE before you try our newly placed vintage rocker. We are doing a trial placement on the pulpit side of the Sanctuary about one-half way forward. Sit and rock and feel the love aura surrounding this rocker used by multiple generations of the donor's family. It's just another way we can say "Welcome" to families.



CHURCH & SOCIETY (UPDATED SPRING SCHEDULE)

Everyone is cordially invited to attend a series of talks this winter and spring on timely issues and programs affecting our community. Sponsored by the committee on Church & Society, we offer a light lunch, presentations from guest speakers doing important work, and engaging conversation. The floor is always open. Hope to see you there!

Lunch & Learn

*One Sunday per month, 12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Mackey Room*

March 5 [new date]: Dylan Laconich, sustainability specialist, City of Salisbury. Dylan is a 2022 graduate of Salisbury University and the successor to our previously announced speaker, Alyssa Hastings, who left the city recently. Salisbury's sustainability program includes many environmental initiatives such as the new plastic bag ban, pocket pollinator meadows, resiliency planning, and community cleanup.

April 2 – Brenda Mahan, Delmarva Program Coordinator, Society of St. Andrew. See ENDehunger.org for more information on this church-based project which promotes gleaning healthy food from America's fields *after* the commercial harvest is finished, to feed America's hungry.

May 7 [new date]: Jennifer Small, vice president, Maryland Food Bank. The Eastern Shore Branch of the food bank serves some of the most food-insecure areas in the state, including Wicomico and Somerset counties. See <https://mdfoodbank.org/about/locations/eastern-shore-branch/>

All meetings to be held in the Mackey Room following the 11:00 a.m. service. A light lunch will be served prior to a talk and conversation with our guest speakers. Voluntary donations only. Please RSVP if possible to Lydia in the church office for purposes of room setup and lunch planning. (But please feel free to come even if you have not RSVP'd!) 410-749-2131.



ALTAR FLOWERS ARRANGEMENTS



We have had wonderful feedback about the altar flowers ministry! Altar flowers can be donated as a way to honor and remember loved ones, special anniversaries/events. We will note who you are honoring in the bulletin.

Following is our altar flowers program:

In the SANCTUARY for EMA and Festive services:

1. Up to 3 (traditional 3-point only) altar arrangements can be donated weekly - one on each side of high altar, and one on the floor in front of the low altar. The cost is currently \$55 per arrangement.
2. If there is a week where only one arrangement is donated, it will go in front of the low altar, and the white silk arrangements will be used on the high altar.
3. Kitty's will create a "seasonal mix" arrangement with colors to compliment the paraments, or to use fresh flowers they have

readily available.

4. Please note that you are not able to choose a specific color palette for the high altar arrangements unless you are donating both – this ensures that the high altar arrangements match, and will look cohesive.
5. A single rose in a bud vase can be placed on the high altar. The cost is currently \$10. Limit one each week.
6. You may take your arrangement or bud vase with you AFTER the 11:00 am Festive service concludes.

In the Fellowship Hall for CAYR service:

1. One floral arrangement traditional 3-point only can be donated weekly to be placed on the altar.
 2. Kitty's will create a "seasonal mix" arrangement with colors to compliment the altar, or to use fresh flowers they have readily available.
 3. A single rose in a bud vase can be placed on the altar. The cost is currently \$10. Limit one each week.
 4. You may take your arrangement or bud vase with you AFTER the 8:45 am CAYR service concludes.
- In order to get the special pricing that Kitty's extends to Asbury's members for altar arrangements, the type of flowers used in the arrangement are their choice – carnations, chrysanthemums, gladiolus, etc. Flowers that are typically more expensive, such as roses, lilies, hydrangea, etc. are NOT available at the special price.
 - You will be billed directly from Kitty's.
 - If you do not wish to take the flowers you donated, we are happy to use them elsewhere! We will then make several smaller arrangements from the leftover flowers and the Visitation Team will give to our members during home, hospital or nursing home visits. If you have glass vases that you do not use and would like to donate for this cause, please place them in the donation box CURRENTLY LOCATED IN THE ADMIN HALLWAY CUBBIES.

If you are interested in donating an altar arrangement or bud vase, please contact Lydia at the church office, 410-749-2131 or lydia@asburyweb.org

ASBURY NEWS

Church Directory Update

After a long hiatus, the 2023 church directory is being finalized and will be available soon! We will let you know when the directories arrive and are ready for pickup.

Shirley Cropper Memorial Leaf

The UWIF would like to honor Shirley Cropper for her years of dedicated service to Asbury church by purchasing a leaf for the memorial garden that is on display in the church hallway (that leads from the Welcome Center to the Sacristy). We welcome donations for this memorial to Shirley, a true servant of Asbury. Please make out checks to Asbury UWIF (on memo line: Shirley Cropper memorial leaf). Donations can be turned into Lydia in the church office by April 1st. Thank you!

Chair Yoga

You are invited to attend some gentle/chair yoga every Wednesday at noon in the Mackey room. Plan on 30-45 minutes, beginning with a devotion. Hope to see you there! Contact Kristen with questions kristen@asburyweb.org. If you are interested in evening Chair Yoga, please let Kristen know.

Opportunity Shop

Donations:

- ◆ Monday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- ◆ Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sales:

- ◆ Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please clean out your attics and closets and donate your usable items to us! Lack of inventory has limited our hours and our ability to help Asbury ministries and the community with the proceeds from our sales.

The shop is in need of spring clothes, shoes, holiday decor and any kitchen or houseware items. Must be clean, functional and current. Tax receipts are available.

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!

Salisbury Urban Ministries

Donations needed for:

- ***Lazarus Food Pantry:*** Cereal, Desserts for Easter Bags (such as cake mix, frosting, brownie mix)
- ***Kid's Café:*** Spray Deodorant

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

Souper Bowl for Caring

Many thanks to Asbury Youth's for raising over \$600, supporting Salisbury Urban Ministries Lazarus Food Pantry for the "Souper Bowl of Caring."

Care for the Cause

The Puppets for Christ will be performing at the "Care for the Cause" fundraiser concert at Christ UMC on Sunday, February 26 at 3:00 p.m. This concert supports all of Salisbury Urban Ministrie's programs.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BAPTISM

Shinaider Paul 2/5

MEMORIALS

Mary Carey

Lynn & Samuel Collins

Caryle & David Shriver

David C. Shriver



MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Time	Meeting
1	Wed	6:00 p.m.	SPRC
8	Wed	7:00 p.m.	Leadership Team
9	Thu	5:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
14	Tue	5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
22	Wed	7:00 p.m.	UWIF
28	Tue	10:00 a.m.	Altar Guild

*** 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.***

***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: *TBA*
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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