

the ASBURIAN

Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
VOLUME 88 · ISSUE 37 · SEPTEMBER 2022



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OFFICERS OF OUR CHURCH

George Whitehead, *Leadership Team Chair*
Dave Harris, *Leadership Team Vice-Chair*
John Marshall, *Staff-Parish Relations Chair*
TBD, *Staff-Parish Relations Vice-Chair*
Pawel Szczurko, *Board of Trustees Chair*
TBD, *Board of Trustees Vice-Chair*
Stephen Hearne, *Finance Committee Chair*
Dan Ervin, *Finance Committee Vice-Chair*
Sharon Dashiell, *ACDC Board Chair*
Kim Bradshaw, *Lay Leader*
Laura Crum, *UWIF President*
Carlton Bradshaw, *Chair, BOD, ASP*

Editor: Lydia Childs



Friends, the start of a new year of ministry is right around the corner. I am so excited to be here at Asbury right now. We have amazing things happening all around us, and you can read about most of them here in the Asburian. What has really given me joy lately is the work that I am a part of with the Catalyst Initiative. I thought that I would take a little time to fill you all in on this incredible opportunity.

The goal of the Catalyst Initiative to change us for the better. The Catalyst Initiative provides a 12-month congregational cohort process of discovery, exploration, and renewal. It will empower Asbury to initiate a Spirit-led vision and understanding of our community; ignite our faith into action; and invigorate us to claim God’s call to empower and enliven our community. Throughout this year we will learn to cultivate discipleship more deeply and intentionally, to discern and experiment, to build better relationships with one another and those in our community, to evaluate and design ministry for the most meaningful impact, to identify and leverage assets and to create alignment and systems that sustain ministry into the future. As a result we will increase our skills, confidence, and resilience so that more transformed lives transform lives.

This means that we are going to try some things. If we want to connect with the community, then we need to be talking with people in the community. If we want to grow spiritually, then we need to be embracing daily prayer and group practices to connect with God. If we want to be united in mission, then we need to be aligned around what God is doing here in Salisbury by the power of the Holy Spirit. We need to be a people who are bold enough to be willing to risk—their comfort, their time, their willingness to be right, and their certainty. It’s time that we engaged with God deeply and honestly about what we are willing to do to spread the Gospel.

Finally, I want to close with this prayer for our community of faith here at Asbury:

*Embolden us to be vulnerable and authentic seekers of your wisdom and your will. We claim this as a sacred and brave space for learning, for questioning, for building, and for growth; and ask your blessing on all we think, do, and become. Teach us to dare. Teach us to remember. Teach us to love. So that when we stumble or doubt, we choose wisely, opt for enthusiasm, and embrace the promise you’ve placed in our hearts. Make us catalysts of hope and thriving in the church and the world.
Amen.*

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tom



**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
START SEPTEMBER 11**

**EMA
8:00AM
SANCTUARY**

**CAYR
8:45AM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**FESTIVE
11:00AM
SANCTUARY**

worship
with us



FALL KICKOFF



Dear Church Family,

We are excited to begin a new season of music ministry at Asbury. We have some wonderful new things in store for us this coming fall. More details to come! I'm looking forward to seeing all of our dedicated children, youth and adults return to the music program after a nice summer break. In addition to our

returning members, we are always welcoming new people to join our various music ensembles and/or share their gifts of music with us in a shorter time commitment.

All Best,

Dr. Michael Stefanek
Director of Music Ministries



CALLING ALL SINGERS! COME ONE, COME ALL!

To sing or not to sing, that's the question!

Let's come together and make a joyful noise to the Lord! All vocalists are welcome! We practice weekly on Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. If interested, please call the church office at 410-749-2131 or email Dr. Michael Stefanek at michael@asburyweb.org.



Asbury Worship Service

Want to watch our Sunday Services online? Go to our YouTube channel, and pick the service you want to watch! Current Sunday services are usually available by 8:00 pm, and all previous services are always available.

FINANCE

Thank you, thank you.... for the recent surge in donations. In the August Asburian we asked everyone to pray about their giving. We encouraged you to sacrifice a coffee, ice cream, dinner outing, etc. and donate that extra in support of the operating budget. We see your giving of additional funds and we want to assure you that your giving is appreciated! Though the month of July did have a deficit of (\$5,923), this was a great improvement over May and June which had deficits each of (\$20,000). As of the writing of this article in August, we continue to see your donations flowing in- please pray for this to continue and our expenses to be kept in line with our budget.

Janice Ilczuk

Director of Finance & Building



	January- July Actual	January- December 2022 Budget
Pledged/unpledged Giving	\$386,970	\$670,000
Plate Contributions	\$14,231	\$20,000
Special Contributions	\$5,736	\$11,400
Endowment	\$12,786	\$12,786
Rentals	\$21,896	\$32,325
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$4,554	\$4,501
Gain/loss on stock	(\$28)	(\$500)
Total Income	\$446,145	\$750,512
Property Expenses	\$63,748	\$110,124
Ministry Expenses	\$174,001	\$315,457
Administrative Expenses	\$81,278	\$138,782
Apportionments	\$56,960	\$93,210
Employee Benefits	\$80,605	\$141,920
Total Expenses	\$456,592	\$799,493
Net	(\$10,447)	(\$48,981)
January Net	\$50,828	
January - February Net	\$43,403	
January -March Net	\$30,023	
January -April Net	\$35,909	
January - May Net	\$15,147	
January - June Net	(\$4,524)	
January - July Net	(\$10,447)	

Ways to Give:

- Drop your cash or check in the offering plate during service.

- Mail to: **Asbury United Methodist Church**
Attn: Janice Ilczuk

Visit www.asburyweb.org and click "Give Here".
[PayPal will keep 1.99% + 0.49 of each transaction]

- Electronic Funds Transfer can be set-up with Janice Ilczuk or through your local bank..

We have been given a unique charity link that will take you directly to smile.amazon.com and automatically selects Asbury as the charity recipient so that you do not have to search for us on their site. Our direct link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-0607975>



Attention all high school students and parents: If you are interested in making lifelong friends, earning up to 150 service hours, experiencing the joy of helping others and having fun in the process, then ASP is for you! The overwhelming majority of youth who participate in the program and go on the trip have such a great experience that they come back the following year. Come check it out, and bring your friends, even if they do not attend Asbury.

Our first interest / organizational meeting will be **Sunday, September 18 from 1-3 pm in Fellowship Hall**. All youth in grades 9-12, their parents, alumni and adults interested in participating in the mission this year should plan to attend this meeting. We will talk about the work that we do throughout the year here in our own community, as well as the trip in June, what to expect and what will be required throughout the year. You do not have to be a member of Asbury to be a part of our ASP ministry; in fact, every year our group is made up of both members and non-members. All are welcome!



This will be our 50th year in ministry to our local community and Appalachia! We look forward to the coming year filled with some of our favorite activities, including pancake breakfast fundraisers, serving dinners at Christian Shelter and building wheelchair ramps in partnership with Chesapeake Housing Mission for needy families in our community. In addition, there will be special celebrations to mark our 50th year.



So come to the kickoff meeting on September 18th to learn all about what Asbury ASP has planned for the year. If you are not sure whether this is for you, come to the meeting to help figure it out. Looking forward to seeing all of you on the 18th!

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

Carlton Bradshaw

ASBURY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Casey Taylor, Director of ACDC



We are super thrilled here at Asbury Child Development Center to continue yet another school year!! The renovation of the floors and ceiling in the ACDC hallway look wonderful. We can't wait to show them off to the parents and students. All of our classrooms are decorated perfectly and have

new activities and learning tools. The teachers are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their new students. The school year is packed with many wonderful activities and events! We still have a few openings in our program and would love to show you our fabulous school...call or come in for a tour today! 410.742.7058



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Heather Harman, *Director of Children and Care Ministries*

Children's Music Programs return on Tuesdays in September!

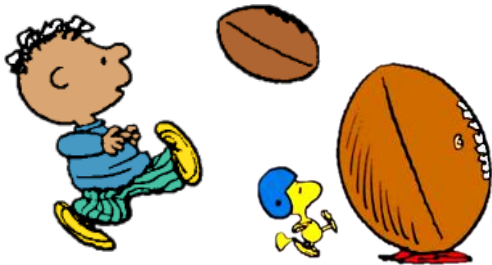


Do you have a preschooler (ages 3-4) who enjoys music? Our preschool choir has a new name and a new format! Mary Beth Gicking is excited to offer Melody Makers (formerly Little Mozarts) for preschool children beginning September 20th! Offered in 6-week sessions, these classes will have specially designed musical activities focused on a theme which will change which each new unit. Sign up for one session to try it out, or sign up for multiples if you would like! You can view Mary Beth's website here: <https://mrsicking.wixsite.com/website/melody-makers>

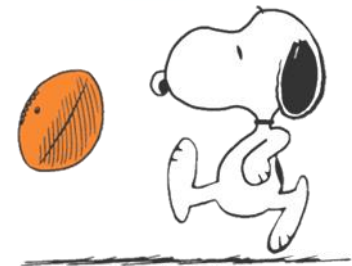
Registration information will be coming soon!

In addition to Melody Makers, we will also continue to offer Cherub Choir (K-2nd) and Kingdom Kids Singers and Ringers (3rd-5th). These classes will begin meeting on Tuesday, September 13. The schedule is as follows:

Melody Makers:	<i>Rm. 101 (Fox Room) 4:30-5:00 pm</i>
Cherub Choir:	<i>Rm. 103 (Mackey room) 4:45-5:15 pm</i>
Kingdom Kids Ringers:	<i>Rm. 114B (Bell Room) 4:30-5:15 pm</i>
Kingdom Kids Singers:	<i>5:20-5:50 pm</i>



Sunday
SCHOOL
KICKOFF



We are kicking off the Sunday School year with a Cereal Box Domino Run Challenge!



We will collect regular-sized (not jumbo or family Sized) **unopened** boxes of cereal beginning on August 31st at Back-to-School Bike Night all the way up until Friday, November 18th. You can bring boxes of cereal to church on Sundays, or drop them off during office hours. Watch for those BOGO sales on cereal! The more we collect, the more fun it will be for the kids! On Sunday, 11/20, we will create a giant Cereal Box Domino run through the church. All cereal will then be donated to local food pantries to help feed needy families in the area.

Save the Date

Trunk or Treat will be held at Asbury on Sunday, October 30th. We will not have Puppets for Christ this year. Decorated cars will pass out treats in the rear parking lot beginning at 6:30 pm. Parking will be in the main (South) Parking lot. Come out and join us for this family-friendly event!



YOUTH MINISTRY

Brooke Christensen, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*



If you are a youth, parent, grandparent, or volunteer 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

Youth Group

Our next social gathering will be **Friday, September 9 from 6:00-8:00 pm**

We had so much fun last year that we decided to go back to the Pasmores for a cookout! I will provide the meats (and faux meats for vegetarians :D) and the rest will be potluck style. Please RSVP to me so I know how many to expect!

Service Days

This year the Youth Council decided to add a monthly day of service to our schedule. Our September service is going to be a trash clean up day. The date and time are still being confirmed but please check the Youth Update for the most up to date information.

Rainbow Allyance

Our September Rainbow Allyance meeting will be on Monday, September 12 from 6:00-7:00 pm in the Youth Room by Fellowship Hall. This is a youth led group that anyone who is curious about LGBTQ+ issues and their connection with our faith is welcome to attend.

Sunday School

Our Fall Kick Off is Sunday, September 11 and as always we could use more teachers! If you feel a tiny tug to walk alongside our youth and be a part of discussing how we can all grow into our calling to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world then I would love to talk to you!

Book Club

This summer we started a book club! This time we are reading *A Tale of Highly Unusual Magic* by Lisa Papademetriou. We will be meeting in October to discuss so there is plenty of time to get on board.

Wednesday Walks

Yes! We still do this! With school back in session we will move our gathering time back to 4:00-5:00 pm. Join us!



This year we are focused on expanding the Wesley Foundation beyond the borders of Salisbury University. We are a group that is open to young adults both in and out of school.

We are also excited to welcome our first intern, Shemar Brooks! He is a marketing student at SU and will be helping us with our digital and personal marketing campaigns.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 11 from 1:00-3:00 pm
Come help us welcome our area young adults!

There will be yard games, coffee, ice cream, and maybe a drum circle

Sunday, September 18 starting at 12:15 pm
This will be the first day of the return to our weekly Bible Studies

Wednesday, September 21 starting at 6:00 pm
It's our Wesley Wednesday movie night!

--Brooke

THE ARRIVAL OF THE AFGHAN FAMILY



In March the Leadership team of Asbury voted to investigate and then sponsor an Afghan Refugee family. The resettlement of Afghan families is called 90 Days to Independence. Partnering with Church World Service, a subcontractor of the US State Department, a plan was developed and the wheels put in motion. If we look on the wall in Fellowship Hall, 2 of the 5 habits of Fruitful Congregations include Radical Hospitality and Extravagant Generosity.

On August 8, an Asbury welcoming committee gathered up the Afghan family at the airport and transported them to their new home in Salisbury. The family includes a father, mother, three children ages 11, 9, and 2 plus a brother of the Mom. We are blessed for the father's good English language skills which makes communications so much easier. He was closely involved with US military forces. The two older children and the wife also can speak some English.

They have been incredulous, joyful, overwhelmed and grateful for the Radical Hospitality from Asbury, the Delmarva Muslim Community, Salisbury University, and the many other community partners and individuals who have worked since March to prepare for their arrival. Committees for housing, education, jobs and finance, medical, cultural adjustment, transportation, and legal affairs have busied themselves organizing different aspects to make them welcome and smooth their placement and adjustment. Many thanks are due to so many people who have pitched in to get the house ready, from polishing up the exterior and readying the yard, to the furniture, small repairs, and providing bicycles for the adults and children who love to ride in their neighborhood. Computers, phones, food, clothing, toys, games, guitars, books and so many other items too numerous to mention have been donated. Extravagant generosity also involves giving of peoples' time and energy to engage the family. What we have received from the family is also an example of Radical Hospitality as they always want visitors to have tea or coffee. That hospitality is very important in the Afghan culture.

Kudos to the extended medical/dental community for stepping up and expediting exams and treatment upon their arrival. Initially, the father will be working at SU and hopefully the uncle. The children are registered to attend Pinehurst Elementary School and the adults will also be taking English classes at SU. All of this has been accomplished in just two weeks. More remains to smooth their transition and to achieve the goal of the State Department and Church World Service which is called 90 Days to Independence. Let us thank God for all his blessings on this family and on the Salisbury community whose Radical Hospitality and Generosity are working as His hands and feet!

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

LAY READERS & COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center desk (by the Sanctuary) for help with services. If you'd like to be a Lay Reader or a Communion Assistant, please put the role you'd like to fill, the time of the service you'd like to help in, your name and phone number. If you'd prefer, you can also contact Lydia in the church office at 410-749-2131 or at Lydia@asburyweb.org.



CAYR GREETERS NEEDED! SIGN UP TODAY!

We need greeters to offer a warm welcome at all of the various church entrances on Sunday morning. CAYR needs greeters urgently! If you are interested in greeting during the CAYR service, please contact Doris Webster at dorisw1@hotmail.com. Call Lydia at the church office to sign up for EMA or Festive services.

greeters

If you love to sing and/or can play an instrument, please prayerfully consider joining our worship team. Our group usually leads worship with contemporary songs, but we are not limited to that. Being able to read music is not required for vocalists, just a desire to help lead our worship service.

Praise Band



We practice weekly on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

If interested, please contact Laura Hurley at praiseband@asburyweb.org or 410-603-3240.

PLEASE COME TO LUNCH & LEARN WITH CHURCH



Everyone is cordially invited to attend a series of talks this fall on issues and programs affecting our community. Sponsored by the committee on Church & Society. We offer a light lunch, presentations from guest speakers, and engaging conversation to follow. Hope to see you there!

Lunch & Learn

Sunday 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

Mackey Room

SEPT. 11: *James Yamakawa, Wicomico Race & Reconciliation Initiative*

<https://www.facebook.com/TellTheTruthWicomico/>. James is also chair of social ministry at Faith Lutheran Church of Salisbury <https://www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranSalisbury/>

OCT. 2: *Rev. Greg Carlson, Hands and Hearts Ending Homelessness (formerly the Community Emergency Shelter Project)*

<https://www.facebook.com/salisburyhheh/>. Greg is pastor of the Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, where many of us volunteered this past winter when the homeless shelter was moved there.

NOV. 6: *Rev. Joshua James, Pastor, The Restoration Project (meets Sunday mornings in our Fellowship Hall beginning this fall)*

<https://restoresby.org/>. TRP is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship church and their beliefs are explained on their web site: <https://restoresby.org/what-we-believe/>

DEC. 4: *Debbie Donaway, Executive Director, Salisbury Urban Ministries*

<https://www.sbyurbanministries.org/>. SUM is a United Methodist program supported by seven covenant churches, including Asbury.

All meetings to be held in the Mackey Room following the 11 am 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 feel free to come even if you have not RSVP'd!) 410-749-2131.

PLEASE COME TO LUNCH & LEARN WITH CHURCH & SOCIETY

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Kristen Wall-Love, *Director*

September's Spiritual Practice is: Labyrinth

Praying with a labyrinth is a form of walking meditation, a physical expression of the interior journey towards Christ that characterizes all Christian meditation. Like a pilgrimage, forms of walking meditation evoke our earthly journey towards heaven while simultaneously giving us time and space to listen and respond to the Lord.

The earliest examples of labyrinths go back nearly 5,000 years, but the use of labyrinths in Christian prayer emerged during the Middle Ages. The most famous example of a Christian labyrinth intended for prayer is the stone labyrinth inlaid on the floor of the Chartres Cathedral in France. However, you can find prayer labyrinths in most areas of the country, from abbeys and monasteries to the campuses of parishes and colleges.



Sometimes the words "labyrinth" and "maze" are confused. While both refer to circling patterns, the two are totally different. A maze is a puzzle and thus designed to confuse. A labyrinth is a single path which leads the walker to the center and back out. In an open, receptive frame of mind, the walker simply follows the path in and the out and experiences a deep, refreshing form of meditation. There are many ways to describe a labyrinth. It is a path of prayer, a walking meditation, a crucible of change, a watering hole for the spirit and a mirror of the soul.

Where we pray affects how we pray. Most of the time, we seek to pray in places of quiet and stillness. At other times, taking a walk or simply being outside helps us pray. Although we can embark on a walking meditation nearly anywhere, the predictable and concentrated route of a labyrinth frees us from the inevitable distractions that come with being out on a walk (like recalling directions or wondering when to turn back). If being outdoors makes you feel closer to God or if pilgrimage has been influential in your spiritual life, then praying with a labyrinth might be a helpful practice.



There are two-sided informational handouts at the Welcome Centers (including a finger labyrinth if you cannot get to or would have trouble walking a physical labyrinth). [Visit the labyrinths available in the Salisbury Area](#): one is at St. Alban's Episcopal Church 302 St. Alban's Drive in Salisbury and the other is recently installed to the Riverwalk by the Rotary Club and is located on the northeast side of the South Division Street bridge, across from the library. There is also one near-by in Ocean Pines at 11227 Racetrack Road, Berlin. Let Kristen know if you have questions. Commit by checking the "monthly spiritual practice" box on your connection card Sunday mornings and receive helpful emails throughout the month. (kristen@asburyweb.org)

¹ <https://mcgrathblog.nd.edu/how-to-pray-with-a-labyrinth-a-walking-meditation>.

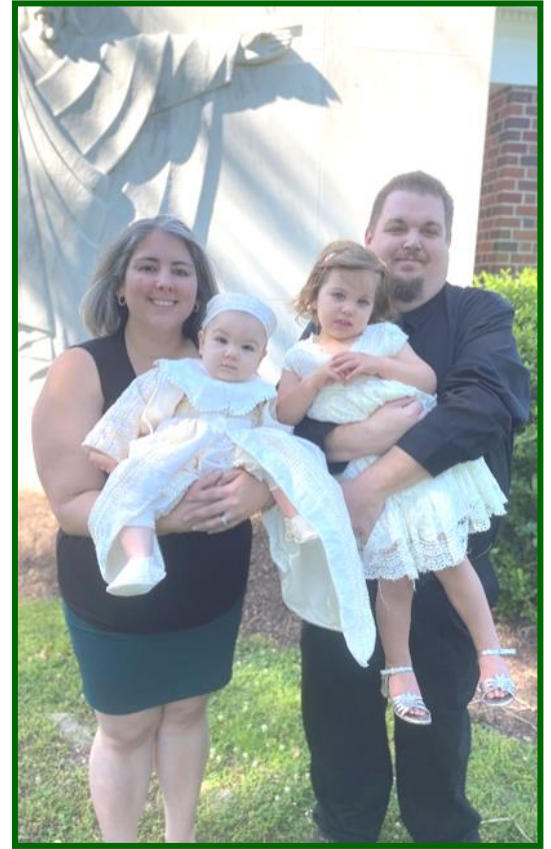


ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Kristen Wall-Love, *Director*

A warm welcome to our newest members!

We are the Collins Family: Scott and Christine moved down to the eastern shore almost two years ago with our daughter, Penelope. We were born and raised on Long Island, New York. We had our son, William, about a year after we moved down here. We are very active with family and friends. We travel back to Long Island on a regular basis to visit some of our families up there. We love movies and board games! Saying we collect might be an understatement. Scott is head of that department. As well as our love and wide knowledge about animals and reptiles. We currently have a cat, dog and eight snakes. We enjoy doing everything that our communities can offer, when we get free time, of course. Christine is the outdoors type. With her list including: bicycling, fishing, kayaking, hunting and more. Penelope is our silly little girl. And William, let's just say he is can be placed in that baby boy stereotype: drooling, laughing and everything in his mouth.



Scott & Christine Collins



Dave Abbott

I am Dave Abbott and I attend the Come As You Are service at 8:45 am. I connected with Asbury last summer (2021) through this congregation's commitment to the Appalachia Service Project. ASP has been a passion of mine for several decades. I had the privilege of serving the past two summers in Appalachia with the Asbury team. Having made that connection, I chose to move to southern Delaware in January of 2022 and to join Asbury UMC in June.

I retired in mid-2016 after working as an Information technologist for 37 years. Most of that time I supported a contract with the US Patent and Trademark office. We had the task of sifting through patent application files and preparing the information we gleaned for publication according to statutory and international requirements.

Welcome
We're Glad You're Here!

Please introduce yourself to these new members and welcome them, Asbury style!



Our Circle groups are getting ready to begin their monthly meetings for the 2022-2023 year. We welcome new members. Our circle groups are a great way to form new friendships and enjoy Christian fellowship.

Joanna Circle – Carol Bisker, Leader

Joanna will meet on Monday, September 12th at 10 am at the home of Carol Bisker to make cards for church.

Eve Circle – Amy Cropper, Leader

Eve circle meets on September 21st at 7:15 pm in the Mackey Room. Susanne Holloway is hosting.

Dorcas Circle – Susan Cropper, Leader

Circle Dorcas will meet on September 13 at 10 am in the Mackey Room at Asbury. Looking forward to seeing everyone then.

Deborah Circle – Maggie Fulkrod, Leader

Deborah Circle will be meeting Tuesday, August 30th at 6:30 pm in the library. We are continuing our "7 Experiment" with fasting and simplicity. We meet the last Tuesday of the month and all women are welcome. Contact Maggie Fulkrod 410.937.8104 or mfulkrod1@verizon.net.

UWIF Fall Fundraiser: Please support! Dates to be announced. Stay Tuned!

UWIF Is having a fall flower fundraiser. We are going to have 9" fall mums for \$7, 10-inch mixed mums will be \$15, 9" flowering cabbage kale and a variety will be \$7, 9" oriental peppers and they will be decorative \$10 each, and we will have straw bales however market price (not sure on price yet).

UWIF Fall Dinner

Ladies mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 28th at 6:00 pm. The 4 circles will be hosting this event and providing the dinner. There will be a speaker. As in the past, we are inviting other churches to enjoy a night of Christian fellowship. Other churches to be invited are: Zion, Trinity, Wesley Temple, and UWIF Board.

ASBURY QUILTER'S MISSION GROUP



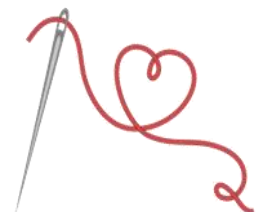
Our quilting group began in 2007 in a Sunday School room on the 2nd floor of the education wing. Since we began, we have made over 1,000 quilts for families that are served by our ASP mission team, Habitat for Humanity, Coastal Hospice patients and special projects in our church and our community. You can see some of our quilts hanging on our walls in the Welcome Center.

Unfortunately, Covid closed our door, but our quilters kept sewing at home, and made all the quilts needed for this summer's ASP trip and for several Habitat families. The quilting room will reopen in September after Asbury completes renovation projects are complete.

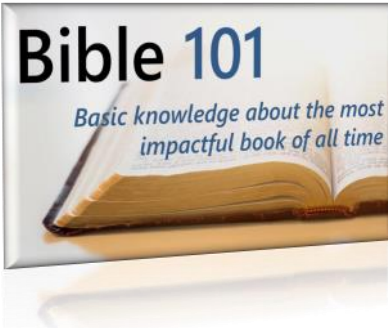
As the need for quilts continue, our on hand supply grows smaller. We are in need of some "at home" quilters. I have prepared kits, which include all of the precut quilt pieces and the directions for throw size quilts, youth quilts and baby quilts. If you are interested in making one of these quilt tops, please contact me and I will make arrangements to get a kit for you.

Emily Saulsbury - egsaulsbury@comcast.net or 410-430-8251

Thank you for helping us to keep this wonderful mission active!



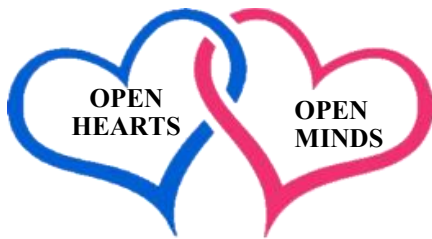
2022-23 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



The **Bible 101** Class will resume meeting on September 11 at 10:00 am in the Fox Room. We will begin a new study of the Book of Daniel, who is one of the Major Prophets. In the Gospel of Matthew 24:15.

Jesus, The Christ refers to the Book of Daniel regarding “The abomination that causes desolation”. The class will discover that when Daniel and his friends are captured by King Nebuchadnezzar. They remained faithful to God and refuse to worship The King’s golden idol.

The theme of the Book is “God’s Sovereignty over all human Kingdoms, and of course we will encounter “Daniel, In the Lions’ Den”. Everyone is welcome to attend. Come join us for our lively discussion!



The OHOM Sunday School class welcomes all attenders with love, acceptance, and support. Classes are held in the Mackey Room and begin at 9:45 am with joys and concerns before the study begins. During the past year we have been exploring a series entitled Living the Questions which has been very rich in content, thought, and discussion. We will be using September to complete this study.

The next study is Adam Hamilton’s *John: The Gospel of Light and Love* followed by Amy Jill Levine’s Advent Study: *Light of the World: A Beginner’s Guide to Advent*. Additionally, Kristen Wall-Love will share with us her spiritual retreat journey during this summer. Frank Shipper will be leading a class entitled "Tikkun Olam" which is a Hebrew philosophy meaning “repairing the world.”

Please join us Sunday mornings as we continue to listen and search for God’s guidance as we continue to explore how Asbury can continue to create and build community within our church and the Salisbury region.

DATE	TOPIC	FACILITATOR
9/4	What re-creation did you do this summer? What activities turned spiritual?	
9/11	LTQ: Prayer: Intimacy with God	
9/18	LTQ: Compassion: The Heart of Jesus’s ministry	Suzanne Perry Loss
9/25	LTQ: Creative Transformation	



ASBURY’S SKILLS DECK



Have you ever thought about what skills or talents you have? Have you ever thought about what makes you excited to get out of bed in the morning? Try working through our *Skills Deck* to see which cards spark your excitement or creativity. Through our *Catalyst Initiative*, we are building a database of talented people. We want to include you! Shuffle our Skills Deck to see what your favorites are. Try it out at:

<https://skillsdeck.rootedgood.org/?group=Asbury%20UMC%20-%20Salisbury,%20MD>

Instructions are included on the webpage. We look forward to seeing what you are passionate about doing.

ASBURY NEWS

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day. Also, the church office will reopen on Fridays beginning September 9. If you'd prefer, you can also contact Lydia in the church office at 410-749-2131 or at Lydia@asburyweb.org.

Wicomico Goes Purple - Toiletry Drive for Recovery

In the month of September, we would like to help provide sample / travel size toiletries for area shelters and individuals in need. We are looking for shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste.

******Please only give alcohol-free products. Thank you!***

Altar Flowers Have Returned!

After a long COVID hiatus, the altar flowers have returned! Would you like to donate flowers to honor or remember loved ones, or to celebrate a special anniversary or event, and have it noted in the bulletin? Our new program outline will be at the Welcome Centers, so pick up a copy to review. Call Sheri or Lydia with any questions.

The Opportunity Shop NEEDS YOU!!!

If you can help our ministry by working 9:45 am - 1:00 pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays, please call Sheri at the church office. If you can only work once or twice a month, that's OK. We need new volunteers and would love to have you.

Opportunity Shop New Hours

As the summer starts to wind down, the Opp Shop has new hours:

Donations:

Monday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sales:

Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

The shop is currently in need of fall and winter clothes, shoes, holiday and any kitchen or houseware items. Must be clean, functional and current. Tax receipts are available. Thank you for supporting this important ministry!

A BIG THANK YOU! From the Kid's Café at Salisbury Urban Ministries

Thank you, Asbury, for your generosity to our Project School Clothes and Supplies! Asburians donated about \$400 worth of school supplies and over \$1,000 for the purchase of school clothes!

Thanks to Asbury and other contributing United Methodist churches, the Kid's Café children will start the year with backpacks, two new outfits of school clothing, and necessary supplies from markers to colored pencils to scissors, etc. In addition, Salisbury Urban Ministries will be able to purchase additional clothes throughout the school year as it gets colder and as children grow.

Salisbury Urban Ministries Donations needed for:

Lazarus Food Pantry: Romen Noodles, Meat seasoning, Packet Gravy, Toiletries (body lotion, etc.), Chapstick. ***Kid's Café:*** Moon Pies. ***Men's Welcome Center:*** Body Wash

SUM Information Center—NEW!

SUM will now have its own information center, located at the Main Welcome Center by the Narthex. Flyers for monthly donation requests and other special project information can be found here.



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



DEATHS

Elizabeth Hickman, 08/04/2022

Joe Ollinger, 08/21/2022

Beth Hillman, 08/28/2022

Audrey Hayman, 08/29/2022

MEMORIAL

Elizabeth Hickman

Carolyn Gruber

Kick off
MEETING

SEPTEMBER			
Date	Day	Time	Meeting
7	Wed	7:00 pm	SPRC
8	Thu	5:30 pm	Finance Committee
13	Tue	5:30 pm	Board of Trustees
14	Wed	7:00 pm	Leadership Team
21	Wed	7:00 pm	Nominations Committee
27	Tue	10:00 am	Altar Guild
28	Wed	7:00 pm	UWIF Fall Dinner

*** 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.***



September ALTAR GUILD



Klaudia Thompson, Chair

Jean Laws

Lou Elin Sheller

Brenda Martin

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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