

<p>Rally Day September 11!</p> 	<p><i>World Communion Sunday</i></p>  <p>World Communion Sunday October 2</p>	<p>Sermon Series</p>  <p>Our God is Boundless!</p>	<p>Our Fall Music Programs Return In September!</p> 
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the ASBURIAN

Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
VOLUME 59, ISSUE 7 September 2016



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 Shelly Marshall, Chairman, BOD, Opportunity Shop
 Carlton Bradshaw, Chairman, BOD, ASP

Editor: Karen Corwin

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

What does it mean to be the church? To be a Christian community coming together in the name of Jesus Christ? Some people may believe that being in Christian community means coming to church when we are able, serving in the ministries of the church, using our gifts and talents for the work of the church, to be generous, and helping those in our congregation when they have a need. If you believe this you are absolutely right, but these things outside of the direction of the Holy Spirit living in us, are good and moral things that most community service organizations do as well. We, as Christians, are called to be so much more. If we are to be called Christians, that means that we bear the very image of Christ and we are called by God to be a peculiar people! James Bryan Smith, in his book, *The Good and Beautiful Community: Following the Spirit, Extending Grace, Demonstrating Love*, shares that we are called to be peculiar, "...in the best sense of the word. Peculiar, that is, to the world around us that does not live by the teachings of Jesus." We are called to have our lives rooted in the kingdom of God which Smith says, "gives us the strength to live unselfishly, to strive for unity in the midst of diversity, to forgive even when it is not easy, to set our standards high, to live generously, to long to be worshipping in the house of the Lord and to be witnesses of new life to a dying world." This type of behavior is counter cultural in today's world and can only be done by the presence of Christ in us! We cannot accomplish this in our own strength. "We need to be reminded and we need a community around us to help us remember who and whose we are and what that means for our daily lives." Our lives, when lived this way, fulfills the commandment to love God and to love our neighbor and that is a shocking way to live in today's world. I pray that, as the Christian community of Asbury United Methodist Church, we are peculiar, we are shocking, and that we continue to learn what it means to be image bearers of Christ as we live out our faith and our witness together.

Pastor Benita



Adult Music Groups to Return in September

Chancel choir will commence its season on Thursday, September 8 with a potluck at 6:15 p.m. followed by rehearsal at 7:15 p.m. Chancel choir regularly practices on Thursdays at 6:45 p.m. If you are not a member of the choir, but are interested in joining, please contact Michael Stefanek at michael@asburyweb.org.

Jubilate Bells will practice September 8 at 5:30 p.m. and Chiming Belles will practice September 7 at 5:15 p.m. with Sharon Birch, Director. We have a very exciting new season ahead of us! Please visit our website: www.asburyweb.org or call the church office to learn more about our music ministry program opportunities.

Musical Events at Asbury 2016-2017

Saturday, September 17 at 7:30 pm
American Spiritual Ensemble Concert

February 25 at 5:00pm
UMES Gospel Choir Concert

Saturday, November 5 at 7:00 pm
Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council
Concert for a Cause

Wednesdays, March 15, 22, 29, April 5 at 12pm
Lenten Organ Recital Series

Friday, November 11 at 7:00 pm
Organ Recital by Michael Stefanek

March 31 at 7:00 pm
Asbury Chorale Concert

Saturday, December 3 at 4:00 pm
Children & Youth Christmas Program

April 8 at 4:00pm
Handbell Concert

Sunday, December 11 at 7:00 pm
Lessons & Carols

April 28-30
Workshop, Concert, and Worship with Mark Miller

Krazies Change Name

Eleven years ago about this time of year, the only active childrens' singing choir at Asbury was Cherubs. In order to attract young people (2nd-5th grades) to a new choir, it had to be FUN. Thus the Krazies and their tie dye shirts were born. The first choir had 9 children, and today that choir has grown to as many as 25 members, worshipping God through music! Although "The Krazies" has become a term endeared by people familiar with Asbury, it does not elicit who we truly are: a group of young, talented individuals who take seriously the many responsibilities of assisting in leading worship through music. It was time for a change of name...

Kingdom Kids is born! New shirts are being designed! We are excited to welcome the first class of Kingdom Kids in September! AND we are excited about the potential synergy between Kingdom City (the Sunday School program for 2nd – 5th) and Kingdom Kids—THE KINGDOM CLUB!

Pamela Ollinger

EXPLORING OUR FAITH

The Wired Word Class 10 a.m.

How does the message of the bible apply to current events in our world? This is something we all wrestle with at one time or another. The Wired Word takes current happenings each week and gives you a lesson based on this topic with scripture and discussion questions. Each week the lesson is emailed to the class members and we gather in the Catley Library during the Sunday School hour for lively discussion and fellowship. If you have ever thought about joining an Adult Sunday School class, stop in and check it out. Advanced preparation isn't mandatory and it doesn't matter if you miss classes because the lessons are all independent of one another. If you would like to get on the email list for the class just call 410-726-2491 or email mrsjmarshall@msn.com.

Peace and Grace,

John and Shelly Marshall

The Lounge Class

9:50 to 10:45 a.m.

Beginning September 11, the Lounge Class meets at 9:45 a.m. in the Mackey Room and is designed to have class members select and lead the weekly topic and encourage dynamic discussions using contemporary and traditional materials in the second half of the class hour.

September 11

Nancy Rubenson: "Getting To Know You-Better!"

September 18

Church & Society

Ministry: "World Peace Day"

September 25

Eric Warner: "Tracing Wesley's Steps in England"

Bible 101 Study Class 10 a.m.

The Bible 101 Sunday School Class is starting a new study: "The Bible and Your Work" a book from "The Theology of Work Project", by of a group of renowned thinkers, academics, and business leaders who help people explore the Christian perspective of work through a study of Exodus, II Corinthians, Proverbs, Luke, and James. The class will begin with a study of The Book of James. All Spiritual Seekers are welcome. We meet at 10:00 AM on Sunday Mornings in the Fox Room, beginning September 11.

United Methodist Women (UMW)

Circle Meetings:

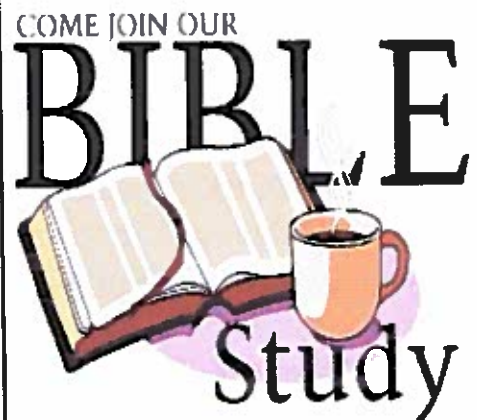
Dorcas: Tuesday, September 13, at 7:30 p.m. at Ruth Beauchamp's home

eCircle: eMeeting Newsletter by Internet for September

Eve Circle: Wednesday, September 21, at 7:15 p.m. in the Mackey Room with Lynn Matava and Amy Gordon as hostesses

Joanna: Monday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m. at Carol Bisker's home

[See page 11 for information about the Fall Dinner]



Youth

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (NRSV)

Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



Making Faith Stick for Young People

Kara Powell is an expert researcher on faith and young people. Her primary purpose is to find out how families can form healthy habits that will help young people to have a faith that will remain strong and be lifelong. Her research is especially important because we live in a culture and society where young people are more often than not losing their faith or turning away from religion after their high school years. She has 5 encouragements for every family to practice.

Kara says adults should share regularly with their children about their own faith journey. The best way to do this is organically as events or struggles are joys are celebrated, we can give testimony to how our faith has contributed to our journey, helped us through hard times, or added to our joy. Testimonies are powerful and give something tangible for young people to remember about why faith is meaningful and valuable. They will remember the faith stories you tell them that coincide with the meaningful moments of their lives.

Secondly, encourage young people to communicate their faith doubts and provide a safe place for them to do so. Doubts are normal, good, and are an opportunity for young people to further solidify their faith. Express your own doubts and struggles, share with your children those times in your life when your faith was challenged and the moments in which your faith was strengthened.

Thirdly, connect young people to several faithful and caring adults. Intergenerational relationships are so vital because there are great cultural differences between our generations. Bridging those gaps with commonality and relationship ease the tension between our generations. And when young people have a team of adults who are there for them to create a web of support to catch them or encourage them or help them in their times of failure, they will be evermore likely to see how faithful people have enabled them to succeed.

Fourthly, encourage young people that their failures, sins, and mistakes are small in comparison to the profound grace of God. When young people fail, they oftentimes run away from God out of guilt and shame rather than running to the loving and forgiving God. We can model this loving and forgiving God to others in the ways in which we also respond with grace. Young people are oftentimes maladapted to failure and hardships, so modeling the grace of God in our homes may enable young people to experience the grace of God firsthand.

[Cont'd on page 7]

FINANCE

We are on track with our 2016 budget, although income did experience a dip during the summer. This is usually due to many of us away on vacations and traveling. Please remember we have two ways you can continue your consistent giving when you are not able to attend church. You can set up a fee free electronic transfer through our finance office or give online through our website – www.asburyweb.org there is a 2.2% + .30 fee to the church when giving online. The Finance Chart for January – July shows us ending with a deficit of \$3,314. As much as we would like to be in the black, this deficit is not unusual for this time of year, in fact the year to date deficit is much lower compared to the past few years. This is due to a savings in many of our expense categories. As we head into the fall we are projecting our income to start increasing as usual. If you have overlooked your pledge/giving for the summer, we encourage you to catch up. Remember you cannot out give God!

	Jan - July	Budget
Income & Expenses	16-Actual	2016
Pledge Contributions	\$361,421	\$669,247
Plate Contributions	\$17,766	\$40,520
Special Contributions	\$2,499	\$10,000
Endowment	\$10,884	\$10,884
Rentals	\$16,260	\$25,576
Interest-checking/mma/cd	\$154	\$5,108
Gain/loss on stock	\$0	-\$100
Total Income	\$408,985	\$761,235
Property Expenses	\$80,529	\$152,072
Ministry Expenses	\$144,066	\$276,028
Administrative Expenses	\$66,958	\$115,225
Apportionments	\$55,554	\$91,595
Employee Benefits	\$65,192	\$126,315
Total Expenses	\$412,299	\$761,235
Net	-\$3,314	\$0

Your faithful giving for the rest of the year will be key to carrying on the impact Asbury is making through our many ministries and lead us into 2017 continuing to make a difference!

World Communion Sunday



World Communion Sunday Come Worship Together as One Body of Christ!

- 10:30 We will be in our third week of our sermon series, "Our God is Boundless" and we will be focusing on gratitude. On this special day, Christians all over the world will be celebrating Holy Communion as the church universal. This worship celebration will also include music from many of our music groups: Praise Band, Cherubs, Kingdom Kids, Chancel Choir.
- 12:00 Lunch – Potluck in Fellowship Hall. Slide show of Asbury's year in review.
- 12:30 Annual Meeting – Budget; review of

2016 and presentation of 2017 requests; Trustees report (parking lot, steeple, outside painting), and update on Strategic Planning.

Altar Guild Wants YOU!

There is a ministry in Asbury that has been active for **59 years!** Working behind the scenes to assist with every Sunday service are the members of the Altar Guild. We are looking for new members of all ages, for all services, who would love to join our group. Members are asked to sign up for 3 months of the year, and during their months of choice they work during the service of their choice and also a Friday. We are flexible and work with women who are still working full time. The flowers you see around the church at Easter and Christmas, the preparations for Communion, the care of vestments and robes, and the continuing care of the Altars is what the Altar Guild does for Asbury. Two of the personal benefits of joining are – a deepening of your faith in Christ by understanding our history and mission, and developing fellowship with many remarkable women of the church. Please pick up one of our brochures in the welcome center for more information, or call Sharon Dashiell with any questions. Please consider joining us and being a part of the 11:00 service on October 2 to honor the dedicated women of this ministry.

Ministry Opportunity

Saturday, September 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., there will be a river and downtown clean up from both water and land. It is sponsored by the Wicomico Interfaith partners for Creation Stewardship and the Wicomico Environmental Trust In conjunction with the International Coastal Clean Up Day focusing on the Wicomico River and its downtown surroundings. Interactive activities on environmental stewardship will be provided for children. Meet at downtown parking lot on Wicomico River next to Market Street Inn. Bring: Water, gloves, hat, sun screen: your boat if you wish to clean up from the water. Contact info: Jwgroutt@hotmail.com, or 443-523-0204.

[Con't from page 5]

Lastly, young people need help to plan for life after high school. Might you help a young person to research churches in their area? This can be done as you also help your child to plan their college schedule, finances, and other responsibilities. More than 40% of young people in college report that they have struggled to find a church and so they need help connecting with the spiritual resources available to them as they continue their journey in a new community.

These five practical ways stood out in Kara's research as essentials to enabling young people to have a faith that doesn't just fade into existence, but is a faith that is made real to them by the people who are closest to them. Sometimes our younger generations need help seeing God at work in the world around them, and what better way to do so than to fulfill the baptismal vow when we made the promise to nurture them in the faith?

Eric Warner, Associate Pastor

Coming Soon: Connection Card

On Rally Day, September 11, we will be instituting a “connection card” and are asking for your help. This card is for all who are in attendance at Sunday worship services. The card will have a space for your name and contact information, whether you are a first time guest, guest, regular attender, or member. The card will also include challenges from the message, for the week, encouraging you to be thinking about what you have heard and what you might do to grow in faith and to put your faith into action in the coming week. There is also a section where you can request information on our ministries, as well as a section for prayer requests. We ask that each family fill out the card. If you are a regular attender and we have your information, you only need your name and any information that has changed. We pray that this simple change will be effective in the church connecting with you and you connecting with the church. Thank you in advance for helping us launch this new connection card. You are important to us!



Financial Peace University This Fall – Don't Miss It

Asbury will be offering Financial Peace University (FPU) this fall. FPU is a 9-week, money-management course taught by America's financial guru, Dave Ramsey. It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions, and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future and much more. The course begins on Monday, September 26, 2016 from 6:30-8:30 p. m. and will meet every Monday at this time through November 21, 2016. Nursery will be available for younger children. To sign up go to www.daveramsey.com (but don't order materials). To get your materials, sign-up for childcare or if you need help, please contact the church office. The cost of the course is \$93.00 per family.

Sunday School begins on Rally Day, Sunday, September 11!



We will be kicking off our Sunday School year in a big way on Rally Day! Asbury offers Sunday School classes for children and youth from preschool (age 3) through high school! Please visit the registration tent located outside the Education entrance (near the playground) to pick up information and register your child or youth from 9:30-9:55, and then join us in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 to meet the teachers and find out what this year has in store!

Stay tuned for CESP updates! We will once again be collecting “bags” for our homeless guests starting in October. Please think about donating as a family!

The Opportunity Shop

158 W. Market Street Salisbury, Maryland 21801 410-749-9777
Store Hours: Thursday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

***Donations can be dropped off Monday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and also during store hours on Thursday and Saturday .

Opportunity Shop

Currently, just about every volunteer we have is working every month, which doesn't give us much of a cushion when people get sick or go on vacation. Many of us love the Opportunity Shop and want to see it continue, but we worry about having enough people to staff the shop in the future. If you have ever thought about volunteering, now is the time! This is a good way to spend time with friends or get to know others from Asbury that you might not come in contact with regularly. If you would like to get on the volunteer list, please call me at 410-726-2491 or send an email to mrsjmarshall@msn.com. Blessings, Shelly Marshall, Opportunity Shop Chairperson

Asbury Service Project (ASP)

Our mission trip was a great success, helping seven families in need by making their homes warmer, safer, and dryer. Asburians, celebrate the Christ inspired work of the youth and adults that you supported with your prayers, love, and financial gifts! They made a difference in the lives of others while growing in their own faith. During our trip, West Virginia experienced severe storms and flooding. Less than 100 miles northeast of where we were staying, the community of Rainelle, WV was completely devastated by the flooding. Inspired by their love for Christ and for the people of Appalachia, our ASP youth responded by collecting supplies and over \$500 in donations to send to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to help with relief efforts. Such is the impact of this ministry on youth and adults; it helps us to see beyond ourselves, and to love beyond our inner circles.

It is now time to start planning for the 2016-2017 ASP year. Our first 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, as well as the trip in June, what to expect and what will be required throughout the year. The trip dates are June 17-25, 2017.

We have some exciting events and experiences planned for this year, including service opportunities for the poor in our community, providing food for the church's Fall event, pancake breakfasts and social gatherings. Details on these opportunities will be shared at the September 18 meeting. Pancake breakfast dates for your calendar are: November 13, December 11, January 15, February 12, and March 12. Work Skills/Safety Training sessions are scheduled for: October 22, March 18, April 22, and May 20. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 410-896-2776.

Carlton Bradshaw

EXCITING TIMES AHEAD

As summer winds down, Asbury winds up. The many ministries at Asbury have been busy this summer preparing for fall and winter programs.

RALLY DAY will be September 11. It has been suggested that the Adult Sunday School Classes might participate along with the youth in **RALLY DAY**. This would be a good opportunity to offer parents a path to participate in Christian education while their children are doing the same. If any adult class members would like to represent their class, contact Heather Harman through the church office to set up a booth.

Dave Harris and his band of volunteers have been working hard on a new Fall event for October 14, 2016 Tentative schedule for the event:

4:30 to 6:30 pm – Classic Car Show



5:30 to 8:30 pm – ASP Serving Food

5:00 to 8:30 pm – Kids Activities

6:30 to 7:30 pm – Family Guided Line Dancing

To be held on the brick patio in front of the Church.

4:30 to 6:30 and 7:30 to 8:30 pm – Christian Music

Local Christian bands.

Put this on your calendar! More information coming soon.

Earle Hatton is forming a group of volunteers to set up and staff an Asbury booth at the **THIRD FRIDAY EVENT** in downtown Salisbury. A great idea and another opportunity for Asbury to share our faith and ministries. One suggestion for the booth is to feature a different ministry at the booth each month. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office at 410-749-2131.

These are just a few of the upcoming events. Please be sure to check the other ministries in the Asburian for their schedule of events. There are plenty of opportunities to be a spectator, a participant or both.

Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17

Volunteers: Thank You!

A special thank you for all of the volunteers who have helped with mailings, in the church office supporting all the daily tasks, making phone calls, and in general, just offering their time to the church. If you have a couple hours a week and would like to help in the office or monthly for mailings, please call the office!



We are super thrilled here at Asbury Child Development Center to continue yet another school year! 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

UMW Fall Dinner The Asbury UMW will host its annual fall dinner and program on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 beginning at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Corporal Theodore Antal from the Maryland State Police. He will be speaking about safety tips for women and what to do in the event of an active shooter. All women of Asbury are invited to attend. Childcare will be provided. Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, September 21 and indicate the number of children, if any, needing childcare. If you are not in a UMW circle and wish to attend or have any questions about the event, please contact Sara Lewis at 410-251-4905 or sarawolff@yahoo.com. Circle members will have the opportunity to sign up for the event at your September meeting.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

August 10
Emilia Rose Szczurko, daughter of Sara & Pawel Szczurko

August 17
Kolton James Jackson, son of Jamie & Lindsey Jackson, grandson of Gary & Barbara Jackson, great grandson of Jim & Nadine Jackson

NEW MEMBERS

June 5
Ben and Kim Taylor
Joe and Giddi Taylor
Ryan Taylor
Suzy Creel

BAPTISMS

June 19
Cora Charlotte Bailey, daughter of James and Hilary Bailey

June 24
Paden Richard Creel, son of Suzy Creel

June 24
Carter Patrick Craig, son of Ryan and Eileen Craig

DEATHS

Dr. Tiffany Moisan, June 5
Dr. Harry Womack, June 10
Donna Stone, June 21
Dr. Ollie Thompson, Jr., July 13
Larry McKinney - August 23

MEMORIALS

Lois Hayman
Audrey, Bob, Dory & JK Hayman

Robert & Pam Loy
Pierre & Peggy Genvert

Janice Parks
Bill & Marlene Rinnier

Dr. O. H. Thompson, Jr.
Alberta Collins Parker
Carol King
George & Barbara Whitehead
Bob & Jane Corcoran
Mr. & Mrs. Wade Insley, III
Charlie & Shirley Silvia
Dennis & Betty Lou Bloodsworth,
Jr.
Michael & Joanna Abercrombie
Cameron Jackson

Charlotte Langrall
Elise McMahon Furer
Mary Carey
Theresa Derrickson
Harriet & John Lerch
Alex & Wilma Azar
Vic & Jean Laws
Claudia Baldwin
Gail & Stuart Bounds
Bill & Jean Smith
Mrs. Beverly Berty
Louise Morgan
Daphne Hayman
Trent & Amy Pusey
James & Norma Clifford
Kimberly Thomas
Paula Johnson
Memory of Anna Mae (Cooper)
Allen by her children c/o Terri Albert

Phyllis Turner
Bill & Marlene Rinnier

Senior Pastor: Rev. Benita Harris
Associate Pastor: Rev. Eric Warner
Visitation Pastor: Rev. Bill Sterling

Administrative Office Manager: Karen Corwin
Administrative Assistant: Sheri Burchard

Director of Music Ministries: Michael Stefanek
Director Children and Care Ministries:
Heather Harman
Director Finance and Building:
Janice Wilkinson

ACDC: Director: Casey Taylor
Asst. Director: Danna Abbott

*World Communion
Sunday*



**World Communion
Sunday
October 2**

Website: www.asburyweb.org
Email: asbury@asburyweb.org
Fax: 410-749-2914
Phone: 410-749-2131

Asbury United Methodist Church
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Salisbury, Maryland 21801



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