



Asbury Church
a United Methodist
Community

Our Vision Statement

In all aspects of our lives, we will strive to be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

SUNDAY SERVICES

HERITAGE WORSHIP
8:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

OPEN DOOR WORSHIP
5:00 p.m. in the Wesley Center

Senior Pastor
Eric S. Yeakel

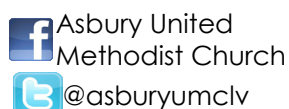
SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

During our 9:30 Worship Service and Sunday School time, we have childcare for infants through three year olds. During our 11:00 Service, we have childcare available for infants through PreK.

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., M—F
1533 Springhouse Road
Allentown, PA 18104
Phone: 610-398-2577
Fax: 610-366-1108
www.asburylv.org

Publicity Requests:
<http://publicityform.asburylv.org/>



THE VINE
faith in action... imagine your life changed.

JANUARY 7, 2016



PASTOR'S COLUMN

This month's "Brewology" discussion group has been moved to January 19 because the room that we use was not available on January 12. "Brewology" is a theological discussion group that I lead at the Brew Works restaurant on Hamilton Street in Allentown. The gatherings are open to our congregation members as well as the community. I hope to see you there on Tuesday, January 19.

I am excited to announce that sixteen individuals will become members of Asbury this Sunday at various services. They have each completed the Adult Inquirers Class and are ready to take the next step of membership. Here is a list of those who will be joining:

Linda Colarusso	Paul & Florence Schmertman
Jason Kamery & Rachel Hoffnagle	Chris & Jen Strow
Diane Lance	Nancy Werley
Garth & Mary Lou Olson	Denise Wolf
Darryl Rentz & Sarah Nemeth	Gail Wotring

I pray that each of them will continue to grow in their knowledge, love and service of Jesus Christ. Please welcome them warmly.

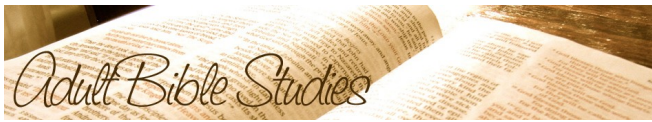
Next Sunday we will continue with our series of messages called "Starting Over." In week two of this series we will look at one of the reasons we tend to repeat our mistakes. One reason history repeats itself is that we don't own our part of our history. If something important has come to an end and you are starting over, you must look back and own your part in order to move ahead. Join us as we examine how your best bet for a successful future is to own your share of the past.

See you in worship!
Pastor Eric



Last week we shared with you that Frank Taylor has joined the Staff as our Head Custodian. This week we want to thank all those who so capably filled in during the busy fall and holiday seasons. Many thanks go out to Tim Dietrich, who took on many of the weekday responsibilities, and to Frank Godiska, Barry Miller and Scott Heffelfinger, who pitched in to ensure that our facility was maintained and activities could go on as scheduled. Suzanne Weida Smullin assumed the tasks of ordering supplies and scheduling maintenance, Heidi Parsons helped with scheduling issues and Tom Gibson coordinated it all. We thank everyone for their understanding and assistance during this time of transition.

RADICAL HOSPITALITY / CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND CARE



Beginning Sunday, 1/10, Asbury will be offering a new class called *Starting Point*. *Starting Point* is for people who are curious about God, have a new relationship with Jesus Christ, or are returning to church after being away for a while. The class will meet for 8 weeks on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 217.

Beginning Wednesday, 1/13, Asbury will be offering a class called *Journey 101 – Loving God*. The *Journey 101* courses are designed to create environments where people experience growth and support as they engage in the discipleship journey. The *Loving God* course focuses on spiritual practices that will help you fall more in love with God as you grow in your relationship with Him and others. The class will meet for six weeks from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 217.

You can register for *Starting Point* and *Journey 101* by contacting the church office (info@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577).

PEP CLUB (People Enjoying People) will meet in the Parlor on Friday, 1/15. (Please note change of location.) Refreshments and fellowship begin at 9:30 a.m., and a program presented by Asbury's Director of Worship Garth Olson will follow at 10:00 a.m. All senior adults are welcome!

PRAYER AND SHARE TOGETHER: Asbury regularly hosts two Christian support groups for Lehigh Valley women: one for women with loved ones who are struggling with emotional issues such as depression, anxiety, bipolar; and another for those who are afflicted themselves. Next meetings for both groups: Tuesday, 1/12, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M. in Room 210. For more information, contact Linda (610-395-8756).

SUSANNA CIRCLE will meet for their annual dinner meeting at Bravo Cucina, in the freestanding section of Lehigh Valley Mall, at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, 1/11. After dinner, Sandra Buss will speak about quilting during Civil War times. The deadline for reservations was 1/4, but you may call Tea Kratzer (610-821-0258) for information.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, 1/12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room, and continue its series on *Psalms*. We will cover Chapter 4, "A Lifetime of Gratitude" with Cyndi Frank as leader. All women are invited to attend. For additional information, contact Judy Whitby (jmwhitby@aol.com) or Brenda Baxter (brendabaxter14@gmail.com).

ASBURY NEEDS YOUR HELP with the renovations to Fellowship Hall! If you are willing to help scrape up the old tiles from the floor, paint the walls, or install new ceiling tiles, please join our team of volunteers. To help with any of the project tasks, click here: (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11xuCV4Gj1RGpEmEzBQz9jWap4T7ICvy3xjvaVKeOdLk/edit?ts=568afd05#gid=0>) and let us know when/how you can help. Please contact Jeff Paiste with any questions (paisteja@gmail.com or 610-398-7108). Thank you for your service to Asbury!

HOSPITALIZED IN THE AREA? Because of changes in the way admissions are tracked and reported at local hospitals, we do not always know that you, a family member or a friend are in the hospital. Please be sure to contact the church office to let us know so that we can provide visitation and pastoral care.



Would you like to read the Scripture in a worship service? Contact Laurie Wallace Theisen (ltheisen@asburylv.org) and indicate which service you prefer. Children and youth are welcome to read as well!



PRAYERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

For new beginnings, Lord, we thank Thee.
For good endings and endings we learn from, we thank Thee.
For the chance to serve and the opportunity to share love, Lord of Light, we are grateful.

For those who are sick or in the hospital

Lord, we ask your mercy and healing for all those currently hospitalized, recently discharged or in rehab, especially Ken Schneider, Lori Dashner, Bill Bried and Elinor Carter. Have mercy on those in pain, and grant them your peace.

For those who need your special help

Lord, we affirm that your power is infinite and that you love us all like a devoted parent. Gratefully acknowledging your love and mercy toward us, we lift up these people for your care: Judy Burkholder's daughter, Bryn, for safe travels in Liberia and successful studies; Susan Peter's dear friend, Donna Tessitore, now recovering from extensive cancer surgery; Dot Torrey's grandson, Ryan Torrey, who is having Lasik surgery; Alice Huey and daughter Audrey as they travel to South Carolina to support son Robert and daughter-in-law Carol, now taken off life support.

For those who mourn

We ask comfort for all who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially the family of S. William Minnich who passed away on 12/30. Reassure them of your unending mercy and eternal love. Comfort the Fritz family, as Baby Jack passed into Jesus' arms on Monday, and the family of 5 year old Jayliel, found in the Lehigh River.

For the world, its people and its leaders

Lord, we ask that you guide our leaders to have compassion and to work diligently for wise and progressive solutions. As always, we lift up those challenged areas of the world where violence is far too easy.

For our children

May our children love and honor you as we do, Lord Jesus.

For our congregation

Lord, we begin a new year full of hope for an Epiphany of grace. We thank you for the opportunity to improve Fellowship Hall.

With thanksgiving for our joys

Jim & Sarah Fullton give thanks and ask continued blessings for Will as he moves to Savannah to be a firefighter. We give thanks for the joy of satisfying employment. We give thanks for beauty in the midst of pain and sorrow

For the missions we support

We pray today for Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley. Turning Point provides a 24 hour helpline, emergency shelter, court advocacy, counseling, support groups, and community outreach and education. All of these services are free of charge to our community.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT



Contact Pam Unrath,
Director of Children's Ministries,
for information on all
Children's Ministries activities & opportunities
(punrath@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577).

Child care is available each week at the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service for infants and one-year-olds in Room 214 and for two-year-olds in Room 223. Child care is also provided during 11:00 a.m. Worship Service in Room 223.

This Sunday, 1/10, all Children's Sunday School Classes will begin a two-week study of Jesus and his Disciples. Children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade will gather in the Wesley Center for Large Group Opening at 9:30 a.m.



Friday, 1/19, Kids' Club will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This month, in addition to dinner and gym time, we will show a short movie. Be sure to wear your favorite pajamas (and sneakers) when you join us on the 19th!

Asbury's Children's Ministry is seeking a patient, loving individual to join our child care team! The position requires availability approximately 2 Sunday mornings each month (from 9:15-10:45 a.m.), and is a paid position. This individual should be willing to obtain Child Abuse and Criminal background clearances and participate in the Safe Sanctuaries training. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pam Unrath in the church office (610-398-2577 or punrath@asburylv.org).



Contact Aaron Forney,
Director of Youth Ministries,
for information on all
Youth Ministries activities & opportunities
(aforney@asburylv.org or 610-398-2577).

Sunday School is a chance for us to dig into our faith and dissect what it means for our lives, all while we get to know each other more as we work to live as part of God's community.

- ◇ **Middle School Sunday School Topic:** As Christians, we're supposed to serve others as Jesus would, but what does that really mean in our life? Come find out and join the discussion. Middle School Sunday School meets on Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Room 106.
- ◇ **High School Sunday School Topic:** All year we're exploring topics related to loving our neighbor. Come explore new ground with us this week! High School Sunday School meets on Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Youth Lounge.

Youth Group comes back from holiday break this Sunday, 1/10! Join us from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge as we kick off the new year!

Keep up-to-date with us online! Sign up for our weekly email (www.asburyym.org/update) and visit www.asburyym.org or check our Facebook page, Twitter feed, or Instagram feed. No accounts are required to access any of the social media accounts.



Confirmation Classes will run from 2/21 through 5/15 and will take place during the Sunday School hour (9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.). There will be a kickoff session on 2/14 at 8:00 p.m. (following Youth Group) in the Parlor. Confirmation Sunday will be 5/22/16. More info to come!

RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

is designated for "Bridging the Gap," a program of the Sacred Heart Hospital Parish Nursing/Community Outreach Department. The goal of the program is to assist in making its clients as independent as possible by providing assistance with various healthcare issues. Please place your contributions in the "Change For Change" containers at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Wesley Center.



Asbury
in Mission

Thank-You Letters from Liberia . . .

I greet you in Jesus' special name, and am writing to you with these few words of appreciation for your sponsorship. I am happy to have sponsors like you and I want to encourage you to continue with your support.

Sponsors, I want to be grateful to Mr. James Wymon for using every dollar that can be sent by you for its intended purpose. He pays our school fees regularly and visit(s) us every marking period.

Remember that "No Matter What, God Loves Us." Thanks for your usual support.

*Thanks,
Boway T. Africa
LTI*

Note: Boway was one of our campers 5 years ago and still remembers the theme of the camp!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, January 10

- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 217
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meetings - 210/211/215/217
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Alternative Worship - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - WC
- 6:30 p.m. Disciple 2 - 208
- 6:30 p.m. Starting Point - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - 108/YL

Monday, January 11

- 6:00 p.m. Asbury Trio - Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men - 215
- 7:00 p.m. Sr. High Girls - Offsite
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 12 - WC/106
- 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 61025 - 108
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Praise Band - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206

Tuesday, January 12

- 12:30 p.m. Program Staff Meeting - Aldersgate
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 654 - 219/221
- 6:00 p.m. New Mom's Group - 223
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Volleyball - WC
- 7:00 p.m. Prayer and Share Together - 210
- 7:00 p.m. OA - 108
- 7:30 p.m. Priscilla Circle - Aldersgate

Wednesday, January 13

- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group - 231
- 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study - 108
- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - WC
- 1:00 p.m. Worship Design Meeting - Aldersgate
- 5:40 p.m. Faith Ringers - 206

Wednesday, January 13 (continued)

- 6:30 p.m. Launching into Bible Study - 210
- 6:30 p.m. Journey 101: Loving God - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers - 108
- 6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers - 106
- 7:10 p.m. Youth Choir - 106
- 8:00 p.m. Apostle Ringers - 206

Thursday, January 14

- 6:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meetings - 210/211/215/217
- 6:00 p.m. Open Door Band Rehearsal - WC
- 7:00 p.m. Troop 12 Committee Meeting - Alders.
- 7:00 p.m. NARANON - 108
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir - 102

Friday, January 15

- 9:30 a.m. P.E.P. Club - Parlor
- 1:00 p.m. AA (Open) - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meeting - 211
- 6:00 p.m. Kids Club - WC/106/108

Saturday, January 16

- 8:00 a.m. Pioneer Class Breakfast Set-up - 217

Sunday, January 17

- 8:00 a.m. Pioneer Class Breakfast - 217
- 8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
- 10:45 a.m. Revelation Bible Study - 210
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Pack 12 Den Meetings - 210/211/215/217
- 5:00 p.m. Open Door Alternative Worship - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - WC
- 6:00 p.m. Pack 12 Committee Meeting -- Alders.
- 6:30 p.m. Starting Point - 217
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - 108/YL



Our Staff

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