Asbury Church
a United Methodist Community

THE VINE

faith in action... imagine your life changed

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Our Vision Statement

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

HERITAGE WORSHIP
8:00 AM in the Sanctuary

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
9:30 AM in the Sanctuary

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
11:00 AM in the Sanctuary

OPEN DOOR WORSHIP
5:00 PM in the Worship Center

Eric S. Yeakel
Senior Pastor
Barbara S. Lee
Pastor of Discipleship & Cong. Care

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE

During our 9:30 Worship Service & Sunday School time, we have childcare for infants through two-year olds in Room 214.

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, M—F
1533 Springhouse Road
Allentown, PA 18104
Phone: 610-398-2577
Fax: 610-366-1108

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

Asbury United Methodist Church

@asburyumclv

Pastor's Column

I want to thank the Spiritual Focus Team for organizing the Asbury Ministry Fair. I also want to thank everyone that participated and shared information about your particular ministry areas. It was a great success.

The Season of Lent began this past week with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a 40-day season of repentance, fasting, praying, and giving, which prepares us to rightly commemorate Christ's death and to joyously celebrate his resurrection. During Lent many people "give up" some of their favorite things like: sweets, sodas, social media, etc. We fast during these forty days to identify with Jesus' forty days of fasting. The idea of "giving up" something or fasting is that it should help us see that Jesus matters more to us than the thing we hunger for.

Another way we can observe Lent is by adding something to your daily routine to help you fix your eyes on Jesus. Two weeks ago I challenged everyone to read the Gospel of Luke during the next six weeks. Reading about the life and teachings of Jesus will help us focus our eyes on Him.

You can also join Pastor Barbara and guest teachers during the season of Lent as we deepen our understanding of the Miracles of Jesus. The sermon series "When Pigs Fly", will serve as a basis for group discussion including a deeper exploration of scripture passages from the Gospel of John. Classes will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM from 3/3 through 4/7 in room 108. So how will you observe Lent this year?

See you in worship!
Pastor Eric

"OLD" CELL PHONES FOR "TURNING POINT" OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Susanna Circle is collecting used cell phones for Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley.
Their Mission is to:

- Work toward the elimination of domestic violence
- Increase community awareness of the problem
- Empower victims of domestic violence by providing shelter and support services

There is a box in the closet on the lower level of church near the water fountain, across from the church offices, for used cell phones.

If you have any questions, please contact Elouise Schreffler at evs114@hotmail.com or call 610-739-6784

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & CARE

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: Join Pastor Barbara and guest teachers during the season of Lent as we deepen our understanding of the Miracles of Jesus. Pastor Eric's sermon series, "When Pigs Fly", will serve as a basis for group discussion including a deeper exploration of scripture passages from the Gospel of John. Classes will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM from 3/3 through 4/7 in room 108.

HENRITZY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: On Sunday, 3/8 Carlen Blackstone will be leading the class. Her topic will be "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" based on the recent movie about Mister Rogers. You do not need to have seen the movie and all are welcome.

SUSANNA CIRCLE: Will meet on Monday, 3/9 at 6:30 in the Parlor. Our guests will be Tim Lebrecht and Laurie Theisen who will tell us about "The Big Picture" of the internal structure of our Asbury congregation and how we all fit together. We will learn how new members are assimilated so that old and new members can come together to serve. All women are invited! Refreshments will be served.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE: Will meet on Tuesday, 3/10 at 7:00 PM in Room 217. Jan Kratz will lead discussion of Chapter 5, "Losing, Finding, Partying" based on the Parable of the Prodigal Son. All women are welcome to attend. For more information on Priscilla Circle email Brenda Baxter brendabaxter14@gmail.com or Judy Whitby jmwhitby@aol.com

UMW LENTEN COMMUNION BREAKFAST: The UMW Communion Breakfast will be on Saturday, 3/21, at 9:30 AM in the church parlor. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy breakfast and fellowship, to share worship and to share communion with other women of Asbury. This event is NOT limited to the members of Asbury UMW and there is no cost to attend. A continental breakfast will be served. Laura Baxter will be playing the flute for us, and our speaker will be Kim Schaffer from Community Bike Works.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: You can help Asbury change lives! Digital (Electronic) giving makes giving meaningful, simple, and fast! With giving to the church with PushPay you can chose the frequency, just one time or recurring. Recurring giving can happen every week, every 2 weeks, monthly or bi-monthly. With PushPay you are in control. Contact the church office or visit www.pushpay.com for more information!

RETREATS AT POCONO PLATEAU: Save the dates and grow spiritually while enjoying the beautiful Pocono Mountains. Knitting Retreat - 9/25-9/27: Senior Retreat - 10/6-10/9: Men's Retreat - 10/16-10/18. For more information: www.poconoplateau.org or 1-570-676-3665.

ASBURY'S HEALTH MINISTRIES: In conjunction with Miller-Keystone Blood Center is offering a blood drive on Sunday, 4/19, from 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Please consider being a donor and "giving the gift of life".

PRAYERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

For those who are sick or in the hospital

Lord, we ask your mercy on those who are hospitalized, in rehab, or recently discharged, especially Dick Black & Frank Taylor.

For those who need your special help

Lord, we affirm that your power is infinite and that you love us all like a parent. Gratefully acknowledging your love and mercy for us, we lift up those who need your special help:

- Trevor McCleary son of Dave & Deb McCleary is having shoulder surgery today.
- The O'Reilly family on the passing of Thomas O'Reilly
- Larry brother-in-law of Jim & Shaun Flynn is starting Chemo for Lung Cancer
- David family friend of Joan Eckert has a blood infection which has moved to the brain
- Frank husband of Amy is recovering after a medical procedure.
- David, a coworker's husband of Donna Carle for healing
- Phyllis Hughes for health and healing.
- Tiffany Ramirez friend of Tammy Dietrich for physical & emotional healing

For those who mourn

Lord, we ask comfort for all who mourn the loss of loved ones. Reassure them of your unending mercy and love. Especially be with the O'Reilly family as they grieve the loss of Thomas.

For the world, its people and its leaders

We ask that your blessing would rest on our leaders, that you would give them great vision and enthusiasm for their work. Please bless the efforts of their hands, the bonds between them and the influence of their work in this location and beyond. Lord, guide us by your Holy Spirit and lead us into all truth.

For our children and youth

O God, we pray and beseech you to guide and protect young people from the dangers that are ever present in our world today. Be with them, as they experience both sickness and health, sorrow and joy, loneliness and friendship, success and failure. Gracious God, give to them the courage and strength to make the right decisions as they journey through life.

For our congregation

Bless the singing of your praise, the reading of your Word, the sharing of our fellowship, the prayers that will be heard. Bless us as we meet together, dear Lord we pray.

With Thanksgiving for our joys

This is the day You made for my use, for my enjoyment, for my service. Today, I live with love. Today I will share laughter. Today, I will know the blessings You give me. Thank You Lord, for this precious day.

For the missions we support

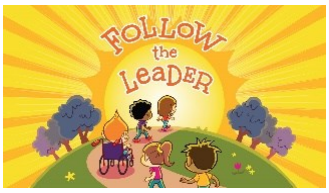
Our prayers today are for our Asbury's newest global mission partner, Brendon Homan. Brendon was a youth camper at several of our Asbury to Africa youth camps. Now as a young adult, Brendon and his wife Adeleigh have gone into full time mission work with Youth With a Mission (YWAM) and have been assigned to high schools in the North West Provence of South Africa. We pray that Brendon and Adeleigh will be guided by the Holy Spirit and that the high school youth will be receptive to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Lord, hear our prayers!

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

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL & ACTIVITIES

Child care is available at the 9:30 AM worship service for infants through two-year-olds in Room 214.



SPARK (3 & 4 year-olds) – "Follow the leader" is something preschoolers love and understand. Throughout life there will be countless choices of leaders they can follow. That is why this month we will look at the best leader they can follow their whole lives, Jesus. This week we will look at John the Baptist, and how he spent his life teaching people that the best leader was coming and He is the one they should follow.

BLAST (PreK-5th grades) – God's love for us is huge. So big that he loves us enough to forgive us when we do something wrong. What a great example for us! Throughout the month of March we will be looking at "Forgiveness." We will begin our studies in Matthew 18:21-35. Here we find Jesus telling a parable about a servant who is shown incredible forgiveness yet doesn't do the same in return. Through this story we pray that our kids will see that "we should forgive others because God forgives us."

JAM (3rd-5th grades) will meet Friday, 3/6, from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Join us for fun, friendship and a devotion on forgiveness. We will meet in the downstairs welcome area.

For information on all Children's Ministry activities and opportunities, contact Pam Unrath at 610-398-2577 or via email at punrath@asburylv.org.

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

Sunday School (9:30 AM - 10:30 AM): Sunday School is designed to work in cooperation with Sunday worship upstairs and provide discussion topics youth can share with their families based on the Scripture in worship. This week we'll be discussing **John 2:1-11** and what it means to have a faith built on evidence given by the first disciples.

Youth Group (6:30 PM - 8:00 PM): Youth Group is your opportunity to expand and go even deeper into the crossroads of Scripture and your personal life. Tonight, we'll take a close look at the concept of covenant and why it's so important to understanding Jesus. We'll even *cut our own covenant* to better know how it feels to be a part of such a beautiful ceremony.

The 2020 **West Virginia Work Week** high school mission trip is July 19-25, 2020! Sign up now at asburyym.org

KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH US ONLINE! Sign up for our weekly email 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.

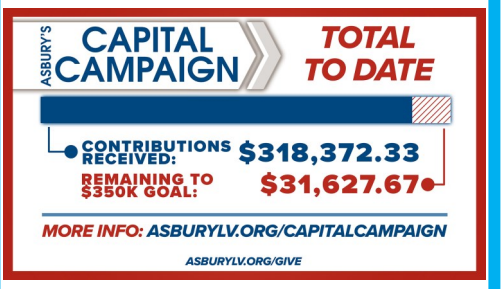
CHANGE FOR CHANGE

Asbury In Mission (AIM), the Mission Committee of Asbury Church, has a goal of every member being involved in missions. One small yet meaningful way to participate is by placing your loose change in the Change For Change (CFC) containers in the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Worship Center each week. For the month of March, CFC is designated for **Laundry On Linden**. This is a ministry in Allentown which provides free laundry for homeless persons every Tuesday evening at a laundromat on Linden Street in Allentown. In addition, Street Medicine will show up with their medical trailer doctor(s) and nurse(s) and evaluate and care for the medical needs of the persons attending. Through the cooperation with other ministries there may be a supper served and/or a worship service conducted.

CHILI COOK OFF

"Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Chili Cook-Off has been postponed.

Be on the lookout for a new date (and use the extra time to come up with a prize-winning recipe)!"



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 1 Communion

8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
9:30 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. Open Door Worship - Worship Ctr
6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - Wesley Ctr
6:30 p.m. Youth Group - YL

Monday, March 2

6:30 p.m. Monday Night Men - 217
6:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal - Sanctuary
6:45 p.m. BS Troop 12 - Wesley Ctr/108
6:45 p.m. Jubilation Ringers - 206

Tuesday, March 3

10:00 a.m. Lenten Bible Study - 108
12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting (individual) - Office
2:00 p.m. Navigating Cancer Through Movement - 108
6:30 p.m. Asbury Volleyball - Wesley Ctr
6:30 p.m. UMW Meeting - 108

Wednesday, March 4

7:30 a.m. Sunrise Toastmasters - Parlor
1:00 p.m. AA Over the Hump (Open) - Wesley Ctr
6:30 p.m. Asbury Quilters - 204
6:30 p.m. Church Council - Aldersgate
6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University - 217
6:30 p.m. Joyful Noisemakers - 108
6:30 p.m. Rainbow Singers - 102

Wednesday, March 4 cont.

7:00 p.m. Divine Dialogue - 208
7:10 p.m. Faith /Apostle Ringers - 206

Thursday, March 5

8:00 a.m. Conference of Churches Staff Retreat - Parlor/204
9:00 a.m. Keep in Touch - Aldersgate
6:00 p.m. Launching into Bible Study - 217
6:30 p.m. Church Décor Team - Aldersgate
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir - 102
8:30 p.m. Open Door Rehearsal - Worship Ctr

Friday, March 6

6:30 a.m. Friday Morning Men's Group - Aldersgate
1:00 p.m. AA Over the Hump (Open) - Wesley Ctr
2:00 p.m. Tools for Ministry - Aldersgate
6:30 p.m. JAM - 219/108

Saturday, March 7

9:00 a.m. Tools for Ministry - Entire Building

Sunday, March 8

8:00 a.m. Heritage Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Sunday School All Ages
9:30 a.m. God's Rainbow - 200
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. Open Door Worship - SNOW - Worship Ctr
6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Dinner - Wesley Ctr
6:30 p.m. Youth Group - YL
7:00 p.m. CS Pack 12 Committee - Aldersgate

John 2:2-11

Contact Us

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