Asbury Articles

Centered in Jesus Christ, we Grow in faith, Celebrate community and Serve others with love.

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Asbury Has A New Website!

If you haven’t visited the Asbury website recently, please check it out (www.asburylive.org). We’ve been working hard to update the content as well as the functionality with a brand new design. It has lots of new features that we hope you like:

- New modern look that tells the world that Asbury is a cool place to visit (and join!)
- Updated navigation that makes it easier to find what you’re looking for
- An integrated online calendar of events
- Mobile-aware design that re-formats itself depending upon your device: tablets (like the iPad) or smart phones
- Blogging platform that lots of people will be contributing content to on a regular basis

Coming soon (if it’s not available by the time you read this) will be a secure, online payment system. You’ll be able to make your offerings, pay for events and make donations to special funds. (See related article).

We also want you to know that we’re very careful about people’s identity on the website. Children under 18 are not identified by name (other than first name). All personally identifiable information is removed from any content (like the online version of the newsletter) before publication. If you see anything that causes you concern, please contact Pastors Kim or Chuck, or Tom Petty who manages the website.

Special thanks go to Ron Tripp who took many of the terrific photos on the website!
Kim’s Korner

As we move into the summer season, the pace of life shifts, our activities often change, and the days are longer. I invite you to use these days filled with light, and practice the Presence of God. Each day we have the opportunity to be aware of the Divine presence, right in the midst of our every day lives. Author Sara Ban Breathnach put it this way:

"Has this ever happened to you? You pick up a book and a sentence leaps off the page as if it had been written just for you. Or you hear a revelation in the lyrics of a song. Sometimes an angel seems to whisper in your ear."

(Simple Abundance entry for January 13)

Our Two Cents

Finance Committee Update

Revised Budget—In January, the Finance Committee adopted and Church Council approved a 2013 Budget with a $12,000 surplus. In early May we learned that Bishop Brown intends to reappoint both Pastor Kim and Pastor Chuck to Asbury for the next year, with Chuck returning to a full-time appointment starting July 1.

Thanks to the original surplus and the water cost savings from the new well, the Finance Committee was able to adopt a revised 2013 Budget that includes salary and benefits equivalent to the compensation level that Pastor Chuck was receiving before his part-time appointment to Grace UMC, without having to make cuts in other areas. Because of the generous donation to cover the cost of the well and the continued financial support of those who give regularly, we will be able to meet our financial obligations to staff and church programs through the end of the year. Thank you!

Summer dip—A dip in the pool on a hot summer’s day is refreshing. A dip in contributions to the church during the summer months is not. We typically see a decrease in giving (and attendance, for that matter) during the summer months due to vacations.

To avoid the “summer dip” in donations, we encourage you to set up an automatic payment plan from your checking/savings account for your monthly giving. It’s easy to do with “Bill pay” or “ACH transfers” from your bank or credit union account.

Read about online giving using PayPal later in the Articles too.

Joining Asbury UMC

Sunday, June 23

Joining Asbury UMC: On Sunday, June 23, we will welcome new members. If you would like to take your membership vows, or learn more about joining Asbury, please call the church office, 925-447-1950. We look forward to your participation in our faith community.
Thank you all for all the love, examples of caring, cards, calls, visits, offers of assistance and food you have gifted Art and me with over the past several months as I've first awaited my hip replacement, then had it, and am now recuperating! Asbury is the most loving family of believers anyone could ever hope for. Over the past 42 years, you HAVE been our family! Having moved away from ALL blood family in 1972, we discovered a new family in Christ here in Livermore, CA. You are the family of choice!! Thanks to you all!!

Much love, Kathy and Art Molvik

Thank you note from Livermore Homeless Refuge. A check for $200, for Asbury UMC from Livermore Homeless Refuge, came inside a thank you note:

"Thanks for all you do within our community, and for having the grace and love to share your space with those in need."

Thank you note from the Jackson Family in Louisiana, in the area where a Volunteer in Mission trip worked in April of 2013:

"To the congregation of Asbury UMC, Words will never be enough to express our gratitude for allowing your members to come to Louisiana to help us put our lives back together. They worked so hard and did an amazing job! We owe a debt of kindness on behalf of the entire congregation and when we are able we will pay it forward! Also, the quilt is beautiful. God Bless you all."

Thank you Asbury UMC, for paying your apportionments in full in 2012. Our apportionment dollars, go towards Conference budgets and world-wide projects.
Celebrate Community

Coffee Servers and Quarterly Coffee Captains Needed

Enjoying a nice beverage while conversing with friends is an important step toward beginning to engage in the life of the church. This critical ministry is in need of one person to join three others as a quarterly captain.

We also need several couples who are willing to come to church a bit early, two or three times per year to make sure we have coffee and lemonade ready for fellowship time. This role also requires cleaning up afterwards.

Thank you to all who currently makes this possible.

Visitors’ Welcome

Most people, when asked, will tell you they keep coming back to Asbury because of the nice people they meet here. Surely it makes God smile to see you welcoming everyone as they come to worship.

There are a few things we can do better. One is to reinstate the parking lot greeter program. Will you consider joining this effort? One simply stands on the sidewalk and welcomes everyone to Asbury.

Our goal is to have everyone, especially visitors, greeted three times before worship begins. Our greeters do this at the door and we have some secret greeters in the sanctuary saying hello to visitors. We need a few more smiling faces to round out the parking lot piece.

Also needed, are folks to staff the Visitor Information Table. At this table, visitors are given a gift and offered various literature about Church, in general, and about Asbury, specifically. Please will you help us?

Contact Tina at 925-447-1950 ext. 105 to volunteer in either of these ministry areas.

Ladies’ Night Out

TUESDAY, June 18, 6:30 p.m.

Ladies of Asbury, you’re invited out to join in on a night out. Come join your fellow Asbury women at a local restaurant once per month. Normally we meet the third Monday of the month, but this month, we’ll meet on TUESDAY for some delicious Mediterranean food.

Piccola Casa
945 Bluebell Drive (in Springtown)

RSVP with Nancy Grover or Joanne Petty.

Dine and Dawdle Is Nearly Here!

Starting June 20, 6:00 p.m., through the summer

Dine and Dawdle begins Thursday June 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and runs every Thursday night through August 8 (except for July 4).

Don’t want to cook for your family or clean up? Come and enjoy comfort food in the company of your Asbury friends for only $5 each or $20 per family.

- June 20 - Barbecued Hamburgers and hot dogs
- June 27 - Spaghetti and salad
- July 4 - no Dine and Dawdle
- July 11 - UMW Fundraiser ($6 per person), pulled pork
- July 18 - Cheesecake contest, bring your best entry for a taste off!
- July 25 - Sausage fest, hot dogs and sauerkraut followed by game night (bring your favorite game)
- August 1 - Men with Fire!
- August 8 - Barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs

At some point we hope to have a Reader's Theater presentation after dinner.

Asbury Church Camp

August 15-18, 2013

Our annual Church Camp at Lake Tahoe is Thursday through Sunday August 15-18. LARPD’s Camp Shelley is a wonderful location and we have the entire camp to ourselves for three nights, Thursday through Saturday. Campers can arrive on Thursday afternoon and stay through Sunday morning. Camp sites are large, there is a restroom with showers on site. The cost is $125 per camp site. Once the 25 sites are all taken then campers can share their site with others and share the cost. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall after service.

Senior and Retiree Luncheon

Thursday, June 6, 2013, 12:00 p.m.

For the cost of only a five dollar bill you can have a wonderful lunch, enjoy fellowship and good conversation. Invite a friend – it's only $5.00!
Serve Others with Love

Habitat for Humanity Project in Walnut Creek
We are pleased to announce that the United Methodist Churches in our area are banding together to help build new affordable housing in Walnut Creek. We will be participating in building a new ten-home development in downtown Walnut Creek. Specifically, we are helping to sponsor the All Faiths Home. This specific home is being sponsored collectively by a host of faith communities. This is particularly exciting since we will working together for the next couple years on a shared vision of putting our faith to action, providing housing for deserving families in our area. Our Circuit workday in Walnut Creek will be Saturday, June 22, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You will be provided instructions on how to sign up on the Habitat website.

Haiti Mission Trip—October 22-31, 2013
Our next mission trip to Haiti is now scheduled for this fall. It will leave California on October 22 and return on October 31, 2013. The scope will include extending use of computers to another school or two, setup of the Cybercafe at Thomas, teacher training and additional water and solar projects at the schools we select.

Missionary to Cambodia to Speak at Lynnewood UMC in Pleasanton
We have the opportunity to learn more about the experiences of a young UMC General Board of Global Ministries missionary in Cambodia. As a missionary there, Katherine Parker focused on developing food security through the establishment of agriculture-related coops and providing access to biologically safe drinking water.

Tornado Relief for Oklahoma
An Asbury church member is providing an anonymous matching grant up to $5000 for Oklahoma tornado relief.

Livermore Community Blood Drive
June 21, 1-7:00 p.m.
The Livermore community blood drive is now a monthly event, generally on the third Friday of the month. This makes it easier to get back on schedule if you’ve missed a date due to travel or other reasons.

For more information about any of the above, or to register, contact Steve Elliott.
Youth Ministry

Here’s a list of youth events coming up. On top of these we will still be holding regular office hours during the weeks I’m around.

Be sure to follow our facebook youth page for the most updated information: facebook.com/AsburyYouth

June 2—Home Groups at the Howe's 5:30-7:00 p.m. Olivia’s parents have just built a wood burning pizza oven in their back yard. Not to be missed! 717 Orion Way

June 9—Church at Grace Cathedral in SF. We're going to do a field trip to Grace Cathedral in SF. Meet at East Dublin/Pleasanton BART at 9:00 a.m. We'll be back around 2.

June 16—Senior Promotion Sunday. Come celebrate with our four high school seniors as their time in high school comes to a close!

June 18-22—Annual Conference Session. We have two youth (Dylan and Parker) that will be representing our church!*

June 22-26—Urban Camp. This is a service oriented camp put on by our Annual Conference for high schoolers. There is still space so let me know if you want to go!*  

June 30—Youth Council Meeting

July 6-12—Monte Toyon Camps. There's still a little space at some of the camps. Please check out the conference camp website www.cnumc.org/pages/detail/1726 or talk to Yosh if you're interested.*

July 15-19—Vacation Bible School. Come help out at our VBS! It's a load of fun. Talk to Tina or Yosh if you'd like to help!

July 21-27—SSP*

August 11—Youth Service Sunday
Yosh

*Yosh is away from Asbury during these dates

Children’s Ministry

Greetings, Asbury families. It is critical that we get some volunteers lined up for summer Sunday School (starting June 9) and Vacation Bible School (July 15-19). Fortunately, we have many faithful return volunteers, so a lot of the slots are taken, but there are still a few blank spaces.

Please will you consider spending just one Sunday reading a Bible story or playing games with our kids? It is a rewarding experience and shows you value our children. Please see the Asbury Kids table in the Fellowship Hall after worship or contact Tina at 925-447-1950 ext. 105.

Thank you!

Everywhere Fun Fair
Where God’s World Comes Together is the theme for Vacation Bible School. We could use some one day help getting some sets together. Let Tina know if you could help with this activity.

Chat with Pastor Chuck

Kids, don’t miss church on the June 23! Pastor Chuck will take your questions.

Needed: We need a ball pump for our program. If you have one you aren’t using, please drop it by room 7.

Thank you!

Job Opening

Sadly, Susan Danan is resigning her position as the Coordinator of the Nursery at the end of the calendar year. Susan has been a faithful worker in this role for eight years. We will celebrate Susan’s contributions in the fall...

The job will be advertised and a committee will review the applicants and conduct interviews then make a recommendation to SPR and Church Council. We wish Susan the best of luck as she changes her focus the Stephen’s Ministry. She will bless many in that area as she has in the nursery.

Additionally, we are looking for workers for the nursery. This is a paid position with flexible hours.

Peace,

Tina Morris

ASBURY kids
Asbury Articles Going Electronic!

Be sure to read this so you continue to get Asbury Articles!

This will be the last mailed version of Asbury Articles!

We work very hard to communicate all the exciting things that are going on at Asbury. Part of that communication vehicle is this newsletter, Asbury Articles. It’s a monthly publication that gets sent to approximately 400 families, both by postal mail and by e-mail.

With the combination of our new website having up-to-date news and the near ubiquitous availability of e-mail, we feel that it’s time to move to a fully electronic version of the newsletter.

By moving the newsletter to be e-mailed, it’s going to serve several benefits:

- Each individual person can get their own copy
- It’s in full color!
- It saves the church MONEY because it doesn’t require printing, paper, ink or postage (which is a significant cost to the church!)

- It’s going to save time for the people who have to fold them, put address labels on them, and take them to the post office to be mailed
- It gets sent out as soon as it’s ready (you don’t have to wait for it to arrive in the mail!)

We understand that not everyone has e-mail, so if you do not use e-mail or do not have an e-mail account, please call the church office at 925-447-1950 today to continue to receive it by postal mail.

If you are reading a paper copy of the newsletter, and you have an active e-mail address, you must go to the website, www.asburylive.org, and enter your e-mail address in the sign-up box near the bottom. Otherwise, you will no longer get the Articles!

You can also scan this QR code with your smart phone or iPad:

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office at 925-447-1950 or Tom Petty.

Online Electronic Giving Is Here!

Asbury has established a business PayPal account for use by those who want to pay for tickets online, pay regular offerings or special offerings electronically.

This has been reviewed and approved by Finance and Church Council, and by the time you are reading this the website should be set up to receive secure electronic payments.

If you already have your own personal PayPal account, you can set up automatic payments directly to the church. If your PayPal account is linked directly to your bank account, it costs you nothing, and it costs the church nothing to transfer money.

If you use your credit card, the church does incur the normal credit card fees.

Please visit the website, www.asburylive.org for more information as it becomes available.

As with regular giving, it’s held in strictest confidentiality. The online account has been set up so that only the church accountant, Gail Bryan, knows who has sent in any amount of money electronically. The book keepers and treasurer only see lump amounts, with personal information removed.

We are very conscious of online fraud and have taken steps to make sure that your money and the church’s money is protected.

We welcome the convenience of online giving options. We are also aware that credit card debt is not something we want to encourage. Thank you for all the ways you give, and for giving wisely.

Anniversaries and Birthdays

**Anniversaries**

Bob and Kathy Berger
Dave and Dee Bing
Dave and Jean Braun
Rich and Jan Buckley
Cory and Anne Coll
Dick and Sharmyn Crawford
Eric and Kirsten Cummings
Peter and Susan Danan
Steve Elliott and Kim Risedorph
Roger and Jane Everett
Duane and Delaine Jantzen
Joe and Maris Medeiros
Donald and Gabe Meeker
Hal and Marlys Miller
Tom and Karen Nelson
Mike and Gretchen Piscotty
Eric and Sue Ellen Schell
Dan Swinbank & Maureen Gandara-Swinbank
Steve and Sheila Taber
Bill and Glenda Warren
Rich and Laura Whipple
Steve and Sue Worth

**Birthdays**

Karen Bauman
Jennifer Bernstein
Chris Bing
Molly Bing
John Bluck
Kevin Boercker
Cassie Braun
Mikel Campos
Beverly Cavin
Liz Cowgill
Shannon David
Glen Dawes
Lynnea Dawes
Steve Elliott
Nick Evans
Jane Everett
Roy Fields
Kelly Galicia-Thomas
Kelsey Gamble
Joelle Goodman
Emma Grisham
Kelly Gully
Makayla Gully
Chris Hain
Elaine Hancock
Caitlin Howell
Louis Howell
Karl Item
Katie Johnson
Sue King
Hansa Lakamsani
Vamsee Lakamsani
Dwight LeVan
Lorraine Magee
Duncan Maloney
Janet Malski
June Martin
Paula McClendon
Zander McKee
Marisa Medeiros Hooper
Cole Meyers
Karl Meyers
Maggie Muldoon
Diana Nathan
Karen Nelson
Tom Nelson
Tom Petty
Elizabeth Piscotty
Glenn Pomykal
Sean Pomykal
Javon Rahmaan

Frank Raskauskas
Sarah Reggiardo
Nick Rynders
Andrew Schaff
Matthew Schlientz
Ron Schwartz
Bernie Sherman
Tyler Shira
Annakate Siebers
Ray Spooner
Joy Stewart
Rebecca Stewart
Don Sveen
Kay Tandy
Pat Van Lehn
John Van Scyoc III
Brian Webb
Karen Webb
Lena Webb
Leanne Worth
June 2013 Calendar

Weekly Recurring Events

Sundays
- 9:00 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, Sanctuary
- 10:15 a.m. Butterfly Gardens is open
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 p.m. Club 56, Room 13
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group, Room 15

Mondays
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall

Tuesdays
- 11:00 a.m. Loose Canons
- 12:00 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall
- 3:30 p.m. Worship Service, Rosewood Gardens
- 7:00 p.m. Alanon/Alateen, Rooms 13-15

Wednesdays
- 9:30 a.m. Mom’s Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 12:00 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall
- 2:00-6:00 p.m. Yosh’s office hours, Room 15

Thursdays
- 7:45 a.m. Men’s Bible Study, Room 11
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Band, Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Rooms 11-12

Fridays
- 9:00 a.m. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Modified Exercise Class, Chapel

Saturdays
- 8:00 a.m. Lawn Crew
- 9:00 a.m. AA, Rooms 11-12

June 2, 2013 (Sunday)
- 10:30-11:00 a.m. Choir Promo Party (Youth Choirs), Rooms 11-12
- 10:45-12:00 noon Children’s Moment Training, Chapel and Fireside Room
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministers (no meeting June 16!)

June 6, 2013 (Thursday)
- 12:00 p.m. Senior/Retiree Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

June 9, 2013 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Missions Team
- 10:35 a.m. SPRC, Room 13
- 10:45 a.m. Finance, Conference Room

June 10, 2013 (Monday)
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out (DIFFERENT NIGHT), Piccola Casa, 945 Bluebell Drive
- 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Team, Rooms 11-12
- 7:30 p.m. Trustees, Conference Room

June 11, 2013 (Tuesday)
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside Room

June 18, 2013 (Tuesday)
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out (DIFFERENT NIGHT), Piccola Casa, 945 Bluebell Drive
- 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Team, Rooms 11-12
- 7:30 p.m. Trustees, Conference Room

June 20, 2013 (Thursday)
- 6:00 p.m. Dine and Dawdle, Courtyard & Fellowship Hall (Hamburgers & hotdogs!)

June 21, 2013 (Friday)
- 1-7:00 p.m. Community Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall

June 23, 2013 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Church Council, Conference Room
- Youth Urban Mission Trip (through June 26)

June 25, 2013 (Tuesday)
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside Room

June 27, 2013 (Thursday)
- 6:00 p.m. Dine and Dawdle, Courtyard & Fellowship Hall (Spaghetti Dinner)
Asbury United Methodist Church
4743 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550

Time Dated Material—Deliver Promptly

Address Service Requested

Asbury UMC Staff

Pastor
Chuck Johnstone
Pastor
Kim Risedorph
Children's Ministry Director
Tina Morris
Youth Director
Yosh Nakajima
Music Director
G. Allen Schell
Choir Coordinator
Jean Braun
Secretary
Terri Gamble
Nursery Coordinator
Susan Danan

Stephen Ministers Commissioned, May 2013

www.AsburyLive.org

Church office hours are:
Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Closed for lunch.

The deadline for the next Asbury Articles is
Thursday, June 20.