Asbury Articles

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

Worship Schedule In July

**July 6**—Pastor Chelsea Constant will preach and serve communion. Be there to welcome Chelsea and worship together!

**July 13**—Pastor Chelsea preaching

**July 20**—Pastor Kim starts a new series, and would like your input. On July 20, we'll ask, "Why does our church exist?" Please send your insights and answers to Terri Gamble, with "July Sermons" in subject line. Or drop your responses off in the office.

**July 27**—We’ll consider the question, "What breaks God’s heart in the surrounding Livermore community?" Please send your responses to Terri Gamble in the church office, with "July Sermons" in subject line.

**Coming Attractions**

**August 3**—Name one spiritually transformative moment you personally experienced in the last year. In telling our stories of faith, we all grow in faith. Kim will be looking for folks to share their stories, and hopes you will be a part of this worship service!
Dear Asbury Friends:

What a delightful and touching send-off you gave Lou and me as we celebrated our ministry among you this past Sunday! Barbara David offered up another twisted script - full of humor and wit right from the outline of "Our Town" entitled "Our Church"- which seemed so appropriate. The music from our gifted choir, supported by all present, with re-worked words of "Red River Valley" by the irrepressible Ken Lamb, and kind and generous comments from Rebecca and Dave and Tim and Tina and Kim and Larry and Pat and Mitchie brought some lumps in the throat and tears.

The lovely, lovely quilt designed by Pat Van Lehn and created so lovingly from the UM Women, will be treasured always! We are going to display it prominently in our new home. The incredible hard-bound book of photographs of the church and the choirs and Asbury's many ministries and of my two journeys at Asbury, and so much more - created by Doug Webb, will always sit on my shelf and affirm the most amazing experiences of God's grace here at Asbury.

For those who contributed to the generous financial parting gift for us, thank you! (Lou's thinking sofa, I'm thinking new computer; maybe both? We are both thinking weekend away!) For the memory book - which is beautiful, deepest appreciation for the creativity putting it together, and for all those who took time to write a note and share your kind thoughts. I will return to that book again and again in the years ahead to remind me of all we have shared together.

My heart is so full of the blessings God has given me in allowing us to be here, not once, but twice. It was a busy day and there wasn't time to say a personal good-bye to many of you, just know that I will remember you. For all those who stood around and waited in line to speak personally to me, your many expressions of thanks and hugs I'll deeply cherish always.

May God's grace and peace continue to flourish within the Asbury community. May the love of Christ grow to new depths and heights within you. And may the Holy Spirit blow in new and exciting directions. I will look forward to hearing all of the ways God blesses you in the years to come.

Love and Hope,
Pastor Chuck

Celebrate Community

Ladies’ Night Out
Tuesday July 15, 6:30 p.m.

Ladies of Asbury, let’s get together for an evening out at a local restaurant. This month, we’ll be going to Posada, a new restaurant. The restaurant is located at in the Nob Hill shopping center at 988 Murrieta Boulevard. Please RSVP with Nancy Grover if you plan to come, so we can tell them how many to expect.

Dine and Dawdle!

Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. (except July 3)

Yup, it’s that time of year to enjoy a yummy barbecued dinner and dawdle with your fellow Asburyites. Did we mention no dishes?

D&D is every Thursday through the summer (except July 3), starting June 19 through August 7. Come out at 6:00 p.m. and enjoy some dinner and some dawdling. Cost is $5/person or $20/family.

The Fellowship Team is looking for some helpers for this fun activity. No experience necessary. Please contact Scott Smith or any Fellowship Team member for more information.
Job Opportunities

**Lynnewood UMC** in Pleasanton seeks a Church Office and Finance Administrator, Hours: Mon-Fri, 30 hours a week, 6 hours a day. Compensation commensurate with experience and training. Go to www.Lynnewood.org for more information about the community. Call the church office for a full job description: 925-846-0221. Send resumes to LUMC.plstn@gmail.org

**Congregation Beth Emek** in Pleasanton seeks a Synagogue Administrator, 30-32 hours a week. Administrative and accounting experience needed, as well as people skills. Call the synagogue office for more information: 925-931-1055.

Meet Pastor Chelsea

Would you like to personally meet and welcome Pastor Chelsea and her husband Nick? The following events may be the perfect time for you to do just that!

- **July 10**: Dine and Dawdle on Thursday July 10.
- **July 27**: During Fellowship, enjoy cake and fellowship, followed by a gathering in the Chapel to meet Pastor Chelsea and have a chance to talk with her.
- **July 31-August 3**: Join the Lodestar Mission trip. Pastor Chelsea will be on this trip, and that would be an ideal opportunity to spend time with her, while serving others with love. Contact Steve Elliot for more details.

As Pastor Chelsea and Nick join our Asbury community, we are so looking forward to their ministry among us. And in preparation, you are encouraged to:

- Open your hearts and decide that you are going to love your new pastor
- Begin praying daily for Chelsea and Nick, even as you continue to pray for Pastor Chuck and Lou as they move to San Jose and begin a new ministry at Evergreen Valley UMC.
- Please wear your name tags!
- Send cards of welcome and encouragement to Chelsea at the church office
- Introduce yourself to Chelsea and Nick repeatedly!

You have two new names to learn.

- Live with this Scripture during this time of transition: "Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don’t try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God’s voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he’s the one who will keep you on track! Don’t assume you know it all. Run to God, run from evil!” (Proverbs 3: 5-7, The Message.)

Thank you for being a community that loves, supports, and encourages their pastors. You are a blessing!
Mission Completed. Lessons Learned

Simply, my one goal when taking on the "Interim Youth Director" position last August 1 was to "keep the program running for a few months" until a new Youth Director could be hired. Well... "a few months" turned into eleven very busy, very eye-opening, very rewarding months.

Many, many "thank yous" are in order because I could not have done this on my own. The generosity of time and talent that came forward was nothing short of miraculous — especially at the beginning. On August 1, 2013, we had a total of 0 people in line to lead the youth groups on Sunday nights. For the last couple of years, there had only been one leader (first Chris, then Yosh) of the combined youth groups, and we had already decided that the middle school and high school groups needed to be split. So we needed to find at least two leaders and preferably 4 or 6 or 8 so that they would not have to lead every week. I had little faith that it could be done. Find 8 people where there had been none for the last two years? Well, at the end of the month we had 12! I’m still in wonder about how that happened. But it did, and off we went!

And the generosity just kept flowing. We needed Sunday School teachers — they showed up. We needed parents to make meals for fellowship time at the end of youth groups on Sunday nights. Parents made meals. We needed rides to events, people gave rides. We needed some new Youth Group leaders again after Christmas break — and they showed up, too! Fundraising for youth missions... Chuck asks us to help with the Epiphany Event and work for tips — we raised some money. The UMW needed models and servers for the Fashion Show — we raised even more money! We said we’d make pancakes — lots of hungry people showed up for the Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast and we raised more money. The Asbury Players helped out, too, and the entire congregation really helped with the Easter Offering and the sale of body parts. There is amazing generosity in this congregation!

Through all this, I think I learned (or re-learned) a couple of lessons.

1. They say, "The Lord provides" — but it’s really only through the generosity and actions of people that the Lord gets His work done. I’ve seen great generosity and action in the congregation this past year and it’s humbling to be in the receiving end.

2. We’re all "interim". Think about it. None of us stay in the same position forever. Even the youth in the program are inherently "interim". They get to be old enough to participate, they participate, and then graduate and move on. It’s not a bad thing. In fact, it’s quite good. It gives people a time to be involved, to leave their mark (their legacy, if you will), and then let the next group come along and build upon that.

So, now it’s my time to step back and let Chelsea keep it running for a while (hopefully a long while) and leave her legacy on the youth program here. I will still be involved where I can, but my voice in the direction of the program will be much quieter so as to give Chelsea a chance to establish herself as the leader and get to know the wonderful youth and awesome volunteers that I’ve begun to tell her about.

Lastly, I need to say thank you to Rob Rudd and SPRC for giving me the opportunity to serve and to Pastor Kim for her support and encouragement throughout the year. It’s been a real blessing in my life.

Tony Gnecco
Children’s Ministry

In a changing world, God’s truth remains fixed and unchanging.

Summer Sunday School
Ahhh...summer. With it comes a different rhythm to our days. Summer Sunday School feels different, too. Please remember the kids are signed into our care in the chapel. They then have fun, play with friends, learn new songs, hear Bible stories and end up with snacks in the Fellowship Hall where you may pick them up. Thank you for bringing your kids to church every Sunday.

Vacation Bible School
All Call for an All-Church Luncheon and Set Up
We Need You!

VBS takes place July 21-25. Thank you to everyone who has agreed to volunteer in this important ministry at Asbury. There is an opportunity for everyone to get involved on Sunday, July 20. Immediately following worship we will have 15 to 20 minutes tasks written on index cards. Please meet Tina and Dylan Spooner (co-director) in the courtyard to claim a card and complete a simple task to help us set up for VBS. We will enjoy a summer BBQ at 11:30.

With your help, we should be completely set up within a half hour or so. Please join us.

Peace and Joy,

Tina Morris

Youth Happenings

What’s happening in July?

- July 1 – Chelsea Constant takes over as Youth Director. Welcome, Chelsea!
- July 5 – High School SSP group returns from serving for a week in Stockon, CA.
- July 6 – Chelsea leads worship. SSP youth & leaders wear new t-shirts to worship.
- July 6-11 – Toyon Kids grades 3-6 / Toyon LIT for 14 and 15 years olds.
- More camp info and registration can be found at http://www.cnumc.org/camping.
- July 10-13 – Asbury Family Camp at Camp Shelley. Kelly and Jolin Gully are willing to share their site with youth who’d like to camp.
- July 10 – Come get to know Chelsea and her husband Nick at Dine & Dawdle (6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall)

- July 13 – Chelsea leads worship.
- July 13-18 – Camp Quest grades 7-9 / Impact LIT for 16-19 year olds.
- More camp info and registration can be found at http://www.cnumc.org/camping.
- July 18 – Youth Game Night and Dessert 7-9:00 p.m. at Asbury
- July 21-25 – VBS at Asbury. Sign-up to help in the Fellowship Hall after worship or contact Tina.
- July 31-Aug 3 – All-church Mission Trip to Camp Lodesstar. A generous donor at Asbury is offering 2 youth/child scholarships to attend at no cost. If you are interested or would like more info, please let Chelsea know.
- And August, too...
- August 17 – Youth Mission Sunday
Anniversaries

Joe and Pat Baker
Henry and Maureen Bell
Kenneth and Jennifer Bernstein
Tim and Megan Buckley
Brett and Christy Gibson
Tony and Keri Gnecco
Robyn and Vamsee Lakamsani
Susan and Fred Mitlitsky Bothwell
John and Martie Muldoon
Keith and Carole Nakanishi
Bill and Mary Ouellette
Glenn and Glynice Pomykal
Michele and Rob Rudd
Ron and Pat Saltgaver
Ron and Evelynne Schwartz
Abdul and Denise Sughayar
Larry and Joyce Suter
Arthur and Barbara Weiss

Birthdays

Nancy Ackerman
Steven Bettencourt
Dee Bing
Gail Bryan
Mary Burnham
Lauren Cano
Connor Christof
Jim Culpepper
Brian Defenbaugh
Bethany Duff
Zack Edgar
Karen Faraldo
Steve Fedder
Julian Galicia-Thomas
Ken Giannotti
Brett Gibson
Carissa Grisham
Mitchell Haugen
Bob Howe
Jean Howe
Terry Hubner
Bob Johnson
Mike Lambaren, Jr.
John Linden
Mark Linden
Joyce Logan
Jewels McCafferty
Kayla McClendon
Eleanor North
Brandon Norton
Michael Norton
Don Rynders
Todd Schrader
Kami Schwartz
Dave Seberger
Erin Senge
Dottie Sherman
Grant Siebers
Bobb Smith
Clay Smith
Julia Sveen
Steve Taber
Robbie Teruya
Thomas Thournir
Karen Ullrich
Please visit the Asbury website calendar for the latest updates: http://www.asburylive.org/events

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

Tuesdays
- 12:00 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Alanon/Alateen, Rooms 13-15

Wednesdays
- 12:00 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall

Thursdays
- 10:30 a.m. Women of the Spirit
- 6:00 p.m. Dine & Dawdle (except July 3)
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Rooms 11-12

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

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July 6, 2014 (Sunday)
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Fireside Room

July 8, 2014 (Tuesday)
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside Room

July 13, 2014 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Finance, Conference Room

July 15, 2014 (Tuesday)
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out, Posada, 988 Murrieta Boulevard

July 18, 2014 (Friday)
- 1-7:00 p.m. Livermore Community Blood Drive, FH

July 20, 2014 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Trustees, Conference Room
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Fireside Room

July 22, 2014 (Tuesday)
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside Room

July 27, 2014 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Church Council, Conference Room
Asbury United Methodist Church
4743 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550

Time Dated Material—Deliver Promptly

Address Service Requested

Asbury UMC Staff

Pastor
Chelsea Constant

Pastor
Kim Risedorph

Children’s Ministry Director
Tina Morris

Youth Director
Chelsea Constant

Music Director
G. Allen Schell

Choir Coordinator
Jean Braun

Secretary
Terri Gamble

Facilities Use Manager
Mitchie McCammon

Nursery Coordinator
Pam Tegge

Livermore Community Blood Drive
Friday, July 18, 1:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

In the Bay Area only 3% of eligible donors ever give blood. Bay Area hospitals need over 300 units of blood every day, 7 days a week, to keep up with demand. During the summer, donations go down due to vacations and travel, so we need you! Please call Tom Petty at home for more info, or sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org Sponsor Code: ASBURY925.

www.AsburyLive.org

Church office hours are:
Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Closed for lunch.

The deadline for the next Asbury Articles is Thursday, July 24, 2014.