Here’s what’s coming in the month of October for the worship schedule!

October 5: We will celebrate World Communion Sunday, remembering how we are connected as one body with all those who love Christ throughout the world and the ages. World Communion Sunday is a special opportunity to respond to our global Christian unity by giving to a special offering that supports scholarships for Christians around the world.

October 12 and 19: Pastor Kim and Pastor Chelsea will preach different perspectives on what it means to live compassion from Mark 2:1-12.

October 26 Our Stewardship Campaign starts. Join us in reflecting on where are hearts and our resources are.

See you in Worship!
Kindness Matters: An Update

It’s been a year since we first started putting the Kindness Matters Asbury UMC bumper stickers on our cars. Turns out, a year later, kindness still matters. If you’d like a magnetized bumper sticker, call the office 925-447-1950.

Other United Methodist Churches in the area are joining us, and you might have seen their bumper stickers as well. We’re trend setters!

Sometimes, though, when a message like Kindness Matters gets familiar, we stop paying attention to it.

This commencement speech by George Saunders rekindled my awareness of how much kindness matters. (You can read the entire speech on-line at 6th-floor.blogs.nytimes.com—search for George Saunders Advice to Graduates)

George Saunders begins with inviting his audience to ask others, “Looking back, what do you regret?” Then he goes on to say what he regrets: “So, what do I regret? Being poor from time to time? Not really. Working terrible jobs, like ‘knuckle puller’ in a slaughter house? No. I don’t regret that. Skinny dipping in a river in Sumatra, a little buzzed, and looking up and seeing like 300 monkeys sitting on a pipeline, pooping down into the river, the river in which I was swimming, with my mouth open, naked? And getting deathly ill afterwards, and staying sick for the next seven months? Not so much.

But here’s something I do regret: In 7th grade, this new kid joined our class. She was small and shy. When nervous, which was very much always, she had a habit of taking a strand of hair into her mouth and chewing on it. So she came to our school and our neighborhood, and was mostly ignored, occasionally teased (“Your hair taste good?”—that sort of thing). I could see it hurt her. I still remember the way she’d look after such an insult: eyes cast down, a little gut-kicked, as if, having just been reminded of her place in things, she was trying, as much as possible, to disappear.

Sometimes I’d see her hanging around alone in her front yard, as if afraid to leave it.

And then they moved. That was it. No tragedy, no big final hazing. One day she was there, next day she wasn’t.

End of story.

Now why do I regret that? Why, 42 years later, am I still thinking about it? I never said an unkind word to her. But still it haunts me.

So here’s something I know to be true, although it’s a little corny, and I don’t quite know what to do with it.

What I regret most in my life are failures of kindness.

Or look at it from the other end of the telescope. Who in your life, do you remember most fondly, with the most undeniable feelings of warmth?

Those who were kindest to you, I bet.” (George Saunders)

I hope these words touched you, as they did me. Let’s go forward into the days ahead, remembering kindness matters. And there’s no limit to how kind we can be. Thanks be to God!

Blessings on the journey,

Kim

Your Pastors At Asbury

We’ve had some questions about our roles and responsibilities as your pastors. Hopefully, this will help clarify:

Pastor Kim Risedorph is lead pastor, and is responsible for our community life together. She is in the office Sunday, Tuesdays-Thursdays, and works from home on Friday. Mondays are her day off.

Pastor Chelsea Constant is our Pastor of Discipleship, and her responsibilities include leading youth and young adult ministries. She shares preaching and pastoral care and other program leadership with Kim. Currently, Pastor Chelsea is a licensed local pastor, working towards ordination. Her day off is Saturday.

Both of your pastors love being at Asbury and are grateful to be part of this community!
Serving Others With Love

Did you know that Asbury has a shower ministry every Wednesday? People in our community who don’t have access to a shower can get a hot shower and clean clothes, while enjoying a meal at Open Heart Kitchen.

There are many behind-the-scenes volunteer opportunities, for instance:

**Laundry** – On Thursdays all the laundry from the shower and Open Heart Kitchen has to be washed and dried.
- Can you take one load of laundry home and bring it back clean and folded on Sunday?
- Can you come to Asbury and fold laundry on Fridays?

**Cleaning** – The showers need a good cleaning once a month, just like you do at home.
- This could be done on any day of the week except Tuesday or Wednesday

**Organizing** – The supply room is a busy place and needs to be kept well organized.
- Could you come once a week and prepare the shower baskets with supplies?
- Could you come once a week, and keep all the supplies organized (and make a list of what we need)
- Could you do the shopping at the Dollar Store and Safeway as needed?

**Fundraising** – do you have mad fundraising skills?

**Donate!** – Those old items lying around your house you aren’t using anymore? These are just a few ideas:
- Washcloths
- Fingernail clippers
- Bars of soap
- Shopping bags, backpacks

For more information contact Teri Lambert at home.

New Members Class

What do United Methodists believe? What does it mean to be a member of the United Methodist Church? Can I be a member of the church and not be sure what I believe?

Joining the church is one of many steps we take on a path of discipleship. For some it might be a first step of commitment, for others it might be a step following a long journey of faith. Wherever you are, whoever you are you are invited and encouraged to consider taking this step.

Pastor Kim and Pastor Chelsea will lead a New Members Class for everyone interested in joining the church. Join us from 7-9:00 p.m. Sunday October 5 and October 12 as we ponder these questions and explore together the journey of discipleship.

Child care will be provided. New Members will be invited to take membership vows and be celebrated as a part of this community on October 26. If you attended a Meet the Pastors gathering and are interested in exploring deeper, you are welcome to join the New Members Class, but are invited to take membership vows on October 26 regardless.

Asbury Annual Church Conference

**Sunday, November 30, 11:30 a.m.**

**Save the date!** We will have our annual church conference, to celebrate the year just past, to vote on issues and pastors’ salaries, and to approve the new leadership teams for 2015. Join us Sunday, November 30, 11:30 a.m.
Youth Happenings

Youth Happenings for October 2014

- **October 5**: Youth Group 5:30-7:00 p.m., youth helping in the garden
- **October 12**: Youth Group 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **October 19**: Corn Maze Trip 5:30 p.m.
- **October 26**: Home Group at the Campos’s house, Halloween costume contest!

Office Hours!

Join Chelsea for Office Hours every Wednesday from 3:30-4:00 p.m. at Starbucks on 1472 First Street (near E. Stanley Blvd). Come on out and Chelsea will buy your drink!

Children’s Ministry

Greetings. Hopefully everyone had a chance to enjoy the kids perform a Bible Character at our Wax Museum at the end of September.

October finds us ready to study, pray, play and grow closer to God and to each other.

Please note the following:

Our weekly offering this year will go to the Shower Ministry. Giving coins to support those in need is an important way we teach kids to serve others and share. Thank you for your support in this effort.

Club 45 begins Sunday, October 5 under the direction of Caitee Miller and Lauren Cano and Kelly and Jolin Gully. They will meet 5:30-7:00 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of the month. Please drop your fourth or fifth grader off in Room 9. Snack supper will be provided.

Peace and Joy,

*Tina Morris*

Help Wanted!

Have you heard the saying “The joy that isn’t shared dies young” (Anne Sexton)? Well, if you have (and even if you haven’t) and are you looking for an opportunity to share joy, please consider the following opportunity here at Asbury.

Do you:
- Like to sing?
- Like children?
- Read music? (Helpful, but not necessarily a requirement – we can work around this one)

The Cherub Choir is looking for a co-director to share the joy of working with kids ages 5-8 (K, first and second grade – and sometimes pre-K). The time commitment is every other month (approximately) for one hour on Sunday, plus about one hour of preparation during the months of September-May. You don’t have to step into the job immediately; we can work together to let you experience the joy before you need to be in charge of the joy! Contact Ruth Hawley at home, or come to room 6 between 10:30-11:30 on Sunday morning and see the joy in action!
Celebrate Community

Senior/Retiree Luncheon

Thursday October 2, 12:00 p.m.
If you’re a senior or a retiree, please come join us in the Fellowship Hall to have a delicious lunch and enjoy some fellowship. Cost is $5/person.

Asbury Follies and Oktoberfest Dinner!

Saturday, October 4, 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
It’s that time again! Time for an evening of music, laughter and fellowship. Oh yeah, and food.
The Fellowship Team is putting on a delicious Oktoberfest-inspired dinner in the Fellowship Hall before the Follies. Yes, it will feature ROOT beer too! $7/person or $25/family payable at the door.
Admission to the Follies is free to all, but donations to APPLAUSE will be dramatically accepted.
For more information, contact Barbara David at home.

Ladies’ Night Out

Tuesday October 7, 6:30 p.m.
It’s a new night! Ladies of Asbury, let’s get together for an evening out at a local restaurant. This month, we’ll be going to Jersey Mike’s Deli (www.jerseymikes.com), in Dublin. The restaurant is located at 3740 Fallon Road, right off 580. If you plan to attend, please RSVP with Nancy Grover so they can tell them how many to expect.

Grief Journey Support Groups

Mondays, October 27-December 15, 7-8:30 p.m.
You do not have to face your grief alone. Hope Hospice offers grief support groups where you have the opportunity to join others who have a similar experience to yours. The trained facilitators provide a safe place to share your thoughts and feelings, to learn about the grief process, and to discover effective coping strategies.
These eight-week sessions provide a way to explore grief, discover hope, and find meaning.
There is no fee for these groups. Call 925-829-8770 for more information.

Bell Notes From Asbury Ringers

Our handbells went on “vacation” this summer to Lakeville, MN, a suburb of Minneapolis. In mid-June, I packed nine cases of bells and shipped them by Fed Ex to Ringing Restorations, a refurbishment center operated by Schulmerich, the manufacturer of our bells. All 61 bells (five octaves) were completely disassembled and refurbished with new screws, washers, nuts, springs, bumpers, and clapper heads. The castings were polished, the bells were voiced (blending the sound), and a final tuning check completed. Asbury Ringers anxiously awaited the return of our bells on September 5.
You might be curious about the cost to refurbish 61 bells. The Essential Refurbishment package was $2500, 61 new clappers cost $1135, and round trip shipping with insurance was $400 for a total of $4035. Your generous donations to the music and handbell programs at Asbury made it possible to complete this refurbishment process.
Thank you, Asbury, for your support! We are excited to have our bells back!
Beckie Wiley
Director, Asbury Ringers
Often we think our treasure will follow our heart. But Jesus, in his Sermon on the Mount, suggested the opposite – that our heart will follow our treasure. He put it this way: “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” On Sunday, October 26, 2014 we’ll begin a program: Treasure: A Stewardship Program on Faith and Money. For four weeks we’ll be discussing and studying Jesus’ words about giving from the Sermon on the Mount.

Where is our treasure and our heart at Asbury? We build our ministries around our core values: Centered in Jesus Christ, we grow in faith, celebrate community, and serve others with love. Our core values summarize what we believe Jesus would have us do. So let’s look at what we are doing in each of those areas.

Our Growing in Faith Team (GIFT) reports that during the last year, we trained 16 people to be spiritual growth leaders, and we launched five new spiritual growth groups. With these and continuing small groups, 55-60 of us are participating in this opportunity.

We celebrate community by worshipping together, enjoying each other’s company, and supporting each other. This helps us to satisfy the yearning we have for connection and community.

We serve others with love (see photos next page):

In Livermore by:
- Hosting Open Heart Kitchen
- Fertile Groundworks
- Participating in the Homeless Refuge with other churches
- Habitat for Humanity projects in Livermore and the Bay Area,
- Remodeling the Tri Valley Haven Thrift Store (formerly the Buenas Vidas Thrift Store)

Beyond Livermore by
- Hosting monthly blood drives, collecting over 4000 units, potentially saving over 12,000 lives!
- A mission trip to Camp Lodestar
- Sending teams to Alabama and Oklahoma to assist with tornado recovery
- And to Haiti to assist in their earthquake recovery

A number of our members find additional ways to serve their neighbors at Asbury and throughout the world. On October 26, 2014, we will begin a sermon series: Treasure: A Stewardship Program on Faith and Money. We’ll be discussing and studying Jesus’ words about giving from the Sermon on the Mount, in which he said “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21).

We’ll be offering small groups and daily devotions so we can “dig deeper.” This will culminate on November 16, 2014 when we will make our commitments for the coming year, then move to the Fellowship Hall for a Celebration Brunch, put on by our Fellowship and Stewardship Teams. Stay tuned for more details.

The Stewardship Team,
Art Molvik, Elizabeth Piscotty, Dick Crawford, Kim Risedorph

If you are an usher, greeter, visitor welcome table host or are in any way interested in making an impact on the way we welcome people, please join Pastor Chelsea and Tina for a brainstorming session on October 5, 10:45-12:00 p.m. We will meet in rooms 11 and 12.
**Anniversaries**

Chris and Suzy Almeida  
John and Sheryl Bluck  
Brian Defenbaugh and Erik Swenson  
Gary and Nancy Deis  
Tim and Linda Evans  
Paul and Mikeileen Jones  
Dwight and Lisa LeVan  
Dennis and Louise Nelson  
Ron and Kathy Ng  
Corey and Carolyn Norton  
Tom and Joanne Petty  
Mark and Elizabeth Piscotty  
John and Barbara Sharry  
Bernie and Dottie Sherman  

**Birthdays**

Joanne Abey  
Chris Almeida  
Pat Baker  
Caitlin Beach  
Rex Beach  
Kathy Berger  
Madison Bernstein  
Dave Bing  
Jessica Bohling  
Elaine Bosserman  
Alan Burnham  
Kathy Chase  
Darrell Christoff  
Elaine Clary  
Edison Cummings  
Kathy Defenbaugh  
Leila Epperson  
Linda Evans  
Deja Farquhar  
Don Faul  
Nancy Grover  
Ruth Hawley  
Ryan Heath  
Amanda Hubner  
Jeannette Jensen  
Donna Koon  
Wyatt Koon  
Elizabeth Maczko  
C.J. Malski  
Holly McCammon  
Jim McCarty  
Nicholas McClendon  
Caitlyne Miller  
Chloe Molvik  
Priya Nathan  
Dennis Nelson  
Kristina Ormond  
Patti Paiso  
Tanner Paiso  
James Pettis  
Peg Pettis  
Kris Porter  
Joseph Pyle  
James Rigg  
Anya Runnels  
Ceit Sanders  

**Anniversaries**

Eric Schell  
Hailey Schultz  
Jonathan Senge  
Carolee Smith  
Lillian Speckenheuer  
Erica Squires  
Jan Stevenson  
Marc Stewart  
Caleb Sughayar  
Denise Sughayar  
Jeff Wagoner  
Michael Wakefield  
Larry Wiley  
Carol Wilson  
Libby Wood  
Philip Woolworth  
Sue Worth  
Cody Zabriskie
October 2014 Calendar

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
- 10:45 a.m. Children and Youth Choirs
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Ringers, Rooms 11-12

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

Thursdays
- 10:30 a.m. Women of the Spirit
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Rooms 11-12

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

October 2, 2014 (Thursday)
- 12:00 p.m. Senior/Retiree Luncheon, FH

October 4, 2014 (Saturday)
- 6:00 p.m. Oktoberfest Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:30 p.m. Asbury Follies (Sanctuary)

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

October 7, 2014 (Tuesday)
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out, Jersey Mike’s Deli, 3740 Fallon Road, Dublin

October 12, 2014 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Finance, Conference Room

October 14, 2014 (Tuesday)
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside Room

October 17, 2014 (Friday)
- 1-7:00 p.m. Livermore Community Blood Drive, FH

October 19, 2014 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Trustees, Conference Room
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Fireside Room

October 26, 2014 (Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Church Council, Conference Room

October 28, 2014 (Tuesday)
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside 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, October 17, 1:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
We need you! If you’re 17 or older and in good health (or 16 with parental consent), please call Tom Petty at home for more information about donating blood, or sign up at redcrossblood.org and use sponsor Code: ASBURY925. Thank you for helping to save a life by giving blood!
Download the free app by going to http://3cu.be/blood!

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, October 23, 2014.