150-Year Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, September 30, 2017 5:30 p.m.

All are invited to celebrate! You are invited to a dinner on Saturday, September 30, in the fellowship hall. Tickets are available now and can be purchased online here, after worship, or in the church office.

Tickets are $20 per person. There are only 150 spots available.

Many of our former pastors will join us for dinner. The doors open at 5:30 p.m., and dinner starts at 6:00 p.m.

A special edition of Asbury Follies starts at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Come to the dinner and stay for the Follies. Or, just come to the Asbury Follies.

On Sunday, October 1, our Bishop Minerva Carcaño, will lead worship. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet our Bishop and hear her message.
Thank you, Asbury United Methodist Church! A retired United Methodist pastor visiting family in the area, sent me this note of appreciation: "I was greeted by a couple before I reached the sanctuary (way to go! You should be proud.) I was also greeted as I entered the sanctuary... Thanks for providing a place for me to encounter the One who made us all."

To be welcomed, to invite others to encounter the One who made us all. That's what faith communities do.

In the wake of attacks by white supremacists, neo-Nazis and members of the KKK in Charlottesville, VA, faith communities are called to do be bold in claiming our true purpose (welcome all so that together we encounter the One who made us all). To do this, seems to me we have to become aware of the ways we withhold love, the times we hesitate to welcome, the hidden areas of bigotry or prejudice that shape our actions.

The blatantly evil slogans that were part the demonstration in Charlottesville, jarred me. I do not want to live in a world where our Jewish sisters and brothers are seen as a threat. I do not want to live in a world where people of color are threatened. What is being asked of me/us, as we live our faith in these days?

This tweet by Sarah Cavrak (and she gave permission to share) challenged me: "As white people of privilege, we are obligated to dismantle racism from the inside out. Talk to your white friends and family. Ask them what they think about what is happening. Ask what level of responsibility they feel to stand up for people of color. And then just listen.

And I mean REALLY listen. With an open mind, and an open heart. You might be surprised at what you hear. Someone you thought was woke, might not be. And someone you thought had their head in the wrong place may not be that far from where justice resides.

Call things out, name them, if they need to be said, but please do it form an anchored place of love and compassion. I think our best option to move toward reconciliation is to preserve the relationships we have (if safe to do so) and continue having these necessary, though probably awkward conversations.

And I’m walking the walk too. We’re in it together."

I’m trying to listen, especially to folks in my life who look at the world through a different lens. (A learning curve for me. It’s really hard to keep listening when people see things differently than I do.) And I’m practicing speaking up, naming privilege and entitlement when I see it in myself or others.

I’m grateful for our United Methodist response to events in Charlottesville, and have copied an open letter to Jeff Sessions, Attorney General of the United States, from Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary, General Board of Church and Society:

**The Honorable Jeff Sessions**

**Attorney General of the United States**

**U.S. Department of Justice**

**950 Pennsylvania Ave NW**

**Washington, DC 20530-0001**

**Dear Mr. Attorney General,**

From one southern United Methodist to another, I implore you to prayerfully and actively work to protect the civil rights of all people, especially people of color and religious minorities. Your position requires it, and our faith demands it.

As the general secretary of the General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church, I am responsible for advocating for the implementation of the Social Principles and other policy statements of the Church to which we belong.

These Social Principles state, "Racism, manifested as sin, plagues and hinders our relationship with Christ, inasmuch as it is antithetical to the gospel itself" (2016 Book of Discipline, Social Principles ¶162.A). The spiritual and systemic manifestations of racism tear at the heart of our faith and our society. Racism is not only the expression of hate, but it is the perpetuation of economic injustice, enactment of discriminatory housing and education policies, implementation of unjust policing practices, infringements on voting rights and more.

Your position as the attorney general of the United States is responsible for addressing these injustices and upholding the civil rights of all people in the United States. Your call to public service requires an explicit commitment to eliminating racism.

I call upon you to more justly uphold the protections and rights of people of color and religious minorities than what we have seen in your seven-month tenure at the Department of Justice. In addition to the blatant culture of hate and bigotry manifesting across the nation, recent events at the Department of Justice have alarmed many

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Celebrate Community

Ladies’ Night Out
Tuesday, September 5, 6:30 p.m.
This month we will be going to Zephyr Grill and Bar (www.zephyrgrilllivermore.com) located at 1736 First Street near the Vine Theater. All ladies of Asbury are invited. Please let Nancy Grover know if you plan to attend so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.

Senior/Retiree Luncheon Returns!
Thursday, September 7, 12:00 p.m.
Join us for the Senior and Retiree Luncheon which returns on the first Thursday of the month at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall, this time with a spaghetti lunch. The cost for lunch is $5.00 per person. Sign up after worship or call the church office at 925-447-1950.

Fifth Annual U.N. International Day of Peace Potluck Picnic
Saturday, September 16, 2017, 4-7:00 p.m.
Come join us as we eat, play, and converse with people from our diverse communities, including Baha’i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Unitarian Universalist, and more.
- Multi-Cultural Activities
- Halal BBQ
- Children and adults of all ages are welcome!
- Lots of activities for children planned!

Bring a dish to share. Please include a list of ingredients for your potluck item; no pork, please. Plates, utensils, water and lemonade will be provided. No alcohol.
No RSVP necessary. We look for to seeing you!
The Pavilion at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1501 Hillcrest Avenue
Livermore

2017 Asbury Follies: Special Anniversary Edition
Saturday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.
The Follies will follow the Sesquicentennial Dinner in the Fellowship Hall.
It’s that time again! Time for an evening of music, laughter and fellowship, and you can be a part of it. If you sing, play an instrument, or are just naturally foolish, please join us for the Follies. As in the past, you are encouraged to:
- Choose any piece of music you want to perform, alone or with any number of partners. This time, choose something from the 19th century or that evokes the 19th century—because it’s our anniversary! (Bonus points if it’s actually from 1867.)
- Send Barbara David the lyrics or sheet music by September 10
- Rehearse on your own with your accompanist (live music only, unless you bring a sound engineer with you!)
- Rehearse with the entire group on Friday, September 29, 7:30 p.m.
- Perform for your adoring fans on Saturday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.

If you have other mad performance skills that you want to share (dancing, story-telling, juggling or anything else) please contact Barbara and we'll include you in the fun, too.

Your song will magically become part of a story that the Asbury Players Readers Theater will tell as the evening unfolds.

If you don’t want to perform solo, you can still be a part of the Follies by joining in a group number or the big finale (suggestions welcome!) And if you don’t want to perform at all, please join us in the audience. Admission is free to all, but donations to APPLAUSE will be dramatically accepted.

For more information, contact Barbara David at home.
Open Heart Kitchen Greeters Wanted

If you can smile and you have an hour and a half available during the week, the Open Heart Kitchen (OHK) could use your help. You could be a greeter at the door. A greeter is a person who welcomes the folks who come to the OHK here at Asbury.

In several places in the gospels, Jesus asks His disciples to feed the hungry and welcome the stranger. We can do both those things when OHK hosts meals here at Asbury on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. We want everyone to feel welcome and comfortable, just as you would if you invited guests into your own home for a meal. OHK provides more than just food, though. The people who come are often frightened, tired, and lonely. OHK provides them with a safe, clean, friendly place to be with other people and a community of kindness.

Mother Teresa said "We can't all do great things. But we can do small things with great love." Might this be the "small thing" you feel called to try?

We invite you to join this quiet, simple, yet profound ministry. All you need is a friendly face, maybe a kind word to share, and occasionally a helping hand to open the door.

Call or email Margot Platt for more information (contact the church office for her contact information).

Join Us for Guatemala Mission Trip!

We will be returning to Guatemala to volunteer at a hospital, a home for disabled persons and to distribute 100 wheelchairs in Antigua and Guatemala City. There are many people in this country who cannot afford a wheelchair. We will be teaming with the Rotary Club there to select and equip individuals who need one.

The travel dates – Saturday, January 27-Saturday, February 3, 2018. In addition to volunteering, there will be the option to do a little sightseeing. The preliminary cost estimate is $1,800 per person for airfare, hotels, meals and other related expenses. Partial scholarships are available.

Registration is now and will conclude around November 1. But the sooner you decide, the better. We only have twelve slots available. See Steve Elliott or stop by the Serving Others Table for more details.

Habitat for Humanity Build-a-Thon

September 16, 2017

Like an old-fashioned barn raising, a BUILD-A-THON is quite an experience! Everyone works together in a well-organized and supervised day of raising the walls of new affordable homes. No experience is necessary- only a willingness to help. Your $100 donation covers the day, an event T-shirt and a portion of the building materials.

For registration information, go to habitatbsv.org/build-a-thon. You can also get information from Bob Hoffman.

Featured Ministries for September

Showers and Laundry

The Shower Ministry offers a hot shower and clean towels. The showers are open during OHK on Wednesdays from 12-6:00 p.m. We average about forty showers per week.

The Laundry Ministry provides a place for our homeless clients to do laundry. Most of our guests do not have the financial resources to go to a typical laundry. Can you imagine wearing the same dirty clothes over and over? Having the ability to wash clothes, sleeping bags and blankets helps restore dignity.

Stop by the Serve Others with Love Table after worship to learn more about each of these ministries.

(Continued on page 5)
Make a Joyful Noise!

Time to make some beautiful music! Choirs, band and bells are all starting up, and each group would love to have some additional singers, ringers and/or people to play instruments. Talk to the church office, a director or come to a rehearsal!

Beginning rehearsals:

- **Asbury Ringers**: Sunday, August 27, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- **Faith Choir**: Wednesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- **Youth, Rainbow and Cherub Choirs**: Sunday, September 10, 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel with parents for the first 15 minutes. (Chocolate will be the reward!)
- **Asbury Band**: Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Being in a choir or band writes wonderful words on your heart, and gives your mind music to play over and over again in your head. It's a good thing! Please check it out.

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Serve Others With Love (cont’d)

(Continued from page 4)

Undie Sunday!

September 17, 2017

As part of our Shower Ministry, we give away new undies as needed. You probably have never given it much thought. But if you don't have good undies, it wears on your pride.

On September 17, we are asking that you donate NEW undergarments or socks. We will keep the donated clothing on-hand and give to anyone who needs something.

Here a list of the undies most needed, in men and women sizes, Small through Extra Large.

- Underwear (any style, any color, including boxer)
- White Undershirts (men) or tank tops/bras (ladies)
- Socks – White cotton

All donations must be NEW, with tags on or in the original packaging. Collection boxes will be in the Narthex and the Church Office.
Pre-K through Fifth Grade Sunday School
For the month of September, we will finish exploring “An Illustrated Compassion: Learning to Love like God” curriculum series where we discover compassion in the Bible together. Then will begin “An Illustrated Earth: Celebrating God’s Creation”, which is a twelve-week curriculum series written by Adam Walker-Cleveland and his Illustrated Children’s Ministry Team.

Sunday School Teachers Needed
As we prepare for our fall Sunday school program in our Pre-K through high school classes, we need teachers. This is a very meaningful way to serve others with love once a month. Our curriculum is easy to use and inspires teachers to deepen their own faith. Please contact Jackie Bennett through the church office for more information.

Save the Date
Pre-K through fifth grade Sunday school teachers, save the date, Sunday, September 17 for a Sunday school teacher staff meeting. For those interested in more information and for new and returning teachers, the meeting is from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room next to the Chapel. Lunch will be provided. Please let Jackie Bennett know if you will need childcare for children not in choir practice.

Joyfully and Gratefully,
Jackie Bennett
Children’s Ministry Director

Youth Ministries

Youth Happenings for September 2017
- **September 1-3**: Fall Youth Retreat
- **September 3**: No Youth Groups
- **September 10**: Youth Groups 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **September 17**: Youth Groups 5:30-7:00 p.m.—Photo Scavenger Hunt
- **September 24**: Youth Groups 5:30-7:00 p.m.

September Mystery Photo

Every month, we will run a mystery photo, for you to identify. At the end of 2017, whoever has correctly guessed the most photos, will receive a special prize. Here’s this month’s photo. Who do you see? Email your answers to Pastor Kim.

This is the nineteenth year that Asbury and the Alameda County East Branch of the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC) have co-sponsored the September Piano Recital. Each summer at the MTAC convention, members of our local branch choose a talented young artist to perform at Asbury. This year’s recital will be held in the Sanctuary on Saturday evening, September 9, 2017, 7:30 p.m. and will last about 50 minutes.

The entire congregation and the public are warmly invited to attend. Children and music students of any age, and their families, are especially welcome.

This year's performer is 18 year old Vincent Liu, a resident of San Ramon and incoming freshman at Stanford University. This summer he was inducted into the prestigious Young Artist Guild of the MTAC.

Mr. Liu has won first prize in many local, state and national competitions. He has won concerto competitions and played with many orchestras, including the Livermore-Amador Symphony in 2015 when he performed the Prokofiev Concerto No. 2 at the Bankhead Theater.

His program at Asbury will include timeless treasures by Liszt, Rachmaninoff and others.

Mark your calendar for this evening of unforgettable music performed by a gifted young musician. The recital is open to all at no charge. Refreshments will be served afterward in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information, contact Anne Coll at home.
Anniversaries and Birthdays

Anniversaries
Harry and Cordelia Bate
Dave and Dale Boercker
Thomas Cayton and Marcia Ikeda
Larry and Elaine Clary
Dave and Terri Gamble
Dick and Diane Larder
John and Connaught Lindberg
Kent and Mitchie McCammon
Raj and Diana Nathan
John and Peg Pettis
Andy and Christina Pomykal
Dave and Cheryl Seberger
Jonathan and Erin Senge
Carl and Colleen Sorem
Dan and Hitomi Westfall
Cal and Dixie Wood

Birthdays
Kyle Beach
Emily Bennett
Kenneth Bernstein
Dale Boercker
Susan Bothwell
Chris Buckley
Jan Buckley
Tim Buckley
Gene Burke
Chuk Campos
Kellie Campos
Cathy Carter
Nancy Carter
Pat Carter
LaVerne Cave
Larry Chase
Sharmyn Crawford
Gary Deis
Deanna Frumenti
Joshua Hart
Richard Hayes

Pamela Jeakins
Paul Jones
Edie Lamb
Dick Larder
Mark Lee
Aaron Leonard
Robert Lim
Dee Matusiewicz
Phoenix McPeake
Donald Meeker
Meera Nathan
Landon Paiso
Evelynne Schwartz
Barbara Sharry
Mary Spang
Dylan Spooner
Pam Spooner
Nicole Stewart
Jean Swartwood
Diane Thompson
Mark Wiley
September 2017 Calendar

Please visit the Asbury website calendar for the latest updates: https://www.asburylive.org/events

Weekly Recurring Events
Sundays
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, Sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Butterfly Gardens is open
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 a.m. Children’s and Youth Choir rehearsals
- 11:30 a.m. Small Group, Room 13 (first and third Sundays only)
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Fireside Room (first and third Sundays only)
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study, Room 10
- 7:00 p.m. Asbury Ringers rehearsal, Sanctuary

Mondays
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Fertile Groundworks, Conference Room (second and fourth Mondays only)

Tuesdays
- 11:00 a.m. Loose Canons
- 11:00 a.m. The Long Good-bye, Fireside Room (second and fourth Tuesdays only)
- 12:00 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Small Group, Fireside Room (second and fourth Tuesdays only)
- 7:00 p.m. Alanon/Alateen, Rooms 13-15
- 7:00 p.m. Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Wednesdays
- 12:00 p.m. Open Heart Kitchen, Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Faith Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary

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

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

Other Events and Meetings

September 3, 2017 (Sunday)
- 4:00 p.m. “The Apology to Eve” Speaker, Livermore main library

September 5, 2017 (Tuesday)
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out, Zephyr Bar & Grill

September 7, 2017 (Thursday)
- 12:00 p.m. Senior/Retiree Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

September 9, 2017 (Saturday)
- 7:30 p.m. Annual Piano Recital, Sanctuary

September 10, 2017 (Sunday)
- 8:45 a.m. SPRC, Room 10
- 11:30 a.m. Finance, Conference Room
- 11:30 a.m. Meet the Pastors, Room 10

September 15, 2017 (Friday)
- 1-7:00 p.m. Livermore Community Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall

September 16, 2017 (Saturday)
- 4-7:00 p.m. U.N. International Day of Peace Potluck Picnic, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

September 23, 2017 (Saturday)
- 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. All Campus Clean-up Day

September 24, 2017 (Sunday)
- 11:30 a.m. Church Council, Conference Room

September 30, 2017 (Saturday)
- 5:30 p.m. 150-Year Anniversary Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Asbury Follies Special Edition, Sanctuary
Asbury United Methodist Church
4743 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550

Time Dated Material—Deliver Promptly

Address Service Requested

Asbury UMC Staff
Pastors
Chelsea Constant
Kim Risedorph
Children's Ministry Director
Jackie Bennett
Youth Director
Chelsea Constant
Secretary
Terri Gamble
Facilities Use Manager
[Open Position]
Music Director
G. Allen Schell
Choir Coordinator
Jean Braun
Nursery Coordinator
Pam Tegge
Lay Leader
Martie Muldoon

Livermore Community Blood Drive
Friday, September 15, 1:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Every day, bay area hospitals need over 300 units of blood. If you’re 17 or older and in good health (or 16 with parental consent) help save a life of someone who needs more time with their family by giving blood! Go to redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: ASBURY925. Call Tom Petty at home for more information. Thank you for helping to save a life by giving 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 Friday, September 22, 2017