150-Year Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, September 30

- **Dinner:** If you have tickets for the dinner on Saturday evening, we will get started at 5:30 p.m. Many of our former pastors, as well as district superintendents and Mayor John Marchand, will join us for this catered dinner. Dress as you would for Sunday worship. All tickets for the dinner have been sold—yet there are more ways to celebrate.

- **Asbury Follies:** 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This event is open to all, and it won't disappoint! Find out more of Asbury's history through a unique combination of music, comedy, and a touch of the zany.

Sunday, October 1

Worship on Sunday morning, at 10:00 a.m. Join us for a special worship service, with many of our former pastors attending and Bishop Carcaño preaching. Gather with your community and celebrate! Communion will be served on this World Communion Sunday.
Pre-K through fifth grade Sunday school: for the month of October we will continue exploring “An Illustrated Earth: Celebrating God’s Creation”, a 12-week curriculum series written by Adam Walker-Cleveland and his Illustrated Children’s Ministry Team.

Our Sunday school classes have set a goal to work together to collect at least $150 by the end of May 2018 through their Sunday school offerings. The $150+ will go to Fertile Groundworks, a garden behind our church which provides produce to feed those in need through the Open Heart Kitchen program, offered on our campus 3 days a week, and teaches others to garden as well.

More information about Fertile Groundworks is available in brochures located in each classroom and their website at fertilegroundworks.org.

Be sure to check on our progress as we chart our way to earning a pizza party. The third, fourth, and fifth grade Sunday school class has had a tour of the garden and we look forward to organizing a family garden work day.

Thank you Asbury UMC for all of your prayers and support of our Children’s Ministry Program and my family. What a wonderful blessing it is to be a part of such an amazingly loving and vibrant community. You are all so very awesome!

Joyfully and gratefully,
Jackie Bennett
Children’s Ministry Director

Youth Ministries

Youth Happenings for October 2017
- October 1: Youth Groups 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- October 8: Youth Groups 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- October 15: Youth Groups 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- October 22: Corn Maze Trip 5-8:00 p.m.
- October 29: Halloween Youth Groups and Costume Contest 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Youth Corn Maze Trip
October 22, 5:00 p.m.

We will meet at 5:00 p.m. on October 22 for our annual youth trip to Dell’Osso farm’s corn maze. As Nick likes to say, it’s going to be ah-maze-ing!

We will explore the corn maze and haunted house (if you are brave enough!) and have dinner at Dell'Osso farm.

Please bring $18, comfortable shoes, and a jacket in case it gets cold.

We will meet at 5:00 p.m. at Asbury and return at 8:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Chelsea by October 15 on the church contact page.
Celebrate Community

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. Admission is free to all, but donations to APPLAUSE will be dramatically accepted.

For more information, contact Barbara David at home.

Senior/Retiree Luncheon Returns!

Thursday, October 5, 12:00 p.m.
All seniors are invited to join us on Thursday, October 5 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a guest speaker, Rob Farris, from the Tri-Valley Flyfishers. He will be sharing his recent quest to catch fish and complete the Heritage Trout Program and why it is important from a conservation standpoint. The cost is $5 per person. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall after worship or contact the church office.

Ladies’ Night Out

Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 p.m.
This month we will be going to Uncle Yu’s (www.uncleyusvineyard.com) located at 39 S. Livermore Avenue near Lizzy Fountain. 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.

Growing In Faith

Annual Church Conference

Sunday November 5, 5:00 p.m.
This year, our annual church conference will be on Sunday, November 5, at 5pm. Our District Superintendent, Shinya Goto, with preside.

At church conference, we celebrate the year just passed, and imagine possibilities for the year ahead. Church members vote on items such a pastors’ salaries.

Please join us, and hear a brief message from Shinya Goto.

Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24, 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
This year, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, and we will worship at 10:00 a.m. and then have one evening service at 7:00 p.m. Please help us get the word out!
Habitat for Humanity Workday
Saturday, October 21
Our next Habitat for Humanity Workday is October 21 in Martinez, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, contact Bob Hoffman or stop by the Serve Others with Love Table.

Asbury Outreach and Missions Fair
Sunday, October 22
We are excited to announce that Asbury will have a Missions and Outreach Fair right after worship on Sunday, October 22. Come visit with representatives from each of our core outreach partners about the mission of their organization and how to volunteer or donate.

Tables for each group will be in the courtyard. We will have special treats, a raffle and activities for the kids. More info available at the Serve Others with Love Table today.

Tri-Valley Haven's Holiday Programs
Each year Asbury helps Tri-Valley Haven staff their Thanksgiving Food Distribution and Holiday Gift Programs for low income and homeless residents of our area. Registration for these two programs begins in early November. We need volunteers for shifts at the registration table on November 1, 3, 7 and 9. Stop by the Serve Others with Love Table to see the schedule and sign up.

Volunteer for Livermore Homeless Refuge
The mission of the Livermore Homeless Refuge is to provide a clean, dry, warm and safe place to stay overnight during cold or rainy weather. It is a joint program of Asbury UMC, Vineyard Christian Fellowship, First Presbyterian Church and Holy Cross Lutheran. When operations start in November, the hosting role rotates between each church.

Volunteers work shifts to host clients for the night and help with other tasks. Stop by the Serve Others with Love Table after worship to learn more about this important way to live our faith in the community.

Last Call for Upcoming 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 12 slots available. See Steve Elliott or stop by the Serving Others Table for more details.

After the Fire – Weed Recovery Mission Trip
On the afternoon of September 15, 2014, a fire intentionally set by a transient, roared through the far northern California town of Weed (near Mount Shasta). Known as the Boles Fire, it was under control in two hours, but not before it destroyed nearly 160 homes and commercial properties, including the Presbyterian and Catholic churches. Everything in its path was burned to the ground. Herculean efforts saved the high school and the lumber mill, which provides work for much of the town. While no one died in the fire, lives were turned upside down.

Teamed with Habitat for Humanity, UMCOR has sponsored a small volunteer program to assist residents with recovery. During the second week of September 2017, our group of 10 from Asbury UMC and Lynnewood UMC, traveled to Weed to help. We worked on two homes.

One of our projects was for Lewis and Amber Powell and their two young children. This will be the first home that they own. Sadly, they have lost two places where they lived to fire in the last five years.

Read the entire article here: http://bit.ly/2xEqSy8
The 32-member Commission on a Way Forward was appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the bishops in their charge from the 2016 General Conference to lead the church forward amid the present impasse related to human sexuality and resulting questions about the unity of the church.

The Commission on a Way Forward has started sketching models to share with the Council of Bishops as options for finding a way forward for The United Methodist Church (UMC) regarding human sexuality. During the meeting in Berlin, Germany (Sept. 18-20), members of the Commission expressed the need for the unity of the UMC, yet recognizing the different theological understandings and expressions on human sexuality.

From spirit-led devotions through heartfelt discussions to one-on-one dialogues, the members of the Commission delved deeper into the LGBTQ identity, guided by the values of multiplying our Wesleyan witness, fruitfulness, a heart at peace, de-centralization and simplicity.

"I am totally convinced that together we can get through this and with the hope we have, we can get through this together," Dr. Hortense Aka from Ivory Coast said in the Monday morning devotion at the start of the Berlin meeting. She noted that her own personal journey was continuing "with faith, I can listen and see what God wants us to do."

During its work in Berlin, the Commission started looking at missional and institutional models for a way forward. The Commission’s moderators Bishops David Yemba, Sandra Steiner Ball and Ken Carter expressed optimism at the work done during the Berlin meeting and are hopeful that the members will offer useful models for the way forward.

"Our commission members moved more deeply into their convictions that lead them to love God and envision the future of our denomination. While we are exploring models of a way forward, we are ‘sketching’ them, with a pencil in one hand and an eraser in the other," said Bishop Carter, who is the Florida Area resident Bishop.

"This is the work of conciliar discernment—we know that the Holy Spirit is not the possession of any one of us, but is in the midst of us. We know that members of our denomination want space from each other—because of theological differences from each other and the harm we have done to each other—and at the same time connection—because this is in our DNA. We are the one Body of Christ with many members, and God uses this diversity to offer grace and healing to the world," he said.

In her devotion on Tuesday, Rev. Casey Orr, a deacon from Tennessee but currently serving in Texas, noted that it was in tense moments that healing and new birth can come. "I grieve the brokenness of our beloved church and those hurting in this most profoundly. It does not scare me, however, because with great courage and vulnerability, we have named the brokenness we all shared."

As United Methodists and as Christians, we are redefined by Jesus Christ, she explained. "We are defined by his gospel, his love. We are defined by the promise that God is making all things new. We are defined by the mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world."

Reflecting on the meeting, Commission member Tom Lambercrt said he was impressed by the fact that "we engaged ever more deeply around the issues that divide us as well as those that unite us. We gained greater clarity about the direction in which the Commission wants to move."

Emphasizing the need to keep the discussion in the global context, Dr. David Field, a lay member from Switzerland, talked about the differences that abound in the Central Conferences and encouraged the members to view the proposals from the perspective of people outside the United States as well. He also challenged the members to think of the gospel from the perspectives of those marginalized.

"During this period of constant struggle, is the gospel good news to the LGBTQ community? The gospel could only be good news if it is good news for the LGBTQ community," he said.

Another lay member, Dr. Mazvita Machinga from Zimbabwe, emphasized the need for the work of the Commission to be sensitive to the context in which United Methodists outside the U.S. operate. "The meeting sees us going deeper into our mandate for finding a way forward and I am quite optimistic that a way forward that will keep our church together is on the way."

The Commission, whose work is at the mid-point of service to the Council of Bishops, plans to issue an interim report to the bishops at their November 2017 meeting. The Commission will continue to work on the interim report at its next meeting in October in Nashville. The Commission will meet in Nashville October 30-November 1.

For more information on the Commission on a Way Forward, visit umc.org/wayforward
Facebook: www.facebook.com/umcforward
Twitter: @UMCForward
Instagram: www.instagram.com/umcforward
Anniversaries and Birthdays

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
- Tom and Joanne Petty
- Mark and Elizabeth Piscotty
- John and Barbara Sharry
- Bernie and Dottie Sherman

Birthdays
- Joanne Abey
- Chris Almeida
- Pat Baker
- Spencer Bayless
- Caitlin Beach
- Rex Beach
- Kathy Berger
- Madison Bernstein
- Dave Bing
- Jessica Bohling
- Elaine Bosserman
- Alan Burnham
- Elizabeth Cassidy
- Kathy Chase
- Elaine Clary
- Edison Cummings
- Kathy Defenbaugh
- Leila Epperson
- Linda Evans
- Don Faul
- Sharon Gach
- Nancy Grover
- Ruth Hawley
- Donna Koon
- Wyatt Koon
- C.J. Malski
- Holly McCammon

- Nicholas McClendon
- Patti Mehser-Paiso
- Caitlyne Miller
- Chloie Molvik
- Priya Nathan
- Dennis Nelson
- Kristina Ormond
- Tanner Paiso
- Lemuel Perez
- James Pettis
- Peg Pettis
- Joseph Pyle
- Anya Runnels
- Ceit Sanders
- Eric Schell
- Hailey Schultz
- Jonathan Senge
- Carolee Smith
- Lillian Speckenheuer
- Erica Squires
- Jan Stevenson
- Marc Stewart
- Jeff Wagoner
- Michael Wakefield
- Larry Wiley
- Carol Wilson
- Philip Woolworth
- Sue Worth
October 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
- 5:30 p.m. Partners for Change, Fireside Room
- 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 30, 2017 (Saturday)
- 5:30 p.m. 150-Year Anniversary Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Asbury Follies Special Edition, Sanctuary

October 3, 2017 (Tuesday)
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out, Uncle Yu’s

October 5, 2017 (Thursday)
- 12:00 p.m. Senior/Retiree Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

October 8, 2017 (Sunday)
- 8:45 a.m. SPRC, Room 10
- 11:30 a.m. Finance, Conference Room

October 20, 2017 (Friday)
- 1-7:00 p.m. Livermore Community Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall

October 22, 2017 (Sunday)
- 11:30 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

**Pastors**
- Chelsea Constant
- Kim Risedorph

**Children's Ministry Director**
- Jackie Bennett

**Youth Director**
- Chelsea Constant

**Secretary**
- Terri Gamble

**Facilities Use Manager**
- Sharon Gach

**Music Director**
- G. Allen Schell

**Choir Coordinator**
- Jean Braun

**Nursery Coordinator**
- Pam Tegge

**Lay Leader**
- Martie Muldoon

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Livermore Community Blood Drive

**Friday, October 20, 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](http://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!**

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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, October 20, 2017**