Dear Asbury Community,

My heart is filled with gratitude for these past nine years with you. Thank you for being such a wonderful congregation – willing to be centered in Jesus Christ, growing in faith, celebrating community and serving others with love.

I have so many moments and experiences to cherish. Thank you for the conversations, the willingness to share your faith journey, and for the privilege of walking alongside as you faced challenges, questions, illness, fear, and the death of loved ones. Thank you for sharing the sacred God-Moments – the times when God so clearly guided, surprised, or blessed you. I will hold all these moments in my heart forever. You allowed me to be your pastor. Thank you.

Thank you to the leaders who re-started the Stephen Ministry program, led the Reconciling effort, started the laundry ministry, worked on our 5 Year Strategic plan, and brought Partners for Change into being. I am also filled with admiration for all who chaired Committees and programs—you serve with such commitment and vision. You inspire me, and deepen my own commitment to leading faith communities.

To all the musicians of Asbury, wow! Just wow!! My family and I will always remember the music – and the musicians.

To the people who work behind the scenes with an ex-

(Continued on page 2)
quise blend of patience and commitment and vision – our treasurer, Dick Crawford and IT guy-extraordinaire, Tom Petty; scriptologists Sharon, Mike, Kirby and Sharmyn – you have figured out how to employ technology in a way that enhances worship.

To my colleagues on staff: Pastor Chelsea, Jackie, Jean, Allen, Terri, Karen, Sharon – so many thank yous! For the joy of serving with you, I am grateful beyond words. Time and time again, you supported each other and worked towards excellence.

(Continued from page 1)

My last Sunday with you will be June 17. Pastor Kathy LaPoint-Collup will join you on July 1. As we move into this time of transition, I appreciate the United Methodist Church’s approach. I will step away so that Pastor Kathy can serve as your pastor. As part of that, I will not be in touch (in person or on-line). While it is difficult to leave you, I know you are in good hands. That said, you will be in my thoughts and prayers. You will forever be in my heart, and in God’s tender loving care. You are a blessing.

With Love,
Pastor Kim

Growing In Faith

In the Park with God

Starting June 27, 7:00 p.m.

Do you like to have fun? It has been said that "Laughter is the beginning of prayer" (Reinhold Niebuhr) and that the family that plays together stays together. What if we worshiped in laughter and play? What if we deepened our connection and community by having fun together while worshiping God? What if we connected with God outside and worshiped in nature?

These are some of the ponderings that lead to our new summer Wednesday night worship In the Park with God. It is an intergeneration worship service where all are invited to come as they are and connect with God, with each other, and with fun in the park!

We will meet from 7-8:15 p.m., we will have a fellowship time of games and play from 7-7:30 p.m. followed by 45 minutes of fun and contemplative worship. As we worship we will play, read and explore Scripture together, pray in different ways, and end with communion.

Whether you are 1 or 101 (or really any age) we hope you will join us worship God with laughter, community, and sacred time in nature. We will meet at Bruno Canziani Park (5907 Charlotte Way) on June 27, July 11, July 25, and August 8 with fellowship/play time at 7:00 p.m. and worship at 7:30 p.m.

Religion Chat

Wednesday, June 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. (Note new time!)

The June Religion Chat will be held at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton on Wednesday, June 13 from 7:00-8:15 p.m. The facility will be open from 6:30-8:30 p.m. so attendees have a chance to visit with each other. The event is free and all are welcome. There is parking in the adjacent lot.

Topic: What is Your Religion’s Path to Leadership? What are the requirements for becoming a leader? What is the process for choosing your congregation’s leader?

Speakers: Angelika Voss-Quinn, Scientology, and Gaurav Rastogi, Hindu.

After the presentations, there will be time for questions and for attendees to share in small groups.

Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Potluck Dinner

Sunday, June 3, 7:30–9:30 p.m.

Please join us for a potluck iftar dinner experience as we observe Ramadan together and help create a peaceful society by building new relationships around the traditions of fasting and hospitality in the three major Abrahamic faiths. Speakers: Ustadha Hosai Mojaddidi, Rabbi Larry Milder, and Rev. Andy Lobban.

Muslim Community Center/East Bay
5724 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton
RSVP required: mceastbay.org/interfaith-iftar
Celebrate Community

Ladies’ Night Out
Tuesday, June 5, 6:00 p.m.
All women of Asbury are invited to Ladies’ Night Out in which we meet at a local restaurant for dinner. This month, we’ll be going to Strings Italian Café, 2205 Las Positas Road. Please RSVP to Nancy Grover so she can notify the restaurant how many to expect.

Dine and Dawdle Starts This Month!
Come to Asbury on Thursday evenings this summer for Dine and Dawdle. It’s your chance to eat cheaply ($5 per person) and visit with friends. With a few exceptions, dinner is typically hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers with salad, chips and dessert. Vote for your favorite cookie during our cookie bake-off (June 28). If sweets aren’t your thing, there’s always the chili cook off on July 12. Or how about the Reader’s Theater on July 26? And, to close off the D&D season, get stuffed (backpacks, that is) on August 2. Dining starts at 6:00 p.m. How long you dawdle afterwards is up to you! So that you can plan ahead, Dine and Dawdle dates are:
- June 14 – Pulled pork night
- June 21 – Burgers and dogs
- June 28 – Cookie bake-off – bakers, be sure to sign up!
- July 12 – Chili cook-off – chili cooks, sign up for this one!
- July 19 – Burgers and dogs
- July 26 – Reader’s Theater
- August 2 – Backpack stuffing

2018 Asbury Photo Directory
June 19-20 and June 27-30, 2018
Our last photo directory was printed a few years ago, and it’s time for a refresh. Be part of the new directory and come to one of the reserved photo shoot dates during the last two weeks of June. Pets are welcome in your photo, since they’re part of your family too!
Available dates are afternoons and evenings on June 19-20 and again June 27-30. Register early to get your preferred time slot by registering online here.
More information can be found on the Asbury website calendar.

Asbury’s Church Family Camp
July 5-8, 2018
Church Family Camp at Camp Shelly will be July 5-8, 2018. Registration for the secured ten sites is already open (and going fast). Each $150.00 campsite will need to be paid in full at the time of registration. Checks can be made out to Asbury UMC with Camp Shelly written on the front. You will be welcome to sell your site to another, or to someone on a waiting list if one is created, if later you are unable to attend.
Thank you to Jim and Jeannie Lobao for taking on the leadership of this special community time together. If you have questions, please email Jackie Bennett.
June Special Offering – Puerto Rico

Sunday, June 3

Our special offering on Sunday, June 3, will be to assist with the hurricane recovery in Puerto Rico. We were there in March and can say the challenge is great. Thousands of homes need repair.

UMCOR is working with the United Methodist Church of Puerto Rico to support this recovery. Your donation to this Annual Conference offering will go directly to serve this need. Stop by the Serving Others with Love Table to see photos from the recent trip.

Join the Serving Others with Love Leadership Team

An incredibly rewarding way to live your faith is to help lead the missions and outreach of Asbury UMC. This team defines the plan for the year, coordinates the many church-wide opportunities for service and takes turns leading many of the projects and programs offered. If you are interested in learning more about what is involved, contact Steve Elliott for more information.

Donate Supplies to Bundles of Joy

This month we will be collecting supplies to stock newborn baby baskets. These baskets are given to low income mothers, clients of Axis Community Health, when they deliver at Valley Care Hospital. What a wonderful way to welcome a new life into our world! Donate any of the following in the collection boxes in the office or sanctuary:

- Newborn outfits
- Hats
- Rattles
- Bottles (3-pack)
- Bibs
- Wipes
- Pacifiers
- Blankets
- Newborn diapers
- Booties or socks
- Newborn toys
- Baby wash
- Baby lotion, powder, ointment
- New stuffed animals
- Target, Babies R Us, etc. gift cards
- Blankets

Partners for Change

Partners for Change is gearing up to start Session 4 of its mentorship program to support motivated folks in their journey to financial stability on June 12. That day will begin our shift to meeting on TUESDAYS rather than Wednesdays going forward. To become a mentor/mentee or to volunteer one hour a month to assist with childcare, please call 925-583-1635 or contact Shana Peete, or Abby Slagle.

Living with Dementia

Saturday, June 9, 9:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

If you are caring for someone living with dementia, please consider attending this class.

Living with Dementia: Optimal Well-Being and Activities of Daily Living
6377 Clark Avenue, Suite 100, Dublin

Register on the Hope Hospice website.

Providing personal care for a loved one with dementia can present overwhelming demands on the caregiver, often leading to frustration and exhaustion. This class will explore effective strategies for managing the activities of daily living (dressing, eating, bathing, toileting, walking, transferring, etc.) with the goals of promoting optimal well-being and personal identity for the patient and maintaining the physical and emotional health of the family caregiver.

Speakers: Jill Smith, RN, Hope Hospice Director of Volunteers, Certified Dementia Care Practitioner, CARES® Dementia Specialist
Debbie Emerson, MS, Hope Hospice Community Health Educator, CARES® Dementia Specialist

Asbury provides a support group for those caring for loved ones with dementia: The second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Contact the church office for more information at 925-447-1950. We’d love to have you join us. You’ll find encouragement, support and information in these informal gatherings.

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Serving Others With Love (cont’d)

Haiti Program Going Strong
We continue to support our sponsored schools with meals, clean water, solar power systems, computers and facility development. We also have over 50 clean water systems installed in the communities surrounding our schools.

We are now focused on starting the transition from US based financial support to Haiti-based income to continue the work there. The cornerstone of this effort is a locally owned bakery. Using solar ovens like shown in this photo, the bakery would sell products retail and wholesale with the proceeds to fund the program operations.

In addition, it will provide the bread needed for our school lunches. Lastly, it will provide more local employment. Construction and opening will be in 2019.

Youth Ministries

June Youth Happenings
- **June 3**: Youth Party Night, 4:25-8:30 p.m.
- **June 10**: No Youth Group, Graduating Senior Dinner 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- **June 17**: No Youth Group
- **June 19**: Youth Game Night, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- **June 24**: Youth Pool Party, 3-7:00 p.m.

Youth Party Night
**Sunday, June 3, 4:25-8:00 p.m.**

On June 3 we will meet with other youth groups in our area for a night of games and fun, including bubble soccer, slip n’slide kickball, and cardboard chariot races! It’s a time for fun, laughter, and building new friendships. Please RSVP to Chelsea. We will meet at 4:25 p.m. to carpool over to Pleasanton and return around 8:00 p.m.

Youth Game Night
**Tuesday, June 19, 6:30-9:00 p.m.**

Come for a dinner and a night of games! Bring your favorite game if you want, we will have lots of fun and lots of laughter. We will meet 6:30-9:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Pool Party June 24
**Sunday, June 24, 3-7:00 p.m.**

Come kick off summer with a youth pool party! Bring your friends for fun, pool games, and dinner. Our pool party this year will be at the Lobao’s house from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Youth Group Disneyland Trip
**July 22-25, 2018**

Come have fun and celebrate community in the happiest place on Earth! We will spend two days in Disneyland and California Adventure together having fun, going on rides, and building community. We will drive down in the early afternoon on July 22 and return in the late afternoon July 25. The cost of the trip is $250 plus money to buy food in the parks. Please contact Chelsea to RSVP or with any questions. RSVP by June 10.
Looking for ways to connect with many loving people who share the love of Christ with so many others – Come join the Vacation Bible School volunteer family. You will feel like you are at camp yourself, as you get to play with so many others of all ages.

Many lifetime friendships have been made at VBS for children and adults. You won’t help but catch God’s joy for you as we all shine the light of Christ together during this special week in July.

There are so many wonderful jobs: assist leading children around to stations, crafts, bible story, science, music, snacks, and recreation.

Please fill out a volunteer form, see VBS details below, or contact Jackie. Volunteers are the key ingredient in making VBS happen.

2018 Vacation Bible School
July 16-20, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Asbury UMC's 2018 Vacation Bible School “Camp Asbury Adventure” will be Monday, July 16 to Friday, July 20 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Registration forms for children and volunteers are now available in our church office, the Fellowship Hall following worship service, and on our website at www.asburylive.org.

United Methodist Summer Camps
For third grade and up:
Monte Toyon in Aptos, CA (near Santa Cruz): Sunday, July 8 to Saturday, July 14. Many Asbury children and youth have attend this camp and have loved it.
More information and Camp Registration can be found at: www.calnevypm.org.
Pre-K through fifth grade Sunday School will continue journeying through a “Compassion: Learning to Love Like God” curriculum series.

We are now accepting applications for nursery staff. Please call the Church Office at 925-447-1950 if you or someone you know are interested in becoming employed to work in our loving and caring Nursery. Paid staff work one to two Sundays a month and special events, as needed.

Gratefully,
Jackie Bennett
Children’s Ministry Director

June Young Adult Activities

- **June 3**: Young Adult Lunch Out, 11:30 a.m.
- **June 12**: At The Table, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- **June 14**: Bible Study, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- **June 28**: Bible Study, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
As this is my first newsletter, I want to share my personal thanks to the Asbury community for all your help and guidance as I strive to fill the mighty big shoes left by Bruce Campbell. It has been a joy getting to work with many of you in the garden. What fun to plant with the youngest Asbury members these past couple months. The generosity and love I feel when working with members of Asbury and Fertile GroundWorks volunteers always amazes me. Yes, kindness matters. You have my sincere gratitude for the daily reminders of this fact.

While personnel may be changing in the Garden of Grace, Fertile GroundWorks' goal remains the same. To use education to empower people to sustainably grow healthy food for themselves and their neighbors to improve the food security of all within our community. To teach, grow and give.

To help fulfill this goal, Fertile GroundWorks will be starting a U-Pick aspect to our operations. Starting this summer, you all are invited to join us and pick your own vegetables during our regular Friday afternoon (3:00-6:00 p.m.) and Saturday morning (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) shifts. Harvesting on these days will help keep the plants in optimum production mode without disrupting the amount of produce Fertile GroundWorks provides to Open Heart Kitchen and our local food pantries. Funds from the U-Pick will help provide Fertile GroundWorks a sustainable revenue stream. We hope you will join us in this endeavor.

Again, I want to express my gratitude to the Asbury community for their generous dedication to community service and for their willingness to walk their talk. It makes me hopeful knowing the world has such wonderful people in it.

Until next we meet, may kindnesses fill your days,

Brenda Kusler
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<th>Birthdays</th>
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June 2018 Calendar

Please visit the Asbury website calendar for the latest updates: 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. 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

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. 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

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

June 3, 2018 (Sunday)
- 10:00 a.m. All Music Sunday (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 a.m. Senior/Retiree trip to Niles Canyon Railway

June 5, 2018 (Tuesday)
- 6:00 p.m. Ladies’ Night Out (Strings Italian Café)

June 10, 2018 (Sunday)
- 8:30 a.m. SPRC, Room 10
- 11:30 a.m. Finance, Conference Room

June 12, 2018 (Tuesday)
- 7:30 p.m. At the Table (Fireside Room)

June 15, 2018 (Friday)
- 12-6:00 p.m. Livermore Community Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall

June 17, 2018 (Sunday)
- 9:00 a.m. Trustees, Conference Room
- 11:30 a.m. Going Away Brunch for Pastor Kim

June 19, 2018 (Tuesday)
- 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Committee, Room 10

June 24, 2018 (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
  Karen Bauman
Facilities Use Manager
  Sharon Gach
Music Director
  G. Allen Schell
Choir Coordinator
  Jean Braun
Nursery Coordinator
  Pam Tegge
Lay Leader
  Martie Muldoon

Livermore Community Blood Drive
Friday, June 15, 12:00-6:00 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 in need 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, June 22, 2018