



The Asbury Update

January 2021

Asbury Memorial Church
Rev. Billy Hester
Volume 34, Number 1
January 2021

Burning Bowl Ceremony



Burning Bowl and Anticipation Celebration

"We at Asbury Memorial have a tradition of coming together on or around New Year's Day to release things from the past year and to imagine the accomplishments of a new year. We look forward to you joining us (virtually) on Sunday, January 3, 2021 to continue this tradition!

We begin with a Burning Bowl Ceremony where everyone is invited to symbolically and literally let go of old, unwanted beliefs, habits, and fears to start the new year fresh. (This year you'll be encouraged to tear up what you write in lieu of a literal burning bowl).

Then each participant will be led through a guided exercise called an Anticipation Celebration. The Anticipation Celebration is a mostly silent activity, where your facilitators will guide you as you reflect on your goals and write a love letter to yourself. This letter can touch on all areas of your life, enhancing your dreams about who you are and what you want to realize in the coming year.



Usually these letters are sealed, collected and mailed to you around Thanksgiving. You'll be asked to seal your letter and set it aside until the end of year. There is great power in the intention process. Our thoughts create our experiences. So it is always a wonderful surprise to read these letters we have written to our future selves.

Once again, this year's facilitators will be Jennifer Lindsay and Margaret Clay. Please join us. All are welcome!

Sunday, January 3, 2021 , 3:30 - 4:30 pm

On Zoom.us : Meeting ID number: 9126951170

What to have with you: paper, writing instruments and envelope and seated in a comfortable area free of distractions + a curious and open mind open to all the possibilities this next year holds.

Previous facilitators of this wonderful, moving, reflective gathering: Janice Gantt, Vicki Manibusan, Elizabeth Jackson and others. We look forward to continuing the tradition and believe this experience lends well to a virtual experience. We look forward to you joining us.

For any questions, contact:

Jennifer Lindsay: baseballjenny@gmail.com and 912-401-1155

Margaret Clay : margaretclay@comcast.net and 912-508-2805

1008 East Henry Street, Savannah, GA 31401

www.asburymemorial.org

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!

Having a Birthday? Call the office at 233-4351
or e-mail us at church@asburymemorial.org.

January

3rd "D" Diane Connor
4th Elizabeth Jackson
5th Mary Prokop
6th Kelli Edwards
Angle Jenkins
Amy Porch
7th Pam Limehouse
8th Gloria Moses
10th Neal Saye
11th Carlton Angell
Parker Hall
Zan Reeve
Henry White
12th Linda Socks
14th Candace Jenkins
Nancy Meyer
Jade Via
15th Wayne Bland
Laura Lindsay
Winnie Munro
Charles Strain
16th Robbie Jenkins
Stephen Swanger
Diane Williamson
17th Cheri Hester
Jean Hester
Lawrence Hyde
18th Candice Parsons
19th Kate Strain
20th Sanford Jones
22nd Ray Ellis
Joe Zeigler
23rd Pat Alley
Barbara King

24th Tom Davis
Fitz Kincade
Coin Knox
Jennifer Knox
Claire Marich
Kevin Strong
Anne Westbrook
25th George Lindsay
Dylan Richards
26th Harry Hoecherl
27th Kathryn Murph
29th Donna Danley
Koel Strong
31st Rebecca Dayoub



January

5th Ryan & Pam Boland
10th Chuck Long & Kenn Waters
16th Omkari & Cate Hill-Williams
23rd Kevin & Tiia Strong
26th George & Laura Lindsay
28th Joe Drake & Cheri Sheridan



Congratulations!!

Congratulations to Asburians, grandmother Rebecca Dayoub, great grandparents, Iris & Mike Dayoub, and great uncle Michael Dayoub on the birth of Eleanor Pauline Whitlock. Eleanor was born Tuesday, 12/15/20 to parents Jackie Dean & Cody Whitlock.

Thank You

Thank you to our Asbury Family for the beautiful flowers you sent us for our 50th Wedding Anniversary. It was such a lovely surprise & it made our day!
Kay & Phil Barrett

Congratulations to Asburians, Alex & Stephen Swanger !!



Congratulations to Asburians, Alex & Stephen Swanger on the birth of their son, David Gary Swanger. David arrived Wednesday, 12/16/20 weighing in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 inches long. David and Alex are doing well. Alex and Stephen are over the moon!

Also, congratulations to grandparents Carmel & Phil Hearn and Stephanie Swanger, great grandparents Mary Alice Garvin and Bill & Priscilla Hearn.

David was named in honor and memory of his paternal grandfather, Gary David Swanger.

God Bless our Families

To show our love and admiration for our families with school-aged children and even younger, an amazing team of folks came together to honor these families with a meal and a little gift for the children. For just one day we were able to break up the cycle of school-work-chores-eat-sleep-repeat that they have experienced during the pandemic.

The joy of just a little bit of relief from the daily grind has been expressed to staff in abundance. Feeding one hundred people would not have been possible without an outstanding group of Asburians who stepped forward on short notice.

A BIG thank you goes to:

Asbury Baking Angels: Chris Beaver, Tim Burkett, Iris Dayoub, Sally Jilek, Danny Lewis, John and Wendy Mason, Geri and Maria Spears, Lance Wilhelm

Asbury Cooking Angels: Chris Beaver, Kathy Hodges, John, Peter and Steph Marich

Asbury Delivery Elves: Randy Canady, Marty Coolidge, Ray Ellis, Abby and Candace Jenkins, Tim Steinhauser, Beth and Nate Tyson, Tom Wages

Asbury Gift Wrapping Angels: Abby and Candace Jenkins

A Christmas sleigh load of thanks to all with a special designation of *Elf Extraordinaire* to Chris Beaver, Abby and Candace Jenkins, John Marich, Geri and Maria Spears, and Tim Steinhauser. May your holiday be blessed as you have been a blessing to so many!

2021 Stewardship Drive-Thru



2021 Stewardship Drive-Thru



Asbury Community Cares Fund

Some Financial Relief May Be One Application Away: Asbury Community Cares Fund

Friends, these are hard financial times for some in the Asbury community.

An 'Asbury Emergency Funding Task Force' was created to help ensure no Asburian lost their home due to the pandemic.

We were thinking of and praying for you while we worked!

Please do not let pride stop you from applying to see if there might be some financial assistance available to help you through these difficult times.

Time may be running out to apply for some of these grants!

If you need financial help with your rent, mortgage, utilities and other things, please don't let pride stand in your way when there might be help just one application away.

Asbury has partnered with the experts at the non-profit Family Promise to help both individuals and families try to find financial resources that best fit your situation:

If you live in the city of Savannah, or Chatham, Effingham or Bryan county, there may be help for you through some emergency state, county and/or city grants. Again, **time may be running out to apply for these grants! Do NOT delay in applying!**

There is also a fund called the Asbury Community Cares Fund, given by Asburians *just* to help people in the Asbury community. This fund may be able to help you!

With one application through Family Promise you can apply for emergency state, county and city grants, as well as the Asbury Community Cares Fund, which was donated by Asburians *just* to help people in the Asbury community.

For fastest assistance, apply online: familypromisesavannah.org/amc (lower case amc)
If you have questions or need a paper application, call Family Promise at 912.790.9446.



Local Resources

The Coronavirus pandemic has stressed our resources in many ways: mental, emotional, financial, relational and spiritual. Your staff has compiled a list of resources to help folks with small businesses, to address budgetary changes, to find the latest information on symptoms and steps to take if you are ill, resources for mental health, obtaining food, and considerations for children and elders.

Go to the church website: www.asburymemorial.org and click on the COVID RESOURCES icon for more information. The resources will continue to grow and evolve as conditions change. Be Well! There is support in our community to ensure that you maintain a good quality of life and your church family is committed to your welfare.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups.

We are excited about the rich and varied opportunities for adult study and fellowship this winter, all via Zoom. We hope that you will join in one or more of the programs. Zoom numbers will be sent in advance of meetings.

10 o'Clock Hour

10 o'clock hour will resume on January 10th. We will be using Joan Chitister's DVD program *The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart*. Sister Chitister addresses such questions as: Are the 10 Commandments just a set of rules or are they a way of life? What does it mean to love God and our neighbor in a world where violence, greed, and fear threaten our lives, our values, our hearts? She brings the Commandments to life and helps us discover their deep relevance to our current lives. All are welcome to attend. Each session can stand alone.

Please join us on Sundays at 10 am on Zoom. ID 826 7415 2585, password: Asbury.

Seekers of Wisdom Group

Mondays, 1:30—3 pm

New Book Study about Making the Choice to Give 'Agape Love' in Challenging Times

You are invited to join the "Seekers of Wisdom" to study **Bishop Michael Curry's "Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times."** Feel free to invite someone to participate in this study!

Why this book now?

It's a thought-provoking study on choosing to give Agape Love. This book surely meets the moment we are in, and will provide for a rich study and discussion of how to bring Agape Love to ourselves, families, church, community and world.

Here's a short interview about the book:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BqJBUaR2bI4>

Here's a link to check it out:

<https://www.amazon.com/Love-Way-Holding-Troubling-Times/dp/0525543031>

When will Seekers of Wisdom meet for discussion?

Mondays from 1:30 - 3pm beginning November 30

Zoom meeting info is the same each week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86482910310?pwd=emE1ZEtBeXovaHNwRzdJeU1YVEhNQOT09>

Meeting ID: 864 8291 0310, Passcode: Asbury

Men's Group

Men's Group is meeting on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 via Zoom and welcomes all men. Members of the group are volunteering to select, share, and explore Biblical passages which they find personally meaningful. We will begin again on January 7th.

Zoom meeting ID: 811 0124 8434, Passcode: Asbury

Course in Miracles

Facilitator: Rev. Marilyn Leigh

Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30 pm

The Course in Miracles study group is dedicated to the study and practical application of A Course in Miracles to our daily lives. Our group allows the Course to guide us in becoming and expressing the Love that is the truth about us. It teaches the true meaning of forgiveness and challenges us to put God first in our lives. If you are interested, contact Rev. Marilyn Leigh at revleigh@yahoo.com.

Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups.

Welcome back Green Teamers!

2021 will not keep us down! The Asbury Memorial Green Team will be meeting via Zoom on the following dates. The agendas have yet to be decided, but please add the dates to your 2021 calendar. If you have suggestions for programs or presenters, please let Carol Anderson know. andersoncarol61@gmail.com

Asbury Memorial Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: AMC Green Team

Time: Jan 12, 2021 07:00 PM EST

Every month on the Second Tue, until Jun 8, 2021, 6 occurrence(s)

Jan 12, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Feb 9, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Mar 9, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Apr 13, 2021 - 7:00 PM

May 11, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Jun 8, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0tcOutrTMjHdN0ir-hebwN73Nz8-2IT465/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhrjwoH9eduR6ARpx5Ao_Ca-ztlxEgqdzBb3TihWYBTYYbFsKOoyQtTk

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89072538977?pwd=TXRGQ0YrdFRnd3lYS0d5V1ZQekFndz09>

Meeting ID: 890 7253 8977

Passcode: Asbury

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

January 23rd & 30th

Rev. Hester will be leading two classes for people interested in becoming members of Asbury Memorial. The classes will be held on Zoom, January 23rd & 30th, Saturdays at 10 am. Please contact Candace Jenkins at the church office or cjenkins@asburymemorial.org or you can email Billy at bghester3@comcast.net if you would like to participate.



2021
Stewardship
Drive-thru



Please note our new
Coffee Hour Zoom ID # 912 233 4351



Join us for our virtual Zoom Coffee Hour fellowship immediately following the Sunday morning worship.



Happy New Year!

Godly Play will resume in February

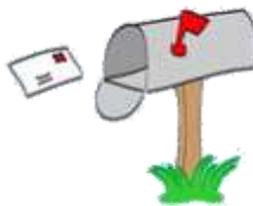
Watch for more exciting
Godly Play news coming soon!



Are you missing being with one another for Sunday worship and having that lovely opportunity to place your contribution in the offering plate? Well, have we got options for you! We have multiple ways for you to continue your support of Asbury Memorial and have listed them below. Thank you for your gifts!

Mail:

Mail your contribution by check to:
Asbury Memorial Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401



Website:

Log on to our website:
www.AsburyMemorial.org

Click on



Complete the form as directed.
You can set it up to be a recurring donation!



Mobile App:

From your smartphone:
Download the free *GivePlus* **GIVE PLUS+** app from the App Store or Google Play
Open the *GivePlus* app and follow the simple directions
You can setup an account or just give as a guest
Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring

Text Giving:

From your mobile phone:
Send your contribution amount to 912-307-3206
Donate anytime, anywhere
Use easy debit/credit card registration
Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring



Church Office:

Call the church office at 912.233.4351

Both our Finance Chair and Stewardship Chair would also want to remind you,
“It is NEVER too late to make and pay a pledge!”



Greetings, Asburians!

We offer you some new options for staying connected. As our ability to interact in person stays restricted, we need to remember that we are not alone: that we are still a vibrant faith community and God is present in the messiness of our lives to love us, lead us and witness our daily strife and pleasures.

Here are some ways to stay connected and some comforting resources:

Devotions on Wednesday

Join us on Wednesday at 6 pm for live devotion and prayer. Click on the link here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/121907484?pwd=cUIEUUVhSIV5MnZVNTdPSEXLVhOQT09>

Passcode: Asbury.

There are also links on the Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/asburymemorialumcsavannah/>
and the Church's webpage: www.asburymemorial.org

Encouraging Words

Dial 912-358-0842 to hear a recorded message of encouragement and grace. These messages from staff and laity will change frequently and are available 24-7 whenever you need a little pick-me-up. No Facebook account or computer needed!

Worship on Sundays

We will continue to worship virtually on Sundays at 11:15am.

Just go to www.asburymemorial.org and click on the worship link. Who knows what lies in store for us from week to **week? Tune in and see...**

Wishing you many avenues to find deep connections to your spirituality and community until we gather in person again.

And for the children and the child in all of us, check out the beautiful Godly Play stories which resume in February.

Coffee Hour

Join us on Sunday after the worship service to see and talk with your fellow Asburians. Just go to www.asburymemorial.org and click on the link for ZOOM Coffee Hour on the right side on the home screen or via Zoom.us and enter the meeting ID: 912 233 4351, Passcode: Asbury

Fitness Together

Weekly workout class on Thursdays, 11 – 11:30 am.

Zoom meeting ID: 836 1647 4648, Passcode: Asbury.

Online Devotionals

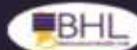
From our own Methodist tradition is the Upper Room which can be seen online here:

<https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line 866-399-8938



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities



The Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line provides 24/7 free and confidential assistance to callers needing emotional support or resource information as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emotional Support Line is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals and others who have received training in crisis counseling

A partnership between The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities, Beacon Health Options and Behavioral Health Link

**Georgia Crisis
& Access Line**

1-800-715-4225
mygcal.com

Sponsored by the
DBHDD

Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL)

1-800-715-4225

GCAL is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year to help you or someone you care for in a crisis



CARES Warm Line

1-844-326-5400

Substance Abuse Challenges
Call or Text Every Day of The Year
8:30AM - 11:00PM



COVID-19 Hotline

(844) 442-2681

The State of Georgia has a new COVID-19 hotline. If you believe that you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to the novel coronavirus, please contact your primary care doctor or an urgent care clinic. Please do not show up unannounced at an emergency room or health care facility.

PEER SUPPORT
FOR GEORGIA
888-945-1414
24/7/365
www.peer2peer.center

Peer2Peer Warm Line

Operating since the opening of the Peer Support and Wellness Center of Decatur in 2008, the warm line provides Georgians the opportunity to receive peer support over the phone 24 hours a day.

How to contact the Peer2Peer Warm Line

Call 888-945-1414 (toll-free) statewide, or locally:

Decatur: 404-371-1414

Bartow County: 770-276-2019

Colquitt County: 229-873-9737

Henry County: 678-782-7666

White County: 706-865-3601



Feel Alone & Financially Insecure?

We're here to help!

Step Up Savannah helps in your journey towards financial security by connecting you with the right resources.



step up savannah

Follow us on



StepUpSavannah.org

GET REMOTE HELP WITH

SNAP

MEDICAID
HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

CAPS

TANF

WIC

APPLY REMOTELY FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS AT THESE LOCATIONS:

STEP UP SAVANNAH

Kimberly Paulk
912.330.6445
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
By phone appointment only

ST. MARY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

Johnetta Ferguson & Linda Youth
912.447.0578 Ext. # 5
M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
By phone in order received

FIRST HISPANIC BAPTIST CHURCH

Anabel Perez
828.244.2485
Lunes y Martes 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Solo por cita telefonica

MOSES JACKSON ADVANCEMENT CENTER

LeQuinton Kates & Sara Williams
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
912.525.2166
By phone appointment only

SAVANNAH TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Jessie Jones
912.509.0771/ snap@savannahtech.edu
Hours based on client need
By phone appointment only

WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTERS OF SAVANNAH, INC.

Valeria Flowers
912.447.5711/
flowerstv_wcc1601@yahoo.com
hours based on client need

By phone appointment only

FORSYTH FARMERS MARKET

Tasha Cunningham
347.861.9824
Hours based on Clients Need

By phone appointment only



THESE REMOTE SERVICES ARE FOR THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Judith Wilburn & Jennie Wilburn Belle in the death of Judith's step-mother and Jennie's step-grandmother, Ruth Rowley.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Nancy Austin in the death of her cousin, Alice Alsever.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Bob Francischetti in the death of his husband and member, Bobby Soletto.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Barbara & Danny Beam in the death of Barbara's cousin, Karen Locke.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Susan & Geoff Harrison in the death of Susan's uncle, Ken Kraynick.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Randy Canady & Ray Ellis in the death of Randy's uncle, Bruce Ackerman.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Mickie & Bob Townsend and Karen Murphree in the death of Mickie's sister and Karen's aunt, Judy Frances Varnado.*



MEMORIALS

*A Gift has been given to the General Fund in memory of Ginger Miles
by Linda Combs & Kathy Waters*

*A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Sonny Murph
by Virginia & Edward Brown*

*A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Frank & Clara Stanton
by Joan Hester Byrd*

*A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Ginger Miles
by Sally Jilek*

*A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Chris Wilburn
by Angelle & Chuck Reichert*

*A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Jan Bell
by Gus Bell*

*A Gift has been given to the Trustees Fund in memory of Bobby Soletto by
Nancy Green*

2020 Budget Offering

November 29th—\$9,929.00
December 6th—\$15,001.50
December 13th—\$11,758.00
December 20th—\$12,778.67
December 27th—TBA

2020 Weekly Budget Need
\$13,830.00

2020 YTD Budget Need
\$705,330.00

2020 YTD Received
\$636,028.60

PRAYER REQUESTS



Asburians

Wayne Bland, Anita Clay, Shane Conner, Dina Consentino, Gretchen Dodd, Sam Durham, Delores Ellis, Katie Farmer, Bob Francischetti, Ellie Gonye, Betty Haldeman, Chase Harrison, Geoff Harrison, Cynthia Herold, Betty Hohnerlein, John Hohnerlein, Dale Karacostas, Judith Kessler, Jack Lewis, Cynthia Linthicum, Scott McCoy, Brenda Mills, Grady Mills, Frances Monson, Virginia Moryadas, Marie Parker, Kurt Purtee, Frank Ramsey, Nancy Saltsman, Roberta Smith, Cabell Stewart, Val Utsey, Beverly Vasta, Pete Vasta, Diane Williamson, Marie Winters,

Family Members & Friends

Winifred Alley, Steve Amerson, Joanne Anderson, Rev. Grover Bell, Hilder Bentley, Lisa Brown, Karen Browning, Phyllis Chappell, Wanda Mack Collins, Linda Cowart, James Thomas Crosby, Peter DeCordova, Josh DeLong, Bill Dodge, Sara Driggers, Dan Goff, Heather Hand, Elsie Hand, Matt Hearn, Priscilla Hearn, Elsie Hilliard, Keith James, Annette Jenkins, Marlene Kelly, Lindsay Kessler, Mike & Deb Leibe, Kim Lewis, Benjamin Leesburg, Richard Lewis, Rayella Lindsay, Ronny Martin, Brogdon Nichols, Margaret Odom, Jennifer Payne, Fredia Peggs, Don Purdy, Sydney Stewart, Barb & Al Tornquist, Neola Walker, David Williams, Michael Jerome Williams



Asbury Memorial
Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401-7128
INT.ID 206896
Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026
www.asburymemorial.org

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #133
Savannah, GA

Return Service Requested

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Supplying the flower arrangements for the worship service is a wonderful way to commemorate a date that is important to you or a loved one. Please check the Flower Chart in the narthex and sign up. The cost is \$60. For more information call the church office at 233-4351.

Special Funds

One way to honor or to remember a loved one is with a memorial or an honorarium to some of our different funds such as the Trustee Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, the Children's Fund, Youth Fund or one of our Mission Funds.

Newsletter Information

If you have an announcement for "The Asbury Update," please send it to the church office in writing by the 15th of each month. Contact Claudette DeLong, Office Manager at 233-4351 or email to church@asburymemorial.org
Office hours are 9 AM to 4 PM, Monday thru Thursday.

Mission Statement:

Asbury Memorial is a place where all people can develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we seek to love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.