



The Asbury Update

July 2021

Asbury Memorial
Church
Rev. Billy Hester
Volume 34, Number 7
July 2021

Relaxed Worship Guidelines are Here: Taking Steps Toward Normalcy

We are so very happy to announce that the local health conditions and guidelines along with our experience has brought us the moment when we can relax some of the stringent protocols that we had in place to protect our health and safety when we first re-opened the doors to the sanctuary.

Starting Sunday, July 4, 2021, the following changes will be in force:

- Reservations will no longer be required to attend worship services.
- At the door we will simply be registering attendance and offering masks.
- There will be no temperature checks.
- Seating will be open with distancing an option and not a requirement.
- The sacrament of Holy Communion will be shared.
- Masks will still be required in the building for everyone over age 2.
- Children are welcomed and encouraged to join their families worshipping in the sanctuary throughout the summer.
- We will continue to hold off on congregational singing.

Starting Wednesday, July 7, 2021:

- Choir rehearsals resume in-person for vaccinated choristers. Choir will be back in worship soon.

Starting Sunday, July 11, 2021:

- Childcare will resume with a room for infants-2-year-olds and another for 3-5-year-olds who will be masked. Childcare ministers will be vaccinated.

We are excited to take these steps toward a new and exciting “normal” at Asbury Memorial Church. Your comfort, safety and dynamic spiritual practice are our goals.

Thank you to the Health and Safety Task Force for their diligence and excellent work together. Stay tuned as we continue to walk and worship together in God’s grace.

Rev. Billy and Rev. Claire

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.

July

1st Alexis Gage

**Harriett Munro
Walter Munro
Katherine Raffray
Jackie Stewart**

2nd Jeff Tucker

3rd Tara Redd

**Barbara Ruggere
James Siler**

4th Jan Corey

Steve Johnson

5th Cynthia Herold

Will Telljohann

6th Nancy Parker

Dian Ribbens

7th Carolyn Bennett

Cale Hall

Ashley Stroud

Tim Harris

John Hester

8th Betty Chokos

Mark Fordham

Molly Hester

Suzie Williams

9th Janet Redmond

10th Patty Lewis

11th Bay Luke

12th Austin Wright

13th David Alley

Billy Hester

15th Tina Austing

Marcia Budarz

Nancy Cvetan

18th Nick Deffley

**Richard Reeve
Ryan Richards
Jane Thimme
Jan Wright**

19th Warren Heilman

Kenn Waters

20th Ann Anderson

21st Aaron Dalton

Pat Stewart

23rd Jacob Smith

24th Andrea Harrelson

25th Pat McIntosh

Morgan Page

26th John Giles

Ian Perry

Lucy Perry

27th Marie Parker

29th Charlene Branan

Bridgette Kincade

Barbara Wilkins

30th Tim Steinhauser

31st "D" Connor

Jim Utsey



July

13th Brian Clyatt & Daryl Balzer
16th Adele & Ed Packert
16th Pam Parker Kress & Walt Kress
17th Bo & Ann Crowder
17th Melanie & Tommy Raulerson
22nd Robert & Christy Crisp
22nd Jona Downs & Jeri Sasser
22nd Cliff Harley & Tommy Schafer
25th Evans & Debbie Wright
31st Jim & Alice Burris



Thank You

Dear Asbury family,

I would like to thank you for your prayers during my surgery and recovery time. I feel better each day. And a big thank you to those Asbury Angels who brought us those delicious Meals. We are so blessed to be a part of the Asbury Memorial family.

Sending love and hugs to all,
Linda Combs



Congratulations

We have a few Asburians we would like to congratulate on their retirement!

Chris Beaver retired the 1st of May after 25 years with Hussey Gay Bell Engineers and Architects. Chris managed the accounts payables for the headquarters in Savannah and 5 satellite offices in 3 states.

Mark Fordham retired June 1st after 22.655 years with the Chatham County School System as a School Counselor. He last served as counselor for PK-3 grades at Hesse K-8 school, but also worked there as counselor for 3-5 grades. He worked at Hesse for nine years, at both the "old" Hesse and the new building for Hesse. He also worked at middle grades schools, High Schools, alternative schools and Corporate Academy (now defunct) over his 20+career.

Debra Skinner will retire as of August 1st after 20 years as a librarian at Georgia Southern University, having served for the last five years as head of the Collection Services Department. In all, she has worked for 44 years as a librarian, first in the local school system, followed by 12 years at Savannah Technical Institute, 6 years at Savannah Country Day and finally Georgia Southern. After retirement she plans to travel with her husband, Mike, as much as possible!!

Cathy Solomons retired in June after 35 years as a teacher serving in the Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools system and Effingham County Schools system. She taught elementary art in the Savannah-Chatham Public Schools from 1986 to 1996 at Sprague, May Howard, Heard, and Haven Elementary Schools. She then taught elementary self-contained and resource special education classes in the Effingham County Schools System at Sand Hill Elementary and Springfield Elementary Schools from 1997-2021.





Wesley
Oak

MEET & GREET

Saturday, July 17, 2021
10:00 am – 12:00 noon

3124 E. Victory Drive
Thunderbolt, GA

(at the intersection with Mechanics Avenue)

*Come tour the campus and imagine
how we'll be in ministry together.*

[Rain date: Saturday, July 24]



**Children's Time
Sunday Mornings**
Will be taking a break
for the summer.

**Welcome, Barri Marshall
Our newest Staff Member!**

We really don't need to welcome Barri in one sense because she has been part of Asbury for a long, long time. But now, Barri is on staff...she will be heading up our Live Stream Ministry on Sunday mornings, making sure people can see and hear our worship services from Chatham County to Timbuktu, and she will be putting the services on YouTube so people can experience them many times over.

Besides seeing Barri at church, don't be surprised if you bump into her in other parts of Savannah. She works as a tour guide for Grayline/Kelly Tours. Plus, she has her own DJ business (Happy Hour Entertainment). So you may see Barri downtown showing Savannah to folks or at a wedding reception or some other celebration where she is spinning records and helping people have a good time.

Welcome aboard, Barri!

Thank you for sharing your gifts with this body of Christ!

Here We Grow Again!

Chelsea Godwin joined our Asbury family on June 20th. Chelsea is the granddaughter of members Rev. Grady & Brenda Mills.

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, some via Zoom. We hope that you will join in one or more of the programs.

10 o'Clock Hour & Wednesday Night Programs

Both the 10 'clock Hour study and Wednesday night programs will take a hiatus for the summer. We are working on some exciting options for the fall! Stay tuned. If you have requests/suggestions for study or if you would like to become a facilitator for one or more sessions with our Adult Ministries, please contact Carol Melton at cbmelton@bellsouth.net.

Wisdom Seekers

Mondays, 1:30—3 pm

Starting June 7th Wisdom Seekers will be taking a summer break.

Men's Group

The Men's Group has decided to continue to meet during the summer!

On July 8th the Men's Group will start a study and discussion of Philip Gulley's book, *The Evolution of Faith: How God is Creating a Better Christianity* which will continue for the month of July. The Men's Group meets on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 pm via Zoom and welcomes all men. Members of the group are asked to volunteer to facilitate one of the sessions.

Zoom meeting ID: 844 3633 5506, 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.

Green Team News!

The Green Team will not hold meetings in July and August.

We are spreading the work about **Solarize Savannah**, the new city-wide campaign to increase Savannah's use of solar energy. Stay tuned for more!

<https://www.solarcrowdsource.com/campaign/savannah-ga/>



STEPHEN MINISTRY IS COMING TO ASBURY

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ

(Galatians 6:2, NRSV)

Stephen Ministry began in 1975 when the Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D., a pastor and clinical psychologist, trained nine members of his congregation in St. Louis to be Stephen Ministers. They assisted him in providing Christian care and support to people in the congregation and community who were experiencing life difficulties.

Fast forward to today and there are more than 13,000 congregations offering Stephen Ministry as an extension of Pastoral care.

- Stephen Ministry relates to the last half of Asbury's mission statement (grow in faith as we seek to love, serve and celebrate God, each other and our community).
- Stephen Ministry is a proven way to organize, equip and supervise a team of congregation members called Stephen Ministers to provide confidential, high quality, one-to-one Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Who's involved in Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Leaders consist of church staff, church members and pastors trained to provide ongoing leadership for their Stephen Ministry. Stephen Leaders are equipped for this key role through 25 hours of training, which Candace Jenkins, Rhonda Reed, Stephen Reed and Sandra Katz just completed. Rev. Claire Marich has been a Stephen Leader for several years.

Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time. Throughout the summer we will recruit candidates for our first Stephen Minister class to begin in the fall.

Care Receivers are congregation or community members going through a crisis or life difficulty... death, divorce, cancer, financial difficulties, hospitalization, a spiritual crisis, job loss or health crisis.

We invite each of you to be a part of this ministry, whether you might consider being a Stephen Minister, or know someone needing the caring service of a Stephen Minister.

We ask for your prayers as we embrace this Ministry. If you have any questions, please call Candace Jenkins at the Church office 912-233-4351.

PLEASE



THANK YOU



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 **GIVE PLUS+** *GivePlus* 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



Greetings, Asburians!

As our ability to interact in person may be limited, 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:

There are also links on the Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/asburymemorialsavannah/> 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

Beginning Sunday, July 4th, we will begin our 11:15 AM in-person worship with relaxed worship guidelines (see front page for details). RESERVATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE ARE NOT REQUIRED. We will ask you to register your attendance at the door. We will require that a face mask be worn. On line services may be accessed from: <https://vimeo.com/event/1061155>

Online Devotionals

From our own Methodist tradition is the Upper Room which can be seen online here: <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>





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

Stewardship Update

It has been difficult these last two years to get a true picture of how much is needed to keep the church running since most of the programs have been suspended and until a month ago we were not meeting in person. Now that services have started back in our sanctuary, the hope is that by the end of summer, we can start back with our educational programs and our in person coffee hour and all our other normal activities.

With all this in mind, we felt like it was a really good time to encourage our congregation to consider the pledges that were made in November of last year.

- If you are sending in your pledges, a very heartfelt “Thank you”.
- If you are behind in your giving, it would be great if you could try and get up to date with your giving as soon as you can.
- If you have not made a pledge, it is still *not too late* to do so. Simply complete a pledge card for the remainder of the year. You can call the church office to make arrangements to pick up a pledge card or ask for one when you are at the church for our in person worship services.
- If you feel extra generous and find you can contribute a little more than you thought last year, we are happy to accept it.

We want to be able to make sure that we end the year in a good place and can cover all our expenses.

If you have questions about the Budget or other Financial questions, speak with our Church Administrator, Randy Canady or our Office Manager, Claudette DeLong and they can help address those or direct you to someone who can help.



WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Alex, Stephen & David Swanger in the death of Alex's grandfather, William "Bill" Hearn.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Linda Combs & Kathy Waters in the death Linda's brother, Larry Roberts.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to family & friends in the death of, Jacob Presley Stanfield.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Carol Chambers, Jo Poston, Olivia McIntosh, Ellie Covington in the death of their friend & member, Kelly Hall.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Judy Jones & family in the death of Judy's husband & member, Sanford Jones.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Jeff Tucker & family in the death of his father, Bobby Tucker.*

23rd Psalm



- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
³ he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,^[a]
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

2021 Budget Offering

May 30th—\$8,369.16

June 6th—\$9,802.00

June 13th—\$11,078.00

June 20th—\$16,065.67

June 27th—\$4,702.50

2021 Weekly Budget Need

\$13,830.00

2021 YTD Budget Need

\$359,580.00

2021 YTD Received

\$277,735.56

MEMORIALS

*A Gift has been given to the Music Fund by
Neil & Tina Austing in memory of
Mike Miller*

*A Gift has been given to the JUST Fund by
Joan Hester Byrd in memory of
Sanford Jones*

*A Gift has been given to the Properties
Fund by Joan Hester Byrd in memory of
Larry Roberts*



PRAYER REQUESTS



Asburians

Neil Austing, Fay Carroll, Bob Chvatal, Anita Clay, Linda Combs, Diane "D" Conner, Gretchen Dodd, Sam Durham, Katie Farmer, Bob Francischetti, Ellie Gonye, Chase Harrison, Donna Haynes, Roy Hill, Kelsey Hines, Betty Hohnerlein, Lawrence Hyde, Judith Kessler, Jack Lewis, Lynn Lord, Marion Manigo, Scott McCoy, Freida McGee, Brenda Mills, Grady Mills, Frances Monson, Virginia Moryadas, Dan Nelson, Marie Parker, Nancy Saltsman, Caroline Smith, Roberta Smith, Linda Socks, Cabell Stewart, Pete Vasta, Kenn Waters, Judy Wilburn, Diane Williamson, Marie Winters

Family Members & Friends

Lindsey Aldred, Steve Amerson, Joanne Anderson, Harold Attaway, Rev. Grover Bell, Andy Blakely, Lisa Brown, Karen Browning, Ken Carter, Phyllis Chappell, Don Cohen, Wanda Collins, Linda Cowart, James Thomas Crosby, Peter DeCordova, Bill Dodge, Gene Donaldson, Sara Driggers, Dan Goff, Catherine Guiton, Vickie Hamilton, Priscilla Hearn, Lindsay Kessler, Benjamin Leesburg, Kim Lewis, Deborah Luster, Donnie Malphrus, Jay Marshlick, Jane McCoy, Margaret Odom, Jennifer Payne, Fredia Peggs, Cody Shearouse, Chris Slate, Tommy Taylor, Neola Walker, Carole Warfield, Steve Wilkins, Jacob Williams

Asbury Memorial
Church
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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 Properties Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, Family & Children's Ministries Fund, Youth Ministry 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.