



The Asbury Journal

Message from the

March 2016

Pastor



Prepare Ye the Way

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church's Capital Campaign 2016-2018

At the February 14, 2016 meeting, the Church Council unanimously approved launching a comprehensive congregational Capital Campaign. This initiative is the recommendation of the AMUMC Capital Campaign Committee, chaired by Elaine Poovey. The projected goal is to raise \$300,000 in gifts from AMUMC members and connected friends over a three-year fundraising calendar.

The official launch of the Capital Campaign will be publically announced to the congregation in worship on Sunday, March 6, 2016.

This year we celebrate Asbury's 215th anniversary as a congregation. Multiple generations past served as stewards of this place and added to the ministry legacy we inherit in our time. Today's members have a pivotal moment before us. Our burying ground is virtually full. Our older members face accessibility challenges. Our modern horses have insufficient hitching posts. Now, we have the opportunity to enhance the hospitality of our church home to provide an even more welcoming ministry. Those of us who have been a part of this church for an extended period of time will know that discussions about the increasing need for some major improvements to the church itself and its surrounding grounds have continued for several years. On behalf of the congregation, now and into the future, we propose that now is the time to take action to address these needs and aspirations. Therefore, we have chosen the name **"Prepare Ye the Way Capital Campaign."**

The proposed Capital Campaign seeks to raise funds to support a three component plan for improvements to our church buildings and grounds; outcomes from a completed Campaign will facilitate both current and future ministry enhancements. The Plan consists of interconnected project components that the church can implement in Three Phases and as funding becomes available. The projects were initially cited in a capital Campaign Committee memo dated August 18, 2013.

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“Prepare Ye the Way” *(continued)*

* **Phase I:** West side projects - Memorial garden, landscaping & new driveway (access from Beaverdam; egress onto Kimberly); handicap parking and improved access. Estimated cost of \$140,000. The target is to complete this work by the end of 2016.

* **Phase II:** East side projects – Driveway improvements, parking expansion & landscaping; new, handicapped accessible entrance construction for the lower level plus work on any exterior moisture issues (outside the youth room, etc.). Projected construction beginning in 2017; estimated costs \$60,000 – 80,000.

* **Phase III:** Roof replacement on the sanctuary when needed (2020 +/-); Interior Projects - reconfiguring the church office and adding a handicapped accessible restroom on the sanctuary level; replacing the flooring in the basement of the Sanctuary Building including the Youth Room; Fellowship Hall & kitchen renovations, if funding allows. Projected Interior construction to start in 2018; estimated Phase III cost is \$80,000 – 100,000 or dependent upon available funding.

Total cost of Phases I, II and III is expected to be \$300,000. The proposed projects will proceed as far as campaign gifts enable us to go without borrowing money from outside sources.

Time Table for the 2016 Campaign is to invite gifts and pledges between March 6th and June 5th, 2016 from all active members and friends of AMUMC. The Capital Campaign Committee hopes to present project plans to everyone—in group settings, in elective visits, and in written form. Although there are several ways in which you can share your generosity to make our church more inviting to our present and future membership, we suggest that members consider making three year pledges. If you prefer to give gift by gift or year by year, that, too, is welcomed. Additionally, larger one-time gifts in the early phases of the campaign will accelerate achievement of the Campaign goals.

This endeavor will be a primary focus of our congregational life in 2016. There’s much more to come. Campaign Committee members are eager to answer any question you might have—Elaine Poovey, Scott Glenn, Rick Morehead, Larry Wilson, and Robert Wiltshire.

Message from the Assistant Pastor

We live in a very unique age. Our days are dominated by an overload of instant information. Smart phones give us a beep or even a ring when the next tidbit of information comes along: be it the latest political poll or just a text from a friend or relative. We often make one final check to see if someone has left us a message on our iPhone before we shut it down for the night and go to bed. Or maybe it sits there on our nightstand and jars us from a restful night’s sleep with its constant request for just one more update about one more unimportant thing. The next time you go out to dinner look around you and note how many people are sitting across from each other either texting or perusing the internet. It seems as if personal communication is fast becoming a dying art. My fear is that as our lives can become so full of activity we may lose our ability to listen to each other and life itself.

In David Keller’s book *Lord, Teach Us to Pray*, he speaks to the life of prayer that Jesus lived out on a daily basis. He arose early in the morning while it was still dark and went to a quiet place to pray. In every instance when he was facing some monumental decision about his life and ministry, he sought his *Abba*’s wisdom. He did not rely on his own experience and understanding, he went to the true source of knowledge. If we are to listen to God’s voice, it must be in a place where we are not being constantly interrupted by the noise of the outside world. Prayer with our heavenly Father is a wonderful way to start and end the day.

Listen to the words found in Mark 1:35: “Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” God speaks to us anytime night or day, but there is something special about being able to listen when the world is still quiet.



News from the Missions Committee

The March Bread Tin collections, a loose offering, will go to support the Global Refugee/Migration Crisis Advance which is an accountable, designated giving arm of The United Methodist Church ensuring that 100% of each gift s used for its intended mission or ministry. Millions of refugees are fleeing war, persecution, and violence in their homelands, often running with just the clothes on their backs. Other migrants are escaping from situations of hardship and poverty in their home countries. Refugees and migrants are crisscrossing the world. They are traversing borders in Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Asia, in search of safety, protection, and a chance at life. But from start to finish, their journey is treacherous.

Our special collection for One Great Hour of Sharing will be on Sunday, March 6th. All contributions support the work of The United Methodist Commission on Relief (UMCOR) by covering the cost of doing business. This means that all contributions designated for specific programs can go 100% to those programs because UMCOR's basic expenses are covered. Please giving generously!

The Missions Committee is happy to announce that the 2016 MANNA FoodBank collections will be focused on food (including formula) for babies. Please bring contributions, or money to be converted to contributions, starting in January so we can meet our target of 2016 pounds of food for Western North Carolina babies. Thank you as always for giving generously!

The January Bread Tin offering collected \$654.59 toward the purchase of school uniforms for the children of Ghana. Thank you for your continued support of this international ministry.

Our Souper Bowl Sunday offering totaled \$241.25 for MANNA FoodBank. Thank you for your help in the effort to fight hunger in WNC.

News from Children's Ministries

The children's choir will not meet on March 13th as the choir director will be out of town. They will resume rehearsals on April 10th, the second Sunday of the month.

The Easter Egg Hunt is right around the corner. On Sunday, March 27th, come early to share in the Easter story and then find those hidden eggs. Children are asked to bring their own Easter basket. The HUNT will take place inside if the weather is cold. The event begins at 9:45 am in the Godly Play Classroom.

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
Church Calendar for March 2016

*Be sure to check our website calendar for any changes to the calendar.

Any meetings that change the time, location, or date

will also be communicated by a recorded phone message to those who are involved.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p> <p>5:45 pm- Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p>7:00 pm- Choir Rehearsal [CR]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p><i>One Great Hour of Sharing/Capital Campaign Kickoff</i></p> <p>9:45 am- Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am- Worship/Holy Communion [S]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p>	<p>7:00 am- Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p> <p>5:45 pm- Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p>6:00 pm- Handbell Rehearsal [S]</p> <p>7:00 pm- Choir Practice [CR]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>Godly Play Training [Clover, SC]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>9:45 am- Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am- Worship [S]</p> <p>12:00 pm- Annual Soup and Salad Luncheon [FH]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>Daylight Savings Time Begins!</i></p>	<p>7:00 am- Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>10:00 am- Capital Campaign Committee Meeting [CO]</p> <p>12:00 pm- Staff Meeting [GE]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p> <p><i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>10:00 am- Asheville Urban Missional Network Meeting [FH]</p> <p>7:00 pm- Trustees Meeting [BC]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p> <p>5:45 pm- Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p>6:00 pm- Handbell Rehearsal [S]</p> <p>7:00 pm- Choir Rehearsal [CR]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm- Church Office Hours</p>	<p>9:00 am-1:00 pm- Preschool [EB]</p> <p>8:00 pm- Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule March 2016						
Date	Communion Servers	Lock-Up Volunteer	Counting Team	Ushers	Greeters	Sanctuary Stewards
03.6.2016	Curtis Goforth Steve Rich Robert Wiltshire Ellen Banks	John Harvin (primary) Keith Campbell (secondary)	Sue Lane Muesing Janie Wilson	Eve Bridger Colin Bridger Mike Rice Sherry Rice	Claire Bailey Ann Young	Bruce Kidder Elaine Price
03.13.2016	NA	John Harvin (primary) Keith Campbell (secondary)	Diane Arnold Mark Smith	John Harvin Sylvia Burke Robert Wiltshire Debbie Wiltshire	Toni Tweed Elaine Price	Cynthia Stewart Laurel Bishop
03.20.2016 Palm Sunday	NA	John Harvin (primary) Keith Campbell (secondary)	Mardy Murphy Madeline Moseley	Bud Allison Geri Allison William Withers Jessica Withers	Judy Rich Margaret Tickle	Nancy Ernst Keith Campbell
03.27.2016 Easter	NA	John Harvin (primary) Keith Campbell (secondary)	Steve Rich Julie Niwinski	Doug Tallent Martha Tallent Steve Rich Julie Niwinski	Madeline Moseley Martha Tallent	Mary Loomis-Molloy Ellen Banks

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule March 2016					
Date	Acolyte(s)	Nursery Volunteer	Children's Church	Children's Message	Lector
03.6.2016	TBD	Don Jackson	Megan Shook	Sallyanne McVay	Robert Wiltshire
03.13.2016	Eliza Jackson Chloe Jackson	Janie Wilson	Elaine Rich	Sallyanne McVay	David Warren
03.20.2016 Palm Sunday	Anthony Thomas Lila Thomas	Julie Niwinski	Sallyanne McVay	Sallyanne McVay	Jessica Jackson
03.27.2016 Easter	Roan Bridger	PAID WORKER	PAID WORKER	Sallyanne McVay	Maggie Harvin

Volunteer Coordinators:

Counting Team:	Sue Lane Muesing	slmue@aol.com	H: (828) 255-8547
Lock-Up Team:	Curtis Goforth	curtis@asburymethodist.org	H: (828) 484-8540
Ushers:	Gary Hutchins	NA	H: (828) 683-1948
Greeters:	Cynthia Stewart	crameystew@hotmail.com	H: (828) 251-9210
Sanctuary Stewards:	Margaret Tickle	margarettickle@aol.com	H: (828) 252-9887
Acolytes:	Sallyanne McVay	sallyanne@asburymethodist.org	C: (828) 230-4065
Nursery Workers:	Davie Jackson	daviejackson@hotmail.com	H: (828) 645-2928
Children's Church:	Sallyanne McVay	sallyanne@asburymethodist.org	C: (828) 230-4065
Children's Sermon:	Sallyanne McVay	sallyanne@asburymethodist.org	C: (828) 230-4065
Communion Servers:	Curtis Goforth	curtis@asburymethodist.org	H: (828) 484-8540
Scripture Readers:	Curtis Goforth	curtis@asburymethodist.org	H: (828) 484-8540



News from the Finance Committee

Finance Committee Update:

	<u>For the 1 Month Ended January 31, 2016</u>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable/(Unfavorable) Variance</u>
Operating Funds:			
Income	\$16,178	\$10,780	\$5,398
Expenses	<u>11,936</u>	<u>14,544</u>	<u>2,608</u>
Net Income	<u>\$4,242</u>	<u>(\$3,764)</u>	<u>\$8,006</u>
Special Giving*	<u>\$1,404</u>		
*Includes Souper Bowl, ABCCM, Manna Food Bank, Memorials, Disaster Relief, Youth Missions/ Activities, Bread Tin, Special offerings			

2016 Stewardship Campaign

There were 31 pledges totaling \$100,412 toward our 2016 Budget year. The 2016 budget is just under \$200,000.

Pledging is an important aspect of our budget planning and if you have not pledged and would like to, it would be appreciated. Please call the church office and we can get you started.

News from N.O.W. Committee

Congregational Gathering: A Look at 3 Continents: Mark your calendar for the next N.O.W. Committee Event. On Sunday, April 10th after worship come to the Fellowship Hall to share a finger food lunch as we all travel to 3 Continents. Many in our congregation like to travel ; come hear from Rebecca Tucker and her family's trip to Italy, from Day Ann Emory about her travel to Israel, and Agya Boakye-Boaten about his homeland of Ghana.

EASTER is early this year, Sunday March 27. Asbury Memorial UMC will have an Easter Egg Hunt for children. If you would like to donate individually wrapped candy or small prizes (such as stickers or dollar store items), please feel free to bring them to church and place them in the basket beside the MANNA barrel.



Prepare Ye the Way

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church's Capital Campaign 2016-2018

Please join us in worship on Sunday, March 6th as we will kick off our Capital Campaign for 2016-2018. As part of the celebration our choir will perform a special musical arrangement, and our guest preacher delivering the message to us will be one of our own, Rev. Robert Wiltshire! Mark your calendars for this important time in the life of our church (and spread the word) as we prepare the way for future ministry in this historic place.

Joint Good Friday Service

Please join us for a very special worship service on Good Friday (March 25th) at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary of our church as we remember the crucifixion of our Lord. There will be over eight churches joining us for this service that will feature six guest preachers and musicians/choirs from all around the Asheville area and nearby United Methodist congregations. The service itself will be based around the seven last words of Christ from the cross and will follow the pattern of a Tenebrae Service, where candles will be extinguished after each reading and we will end in darkness.



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
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