

We are grateful for the opportunity to contact you to let you know how glad we are that you visited! Your information will be kept private.

Please take a moment to fill out this card. It can be detached and placed in the offering plate as it circulates later in the service.

(please print)

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Email Address: _____

Comments: _____

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pledged or estimated giving for 2013. Fifty-five contribution plans have been submitted now, totaling \$137,571. If you will join us, please place the Affirmation Cards in the pew by the center aisle and jot down your pledge or estimate for the New Year. (We'll only use an estimated amount for budgeting.) Please help yourself to spiritual renewal of gratitude to help Asbury to financial security in 2013 with your giving plan.

Blessings for supporting Asbury's mission and our life together. Thank you!

- **IRA DISBURSEMENTS**—If you are over 70 ½ years of age and have an Individual Retirement Account that must be tapped for a payout before 12/31/12, please consider a donation to Asbury. If you have your bank account information, send it *directly to the Church*, it will move tax-free – isn't that a nice benefit?
- **GIFTS OF SECURITIES**—If you hold stock that has increased in value since its purchase, you can avoid capital gains by donating some of it to Asbury. When a gift of stock is made, the entire amount is tax deductible—which may allow you to donate a larger amount than you could otherwise afford.
- **LEARN HOW TO MAKE IRA OR SECURITIES GIFTS**—Be in touch with Dwayne Dills, Asbury's Treasurer at dillscpa@charter.net to find out the easiest way to transfer your contribution. If you'd like to discuss these plans further with a church member, Gary Tweed (665-9017) or Bud Allison (250-9816) will be glad to talk with you.
- **PREPAY YOUR 2013 PLEDGE**—If you normally itemize deductions for income tax purposes, but you anticipate an income reduction in 2013, it may be "tax wise" to consider prepaying next year's church gift now. If you do make that choice, please note clearly on your check memo line "2013 Prepaid"—we will cash the check promptly, but our Treasurer will count it towards *your giving for next year*.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MANNA FOOD BANK**-We hope to raise 350 pounds of high-protein beans to help those in need in WNC before the end of the year. In 15 years, we've never failed to reach our goal—over a ton—2012 pounds of beans. We've been behind before but Asbury always comes through! Please help us in advance. If you shop with children or grandchildren, make this a learning experience by talking about how legumes (dry beans, canned beans/peas, etc.) are a low cost way to reach protein needs. (In Buncombe County over 50% of our school kids are on free/reduced lunches -- a goal across WNC, some counties run much higher than that.) If you are pressed for time, consider writing a check to Asbury (memo: Manna Food Drive), and the food bank will purchase beans on your behalf--at a discount. Thanks so much for all you do. -The Missions Committee

☺ Come, let us adore Him.

☩ Hymn #234 (third verse only)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

♪ Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion;
O sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heaven a-bove!
Glo-ry to God, all glo-ry in the high-est;
O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him,
O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord. ♪

☩ The Fourth Candle.....The Goforth family

We light this candle as a symbol of purity.
May the visitation of your Holy Spirit,
O God, purify us that we may be ready for
the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy.
O Come, let us adore Him.

☩ Hymn #234 (fourth verse only)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

♪ See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra-dle,
leav-ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thith-er bend our joy-ful foot-steps;
O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him,
O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord. ♪

☩ The Christ Candle.....The Goforth family

Offering our Gifts and Prayers

Opening Prayer

Special Music.....“Gesu Bambino”.....Scott Glenn
Offering

Our offering tonight will go to benefit the ABCCM Fuel Fund which helps the poor in our community stay warm during the winter months. All offerings not specifically designated for something else will go to this worthy cause. You are still welcome to make a gift to the church, but if you do so, please clearly mark your check or the offering envelope with the specific designation of your choice.

Offertory..... “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”
Corey McVay and Ann Perkins

☩ Doxology #95

♪ Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen. ♪

.....
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Prayer for Illumination

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that we may hear and rejoice
in the Gospel of our Savior,
Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.
Amen.**

Our worship tonight will follow a format known as a service of lessons and carols. This type of worship service on Christmas Eve was popularized service held in the chapel at Kings College, Cambridge since 1918. The story of our Lord’s birth from Luke will be read with hymns interspersed throughout the lessons. The lesson from the opening of John’s Gospel will close the reading. Please feel free to remain seated for this portion of the service. A period of silence is kept after each hymn.

First Lesson.....Luke 2:1-7 (p. 54 in the pew book)
Hymn #217 (v.1, 3).....“Away in a Manger”

♪ A-way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed,
the lit-tle Lord Je-sus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the lit-tle Lord Je-sus a-sleep on the hay.

**Be near me, Lord Je-sus, I ask thee to stay
close by me for-ev-er, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear chil-dren in thy ten-der care,
and fit us for heav-en to live with thee there. ♪**

Second Lesson.....Luke 2:8-14 (p. 54 in the pew book)
Hymn #218 (v. 1,4).....“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

♪ It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old
from an-gels bend-ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all-gra-cious
King.” The world in sol-emn still-ness lay, to hear the an-gels
singing
For lo! the days are has-tening on, by pro-nhet seen of old