



The Asbury Journal

Message from the

February 2016

Pastor

Message From The Pastor



***“We can complain
because rose bushes
have thorns,
or rejoice because
thorn bushes have
roses.”***

***-Abraham
Lincoln***

In the midst of all this snow that we’ve experienced in the past month, we’ve likely heard our fair share of complaints (and maybe even been guilty of voicing some ourselves). Snow is nice when it is beautiful to look at on the mountain tops or gently falling outside our windows next to a roaring fire and a hot cup of coffee, but when it gets on the roads and causes the closing of schools and the grocery stores to empty their shelves, we tend to be a little less enamored by the flaky white stuff. To borrow from the thought attributed to Lincoln above, we can complain that snow makes life more difficult to go about our everyday routines, or we can rejoice that our everyday routines have been interrupted with God’s gift of snowball fights with the neighbors, sledding down snow-covered hills, and my personal favorite—snowcream!

When the treacherous hill by my house finally cleared enough that it was safe to drive on, I made my way to the church, and when I arrived I had to stop for just a moment and look out on our historic graveyard here at the church still covered in snow—and the world was absolutely silent. I try to make it a point when it snows to focus on the fact that thorn bushes have roses instead of dwelling on the fact that rose bushes have thorns. If we are

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Message From The Pastor (continued)

looking for something to worry or get angry about, we will most certainly find it. But, if on the other hand we keep our eyes and our minds inclined toward the blessings that fall on us from the heavens, our outlook changes. A snow day is one of God's many ways of telling us to stop and to enjoy the little pleasures in life. I'll leave you with one of the many passages in Scripture about snow:

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” –Isaiah 55:10-11

Curtis+

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

As Christians we are a people of faith. In the 11th chapter of Hebrews, we find what has often been referred to as the “*role call of faith*”. There we find a list of familiar names: Able, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses and many others. Each, when called upon by God, stepped out in faith and overcame what often seemed impossible challenges. Have you ever considered what type of faith you operate from?

Philip Yancey, in his book *Disappointment with God*, says that we can either live our lives according to Psalm 23 which models a child-like faith or Psalm 22 which models fidelity. It helps to read both back to back starting with the 23rd followed by the 22nd. Most of us can recite much if not all of the 23rd Psalm. Lines such as: “the Lord is my shepherd I shall not want...I will fear no evil...goodness and mercy shall follow me all the day of my life” are comforting to the reader giving us a sense that God is right there with us in both the good times and the bad times. We experience times of closeness. It seems as if God is answering our every prayer.

The 22nd Psalm, on the other hand, show words of desperation: “My God, my God why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me? I cry out by day, but you do not answer me.” This is often called “fog time”: a time when God stays silent. Fidelity involves learning to trust that beyond the perimeter of the fog God is still there. God reigns and has not abandoned us, no matter how it may appear. It is during these times that our faith gets stretched and strengthened more, so that when the hard times come-a-knocking, we stand up to the challenge.

Life, with God in charge, includes both child-like faith and fidelity. Rabbi Abraham Herschel observed, “Faith like Job's cannot be shaken because it is the result of having been shaken.”

Rev. David Warren



News from the Missions Committee

The February Bread Tin collections, a loose offering, will go to support the Asheville Poverty Initiative. API seeks to develop advocacy and education for those on the margin of society through the ministry of accompaniment. API offers community building and personal encounters through 12 Baskets Cafe, the poverty reality walk and companion communities. Educational programs are either co-led or co-developed by those living with the daily reality of poverty. Please visit their website, www.ashevillepovertyinitiative.org to find out more about this organization and your opportunities to serve and build community. Thank you for 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!

Asbury is collecting used or new books throughout February for the Jones School to distribute for their Read Across America day in March. If you have any books suitable for K-5 children (ages 5-10) and can donate them, please do. We'll gladly take new books, too! Thanks!

The Presbyterian-United Methodist House and 3 others will be dedicated at a chili lunch at 12:00 noon on Thursday, February 18th. The celebration will be held at the Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity's administrative offices (33 Meadow Road, Asheville). Save the Date!

News from Children and Youth

Ash Wednesday for children, prior to the Ash Wednesday Worship Service, bring your children for a special Lenten activity time at 6:00PM. Peanut Butter and Jelly sandwiches will be served for dinner, for those who make a reservation with Sallyanne by Tuesday, Feb. 9 at noon. This time is designed to help children better understand Ash Wednesday and Lent.

GODLY PLAY TRAINING, March 12 in Clover South Carolina A group will be carpooling to this Saturday Training. The topic is the "Spirituality of the Child" with Kaye Edwards AND "Making Stories" with Sally Selzer of Worship Woodworks. This will be an excellent event for experienced and inexperienced teachers. Let Sallyanne know if you are interested in attending.

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 beside the MANNA barrel.

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
Church Calendar for February 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	6
	<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>10:00 am-Preschool Board 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>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<p>9:45 am-Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am-Worship/Holy Communion [S]</p> <p>12:00 pm-Baby Shower for Claire and Tim Bailey [FH]</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><i>Ash Wednesday</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-Ash Wednesday Activity with Sallyanne [FH]</p> <p>7:00 pm-Ash Wednesday Service [S]</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>7:00 pm-SPRC Meeting [BC]</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>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<p>9:45 am-Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am-Worship [S]</p> <p>4:00 pm-Church Council Meeting [BC]</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>10:00 am-Capital Campaign Meeting [CO]</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><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>12:00 pm-Habitat House Dedication [33 Meadow Rd, Asheville]</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>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21 9:45 am -Sunday School 11:00 am -Worship [S] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]	22 7:00 am -Emmaus Group [YR] 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours 6:30 pm -Friendship Circle [BC]	23 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	24 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours 5:45 pm -AI-Anon Meeting [BC] 6:00 pm -Handbell Rehearsal [S] 7:00 pm -Choir Rehearsal [CR] 8:00 pm -Narcotics Anonymous [FH]	25 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	26 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	27 <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>
28 9:45 am -Sunday School 11:00 am -Worship [S] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]	29 7:00 am -Emmaus Group [YR] 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm -Church Office Hours					
FH=Fellowship Hall S=Sanctuary BC=Brown Chapel EB=Educational Building YR=Youth Room GE=Givens Estate PO=Pastor’s Office CO=Church Office TBD=To Be Determined UR=Upper Room Sunday School Classroom				<u>Important Dates in March</u> Godly Play Training (Clover, SC)-March 12 th Palm Sunday-March 20 th Friendship Circle’s Soup and Salad Luncheon-March 20 th Easter-March 27 th		
<u>February Birthdays</u> Maggie Harvin-February 4 th Peter Andersen-February 5 th Bill Creasman-February 6 th Nancy Carter-February 7 th Robin Butler-February 9 th Lila Thomas-February 9 th				<u>February Birthdays</u> Wheeler Fisher-February 12 th Curtis Goforth-February 17 th Jerry Stubblefield-February 17 th Eliza Post-February 20 th Jeff McVay-February 23 rd Don Jackson III-February 25 th		



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule February 2016						
Date	Communion Servers	Lock-Up Volunteer	Counting Team	Ushers	Greeters	Sanctuary Stewards
02.7.2016	Curtis Goforth Deborah Hawkins Sallyanne McVay Elaine Poovey	Larry Wilson (primary) Geri Allison (secondary)	Kelli Conover John Harvin	Bud Allison Geri Allison William Withers Jessica Withers	Nan Montague Laurel Bishop	Madeline Moseley
02.14.2016	NA	Larry Wilson (primary) Geri Allison (secondary)	Elaine Poovey Scott Glenn	Doug Tallent Martha Tallent Steve Rich Julie Niwinski	Mary Loomis-Molloy Keith Campbell	Margaret Tickle Derick Tickle
02.21.2016	NA	Larry Wilson (primary) Geri Allison (secondary)	Rebecca Tucker Mary Loomis-Molloy	Mardy Murphy Don McGeary Don Jackson Jessica Jackson	Cynthia Stewart John Stewart	Steve Rich Judy Rich
02.28.2016	NA	Larry Wilson (primary) Geri Allison (secondary)	Merritt Moseley SueLane Muesing	Keith Campbell Sharon Campbell Gary Tweed Toni Tweed	Geri Allison Jessica Withers	Gordon Jones Joan Jones

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule February 2016					
Date	Acolyte(s)	Nursery Volunteer	Children's Church	Children's Message	Lector
02.07.2016	Lila Thomas Anthony Thomas	Madeline Moseley	Jessica Jackson	Sallyanne McVay	Curtis Goforth
02.14.2016	Alana Bridger	Jennifer Goforth	Judi Harvin	Sallyanne McVay	Jennifer Goforth
02.21.2016	Lylah Goforth	John Stewart	Mardy Murphy	Sallyanne McVay	Katie Warren
02.28.2016	Barfuo Boakye-Boaten	Lisa Pickett	Maggie Harvin	Margaret Tickle	Sallyanne McVay

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 Year Ended December 31, 2015</u>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable/(Unfavorable)</u> <u>Variance</u>
Operating Funds:			
Income	\$186,076	\$205,000	\$(18,924)
Expenses	<u>184,714</u>	<u>205,000</u>	<u>20,286</u>
Net Income	<u>\$1,362</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,362</u>
Special Giving*	<u>\$24,050</u>		
*Includes Souper Bowl, ABCCM, Manna Food Bank, Memorials, Disaster Relief, Youth Missions/ Activities, Bread Tin, Special offerings			

News from North Asheville Preschool

There will be a Preschool Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 2nd at 10:00 am in Brown Chapel. Members are encouraged to attend.

*Volunteer Schedules for 2016 are available on the church's website:
www.asburymethodist.org.*

*Hard copies are also available in the hallway
between the church office and Rev. Goforth's office.
Thank you for giving your time and talents to Asbury!*



Join us for a baby shower for Claire and Tim Bailey after worship in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 7th. All are welcome to celebrate their first baby! Please bring a finger food to share as we will all eat a light lunch together. Cake and punch are provided. They are registered at Target and [Babyli.st/Claire-bailey](https://www.babylife.com/registry/Claire-bailey).



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
171 Beaverdam Rd.
Asheville, NC 28804-2514