



August 2016

*A Note from the Pastor:* I have fielded a number of questions from folks about recent decisions (or lack thereof) made by the denomination around matters of human sexuality, marriage, and ordination. Bishop Goodpaster and the District Superintendents have written the following open letter to our churches which I felt obliged to share in our newsletter this month. You can read more about these matters at [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org) or at [www.wnccumc.org](http://www.wnccumc.org).

### **An Open Letter From the Bishop and the Cabinet To the people of the Western North Carolina Conference**



**From the Bishop and Cabinet**

Like many others we, the Bishop and the Superintendents of the Western North Carolina Conference, recognize the crossroads at which we stand in The United Methodist Church. Many across our Conference are deeply concerned and have expressed frustration and regret about the meetings and decisions of some Annual Conferences and Jurisdictional Conferences over the past two months not to follow provisions of the Book of Discipline regarding marriage and

ordination standards which they believe are discriminatory. Most recently in the Western Jurisdiction, the election to the office of bishop of Rev. Karen Oliveto who has been described as “an openly lesbian clergy person,” has ignited concerns for our denomination as well as questions about our polity and our unity. Others across our area, however, believe these actions are signs of a new day and a different future for The United Methodist Church.

Concurring with the pastoral letter from the College of Bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction, we “view the acts of nonconformity as a violation of our covenant....” We remain hopeful that the collaborative efforts of the commission that was approved at General Conference will provide a way forward. While that work continues, we are committed to maintaining our covenant to uphold The Book of Discipline.

#### **In This Issue:**

- Message from the Pastor.....1-2
- Message from the Assistant Pastor.....2
- News from Missions Committee.....3
- News from N.O.W. Committee.....3
- Church Calendar....4-5
- Volunteer Schedule...6
- News from the Finance Committee.....7
- News from Prepare Ye the Way.....7
- Bible Study Announcement.....8
- News for Children and Youth.....8



### *Open Letter from the Bishop-continued from p.1*

How shall we move forward in the light of these actions in other parts of our connection? First, we urge the clergy and laity across the conference to be patient. Bishop Bruce Ough, President of the Council of Bishops, wrote: “Our Book of Discipline has clearly delineated processes in place for resolving issues even as complex and unprecedented as this election (of Rev. Oliveto).” Those processes take time and require us to be patient as they work their way through the system.

Second, we urge everyone to join us in fervent prayer for our church and for our witness in the world in the name of Jesus. We believe that there is no substitute for the on-going prayers of God’s people, humbly asking and seeking God’s Spirit to intervene and reveal a way forward. To that end, we have committed to a weekly time of fasting for the sake of the unity of our church. As has been true in every age and for every situation which the church has confronted since the Day of Pentecost, we must be open and responsive to the leading of God’s Spirit and not our own. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Rome: “rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer” (Romans 12:12).

Finally, we urge all of our churches to stay the course and to remain focused on the mission. We rejoice in the many ways that God is working through the churches of the Western North Carolina Conference and the manner in which you are all remaining committed to the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of lives, communities, and the world. We will continue to lead and to live faithfully into the covenant we have made with God through our baptism, with The United Methodist Church through our ordination, and with each other through our faith in Christ Jesus.

In response to the invitation from Bishop Ough to all United Methodists, we will daily offer our fervent prayers for the witness of The United Methodist Church, “making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3). We earnestly invite all of you to join us in these offerings of prayer, fasting, and sacrifice.

## Message from the Assistant Pastor

By now most of you know that Katie and I will be leaving Asbury at the end of August. These are my reasons for this change in my life. The trip to the retreat center in Colorado finally gave me the opportunity to get truly quiet and listen for God to speak to me. On the first morning during centering prayer time, God clearly told me that my work was almost over and it was time to move in a different direction. For some time, I have been wanting to live a more contemplative and simple life. The ten days at the monastery made it very clear to me that being busy all of the time would never allow that to happen. I do not know where God will be leading me over the next few months, but I am ready to follow his direction.

We will be exploring a variety of different worship options that remain true to our Christian beliefs. Wherever we finally choose to light, it will be in a place where we can spend time in silence practicing the spiritual disciplines that bring joy to our lives. I thank each one of you for the love and confidence you have shown me over the past five years. The time spent at Asbury will forever remain in my heart and mind. May God bless your lives with his abundant grace and mercy.

The following quote was on the door to the retreat center. God used it and the silence to get my attention:

*“To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything is itself to succumb to the violence of our times. Frenzy destroys our inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful.” Thomas Merton*



## News from the Missions Committee

Dear Friends, the 2016 Methodist/Presbyterian house will soon be underway. Asbury is one of the church groups on whom they rely most to do the building. We have four build days coming up and each day we want to supply three volunteers. If you can help out, will you please contact Merritt Moseley, by phone at [828-253-6940](tel:828-253-6940), or by email at [moseley@unca.edu](mailto:moseley@unca.edu). Here are the dates and the work we expect to be doing: August 13--floor framing; September 6--porch framing; September 15--siding; October 14--painting and trim. Anyone over 16, of either sex, is welcome. I saw a Habitat t-shirt once that said, "Who knew getting blisters could be so satisfying?" and if you haven't helped on a Habitat house before you will be surprised at how good it can make you feel.

You are invited to the Kickoff Celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Presbyterian-United Methodist House and the 18<sup>th</sup> Interfaith House on Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at noon at 1000 W. Chapel Road, Asheville. Lunch is provided followed by a short program. Please RSVP to Eva at Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity by August 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Missions Committee announces that the bread tin for August supports **Wells for Sustainability in South Sudan:**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief explains the importance of wells and clean water in this troubled country: "Access to clean water is a fundamental need, yet as many as 60% of households in South Sudan do not have access to clean drinking water. Unsafe water leads to diarrhea, dysentery, typhoid, cholera, and other diseases that strike children with particular virulence. In South Sudan, one in four children will die before their fifth birthday and more than 98% of children drop out of elementary school, often because they are too sick to attend. While improved health is the primary benefit of the well, the community benefits in other ways. When women and children must walk for long distances to obtain clean water, they are exposed to physical hardships and danger. They spend so much time obtaining water and carrying heavy containers that they have little time and energy for other activities such as attending school, caring for their families, and farming to produce food." It is hard for us to imagine what life is like without reliable clean water available at all times. Let's give generously to help make this necessity of life available to others.

The June Bread Tin collected \$768.14 for The Potter's Touch, a network of Spiritual Directors of the UMC who encourage and support clergy and laity in the intentional tending of their spiritual lives. Thank you for giving generously.

Please continue to bring contributions of food for the babies of MANNA Foodbank, or money to be converted to contributions, so we can meet our target of 2016 pounds of food for Western North Carolina babies. Thank you as always for giving generously!

## News from N.O.W. Committee

Our final Lemonade on the Lawn for 2016 will be held on Sunday, August 7th. Join your church family on the church grounds immediately following worship for fun, fellowship and lemonade! Thank you to the combined Clarence Gilbert and Upper Room Sunday School classes for hosting. Thank you to Martha Tallent for coordinating this season's Lemonade on the Lawn. See you there!

The Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> following worship. Hot dogs and lemonade will be provided; please bring a side dish and/or dessert to share. Once again, there will be a Bounce House for the children and young-at-heart. Please let Sallyanne or Mardy Murphy know if you have a pop-up tent to share for extra shade.

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church  
Church Calendar for August 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><b>7:00 am</b>-Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p>	<p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><b>10:00 am-5:30 pm</b>-Family Day at Lake Lure Beach &amp; Water Park</p> <p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b>-Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b>-Choir Practice [CR]</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b>-Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p>	<p><b>8:00 pm</b>-Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>
7	8		10	11	12	13
<p><b>9:45 am</b>-Sunday School</p> <p><b>11:00 am</b>-Worship/Holy Communion[S]</p> <p><b>12:00 pm</b>-Lemonade on the Lawn [CG]</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b>-Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p>	<p><b>7:00 am</b>-Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b>-Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b>-Choir Practice [CR]</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b>-Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p>	<p><b>8:00 pm</b>-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><b>9:45 am</b>-Sunday School</p> <p><b>11:00 am</b>-Worship [S]</p> <p><b>4:00 pm</b>-Church Council Meeting [BC]</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b>-Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p>	<p><b>7:00 am</b>-Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p>	<p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b>-Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p><b>6:00 pm</b>-Movie Night [BC]</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b>-Choir Rehearsal [CR]</p> <p><b>8:00 pm</b>-Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p><b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b>-Church Office Hours</p>	<p><b>8:00 pm</b>-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 <b>9:45 am</b> -Sunday School <b>11:00 am</b> -Worship [S] <b>8:00 pm</b> -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]	22 <b>7:00 am</b> -Emmaus Group [YR] <b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b> -Church Office Hours  <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	23          <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	24 <b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b> -Church Office Hours <b>5:45 pm</b> -AI-Anon Meeting [BC] <b>7:00 pm</b> -Choir Rehearsal [CR] <b>7:00 pm</b> -Family Game Night [BC/CG] <b>8:00 pm</b> -Narcotics Anonymous [FH]	25 <b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b> -Church Office Hours	26 <b>8:00 pm</b> -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]          <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	27 <b>9:00 am</b> -Jones School Workday          <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>
28 <b>9:45 am</b> -Sunday School <b>11:00 am</b> -Worship [S] <b>12:00 pm</b> -Church-wide Picnic [CG] <b>8:00 pm</b> -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]	29 <b>7:00 am</b> -Emmaus Group [YR] <b>9:00 am-1:00 pm</b> -Preschool Begins [EB] <b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b> -Church Office Hours	30 <b>9:00 am-1:00 pm</b> -Preschool [EB]          <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	31 <b>9:00 am-1:00 pm</b> -Preschool [EB] <b>3:00 pm-6:00 pm</b> -Church Office Hours <b>5:45 pm</b> -AI-Anon Meeting [BC] <b>7:00 pm</b> -Choir Rehearsal [CR] <b>8:00 pm</b> -Narcotics Anonymous [FH]			
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 September</u> September 5 <sup>th</sup> - Labor Day September 5 <sup>th</sup> - Bible Study begins		
<u>August Birthdays</u> Cindy Stubblefield - August 1 <sup>st</sup> Bill Murphy - August 4 <sup>th</sup> Mardy Murphy - August 7 <sup>th</sup> Tyler Post - August 9 <sup>th</sup> Lylah Goforth - August 11 <sup>th</sup> Davie Jackson - August 11 <sup>th</sup> Blair Knight - August 11 <sup>th</sup> Michael Keeney - August 12 <sup>th</sup> William Gottenstrater - August 13 <sup>th</sup>				<u>August Birthdays</u> Nicholas Hallman - August 13 <sup>th</sup> Ryan Conover - August 22 <sup>nd</sup> Cora Goforth - August 22 <sup>nd</sup> Heather Post - August 23 <sup>rd</sup> Martha Tallent - August 23 <sup>rd</sup> Kathy Hallman - August 27 <sup>th</sup> Virginia Clark - August 28 <sup>th</sup> Howard Collins - August 30 <sup>th</sup> Hunter Tweed - August 31 <sup>st</sup>		



# Volunteer Schedule

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule August 2016						
Date	Communion Servers	Lock-Up Volunteer	Counting Team	Ushers	Greeters	Sanctuary Stewards
08.07.2016	Curtis Goforth Lisa Pickett Sallyanne McVay Elliot Withers	Rick Morehead (primary) Don Jackson, Jr. (secondary)	Rebecca Tucker Mary Loomis-Molloy	Mardy Murphy Don McGeary Don Jackson Jessica Jackson	Geri Allison Jessica Withers	Gordon Jones Joan Jones
08.14.2016	NA	Rick Morehead (primary) Don Jackson, Jr. (secondary)	Merritt Moseley SueLane Muesing	Keith Campbell Sharon Campbell Gary Tweed Toni Tweed	Claire Bailey Ann Young	Bruce Kidder Elaine Price
08.21.2016	NA	Rick Morehead (primary) Don Jackson, Jr. (secondary)	Doug Tallent Janie Wilson	Eva Bridger Colin Bridger Mike Rice Sherry Rice	Toni Tweed Elaine Price	Cynthia Stewart Laurel Bishop
08.28.2016	NA	Rick Morehead (primary) Don Jackson, Jr. (secondary)	Diane Arnold Mardy Murphy	John Harvin Sylvia Burke TBD TBD	Judy Rich Margaret Tickle	TBD Keith Campbell

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule August 2016					
Date	Acolyte(s)	Nursery Volunteer	Children's Church	Children's Message	Lector
08.07.2016	Lylah Goforth	Laurel Bishop	Jennifer Keeney	Sallyanne McVay	Curtis Goforth
08.14.2016	Barfuo Boakye-Boaten	Davie Jackson		Curtis Goforth	Sallyanne McVay
08.21.2016	Haley Phillips	Day Ann Emory			David Warren
08.28.2016	Eliza Jackson Chloe Jackson	Cynthia Stewart	Sallyanne McVay	Curtis Goforth	Jessica Jackson

**Volunteer Coordinators:**

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



## News from the Finance Committee

Finance Committee Update:

	<b><u>For the 6 Months Ended June 30, 2016</u></b>		
	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Favorable/(Unfavorable) Variance</u></b>
<b>Operating Funds:</b>			
Income	\$92,296	\$93,663	(\$1,367)
Expenses	<u>92,810</u>	<u>98,985</u>	<u>6,175</u>
Net Income/(Loss)	<u>(\$514)</u>	<u>(\$5,322)</u>	<u>\$4,808</u>
<b>Capital Campaign (net of expenditures)</b>	<u>\$81,331</u>		
<b>Special Giving*</b>	<u>\$9,500</u>		
*Includes Souper Bowl, ABCCM, Manna Food Bank, Memorials, Disaster Relief, Youth Missions/Activities, Bread Tin, Special offerings			

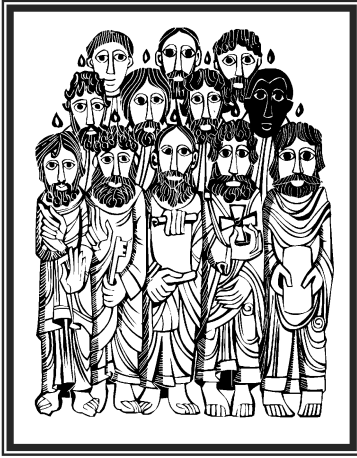
## News from Prepare Ye the Way

The Capital Campaign Committee met in mid-July to assess pledge and donation responses. As of July 31, 2016, the total funds on hand are \$86,666.64. Expenses during the campaign include architect fees (Siteworks-\$4,142.57), postage, and printing. Our brochure is at the printer and will be available for distribution soon. This will give a clear picture of the Phase I projects. A reminder as you write those checks to pay your pledge, please include on the check memo line: Capital Campaign. This helps the counters to differentiate the funds in the Sunday offering plates. Thanks to each of you for all you are doing to move us forward with your contributions.

-Elaine Poovey, Chairman

For the information of all members and anyone owning a conventional IRA, anyone over 70.5 is required to take a minimum required distribution (MRD) each year or pay a penalty of 50% of the distribution. All IRA owners required to take the MRD qualify for a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). All or any portion of your distribution donated to a qualifying charity is wholly tax free to you, which means you do not pay income tax on the QCD, which in turn lowers your adjusted gross income and your tax liability for the year. For tax filers that itemize deductions on Schedule A, you still claim the charitable deduction on your return. This is a perfect way for individuals to meet Campaign pledges and regular church pledges. I am here to help anytime on this or on stock donations to our campaign.

-Bud Allison (allisonjwj@aol.com or 828-250-9816)



*Three Months with the Spirit: A Study of The Acts of the Apostles*

All Bible Study sessions will be led by Rev. Goforth  
Mondays in September, October, and November  
@ 7:00 pm in Brown Chapel Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church

- +No need to buy a book.
- +No need to read anything beforehand.
- +No need to attend every session.
- +Simply come and learn from one of the most fascinating books in the Bible!

## News for Children and Youth

- \*Godly Play Sunday School is in session every Sunday from 9:45 am-10:45 am. We begin the new school year on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in volunteering for one Sunday per month is asked to contact Sallyanne (Sallyanne@asburymethodist.org).
- \*Bibles will be presented to the rising 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Be sure Sallyanne has the full name of your 3<sup>rd</sup> grader so that they will be personally invited to this special presentation.
- \*Join us for Movie Night (Tarzan) on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in Brown Chapel. Invite your friends. Children of all ages are welcome.
- \*Family Game Night will be held on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. See Sallyanne for details!



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church  
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