



The Ambassador

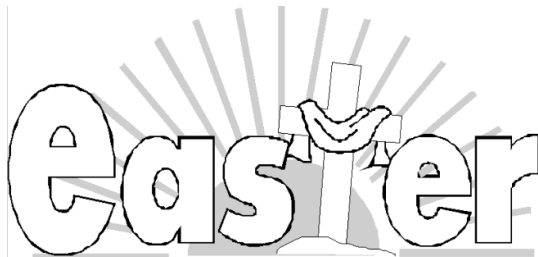
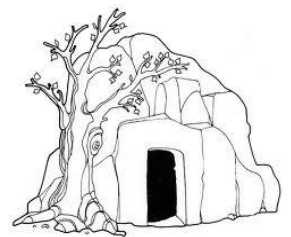
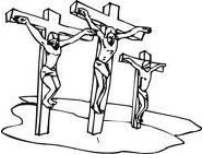
We are the Ambassadors for Christ – 2 Corinthians 5:20

Asbury United Methodist Church
2492 Andover Road, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3511
Rev. John W. Doll, Pastor

“We exist to be part of the kingdom of God in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” We will be dedicated to personal growth through Jesus Christ and to reaching out to others in Christian love.

Holy Week Observances at Asbury

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday | April 1st | Palm Sunday Service at 9:30 AM |
| Wednesday | April 4th | Quiet Communion in the Church Chapel 6:00 AM – 11:00 AM |
| Thursday | April 5th | Holy Thursday Communion Service 7:30 PM |
| Friday | April 6 th | Good Friday - <i>Could you not watch with me one hour?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prayer Vigil 3:00 PM through Resurrection Sunday 6:30 AM Asbury Sanctuary• Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Bethany Lutheran Church, 617 Morgan Avenue, Palmyra• Devotion of the Three Hours 12:00 noon – 3:00 PM Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2618 New Albany Road, Cinnaminson |
| Sunday | April 8th | Resurrection Sunday Sunrise Service
Lakeview Cemetery 6:30 AM
Breakfast at Asbury 7:15 AM
Morning Worship Service 9:30 AM
Chapel Time & Easter Egg Hunt 11:30 AM |



Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Church Telephone:
(856) 829-3801
Fax: (856) 829-9060
Website:
www.myasburymc.com

Dear Members and Friends,

March 2012



What a family we have at Asbury United Methodist Church! To be able to witness our coming to together in prayer over the past few months has been a blessing. My own prayer time has been strengthened by thoughts for others. You can feel the power of prayer as so many of our members, family and friends struggle with health issues and even death of loved ones. But through it all we pray and feel comforted knowing God is with us, that our loved ones are with God, and our Asbury family is holding us all in prayer.

As you know, Pastor John is recovering from quintuple bypass surgery. The road to recovery may not be as quick as we all prayed for and still may hold ups and downs but every day he is getting stronger. Please continue to keep him, Gwen and their boys in your prayers.

As Pastor John recovers and is unable to write this section, here is a Bible passage I felt was appropriate for this spring edition newsletter.

Hebrews 10:19-25a (Life Application Study Bible, New Living Translation)

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. This is the new, life-giving way that Christ has opened up for us through the sacred curtain, by means of His death for us.

And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's people, let us go right into the presence of God, with true hearts fully trusting Him. For our evil consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

Without wavering, let us hold tightly to the hope we say we have, for God can be trusted to keep His promise. Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage each other.

Easter is a promise God renews to us each Spring. May the promise of Easter fill your heart with peace and joy.

Your sister in Christ,

Mary C. Soderholm

During Pastor John's recovery, please contact the church office (856-829-3801), Diane McGough (856-786-1198, cell 609-234-0663) or Susan Stoneback (609-332-8210) for assistance with any pastoral needs.

Congratulations



Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him. Psalm 127:3

Nora Mae Bacon 1/19/12

Proud Parents Matthew and Jessica Bacon
Proud Grandparents Bob and Barbara Bacon

New Members

*Linda Ford
Fran Nissen
Chuck and Judy Taylor*

WELCOME!



If you are interested in becoming a new member please contact Pastor John for information about our new member's class.

Mission News

We are happy to welcome *Tricia Parisi* as our new Co-Chair.

Bread of Life Food Pantry - Please continue to bring in lunch items to keep the pantry stocked. We thank you for being so generous. You can bring donations to Asbury or take directly to the Pantry.



The pantry is located at Epworth Methodist Church, 5th and Morgan Streets in Palmyra, drop off hours are Wednesdays 1-4pm and Thursdays 7-9pm. Please see or call Bernard Murphy aka Murph (461-9029) if you have any questions.

Abba - We continue to support Abba, (a Palmyra based group that helps pregnant women and their infants). If you shop for

groceries at Shop-Rite please consider using a gift card. These are dollar for dollar cards and can be purchased from Don Ochs or Janice DeNofa before or after Sunday services.

Youth

Children's Sunday School- Children age 4 to 4th grade have been learning about different stories from the bible each week in Sunday School. The students enjoy hearing stories from the Bible and doing activities and crafts to go along with what they are learning. We also have a children's choir which will be singing on Palm Sunday.

SMILE! God Loves you!

For God so loved the world that he gave His only son. John 3:16

Friday Fun Nights - come young and old to enjoy time together on the last Friday of the month for family fun night at 7:00 PM. Each event has a different theme and a fun time is had by all. So far this year we have had a Fitness Night, Bonfire, Movie Night, New Year's Eve Party, Valentine's Party, and Snowman Craft. Our next fun night is Friday, March 30 with a cooking theme. Come out and cook up some fun with us!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) – It's "Sky" Time Everything is Possible with God. Save the date for this year's VBS August 20 – August 24 (9:00 AM – Noon).



United Methodist Men (UMM)



Asbury UMM 2012 Cooking Demonstration -

Can it really be that this was the fifth annual UMM Cooking Demonstration - it seems like only yesterday that we began this fun filled and delicious tradition here at Asbury. A fully engaged audience of over 70 turned out for this year's event January 28th, laughing through all the men's antics and serious efforts. But all is not lost since you can still see video's of each man's show on the Asbury web site. While we would hesitate to highlight any one over the other, be sure to see Rich Ley's now infamous "Cheesy Mac & Cheese" recipe that comes with a "HEART WARNING LABEL" which brought the house down with side aching laughter as he added one "cheesy" ingredient after another. Nobody left hungry, that's for sure, with twelve tasty dishes to sample.

A special "Thank you!" to everyone who cooked, cleaned up or just came to laugh and support. I can promise you that the men are already thinking up new and exciting recipes for the 2013 show.

Asbury Strategic Planning - Next steps

With input from a majority of the Asbury church family in recent planning workshops, a congregational dinner meeting was held January 8th. We viewed our current reality and discussed the challenges we are facing. We brainstormed ideas and made plans to address them. The product of that event was the creation of a vision of what Asbury UMC would look like three to five years from now.

So where do we go next? First there are the Lenten bible studies many are attending as we

approach Easter, a series based on Adam Hamilton's "Final Words from the Cross." On April 22nd there will be another congregational dinner event with the consultant to discover and uncover two or three strategic initiatives that fit the vision compiled from the first dinner event. A team will be assembled and empowered to work on the initiatives with support and training under the leadership of our consultant who will be back again on Saturday, May 19th. It is this team that will lead us toward our vision for the future.

Please keep this effort in your prayers as we move forward, and pray about what your own role might be in that process. A special thanks to all who planned, cooked, served and cleaned up for that delicious congregational meeting spaghetti dinner. Save the date, it will be back by popular demand for the April 22nd meeting.

Stewardship Team Readies "2012 Narrative Budget" - Launched in 2011 as a way to make our Asbury annual budget more easily understood, the 2012 Asbury Narrative Budget will be available in the coming weeks to show how your tithes and contributions are used in carrying out the mission of Asbury Church, and making a difference for church families, our community and the world. Members of the stewardship team, Joe Piech, Susan Stoneback and Jim Gleason along with Pastor John, are available to answer any questions you may have after reading this important resource.

It should be noted that our "Asbury narrative budget" has been recognized throughout the conference as a model practice that other churches are looking to follow as a "best practice."

Asbury web site informs and entertains - While Pastor John was undergoing his recent medical challenges, daily updates of his progress and challenges flowed in various ways. The church "prayer chain" complimented Gwen's Facebook postings. At the request of others who were not tuned into those sources, the Asbury web site offered a link to his progress as updates became available. This is just one more reason for you to check out our web site at www.myasburyumc.com which includes such first class features as videos of our weekly Sunday service sermons and choir music, a full calendar of church events, news and pictures/videos of church events (such as the cooking demo mentioned elsewhere) and so much more. Visit often and stay connected, updated weekly for your use.



United Methodist Women (UMW)

Camden Neighborhood Center Annual Tea - Tuesday, April 10, 2012, 6:30 (registration); 7:00 – 9:00 PM, St. Paul UMC, 201 Levitt Parkway, Willingboro, NJ 08046

Join our sisters from around the Capital District to hear exciting news from the Center. Enjoy finger sandwiches, dessert and tea. The evening will feature special music by Delores Williams and presentation of 2011 Mission Today Unit and Five Star Unit awards (Asbury's United Methodist Women will be receiving). Ingathering – pencils and notebooks for children in Haiti. If you need a ride or more information contact Mary Soderholm at 856-829-0035 or mmcc115@aol.com

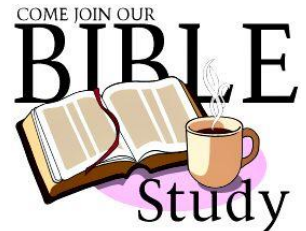


Crochet / Knitting Circle – Do you like to crochet or knit? Would you like to learn? The Asbury UMW ladies are looking to create a new fellowship circle.

Please come to our next UMW meeting on Monday, April 2nd at 7:00 PM to learn more and perhaps a stitch or two. If you are unable to make this meeting, stay tuned for more information.

Bible Study

The beginning of the year started with “Made to Crave” a bible study to guide us to craving God, rather than food. The lessons helped us to understand why we crave, and overcoming them with God’s help. Although the theme was to overcome food craving and addictions we came away with hope to overcome any addiction, not necessarily food.



Our current bible study, “Final Words From the Cross”, has been an in depth study of the final phrases Jesus spoke during his crucifixion. The study has provided each of us an opportunity to think about and discuss the depth of Jesus’ love for us and the world. We are truly blessed with the deeper insights into the words Jesus gave us.

Our next study during Adult Sunday School will begin on April 15, 2012 at 11:30 am in the Church Parlor. We hope you will join us for “Living a Praying Life, Part 2 - Process of Prayer” this four week study by Jennifer Kennedy Dean is a continuation of our fall lesson of part 1 – the purpose of prayer. Part 1 is not a prerequisite for part 2.

In 2011, as a result of a congregational survey, a biblically based time management study was created for Asbury. We will be repeating this study and I invite you to join me for "Biblical Time Management". This four week study will be held on Mondays beginning April 30, 2012 at 6:30 pm. The lesson will be held in the lower level classroom. Anyone interested should contact Pam Gleason at 609.444.8684 or pamcolvell@aol.com.

There are no purchases required for any of these studies and we hope you will consider joining us. We look forward to seeing you.

Morning Praises

Do you like to sing and enjoy fellowship time? Come join "Morning Praises" which meets every other Wednesday at 11:00 AM in the Parlor. We begin with singing your favorite hymns, then a prayer and devotion, yummy refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome.



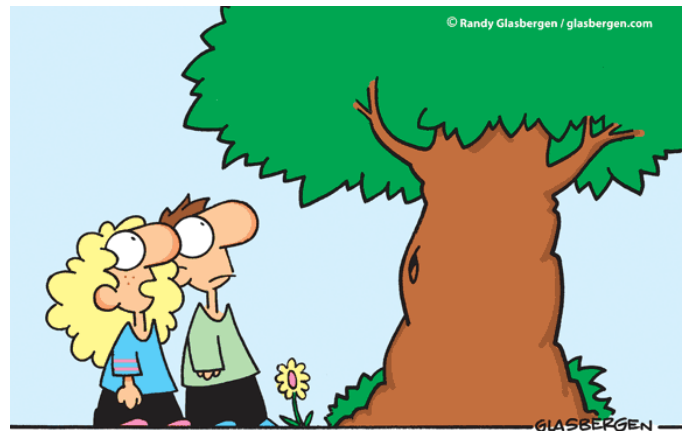
Enter - With peace in my heart, I step forward on my life's journey*

It's been said that every journey begins with a single step. Is there a step I need to take in my life right now? Do I need to move forward in my work? In a relationship? In my spiritual life? If the answer is yes, I take that step now. My step may be opening my heart to new ideas and possibilities, looking at creative avenues of self-expression, or discovering new ways to learn, grow and express myself as a spiritual being.

Life is a journey of small steps. Some require great courage and strength. Some only require the desire to move forward and experience something new. With each step, I enter a new experience, one that is mine alone. I take that step now with faith in God and confidence in myself.

Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut.--Revelation 3:8

*provided by www.dailyword.com 2/1/12



"If leaves can turn orange for Halloween, why can't they turn pink and purple for Easter?"

Our apologies if any of the information in this newsletter is incorrect. Please let Mary Soderholm (856-829-0035) know of any corrections, additions, and/or deletions. Thank you.

The Ambassador is a periodic inspirational and informational publication of
Asbury United Methodist Church.
Coordinator: Mary Soderholm
Production: Tracy Foedisch



Caring Center

Members and friends of our church who especially need to be in our thoughts and prayers are listed below. Please take the time to stop by, send a note or say an extra prayer for our brothers and sisters who are in need at this time.

Jesus said, *“Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”* - Mathew 11:28

Gladys Bennett
1407 Riverton Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Archie Brown
9 Lilac Court
Marlton, NJ 08053

Sam and Jean Chamberlain
Ryan's Run, Apt 701
55 E. Kings Hwy
Maple Shade, NJ 08052

Iretta Clark-Cooker
506 Delanco Road
Beverly, NJ 08010

Anna Dietz
923 Cinnaminson Ave.
Palmyra, NJ 08065

Pastor John Doll
2057 Andover Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Bob Edgin
55 Pageant Lane
Willingboro, NJ 08046

Bunny Flynn
915 Koala Lane
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Joan Hardie
408 Brigham Court
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Betty and Arnold Higdon
193 Tenby Chase Dr
Apt M156
Delran, NJ 08075

Naomi Horn
1316 Garfield Avenue
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Walter Horn
Care One Harmony Village
301 North Stanwick Rd
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Annette Johnson
25 Homestead Road
Levittown, PA 19056

Caroline Orfe
c/o Walter Hoving Home
Box 194
Garrison, NY 10524

Eric Orfe
156 West School House
Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Jane Petrie
800 Read Avenue
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Shirley Reichert
17 Crystal Drive
Edgewater Park, NJ 08010

Ray Reeve
19 Harper Blvd
Delran, NJ 08075

Joan Sobota
2714 Branch Pike
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Elliot Smith
The Masonic Home
Room 237
902 Jacksonville Rd
Burlington, NJ 08016

Ruth Streckenbein
Collingswood Manor
460 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108

Marie Tuono
607 Sweetwater Drive
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Mary Unland
Brandywine Senior Living
Suite 262
1205 Church Street
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Aretta Warren
7 Spring Garden Street
Palmyra, NJ 08065

Nancy Williams
5 Fairview Avenue
Hulmeville, PA 19047

In Christian Sympathy

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you and whispered "Come to Me." With tearful eyes we watched you, and saw you pass away. Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us, he only takes the best.

Alice Wiacek 12/27/11

Beloved mother of sons Charles and Robert Wiacek



John R. Guest 12/29/11

Beloved husband of Ann Guest and father of Kathleen

Bonita May Ford 2/7/12

Beloved daughter of Shirley and Joe Reichert

Assunta Schmitt 1/21/12

Beloved mother and mother-in law of Bill and Marie Schmitt

Grace Fynan 3/16/12

Beloved mother and mother-in-law of Earl and Gail Fynan

Prayer Team

Please consider joining the Asbury Prayer Team. Send Susan Stoneback an email at susan_stoneback@yahoo.com and she will be happy to add you to our prayer team distribution list.



We are 47 strong on email and phone calls are available for those without access to email. (Please leave a message at 856-829-2573 with your name and phone number and we will be happy to add you to the phone list.) **Prayer changes things!**

Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.--Mark 11:24

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Office Hours – Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Sunday Sun Morning Altar Rail Prayer 7:15 AM
 Sunday Sunday School Classes
 1st Monday United Methodist Women 7 PM
 Tuesday Tuesday Prayer/Bible Study 11 AM
 3rd Thursday Service at the Baptist Home 9 AM
 Thursday Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM
 4th Saturday United Methodist Men Breakfast/
 Harvest Diner 8:30 AM
 4th Saturday Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM

Tue 3/27 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Tue 3/27 Consultant Mgmt Team (7:30 PM)
 Wed 3/28 Quiet Communion in the Church
 Chapel (6:00-11:00 AM)
 Wed 3/28 Church Council Meeting (7:00 PM)
 Fri 3/30 Friday Fun Night (7:00 PM)

EASTER WEEK

Sun 4/1 **PALM SUNDAY**
 Sun 4/1 Confirmation Class 6:30-8:30 PM
 Mon 4/2 UMW Meeting (7:00 PM)
 Tue 4/3 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Wed 4/4 Quiet Communion in the Church
 Chapel (6:00-11:00 AM)
 Wed 4/4 Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
 Wed 4/4 Youth Group (4:30-6:30 PM)
 Thu 4/5 *Holy Thursday Communion
 Service (7:30 PM)*
 Fri 4/6 **GOOD FRIDAY**
 Fri 4/6 Men's Breakfast at Bethany Lutheran
 Church, 617 Morgan Ave. Palmyra
 (7:30 AM)
 Fri 4/6 Good Friday-*Devotion of the Three
 Hours (12 Noon – 3:00 PM) Covenant
 Presbyterian Church, 2618 New
 Albany Road, Cinnaminson*
 Fri 4/6 Good Friday – *Prayer Vigil (3:00 PM)
 thru Resurrection Sunday (6:30 AM)*
 Asbury Sanctuary
 Sun 4/8 **RESURRECTION SUNDAY**
 Sun 4/8 Sunrise Service Lakeview
 Cemetery (6:30 AM)
 Sun 4/8 Easter Breakfast at Asbury 7:15 AM
 Sun 4/8 Morning Worship Service 9:15 AM
 Sun 4/8 Easter Egg Hunt (11:30 AM)

Tue 4/10 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Tue 4/10 UMW Capital District, The Camden
 Neighborhood Center Annual Tea,
 7-9:00 PM (6:30 PM registration),
 St Paul UMC, Willingboro

 Sun 4/15 Confirmation Class 6:30-8:30 PM
 Tue 4/17 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Wed 4/18 Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
 Wed 4/18 Youth Group (4:30-6:30 PM)
 Sat 4/21 UMW Hoagie Sale, Pickup (10:30 AM)

 Sun 4/22 Church Meeting and Dinner with
 Consultant Dan Smith (3-6:00 PM)
 Mon 4/23 SPRC Meeting (7:30 PM)
 Tue 4/24 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Fri 4/27 Friday Fun Night (7:00 PM)

 Sun 4/29 Confirmation Class 6:30-8:30 PM
 Mon 4/30 Trustee's Meeting (7:00 PM)
 Tue 5/1 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Wed 5/2 Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
 Wed 5/2 Youth Group (4:30-6:30 PM)

 Tue 5/8 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM

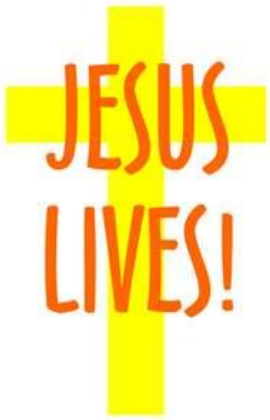
 Sun 5/13 Confirmation Class 6:30-8:30 PM
 Tue 5/15 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Wed 5/16 Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
 Wed 5/16 Youth Group (4:30-6:30 PM)
 Sat 5/19 Consultant Meeting with Planning
 Teams (10:00 AM-2:00 PM)

 Tue 5/22 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Fri 5/25 Friday Fun Night (7:00 PM)

 Sun 5/27 *Confirmation Sunday (9:30 AM)*
 Tue 5/29 Tues Prayer & Bible Study 11 AM
 Wed 5/30 Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
 Wed 5/30 Youth Group (4:30-6:30 PM)

 Tue 6/05 Missions Committee Meeting 7:00 PM
 Fri 6/29 Friday Fun Night (7:00 PM)

Happy Spring!



*Now may the Lord of peace himself
give you peace at all times in all ways.
The Lord be with all of you.
--2 Thessalonians 3:16*



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2492 Andover Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3511
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Lord, we are thankful for...