



The Ambassador

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

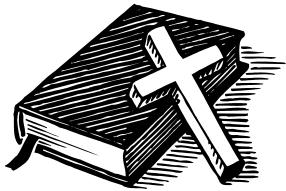
Asbury United Methodist Church
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Phone: (856) 829-3801 / Fax: (856) 829-9060
Website: www.myasburyumc.com
Rev. John W. Doll, Pastor

“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.

Come to Asbury and Share God's Grace



Join us for Sunday Morning Worship
8:00 AM and 9:30 AM Services



A Note from Pastor John

Fall 2013

Dear Members and Friends,

Recently I was touched by the following story. Please read on and be blessed. . . A preacher, Dr. Joe Harding once told about astronaut Alan Shepard who in 1961 became the first American to travel into space. It was Shepard who was asked by reporters what he thought as he sat atop the Redstone rocket, waiting for liftoff. He answered with a quip that has become immortal. He said he thought about the fact that every part of the rocket on which he sat was built by the lowest bidder.

Later he said that on the first space flight – as the Redstone rocket began to gather speed – it began to vibrate more and more. It was as if the whole rocket would come apart. Shepard knew what was happening. He had been a test pilot. He knew that just before you break through the sound barrier the air resistance is tremendous, almost like hitting a wall. When Shepard reached that point in the flight his body was shaking all over. He couldn't read the instruments. He started to report what was happening to mission control, but then he realized that, if he did, "Someone would panic and abort the mission." So he held on. Within 30 seconds all the vibrations were gone, and he knew he was going supersonic. No longer any noise. No longer any sense of motion. He was flying in space.

"When we experience a little turbulence," wrote Dr. Joe Harding, "we are tempted to abort the mission too soon. Hang on. . . you may never walk on the moon, but you will walk more confidently and gladly upon the earth." (Dynamic Preaching, October – December 2013, Vol. 29, #4, p.11)

I share this story to encourage each of us to hold onto God's promises! When you hit turbulence in life, remember "For I the Lord God will hold your right hand, saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'" (Isaiah 41:13). It is in the turbulence of life that God gives breakthrough! God bless you!

In His Amazing Grace,

Pastor John Doll

P.S. Do not miss the series on Grace - More Than We Deserve - Greater Than We Imagine. God will not fail. Here is His plan. Grace!

Congratulations



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

Raina Abigal Blinebury
8lb 9oz and 20 1/2 inches long.

Great granddaughter of Bill and Joan Smith
Granddaughter of Deana Blinebury
Parents are Rosco (Rocky) and Staci Blinebury. Rosco (dad) just reported to Army Base Ft Benning, GA

Early Morning Service

We have resumed our early morning services. If you would like to experience a contemporary (guitar music) service, please join us in Tussey Hall (lower level) on Sundays at 8:00 AM

Do you want to join the church?

If you are interested in becoming a member of Asbury United Methodist Church, please see Pastor John after one of the morning services. Membership is about being a disciple of Jesus Christ and choosing Asbury as your “home base.” Two very important things in life are...

1. To know Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord.
2. To find your special place in the kingdom of God.

If you believe that God is leading you to be part of Jesus’ ministry at Asbury, please see Pastor John.

Adult Sunday School - GRACE

A new series on grace has begun this Fall. Based in part on Max Lucado’s book Grace – More Than We Deserve – Greater Than Can Imagine. Pastor John will be preaching on grace for seven weeks and grace will be the theme of Adult Sunday School. May this series

be a reset button in our lives and an opportunity for each of us to begin again in our relationship with God. Indeed, God’s grace is not just to get us to heaven but to get heaven into us! Church is going to be a very exciting place during this series!

Join us after Sunday services starting at 11:15 AM in the Church Parlor. We are all blessed by God’s GRACE.



*See to it that no one misses the Grace of God.
Hebrews 12:15*

Children’s Sunday School

We kicked off our school year with a delicious breakfast class on Sept. 8. Sunday School class started Sept. 15 for all ages. We will be using our new bibles each student was given last June and learning all about God!



Children’s Bibles

Jesus loves the little children. Our Sunday school children received their very own Bibles in June. The Bibles were blessed along with many blessings bestowed about our children.

We hope the children and their families enjoyed reading their new Bibles over the summer. Children please remember to bring your Bible with you each week for Sunday school. .

Family Fun Nights

Our Family Fun Nights are starting Friday, September 27 at 6:30 pm. We are having a bon fire with s'mores at the Brickley house, 2100 Magnolia Court, Cinnaminson. The kids are really looking forward to it.

Asbury Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival

You will not want to miss this wonderful Church and Community event. There will be pumpkin picking and decorating, refreshments, and a whole lot of fun and different activities. Come and enjoy a wonderful time together at Asbury's 1st Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival on Sunday, October 27th at 2:00 PM

Vacation Bible School

Thank You!

STAND STRONG! A great big THANK YOU to everyone who helped before, during, and after VBS. The Lord greatly blessed and we had an amazing week! There were about 130 children participants and over 50 volunteers - both teens and adults! Everyone worked so hard and the program was a huge success. God was honored and everyone involved learned to STAND STRONG! VBS would not be possible without our amazing volunteers, and the support of the church body. Thank you for your support and especially your prayers! God is good!

~A very special thank you to Rebecca Minnix for doing a fantastic job as our VBS Director!~

Pastor John +

VBS Fun Night Contributors

We would like to acknowledge Wegman's, Shop Rite of Cinnaminson., **Whistler's Inn**, Pepsi Cola and Canada Dry, both of Pennsauken, Frito Lay, and Sam's for their generous contributions of food and drinks for Fun Night. Their combined gifts covered the cost of most of the snacks used. Additionally, Ken and Judith Harris would like to thank all who helped with getting the supplies and serving the snacks.

Pastor John would like to thank Pam Gleason and the many Asbury volunteers who made this the best Fun Night ever!

VBS Science and Craft Area helpers

We would like to thank the dedicated helpers in the Science and Craft Area during Vacation Bible School. We could not have done it without the help of Natalie and Norman Roton EVERY DAY!!!! And others who helped us as their time allowed. The Crew Leaders and Assistant Crew Leaders were fantastic!!! We believe there were many younger students this year and they needed more assistance. We all had a blast each day with the kids as they arrived with eagerness, energy and enthusiasm to learn about God and His plans for our lives.

Each year the generosity of these very young children continues to amaze us . . . how happy they are when they begin to fill the wheelbarrow of "breakfast and lunch" donations for the local food bank or when they help Mr. Bill build our annual Tower of Cereal Boxes for the "hungry children who might be our neighbors," as one little boy told us this year as he brought in three boxes of Wheaties. Additionally, these children know about the "Stamp out Malaria" program and willingly brought in their money to purchase mosquito

nets. Not to be forgotten is the KID TO KID project. This year, the students made "friendship notes" to include with Christian pamphlets to be mailed to youngsters in India.

We heard nothing but good things about the Vacation Bible School program this summer and the excellent Family Fun Night for the community! Thank you again from Bill Child and Joan Leswing

United Methodist Men

"What are you waiting for...?" - Three men of Asbury returned from the 11th National Gathering of United Methodist Men in Nashville, TN in July, refreshed in their faith with the support of almost 1,000 men sharing their Christian testimony. Pastor John, his son Robert and UMM President, Jim Gleason enjoyed this very special time of prayer and praise that occurs every four years. Based on the story of Paul's conversion, Jim shared the experience back on July 21st with the challenge of action in his Sunday "whisper sermon" titled: "What are you waiting for...?". You can still hear that message, with supporting photo images from the event, in the Asbury web site archive for July 21st.

Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. GOD IS AWAKE. - Victor Hugo, French Poet.

Church Yard Sale

The annual church yard sale will be held Saturday, Sept 28th at 8 AM – 1 PM right here at Asbury United Methodist Church. Come out to sell your treasures and find new ones.

Sellers wanted: space with your own table: \$15; space with church supplied table: \$25 (limited tables available). If you would like to

reserve a spot, leave message with name and phone number c/o Jim Gleason, (609) 877-4493 or e-mail: GleasonJim@aol.com

Donations of items to be sold on the "church tables" are always appreciated. They can be dropped off any time after 7am on the day of the yard sale (special arrangements can be made for Friday evening drop off by calling Jim Gleason at (609)877-4493.

MyAsburyUMC.com Website

"WOW!" 22,000+ Asbury "virtual visitors", every week our Sunday services are posted on MYAsburyUMC.com. We currently have over 900 videos. John Doll's sermons and the choir singing here in little Cinnaminson, NJ are being watched from countries all over the world, 24 different ones as seen in the YouTube analytics report shown below covering only some recent months - U.S. the most, naturally, but from Hong Kong to Brazil and Australia and India and Ireland and Iraq and... well you can see the list for yourself:

United States 1702	Brazil 8
United Kingdom 115	Netherlands 7
Canada 64	Spain 6
Australia 28	Thailand 6
India 23	Germany 6
Philippines 13	South Africa 6
Japan 12	Ireland 5
Singapore 12	Italy 5
Malaysian 11	France 5
Mexico 10	Iraq 4
Taiwan 9	Hong Kong 4
New Zealand 9	South Korea 4

Through this technology outreach, worldwide we have attracted more than 22,000 viewers, over 3,000 just this summer alone! They came to see "what's happening at Asbury" and listen to your singing. Are you away some Sundays? No problem, stop by the web site and join us "virtually."

Asbury “bright spots”

Visit and “like” our Asbury Facebook page easily found from our web site at <http://MyAsburyUMC.com>

Check out the growing list of Asbury “bright spots” and feel free to post your own comments, adding a personal touch to the message.

Praising our Creator for the Beauty of His Works

A God moment shared by Sharon Grubb. I was recently on a cruise to the Bahamas. I spent most of our sailing days outside on the different decks of the ship. While the people whom I met were friendly, the food was amazing, the water was such a beautiful blue, and being on the ocean was so majestic.....I just could not stop praising our Creator for the beauty of His works. It was my first cruise and the awesome wonder of the sea increased my love for and joy in my Lord. There are innumerable ways to be reminded of how great our God is. We need to recognize them and praise Him unceasingly.

Asbury Choir

The Asbury Choir meets Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. We are always pleased to welcome new members. If you would like to come and join us for a few rehearsals to see if it is something you would enjoy, we would be happy to see you! Our rehearsal lasts about 1 hour and we practice briefly prior to the Sunday Service. It would be great to see your “smiling face” and hear your lovely voice!



Morning Praises

Morning Praises meets every other Wednesday at 11:00 AM in the Church Parlor. We have a wonderful groupcome when you can. Singing begins with your favorite songs (you don't have to be a professional to sing, you just need to enjoy the singing). A prayer and devotional is included and we sit around a table of goodies, eat and enjoy each other's company. It would be wonderful if you could come and join us for the Fellowship! Everyone is welcome, bring a friend.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord ... to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.—Psalm 92:1-3

Parsonage Update

On July 1st, a meeting was held concerning the parsonage to look at design options presented by architect David Donachy and his associate Chris. Among several options, one of the design plans was liked which includes a downstairs bedroom, family room, and bathroom as well as some improvements to the existing kitchen. These plans as well as other options will be discussed at upcoming Church Council Meetings. The conceptual drawings are available to be viewed by anyone interested. Copies are available in the Pastor's office or by contacting Parsonage Committee Chairperson JC Hoffmeier (856. 786.1219).

Sow Seeds of Honesty

A successful businessman was growing old and knew it was time to choose a successor to take over the business. Instead of choosing one of his Directors or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young executives in his company together.

He said, "It is time for me to step down and choose the next CEO. I have decided to choose one of you. "The young executives were shocked, but the boss continued." I am going to give each one of you a SEED today - one very special SEED. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next CEO."

One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly, told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Every day, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other executives began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow.

Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure. Six months went by—still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues; however, he just kept watering and fertilizing the soil. He so wanted the seed to grow.

A year finally went by and all the young executives of the company brought their plants to the CEO for inspection. Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room.

When Jim arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other executives. They were beautiful - in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him!

When the CEO arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young executives. Jim just tried to hide in the back. "My, what great plants, trees and flowers you have grown," said the CEO. "Today one of you will be appointed the next CEO!"

All of a sudden, the CEO spotted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered the Financial Director to bring him to the front. Jim was terrified. He thought, "The CEO knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me fired!" When Jim got to the front, the CEO asked him what had happened to his seed, Jim told him the story.

The CEO asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young executives, "Behold your next Chief Executive Officer! His name is "Jim!" Jim couldn't believe it. He couldn't even grow his seed. "How could he be the new CEO?" the others said.

Then the CEO said, "One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead - it was not possible for them to grow.

All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he

is the one who will be the new Chief Executive Officer!"

*If you plant honesty, you will reap trust.
If you plant goodness, you will reap friends.
If you plant humility, you will reap greatness.
If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment.
If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective.
If you plant hard work, you will reap success.
If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation.*

Be careful what you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later.



Serenity Prayer – a different version
God grant me the serenity to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the people I do, and the eye sight to tell the difference.

Veterans

Asbury is proud to honor its Veterans by sharing their amazing stories on our website. If you are a Veteran, a widow or widower of a Veteran of Asbury we would like to hear your story and see a photo. Please contact Pam Gleason at 609-877-4493 or



email pamcolvell@aol.com with your information so we can add you to our growing list of proud veterans. Thank you for your service!

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple, gift filled shoe boxes and evangelistic material that tell the Good News of God's love. Boxes and instructional brochures are available in the education wing hallway. Some ideas to include in your box are toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, flashlight/batteries, pencils/crayons, stickers, small toys and other gifts. So start filling your boxes now.



Tech Support

This makes everyone feel better about their computer skills!

Tech Support: *What kind of computer do you have?*

Customer: *A white one.*

Customer: *Hi, this is Celine. I can't get my DVD out !!!*

Tech Support: *Have you tried pushing the button?*

Customer: *Yes, I'm sure it's really stuck.*

Tech Support: *That doesn't sound good; I'll make a note.*

Customer: *No, wait a minute, I hadn't inserted it yet. It's still on my desk . . . sorry. Thank you.*

In Christian Sympathy

May the souls of the faithful departed in Christ rest in peace and may light perpetually shine on them. We place our loved ones in the arms of Jesus and we celebrate fond memories of their lives.



Robert Jacob Edgin 7/26/13
Father of Karen, Birtcher, Elaine Walton, Lori
Bracy and Robert E. Edgin
Grandfather of Jordan and Laura Bracy,
Missionaries in Madagascar

Jane Petrie 7/29/13
Mother of Jim Petire, Nancy Horrisberger, and
Sally Dennehy. Sister of Gladys Bennett
Godmother of Patricia Obuchowski.
Grandmother, great grandmother, and a very,
very longtime faithful member.

Annette Johnson 8/7/13
Great Great Aunt of the Doll Family

Serenity (taken from www.dailyword.com 8/19/13)

Nothing can disturb the calm peace of my soul. Like the eye of a storm, the center of my being is a place of peace and quiet. I turn to this inner sanctuary any time I need to go apart from the world. In this sacred space, nothing can disturb the calm peace of my soul.

In moments of prayer and meditation, I focus on the light within me. By gently turning within, I can achieve serenity anywhere, at any time. I am filled with the love of God. I feel the strength, wisdom, and light of God enfold me and prepare me for what's ahead.

I center myself with a simple inhale and exhale, and I rest in the awareness that God and I are one. God is my assurance that all is well. I am at peace.

Live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.—2 Corinthians 13:11

Our apologies if any of the information in this newsletter is incorrect. Please inform Mary Soderholm (856-829-0035) 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

Contributors: Asbury Congregation

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

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

Iretta Clark-Cooker
506 Delanco Road
Beverly, NJ 08010

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915 Koala Lane
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248 Hooker Avenue
Riverside, NJ 08075

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Robertus van de Beek
5 Fairview Avenue
Hulmeville, PA 19047

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sunday	Sunday Morning Altar Rail Prayer (7:15 AM)
Sunday	Sunday Early Morning Worship Service (8:00 AM)
Sunday	Sunday Morning Worship Service (9:30 AM)
Sunday	Sunday School Classes for Children 4 years old through 4 th grade (during the 9:30 Service)
Sunday	Adult Sunday School Classes (11:15 AM)
Tuesday	Tuesday Prayer & Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Wednesday	Every other Wednesday, Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
Wednesday	Every other Wednesday, Men's Fellowship Luncheon Dredge Harbor, Riverside (12 noon)
3 rd Thursday	Service at the Baptist Home (9:00 AM)
Thursday	Choir Rehearsal (7:00 PM)
4 th Saturday	United Methodist Men Breakfast, Rt. 130 Diner, Delran (8:30 AM)
4 th Saturday	Men's Bible Study (10:00 – 11:00 AM)

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sunday	9/29	Reception of New Members (9:30 AM)
Monday	9/30	Trustee's Meeting (7:00 PM)
Tuesday	10/01	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Tuesday	10/01	Mission Committee Meeting (7:00 PM)
Wednesday	10/02	Men's Fellowship Luncheon at Dredge Harbor, Riverside (12 noon)
Wednesday	10/02	Balcony Team Meeting (7:30 PM)
Monday	10/07	Pumpkin Patch & Fall Festival Planning Meeting (7:00 PM)
Tuesday	10/08	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Tuesday	10/08	Additional Worship Service Meeting (7:00 PM)
Wednesday	10/09	Morning Praises (11:00 AM)
Tuesday	10/15	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Tuesday	10/15	Bishop's Day on the District at Church of the Good Shepherd Willingboro, NJ (7:00 PM)
Wednesday	10/16	Men's Fellowship Luncheon at Dredge Harbor, Riverside (12 noon)
Wednesday	10/16	Youth Group (4:30 PM)
Tuesday	10/22	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Tuesday	10/22	Finance Committee Meeting (7:00 PM)
Saturday	10/26	United Methodist Men's Breakfast at Rt. 130 Diner, Delran (8:30 AM)
Sunday	10/27	Asbury Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival (2:00 PM)
Tuesday	10/29	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)
Wednesday	10/30	Men's Fellowship Luncheon at Dredge Harbor, Riverside (12 noon)
Wednesday	10/30	Church Council (7:00 PM)
Saturday	11/02	Special Session of the Greater NJ Annual Conference, Ocean Grove (9:00 AM)
Monday	11/04	Daylight Savings Time "Fall Behind"
Sunday	11/10	District Superintendent meets with SPRC (12:00 noon)
Sunday	11/10	Church Conference (12:45 PM)
Wednesday	11/13	Men's Fellowship Luncheon at Dredge Harbor, Riverside (12 noon)
Tuesday	11/26	Triboro Thanksgiving Service at Epworth UMC, 5th and Morgan Ave, Palmyra (7:00 PM)
Wednesday	11/27	Men's Fellowship Luncheon at Dredge Harbor, Riverside (12 noon)

Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival



Save the Date
Sunday October 27th 2:00 PM.

Join us for pumpkin carving,
pumpkin decorating, food,
fun and fellowship.

Free for everyone

Asbury United Methodist Church
2492 Andover Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3511
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Lord, we are thankful for...