

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	4/13	Palm Sunday Services at 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM
		Adult Sunday School 11:15 AM
Wednesday	4/16	Quiet Communion in the Church Chapel 6:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Thursday	4/17	Holy Thursday Communion Service 7:30 PM
Friday	4/18	 Good Friday - Could you not watch with me one hour? Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM at Bethany Lutheran Church, 617 Morgan Avenue, Palmyra Devotion of the Three Hours – 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM at Asbury Prayer Vigil 3:00 PM Friday through Resurrection Sunday 6:30 AM in the Asbury Sanctuary
Sunday	4/20	 Resurrection Sunday Sonrise Service at Lakeview Cemetery 6:30 AM Early Communion Service in Fellowship Hall 8:00 AM. There will be a light "Continental Breakfast" offered before the Service Morning Worship Service 9:30 AM Chapel Time & Easter Egg Hunt 11:30 AM Sunday Worship 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM Church Telephone: (856) 829-3801 Fax: (856) 829-9060 Website: www.myasburyumc.com



Dear Members and Friends,

In this holy season of Lent and the passion of our Lord, the following true story speaks to my heart. May it speak to yours as well . . .

On January 13, 1982, an airliner crashed into the icy waters of the Potomac River near Washington D.C. Seventy-nine people were aboard the ill-fated craft, and of that number, only five survived. Each of those survivors had something in common: they owed their life to another passenger, a 46-year old bank examiner named Arland D. Williams Jr. Workers on the rescue helicopter sent to the crash reported that Williams was one of only a half dozen survivors clinging to twisted wreckage bobbing in the icy Potomac when they arrived. Life vests were dropped, then a flotation ball. Williams repeatedly spurned the safety line and passed it on to the five others floating in the bitterly cold water. One by one they were taken away to safety. By the time the helicopter crew could return for Williams, however, both he and the plane's tail section had disappeared beneath the icy surface. He had been in the water for twenty-nine minutes with five opportunities to be saved, but each time he deferred to another. His body was later recovered. According to the coroner, Williams was the only passenger to die by drowning, the rest died on impact. He did not so much lose his life as he gave it. When the helicopter pilot was interviewed later he described Williams as a brave and good man. "Imagine," said the rescue pilot, "he had just survived that horrible plane crash. The river was ice cold and each minute brought him closer to death. He could have gone on the first trip but he put everyone else ahead of himself." The man was truly a hero. Later, the bridge the plane hit on its way into the icy water was renamed. Today it is the "Arland D. Williams Jr. Memorial Bridge. *

The story on the Good Friday Cross is even more profound. "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13). Jesus' courage, commitment, and absolute compassion are shown on the cross on which he died. A Protestant theologian one time said that he envied the Roman Catholic priest with his crucifix (with Jesus hanging on the Cross). He stated that "I would like to go into every church in the land, and holding up the crucifix, cry to the congregation, 'God loves like this." **

May each of us live in the love given to us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

In His Amazing Grace, Pastor John Doll

^{***} Both of these stores were taken from Dynamic Preaching, issues April - June, 2014, and January – March 2012.



Asbury Egg Program – There's still time! Our goal this year is to make 60,000 chocolate covered peanut butter and coconut, prayer blessed eggs. Please serve in any small or big way you can and join in the fellowship.

Day Shift – dippers, wrappers, and packagers. Night shift – mixers, scoopers and rollers. Other times – setup, clean-up, orders, deliveries, paper cutters, box makers, sellers, and of course prayers.

A portion of the money raised goes towards missions and the mortgage. This is one way to spread God's word and help others in need. Thank you.

Free Community Dinner - All are Welcome -

A "Free Church and Community Spaghetti Dinner" is scheduled for Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 5-7 PM in Tussey Hall. This is an Open Invitation. Please feel free to invite your neighbors, friends and family. If you know of any shut-ins that need a dinner let us know. Volunteers are needed in the dining and kitchen area. Please contact Art Elly at grillsgt21@gmail.com for more information.



Family Fun Nights – Volunteers and participants needed. The last Friday of the

month our families (young and old) join together for an evening of fun activity and snacks. See hallway bulletin board for upcoming dates and volunteer opportunities. January had us making Valentine's, playing floor races and a football toss. February was pizza and roller skating.



The Easter Story - Resurrection Eggs are a wonderful tool to teach the Easter story. Grab an egg cartoon, a dozen plastic colored eggs, your Bible and family or friends. Or if you don't want to use plastic eggs than grab paper and crayons and let the coloring begin. Remember to open the Bible and read the scriptures together. Here is what you can place in each egg as you read the bible passages:

1. <u>A small branch or leaf</u>. Mark11:8-10 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread *branches* they had cut in the field. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

2. <u>A dime</u>. Matthew 26:15-15 Then one of the twelve, the one called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty *silver coins*.

3. <u>A small bite size saltine or matzo</u>. Matthew 26:17-19 On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened *bread*, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, The Teacher says, my appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house." So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

4. <u>A small piece of wash cloth</u>. John 13:4-5 So he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a *towel* around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

5. <u>A small plastic communion cup or form</u> <u>small cups from play dough</u>. Matthew 26:39 and he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying "O my Father, if it be possible, let this *cup* pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

6. <u>A small strip of leather like they used to</u> <u>make bracelets</u>. Matthew 27:2, 26 They *bound* him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate, the governor (26) then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus *flogged*, and handed him over to be crucified.

7. <u>A small thorn or piece of a small rose</u> <u>bush stem</u>. Matthew 27:9 and then twisted together a *crown of thorns* and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, King of the Jews" they said.

8. <u>Hot glue two small twigs together to</u> <u>make a cross that will fit into the egg</u>. John 17:18-19 Carrying his own *cross*, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him, and with him two others, one on each side of Jesus.

9. <u>Dice</u>. Matthew 27:35 When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by *casting* lots.

10. <u>A small piece linen cloth or gauze.</u> Matthew 27:59 Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen *cloth*, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.

11. <u>A stone</u>. Matthew 27:66 So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the *stone* and posting the guard.

12. <u>Leave this egg empty</u>. Matthew 28:5-6 The angel said to the women, "do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."

www.creativebiblestudy.com/resurrection-eggs.html



Bible Study – There are many opportunities at Asbury to pray and learn about Jesus through Bible study. Our men meet the 2nd Saturday at 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Our children, 4 years old through 4th grade, meet during Sunday service (after the children's message). Adults meet Tuesday mornings at 11 AM and Sunday mornings at 11:15 AM in the Church Parlor. The youth meet Wednesday at 4:30 PM (see bulletin for specific Wednesdays). Join us when you can to connect with God's word.

If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it. – William Arthur Ward

Lending Library – Do you like to curl up with a good book? Did you know Asbury has a lending library in the secretarial desk located in the Church Parlor? Please feel free to borrow and share a Christian book. If you have a favorite and would like to share with us in the next Ambassador newsletter kindly let us know.



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

The pantry is located at Epworth Methodist Church, 5th Street and Morgan Avenue 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.

Do a little more each day than you think you possible can. – Lowell Thomas



Shop-Rite Gift Cards – Please continue to support Abba, (a Palmyra based group that helps pregnant women and their infants) by purchasing Shop-Rite gift cards. These are dollar for dollar cards and can be purchased from Don Ochs before or after Sunday services.



Asbury United Methodist Men "serves" - In February, Asbury UMM continued their tradition of offering a "Winter break" with their 5th annual "Men's cooking demo" delighting and serving 78 guests with a variety of home cooked dishes. The Fellowship hall was filled with cooking aromas and laughter as each man and boy entertained while showing how to create some tasty food, both hot and cold. After almost a dozen demonstrations, guests lined up, filling plates with colorful and tasty samples of each.

An added dimension this year was both a UMM donation and a collection of monetary support for Chef Louis Wilson's ministry with the Neighborhood Kitchen in Camden, resulting in \$300 to help feed his guests there. A special thanks for all who came out to make this event another fun time together. Videos of the entire event can be seen on the Asbury church web site. **Put God First** - The key to freedom is to put God first. (www.dailyword.com 9/30/13)

Daily life may appear confining at times. I might feel boxed in by deadlines, burdened by health concerns, or weary of relationship issues. Realizing I have a choice, I seek a path to freedom. In *The Golden Key*, Emmet Fox noted that the key to restoring peace and harmony is to "stop thinking about the difficulty, whatever it is, and think about God instead." With this in mind, I turn my thoughts away from my concerns and affirm the truth that God is all there is.

If worrisome thoughts resurface, I replace them with powerful affirmations of God's loving presence. I regain my freedom by centering my thoughts on God. As I do, my mind quiets, my body relaxes, and I am free.

Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me in a broad place.—Psalm 118:5

Koinonia (fellowship time) - Thank you to everyone who has helped with Koinonia over the past year. A special thank you to Barry Davies for helping Judy Taylor clean-up after the 8am church service and to get ready for the 9:30 service. Big thanks to Betti and Ed Scharr for all the continued help they provide every week. Thanks also to Judy Taylor for all her coordination in making Koinonia happen. Signup sheets are available on the hallway bulletin board.

MyAsburyUMC.Com milestones - The weekly posting of our recorded Sunday services has now passed the 1,000 videos mark, with 30,000 viewer visits as tracked by YouTube analytics. Serving as a connection with our away from home Asbury "snow birds" Wintering in Florida as well as home bound church goers both locally and around the world, each week's sermon, choir music, musical interludes, children's message and congregational singing is posted on the church web site by Sunday afternoon and archived for easy re-visiting, as well as searchable on YouTube. Our growing church has a wide Internet presence, blessing many far and wide.

Asbury South - Here are some of our "snow birds" who enjoy visiting myasbury.com. They send their thoughts, prayers and a warm hello.



The World Needs Friendly Folks Like You In this troubled world Its' refreshing to find Someone who still has the time to be kind, Someone who still has the faith to believe That the more you give the more you receive, Someone who's ready by thought, word or deed To reach out a hand in the hour of need. (Author unknown) Parsonage Update - The Parsonage Committee continues to meet and to seek

God's direction. At this point, the following can be reported:

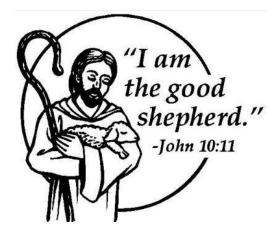
- 1. The location of the parsonage property is highly desirable.
- 2. The present parsonage contains many problems, including extensive mold, which make improvements difficult to consider.
- 3. Razing the existing structure and replacing it with a modular unit is being given serious consideration.
- 4. After meeting with the Capital District Board of Church and Building Location on Sunday, March 9, the modular option was affirmed as a good possibility. In addition, from this meeting and its follow-up, the following options need to be explored:
 - a. Consulting multiple modular manufacturers, builders, and designs.
 - b. Razing the existing structure and replacing it with an on-site built home.
 - c. Finally, we must remain open to any other opportunities that may present themselves as part of God's plan.
- Concerning the process involved, this committee will make recommendations to the Church Council. This will be followed by a Church Conference (a congregational meeting in which each member has a vote). Following this vote, the Church will then present its plan to the Capital District Board of Church and Building Location for its final approval.

Every step in this process is open to the input of the Congregation. Please be in prayer as we seek God's direction for a parsonage that brings glory and blessing in the Kingdom of God and provides a home for the pastoral family and those who will follow in the many years to come.



A Child's Interpretation - A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?" A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy. "Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked. "You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... "

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."



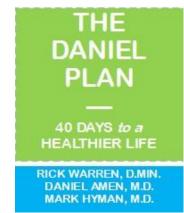
Go Green – Our Ambassador newsletter is available electronically and in color on our website. We would like to know how many would be interested in receiving the Ambassador as a pdf file via your personal email address (instead of a mailed, paper copy). Email Mary Soderholm at <u>mmcc115@aol.com</u> if you are interested or have any questions. If you do not want it electronically don't worry we will continue to mail you a paper copy. Just let us know.



Pray for Others – I pray knowing we are one with God. Before healing someone, Jesus asked if they wanted to be healed. When praying for others, I bear in mind that I may not know what is best for them. Each soul has its own divine purpose. Rather than seeking a specific outcome, I pray for their steadfast faith, strength, and inner peace. When I pray for others. no matter how dire their circumstances may appear, I see beyond appearances and behold the Truth. I affirm they are one with the presence and power of God. I see them enfolded in love. I declare their increasing awareness of the Christ within. I see them filled with spiritual strength and fortitude, and I trust in the enfoldment of their highest good. (www.dailyword.com)

I pray that ... he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his spirit. – Ephesians 3:16 **Upcoming Group Study** - Join us for The Daniel Plan a groundbreaking solution to an overall healthy lifestyle.

The Daniel Plan is a program where people get better together. God gives us the power to enable us to strengthen our life including our health. With love as the motivation, it's a



story of abundance, not deprivation, relying on God's power and the support and encouragement of friends to succeed.

It is not about the mirror – but about the One we mirror. A group study that is more than food and fitness – it adds faith, friends, and focus. Get ready to be transformed from the inside out. For more details please contact Pam at 609-444-8685.

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 - When we are weary in life's struggles, find strength in the Lord.

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

Iretta Clark-Cooker 506 Delanco Road Beverly, NJ 08010

Bunny Flynn 915 Koala Lane Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Ted Hansen 248 Hooker Avenue Riverside, NJ 08075

Joan Hardie 408 Brigham Court Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Rich Hatley 317 Moonseed Place Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Gert Stoneback 2409 Branch Pike Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 Naomi Horn 1316 Garfield Avenue Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Marion Lippincott 8306 Stow Road Delair, NJ 08110

Ryan Morton 712 Baylor Avenue Delran, NJ 08075

Elsie Reed Riverview Estates 303 Bank Ave. Riverton, NJ 08077-3544

Joan Sobota 2714 Branch Pike Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Doris Leonard 1600 Westbrook Ave. Apt. 626 Richmond, VA 23227 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

Helen van Ness 5Q5 275 Green Street Beverly, NJ 08010



Asbury Lenten Prayer Vigil

Good Friday, April 18, 2014 3:00 PM through Resurrection Sunday, April 20, 2014 6:00 AM

Jesus, the Son of God, lived a sinless life, died on the cross to pay for our sins. Jesus rose from the dead and He lives in heaven with God His Father. He offers us the gift of eternal life, living forever with Him if we accept Him as our Lord and Savior.

The celebration of Easter recalls the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ giving us eternal life and hope for the world. Remembering His gift to us through His sacrifice is cause for prayers of thanksgiving and hope.

Ask Jesus Christ to forgive your sins and come into your life as your Lord and Savior. Give thanks to God for giving us his one and only begotten son. Consider being a part of our prayer vigil to renew your spirit and commit your life once again to Jesus.

Sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the education building hallway.

If you have a specific prayer request for the vigil complete the bottom portion and leave in church office or mail to Asbury church office.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 2492 Andover Road, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 ATTN: PRAYER VIGIL

Name – prayer request (i.e. healing, encouragement, support)

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

May your Easter season be renewed in faith, spirit, grace, by the Lamb of God.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Sunday
Sunday
SundaySunday School Classes for children
4 years old through 4th grade
(during 9:30 service)
SundayAdult Sunday School Classes (11:15 AM)
Tuesday
Alternate WednesdaysMorning Praises (11:00AM)
Alternate WednesdaysMen's Fellowship Luncheon at
the Nook, River Rd., Cinnaminson (12 noon)
3rd ThursdayService at the Baptist Home (9:00 AM)
ThursdayChoir Rehearsal (7:00 PM)
2 nd Saturday
Fellowship Hall (8:30 AM)
4 th SaturdayUnited Methodist Men's Breakfast-
Jersey Diner, Rt. 130, Cinnaminson (8:30 AM)

This Week

Tue	4/01	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)		
Tue	4/01	Parsonage Committee (7:30 AM)		
Wed	4/02	Quiet Communion in the Church Chapel (6:00-11:00 AM)		
Wed	4/02	Morning Praises (11:00 AM)		
Wed	4/02	Men's Fellowship Luncheon, the Nook (12		
noon)				

Tue	4/08	Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)		
Wed	4/09	Quiet Communion in the Church Chapel (6:00-11:00 AM)		
Sat	4/12	United Methodist Men's Bible Study(8:30 AM)		
Sat	4/12	Free Church & Community Spaghetti Dinner (5-7:00 PM)		

		<u>Holy Week</u>		
Sun	4/13	Palm Sunday		
		Worship 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM		

- Tue 4/14 Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM)
- Wed 4/16 Quiet Communion in the Church Chapel (6:00-11:00 AM)

4/16 Morning Praises (11:00 AM) Wed 4/17 Holy Thursday Communion Service (7:30 PM) Thu 4/18 Good Friday Men's Breakfast at Bethany Fri Lutheran Church, Broad & Morgan Ave., Palmyra (7:30 AM) 4/18 Good Friday Service-Devotion of the Three Fri Hours Fri 4/18 Good Friday Prayer Vigil through Resurrection Sundav Sun 4/20 Resurrection Day Worship 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM Light continental breakfast offered before 8:00 AM service. Fellowship time after the 9:30 AM service. Sun 4/20 Easter Egg Hunt (11:30 AM) ******** Tue 4/22 Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM) Sat 4/26 United Methodist Men's Breakfast, Jersey Diner(8:30AM) Mon 4/28 Trustee's Meeting (7:00 PM) Tue 4/29 Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM) Wed 4/30 Morning Praises (11:00 AM) Wed 4/30 Church Council Meeting (7:00 PM) May Sat 5/10 United Methodist Men's Bible Study (8:30 AM) 5/13 Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM) Tue 5/13 Additional Worship Service Meeting (7:30 Tue PM) 5/14 Morning Praises (11:00 AM) Wed 5/20 Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM) Tue 5/24 United Methodist Men's Breakfast, Jersey Sat Diner(8:30AM) Tue 5/27 Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study (11:00 AM) 5/28 Morning Praises (11:00 AM) Wed Summertime 6/22 Robert Edwin quest soloist (9:30 AM) Sun

- Mon 6/23 Trustee's Meeting (7:00 PM)
- Mon 8/18 Vacation Bible School (through Friday 8/22)



Why does God love people? God loves us because that's what He decided to do. God doesn't love us because we're good or nice people. In fact, no one could ever be good enough to be worthy of His love. Isn't it amazing that God loves us even though we sometimes ignore Him and disobey Him? (FocusOnTheFamily.com)

Jesus gave His life for us. He wants us to "JUST COME HOME". Your Christian family is waiting, join us at Asbury United Methodist Church.



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Lord, we are thankful for...