



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.

## Christmas & New Year Worship Services



Sunday	December 18	Christmas Caroling 5:30 PM (meet at Asbury)
Saturday	December 24	Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services 7:00 PM and 11:00 PM (Holy Communion)
Sunday	December 25	Christmas Morning Worship Service 9:30 AM Fellowship time following the Church service
Sunday	January 1	New Year's Day Worship Service 9:30 AM Holiday Hymn Sing Blessing of the Gifts Special holiday fellowship following the Church service



Sunday Worship 9:30 AM  
Church Telephone:  
(856) 829-3801  
Fax: (856) 829-9060  
Website:  
[www.myasburyumc.com](http://www.myasburyumc.com)



## 200 Years of Faith & Fellowship



## A Note from Pastor John

Dear members and friends,

As I write to you in this Holy season, may each of us experience the richest blessings of Christmas . . . especially as we seek to be a part of the greatest story ever told. One of the ways that the gift of Jesus is expressed is through the giving of gifts to others. Here is a story that I believe reflects the generosity and blessing of the Christmas season. Read on . . .

*Marty was a bright, lively eight year old who suffered from a minor disability – he was deaf in one ear. He lived in a rural community of farms and fences. Marty’s mom, Diane, was proud of her son. She knew he had a kind and loving heart.*

*Several weeks before Christmas one year, Marty shared a secret with his mother. He had been doing extra chores and saving up his allowance in order to buy a Christmas present, a pocket compass for his best friend, Kenny. Kenny was being raised by a single mom and life for their family was a daily struggle just to acquire the most daily needs of food and clothing. Diane knew that Kenny’s mom was a very proud woman. Diane doubted that Kenny’s mom would allow Kenny to accept a gift if he couldn’t give one in return. Marty argued with his mother and finally said, “But what if it is a secret? What if they never found out who gave it?” Diane finally relented. If somehow, Marty could give Kenny the gift without anyone knowing who gave it, that would be acceptable. So, on Christmas Eve Diane watched her son walk out the door, cross the wet pasture and slip beneath the electric fence on his mission of kindness. Marty raced up to Kenny’s door and pressed the doorbell. Then he ran down the steps and across the yard so he wouldn’t be seen. Suddenly, the electric fence loomed in front of him. He could not avoid it. The shock knocked him to the ground and he gasped for breath. Slowly, he got up and stumbled home. When he arrived home Diane treated the blister on Marty’s face caused by the electric fence, then put him to bed. That night as Diane tucked Marty in, she silently complained to God for allowing her son to be hurt when he was performing a good deed. The next day, however, Kenny came to the front door excitedly talking about his new compass. Amazingly, Marty -- who you’ll remember was deaf in one ear – seemed to hear Kenny talking – with both of his ears.*

*A few weeks later, a school nurse confirmed what Diane suspected: Marty’s hearing in his deaf ear had been completely restored. Though doctors said it might have been the shock of the electric fence, Diane believed it was a Christmas miracle. -Dynamic Preaching Oct/Nov/Dec. 2011, from Norman Vincent Peale – author unknown*

Christmas is a time for miracles. May each of us open our hearts to receive the miracle of Jesus’ birth and may we know the blessing of being generous with others for whom the Savior is born.

On behalf of myself and my family, have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

In His Amazing Grace,

## New members

We welcome with Christian love and fellowship the following new members of Asbury:

Bill Schafer  
Vickie Schafer  
Chris Massi  
Sandra Lynch  
Lee Napier  
Scott Lunn

# Welcome

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

## Confirmation Class Forming

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Asbury's Confirmation Class will take place on Sunday Evening December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. If you have any questions regarding age or anything else about the upcoming class please contact Pastor John.

## Congratulations



We welcome the marriage of Christopher Massi to Sandra Lynch on October 29, 2011. May Jesus be a guiding light in their life together as husband and wife.

## 2012 Church Giving Envelopes

Envelopes for the New Year are being prepared. If you now receive envelopes and wish to stop, please notify Diane McGough by December 11th. If you currently do not have envelopes but would like to start them in the New Year, please notify Diane by December 11th. Thank you.

## 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Charge

At our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, Rev. Varlyna Wright, Capital District Superintendent, gave the following charge:

*"Continue to gather, continue to love even when it is difficult, and continue to open yourselves up to the spirit of God."  
- Rev. Varlyna Wright,*

May these words of wisdom help us to continue our "Faith and Fellowship" until Jesus returns.

## Adult Sunday Lesson (11:15 am in the Parlor)

The adult Sunday school has had an exciting fall with lesson topics on stress, depression, anxiety, and prayer. We invite you to join us for upcoming lessons and discussion.

### *Advent*

"Understanding the People, Places, and Prophecy of Christ's Birth"  
November 27 – December 4, 11, 18

### *A Fresh Start for the New Year*

"Made to Crave – Satisfying Your Deepest Desire with God, Not Food"  
Starting January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012

## Asbury Strategic Planning

Church consultant Dan Smith will be with us on December 2, 3, and 4<sup>th</sup>. His mission on this weekend is to sit down with us in small groups and to help us see a picture of where we are and the Spirit of the Lord's direction for our Church's future. Times are still available and your voice is very important. Please call the Church office (856.829.3801) immediately if you are not signed up to be in a small group.

## Mission News



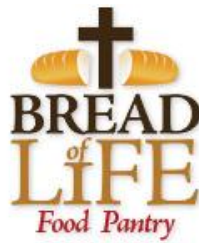
### Operation Christmas Child

Asbury sent 236 boxes on their way to parts unknown. If you are tracking your box or get a note back from the child who receives your box, please let us know where your box ended up. Please remember to pray for the children who receive these boxes. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way. Special thanks to the moving crew Nancy Morton, Brad Smith, Gail and Earl Fynan.

## Bread of Life Food Pantry

Please continue to bring in lunch items to keep the pantry stocked. You have all been so generous in the past and we want to thank you for that.

Special request item for December Pantry day is chickens. You can take your chicken directly to the Pantry on Wednesday 1-4 pm or Thursdays 7-9 pm. The pantry is located at Epworth Methodist Church 5<sup>th</sup> and Morgan Streets in Palmyra. Please see or call Janice DeNofa (829-4286) or Bernard Murphy aka Murph (461-9029) if you need help getting your chicken to the Pantry.



*Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says "I'll try again tomorrow."*

*- Mary Anne Radmacher*

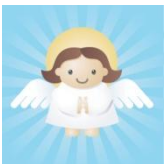
## Scrip Program / Abba Shoprite Cards

If you will be buying gift cards during the holidays please consider using our Scrip program to support missions. You can find forms in the church entry way table or on the website. See Don Ochs for more details and deadline for orders.

If you buy groceries at Shoprite please purchase gift cards directly from Don to support Abba (a Palmyra based group that helps pregnant women and their infant children) each Sunday. These are dollar for dollar cards.

## Asbury Angel Trees

Each year our annual angel trees benefit our local children. Thank you to those who have chosen an Angel for the Bread of Life food pantry and the Jane B. Weilenbeck Fund.



These families and children will have a joyous Christmas because of your giving.

## Youth

*Someone is sitting in the shade today, because someone planted a tree a long time ago.*

*- Warren Buffett*

Help us plant the seeds of Faith in our children.

## Sunday School Harvest Dinner, Pumpkin Decorating and Campfire

Once again our annual Sunday school event was a fun time for the young and old. Glitter filled the floors as pumpkins were decorated by our children. And of course we strolled over to the Parsonage where Robert Doll had strung colorful lights in the trees and playset and had a campfire ready for our marshmallows. Storytelling by Ryan kept the kids entertained while the parents enjoyed a story or two themselves with a mug of hot chocolate, compliments of Gwen.

## United Methodist Men



## Asbury UMM Upcoming Events

Both the annual UMM September yard sale and the more recent November roast beef/ham dinner were successful due to the generosity of so many who donated items, gave of their energy and time or came out to support with their purchases. What's next you ask? Our now traditional **Winter Men's Cooking Demonstration** is always a big hit both for the chefs and the hungry audience. It's a fun filled night of laughter and good eating, so come on out when you see that date in the church calendar shortly. And of course, all Asbury men are invited to take center stage with their favorite creations, so sign up now.

## **Need a ride to a doctor, hospital, rehab or medical testing?**

FISH, sponsored by the Triboro Council of Churches, offers free rides that can be arranged by calling 856-786-8404 at least a week in advance. You will be asked to leave your contact information along with appointment details and a volunteer will get back to you usually within 24 hours to confirm your ride. Note: Several Asbury church members volunteer in support of this service. If you are interested in volunteering as a FISH driver or dispatcher, contact Bob Moss at 856-234-7163. You can specify when you are available.

## **United Methodist Women**



### **UMW Monthly Meeting**

Join us on December 5<sup>th</sup> for our next UMW Holiday covered dish meeting at 7PM in the Church fellowship hall. Our theme is "Upside Down Christmas". Childcare will be available, girlfriends are welcome.

### **UMW Toy Drive**



Each year the UMW collects new, unwrapped toys for the Christian Caring Center. Please spread some joy to a family in need this holiday season. Bring to our December meeting (or drop off before December 4<sup>th</sup>).

### **UMW Donations**

A BIG thank you to everyone who supported Asbury's United Methodist Women's group throughout the year. We have given away over \$2,000 to support worthwhile programs for women and youth both globally and locally. See our bulletin board for who we support. What a blessing it is to be able to share.

### **UMW Leadership**

Save the date, Saturday, January 28, 2012 for the next UMW Officer Training in Moorestown.

We have many open officer positions. We need your help to continue our good works. Come out and see what it is all about and see whether God is leading you to help fill one of the positions. We can't do it without you! Contact Mary Soderholm for more information at 856-829-0035.

## **Morning Praises**

Morning Praises meets every other Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We have a wonderful group .... Come when you can. We begin with singing your favorite songs (don't have to be a professional to sing, just need to know how to enjoy the songs) .... Then we have a prayer, devotion and then we sit around a table of yummy refreshments, eat and enjoy each other's company. It would be wonderful if you could come and join us for the Fellowship!



## **Asbury Veterans Presentation**

The Nov 13, 2011 Asbury veterans' presentation is now available on DVD. If you would like a copy please contact Pam Gleason – 609.877.4493 or [pamcolvell@aol.com](mailto:pamcolvell@aol.com).

## **Missed a sermon, or want to hear one again?**

Each week, usually by late Sunday afternoon, that day's sermon is posted on [MyAsburyUMC.com](http://MyAsburyUMC.com) along with any special parts of that service. Laugh again at Jane Petrie's story telling or enjoy the choir music and Kim's special solo's. The big 200<sup>th</sup> Asbury Anniversary event videos are still available on the site. All are archived under the "Sunday Sermons" web page once the current week's videos are replaced on the home page.

## **Advent – Did You Know?**

The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in

his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent.

The Advent wreath is made of evergreen boughs, symbolizing everlasting life. The circle represents the continuous love of God, with no beginning and no end, as well as the soul's immortality.



The first candle is called the "Candle of Hope." It symbolizes faith in God keeping his promises to humanity.

The second candle is called the "Candle of Peace or Preparation," reminding Christians to have peace within their hearts and to share that peace to "get ready" to receive God.

The third candle is the "Candle of Joy." It recalls the angels joyfully singing about the birth of Christ.

The fourth candle, the "Candle of Love," reminds Christians that God loves them enough to send his only Son to Earth.

Some Advent wreath's have a "Christ Candle" (including ours) in the center which stands for Jesus.

## **Koinonia – Fellowship Time Schedule**

### December

- 4 – Bill Smith (Buy Out)
- 11 – Betti (Buy Out)
- 18 – Art Van Ness (Buy Out)
- 25 – Christmas

### January

- 1 – Holiday Goodies
- 8 – Thelma and Marion
- 15 - Michelle and Michelle G
- 22 – Kim and Nancy
- 29 – Ryan and Laura

### February

- 5 – Bill and Vickie
- 12 – Sharon and Wyndee
- 19 – Betty G. and Richard
- 26 - Murphy (Buy Out)

## **Dear Asbury Friends and Family**

On behalf of myself, Gwen, Aaron, Matthew, Robert, and Joey, we want to thank the dear members and friends of Asbury United Methodist Church who upheld us in prayer and showed special kindness to us in the loss of my brother Fred. Our loss of Fred was totally unexpected and he is greatly missed. Fred loved this Church. Through the years, you heard many stories about Fred. Indeed, he was a good sport about the things I shared. As it turns out, in our visit, I found that he had told many stories about me and his friends knew many things about our Church! Please continue to keep his wife Jo Ann and son Tom in your prayers as well as us and the many friends he has left behind. God bless you!

Pastor John, Gwen, Aaron, Matthew, Robert, and Joseph.

*God blesses those who realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is given to them. God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. – Mathew 5:3-4*

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, 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

Naomi Horn  
1316 Garfield Avenue  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Joan Sobota  
2714 Branch Pike  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

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

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

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

Irene Clark  
106 Hamilton Rd, Apt 106 A  
Maple Shade, NJ 08052

Annette Johnson  
25 Homestead Road  
Levittown, PA 19056

Ruth Streckenbein  
Collingswood Manor  
460 Haddon Avenue  
Collingswood, NJ 08108

Anna Dietz  
923 Cinnaminson Ave.  
Palmyra, NJ 08065

Pat Piech  
112 Winding Lane  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Marie Tuono  
607 Sweetwater Drive  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Bob Edgin  
55 Pageant Lane  
Willingboro, NJ 08046

Jane Petrie  
800 Read Avenue  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Nancy Williams  
5 Fairview Avenue  
Hulmeville, PA 19047

Bunny Flynn  
915 Koala Lane  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Shirley Reichert  
17 Crystal Drive  
Edgewater Park, NJ 08010

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

Sandy Driscoll  
233 Split Rail Court  
Delran, NJ 08075

Archie Brown  
9 Lilac Court  
Marlton, NJ 08053

Joan Hardie  
408 Brigham Court  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

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

Ray Reeve  
19 Harper Blvd  
Delran, NJ 08075

Alice Wiacek  
1979 Route 70 East, Rm 350  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003



## In Christian Sympathy

May the souls of the faithful departed in Christ rest in peace and may light perpetually shine on them. We pray our loved ones are with the Lord and we celebrate our fond memories of their life.

Ruth A. Doll / October 5, 2011  
Beloved Aunt of the Doll Family

Frederic R. Doll, Jr. / October 25, 2011  
Beloved Brother, Brother-in-law, and Uncle of John, Gwen, Aaron, Matthew, Robert and Joey Doll

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### The Future Generation

Please keep our young adults in your prayers, send them a note or email with words of wisdom and encouragement. Below are some of our children who are away from home and attending college:

Jennifer Graff (Richard Stockton College)  
415 South Upas Ave.  
Galloway Township, NJ 08205

Aaron Doll  
Princeton University  
4185 First Center  
Princeton, NJ 08544-1141  
Ajthe007@msn.com

Joe Woo  
Rutgers University  
20060 BPO Way  
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Catherine McClure  
Becker College  
PO Box L164  
Worcester, MA 01609  
catmclure5@aol.com

Jade Morton  
c/o Rider University  
Conover C306  
PO Box 5927  
Trenton, NJ 08638

Melynda McGinnis  
c/o Lycoming College  
700 College Place, Campus Box #811  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
mcmgely@lycoming.edu

Zak Krogstad  
College of New Jersey  
2000 Pennington Road  
Travers 606  
Ewing NJ 08628

Daniel Shaffer  
Beginning his culinary externship at Stein  
Lodge in Utah. No address available at this  
time, please keep him in your prayers.



*I command you - be strong and courageous!  
Do not be afraid nor be discouraged. For the  
LORD your God is with you wherever you go.  
- Joshua 1:9*



# UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

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

- Sunday.....Sunday Morning Altar Rail Prayer (7:15 AM)
- Sunday.....Sunday School Classes
- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday.....United Methodist Women (7:00 PM)
- Tuesday.....Daytime Tuesday Prayer & Bible Study (11:00 AM)
- 3rd Thursday.....Service at the Baptist Home (9:00 AM)
- Thursday.....Choir Rehearsal (7:00 PM)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday.....United Methodist Men Breakfast at Harvest Diner(8:30 AM)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday.....Men’s Bible Study (10:00 AM – 11:00 AM)

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*Fri 12/02 Consultant's Weekend at Asbury(through Sunday 12/04)*

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- Sun 12/04 Worship – Second Sunday in Advent (9:30 AM)
- Sun 12/04 Adult Advent Sunday School (11:15 AM)  
*"Getting to Know the People, Places, and Prophecies of Jesus' Birth"*
- Sun 12/04 UMW Hoagie Orders Due
- Mon 12/05 UMW Meeting and Toy Drive to benefit the Christian Caring Center (7:00 P.M.)
- Wed 12/07 Church Council Meeting (7:30 PM)
- Sat 12/10 UMW Hoagie Sale, Pickup (10:30 AM)

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- Sun 12/11 Worship - Third Sunday in Advent (9:30 AM)
- Sun 12/11 Adult Advent Sunday School (11:15 AM)  
*"Getting to Know the People, Places, and Prophecies of Jesus' Birth"*
- Sun 12/11 Poinsettia orders due
- Sun 12/11 Confirmation Class-1<sup>st</sup> Meeting (6:30 PM)
- Wed 12/14 Stewardship Meeting (9:15 AM)
- Wed 12/14 "Morning Praises" (10:00 AM)
- Wed 12/14 Junior Youth Group (4:30 PM)

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- Sun 12/18 Worship - Fourth Sunday in Advent (9:30 AM)
- Sun 12/18 Adult Advent Sunday School (11:15 AM)  
*"Getting to Know the People, Places, and Prophecies of Jesus' Birth"*

Christmastime

- Sun 12/18 Christmas Caroling at 5:30 PM (meet at Asbury)
- Sat 12/24 Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM (Holy Communion)
- Sun 12/25 Christmas Morning Worship Service (9:30 AM) Fellowship time following the service

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- Wed 12/28 "Morning Praises" (10:00 AM)
- Fri 12/30 Friday Fun Night (7:00 PM) "New Year's Eve" Party-Games & Pizza

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- Sun 1/01/12 New Year's Day – Worship (9:30 AM)  
Holiday Hymn Sing  
Blessing of the Gifts  
Special Holiday Fellowship following  
the church service

- Sun 1/08/12 Church Meeting and Dinner with Consultant (3:00 PM)
- Mon 1/09/12 UMW Meeting, babysitting available (7:00 PM)
- Mon 1/16/12 Trustee's Meeting (7:00 PM)
- Sun 1/29/12 Men’s Cooking Demonstration (5-7 PM)

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- Sat 2/04/12 UMW Soup & Hoagie Sale, pickup (11:00 AM)
- Mon 2/06/12 UMW Meeting, babysitting available (7:00 AM)

# Christmas Star

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*

*– James 1:17*

May we be inspired by the Star of Bethlehem to seek Jesus in our hearts and lives. We wish our Asbury friends and family a joyous Christmas season full of hope, happiness and joy.

Merry Christmas!



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Lord, we are thankful for...