

Asbury United Methodist Church
300 East Basin Road
New Castle, DE 19720

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The Messenger

A Monthly Newsletter of Asbury United Methodist Church
August, 2008

Newsletter Editors: Kim Berkey and Merle Ciesielski

AUGUST



Asbury United Methodist Church
300 East Basin Road, New Castle, DE 19720
302-328-5649

Bishop Marcus Matthews, Philadelphia Area Bishop
Rev. Dr. William Fitzhugh, District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Thomas Donnachie, Pastor
Mrs. Betty Ann Short, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Evelyn Crispin, Finance Secretary
Mr. Gary Hostetler, 8:45 Organist, Choir Director
Mrs. Dale Ringler, 11:15 Organist
Mr. Steve Banaszak, Custodian
Mrs. Angela Kirkley, Day Care Director

Three Sunday Worship Services
8:45 a.m., Traditional ~ 10 a.m., Contemporary ~ 11 a.m., Traditional



Welcome New Bishop

The Northeast Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee made the announcement on July 18, that newly elected bishop, Rev. Peggy A. Johnson, will be assigned to the Philadelphia Area effective September 1, 2008. We welcome Bishop Johnson and look forward to being in ministry with her.

Bishop Johnson is a graduate of Lebanon Valley College with a B.S. in Music Education, a M.Div. from Asbury Seminary and a D. Min. from Wesley Seminary.

Peggy is a member of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference and has served churches in the Washington-Baltimore area. She has been extremely involved with ministry to the deaf and is a member of the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf.

Church Wide Study-Worship On Amazing Grace

“Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound” brings hope and joy into our lives. Yet do we truly understand and appreciate the depth of God’s amazing grace? Where have I experienced God’s grace? These and many other questions will be discussed during a church wide study and worship series entitled, “What’s so Amazing About Grace?”

The 10 week study-worship series will begin on Sunday, Sept. 14, and includes Wednesday evening Renew! Services.

Then, on Tuesday evening, September 16, a church wide Bible study will get underway. The study will begin at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary with a time of worship, opening review of the evening lesson and a video. From there, small discussion groups will scatter through the church to review the video, study scripture, and deal with everyday situations needing God’s grace. Each evening will conclude at 9 p.m. with a summary and closing prayer concerns. The last study session will take place November 18.

(continued on page 3)

Special Services Planned... Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, September 28

An out of doors worship service beginning at 10 a.m. on the front lawn of the church.

Music will be provided by the Chancel Choir, the Praise Team and Renew!!

Naturally, weather permitting; but still just one service.

Sunday, October 5

World Communion Sunday with a combined worship service (Asbury and Ghana Emmanuel Methodist) beginning at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

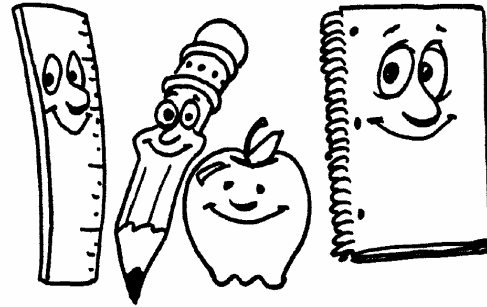
The guest preacher will be the Wilmington District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. William Fitzhugh.

Music will be provided by the Chancel Choir, the Praise Team, Renew! And the Ghana Praise team.

Following the service, everyone is invited to a luncheon in Asbury Fellowship Hall which will feature some food specialties from Ghana.



Back to School Worship Service/ School Supplies Given



On Wednesday evening, August 13, a special worship service will be lead by our Renew! Worship team beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. All persons are invited to the service but especially children and youth, teachers and administrators who will be returning to the classrooms. At the end of the worship service, students will be given an abundant gift of school supplies.

In order to raise the funds for the school supplies, special offerings were taken at the July 27 and 30 worship services. Also, another offering will be taken during the August 3 and 6 worship services. Persons unable to attend any of these services but who still wish to contribute, may send a check to the church. Please mark the check: "Back to School." Many Thanks!

New Time Change for Worship

Beginning Sunday, August 3, the 11:00 a.m. worship service will begin 15 minutes later. The new time is 11:15 a.m.

The decision was affirmed by both the Worship Team and the worshipping congregation. The time change will allow "a little breather" at the conclusion of the 10 a.m. service.

So, please remember...11:15 a.m., starting the first Sunday in August.



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

On Sunday, August 3, and Wednesday, August 6, the worshipping congregations will be invited to the Lord's table. The communion elements will be served at the communion rail with persons standing or kneeling. As usual, persons unable to come to the table will be served in their seats.

Also, any person unable to come to church because they are homebound is invited to phone the church and ask for the pastor or one of our Eucharistic Ministers to bring the elements to their home.

Worship Schedule for August

Sundays

8:45 a.m. Traditional
10 a.m. Contemporary
11:15 a.m. Traditional

Wednesdays

6:30 p.m. Renew!
Praise Service

To Contact us:

www.asburymcde.org

Church Office Hours:

9 a.m.–3 :30 p.m. Mon. – Fri.
Church phone: 302-328-5649
Church fax: 302-328-4175

E-mail address:

Asburymethodist@verizon.net

Rev. Donnachie:

Cell phone: 302-650-4231
pastortomdonnachie@verizon.net
tomdonnachie@hotmail.com

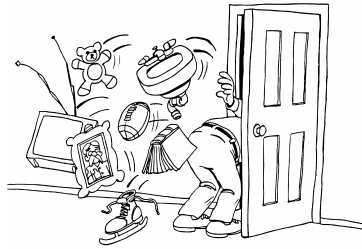
Rev. Fitzhugh

Office: 302-571-1471
Bishop Matthews
Office: 1-800-828-9093

Dial Daily Devotions
302-328-4141



Flea Market in the Planning



On Saturday, October 25, an indoor and outdoor flea market will be held beginning at 9 a.m. This event is being sponsored by the Military Ministry and the Day Care.

In the Fellowship Hall will be a huge offering of items donated by church members and friends. So now is a good time to start house cleaning and preparing to donate those unused items to the church. And, if you cannot bring your items to the church, pickups will be available.

Outside will be spaces for rent at \$15 a table for the flea market items only. (No vendors will be permitted at this event.) Rentals may be reserved by phoning 328-5649 and sending a check payable to Asbury UMC.

Also, the Day Care will be hosting its annual pumpkin patch.

More on this exciting event will be shared in the September newsletter.

Recreational Ministries Conclude and Continue

Congratulations to the Asbury softball team for a great season! Even as this article is being written, the team is playing for the league championship. Many thanks to Coach Charlie McCall for all his effort in overseeing the church league and our team.



While the softball season is concluding, the indoor and outdoor volleyball league is underway. The teams play every Tuesday night in Fellowship Hall and on our outdoor grass court. Also, on Sunday afternoons, there is an open volleyball session for anyone who wants to join in the fun. You don't have to be on a team. Many thanks to Dave Miller for setting up the courts and coordinating the league.



How to Register for "What's So Amazing About Grace?"

Registration for the class, "What's So Amazing About Grace" begins August 1. Here's how:

1. Fill out a registration form found in the weekly church bulletin, in this newsletter (below), or at the church or pastor's office; or
2. Call in your registration to Betty Ann at 328-5649 ext. 0; or
3. Drop an email to the church at www.asburyumcde.org.

If you are in need of child care, please note that on your registration form.

The cost for the study is \$10 and is payable the first night of class. This includes your study guide and the book, "What's So Amazing About Grace?" written by Philip Yancey, an award winning Christian writer.

"What's So Amazing About Grace?" – Registration Form

Yes, sign me up! I am _____

My phone: _____ My email _____

I will need child care _____
(Someone will call you regarding details.)

Remember: The first study is Tuesday, September 16, 7-9 p.m.

Mission Management Team

Here is a list of the missions that make up our Mission Management Team, including some highlights of this year.

Appalachia Service Project: David Miller,, Victoria Wright, Angel Cully, Chris Piecuch, Ashley Foltz, and others from Skyline U.M.C. They returned from their mission trip to Virginia.

Brown Bag: Food assistance program, served by Tim and Ethel Lewis.

Camp Pecometh: Michele Wright has reported scholarships for Lindsay, Victoria and Jessica.

CROP: Louisa Sophy, upcoming in Oct.

Disaster Relief Team: Janet Jackson, Gave two \$500 scholarships.



Continues preparing meals twice a month.

Food Closet: Tom & Ellen Pierson

Meals on Wheels: Sandi Carter

Military Ministry: Debbie Moore. Sent Nerf balls to Iraq and welcomed home Sgt. Joe Baker

Neighborhood House: Georgiann Miller. Asbury donated \$239 in June.

Prison Ministry: Michael Davis. More information to come.

United Methodist Women: Regina Meeker, President.

Youth Ministry: John Hoxter

Thank you for your support and donations whenever we come to you for financial help.

Georgiann Miller

Have you registered
for
"What's So Amazing
About Grace?"

Please see page 3.

"Lazy Days of Summer"

Just wishing everyone a cool August!!! I pray that your summer so far has been uneventful, full of fun and not too many horrible summer reading book requirements.



As we head back into the fall season, I want to remind everyone of my position at our church. My official title is Parish Nurse. My "job" at Asbury is to be a resource person for medical questions. I should be able to direct you toward additional information or other health care professionals for whatever ails you.

Besides contributing to this newsletter each month, I have a bulletin board in the hallway, by the sanctuary. I post current information about various medical topics, hopefully in an easy-to-read format, as you come or go from services.

My home phone is listed in the directory and I am always available for a phone consultation. I have gone to homes to assess various parishioners, whether it's a blood pressure check or to change a dressing that's unreachable.

My "job" is not to replace the home health aide or the visiting nurse. We compliment each other and sometimes I am able to plug you in to services you may not have known were available.

I also have an office in Room 5 at Asbury. I am there on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. I will take your B/P or you can grill me about your meds and medical condition. If there is something I can't do, I'll let you know. You can also reach me during that time by calling the church.

Again, I hope you are having a great summer and I look forward to seeing you all back in September.

Trying to stay cool,
Beverly Barker

The Christmas Bazaar this year will be Saturday, November 22. When you are clearing out your closets and/or attics, remember the bazaar. We may be able to use your unwanted items in good condition for our "Silent Auction" and/or "Attic Treasures". Please call Georgiann Miller, 328-7654.

Sunday School will resume on September 7!

