

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
July 2008

Newsletter Editors: Kim Berkey and Merle Ciesielski

JULY



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, Director of Music
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

Disaster Relief Team Awards Scholarships

On Sunday, June 22, Janet Jackson, on behalf of the Disaster Relief Team, presented \$500 scholarships to Stephanie Shephard and Steve Banaszak, Jr.

Stephanie recently graduated from the Cab Calloway School. She will be studying music at the University of Delaware with hopes of being a music teacher.

Steve graduated from the University of Delaware and will be pursuing a graduate degree in Physical Therapy at the U of D.

The Disaster Relief Team would like to thank the church for its constant support in helping to raise these funds for two of our outstanding students.

Congregational Care Givers Continue to Enlarge

We are very blessed to have a wonderful team of Congregational Care Givers. These persons, trained under careful supervision of Sandy Dempsey, visit in the hospital, the homes of our homebound members and friends, and nursing homes. Some of the care givers have also been trained as Eucharistic Ministers and take communion to some of our homebound members.

On Sunday, June 22, Sandy introduced the newest Care Givers. They include: Janice Gaskins, Martie Munion, JoAnn Walls and Betty Ann Short.

Anyone interested in sharing in this very important ministry should contact the church office with your name and phone number. Sandy will be in touch regarding the next training session.

Would you like to be an Acolyte?

Any boy or girl, ages 10-16, who is interested in becoming an acolyte at our church should contact Mrs. Travers at 328-5260. She, along with Rev. Donnachie, will train these persons who help with the Sunday morning worship services.



Congregation to Receive Annual Conference Report

Sometime this summer, Rev. Donnachie and our representatives to Annual Conference, Tim and Ethel Lewis, will make a report to the Sunday and Wednesday congregations, highlighting some of the events at this year's annual conference. The conference was held at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore Campus, located in Princess Anne, Maryland. Part of the presentation will include a video recording of our Bishop, Marcus Matthews, delivering the opening sermon at the conference.



Here We Grow Again!

On Sunday, June 22, Mr. John Jackson introduced to the 8:45 congregation our newest members. They include the following persons:

- Joseph Ellsworth*
- Tom Reynolds*
- Brenda Reynolds*
- Anne O'Connor*
- Kim McConnell*
- Patricia Robinson*
- Michael Davis*

Flowers for the Church Altar

Ever wonder how the flowers appear at the front of the church? **They are donated by various members and friends of the church in memory, honor or love of someone.**

But, how can I donate flowers? **Simply pick a date and place your name on the sign-up sheet on the back table of the sanctuary.**

What if I can't make it to church but would still like to donate flowers? **Phone the church office and talk to Betty Ann. She will help you make arrangements.**

THANKS TO THE CAKE BAKERS...



The United Methodist Women want to thank everyone who baked cakes for the Strawberry Festival held on June 5th. Thanks, too, to everyone who volunteered to help serve, and a special "THANK YOU" to the ice cream scoopers and the Boy Scouts. The evening was a great success.

Regina Meeker, for Asbury's UMW

Check out the pictures on our website!

Worship Services for July...

Sundays:

8:45 a.m.

Traditional Service

10 a.m.

Contemporary Service

11 a.m.

Traditional Service

Wednesdays:

6:30 p.m.

Renew! Praise Service

Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, July 13 and Wednesday, July 2.

Summer Sermon Series:

"The Parables of Jesus"

presented by Rev. Donnachie and others.

Please remember it is the privilege and commitment of every able bodied church member to share in the times of worship. As members of Asbury UMC, we promise to support our church with our prayers, presence, gifts and service.

Kid's Sacks in Sanctuary

Located in the rear of the sanctuary are a number of nicely decorated canvas bags on a coat hanger. These "kids sacks" are for younger children to use during the worship services. The sacks contain a variety of items to help keep the younger children busy during the worship service. Please return the sacks to the coat hanger before leaving the sanctuary.

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

A Pastoral Reminder...

From Rev. Donnachie

It would be very helpful that if you miss a couple of weeks or more from church due to illness you contact the church. Please don't ever feel that the pastor is too busy to give you a call, have prayer with you or make a visit with you. You may call the church office at 328-5649 or Pastor Tom at 650-4231.

Getting Ready for School...



Asbury's United Methodist Women will be collecting school supplies for children in the Wilmington District. Asbury Church will also be a drop-off area for the other churches in our district to drop off their donations. We will be collecting school supplies through the month of July.

We have a large box out front in the narthex labeled "UMW School Supplies". On August 9, Hillcrest United Methodist Church will hold a rally and the items will be distributed then. Any donations, especially from our UMW circles, will be appreciated.

Regina Meeker, for Asbury UMW

Have you seen our new website??

Check us out at

www.asburyumcde.org.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please email Becky Doyle at asburyweb@gmail.com.

We have some blank pages on the website, so if you are a committee head and your page is blank, please email Becky so your page can be updated.

Church Wide Bible Study Focuses on Grace

"What's So Amazing About Grace?" is the title of a new Bible study and preaching series beginning in September. The study was written by the award winning Christian writer, Philip Yancey.

The study will actually begin on **Tuesday evening, September 14 at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary.** There will be a time of a large group discussion, followed by a video and then small group discussions. On the Sunday prior to the study, Pastor Tom will present a sermon on the study scripture. The study will continue for 10 weeks and conclude on November 16.

Philip Yancey has this to say about grace: "Far from being some abstract theological doctrine, grace affects us in very practical ways: in family feuds, marital spats, even international crises...I truly believe that the future of the church depends on how we master the art of 'dispensing grace.' Other groups excel at morality. Jesus taught us one great distinction, that of grace, which has its own slow but steady power to change the world (and our lives)."

Some questions about the study...

Do I have to know a lot about the Bible? Absolutely not! We're all growing in the Word.

Important Dates from the United Methodist Women

September 13, 2008
Spa-Tea-Da
November 22, 2008
Christmas Bazaar

UMCOR Responds to Flooding

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (known as "UMCOR") is part of the General Board of Global Ministries. UMCOR "delivers hope and enhances human dignity through food, shelter, health and peace projects."

TV news reports have shown us the devastation created by unusually severe flooding in the Midwest this year. More than **11 million** residents in Iowa, Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota have been affected!

United Methodists are urged to be in prayer and to help UMCOR continue to "**Be there**" and "**Be hope.**" Contributions may be given by using a missions envelope from the pew racks or by writing a check (payable to Asbury UMC) and putting it in the offering plate. In either case, please note on the memo line of the check that your contribution is for **UMCOR Advance #901670.**

Asbury's Missions Team
Georgiann Miller, Chair

Do I have to share in the group discussion? Only as you feel comfortable in doing.

Is there a cost for the study? Yes, about \$10, which gives you a study guide and Yancey's book, "What's So Amazing About Grace."

Do I have to register for the study? Yes, we need to know numbers in order to order supplies. Registration will begin in September, at church, over the phone, or on line.

Who will be leading the study? Pastor Tom and a number of lay persons who have already completed the study are looking forward to sharing it with others.

Please join us in studying, sharing and being touched by God's Amazing Grace.



Reaching the Pastor...

If you need to reach Pastor Tom for any reason, please phone 650-4231. This is his cell phone, where he can be reached at anytime and in anyplace. Thank you!

FROM THE NURSE



“I Always had a Tan by June”

Now, I know better. According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancer is the most prevalent of all cancers. More than one million Americans develop skin cancer every year.

There are three main types of skin cancer: basal cell, squamous cell, and melanoma. Non-melanoma skin cancers are generally curable. Treatment of melanoma includes surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

The most common warning sign of skin cancer is a change in the appearance of the skin, such as a new growth or a sore that will not heal. Unexplained changes in appearance of the skin lasting longer than two weeks should be evaluated by your doctor.

Prevention of any skin damage is key. Avoiding unrestricted exposure to the

sun is important. Use a sun tan lotion with an SPF of at least 30. Reapply the lotion after being in the pool or in the water at the beach (or the “shore” if you go to New Jersey). When your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews go out to play, be a nude and apply that lotion to protect them as they play in the hot sun this summer. Even put it on them when it’s cloudy out, since ultraviolet rays come through the clouds and can burn you quickly.

If you choose to go to a tanning salon, please be aware that you are getting unrestricted ultraviolet rays, multiplying the damage the rays do to your skin. Plus the tan you get looks fake (just my opinion).



I hope you have an enjoyable July, celebrating our nation’s birthday on the 4th. Please remember my advice and slather on that sun tan lotion whenever you head out for that fun-filled day. Prevention is cheaper than what you may face if you develop skin cancer of any type.

Wearing my hat,

Beverly Barker

Disciple 1 Bible Study

“June what?” I can’t believe that we’re approaching the end of June already. September is quickly showing on the horizon.



Fall... a time of transition. To me, fall is one of the most spectacular periods of the year. All the trees are robed in their brilliant colors. In truth, they are showing themselves off before losing all of their majesty and virtually dying to self in order to rise again in the spring, in their forty shades of green. The trees will be refreshed and renewed in the glory that God gives them.

I am inviting you to join me on Monday evening, September 8th, 2009, on a journey through the Bible, as I begin another “Disciple 1” class. Yes, it is a big commitment – 34 weeks. But, so many people have said at the end of previous year’s classes, “Where did the time go?” And, yes, there is a lot of reading each week. I encourage each

class to read when they can through each lesson and not to overstress them-

selves on getting the material covered on a particular day.

Hopefully,. If you decide to join the class, this will be an opportunity for you to learn something new. To maybe hear things in the scripture in a different light. To allow yourself to form a new and, perhaps, a stronger relationship with God. This is a chance to die to self and open up your life, that God can touch you in a very meaningful way, at the end rising with God in a new bond, unlike anything you’ve experienced before.

I’m not, and certainly God isn’t, looking for experts or Bible geniuses to show up for Disciple classes, but those who truly and earnestly want to learn what’s in the scriptures. I try to have fun with this class and help people to understand the humanness of God.

Class always starts promptly at seven o’clock. We end at nine, unless we get into a really meaningful discussion, and we might go over by a few minutes.

If you have any questions or you want to sign up, either see me at church, I’m usually always at the 8:45 service, back at the sound board, or call me at home, 322-9279. If I’m not at home, just leave a message and phone number, so I can get back to you.

Please get back to me by August seventeenth, so I can order materials.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in
September!!!

God Bless!!!
Hal Barker