

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
June 2009 Edition
Newsletter Editors: Kim Berkey and Merle Ciesielski

June 2009



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

Bishop Peggy Johnson, 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
Ms. Winnie Travers, Sound and Media Coordinator
Mrs. Dale Ringler, 10:30 Organist
Mr. Steve Banaszak, Custodian
Mrs. Angela Kirkley, Day Care Director

Two Sunday Worship Services
8:45 a.m., Traditional and 10:30 a.m. Contemporary
10 a.m., Fellowship Time with Refreshments

New Worship Hours Begin
... Please Take Note



Sunday Worship Services

8:45 a.m. Worship in a traditional style, including the Sacrament of Holy Communion (first Sunday) and Holy Baptism (when requested), special music, occasional children's messages, and child care.

10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time with refreshments.

10:30 a.m. Worship in a contemporary style, including the Sacrament of Holy Communion (first Sunday) and Holy Baptism (when requested), special music, occasional children's messages, and child care.

Please take note. . .

Sundays, **July 5, August 2, and September 6** – there will be only *one worship service* at **10 a.m.** with the celebration of Holy Communion.

Wednesday evening worship services will continue at 6:30 p.m.

Church Financial Condition
Affected by National Economy

After four months of our fiscal year, the church is already \$5,938 short of its income budget. The majority of the budget shortfall comes from two items. We are behind on our envelope pledges, \$12,347 and overspent in our utilities, \$8,632.

"We are feeling the financial pinch," says Rev. Donnachie. "Almost every week I am hearing of some church family member losing their job. We can't expect these persons to remain faithful with their pledges. We need to reach out to them, even though or emergency need funds are very low."

News from the Trustees

Your Board of Trustees has approved a request from the Fellowship Hall Committee to have the lower 3 rows of the large windows in the hall tinted in order to reduce sun glare in the hall, especially during afternoon or early evening events held in the hall. This tinting should not only reduce the glare, but should reduce the heat gain, thereby reducing the load on the A/C units and reducing the cost of operation.



News from the Fellowship Hall Committee

First the good news! Under the temporary joint coordinators, Mr.'s David Miller and Gene Clere, we are happy to report that rentals and income from rentals are up. With the anticipation that this trend will continue, the committee has authorized the payment of one month's mortgage payment for the hall. Hopefully, more anticipated rentals will allow us to do

more. The rental contracts have been updated, and the present cost for rental of the hall is \$135.00 per hour for non-members and \$85.00 per hour for members. (This reduced rate is intended for members and their immediate families only. If a member wishes to rent the hall for a non-family or outside group function, the cost will be the same as that for non-members.)

Beginning immediately, we now have a new hall coordinator, Mr. Del Goff. Del will also continue to serve as our Youth Group Leader. We welcome Del and wish him well in this endeavor. Dave Miller and Gene Clere will assist Del during the transition and are on call to help him solve any problems that may occur.

Because we are renting the hall more often and for various types of functions, each individual or group, i.e. Boy Scouts, Youth Group, UMW or others, will now have to call the hall coordinator to see if the hall is available, and to schedule their event. They will also be asked to sign a contract (no money involved) so that written record is available and we know who is using the hall and when.

Also, because of ongoing problems with rest rooms in the hall, we are requiring the leader of each group using the hall to check the restrooms before and after your event. You will be asked to sign a check sheet to be sure this is done and that your group cannot be blamed for what someone else did.

Summer Worship Hours June – August

June – Sundays 7, 14, 21, 28 –
8:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

July – Sunday 5 – 10 a.m. only
Sundays 12, 19, 26 –
8:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

August – Sunday 2, 10 a.m. only
Sundays 9, 16, 23, 30 –
8:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Important June Meetings

June 1
Monday at 6:30 p.m. Worship Team
to discuss summer and fall worship
schedule

June 11-13
Thursday – Saturday
Annual Conference at University of
Maryland's Eastern Shore Campus

June 15
Monday at 7 p.m.
Finance Team

June 22
Monday at 7 p.m.
Staff/Parish Relations to discuss
pastor evaluation.

(important meetings, continued)

June 30
Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Administrative Council

To Contact Us:

www.asburyumcde.org

Church Office Hours:

9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Church phone: 302-328-5649

Church fax: 302-328-4175

Email address:

Asburymethodist@verizon.net

Rev. Donnachie:

Cell Phone: 302-650-4231

pastortomdonnachie@verizon.net

tomdonnachie@hotmail.com

Rev. Fitzhugh

Office: 302-571-1471

Bishop Johnson

Office: 1-800-828-9093

Dial Daily Devotions

302-328-4141

Strawberry Festival

June 4, 2009 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Don't miss this annual event which includes sloppy Joes, macaroni salad, green beans, cake, beverage, and, of course, *ice cream and strawberries!*

Adults \$9, Children (12 & under) \$4

Call Bettie Robson for more info or tickets.

Electronic Giving

Save time, simplify your life, and support the church! In this new millennium the church is keeping up with the times by offering our members a new way to help our ministry. Our new Electronic Giving program will allow you to make contributions without having to lift a pen to write a check or reach into your pocket for cash!

Here is how it works. You authorize a specific amount of money to be electronically transferred directly from your checking or savings account to the church account. You also specify the frequency of the transfer to allow you to keep your check register up-to-date. It is fast, safe and EASY! The electronic transfer costs you NOTHING. In fact, you save the cost of the check. Your pledge via electronic transfer can be made directly to the general fund or the building fund or both -- it's entirely up to you.

Enrollment forms are available in the office or on the website <http://www.asburymcde.org>.

The Finance Committee



FROM THE NURSE

How Organic are You?

When I go to the grocery store or Willey's down in Smyrna, I am often confused about the foods that are labeled "organic". What, exactly, does that mean and is it good for Hal and me?

The word "organic" refers to the way farmers grow and process agricultural products such as fruit, veggies, dairy and meats. Organic farming is designed to encourage soil and water conservation and reduce pollution. Here's a comparison chart I found on the Mayo Clinic health website:

<u>Conventional farmers</u>	<u>Organic farmers</u>
Apply chemical fertilizers to promote plant growth.	Apply natural fertilizers such as manure or compost to feed soil and plants
Spray insecticides to reduce pests	Use beneficial insects and birds, mating disruption or traps to reduce pests
Use chemical herbicides to manage weeds	Rotate crops, till, hand weed or mulch to manage weeds
Give animals antibiotics, growth hormones, to prevent disease and to spur growth	Give animals organic feed and allow them access to the outdoors

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has established standards that regulate how organic foods are grown, handled and processed. If a food has a USADA Organic label, it has been produced and processed according to these standards. There are "100% Organic", "organic" (these products are at least 95% organic), and "made with organic ingredients" (these products contain at least 70% organic ingredients).

So, are these products something you and I should buy since they are usually priced higher? There is no conclusive evidence that organic food is more nutritious than conventionally grown foods. The amount of pesticides that you would be exposed to is negligible, especially if you wash your fruit or peel the skin off before consuming.

(Continued on page 4.)

Youth Group News...

Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A Thursday, June 18 between the hours of 5:30 – 8 p.m. Ten per cent of ALL sales will benefit our youth group. Chick-fil-A is located at the Governor's Square Shopping Center on Route 40.

The Youth Group is currently looking and praying for additional adult leadership for their Sunday and Wednesday evening meetings. If interested, please phone the church office at 328-5649.

Requests from Pastor Tom

- ▶ Please pray for our church members and friends, including your pastor and staff.
- ▶ If you notice someone missing from our church services please give them a call or call the church office with their name.
- ▶ Please invite your unchurched family or friends to some church services or church events. Studies indicate that 90% of persons who join a church were first invited by family or friends.
- ▶ Bring your newspaper, magazines, mail and office paper to the church recycling bin.
- ▶ Please remember to say a good word for Asbury.

(Continued from page 3.)

Organic farming does help the environment by reducing pollution and conserving water and soil. The taste of organic food may or may not be better – often it's a mind over matter issue – you think it will taste better so it does.

Whether you're a fan or organic or not, here are some things to consider when shopping.

- Buy fruits and veggies in season to ensure the highest quality.
- Ask the grocer what day new produce arrives.
- Read food labels – you'd be surprised at what's hidden in some of those organic foods as well as non-organic foods.
- Don't confuse "natural" with organic. Only those with the "USDA Organic" label have met standards.

Not very organic,
Beverly Barker



Summer Sermon Series Focuses on Fruits of the Spirit

Beginning the second Sunday in June and continuing through the summer, Rev. Donnachie will be preaching on the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The fruits of the Spirit include:

love
joy
peace
patience
gentleness
goodness
faithfulness
humility
and self-control.

The Sunday morning and Wednesday evening messages involve the giving of the meaning of the fruits, then showing how that fruit is related in the life of Christ, and finally showing how the fruit characterizes our lives as Christ's followers.

Then, in September, the church will share in a series of worship services, leadership events and studies entitled, "How to Grow Fruitful Congregations."

ASP News

Our ASP team will be traveling to Mingo County, West Virginia, for the week of June 20th. This year's team consists of 6 volunteers (2 adults and 4 youth). Appalachia Service Project (ASP) is a Christian ministry open to all people, that fosters human development by addressing the housing needs of Central Appalachia. Each year, through this ministry, about 15,000 volunteers repair homes for 400-500 low-income families in rural areas of Central Appalachia. Our goal is to make homes **warmer, safer, and drier** for families in need, while offering transformational experiences for families, volunteers and staff alike. The home repairs made can take place from the ground up to the roof, and everywhere in-between. Typical repairs include: repairing roofs, building room additions, providing wheelchair ramps, installing or repairing plumbing, updating unsafe wiring, securing foundations, digging drainage ditches, constructing porches and steps, installing insulation and siding, and weatherizing homes. We even provide first-time electricity and indoor plumbing for multiple families each year.

Our fundraiser this year for this mission will be on Saturday, June 13th at Battery Park in Old New Castle for Separation Day. We are asking for volunteers to help work our food stand during the day. If you can help us for 2 or 3 hours during the day, please email me at

Boxofrain@comcast.net or call 740-7294 so that I can schedule you for a time slot between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Separation Day in Historic New Castle, Delaware Saturday, June 13, 2009

Parade at 11 a.m.

ending at Court House Museum

Grand Marshall:

Brigadier General Ernest Talbert

Featuring:

Reilly Raiders Drum & Bugle Corps

Avalon String Band

287 Army National Guard Band

Delaware Military Academy

Citizens Hose Band

Battery Park Festivities:

Arts and Crafts ~ 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Great Amusement Rides

Games, food, encampments, colonial

bubble machine, pony rides, face

painting, moon bounce, non profits,

family pro wrestling by FWF

1 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. ...

Steve Ketterer Acoustic Trio – 1:30,

Magic show – 3 p.m.

Beautiful Baby Contest – 4 p.m.

6:30 ~ Evening of Dancing

American Pie Entertainment

with disk jockey Paul Freebery

FINALE OF FIREWORKS – 9:30 p.m.

