

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
May 2009 Edition
Newsletter Editors: Kim Berkey and Merle Ciesielski

May 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
Ms. Gwen Keohane, 10 a.m. Worship Coordinator
and Youth 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 ~ 11:15 a.m., Traditional

**Church Council Approves
New Worship Hours**

At the March Administrative council meeting, Mr. Charles Galloway, Chairperson of the Worship Team presented a new Sunday morning worship schedule beginning Sunday, June 7, 2009. The motion was unanimously accepted.

- 8:45 a.m. Worship in a traditional style
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in a contemporary style

In addition, there will be Church School classes for children, youth and adults at 8:45 a.m.

Also, there will be a brief social, fellowship time between the morning and worship services.

During the 8:45 a.m. service, the music will be led by the Chancel Choir. There will be times that contemporary praise music will be included in the worship. Also, for the children in worship, there will be a children's message. As usual, child care for the very young will be provided.

During the 10:30 a.m. service the music will be led by the Worship Team with occasional traditional hymns. Also, there will be a children's message. A new nursery will be provided for the very young.

And, it is the hope that the brief time between the worship services will allow the two worship service attendees to have some time of refreshments and fellowship. Any church group, class, fellowship or study group that would like to host a fellowship time should contact the church office.

Please help spread the word!



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
Tickets will be sold in the narthex before services, and from the church office. If you have questions or would like tickets, please see Bettie Robson.



Talent Show Update

Persons are beginning to rehearse and make plans for this year's Talent Show. The dinner and show is scheduled for Sunday evening, May 17.

The evening will begin at 5 p.m. with a pot luck dinner. Please bring the following: your own eating and drinking utensils; a covered dish of meat, salad or vegetable – enough to feed 6 persons.

The show will begin in Fellowship Hall about 6 p.m. and will feature musical talent, story telling, drama, comedy and who knows what else! The emcee for the evening is Mr. Del Burns.

It's still not too late to get on the program. Just give Del or Pastor Tom a call. It should be a great evening of fun, food and fellowship.

Confirmation Service will be held at Asbury

On Sunday, May 3 at 3 p.m. some 20 youth from four area United Methodist Churches will affirm their faith and say "yes" to responsible church membership. Family, friends, and all

church members are invited to attend the service. The service will take place in the sanctuary of the Asbury UMC located at 300 E. Basin Road, New Castle (across from the Penn Mart Shopping Center).

During the last few months, the confirmands from Asbury, St. Mark's, Peniel and Richardson Park have been holding classes, taking field trips and spending times in fellowship and service. Pastors Edwards, Mooney, Passmore and Donnachie have all taken turns in leading the class.

We are pleased to announce that the Rev. Dr. Sandra Steiner-Ball will be the guest preacher and assist in the confirmation. Sandra is the Director of Ministries for the Peninsula-Delaware Conference.

Electronic Giving

The 21st century is upon us! The Electronic Giving program will be coming to Asbury soon! The Electronic Giving Program will allow a person to give contributions to the church from their savings or checking account. This will help you if you forget your weekly envelope and will allow you to continue giving, even if you are out-of-town on a Sunday or are too sick to come to church. Enrollment forms explaining the program will be available through our website or in the church office. We encourage people to consider the electronic program as a tool which will help you be successful in reaching your tithing commitment while helping the church's budget. *The Finance Committee*

Renew! Wednesday Evening Worship Services

First Wednesday

Holy Communion with Youth Involvement

Second Wednesday

Christian Comedy Night

Third Wednesday

Guest Speaker

Fourth Wednesday

Prayer and Healing Service

Fifth Wednesday

Favorite Hymn Sing

All worship services begin at 6:30 p.m. Dress is comfortable and informal.

May 2009 Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Worship Services at 8:45 a.m.;
10 a.m.; and 11:15 a.m.

- May 3**..... Sacrament of Holy Communion
- May 10**..... Mother's Day
(Sacrament of Holy Baptism)
- May 17**..... Eastertide Preaching
- May 24**..... Memorial Sunday
(10 a.m. only)
- May 31**..... Pentecost Sunday and
Recognition of New Members

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
tmdonnachie@hotmail.com

Rev. Fitzhugh

Office: 302-571-1471

Bishop Johnson

Office: 1-800-828-9093

Dial Daily Devotions

302-328-4141

Your Ideas to

Reduce Church Expenses

With the turn in the economy, we are all searching for ways to reduce expenses, including the church. Pastor Donnachie, with the approval of the Administrative Council has invited several church members for a round table discussion of cost saving measures. Hopefully we will be able to implement some of the suggestions without jeopardizing the ministries of the church.

If you have suggestions for cost cutting, please email the church office or drop us a note. All suggestions will be reviewed by the task force.

May 2009

Dear Church Members:

Did you know that you can recycle paper, newspapers, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, weekly advertisement circulars, TV Guides, folders, construction and poster paper, shredded paper, spiral notebook/theme books, office and church mail – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at our church? (If dropping off shredded paper, please put it in a bag. If dropping off theme books, please take off the front and back hardcover – the metal spiral may remain intact. You do not need to remove staples from paper. Please do not bring cardboard or phone books.)

Did you also know that we earn money for paper that is dropped off at our green and yellow recycling bin? Our recycling bin is located at the front of the church building. This is an easy way for you to recycle your paper every week and help us raise money for carpets, playground equipment, missions, and heating oil. It is easy to get started – just place an empty box near your trash at home and place your paper in the box! Bring your paper to church once a week! Call the church office if you have any questions.

Let your neighbors know they can contribute to our church as well! There is no financial commitment from you, just bring us your paper! Every time our bin is full, our church saves 17 trees from being cut down!. Don't throw this piece of paper away, recycle it today!

Abitibi Paper Retriever Recycling Program

FROM THE NURSE
“Plunk Yourself Down”

I wish you all a happy Spring! I'm sure you're doing your spring cleaning and moving the lawn furniture out of storage. You're getting ready for cook-outs, graduations and Memorial Day. Perhaps you are running around to your kid's soccer, ball games and golf.

I hope that you will take a moment to go out in your yard, sit in a chair and look around. Better yet, go to a park with a blanket or chair and **plunk yourself down**. Don't take a book or CD player or your cell phone.

When you get settled, look around at your surroundings. Look at the grass and think about how amazing that it grows, pushing through the ground,

without your help. Look at a tree, noticing how the buds start growing automatically, without your help. Look at the clouds going by – knowing that the earth is revolving, without your help. Listen to the birds, chirping to each other, without your help.

What I'm trying to point out is this: God has given us many blessings, most of which we fail to appreciate and often take for granted. This spring, take a moment in your busy day to spend with God. Look around and notice what He has created for you to enjoy. Don't be frustrated by crabgrass, mosquitoes, ants and flies. All things were made by God for you to enjoy and to make your day brighter. Enjoy!

In the hammock,
Beverly Barker

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Spring “Garden Party” Luncheon

Sponsored by the Disaster Relief Team

Saturday, May 9th

11:30 ~ 1 p.m.

Asbury Fellowship Hall

This special occasion is intended to honor *all* our mothers and also to show our appreciation to Betty Ann Short, our Administrative Assistant, for her many years of friendship, dedication and service to Asbury Church.

In addition to a delicious luncheon, we're featuring a **“Mini Flower Market”** where you can buy flats of assorted flowers and vegetable plants for your gardens, *and* we're having a **“Silent**

Auction” where you can bid on a variety of items, including a handmade quilt. This event is not just for the ladies – men and children are also welcome.

Tickets are available from any Disaster Relief Team member between services.

Adults: \$8 Children 10 and under: \$5

If you have questions, please call Janet Jackson at 366-1538.

The Boy Scouts are serving
another
PANCAKE BREAKFAST!
May 31st ... after worship...
Don't miss it!

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**Safe Sanctuaries Policy
Presented to Church**

At the March Administrative council meeting, Mr. Hal Barker, church Lay Leader and representative from the Safe Sanctuaries Task Force presented a policy statement for the protection of our children and youth and the adults who work with them. The policy was adopted with full compliance due by October 1, 2009.

Some highlights of the policy include:

“The General Conference of the United Methodist Church, in April 1996, adopted a resolution aimed at reducing the risk of child abuse in the church. The adopted resolution calls all churches to welcome the children (under 18 years of age) to make our churches safe places for children to grow and learn.”

“Asbury United Methodist Church’s purpose for establishing this Child Abuse Prevention Policy and accompanying procedures is to demonstrate our absolute and unwavering commitment to the physical and spiritual growth of all our children and youth.”

The minimum standards for ministries were adopted:

- ◆ 1. Screening and recruiting which includes a participation covenant and criminal background check for volunteers; interviewing; and, a six month attendance rule for volunteers.
- ◆ 2. Supervision which includes a two adult rule; 5 year older rule; an 18 year-old rule; open doors; participation logs; and first aid and CPR training.

◆ 3. Reporting: an incident is to be reported immediately to the Pastor or Lead Lay Person.

◆ 4. Responding: A quick, compassionate and unified response to an alleged incident will be initiated.

A complete copy of the policy is available by calling or emailing the church office.



Memorial Day Service

On Sunday, May 24th, 2009, we will be having our Memorial Day Service, beginning at 10 a.m. We are planning a special recognition for those of Asbury’s church family who have served or are presently serving in the United States military.

Please invite any service personnel and their families to attend. It would be wonderful to see them there.

We encourage you and your family and friends to come to the service

and express your appreciation to those who make our country secure and who guard our rights as U. S. citizens.

Special music will be provided and it should prove to be a very meaningful service.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Hal Barker
Lay Leader



Camp Pecometh

Camp Pecometh is an accredited Christian camp that is located in Centerville, Maryland. Camping scholarships are available. Campers stay for 5 nights and are picked up mid-day on Friday. Camps range in age from pre-4th grade to 12th grade and have activities ranging from a general camping experience, known as “Riverside”, to specialty camps of horseback riding and adventure rock climbing. Check out the display on the Missions Bulletin Board or go to www.pecometh.org. Some funds are available through the Missions

Committee to offset the cost for Asbury’s children.

FOR RENT

Asbury Fellowship Hall

Asbury’s Fellowship Hall is available for members and non-members of Asbury to rent for special occasions – such as upcoming graduations, wedding receptions, birthdays, family and class reunions, etc. Members are given a reduced rental fee. Please call the church office for more details.

302-328-5649