

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
October, 2008

Newsletter Editors: Kim Berkey and Merle Ciesielski

OCTOBER



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
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

World Communion Sunday Celebrated with Guest Church

World Communion Sunday has always been a very special Sunday for the world wide United Methodist Church. This year will be extra special for Asbury as we will share in the Holy Communion with the Ghana (Africa) Emmanuel Church.



The Combined service will take place on Sunday, October 5, beginning at 10:00 a.m. (only) in our sanctuary. The worship service will include music from Emmanuel's Praise Team along with a variety of music from our various choirs. The Rev. Dr. William Fitzhugh, our Wilmington District Superintendent will be the guest speaker.

Following the worship service everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for a special luncheon. Asbury members are asked to bring cold dishes like salads and sandwiches while the Emmanuel members will be sharing some of their African dishes. Please take your dish to the Fellowship Hall before the beginning of the worship service.

Emmanuel Methodist Church is hoping and praying to become a chartered United Methodist Church in the near future. They have been meeting in our building since July with worship on Sundays at 10a.m in Friendship Lounge. Pastor Donnachie celebrates the Holy Communion with them once a month.

Please arrive at church a little early with your covered dish and hearts ready to worship the Lord in a spirited way. We expect a full sanctuary.

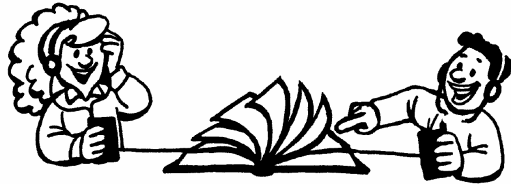
Amazing Grace Study Now Underway

By the time you read this article, our church-wide "What's So Amazing About Grace?" study will be into its third week of Bible studies, sermons, and discussion groups. We now have over 75 in-class participants in addition to all the persons who attend the weekly worship services. Besides the Sunday morning and Wednesday evening worship services, there are five study groups meeting during the week.

The classes and sermon series will continue through Sunday, November 23, Thanksgiving Sunday.

Asbury Child Care

Fall is here! We are excited to announce that we will be having our Pumpkin Patch Fund Raiser this year! Our goal is to raise money to increase the amount of learning materials that are available to the children. For example, listening centers, books on tape, and new computers for the classrooms. Our pumpkin Patch will be open from October 11th through October 31st. If anyone is interested in working the patch either weekday or weekend evenings, please contact Angela or Danielle at 328-5640. We also need help with decorating and publicity ideas!



During the month of October, Asbury Child Care Center also has its annual book fair that is sponsored by Scholastic Books. Our book fair is not a fund raiser, but it allows us to increase each classroom's library. The more books we sell, the more books we receive for the children. Our book fair will be open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the week of October 6th. The book fair is open to all and has a great selection of children's books. If you are interested in purchasing books but you cannot make it to the fair, order forms are available from the child care center.

CROP Walk 2008

The New Castle Area CROP Walk will be on Sunday, October 19 at 1 O'clock.(12:30 p.m. will be a good arrival time.) The walk will begin and end at New Castle United Methodist Church.

Sign-ups will begin before and after the 8:45 a.m. service for those who wish to walk and those who wish to sponsor walkers. Envelopes will be available for the walkers by calling Louisa Sophy, 322 -2706.

Last year Asbury collected \$2,426... plus \$726 from the confirmation class of Aldersgate United Methodist Church who walked under Asbury's umbrella.

Twenty-five per cent of all moneys collected from the joint CROP Walk went to Emmanuel Dining Room and the Food Bank of Delaware.

There will be forms placed on the Missions bulletin Board for walkers to sign up and places under their names for the sponsors names. Sponsors, please write your checks to: CWS/CROP Walk.

Church World Service conducts the CROP Walks and they are one off the first groups that respond to disasters all over the world and in America. The need is great!

Louisa Sophy
Asbury's Recruiter for CROP Walk

The Asbury Vision

Ever wonder what "drives" our church? Listed below are our "vision" statements.

1. **Jesus is proclaimed and followed as Lord.**
2. **The Bible is the centerpiece for all preaching, teaching and living.**
3. **Worship touches the heart of worshipers and goes to the heart of God.**
4. **We will be a warm, welcoming, reaching congregation.**
5. **Ministries that reach all ages and races.**
6. **All members are in ministry.**
7. **Believers are built up to live out their discipleship in ways that astound the world.**



End of Summer Financial Report Dated August 31, 2008

Income, Year to Date...\$166,226
 Budgeted...\$203,588
 Deficit...(\$37,363)

(The largest portion of the \$17,000 shortfall is in pledged and unpledged envelope giving and \$11,300 due from Wilmington University. A check for \$17,000 came from the University at the beginning of October.)

Expenses, Year to Date...\$190,086
 Budgeted...\$203,588
 Surplus...\$5,501

Year to Date Total
 Deficit...\$48,922

Endowment funds...\$333,367
 Church Indebtedness
 on Fellowship Hall...\$507,083



October Worship Schedule

Wednesday, October 1
 Renew! Holy Communion 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 5
 World Communion Sunday 10 a.m.

Wednesday, October 7
 Renew! 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 12
 Amazing Grace 8:45, 10, 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, October 14
 Renew!! 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 19
 Amazing Grace 8:45, 10, 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, October 21
 Renew!! 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 26
 Amazing Grace 8:45, 10, 11:15 a.m.

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

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 Johnson's
 Office: 1-800-828-9093

Dial Daily Devotions
 302-328-4141

FROM THE NURSE

Gift of Life

I'd like to revisit a topic I wrote about a few months ago – "Gift of Life" or organ donation. I warned you all that Delaware Legislators were trying to change the way donors are designated on their license. Some cooler heads prevailed (or there was too much disagreement) and the Bill was shelved for now. I understand it may be revisited in the future and I will keep an eye out for it.

I am in the position in my other job in Medical ICU to have access to the staff of the local Gift of Life which is run out of Philadelphia. In questioning the staff members, they were firstly, unaware of the Bill in our Legislature. Secondly, they were not in favor of changing the approach to organ donation. They felt that families in crisis were stressed enough without additional pressure of having to donate their loved ones organs.

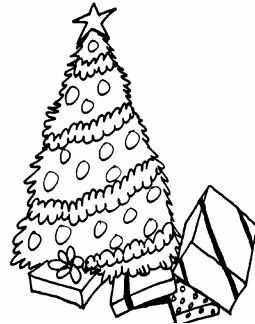
The process, as it happens now, goes like this: the patient arrives at the hospital for any variety of reasons. They usually have suffered a catastrophic event which will soon cause them to die. The doctors and nurses recognize that this will happen and notify the Gift of Life staff about a possible donor. The Gift of Life staff asks us questions and then sends a staff member to review the patient's chart, lab tests, etc. for suitability. Only then will they approach the family about

the possibility of organ donation. Often the family is not even approached because of a variety of factors. They are not burdened with the decision of donation unless the Gift of Life team feels that the patient's organs can be useful for someone else.

I hope that you all have had the big discussion with your loved ones, giving them your thoughts on life sustaining measures. Have you made out a living will stating our wishes for the time you won't be able to speak for yourself? Have you spoken with your doctor, clearly stating your wishes? You don't have to wait until you hit senior citizen status either! It's a hard discussion, but it may make things easier in the long run.

Living will in hand, not in the safety deposit box,
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.



VOLUNTEER IN-PRISON TRAINING

This course equips volunteers with the knowledge, skills, and biblical foundation necessary to participate in a ministry to those who are incarcerated.

October: 23, 24, 25

Thursday & Friday, 6:30p.m.– 9:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cost: \$15.00

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Contact: Michael or Antoinette Davis at **655-0598.**



UMW News

Asbury's United Methodist Women would like to thank all who helped with the Spa-Tea-Da. Special thanks to our coordinators, Debbie Sheehan and Cindy Hahn, and to the Boy Scouts who set up the tables.

Don't miss our UMW Giving Thanks/PJ Party. We will meet October 15, 2008 at 7 p.m. in Friendship Lounge. Our program this year is on Justice. Please bring your offering and new pajamas for children and teenagers. (See article on page 4.) Please wear your pajamas for this meeting. Refreshments and fellowship will follow.

Sunday School News

Sunday School began September 7th for children age 4 through Sr. High. There are 4 classes for children during the 8:45 a.m. service: Pre-School, Elementary (K-3) Elementary (4-6) and Sr. High (7-12). Children in Preschool, Early Elementary, and Sr. High will be using David C. Cook's curriculum to learn about God's love.

It's time for Bible Blitz! This fall all students from the 4th through 7th grades will be "Getting to Know God" as we get kids into the Bible and the Bible into our kids! Through Group's "Bible Blitz!" curriculum, we will be exploring the Bible by doing science experiments and activities using their "Hands-On Bible". We will read, study, do fun activities and share with others what we learn. We will experience worship and praise and a special time devoted for prayer to talk with God one-on-one. We'll have handouts to take home and share with your families so you can apply the lessons we learn during the week. So plan on getting to know God this year by experiencing fun and living the truth as we grow in our relationship with Jesus!

We are always looking for substitutes to help out throughout the year. If you would be interested in helping, please contact Vickey Mohler or Amy Johns. We are looking forward to spending another wonderful year sharing God's word with your children!

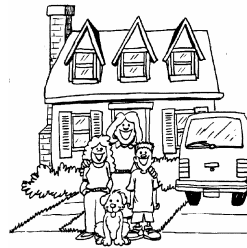
**DO YOU LOVE YOUR PAJAMAS?
See how you can share your love!**

We have recently learned that children in local homeless shelters sleep in their clothes. If you're thinking "Why do they sleep in their clothes?", it's simply because they do not have pajamas to sleep in like we do. The United Methodist Women of Asbury are excited to announce a new mission starting in October. *A Pajama Mission!* Starting Sunday, October 5th, you will see a collection box in the Narthex. We are collecting NEW pajamas in sizes infant through teen. The next time you are shopping, we pray that you think about our mission and head to the pajama department. All of the pajamas that we collect during the month of October will be donated to the Neighborhood House in Wilmington. Thanks for your support and prayers that we may have an abundance of PJ's for the children to sleep comfortably in!

**•••TURKEY DINNER •••
in Old New Castle
New Castle UMC**

is having a
Turkey Dinner on October 25,
4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased by calling Sue Engler at 427-2470 or the New Castle UMC office at 328-2207.



**Pop Tabs Help Sick Kids
And their Families**

A single tab from a soda can could help families who have seriously or critically ill or injured children feel more comfortable during a stressful time. The Ronald McDonald House of Delaware relies on volunteers to collect the aluminum pop tops, which contain more aluminum than the whole can! The money from recycling these tiny wonders is used to offset the costs of operating a House in which families of children receiving treatment at nearby hospitals can relax and find respite.

Did you know that there are 1342 pop tabs in one pound? When volunteers donate the tabs to the Ronald McDonald House, the House receives about \$0.50 per pound from the Newark recycling center. Last year, the House made \$3,924.43 on the recycling of pop tabs. No one is ever turned away based on the inability to pay at Ronald McDonald House. So keep pulling the tabs off of your soda cans, or soup cans or other aluminum cans and donate them to the Ronald McDonald House!

**Finance-Stewardship Team
Invites Congregation to "Soar"**

*"Those who hope in the Lord will
renew their strength. They will soar on
wings like eagles."*

Isaiah 40:31

This year's financial program to raise funds for the ministries at Asbury is simply entitled "Soar". Over the four weeks in November, a variety of materials, presentations, and mailings will go out inviting the members and friends to prayerfully support the church and its mission and ministry.

November 2 will be inspiration Sunday with special presentations by the Stewardship Chairpersons. November 9, Gratitude Sunday, members will receive and turn in their offering cards. Sunday, November 16 will be Consecration Sunday. All the offering cards received to date will be consecrated. Celebration Sunday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Sunday) will bring a grand culmination to our stewardship ministry.

One VERY IMPORTANT note: This year's November stewardship program will not include an asking for a pledge for the Fellowship Hall mortgage. A separate fund drive will take place at the end of January/beginning of February, 2009.

Together, with the support of every member we can grow in worship, Christian education, missions and

outreach, fellowship and activities and new opportunities to serve out Lord and community. Please begin now to prayerfully consider your support for 2009.

**Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Observed**

On Sunday, October 12, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be celebrated during the 11:15 a.m. worship service. Holy Baptism is one of two sacraments celebrated in the United Methodist Church; the other being Holy Communion.

United Methodists believe and practice baptism of persons of all ages. Also, the United Methodists administer the water of baptism by sprinkling, pouring or immersion.

Persons interested in arranging a baptism for themselves or their children are invited to phone Rev. Donnachie at 650-4231.

"Spaghetti for the Soul"

"Spaghetti for the Soul" is a new Bible Study beginning on Wednesday Evening, October 1, 2008 at 7 p.m. at the home of Judy Donnachie, 9 Fols Crescent in Penn Acres. Join this "fabulous feast for the spirit". With wit, humor, grace and keen insights, Kathy Troccoli and Ellie Lofaro urge you to take a generous helping of the richly abundant life that only God can give. Call Judy at 598-1694 or email her at judydonnachie@hotmail.com

