Dear Asbury Family,

My last Sunday before my break will be July 5th. Thank you again for giving me this time of rest and renewal. Now that I’ve gotten older, it’s taking me a little longer to get rejuvenated.

While I am away I will finish writing a book that I hope will be published in time to go on sale at our Pecan & Honey Harvest in November. The book is about experiences of synchronicity...or what we often call “Wow moments”! There are numerous “Asbury stories” in it.

Speaking of Wow moments, I’m excited about the speakers coming to Asbury this summer. You are in for a treat! Among them will be Rabbi Robert Haas (Congregation Mickve Israel), Rev. Rachel Greiner (Chaplain at Memorial Medical Center), Rev. Sierra Wilkinson Reyes (Christ Episcopal Church), Dr. Cheryl Dozier (President of Savannah State University) and Rev. Michael Piazza (Virginia-Highland Church in Atlanta). These folks are going to be a great blessing to you!

Before I leave I have two important projects to start with you. I recently mentioned in a sermon that we will be putting a ribbon on our courtyard fence when a person in Savannah is killed by gunfire. Our first Sunday with the ribbons will be July 5th. Hopefully, the visual image of ribbons on our fence will help us, those in our community, and those who drive by our church be painfully aware of the loss of lives by guns and our need to have common sense gun laws in our country.

The second endeavor involves a church consultant we have hired to help us develop a long range plan. Paul Nixon, who is based in Washington D.C., has written numerous books on church growth and development. I encourage you to read his book, I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church (Amazon). As we participate in this important process, we need your input and involvement. I will be telling you more about this in the near future. Stay tuned and be in prayer about this new opportunity for us.

Blessings & Peace,

Billy

Thank you to Phil Grimes

Phil Grimes, Asbury’s maintenance technician, has resigned effective June 30th. Phil has been instrumental in maintaining our church home since October of 2009. Phil had a small business before joining Asbury. He made this difficult decision in order to maintain his high level of service to his customers in his expanding business. However, Phil will be a part of the church family on occasion and will assist with special projects. So, we are not telling him goodbye for good. His services and his presence will truly be missed.

“BIG COFFEE HOUR” July 5th

Please join your Asbury Family after the service for food and fellowship on Sunday, July 5th, for our BIG COFFEE Hour. If you are able, please bring food to share with others. You can drop your food items off in the kitchen when you arrive on Sunday. Thanks!
**H A P P Y  B I R T H D A Y !**

Having a Birthday? Let us know when! Call the office at 233-4351 or e-mail us at church@asbury memorial.org.

**J u l y**

1st Jamey Dowling  
Lexi Gage  
Jackie Stewart  
2nd Jonathan Linthicum  
Jeff Tucker  
3rd Tara Redd  
4th Hank Albee  
Hannah Foster  
Steve Johnson  
Bob Osborn  
5th Cynthia Herold  
Will Telljohann  
6th Dian LaRoe  
Cooper McCord  
Katelyn McCord  
Nancy Parker  
7th Carolyn Bennett  
Ashley Bolfik-Stroud  
Cale Hall  
John Hester  
Tricia Richardson  
8th Molly Hester  
Suzie Williams  
9th Janet Redmond  
10th Mike Dayoub  
Marie Stark  
11th Josie Beene-Crowder  
11th Salynda Carter-Walter  
Bay Luke  
12th Austin Wright  
13th David Alley  
Billy Hester  
14th Lehman Brannen  
15th Tina Austing  
Nancy Cvetan  
16th Aidyn DuBois  
David Grice  
17th Al Andres  
18th Nick Deffley  
Mark Fordham  
Richard Reeve  
Ryan Richards  
Jane Thimme  
19th Kenn Waters  
20th Ann Anderson  
21st Pat Stewart  
Joe Wilson  
22nd Olivia Albee  
Tori Carnes  
23rd Bob Fennell  
Cathie Jorgensen  
24th Kathleen Connolly  
Andrea Harrelson  
25th Susan McCaskill  
26th Bill & Sally Nicholson  
07/16—Pam & Walter Kress  
07/17—Bo & Ann Crowder  
07/20—Mike & Iris Dayoub  
07/22—Dwight & Mary Ellen Campbell  
07/22—Robert & Christy Crisp  
07/25—Evans & Debbie Wright  
07/31—Lehman & Jennie Brannen

**Most committee meetings and program groups do not meet in July. Enjoy your month off!**

The church office will be closed Friday, July 03 in observance of Independence Day.

**Birthday's Continued**

27th Marie Parker  
29th Rachel Green  
Bridgette Kincade  
30th Aisling Hill
RIBBONS FOR A REASON

Starting July 1st, Asbury Memorial will be placing orange ribbons on our courtyard fence to symbolize our concern for gun violence and our prayers for peace. Each ribbon will represent the life of a person taken by gunfire in the Savannah community in 2015. The name of the person will be on the ribbon. We hope this visual memorial encourages common sense gun laws and gun safety in order to reduce violence and death in our country.

Another GREAT VBS!

Thanks to everyone who helped us have a wonderful Vacation Bible School this summer! It was a fantastic week of fun, learning, and fellowship! We hope all the children will join us on Sundays for Children’s Church and join us for Creative Kids at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays when our programs start back in September.

Children’s Church Leaders

Grades K–3rd
Tom & Betsy Davis
Subs: Ellie Covington & Ashley Bolfik-Stroud

Grades 4th–6th
  July 5th:
  To be announced
  July 12th:
  Kate Strain & Suzanne Becker
  July 19th:
  KT Aull & Andrea Harrelson
  July 26th:
  Danny Adams & Kelly Limehouse

Nursery Volunteers

July 5
Elizabeth Newkirk, Mary Ann Donahue

July 12
Carla Johnson, Tricia Richardson

July 19
Bob Chvatal, Margaret Clay

July 26
Bonnie Kaar, Whitney Braddock

Nursery services are provided for preschool children for the programs and services on Sundays and Wednesdays. We are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer in our nursery, please call the church office.
H A P P Y  
B I R T H D A Y! 

Having a Birthday? Let us know when! Call the office at 233-4351 or e-mail us at church@asbury.memorial.org.

A u g u s t

1st Colin Richards
2nd Jamie Kelso
   Lance Wilhelm
3rd Don Colvard
   Emily Gage
4th Jim Kluttz
5th Fletcher Woodward
6th Chloe Harrison
   Isabella Picone
   Renwick Pulwarty
7th Tom Kurtz
9th Brittney Brown
   Hayden Lego
12th Christi Hester
   Peggy Larson
13th Janet Dixon
14th Pam Sears
15th Jeff Ostrow
16th Lindsay Brannen
   Ed Steiner
17th Wendy Mason
18th John Hohnerlein
   Betsy Ward Kurtz
19th Phillip Baiad
   Chuck Fonner
   Billie Ward Kurtz
20th Linda Aiken
   Marshall Lego
21st Bobbie Foster
   Ross Munro
   Rachel Watford
22nd Margaret Clay
23rd Catherine Argyros
   Samuel Povie
25th Carrie Collins
   Diane Meseroll
   Debbie Williamson
27th Claudette DeLong
   Justin Linthicum
29th Mary Cronk
30th Sheri Coffey
   Chase Harrison
   Bill Oakley
   Bea Yarbrough

08/02—Sanford & Judy Jones
08/03—Joel & Julie Varland
08/16—David & Pat Alley
08/23—Jim & Glenda McNew
08/25—Grady & Brenda Mills
08/27—Bill & Karen Jahn
08/31—Chris & Kelly Beaver

Monday, September 7th

The church office will be closed in observance of

L A B O R  D A Y

Saturday, September 12th
Savannah Pride
If you are interested in helping with Asbury’s booth, please contact the church office.

Wednesday Night Suppers will return September 16th
THANK GOD IT'S YOUTH

3rd Annual Taco Think Tank

Come join the Youth Group (ages 13–18) at The Angell’s
Wednesday, August 26th, 6:30 p.m.
625 East 46th Street

All Youth and Parents are Welcome to come
And
BRAINSTORM
For the Youth Group
MISSIONS–SERIVCE–ACTIVITIES

RSVP By August 19th
Email or Call/Text
Laura Angell, Youth Director
lauraangell164@gmail.com
912-313-6246

Children’s Church Leaders

Grades K–3rd
Tom & Betsy Davis
Subs: Ellie Covington & Ashley Bolfik-Stroud

Grades 4th–6th
August 2nd:
To be announced
August 9th:
Kate Strain & Suzanne Becker
August 16th
KT Aull & Andrea Harrelson
August 23rd:
Danny Adams & Kelly Limehouse
August 30th
To Be Announced

Nursery Volunteers

August 2
Diane Meseroll, Allie Spivey

August 9
Christy Crisp, Phil Devlin

August 16
Mary Ann Donahue, Billy Aiken

August 23
Tricia Richardson, Elizabeth Newkirk

August 16
Nancy Cvetan, Margaret Clay

Nursery services are provided for preschool children for the programs and services on Sundays and Wednesdays. We are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer in our nursery, please call the church office.
This Millennial’s Response to the Pew Research Center Study

May 15, 2015 By Jennie Wilburn, Program Associate

I am a millennial. I was also born and raised in the church and have continued to participate in church my entire life. I am soon to be married in the church, and if my partner and I have children, I plan to raise them in the church. I also went to seminary and currently work with churches all across the state. The results of the Pew Research study released this week were not new to me — churches are shrinking and fewer and fewer people are calling themselves “Christian.” The study talked a lot about millennials and their role in increasing the “nones” (those who identified themselves none of the above in the Pew survey). That started me thinking about my background and role in the church.

I grew up in a Reconciling United Methodist church in Savannah, Georgia. Reconciling means that it recognizes all sexual identities and gender identities in its policies and practices, and I definitely think that this inclusivity had an effect on me staying in the church. The majority of millennials support gay rights, and many see the church’s unwillingness to accept those who are different as close-minded and exclusive. The church needs to be a place that demonstrates Jesus’ love to all in order for millennials, and those of any age, to feel welcome. Millennials often have very few experiences with church other than those that they were raised in, and they may not realize that the beliefs and practices of “church” vary widely across a spectrum from liberal to conservative. The church needs to become mission-centered and focus on a God who is with us, rather than a legalistic idea of what a Christian “should be.”

Rachel Held Evans recently published an article entitled, “Want millennials back in the pews? Stop trying to make church ‘cool.’” She argues that millennials do not want a sleek, branded worship service featuring popular music and pastors in jeans, but rather an authentic community that “practices the teachings of Jesus in an open and inclusive way.” I stayed in church because I was part of a community, and part of this community’s beliefs was helping the poor and the oppressed. I was proud of my affiliation, not just as a Methodist, but as a member of a congregation and part of my community. Millennials want a church rooted in their communities in which their values and ideals are firmly represented and shared with like-minded individuals. For me, this need that millennials have to belong to a community living out their faith is evident in some emergent churches, such as Emmaus Way in Durham. This missional Christian community was founded out of the hope that “the ‘doing of church’ would not prevent our community from being deeply involved with the work of justice, compassion, community building, and hope in Durham.” This congregation was created not to
eschew organized religion, but to fulfill a need for community that wasn’t being met by an institution-alized church.

At the North Carolina Council of Churches, the release of the Pew study did not prompt an emergency staff meeting because our main concern is not metrics; it is doing Kingdom Work. We care about loving God and loving our neighbors, and being a resource to enable churches to do just that. I see churches every day that are creating spaces for people to tell their stories and to be active in their communities. I hope that this Pew study will be a call for a reawakening, reinvention, or maybe even resurrection, in churches. This is a time for something new to be happening in our churches — a chance to connect with our neighbors, the poor, the strangers, and the immigrants, in order to reinvigorate the church. The church began at the margins of communities in the world, where Jesus made God known to us. The “nones” are not a threat to Christianity, but provide an opportunity to build relationships with those at the edges, with those who are leaving. The Pew study motivates me as a Christian advocate and educator to work harder so that the church can use this opportunity to reclaim its Christ-centered identity and be a loving and authentic community, open to all, by breaking out of its comfort zone to follow the Holy Spirit into new life.

Jennie Wilburn, Program Associate

Jennie was born and raised in Savannah, GA. She moved to Texas for her undergraduate education at Rice University, during which time she studied in Mexico, Peru and Argentina and participated in service projects in Central America. After graduation she moved to Spain for a year to teach English. Jennie then came to North Carolina for a dual degree MDiv/MSW graduate program at Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill where her work focused on advocating for farmworkers and organizing churches for social justice. Recently graduated, Jennie is excited to use these skills in her role at the Council of Churches as she works to help improve conditions for immigrants and farmworkers in the state.

Jennie lives in Durham and attends First Presbyterian Church. In her free time she enjoys dancing, distance running, traveling, walking her dog, and planning her upcoming wedding. Jennie can be reached at jennie@ncchurches.org.

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EDA Savannah

Are you struggling with an eating disorder? Do you know somebody who might be battling anorexia or bulimia? There is help! Asbury has a support group for individuals who struggle with anorexia, bulimia and/or binge eating disorder. Eating Disorders Anonymous meets on Monday nights from 7:30-8:30 in the choir room. It's an open group and everyone is welcome. People with eating disorders and friends and family members of people with eating disorders are welcome to attend the meetings. It is a confidential group and everything shared in the group remains in the group. However, this is not a diet group for people looking to lose weight. Questions, please contact Ruthie Deffley at 912-312-0079 or rdurandeffley@gmail.com

There is hope — YOU CAN RECOVER! But no one can recover alone.

ASBURY HAS MADE AN IMPRESSIVE START AT RECYCLING

For the past two First Sunday gatherings and during VBS, volunteers sorted, washed and packaged recyclable cups, plates, etc... This resulted in keeping 1491 pieces of “trash” out of the landfill. Instead of our average of 3-4 giant bags of garbage, we tossed only 1/2 bag per event. THAT IS I-M-P-R-E-S-S-I-V-E!

Going green doesn't have to be complicated or painful- YET. With a few simple steps and group cooperation, we can have a large impact.

Simple Steps to helping Asbury Go Green
Simple Step #1
- Please note the signs by the trash cans in the Social Hall and sort your trash accordingly.
Simple Step #2
- Empty liquids and ice in pail next to trash cans.

Your efforts make recycling much easier for our green volunteers.
Asbury is awesome and now it's green!!

Mission Moments

Many thanks for your generous donations to the UMCOR clean up pail project. We can take credit for 7 pails that will help our friends in flooded areas. Special thanks to Karen and Bill Jahn for their marketing skills.

The Wesley Community Center needs canned fruit, preferably with low sugar content, canned meats, and peanut butter to get them through the summer months. Baskets will be on the stage for any donations. Have a great summer and thanks for all your support.

Mission Board
Study Groups & Fellowship Groups

Asbury offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups.

Our Time*

A Fellowship Group for Parents with Young Children

Our Time, a small group for parents with young children, will be switching its meeting time to the 10 O’clock hour the third Sunday of every month starting in September. The purpose of the group is to bring parents together that are experiencing similar challenges in raising young children, develop community, study a book or part of Scripture together and support each other in our Faith through prayer and accountability.

The nursery will be open so childcare is provided. Please contact Ruthie Deffley at 912-312-0079 or rdurandeffley@gmail.com or Nick Deffley at 912-312-3555 or nicholasdeffley@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

The first meeting will be Sunday, September 20th at 10:00 am. We hope you will join us!

Reconciling Ministries Network

RMN will take a break for the month of July. The group’s next meeting will be on Sunday, August 2nd.

Follow all their news on Facebook @ Asbury Memorial Reconciling!

Busy Bees

If you want a time of fellowship and craft-making, join the Busy Bees every Monday morning as they make Asbury’s famous clown dolls and other items. The group has taken a summer break but will start back in August.

Monday Lunchtime Study Group

Monday’s at 1 p.m., facilitator Pam Parker Kress

The Lunchtime Group has started it’s summer break. We will start back September 7th.

Men’s Group on Thursday Nights

The Men’s group will start back September 10th after their summer break.
The Savannah Morning News and savannahnow.com received 25 awards honoring writing, reporting, photography and design at the 2015 Georgia Press Better News Awards. The newspaper and website competed in a category composed of the largest news organizations in the state, including The Augusta Chronicle and the Macon Telegraph. Work entered in the competition was published in 2014. The awards ceremony took place at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel.

**Featured Photograph**

1st place
LAPD Det. Jim McSorley dips Tina Shamlan in the middle of East Broad Street as he marches with fellow police officers Monday during the annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

**Spot News**

2nd Place
Firefighters battle a blaze in Ocean Terminal Warehouse No. 3 at the Georgia Ports Authority.
Congratulations to Asburian Michael Edwards. He will be missed.

Chief Public Defender Edwards resigns effective Aug. 10 to pursue teaching opportunity in England

Chatham County Chief Public Defender Michael Edwards has resigned effective Aug. 10 to pursue an opportunity at a university in Sheffield, England. Edwards, 46, was Chatham County’s first public defender when he left a private law practice in June 2004 to establish the office here.

His last day in the office will be Aug. 7 before he leaves to spend a year as a visiting professor on the international faculty in the Sheffield Hallam University’s newly launched Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice. He will teach substantive American law and provide practical guidance and supervision in the Hallam Justice and Prison clinics.

He will also participate in an academic/research project, as well as development of a Magna Carta 800-year anniversary symposium.

“While we are thrilled for Michael’s opportunity to teach in England and promote a comprehensive vision of justice internationally, this agency and the state will sincerely miss his service as the Circuit Public Defender in the Eastern Circuit,” said Bryan Tyson, executive director of Georgia Public Defender’s Standards Council.

“The council is grateful for Mr. Edwards’ leadership, vision, and strenuous effort to build the Eastern Circuit Public Defender office.

“His office’s excellent work on behalf of its clients is well known across the state and is due in large part to his efforts to build the office and to promote a culture of service to the individuals that it represents.”

Chatham County Superior Court Chief Judge Michael Karpf said Thursday the judges “appreciate (Edwards’) years of service. He started the public defender’s office in Chatham County from zero, from nothing really.

“It’s been an asset to the community and the court. ... We are grateful for all of the work he’s done.”

Edwards started the office as one of 49 full-time public defenders under a new law signed by then-Gov. Sonny Perdue to represent low-income defendants in criminal cases.

His initial staff of 12 including eight lawyers has grown to include 20 assistant public defenders, 40, including assistant public defenders, administrative assistants, investigators and a social worker.

Edwards credited what he called “an incredible, dedicated staff for what he has been able to accomplish.”

Edwards has had a five-year relationship with the English university, including inviting interns each year to visit Savannah and view the local courts and has traveled to Sheffield to participate in a number of events.

He said he sees his new role as an opportunity to impart some of knowledge from the public defender’s office and conversely return with new ideas.

“I feel like it’s a real opportunity for me to learn,” Edwards said.

He said his time in the public defender’s office has been “wonderful. ... It’s been everything I dreamed of in the legal profession.”

Congratulations to Asburians,

Ross Munro and Natalie Wysocki,

Ross and Natalie were married Saturday, June 6th at the Georgia State Railroad Museum.
Congratulations to Asburian, Cale Hall,
Co-Founder and President, Creative Approach

Creative Approach Atlanta Ribbon Cutting

Atlanta, Ga. – The ribbon cutting for Creative Approach, a high-quality, digital print facility with an in-house graphic design team opening at the corner of 12th and West Peachtree Street, is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Creative Approach Atlanta, which officially opens its doors for business on Friday, May 22, has established itself as a cornerstone in the Savannah, Ga. Community over the last 10 years with same day service on most printing projects.

Hosted by Fred Blankenship of WSB-TV, the ribbon cutting will feature keynote speaker Georgia Department of Labor Commissioner Mark Butler, with check presentations to The Atlanta Community Food Bank, The Captain Planet Foundation, The Tyler Perry Foundation, and Georgia Equality.

Light refreshments will be available, along with goodie bags for the first 150 guests. Creative Approach is also offering a 20 percent discount to local Georgia businesses in honor of their opening.

For more information about the ribbon cutting, please contact Cale Hall at cale@mycreativeapproach.com or at 912-308-7247, 404-594-6079 To learn more about Creative Approach, visit http://mycreativeapproach.com.

Thank you

Dear Asbury Family,

The real cross arrived from Israel and it is almost as stunning as the substitute Linda Combs created. Thank you for the beautiful Jerusalem cross and the tacky one and for all the expressions of love from my Asbury family on my “official” retirement. I hope you weren’t too disappointed when you learned that Sam and I aren’t going anywhere, just slowing down a bit.

Thank you for accepting, supporting, and trusting me as we shared out lives and our ministry over the years. I am grateful for our exceptional staff who work so creatively together and our faithful members who serve others in so many ways.

I am privileged to be part of such a caring and joy-filled congregation.

May God continue to bless Asbury Memorial UMC.

Love,

Jan

Congratulations to Asburians, Jaimme and Laura Dowling

Jaimme and his wife Laura both graduated Saturday, June 20th from South University, with their masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Safe Sanctuary Training

We will have a Safe Sanctuary training on Saturday, August 15th at 10 a.m.. Our Safe Sanctuary Policy demonstrates our absolute and unwavering commitment to the physical safety, emotional well-being and spiritual growth of all of our children and youth. If you are interested in working with our nursery, Children’s Church or youth, it is a must you attend. Also, Safe Sanctuary certifications are required every 2 years, please contact Claudette to see when your certification is due.
Asbury Choir

The choir will take their annual summer break in July. We will resume August 12. If you are not a member of our choir, let me extend this invitation to you. The only thing that is required to be a member of our choir is that you like to have a good time! We practice on Wednesday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 10:30 am. We would love for you to come and be a part of our wonderful choir.

Handbell Choir

Are you interested in playing handbells? Handbell class for new members or people wanting to learn, will be Sunday, August 9th, 16th, 23rd at 9 am. Handbell practice resumes August 31st at 9 am.

Asbury Memorial Theatre

Fall Production Auditions

Auditions will be held September 14th and 15th from 7 to 9 p.m.

THE 39 STEPS...a comedy spoof of the Hitchcock movie 39 STEPS

Busy Bees

The Busy Bees will be taking a rest from sewing in June and July. They will return in August. Even though they will not be taking orders until they return in August, they are prepared. If you find a need for a gift (new born, birthday, anniversary, congratulations, etc.) they sewed preparing for this break. So there is plenty in stock for you to choose from! You may contact David Grice at degrice@comcast.net or Cindy Telljohann at cyndytel@gmail.com. Also, if you are interested in fellowship and sewing, join them August 3rd at 10 a.m. in the Social Hall.

Summer Movies Continue!

At 7:00 p.m. on Friday, July 17th, the movie “Frozen” will be shown in the Social Hall. Frozen is a 3D computer animated musical fantasy-comedy. Have you guessed by now, we will be singing along!!!

This 102-minute film is rated PG

Popcorn will be available. Feel free to bring your own chairs.

When their kingdom becomes trapped in perpetual winter, fearless Anna (Kristen Bell) joins forces with mountaineer Kristoff (Jonathan Groff) and his reindeer sidekick to find Anna's sister, Snow Queen Elsa (Idina Menzel), and break her icy spell. Although their epic journey leads them to encounters with mystical trolls, a comedic snowman (Josh Gad), harsh conditions, and magic at every turn, Anna and Kristoff bravely push onward in a race to save their kingdom from winter's cold grip.

Also bring your smart phone, or lap top or something that will connect to the internet for another rousing game of Kahoot at intermission!

(So brush up on your Disney trivia!)
WHEN SHADOWS FALL

❖ We extend our love and sympathy to Carrie Collins and family in the loss of her cousin, Kenneth Mackey.

❖ We extend our love and sympathy to the Pelletier family, the Dufault family, Jean Baker and our Asbury family in the loss of Roger Pelletier.

❖ We extend our love and sympathy to the Harriett Sanders family, Ward Lariscy, and our Asbury family in the loss of Elizabeth Lariscy.

❖ We extend our love and sympathy to the Carter Campbell and family in the loss of his mother, Frances Jacobs Campbell.

MEMORIALS

A Gift has been given to the General Fund in memory of Dot Wallace by Mary Ann Donahue

HONORARIUMS

A Gift has been given to the “Sabbatical” Fund in honor of Rev. Billy’ and his service by Jennie & Ian Belle

PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

Hank Albee, Pat Andres, Catherine Argyros, Jenniee Brannen, Jean Butcher, Thurman Butcher, Carter Campbell, Anita Clay, Mary Cronk, Gretchen Dodd, Carter Drake, Barbara Gooby, Gay Gwinner, Maurice Gwinner, Chase Harrison, May Johnson, Judith Kessler, Cookie Leadbetter, Frances Monson, Beulah Nettles, Marie Parker, Susan Powell, Mary Prokop, Barbara Schafer, Mina Smith, Cabell Stewart, Jean Stewart, Pat Stewart, Cindy Telljohann, Kenn Waters, Diane Williamson

Wildberries

Russ Boekenheide, Betty Cooper, Deb Gibson, Lillian Lindsay, Becky Martin, Sherry Moore, Liam Steffen

Family & Friends

Nathan Adams, Shirley Blackmon, Billie Bryant, Frances Campbell, Margie Cardinile, Betsy Cowperthwaite, Meg Dure, Rickey Edwards, Doug Ellis, Willow Harper, Archie Iodice, Mark Kelso, Jeanie Knight, Baby Mia, Rosie Newman, Janet Oliver, Janice Roberson-Bowman, Lee Robinson, Barbara Rogers, Roger of Peacock’s Florist, Cheryl Simmons, Kathy Smith, Deanna Wooden
On the heels of three triumphant performances co-produced with the Savannah Music Festival, the Savannah VOICE Festival (SVF) announces that the third annual Festival’s opera will be Bizet’s Carmen which will be presented at the Asbury Memorial Theatre on the afternoon of Sunday August 9th and the evening of Tuesday August 11th 2015. The Festival opera will again be made possible by The Ford Plantation, one of the nation’s premier sporting clubs, who sponsored the 2014 Festival’s opera – Don Giovanni.

Carmen is one of Bizet’s most popular operas and Savannah audiences will be able to enjoy a slightly abridged two hour format with supertitles of this 19th century French opera which tells the story of a naïve soldier – Don Jose - who is seduced by the beautiful gypsy – Carmen. Don Jose abandons his military duties and childhood sweetheart only to lose her love to another. His jealousy of her new lover – Escamillo – drives him to murder Carmen.

The talented trio who ensured the success of Don Giovanni in 2014 are again returning to Savannah in 2015 and Maria Zouves, Executive Director of the SVF commented “The talent and expertise that Edwin Cahill brings to directing our operas combined with the excellence of our conductor - Andrew Bisantz and our pianist - Christopher Cano means that Savannah audiences will once again be thrilled by a unique operatic experience in August”.

The 2015 VOICE Festival which will take place in and around Savannah from August 2nd – 16th 2015 forms part of Artistic Director Sherrill Milnes’ 80th birthday year celebration. Milnes is America’s most recorded opera singer and three-time GRAMMY award-winning baritone who founded VOICE Experience and Savannah VOICE Festival with his wife, soprano Maria Zouves.
Flowers in the Sanctuary
Supplying the flower arrangements for the worship service is a wonderful way to commemorate a date that is important to you or a loved one. Please check the 2015 Flower Chart in the narthex and sign up. The cost is $60. For more information call the church office at 233-4351.

Special Funds
One way to honor or to remember a loved one is with a memorial or an honorarium to some of our different funds such as the Trustee Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, the Hester-Children Education Fund or one of our Mission Funds.

Newsletter Information
If you have an announcement for “The Asbury Update,” please send it to the church office in writing by the 15th of each month. Contact Claudette DeLong, Office Manager at 233-4351 or email to church@asburymemorial.org. Office hours are 9 AM to 2 PM, Monday thru Friday.

Mission Statement:
Asbury Memorial is a place where all people can develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we seek to love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.