

THE JOURNAL

Asbury - "Where Hearts are Warmed for Christ"

April 5th, 2016

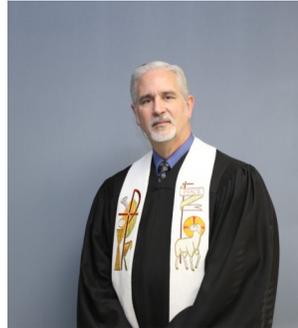
A word from the Pastor

Easter Greetings to My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have been blessed to experience a wonderful time of Easter celebration here at Asbury. Jesus is alive, and we have every reason to celebrate. We live in freedom both as the people of God who know the Gospel and as citizens of our nation. We can worship God freely today, and we are assured of dwelling in the presence of God for all eternity. We should be the most joyous people in the world.

This month I want to stress to you that what we know and celebrate is far too often unknown to others in this world. I would like to think that the world is getting smaller with the use of technology. We would almost assume that everyone has heard the name of Jesus. The sad reality is that there are people across the globe who have never heard the Good News of the Gospel. It is just as sad and just as true that there are people in our nation and even in our community who have no idea of who Jesus is and what He did. The Christian holidays are reduced to Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny.

I know it is hard to believe, but it is true that there are residents of Odessa Texas who have absolutely no understanding of Jesus. Because of this, they have no



desire or seeming need for the things of God. We have thousands of people in our community who are not connected to a Christian congregation, and this means there are unlimited possibilities for Asbury. As long as there is one person who does not know Jesus as his/her Savior, we have a reason and a purpose for existing as a church. I encourage each member of our congregation to be mindful of the people in our community who you interact with on a regular basis. It could be the person at the market, or the employee at Home Depot, or even the receptionist at your doctor's office. There are opportunities to share God's love all around us.

While we can share the love of God with most people in our community, there are some, who because of cultural differences and a language barrier, we cannot reach. I have received a request for support for the only Korean speaking United Methodist pastor in the El Paso District. The Rev. Yong Sub Sim immigrated to the United States a few years ago, and he has served in El Paso at the only Korean speaking UMC congregation in that city. The dynamics of the Korean population in El Paso are changing in drastic ways, and in order for Rev. Sim to continue to serve in El Paso he will need to become fluent in English. The Conference has set a time limit for his proficiency to develop to a point that he can

Our Mission

Connect - to God and neighbor

Equip - to disciple

Send - to serve

Our Vision

A vibrant faith community that reaches out with the love of Christ to every generation for the transformation of the world.

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Sunday Worship:

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Worship Services, Sanctuary

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages

Serving Schedule:

Greeters April 10th

9:00 a.m. Sammie Rogers,
Mike Krueger

11:00 a.m. Mary Davidson,
Lois Lutes

Ushers April 10th

B. Johnson Captain, H. Lane,
R. Campbell, M. Krueger

Technology April 10th

Media Computer Mike D.

Sound Board 9:00 John B.

11:00 Anthony M.

Video Camera 9:00 Sunder P.

11:00 Jaci B.

Greeters April 17th

9:00 a.m. Sammie Rogers,
Mike Krueger

11:00 a.m. Charles & Bonnie
Cotten, Terry Richey

Ushers April 17th

R. Campbell Captain, D. And-
julius, D. Hughes, M. Lippman

Technology April 17th

Media Computer Mike D.

Sound Board 9:00 Tim B.

11:00 Mike W.

Video Camera 9:00 Sunder P.

11:00 Jaci B.

Attendance:

March 27th, 2016

9:00 94

11:00 116

Sunday School 70

April 3rd, 2016

9:00 63

11:00 77

Sunday School 59

Prayer Requests

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND AND THOSE IN NURSING HOMES:

Lois Holt
Gertrude Merrit (Parks)
Trula Palmer

Mona Rogge
Wanda Stahl
Clarence Stahl

Prayers for Asbury Family and Friends:

Sue Angle	Carmella Ciulla	Deborah Hicks	Colleen Markey	Noel Reedy
Chris Aldrich	Ryan Conrad	Devon Hinton	Fred Martin	Reis Ritz
Debbie Atkinson	Beth Curry	Herb Hintz	Carol Maxwell	Shirley Rybolt
Eric Baker	Jon Decker	Mary Hodges	Jagger McCollum	Don & Barbara Shinn
Michael Ballard	Geneva DeShazo	Bri Hurst	Bob McCoy	Michelle Simpson
M'Lou Belton	Matthew DeShazo	Dotty Jones	McDonald Family	Cheryl Stark
Neva Bird	Marianne Dunn	Sandra Jordan	Drew Menasco	Paul Stephans
Phyllis Blair	Chuck Ellison	Carolyn Kent	Elijah Mendoza	Diane Thomas
Jack Blenk	Veronica Farrow	Jim Ketcham	Nathan Mendoza	Laura Turner
Jim Bolding	Kathy Fillpot	Kay Kingon	Barbara Moses	Jim Ward
Dan Brazeal	Al French	Earl Kinne	EJ O'Donnell	Jake Westmoreland
Dr. Steve Brown	Greer Family	Betty Krueger	Lynn Patterson	David Weyant
Brian Browning	Jill Groves	Ruthie Lasater	Don Peters	Phyllis White
Susan Bryans	Hargrove Family	Keylee Latham	Lynn Phillips	Family of Truman Kidd
Norma Bustamante	Ryan Hartman	Ralph Lewis	Molly Pruitt	Hearts and Hands Orphanage
Pat Campbell	Melba Hayden	Kathy Lollar	Toni Rainwater	Vickie

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY & DEPLOYED

Alex Kinne, Navy Power
School

Military & their

Frank Love David Reedy

From the Mailbag

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you for your gift of supporting several of missionaries and ministries of the General Board of Global Ministries. 100 percent of your contributions are applied to your designated projects and missionary support. Your generosity makes it possible for the church to extend God's mission across the globe to more than 60 countries and many areas in the United States.

May God grant you a sense of hope and joy as you continue your support for mission,

Dear Friends,

Spring is a time of renewal and new beginnings. It is encouraging to see the advancements taking place in the lives of the children here at the Home. God continues to bless the children and staff, and it is exciting to see the changes. We so appreciate your gift to the Home! It is vital for all the activities and programs that we have for our children. Thank you for being willing to make a difference in the lives of children. You are always welcome to come and see what God is doing at the Children's Home!

Love the Children,

Asbury Family,

I want to express my appreciation to The Blooming Rose for the large white Calla Lilies purchased there for Easter morning. If you go into this florist, please thank Wanda or her daughter, Leann, because they make it possible for us to afford beautiful flowers, especially the more exotic varieties. They love the Lord, and their business has been kind to Odessa churches for over 40 years. There are still openings on the Flower Calendar which is on the kiosk in the narthex.

Lectionary Readings

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH: ACTS 9:1-6, PSALM 30, REVELATION 5:11-14, JOHN 21:1-19

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH: ACTS 9:36-43, PSALM 23, REVELATION 7:9-17, JOHN 10:22-30

Asbury Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 10th, 2016:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
 9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
 10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
 11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship
 5:00 p.m. Ascent Youth

Monday, April 11th, 2016:

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 12th, 2016:

6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. VSC Meeting, #121

Wednesday, April 13th, 2016:

Super Wednesday!
 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
 4:30 p.m. Melody Makers
 5:30 p.m. Supper
 6:15 p.m. Activities for all ages
 7:15 p.m. Choir

Thursday, April 14th, 2016:

9:00 a.m. Stitches
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Friday, April 15th, 2016:

8:30 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Crisis Center National
 Crime Victims Rights Week, Sanctuary
 Noon Scrapbook Group, F/H

Saturday, April 16th, 2016:

8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m. Scrapbook Group, F/H

Sunday, April 17th, 2016:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
 9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
 10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
 11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship
 5:00 p.m. Ascent Youth

Monday, April 18th, 2016:

Paula on Vacation Through Friday
 2:00 p.m. Deadline for Newsletter Articles
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 19th, 2016:

Newsletter Day
 10:00 a.m.– Noon MOPS
 6:00 p.m. CPS
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. VSC Meeting, #121

Wednesday, April 20th, 2016:

Super Wednesday!
 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
 4:30 p.m. Melody Makers
 5:30 p.m. Supper
 6:15 p.m. Activities for all ages
 7:15 p.m. Choir

Thursday, April 21st, 2016:

9:00 a.m. Stitches
 10:30 a.m. Parks Communion Service
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Sunday, April 24th, 2016:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
 9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
 10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
 11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship

Contact Us

4001 E University

Odessa, TX 79762-8037

asburymcodessa.org

432-366-4455

Russ Nebhut

Pastor



aumcodessa

Announcements

Native American Ministries Sunday

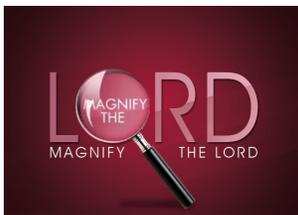
This coming Sunday, April 10th, is Native American Ministries Sunday. Special offerings this Sunday will go toward this organization. Your generous offering will help empower local spiritual development and edu-

Magnify the Lord- Asbury's 55/20 Celebration

Asbury is having a Birthday! Our congregation will turn 55 years old this Fall, and we are also approaching the 20th anniversary for the building of the Sanctuary. An anniversary committee has been appointed and the members are working diligently to prepare a wonderful celebration.

The date has been set for September 25th, and our former pastor Rev. Will Cotton will be returning to lead our celebration worship.

In order to facilitate our celebration, the anniversary committee is making a request of all our members and friends. We are asking each family to consider a special donation of \$55.00 in honor of our 55th year as a way to underwrite the expenses of our celebration. We are requesting this special offering as a way to provide a unique celebration and not impact our regular operating budget. Please give if you can, but know that we are blessed as a congregation as we all have much to celebrate.



NEW EXERCISE MINISTRY - Receiving Donations!

There is much interest in a larger Exercise Ministry, an opportunity for our Asbury family to keep fit! We would like to facilitate a larger room with more equipment. If you have any equipment you would like to donate, we would be happy to pick it up from you. (Of course, funding also helps :-)

Items needed might include:

Treadmill, elliptical walker, exercise bicycle, stairsteps, flat screen TV

Candidate Search

The year 2016 is off to a great start, and exciting things are happening at Asbury. New people are coming, and wonderful changes are taking place. This year promises to end with new people and changes as well. Our long time church administrator, Paula, has announced her retirement for the end of this year. She has graciously announced her departure early to give our congregation sufficient time to find a qualified replacement. The SPRC is now in a position to begin to receive names nominated from the congregation for consideration.

While church membership at Asbury is not required, we do prefer an individual with strong Christian values who is active in a Christian congregation. This individual must have strong accounting skills, be a good organizer, work well with volunteers, and be self-motivated. If you would like to make a suggestion of an individual who you believe would be a good administrator for our congregation, please provide this person's name and contact information to Pastor Russ or Don Jordan (SPRC chair). The SPRC will begin interviewing once time has been provided for our membership to

Trash Pickup

The trash pickup is scheduled for April 16th from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Meet at the intersection of NE loop 338 and Commandra, which is on the north side of town. Water, snacks, gloves, trash bags and safety vests will be provided, volunteers only need to bring themselves! Long sleeves and

Defibrillators for Asbury

At January's Church Council meeting, the purchase of two defibrillators was approved and then the Memorial Committee approved the use of Memorial funds for the purchase. There will be two defibrillators with pads for both adults and children. The memorials and honorariums that have been made could one day save the life of an adult, a child or maybe even you. So, thank you for your gifts. There will be training on them and an opportunity to sign up for CPR classes.

preparing him for a broader spectrum of ministry. For this twelve month period I am asking the members of Asbury to consider a small sponsorship for pastor Sim to make this transition possible. This will not be a budget item, and I am requesting that no regular offerings be diverted. If you are so inclined, I am requesting additional offerings for Rev. Sim's assistance. If all families of our congregation gave \$5.00 a month toward this ministry, we could provide what Pastor Sim needs to accomplish this training. This will insure the Korean ministry in El Paso continues in a meaningful way for years to come.

God Bless,
Pastor Russ



Pictured: Rev. Yong Sub Sim

Food Pantry

Westminster Presbyterian Church has partnered with the West Texas Food Bank to provide an important service to our community - feeding hungry people. The pantry is stocked with dry and canned goods supplied through individual donations, company/group donations and purchases from the Food Bank. Under this partnership, each \$1 donation provides 4 meals. 100% of the funds donated go to the purchase of food. Distribution is on the last Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The pantry's first distribution was February 27, 2016. We ask you to pray that God will be glorified through this outreach and that many people can be served. If you are interested in volunteering your time, partnering with us as a group and/or making an individual donation, please contact Mitchie Rush at 432-202-7602 or the church office

Flamingo Flocking Fundraiser

The youth and children's ministries are about to start the Flamingo Flocking Fundraiser! 3 flocks of flamingos will soon be visiting Odessa! In the late afternoon, Flamingo's choose a roosting place for the night. The flamingo's (plastic) are harmless, but they must be removed by specially trained professionals (children). If the flamingos land in your yard, you will get to enjoy them for 24-48 hours before having the **option** to pay \$25 to pick the next yard they will rest in. This fundraiser is tons of fun for everyone involved. If the flamingo's land in your yard, we ask that you try to think of someone you know who does not know about our church, has the funds to donate to youth and children and will find this fundraiser humorous. The flamingos give us a way to talk about our church with people in the community, show that we have fun with kids and raise money for camp! It will be easy to share your love of Asbury when someone calls you laughing and asks, "Why did you send flamin-

Pastor Russ Nebhut

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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