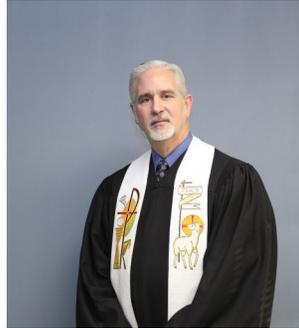


## A word from the Pastor



Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As I sit writing this newsletter article, we have concluded Vacation Bible School. It was a great week, and we were stretched in numerous directions. The normal activities of counseling, hospitals, multiple studies each week and services continued with the addition of 172 children in the building each day. It was exhausting, but also exciting. The physical demands on our leaders and volunteers ran close to taking its toll, but their faithfulness and dedication never cease to inspire me.

The dedication I see in our staff and volunteers moves me to want to be a better pastor and serve both God and you here at Asbury, to the best of my ability. As a pastor, I have a charge from God to preach the truth of Scripture - all the truth of Scripture as faithfully as I am able. This means I need to know and understand the truths of Scripture as well as teach them faithfully to those of you who are entrusted to my care as an under-shepherd of the Good Shepherd. There are those within Christendom who have become seemingly confused as to the role of the preacher in the church. I personally believe the problems rest in our foundational understanding of the purpose of the Church.

In our society, the Church has historically worn many hats. We have been proclaimers of the Gospel, as we should be. We have ministered to those in need from all walks of life. From the homeless to the drug addicts, the orphans and widows, the slaves and the abused, and so many other victims of crime and circumstances have been the focus of the ministry of our church, both globally and within our midst. These are all true and good ministries. We have lifted our eyes to see the bigger issues and addressed them in our society and communities throughout the life of our church. Social Justice is-

issues have been a primary work of the United Methodist Church in the world. Seeking to overcome injustice and abuse wherever it is present is a good and worthy work of the people of God. The problem comes when all these works are reduced to what we see on the screen or in print, and the money we put in the plate. The work of ministering is removed from us personally, and we only minister in vicarious ways. This was never the intent of our church body, and it is certainly not the mission Jesus entrusted to us. The calling of the pastor of the church is to "equip the saints for the work of the ministry" so that the ministry might be accomplished through you!

The problem is that in our society today we have become accustomed to attending church and basically hearing how great God is, how blessed we are, and then going home feeling good about ourselves. No one preaching about sin! No one is addressing real issues in our lives, and certainly no one is actually challenging us to do something in service to God. In fact, very few preachers even preach the truth of the Gospel anymore, because Jesus hanging on a cross, bleeding and suffering, is not a "feel good" image. Many want church to be picture perfect! They want nice songs and pretty people who sit nicely together and sing on pitch. They want an encouraging message which does not step on anyone's toes and never truly challenges anyone. In other words, the church in America wants to be comfortable!

Each and every pastor is accountable to God Himself for the charge He has entrusted to proclaim the Word of God faithfully. The world we live in is not picture perfect. It is hard! It is messy! It is filled with evil and violence which sometimes enters into our neatly controlled lives and reeks havoc. And behind it all there is an enemy who is persistently working to destroy everything God is seeking to accomplish. For any pastor to choose to ignore what God

### 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.

### In This Issue

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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

# Prayer Requests

## Serving Schedule:

### Greeters August 7th

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

11:00 a.m. Marilyn Andjulis

### Ushers August 7th

D. Andjulis, Captain, B. Jones,  
P. Patterson, G. Haynes, M.  
Krueger, T. Jones, M. Nelson,  
K. Lind

### Technology August 7th

Media Computer Anthony M.

Sound Board 9:00 Tim B.

11:00 Mike W.

Video Camera 9:00 Sunder P.

11:00 Jaci B.

### Greeters August 14th

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

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

### Ushers August 14th

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

### Technology August 14th

Media Computer Mike D.

Sound Board 9:00 John B.

11:00 Anthony M.

Video Camera 9:00 Sunder P.

11:00 Jaci B.

## Attendance:

July 24th, 2016

9:00 60

11:00 79

Sunday School 47

July 31st, 2016

11:00 145

Sunday School 55

## 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:

Mary Ann Davidson Andrews	Ryan Conrad	Melba Hayden	Andrew Marrs	Reis Ritz
Sue Angle	Jon Decker	Sherrell Hendricks	Fred Martin	James Roye
Chris Aldrich	Geneva DeShazo	Deborah Hicks	Carol Maxwell	Shirley Rybolt
Debbie Atkinson	Jeanie DeShazo	Mary Jo Hill	Bob McCoy	Jaci Shahan
Eric Baker	Matthew DeShazo	Mary Hodges	Drew Menasco	Don & Barbara Shinn
Michael Ballard	Marianne Dunn	Lois Holt	Elijah Mendoza	Michelle Simpson
Phyllis Blair	Chuck Ellison	Bri Hurst	Nathan Mendoza	John Smith
Jim Bolding	Libby Ellrich	Dotty Jones	Mary Moore	Diane Thomas
Dan Brazeal	Missy Fowler	Sandra Jordan	Barbara Moses	Mike Waldrip
Vicki Bredemeyer	Kathy Fillpot	Carolyn Kent	Ronnie New	Jim Ward
Dr. Steve Brown	Dallas Garrett	Jim Ketcham	Jerri Nickel	Jake Westmoreland
Brian Browning	Debbie Garrett	Kay Kingon	EJ O'Donnell	David Weyant
Norma Bustamante	Brantley Gover	Earl Kinne	Lynn Patterson	Phyllis White
Pat Campbell	Kassie Greene	Betty Krueger	Lynn Phillips	Mark Winters
Barbara Cates	Anita Guinn	Ralph Lewis	Molly Pruitt	Kylieh
Myrl Chapman	Cameron Halley	Diane Livesey	Toni Rainwater	South Sudan
Craig Cherry	Chris Halley	Frank Love	Prisilia Ramirez	
Shelli Childers	Sean Halley	Nancy Lovett	David Reedy	
Carmella Ciulla	Joy Harvey	Colleen Markey	Noel Reedy	

Rehab: Mary Ann Davidson Andrews

Hospital: David Weyant

Joy Bolding

Joy: Birth of Corbyn Kincaid Lamb on July 22nd, 2016 to Will and Elissa Lamb.

## PRAYERS FOR MILITARY & DEPLOYED:

Military & their families

## From the Mailbag

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you for your gift received to the General Board of Global Ministries through The Advance, the designated mission giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that 100 percent of your contribution will go to Clinton Indian Church and Community Center. Your gift is meeting the spiritual and educational needs of children of Cheyenne and Arapaho tribe in Oklahoma. Thank you for giving so generously! May God grant you a sense of hope and joy as you continue your support for mission.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Fernandes

General Board of Global Ministries

## Lectionary Readings

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH: ISAIAH 1:1, 10-20, PSALM 50:1-8, 22-23, HEBREWS 11:1-3, 8-16, LUKE 12:32-40

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH: ISAIAH 5:1-7, PSALM 80:1-2, 8-19, HEBREWS 11:29-12:2, LUKE 12:49-56

# Asbury Upcoming Events

## Sunday, August 7th, 2016:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer  
9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship  
9:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121  
10:00 a.m. Life Lessons  
11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship

## Monday, August 8th, 2016:

6:00 p.m. Power Flex  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

## Tuesday, August 9th, 2016:

6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi  
7:00 p.m. VSC, #121  
7:00 p.m. *The Shack*, 1423 Wedgewood

## Wednesday, August 10th, 2016:

7:00 p.m. ASM @ Nebhut's  
7:15 p.m. Choir

## Thursday, August 11th, 2016:

9:00 a.m. Stitches  
6:00 p.m. Power Flex  
6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi

## Friday, August 12th, 2016:

8:30 a.m. Breakfast for ECISD Administrators, OHS  
11:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121  
7:00 p.m. Bingo, Ice Cream & Outdoor Movie Night

## Saturday, August 13th, 2016:

8:00 -9:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast, F/H  
8:00 a.m.-3:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121

## Sunday, August 14th, 2016:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer  
9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship  
9:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121  
10:00 a.m. Life Lessons  
11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship  
6:00 p.m. Back to School Party @ Griffin's for Elementary Kids

## Monday, August 15th, 2016:

1:00 p.m. Deadline for Newsletter Articles  
6:00 p.m. Power Flex  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

## Tuesday, August 16th, 2016:

Newsletter Day  
5:30 p.m. 2015 Audit  
6:00 p.m. CPS, #111  
6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi  
7:00 p.m. VSC, #121  
7:00 p.m. *The Shack*, 1423 Wedgewood

## Wednesday, August 17th, 2016:

7:00 p.m. ASM @ Nebhut's  
7:15 p.m. Choir

## Thursday, August 18th, 2016:

9:00 a.m. Stitches  
10:30 a.m. Parks Communion Service  
12:30-3:30 p.m. Vision Support Group, #110  
6:00 p.m. Power Flex  
6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi  
7:00 p.m. Finance

## Friday, August 19th, 2016:

11:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121

## Saturday, August 20th, 2016:

8:00 a.m.-3:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121

## Sunday, August 21st, 2016:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer  
9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship  
9:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m. TT Reading Program, #121  
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

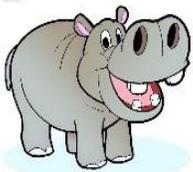
Russ Nebhut

Pastor



aumcodessa

## Announcements



### MCH Faith & Health Network

**HIPAA** (The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) does not allow your pastor to be automatically notified should you become hospitalized. The Faith & Health Network (FHN) can assist in making this connection. Complete an enrollment card which is located at the FHN educational table on the table near the office or contact Asbury's FHN liaison, Debbie Garrett for more information. The Faith & Health Network is there to assist all but if you're signed up as a member, the hospital can work with you and Asbury to meet your needs.

### Vacation Bible School 2016

This year's Surf Shack was a huge success, touching the lives of **172** children and youth! 4th and 5th grade mission projects from this year included the Rainbow Room, Jesus House, West Texas Food Bank and Meals on Wheels. As an outreach mission project, we collected school supplies and money to help fill backpacks at the Rainbow Room!



### Health-E-Habits for August 2016

### MCH Faith & Health Network

### Consider getting vaccinated

Is the fear of receiving an injection keeping you from being protected against the flu? The nasal spray, intradermal needle and needle-free injector may be options for you!  
Don't forget the vaccines to prevent pneumonia, shingles and infectious diseases.

### HELP! Pictures Needed!

The History Committee for Asbury's 55th is in need of church pictures from the years 1996-2016. If you have hard copies, please loan them to Debbie Garret to scan. If you have them in a file, pick out the best and email them to [dallaswg@grandecom.net](mailto:dallaswg@grandecom.net) ASAP. Please put **Asbury pictures** in the subject line.

### Bingo- Ice Cream- Movie Night!

Next Friday night, August 12th, we will be having a bingo, ice cream and movie night! We will start Bingo at 7:00 p.m., followed by homemade ice cream and a movie starting around 8:30 p.m.  
Join us for a fun night of activities at the church!

has revealed in His Word concerning the devil and what he is attempting to do would be to fall into the current mold of American Christianity which is basically “pretend the devil and sin do not exist and make everyone feel good about themselves.” This is not the role of a Christian pastor according to the Word of God. I pray all pastors hold to the early Reformation cry of faithfulness, “I am bound by conscience to the Word of God, and I can do not other, God help me. Amen.” Pray that every pastor commits to never compromising the truth. Pray every pastor preaches and teaches nothing but the whole truth!

What I desire for you to understand is that you need this! The Gospel of Jesus Christ is never as sweet or as powerful as it is when we understand the true depths of sin and from where we have each been rescued. God does not want us to simply feel good! He desires for us to become good - Sanctification. God does not want us to simply ride in a victory parade, He desires for us to truly be victorious over sin and Satan in our own lives! God is not looking for pretty and nice, He is looking for real and honest! God wants us to grow up in faith and to truly become like Christ in all ways. I am convicted it is my calling to do all I can to lead the way in this growth. As I said at the beginning, I am inspired by the dedication of so many around me each day. So I recommit myself to you and to our God to proclaim the truth. I will preach and teach the whole counsel of God to the best of my ability. I will be faithful to the charge entrusted to me by our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray, by God grace, we will truly become the Church God calls to be – The redeemed of Christ who are living for Him in this world.

Pastor Russ

## Blanton Outreach

Asbury Church will continue to sponsor Blanton Elementary School during the 2016-2017 school year. Our primary purpose is to pray daily for the staff and students. A suggested prayer is:

“Gracious God, I thank you for the opportunity to learn and to wonder. I lift up to you this day Blanton Elementary. I pray for the teachers, students, staff and families that this year might be rewarding for all. Heavenly Father, grant them wisdom and help them to know Your truth.

Protect them with your loving care and may Your joy permeate throughout the school year. In their learning and teaching may they grow in the knowledge of Your love and Grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

(Or pray your own prayer)

The other part of this project is for you to “adopt” a staff member to pray for, and/or send them a card or gift certificate, or make them some cookies or whatever on special holidays or their birthday. We will have the staff fill out a form with their birthday, anniversary, favorite candy, color, sports team etc. to give you some ideas for things you might like to do for them.

There are approximately 55 staff members, and we would like to have a sponsor for each one. We will have forms for you to pick up and fill out in the foyer. Please feel free to contact LaNelle (559-7824) or Mike Agee (559-4502) if you have any questions!

Pastor Russ Nebhut

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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