

A word from the Pastor

Grace and Peace be Yours as we journey through this Lenten Season together.

This month I put forth to you an article concerning the formation and focus of the Wesley Covenant Association. This organization is a coming together of like minded pastors and laity from across our nation to stand together as our church body moves closer to decision which will determine our future together. This article is presented as a means to assist you in staying informed on major issues in our church.

Pastor Russ

The Chicago Statement from the Wesleyan Covenant Association

As we gather together to launch the Wesleyan Covenant Association, we are very mindful of the unsettled and uncertain times in The United Methodist Church. The following important statement will be put before the conference shortly after lunch for the assembly's approval and affirmation. It will also be available on the WCA website and the WCA App.

Chicago Statement to the Bishops' Commission on A Way Forward

Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, October 7, 2016, over 1,700 people affirmed and approved the creation of the Wesleyan Covenant Association.

The association is a coalition of congregations, clergy, and laity from across The United Methodist Church, committed to promoting ministry that combines a high view of Scripture, Wesleyan vitality, orthodox theology, and Holy Spirit empowerment. We have come together to support, network, and encourage one another as the uncertain future of The United Methodist Church comes into clearer focus.

We have heard from many concerned United Methodists who believe that the church's current situation is untenable. Some of our members are leaving their local churches or suspending their giving. Some local churches are suspending or redirecting the payment of apportionments, while

other congregations are preparing to leave the denomination. Therefore, we call upon the Council of Bishops to:

Swiftly name the members of the commission and expedite their gathering to begin working together, and

Approve the call for a special General Conference in early 2018 to enable resolution of the conflict that divides us before further harm is done to United Methodist members, congregations, conferences, and ministries.

As faithful United Methodists, we will fervently pray for the bishops' Commission on A Way Forward. And while we patiently wait for it to complete its work, we call upon its members to:

Work deliberately and expeditiously as it prepares a recommendation for a called General Conference scheduled for early 2018;

Regularly update the people of the church regarding its progress, or lack thereof, and,

Bring forth a recommendation that would definitively resolve our debate over The United Methodist Church's sexual ethics and its understanding of marriage.

We deeply regret the acts of covenant breaking that have accelerated in frequency and in seriousness since the 2016 General Conference. Therefore, we join with the Southeastern College of Bishops in viewing such actions as "divisive and disruptive."

The proposed "pause for prayer and discernment" from the Council of Bishops that was adopted by the General Conference has been ignored by many progressives, leaving us to wonder if we have good faith partners who are willing to work toward a common future for The United Methodist Church.

Despite the pledge of the Council of Bishops to uphold and enforce the Book of Discipline, some

bishops are now routinely settling complaints against clergy who violate the Discipline with no consequences. This gives us reason to believe they will continue to break faith with the general church, despite what the special commission proposes.

At least nine boards of ordained ministry or annual conferences and two jurisdictional conferences have pledged not to conform or comply with the requirements of the Discipline. Despite some rulings nullifying those actions, we have no confidence that a covenant that depends upon voluntary compliance can hold in the face of such defiance.

The election of a person in a same-sex marriage to the office of bishop, in blatant contradiction to the requirements of the Discipline, has undermined the very structure of our global church to the point that its future survival is in question.

We believe it is imperative for the commission to propose a plan that calls for accountability and integrity to our covenant, and restores the good order of our church's polity. If the com-

mission determines no such a plan is possible, then we believe it should prepare a plan of separation that honors the consciences of all the people of the church and allows them to go forward in peace and good will. A plan that requires traditionalists to compromise their principles and understanding of Scripture, including any form of the "local option" around ordination and marriage, will not be acceptable to the members of the Wesleyan Covenant Association, stands little chance of passing General Conference, would not definitively resolve our conflict, and would, in fact, lead to the fracturing of the church.

The Wesleyan Covenant Association wants what is best for United Methodist laity and clergy, and we are convinced a speedy resolution of our present crisis is now essential and imperative for the church's future viability.

May God bless our bishops as they select the members of the commission, and may He lead and guide those who are chosen for this important task.

Pastor Russ Nebhut

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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

Serving Schedule:

Greeters March 19th

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

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

Ushers March 19th

D. Andjulis, D. Hughes, M. Lippman

Technology March 19th

Media Computer Mike D.

Sound Board 9:00 Tim B.

11:00 Mike W.

Video Camera 9:00 Sunder P.

11:00 Jaci B.

Greeters March 26th

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

11:00 a.m.

Ushers March 26th

H. Lane, Captain, M. Waldrip, B. Johnson, D. Hughes, K. Magness, J. Curry

Technology March 26th

Media Computer Carolyn K.

Sound Board 9:00 John B.

11:00 Anthony M.

Video Camera 9:00 Sunder P.

11:00 Jaci B.

Attendance:

March 5th, 2017

9:00 61

11:00 83

Sunday School 50

March 12th, 2017

9:00 52

11:00 50

Sunday School 41

Prayer Requests

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND AND THOSE IN NURSING HOMES:

Lois Holt Gertrude Merrit (Parks) Trula Palmer
 Mona Rogge Wanda Stahl Clarence Stahl
 Mary Jo Hill Joy Bolding

PRAYERS FOR ASBURY FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Sue Angle	Judy DeWeese	Kay Kingon	Bobby Nelson	Don & Barbara Shinn
Christie Applegate	Libby Ellrich	Helen Lewis	Jerri Nickel	Joy Slack
Tammy Armstrong	Carrol Eustus	Ralph Lewis	Jim Nickel	Roger Smith
Ronald Bennett	Mark Farquhar	Kennedy Linch	Nimitz School	Kimberly Stepp
J W Bowen	Al French	Cherryana Little	Joel Nowlin	Hollis Terry
Brian Brokaw	Pat French	Keith Little	Lloyd Nowlin	Diane Thomas
Marilyn Brown	Dallas Garrett	Bailey Lively	Catherine Paul	Sandra Vickers
Paul Brown	Debbie Garrett	Imiah Lively	Sandi Phillips	Bryan & Tara Vinson
Corey Carrell	Anita Guinn	Frank Love	Fred Pleasant	Glendya Williams
John Craig Carrell	Dorothy Hart	Nancy Lovett	Dorothy Pleasant	Stella York
Casey Cates	Melba Hayden	Sarah Malone	Linda Pope	Kaleb Zengher
Shelli Childers	Corinne Hefflin	Jenica Maroney	Lisa Ramirez	Methodist Outreach in Zambia
Jim Cornell	Gene & Jimmie Jeanette Hewitt	Nathan Mendoza	Prisilia Ramirez	Nolan
Adele Cortez	Mary Hodges	Clint Mesker	Estella Ramos	Penny
Erble Creasman	Andy Hoefler	Paul Minton	Ervin Renacia	Mrs. Fox
Karen Crutchfield	Nina Hooper	Amanda Moss	Scarlett Robinson	
Jeanie DeShazo	Tom Horton	Noah Moss	Maddie Saunders	
Mike DeShazo	Rusty Inzer	Florenio Najar	Marla Scott	

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY & DEPLOYED:

Military & their families

Announcements

Family Christian Store Closing

Family Christian Store is closing all stores. Everything in the store will be up to 30% off and all sales are final. Stop by before they officially close! There is no closing date available yet.

Asbury Methodist Men Annual Palm Sunday Feed

The men of Asbury cordially invite all the church and friends to come to our annual Palm Sunday Feed after the second service on April 9th. This is our major fundraiser for the year to help underwrite the many projects we do for our church family. Come enjoy a dinner of brisket, ham, chicken, and all the fixings including dessert. It is a fun time for everyone as we begin preparations for Holy Week leading up to Easter! We hope you will join us and bring a big appetite!

Ministerial Alliance Lenten Luncheon Schedule

March 22nd - Bethany Christian Church (4522 N. Everglade)

March 29th - Refuge Ministries (1211 East 57th St.)

April 5th - All People Worship Center (2000 W. University)

April 12th - Highland United Methodist (1808 N. Dixie)

Suggested Meal Donation - \$6.00

Schedule: Lunch 11:15-12:00
 Worship 12:05-12:45

2017 Flower Calendar

There are still many openings on the 2017 Flower Calendar!

Honor a friend. Memorialize a loved one. Celebrate God's love.

Contact Us

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Russ Nebhut

Pastor



aumcodessa

Asbury Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 19th, 2017:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
 9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
 10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
 10:00 a.m. Coffee With Pastor Russ
 11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship
 3:30-5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
 No Ascent Student Ministries

Monday, March 20th, 2017:

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Power Flex
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
Tuesday, March 21st, 2017:
 9:30-11:30 a.m. MOPS
 6:00-8:00 p.m. CPS, T/R
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting, Atkins Room
 7:00 p.m. VSC, #121

Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017:

Super Wednesday!
 9:00-11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
 4:30 p.m. Melody Makers
 5:30 p.m. Supper
 6:15 p.m. Activities
 7:15 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 23rd, 2017:

9:00 a.m. Stitchers
 6:00 p.m. Power Flex
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Saturday, March 25th, 2017:

Krispy Kreme Donut Sales
Sunday, March 26th, 2017:
 8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
 9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
 10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
 10:00 a.m. Coffee With Pastor Russ
 11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship
 3:30-5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
 5:00 p.m. Ascent Student Ministries

Monday, March 27th, 2017:

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 1:00 p.m. Deadline for Newsletter Articles
 6:00 p.m. Power Flex
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017:

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

Wednesday, March 29th, 2017:

Super Wednesday!
 9:00-11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
 4:30 p.m. Melody Makers
 5:30 p.m. Supper
 6:15 p.m. Activities
 7:15 p.m. Choir

Thursday, March 30th, 2017:

9:00 a.m. Stitchers
 6:00 p.m. Power Flex
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Friday, March 31st, 2017:

12:00 p.m. Scrapbooking Group, T/R

Saturday, April 1st, 2017:

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Scrapbooking Group, F/H

10:30 a.m. - Noon Confirmation and Pizza

Sunday, April 2nd, 2017:

8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
 9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
 10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
 10:00 a.m. Coffee With Pastor Russ
 11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship
 3:30-5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
 5:00 p.m. Ascent Student Ministries

From the Mailbag

Dear Asbury,

Thank you for the donation of canned food for our pantry. Your donation was a big boost to us in our efforts to meet the needs of a growing clientele each month.

God's Blessings,

Mackey Chapel Pantry Committee

Lectionary Readings

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 19TH: EXODUS 17:1-7, PSALM 95, ROMANS 5:1-11, JOHN 4:5-42

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13, PSALM 23, EPHESIANS 5:8-14, JOHN 9:1-41

