

available in a few weeks. Simply text the amount of your offering or gift to a specific number provided and your donation will be instantly made.

Website Giving - There will be a link on the church website (AsburyOdessa.org) which will allow individuals to donate using their debit/credit card.

Giving Kiosk - A table top kiosk has been ordered for the church which will give individuals the opportunity to donate using their debit/credit card in church. This kiosk can also be taken to the fellowship hall area to receive donations for meals and other fund-raisers.

These giving methods may seem strange to many of you, but if you think about it, there are very few of the younger generations who use checkbooks. Some people never use checks, but simply use their debit cards. These methods provide our younger members with the opportunity to support the ministry of the church

in ways they can readily utilize.

I want to thank the Finance Committee for their hard work and their commitment to the Gospel Ministry through Asbury. May we continue to be all God has called us to be for His glory and the good of our community.

Blessings,

Pastor Russ



THE JOURNAL

Asbury - "Where Hearts are Warmed for Christ"

March 28th, 2017

A word from the Pastor

Grace and Peace to You in Christ Jesus our Lord,

In this issue of our newsletter I am going to attempt to explain some significant changes here at Asbury. If you have not been keeping track of our financial situation, then this article may come as a shock to you. We are running behind on income compared to expenses. The finance committee reexamined our 2017 budget and agreed that we are not overspending and we did not adopt a budget which was too large for our congregation. In fact, the 2017 budget is several thousand dollars less than our 2016 budget. We simply do not have the consistent income to sustain our congregation if we do everything as we have been doing it.

Therefore, we are seeking to become better stewards of what the Lord has entrusted to us. This has resulted in some difficult choices which will affect everyone in some minor ways.

1st - This will be the last issue of the Newsletter which you will receive in the mail.

The cost of paper and especially the cost of printing with color, combined with the expense of mailing to every member is a cost we can no longer afford.

From this month forward, the Newsletter will be posted on the church web page each month. You will be able to read the Newsletter online or print it off in your own home.

Each edition will be emailed as soon as it is completed to all members who desire to receive a copy via email.

We will provide a few printed copies for any member who do not have access to the internet. These copies will be printed and made available in the narthex of the sanctuary.

2nd - Our use of color copies for almost

everything has come to an end. It is costing approximately \$250 per month in additional costs to print in color.

We will use color for special occasions and for weddings and funeral bulletins. But expect to see a lot more black & white printing.

3rd - As Marianne prepares to leave us at the end of the Summer, her position will not be refilled. Instead, we will seek to utilize more volunteer help in preparing the Sunday Bulletins, Newsletter, and working with the worship media computer. If you have a desire to assist with any of these, please let Tina know and we will provide training.

4th - The care of our property, especially the yard and flower beds, has been returned to a volunteer ministry. Everyone is welcome to assist, but a special thank you to Harold and Frieda Lane and Lester Morris for all they have been doing to beautify our property.

These measures are being taken to ensure the true ministry opportunities presented to us can be met. Our calling is not to have pretty color bulletins, but to love people and to minister to those in need in every way we can. We are committed to accomplishing our mission regardless of any additional cuts we have to make in our budget. We cannot, indeed, we must not fail to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

As an effort to make financial support of our church easier for all of our members, the next few months will see the addition of the ability to donate to the church using the following methods:

Regular Offering Plate Giving - The church has always done this!

ACH - Automatic draw from your bank account. (This has been in use for 2 years)

Text Giving - We will have this method

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

Pastor Russ Nebhut

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Odessa, TX 79762-8037

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Serving Schedule:

Greeters April 2nd

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

11:00 a.m. Marilyn Andjulis

Ushers April 2nd

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

Technology April 2nd

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 April 9th

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

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

Ushers April 9th

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

Technology April 9th

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:

March 19th, 2017

9:00 69

11:00 65

Sunday School 51

March 26th, 2017

9:00 77

11:00 105

Sunday School 51

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:

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

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY & DEPLOYED:

Military & their families

Sympathy: To Pat French and family at the passing of her husband, Al French, on Friday, March 17th, 2017. Our thoughts and prayers are with Pat and her family at this time.

Easter Egg Hunt

It is almost time for the annual community egg hunt! We have lots of fun activities planned for Saturday, April 15th from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. You all are always so generous with your bags of candy for the fall festival, but when it comes to the Easter egg hunt we prefer to ask for monetary donations instead. This is because many different types of candy do not fit in the plastic eggs, and we also try to purchase candy that will not melt in the sun. If you would like to come out and work a booth please let Sarah know, and she will give you a job!

Laptop Computers Needed!!

Many of us have old computers laying around and we don't know what to do with them! There is a use for your old hardware. K.S. Paul, who is a member of Asbury, is working directly with St. Paul Christian School in India. The school is in need of laptop computers and projectors for their classrooms. While new equipment would be wonderful, if you have an old laptop laying around, it would be useful in the ministry to the children. If you have an old laptop, you can bring it to the church office and we will work to get it to India where the children can use it.

Lectionary Readings

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND: EZEKIEL 37:1-14, PSALM 130, ROMANS 8:6-11, JOHN 11:1-45

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH: MATTHEW 21:1-11, PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29, ISAIAH 50:4-9, PSALM 31:9-16, PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Announcements

2017 Flower Calendar

There are still many openings on the 2017 Flower Calendar! Honor a friend. Memorialize a loved one. Celebrate God's love.

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

Good Friday Service

Join us on Friday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. for Asbury's Good Friday Service!

Contact Us

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432-366-4455

Russ Nebhut

Pastor

Like us on Facebook!

aumcodessa

Asbury Upcoming Events

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

Monday, April 3rd, 2017:

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 4th, 2017:

9:30-11:30 a.m. MOPS
 1:30 p.m. Read & Review Book Club, Parlor
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. VSC, #121

Wednesday, April 5th, 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, April 6th, 2017:

8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. CPS, F/H
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts
 7:00 p.m. SPRC Meeting, Atkins Room

Saturday, April 8th, 2017:

8:00-9:00 a.m. UMM Breakfast, F/H

Sunday, April 9th, 2017:

Palm Sunday/Confirmation Sunday
 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
 Palm Sunday Lunch provided by UMM following service
 5:00 p.m. Ascent Student Ministries

Monday, April 10th, 2017:

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

Tuesday, April 11th, 2017:

Newsletter Day
 6:00 p.m. DV Support Group -The Fold Room
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. VSC, #121
 7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting, Atkins Room

Wednesday, April 12th, 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, April 13th, 2017:

9:00 a.m. Stitches
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts
Friday, April 14th, 2017:
 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service
Saturday, April 15th, 2017:
 10:00-11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 16th, 2017:

Easter Sunday
 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
 No Ascent Student Ministries