

A word from the Pastor

God's grace and peace be yours this very day!

Have you ever wondered why you go to church? I know sometimes it seems like we do the same ol' thing, week after week! The reason for so many who think this way is that it is possible to attend services each week and never see beyond a Sunday morning. There are actually those who believe being a pastor is a cushy job. You get paid for basically working one day a week, or so they think. It is true and many of you have heard me say it in the past, "A Pastor can be the laziest person in town, or a workaholic, who would know the difference?" There is another phrase I am fond of saying and it is, "Pastors are a dime a dozen! We come and go, but Christ is always present in His Church." Both statements are absolutely true. I am here for however long God determines is best. The time will come when God brings a new servant into your midst, but until that time comes I want to share a few reflections with you.

I have been here a little more than three years. I have seen Asbury grow and change as a congregation during this time. You have always been a warm and welcoming church, but during our time you have been challenged in many ways. We have seen many new ministries and new faces in our midst. Some of each have been challenging. One of the prayers we have consistently lifted up to the Lord is that He would direct those who are wounded and hurting to come to us and that He would use us to grant them healing. God is faithful! We have seen many come who have experienced hurt in their lives. Some have been hurt in churches. Many have been hurt by people they loved and trusted. In the middle of all this we have witnessed God at work. Hearts have been healed and people who believed God did not love them or want them have found a love and acceptance they never believed possible.

All of this is in no way because of who the pastor is at this moment. It is all about who you are as the people of God in this place today. When individuals have come from vastly different backgrounds, you have welcomed and accepted them. In times of need, you have helped them. When hearts were lonely and hurting, you have been a friendly face and an encouraging word. You have been and you continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in this place. And I can say as your pastor, I have never been so proud of a congregation. I just passed the 25th anniversary of my ordination and it is in you that I have been given the clearest picture of the body of Christ in the world. Thank you for blessing me in this way.

I want to close by sharing a very real truth with you! We know God's love is unconditional. What we do, good or bad, will not cause His love to change or waver. That said, like any parent who loves His children, when we do what is wrong, His heart is sad, but when we do good His heart rejoices. Know this!!! God is smiling in eternity because of you! He

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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 ages

Serving Schedule:

Greeters August 13th

9:00 Sammie Rogers, Mike Krueger

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

Ushers August 13th

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

Technology August 13th

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 August 20th

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

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

Ushers August 20th

D. Hughes, Captain, D. Andjulis, M. Lippman, B. Johnson

Technology August 20th

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:

July 30th, 2017:

11:00 106

Sunday School 31

August 6th, 2017:

9:00 90

11:00 78

Sunday School 63

Prayer Requests

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND AND THOSE IN NURSING HOMES:

Lois Holt
Gertrude Merrit
(Parks)

Mona Rogge
Wanda Stahl

Mary Jo Hill
Joy Bolding

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY & DEPLOYED: Military & their families

PRAYERS FOR ASBURY FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Rev. Mark Anderson	Dallas Garrett	Adi Lopez	Gleychaliz Rivera
Ashton Ballard	Amalia Gonzales	Bill McPherson	Roger Smith
Maverick Ballard	Julie Graham	Pat McPherson	Diane Thomas
J W Bowden	Sarah Griffin	Bob McCoy	Ted Tuminowski
Jerry Branum Sr.	Anita Guinn	Paul Minton	Brenda Vicars
Brian Brokaw	Corinne Hefflin	Amanda Moss	Sandra Vickers
Laura Buckingham	Joe Henager	Florenio Najar	Mike Waldrup
Casey Cates	Minnie Henager	Jaynell Nash	Judy White
Jim Cornell	Gene & Jimmie Jeanette Hewitt	Jerri Nickel	Francis Wilbanks
Adele Cortez	Andy Hoefer	Jim Nickel	Stella York
Judy DeWeese	Nora Huerta	Dustin Orgen	Sarah Young
Derrick Driskill	Lacrisha Hurst	Fred Pleasant	Kaleb Zengher
Libby Ellrich	Angelina Jones	Molly Pruitt	Nolan
Tommy Ervin	Sandra Jones	Lisa Ramirez	Penny
Carrol Eustus	Kay Kingon	Estella Ramos	Christians in Malaysia
Mark Farquhar	Freida Lane	Edna Reed	Christians and Churches in Baghdad
Darren Faught	Ralph Lewis	Ervin Renacia	
Dorothy & Syl Gaisbauer	Kennedy Linch	Harold & Janice Rhea	

Sympathy: to Cody Griffin and family at the passing of his father, Ricky Griffin, on July 30th, 2017. Our thoughts and prayers are with Cody and his family at this time.

The Walk to Emmaus

Have you reached a point in your life where you'd like to walk closer to Christ and to be the witness He's called all of us to be? Would you like to be more confident in stepping out in leadership at church? You might be interested in going on a Walk to Emmaus. The Walk to Emmaus is a three-day short course in Christianity for spiritual renewal to inspire and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others. If you think the Walk to Emmaus is for you, then come to a meeting with former attendees to hear what they say about the Walk. The meeting will be at 2:00 next Sunday at the Atkins room. If you are interested but cannot come, please call Debbie Garrett at 432-413-7891.

Lectionary Readings

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH: GENESIS 37:1-4, 12-28, PSALM 105:1-6, 16-22, ROMANS 10:5-15, MATTHEW 14:22-33

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH: GENESIS 45:1-15, PSALM 133, ROMANS 11:1-2, 29-32, MATTHEW 15:21-28

Announcements

Financial Update As of July 30th, 2017:

2017 Year to Date Income: \$210,739.34

2017 Year to Date Expenses: \$213,962.42

2017 Year to Date Shortfall of: \$-3,223.08

Opportunity for Service

Marion Reedy is in need of communion steward volunteers for this special service to the church. Usually, if there are enough stewards, you only serve once a year. Please contact Marion at 432-366-4806 or the church office with questions or to participate. Thank you, Asbury, for your faithful service!

RAH- Thank you for lending us baskets for VBS. They are in the church library for you to pick up.

Ladies' Bible Study

You are invited to join us for "Faithful, Abundant, True," a study by Kay Arthur, Priscilla Shirer, and Beth Moore, lasting 7 weeks, from September 6th- October 18th, 2017.

Invigorate your personal walk with Christ and your ministry to others by reminders that God is "Faithful, Abundant, and True." Daily lessons are brief, only 15-30 minutes each.

Please pray about attending and inviting other ladies to join us.

Wednesday, 9:00-11:00 a.m., September 6th- October 18th, 2017. In the Atkin's Community Room at Asbury UMC. 4001 E. University, Odessa, TX. \$17.00 for the spiral Member Book

Snacks and Coffee will be served.

Childcare can be provided with notice.

Contact Abby McCullough at 432-559-3019, or Belinda Richey 432-559-8763 for more information!

Contact Us

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432-366-4455

Russ Nebhut
Pastor

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aumcodessa

is in our midst and He is blessings us as a congregation because you have allowed Him to use you. Lives are touched with His love. Hearts are changed by His grace! Forgiveness is given through His Gospel! This is what God desires more than anything else, and this is who you have become! Thank you and God continue to bless you and all of Asbury.

Pastor Russ

Congratulate.....Honor.....Remember.....Thank.....

When I donate in someone's name to the church or a charity, I often wonder how they will feel about my donation. I recently got confirmation that my donations were not only appreciated but highly prized. I thanked a service person, who wouldn't have been allowed to accept a gift, by donating to her favorite animal shelter. She thanked me profusely. Then when my sister's adored dog died, I donated to her church in his memory. She's thanked me twice in the last two months. All of this is a prelude to saying that Asbury has a Memorial Fund for just this kind of thing. The fund has two components. One is undesignated for things like grief leaflets for the 18 months after a loved one's death. Donate because the Lord blessed you today or to say, "Happy Birthday," honor your parents' or your own wedding anniversary, thank a member for their service to Asbury and the Lord, and of course, remember the passing of a friend or family member. The other is the Atkins-Reedy Scholarship Fund. You can say to your child, "I am so proud of the way you brought up your grade in math that I'm donating to a scholarship fund at Asbury that will benefit someone going to college." While you've honored your child, you've taught him to share. Let your child know that he may donate because any donation, large or small, will make a big impact. Those who've been honored or family members of departed Saints will receive a notification from the church. Additional information on the Atkins-Reedy Scholarship will be forthcoming.

Blessings,

Debbie Garrett, Memorial Comm. Chair

Asbury Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 13th, 2017:
8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
9:30 a.m.- 6:15 p.m. Texas Tech Reading Program, #121
10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
10:00 a.m. New Member Class
11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship

Monday, August 14th, 2017:
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi

Tuesday, August 15th, 2017:
6:00 p.m. CPS, #111
6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal Planning, Conference Room
7:00 p.m. VSC, #121

Wednesday, August 16th, 2017:
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi
7:15 p.m. Choir

Thursday, August 17th, 2017:
9:00 a.m. Stitchers
10:30 a.m. Parks Communion Service
12:30-3:30 p.m. WTX Twilight Vision, #110

Friday, August 18th, 2017:
8:00 a.m. Breakfast for ECISD Administrators

Saturday, August 19th, 2017:
9:00 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Texas Tech Reading Program, #121

Sunday, August 20th, 2017:
8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
9:30 a.m.- 6:15 p.m. Texas Tech Reading Program, #121
10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
10:00 a.m. New Member Class
11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship

Monday, August 21st, 2017:
First Day of School
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
1:00 p.m. Deadline for Newsletter Articles
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi

Tuesday, August 22nd, 2017:
Newsletter Day
7:00 p.m. VSC, #121

Wednesday, August 23rd, 2017:
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi
7:15 p.m. Choir

Sunday, August 27th, 2017:
8:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Prayer
9:00 a.m. Asbury Worship
9:30 a.m.- 6:15 p.m. Texas Tech Reading Program, #121
10:00 a.m. Life Lessons
10:00 a.m. New Member Class
11:00 a.m. Instrumental Praise Worship



Asbury
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Pastor Russ Nebhut