

# Asbury First NEWS SHEET

**AUGUST 2022**

*You're invited! Join us for upcoming worship, fellowship, and fun.*

## Summer Worship

Warmer days are here again. Join us for worship this summer starting Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend! We will return to outdoor worship at 9 am (excluding Sunday, August 7), and will continue the 11 am service in-person and livestreamed.

**Summer Worship Services May 29–September 4:**

- 9 am — In-Person Outdoor (excluding August 7)
- 11 am — In-Person and Livestream



## Faithful Politicking: One Book to Encourage; One Book to Challenge; One Book to Throw Across the Room

**Two evenings of conversation on Zoom ([zoom.us/j/8347173468](https://zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)  
Wednesday, August 3 from 7-8 pm; Thursday, August 4 from 7-8 pm**

This summer, you are invited to come along on a journey of those too-often taboo topics of faith and politics. How should we address these topics as people of faith? Three books have recently been published to address this growing divide in our country.

Each book represents a very different viewpoint. *We Will Not Be Silenced: Responding Courageously to Our Culture's Assault on Christianity*, by Erwin W. Lutzer, has been widely revered and celebrated in conservative and evangelical circles. *Not In It To Win It: Why Choosing Sides Sidelines the Church*, by Andy Stanley, offers a moderate approach. *Jesus Takes a Side: Embracing the Political Demands of the Gospel*, by Jonny Rashid, highlights the importance of unabashedly standing with the oppressed.

As our subtitle above implies, you will assuredly not agree with each of these books. Instead, the hope and goal is to help us to step out of our echo chambers and work to have authentic conversations with those who think differently than we do—starting from a foundation of faith. On August 3, we will focus our conversations on the readings, and how the various books impact our faith and actions. On August 4, we will shift our conversation to where we go from here. How can we take these new insights and ideas and move forward to profess and live out a more inclusive kingdom of God? Contact Mike Mullin with comments or questions at [mmullin@asburyfirst.org](mailto:mmullin@asburyfirst.org).



## Special Offer for Finger Lakes Opera (FLO) Summer Season

Finger Lakes Opera's (FLO) summer season is here with performances on July 17, 24, 26, and 30 (both in Canandaigua), as well as August 5 and 7. If you've never attended a FLO program, you are in luck! An Asbury First member has kindly offered to treat you to a performance this summer.

To take advantage of this generous offer, please note that complimentary tickets are limited to two per person and reservations must be made three business days prior to the event. Simply send an email to Gwen Paker at [gpaker@fingerlakesopera.org](mailto:gpaker@fingerlakesopera.org) with the subject line "Asbury First Tickets" and a member of the FLO staff will reach out to you.

For the season performance line up and to purchase tickets, please visit [www.fingerlakesopera.org](http://www.fingerlakesopera.org).



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## Summer Choir Resumes on Sunday, July 31

After a four-week hiatus, Summer Choir will resume Sunday, July 31 and continue through the first Sunday in September. All interested singers are warmly welcome to take part on any or all Sundays—simply show up ready to sing at 10 am in Wesley Hall. Come lend your voice to our worship, and enjoy some special fellowship with some of Asbury First's music lovers. Questions? Contact our Director of Music Ministry Carl Johengen at [cjohengen@asburyfirst.org](mailto:cjohengen@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-1050 x134.



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## Tent Sunday Collection for Mothers In Need of Others

### Bring Donations on Sunday, August 7

Mothers In Need of Others (MINO) needs your help! MINO provides emergency items for single mothers and families in crisis. They currently have great need for cleaning and hygiene supply bags that they regularly distribute. Bring donations from the list below to our Tent Sunday worship service on Sunday, August 7. Our VBS kids will add to the donations, and our middle school youth will assemble the bags. We can't wait to see the difference we will make for families in need!

**Needed Items:** All-purpose cleaner, bleach, cleaning sponges, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, rolls of paper towels, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, and toilet paper.

For more information visit [asburyfirst.org/news](http://asburyfirst.org/news) or contact Pat Dupont at [pdupont@asburyfirst.org](mailto:pdupont@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-1050 x136. Learn more about MINO and their ministry here: <https://projecturge.org/mino-1>.



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## Tent Sunday

### Sunday, August 7, 11 am, Front Lawn Tent (No 9 am service this Sunday)

Tent Sunday at Asbury First aims to give people a great experience of the church, as well as welcome those living nearby who may be curious about our community. We'd love to see you at 11 am, August 7, outside, under the tent for worship and a *special outdoor communion*!

We will have a special Summer Choir for this service and following will be our church-wide carnival and talent show at 12 pm. We will have one service only this day (no 9 am service) which will be live-streamed as always. We hope to see you there!





## Church-wide Carnival and Talent Show

***Tent Sunday, August 7, following the 11 am service***

### **LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR TALENT SHOW!**

Our church-wide carnival and talent show will take place Tent Sunday, August 7, immediately following the 11 am service. What better way to kick off Tent Week than with hot dogs, bouncy house, and a talent show! The church-wide carnival is free to all and it's not too late to be a part of our talent show so if you'd like to participate, contact Paula Dugan at [pdugan@asburyfirst.org](mailto:pdugan@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-1050 x111.



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## VBS — Under Construction

***August 8–11, 9 am–12 pm, Register online at [asburyfirst.org/vbs-2022](https://asburyfirst.org/vbs-2022)***

All children age 4 through 5th grade are invited this Summer to our Vacation Bible School themed "Under Construction" where we will highlight the work being done on 1010 to better serve our community. We will have a week full of music, crafts, games and science. We hope to see you there!



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## Youth Mission Trip — Middle School

***August 8–13, Rochester Area***

August 8-13, our middle school youth will once again be helping out as counselors for Vacation Bible School in the morning, and volunteering with different local agencies in the afternoon. Some of our connections may include Food Link, The Gandhi Institute, and the Iroquois White Corn Project. Then, on Friday and Saturday, our youth will have the opportunity to enjoy an overnight in the Adirondacks where they will get to experience the beauty and grandeur of nature through activities such as climbing and caving.



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## Amazing Grace: A Worship Celebration

***Wednesday, August 10, 6 pm (refreshments), 7 pm (celebration), Front Lawn Tent***

The Discipleship Project invites you to join us for a special musical and worship celebration on Wednesday, August 10 under the tent in the front lawn. There will be light refreshments served at 6 pm, with the main worship celebration beginning at 7 pm. We are blessed to be joined by musician Nairobi Smith, who is a United Methodist Worship Leader. Nairobi will lead us in worship, music, and fellowship. The celebration is open to all, and we hope you can join us! For more information, contact Rev. Rachel Dupont at [rdupont@asburyfirst.org](mailto:rdupont@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-150 x113.



## Welcome Aleeya Bourcy!

We are pleased to announce that Aleeya Bourcy has joined our team as Graphic Designer and Digital Media Specialist. In this part-time position, she will work with and supporting Sarah Brubaker in maintaining and enhancing our communications ministry.

Aleeya attended college at SUNY Oswego where she got a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design with an Illustration minor. She worked as a Graphic Design Intern at the Office of Sustainability at SUNY Oswego for two years. Aleeya is an animal lover and has five of her own pets including three rabbits and two sugar gliders. In her spare time she enjoys drawing, painting, and playing her ukulele.

You can contact Aleeya at [abourcy@asburyfirst.org](mailto:abourcy@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-1050 x116. Please extend a warm welcome to Aleeya!

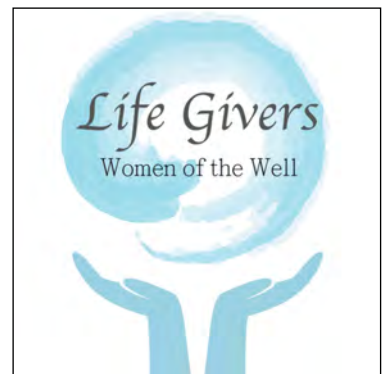


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## Women of the Well Presents: *Life Givers*

**Saturday, September 17, 10 am–3 pm, Register online at [asburyfirst.org/lifegivers](https://asburyfirst.org/lifegivers)**

On September 17, men and women are invited to a daylong sharing of story telling and discussions about women from ancient to the present time who embody "Life Givers" by their faith. The interdenominational program will begin at 10 am at Asbury First United Methodist Church and will end mid-afternoon. Seating is limited to 100 participants, so make your plans early. Lunch will be provided at the cost of \$10 per person. We look forward to a day of sharing and communing. If you have any questions or want to register, please contact Deb Bullock-Smith at [dbullocksmith@asburyfirst.org](mailto:dbullocksmith@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-1050 x117.



Advance registration required for lunch which is \$10 per person. Register online at [asburyfirst.org/lifegivers](https://asburyfirst.org/lifegivers).

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## Staffing News

As Dick Moncrief retires from his position in the Finance Office, we are pleased to announce that **Holly Temming** will be joining that ministry, working with John Ormsbee and members of the volunteer finance team. She will continue in her roles in Children's Ministry.

**Please congratulate Holly!**



## CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

### NOTA Farmers Market

***Mondays, 4–7 pm, Granger Lawn***

The NOTA Farmers Market is on Monday evenings from 4–7 pm in the lawn at Asbury First Methodist Church at the corner of East Ave and Granger Place. The 2022 season will open on Monday, June 13 and operate every week (except July 4) until Monday, August 29.

The market now accepts SNAP tokens. For the list of vendors and more information, visit [facebook.com/NOTAfarmmarket](https://facebook.com/NOTAfarmmarket).



### Yoga on the Lawn with Brett Richardson

***Mondays, 7:15–8:15 pm, Granger Lawn***

***Saturdays, 9–10 am, Granger Lawn***

***\$15 per class or \$130 for 10-class pass***

Looking to get outside and do some yoga in nature? Yoga on the Lawn with Brett Richardson at Asbury First will ground your senses, along with an all levels yoga flow to get the body moving and connected...mind, body, spirit!

This is a class to help you start or build your yoga journey. We will work on improving strength and flexibility as well as techniques to help calm the mind, body, and soul.

Each class will help you move steadily through yoga asanas, allowing you time to learn not only about alignment and postures, but also giving you opportunity to learn to establish breath, awareness, and flexibility within your body.

Brett currently teaches in Rochester and the greater Rochester area. You can take class with him at Midtown Athletic Club, M/Body Rochester, Roc and Soul Fitness (Webster, NY), Vault Rochester, STAR Physical Therapy (Fairport, NY), NYS Yoga Festival (Letchworth State Park 6/4) and at Dick's House of Sports in Victor for a Pride Yoga class on June 11th.

Brett is a Experienced E-RYT 500 hour trained yoga instructor with over 2000 teaching hours. Brett has education and certification in power yoga, restorative and yin yoga, Hikyoga, yoga for athletes, yoga for 12 step recovery, trauma yoga, meditation, energy healing and a love for myofascial and trigger point therapy. Brett has taught at the NYS Yoga Festivals in 2021 and will also teach at the 2022 Festivals. Brett served as an ambassador with Lululemon 2018–2020, he is currently a Lululemon Legacy Ambassador.



### Lectio Divina

***Tuesdays 8:30–9 am, Zoom ([zoom.us/j/8347173468](https://zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)***

Lectio Divina is a contemplative practice on reading scripture. A passage of scripture is read, then there is silent meditation, then the passage is read again, then more silence, and then discussion. The silence is an opportunity to reflect upon what you experienced in the scripture. This half hour opens and closes with prayer. All are welcome. For more information please contact Rev. Kathy Thiel at [kthiel@asburyfirst.org](mailto:kthiel@asburyfirst.org) or at 585-271-1050 x106.





## CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

### Tuesday Women's Fellowship

**Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 am, Zoom ([zoom.us/j/8347173468](https://zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)**

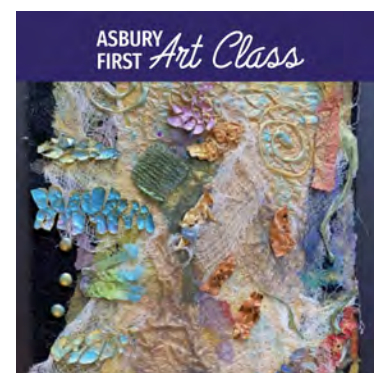
Looking for a way to stay connected to your Asbury First friends during the week? Want to meet new Asbury First friends? All women, all ages, are welcome to join the Tuesday Women's Fellowship via Zoom, 9:30-10:30 am each week. Bring your coffee or tea, and perhaps a treat, zoom in and enjoy an hour of devotion, sharing, and connection. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Elizabeth Church, coordinator, at [emchurch418@gmail.com](mailto:emchurch418@gmail.com). Hope to see you soon!



### Asbury Art Class

**Tuesdays, 12:30 pm, Room 205 — Bell Room, \$30 per person**

Asbury's Art Class will be learning to make textile collages with heat tools and unusual textiles. We will be heating up textiles like Tyvek and Wonder Under as well as organzas, craft felt, and other fabrics that melt or shrink when heat is applied. There is no sewing required in this class! However, sewing for art's sake will be an option. And no experience is necessary. The class meets Tuesday afternoons from 12:30-3 pm. This class began in April, but you may join any time after that.

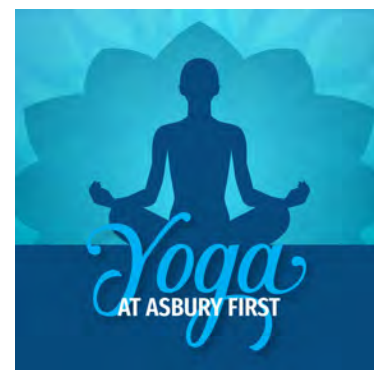


### Yoga at Asbury First

**Tuesdays, 3 pm, Gathering Center, \$10 pay at the door**

Gentle Yoga has returned to Asbury First each Tuesday at 3 pm. Each session will be gentle in nature, beginner-friendly, and inclusive to those in need of different supports. Join us for an hour of breathing, movement, and awareness, with meditation. Please wear loose-fitting clothing that is comfortable for a wide range of movement. A limited number of yoga mats and props (blocks, straps, etc.) will be available, but you are encouraged to bring your own.

The sessions will be run by Kelly Noyes, who is certified from the Kripalu School of Yoga and Health and is registered with Yoga Alliance (RYT 200). For more information, please contact Kelly at [knoyes710@aol.com](mailto:knoyes710@aol.com).



### Men's Devotional Group

**Wednesdays, 7 am, Zoom ([zoom.us/j/8347173468](https://zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)**

Men of all ages are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings via Zoom as we discuss topics of faith, life, and more. Each week, a different member of the group leads us in a devotion for our time together. These can be instructional, reflective, conversational, etc. This is a wonderful group to make and build connections, and we hope that you will drop in to join us!



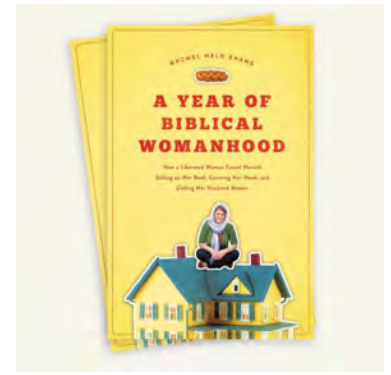
## CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

### A Year of Biblical Womanhood....In An Eight-Week Summer Study

**Wednesdays, June 22–August 10, 10 am, Zoom ([zoom.us/j/8347173468](https://zoom.us/j/8347173468) PW 200)**

Join Kathryn Woodruff, a summer intern at Asbury First, for a study on *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. This book follows Rachel Held Evans' "both hilarious and thought-provoking" account of her yearlong response to the question "What if I took 'biblical womanhood' literally?" In the end, you might decide that staying silent in church, cultivating a gentle and quiet spirit, or making your own bread isn't for you. And perhaps it doesn't have to be—even some women in the Bible rejected this path. Regardless, you will find that both the Bible and our lives today are filled with *Eshet Chayil*, that is, Women of Valor.

Invite a friend and join us at our first Zoom gathering at 10 am on June 22 for an introduction to Kathryn and to the book. For more information, contact Mike Mullin, [mmullin@asburyfirst.org](mailto:mmullin@asburyfirst.org).



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Wednesday, August 24, 3–4:30 pm, Library**

A prayer shawl is a simple shawl or a lap blanket knitted by members of our group. It is symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. The knitting itself is very simple and we have "experts" on hand to help you if you are a beginner. The group meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday. Clergy and lay members of our church identify those who may benefit from our ministry and a shawl, and they're delivered by ministers or congregation members. Questions? Contact Meredith Pixley at [meredithpixley@gmail.com](mailto:meredithpixley@gmail.com).



### Four Hundred Souls Discussion — On Break for Summer

**Returns Wednesday, September 28, 5 pm, Zoom**

Join us for an ongoing discussion of this year's church-wide read, *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019* on the 4th Wednesday each month from 5-6 pm. We will be meeting over Zoom to make sure as many people as would like have access to the conversation. You don't have to have read the entire book to come, and can join at any time. All are welcome!



### Carvers of Hope

**Wednesdays, 6:30–8 pm, 1050 Porch**

Carvers of Hope is a wood carving ministry that helps people who find themselves in the very difficult places of life. Its members carve handmade crosses as a reminder of the hope Jesus brought to us through the cross. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact John Smalt at [jhsmalt@gmail.com](mailto:jhsmalt@gmail.com).



## NEEDED ITEMS, SERVICES, AND FUNDRAISERS

### PPD Readers Needed!

The Asbury First UR Well Clinic is in need of PPD readers. Every Sunday morning, we read results of PPD tests for the clinic patients and are currently understaffed for volunteers. If you are a qualified medical professional and can volunteer time to assist with these readings, please contact Lin Vanderstyne, an Asbury First member and coordinator for the UR Well PPD readings at 585-383-1043 or by email at [Ljv@frontier.com](mailto:Ljv@frontier.com).



### Storehouse Needs

We are again able to accept donations, and we have an immediate need for **bath towels, washcloths, and queen sized bedding**.

We are beyond blessed and are grateful for your continued support of the Asbury Storehouse. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact us at [storehouse-01@asburyfirst.org](mailto:storehouse-01@asburyfirst.org) or call 585-271-1050 x137.



### Meals On Wheels Needs Volunteers

Meals On Wheels needs your help delivering meals to homebound residents in the City of Rochester!

- Partner with your friend, spouse, family member or neighbor & volunteer to deliver meals together!
- Delivery takes about 60- 90 minutes
- Meals are picked up in the city
- Easy to follow route directions

For more information or to begin the application process please call 585-274-4385 or visit the website at [www.homecare.urmc.edu](http://www.homecare.urmc.edu).



*Stay up-to-date with events, links, and information with our online calendar.*

[asburyfirst.org/events](http://asburyfirst.org/events)

**DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS: Monday, August 22**

To submit an announcement, email [communication@asburyfirst.org](mailto:communication@asburyfirst.org) or fill out the online form at [asburyfirst.org/bulletin-announcement](http://asburyfirst.org/bulletin-announcement).