

Asbury First NEWS SHEET

JULY 2024

asburyfirst.org

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

(585) 271-1050

August 12 — 5 pm

Charge Conference

District Superintendent, Suzanne Block called for a Charge Conference to be held on **August 12 at 5 pm**, in the **Red Room (1010, COC)** as part of the Governing Board meeting, to approve a Property Stewardship Endowment Fund. This meeting is open to all church members, though only members of the Governing Board will have the ability to vote. *This is the rescheduled Charge Conference which was originally scheduled for July 8.*

It has been proposed that we establish a Property Stewardship Endowment (PSE) with an initial goal to build \$5 to \$6 Million over the next 5 to 7 years. It is furthermore proposed that we include a pending legacy gift from a former Trustee in the PSE when received.

What's Your Favorite Hymn?

The 11 am Worship Service on Sunday, August 11 will have a different shape, and we'll be filling the service with your favorite hymns!

If you have favorite hymns that we haven't sung in a while, let us know - we will include as many of your submissions as we can. Contact our Director of Music Ministry, Carl Johengen at cjohengen@asburyfirst.org to submit your favorite.

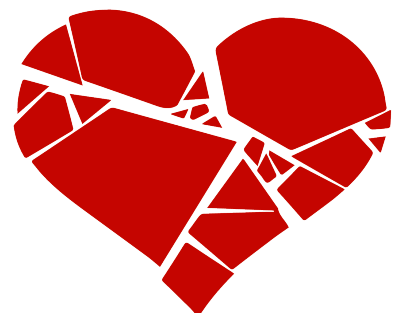
The cut-off date for submissions is Monday, August 5.



Finding Hope and Healing

A new Recovery Support Group for those experiencing hurt due to a Relationship Break-up, Separation or Divorce will be meeting in the Teak Room in 1050, starting on **Saturday, July 13 at 10 am**.

Please contact Anne Marie Strivings if you have any questions at annemarie.strivings@gmail.com



Prayer Squares from the Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is praying for you. Do you need prayer for health issues, parenting struggles, financial needs, issues with your job or any other reason? We have you covered in prayer and want you to have a Prayer Square to remind you that you are not alone. You can pick up a prayer square for yourself or someone else you know who needs to know they are being prayed for at the Welcome Desk.



East Ave Community Market Days

The East Ave Community Market returns to Asbury's Granger lawn! Wednesdays, 4 to 7 pm, running from now until the end of August, we'll be hosting this celebration of small local makers and growers for the whole neighborhood.

The market features free activities for kids, organic produce, craft baked goods, sourdough bread, pantry staples, and more!

The logo for East Ave Community Market Days features a vertical gradient background transitioning from yellow at the top to orange at the bottom. The text "East Ave Community Market Days" is written in a green, sans-serif font, centered on the background.

East Ave
Community
Market Days

School 17 says THANKS!

Schools Out For the Summer!! A tremendous thank you to all the Help Me Read Tutors this year. What an AWESOME year we had and we are looking forward to next year being even better! The plan is to start our tutoring the last week of September and we hope you all will be returning for the fun. We will be recruiting new tutors for next year and orientation will be scheduled for the end of August and early September.

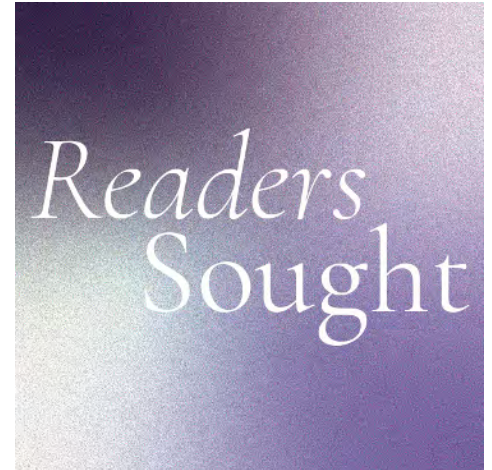
Questions or suggestions contact jhsmalt@gmail.com See You In September!!



Are you interested in serving as a Reader at the 9 or 11 am service?

We are expanding the roster of readers, and whether you are new to this ministry or have served in the past, we'd love to hear from you! Our hope is to set up a schedule several months in advance, to allow for flexibility. Training is available! Please contact Rev. Kathy Thiel, kthiel@asburyfirst.org or (585) 271-1050 x106. Let us know if you're interested in the 9 or 11 am service, or both.

This invitation is also extended to those who are connected via the livestream! Contact Kathy and she will help to make arrangements.



Prostate-Cancer Support Group

We are better together, most especially when we can be present for each other in the tough times. It is in this spirit that we are forming a support group for individuals with prostate cancer - if you have just been diagnosed and are being treated, if you are a survivor, or if you are somewhere in between, you are invited to join us for an initial meeting on **Wednesday, August 21 at 5:30 pm in the Red Room (1010, COC).**

Wholistic care makes a huge difference in helping individuals with cancer achieve levels of remission or enhanced functionality, and we are glad to offer a way to connect to spirituality to be supportive. Please come and bring a support person if you would like. Please contact Joe Stankaitis (jstankaitis@hotmail.com), Kathy Thiel (kthiel@asburyfirst.org or 271-1050 x106) or David Strong (dstrong@asburyfirst.org or 271-1050 x110) with any questions.



Park Ave Summer Stroll

This Saturday, August 3, from 10:00-6:00 the Park Ave neighborhood will be hosting a "Summer Stroll."

And if you—or someone you know—will be heading to the "stroll," you can support our Youth Missions by parking at Asbury First for \$5 on Saturday!



**park Ave
summer
stroll**

Time to Train!

Get yourself ready for the East Ave Grocery Run

Each year, we participate in the East Ave Grocery Run as a fundraiser for the Community Outreach Center's food programs. If you think you might want to walk or run the race, the time to start training is right around the corner!

This year the race is on November 2, but the registration is open for people to sign up to join our team, or to donate right now by calling:

If you register to join the Asbury First team, your registration fee goes directly to the Community Outreach Center!



Volunteer with the Community Garden!

Asbury Community Garden is in need of new volunteers! Whether you'd like to put in a single afternoon of service or join us for the entire season, we could use your help.

Gardening expertise is welcome, but not required. Planting began in May and from then until October we'll need help with watering. Harvesting begins in June. Most volunteers work on a team that serves every few weeks to water, weed, and harvest.

Let us know if you're willing to help just one time or all season by reaching out to Diana Carter at dianalouisecarter@gmail.com or by calling (585) 732-7224



Flower beds were built...



...and are now growing big and tall!



Start Shopping for our annual School Supply Drive

We will be collecting school supplies again this year for students at School 17. This is a Pre-K -6th grade school. We will be collecting August 18 thru Sept. 8 in the Welcoming Hall. Just leave your donation at the table.

Items needed include: backpacks, 24-count crayons, pencils, colored pencils, erasers and eraser tops, ink pens (blue, black, and red), color safe markers, highlighters, child-safe scissors, rulers, glue sticks, pencil boxes or pouches, index cards, sticky notes, solid-colored folders with pockets, three-ring binders, composition books, notebooks, hand sanitizer, and tissues.

Many thanks to YOU for your continued support!

For more information, please contact John Smalt at 585-924-8624, or at jhsmalt@gmail.com



Miracle Garden Electronic Recycling

We are once again accepting electronic recycling items for Miracle Garden!

Following the 2004 Tsunami in south east India, Miracle Garden was established to provide a home and education for the orphans from that event.

In conjunction with Imagine It Recycling, we're collecting your old electronic devices, cell phones, toner cartridges and more for recycling. The money raised will go to help the Miracle Garden continue its good work! Look for the donation box near the Main entrance of the Welcoming Hall. More more info about what items are accepted at asburyfirst.org/news/

Questions, please contact Elizabeth Church at (585) 978-0007



Electronics

Including all cords, batteries, cases, headphones, charging ports, and anything else that goes with your device.

- Cameras & Camcorders
- iPads & Tablets
- Satellite Radios
- E-Books
- GPS Devices
- USB Devices
- MP3 Players
- Gaming Devices
- 3D Glasses

Cell Phone & PDAs

Including all cords, batteries, accessories, and anything else that goes with your device.

- Cell phones
- Smartphones
- PDA's
- Charging ports
- Batteries
- Cords

Printer Cartridges

Everything that goes into or is taken out of the printer, copier, or fax machine.

- Ink cartridges
- Toner laser cartridges
- Drums and imaging units
- Fuser and maintenance kits
- Transfer units and transfer belts

SEEKING STEWARDS



GREETER COORDINATOR

Evarts UR Well Clinic is in need of a Greeter Coordinator to assist with scheduling and supporting greeters at our Outreach Center. Contact Mary Scahill at (585) 705-6112 or [mscahill404@gmail.com](mailto:m scahill404@gmail.com)

PICTURE-TAKER

Asbury First is a-buzz with activity! We're looking for someone who likes snapping pics to share with us for social media and our website. Whether you're a seasoned pro, or a novice with a knack for selfies, get in touch! email David Stith at dstith@asburyfirst.org

COOKIE BAKERS

Help keep our **Sunday** cookie spread yummy! Folks interested in helping out by baking some cookies for Sunday, please contact Paula Dugan at pdugan@asburyfirst.org for more information. *Thank you!*

THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US DO MORE GOOD!

If any of the following descriptions speak to you, Diana Carter would love to hear from you.

JOIN THE TEAM FOR DINING IN FOR OUTREACH

Would you like to help throw our biggest party of the year? This involves soliciting sponsors, signing up hosts and guests, coordinating printed materials and other tasks. The 2024 dinner will be held Saturday, Oct. 12, so plan on a short-term commitment and lots of fun!

DOCUMENT PROCURER

Outreach would like to make its printed materials more accessible to non-English speakers. We need someone to talk with various ministries to identify documents that would be most useful for translating into other languages. You'll work closely with Outreach leadership to do this. Actual translation will come later.

If any of these speak to you, don't be shy! Send an email to the Outreach Committee Chairwoman, Diana Carter at dianalouisecarter@gmail.com or call at (585) 732-7224



CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altars are given to the glory of God and in loving memory, honor, and gratitude for Sandra's parents, Ray and Marilyn Waring, by Sandra and David Holloway.

If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please contact Jeanne Ristau at 585-223-4356, preferably two weeks ahead of requested date.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

We offer our prayers and concerns for all those who are ill at home, hospitalized, or in hospice care.

We offer our prayers and concerns for Morgan and Sean Cox on the death of Morgan's grandfather, William Lynch, who died on Saturday, June 8.

We offer our prayers and concerns for the family of Cathy Blakey who died on Thursday, June 13.

We offer our prayers and concerns for the family and friends of Harold Marchant who died on June 15.

We offer our prayers and concerns for the family and friends of June Hyder who died on June 21.

Our hearts and prayers are with Dave, Laurie, Sarah and Andrew Kennedy as they mourn the death of Dave's father, Donald Kennedy on June 23.

We offer our condolences to Doug and Chris Lee, their children Katie and Madelyn, on the death of Doug's father, Rev. Russell Lee, on June 25.

Our hearts and prayers are with Linda and Tom Clemow on the death of Linda's mother, Joanne McMillion, on June 30. Details regarding a memorial service will be shared later.

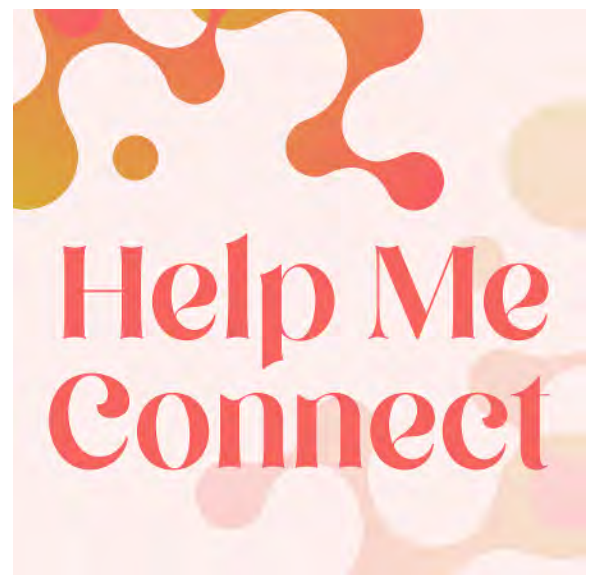
Our hearts and prayers are with Jim Reed and his family. Jim's sister, Nancy Reed, died on July 22.

Our hearts and prayers are with the family of Carolyn DiStasio who died on July 22. Service details will be provided at a later date.

Help Me Connect

Are you interested in taking the next step in your faith journey, finding your place in the life of Asbury First, or are just in need of a deeper connection? There is a place for you!

Call the office at (585) 271-1050 to connect.





Asbury Youth Missions Trip to Chicago!
They had a great week of service and fun in the Windy City, exploring new ways to Do More Good in an urban setting.





Our very own Ginn and Mason Fitch celebrated 75 years of marriage on June 25 – a relationship that started here at Asbury First ♥





The Rochester Pride Parade provided a great opportunity to collaborate with other Reconciling UM churches in the area with lots of love and bright colors!





Our new Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Michelle Bogue-Trost linked arm-in-arm with Cory Tylenda and Michelle's husband, Nate Trost.



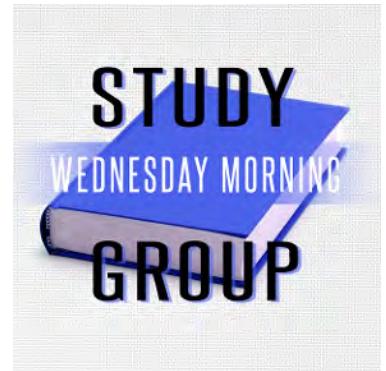
CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

Wednesday Morning Study Group

Wednesdays, 10–11:30 am , 1010 Red Room and Zoom (zoom.us/j/6174865464 PW Disciple)

All are invited to join this book discussion group as we meet in-person and on Zoom on Wednesday mornings. Some have been a part of this group for years, while others come and go depending on availability and the books that we are reading. This year, we will be reading: *A Pilgrimage to Eternity*; *Poverty, By America*; *The Gift of Years*; *The Flag, The Cross, and The Station Wagon*; and we will finish up with a few documentary films on *Discover Islam*.

For more information, please contact Mike Mullin at mmullin@asburyfirst.org.



Lectio Divina

Tuesdays, 8:30–9 am, Zoom (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 or at 585-271-1050 x106.



Tuesday Women's Fellowship

Tuesdays, 9:30–10:30 am, Zoom (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. Hope to see you soon!

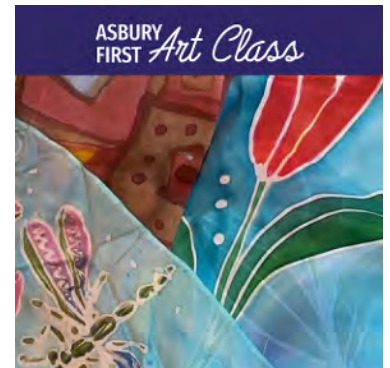


Asbury Art Class — Watercolor Painting

(On Hiatus for the Summer but returning in the Fall)

Fridays, 12:30–3 pm, 1040 Room 205 (upper level, bell choir room)

Now meeting on Friday afternoons, the Asbury Art Class is exploring watercolor and card-making. Watercolor is a terrific medium for capturing the form and surprise of the natural world. Please email Linda Clemow at soulsourcestudio1@gmail.com for more information and to register.



CONTINUING CLASSES, GROUPS, AND EVENTS

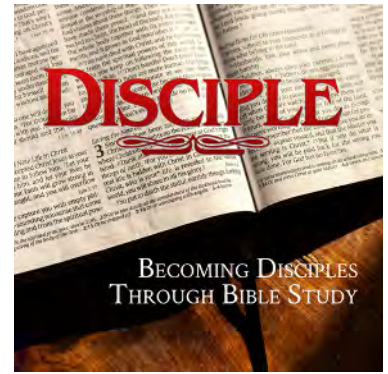
Disciple III and IV Bible Studies

Tuesdays, 2-3:30 pm, Zoom (zoom.us/j/6174865464 PW Disciple)

Fridays, 9:30-10:30 am, Zoom (zoom.us/j/6174865464 PW Disciple)

The Disciple Bible Study series encourages participants to read portions of the Bible everyday, and offers a study guide to help focus our thoughts and questions. We gather together in community to share, reflect, and learn from one another on the readings from the week. This fall, we have two Disciple Bible Study groups that will both be meeting on Zoom.

Friday mornings will be led by Mike Mullin, and will be starting the second half of Disciple III which focuses on the Pauline Epistles. Tuesday afternoons will be led by Ruthellen Hoyle, and will be starting at the beginning of Disciple III, which focuses on the Old Testament prophets. Both groups are open to all. Please contact Mike Mullin with questions or for more information at mmullin@asburyfirst.org or at (585) 271-1050 x105.

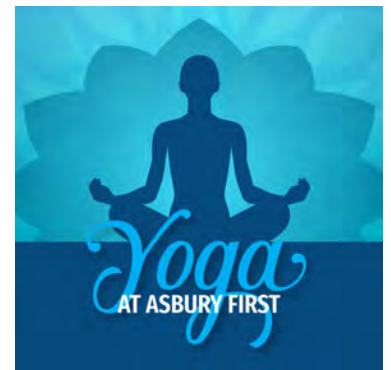


Yoga at Asbury First

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

Join us for our summer sessions of Gentle Yoga. During the summer months, this gentle attention can help both to bring inner awareness to your body, as well as giving shape to your free-flowing summer day!

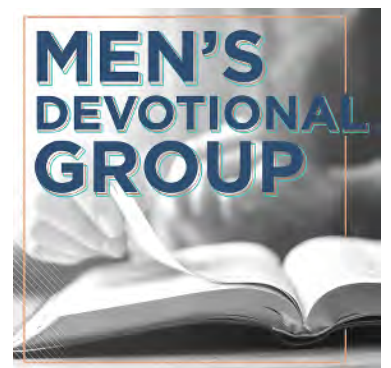
Classes are an hour long and open to participants at any level. \$10 at the door, you're encouraged to wear comfortable loose-fitting clothes, and to bring a towel and water with you.



Men's Devotional Group

Wednesdays, 7 am, Zoom (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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

4th Wednesday of the Month, 3–4:30 pm, Library

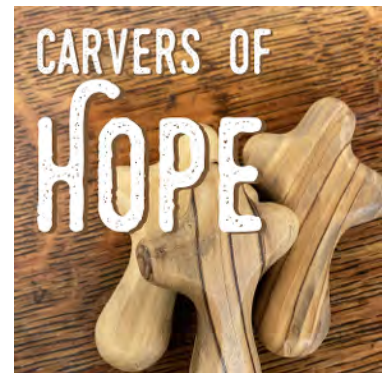
A prayer shawl is a simple shawl or a lap blanket knitted by members of our group. It is symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. The knitting itself is very simple and we have “experts” on hand to help you if you are a beginner. The group meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday. Clergy and 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.



Carvers of Hope

4th Wednesday of the Month, 6:30–8 pm, Education Wing

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. All materials, wood, and carving tools are provided, as well as carving lessons. No prior skill is needed to carve crosses with this group. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact John Smalt at jhsfalt@gmail.com.



LGBTQ+ Advocacy Meeting

3rd Sunday of the Month, at 9:45 am, 1040 Youth Room (lower level)

Asbury First's LGBTQ+ Advocacy Group will be holding its first meeting of the season on Sunday, October 15 in the Youth Room (in the lower level of the church), as our church community celebrates National Coming Out Day. Anyone affiliated with LGBTQ+ community and allies are welcome to attend. We will be setting our agenda for the year, planning for events, outreach, and educational opportunities in our community. Youth and adults are welcome! For more information, please contact Deb Bullock-Smith at (585) 271-1050 x117 or at dbullocksmith@asburyfirst.org.



As The Spirit Moves Us

Sundays, 9:45–10:45 am, Room LL03 and Zoom (zoom.us/j/6174865464 PW Disciple)

As The Spirit Moves is a class founded on forming a welcoming community to study Biblical events through scripture as well as Christian-based literature. All are welcome, and every voice is heard as we become better together.

For more information about this class, please contact Mike Mullin at mmullin@asburyfirst.org or at 585-271-1050 x105.





Dining & Caring Center

Open for hot meals, and shower and hair care services. Laundry services by appointment.

Hours:

- Breakfast served:
Wednesday–Friday, 7–9 am; Lunch served Sunday only, 12–1pm
- Hair Care services available
Thursdays 7–9 am, and on the third Sunday of the month 12 to 1 pm
- Showers and laundry are now available 3 days each week:
Wednesday through Friday, 7–9 am
(Appointments are made in-person the prior week and are on a first-come, first-served basis)

Bike Repair Ministry

- R Community Bikes will provide basic bicycle repair and tune-ups on a first-come, first-served basis at the garage behind the COC and playground. Contact Simon Barnett at sjbarnett3@gmail.com for more information.

Evarts UR Well Clinic

- **Hours:** Thursday evening from 6–8:30 pm
- **Appointments:** Schedule by calling the church office at (585) 271-1050 or online at bit.ly/URWell-Appointment

Storehouse

- **Hours:** Monday–Thursday from 9 am–3 pm, as well as the third and fourth Saturday of the month from 9 am–12 pm.
- **Donations:** We are currently not accepting Donations, but check back again soon!

Grocery Bag Ministry

- The Grocery Bag Ministry has transitioned fully to operating in the Community Outreach Center. Join us on the third Saturday of each month at 8 am in the COC to help us pack groceries for people in need.

Community Garden

- The Community Garden has provided bountiful amounts of fresh vegetables this Summer to food ministries such as the DCC, Grocery Bag Ministry, and AME Zion's food deliveries. All produce goes for this purpose, and is not available for individual harvesting. With Fall's approach, the garden is slowing down and will be put to bed over the Winter with first frosts. We welcome volunteers to help us over the Winter plan for next season.

If you are interested in volunteering in the Center you can do so by visiting asburyfirst.org/coc or by calling the Rev. Pat Dupont at (585) 271-1050 x136.

Stay up-to-date with events, links, and information with our online calendar, or call (585) 271-1050.

asburyfirst.org/events

DEADLINE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS: FRIDAY, August 16

To submit an announcement, email communication@asburyfirst.org, call the church office at (585) 271-1050, or fill out the online form at asburyfirst.org/bulletin-announcement.

If you'd like to receive regular paper communications, please call the church office at (585) 271-1050.