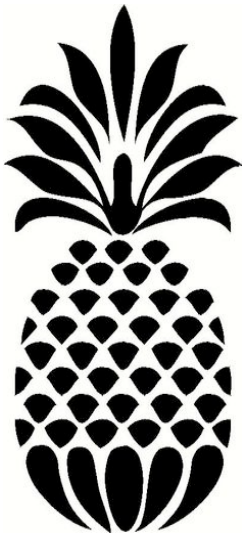




The Asbury Journal

December 2014



Historical 1800's Christmas Eve Service

Our "Historical 1800's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service" will take place this year on December 24th at 5:00 pm. Our service will begin with a concert featuring period music on the hammer dulcimer and guitar at 5:00 pm, followed by the candlelight worship service at 5:30 pm. The service will be the way it would have been back when our church was founded in 1801; complete with period attire, music, liturgy, and decorations. The worship service will be based on John Wesley's *Sunday Service for the Methodists in North America* (1784). The worship service will also be featuring the musical talents of Dr. Vance Reese on the harpsichord, Dr. Leslie Welker on the flute, Dr. Merritt Moseley and Ms. Carol Kinsey on the guitar, and Ms. Lorna Schultis on the hammer dulcimer. Come and celebrate the birth of Christ with us in a manner that will honor our history as the oldest Methodist congregation in western North Carolina. Invite your friends and neighbors. Merry Christmas!

Curtis+

In This Issue:

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Invitation.....1

A Message from the
Assistant Pastor.....2

News from the North
Asheville Preschool....2

News from the N.O.W.
Committee.....2

News from the
Friendship Circle.....2

News from the Finance
Committee.....3

Church Calendar....4-5

Volunteer Schedule....6

News from the
Missions Committee...7

News from the Youth
and Children.....8





A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

I know you should never wish your life away, but I wish Christmas Eve were here. I love that special night as we hear those wonderful words from the second chapter of Luke. *"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."* It is so easy to just focus on the verses from Luke 2: 1-20 and forget about Mary's Song found in chapter one. Let me share a few verses. Mary had gone to visit her cousin Elizabeth and she bursts out in song about her visit from the Angel Gabriel. *"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me...holy is his name."* Luke 2: 46-49.

The rest of Mary's Song speaks of the many blessings that God has bestowed upon his people. As I see the fear that has overtaken this country such as the ebola epidemic, the lava flow in Hawaii, the war on terrorism just to name a few I am comforted by Mary's words of: *"he has brought down great rulers from their thrones, he has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things, but has sent away the rich empty, vs. 52-53.* It is a traditional thing for pastors to offer up blessings to their people. This Advent Season I offer to you this blessing: "May your soul magnify the Lord, and your spirits rejoice in God your Savior. For he has looked with favor on **you**, and all generations will call **you** blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things for **you**, and holy is his name."

Merry Christmas from Pastor David Warren.

News from the North Asheville Preschool

Our annual Christmas Program is scheduled for Monday, December 15th at 12:00 noon in the sanctuary. We will have refreshments and fellowship after the program in the Fellowship Hall. We will be closed December 20th through January 4th. Merry Christmas from the NAPS staff and children!

-Madeline Moseley

News from the N.O.W. Committee

On Sunday, December 21st we will celebrate the Christmas season with a covered dish luncheon immediately following worship. Bread and beverages will be provided; please bring a dish to share.

News from the Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle invites you to participate in a vital part of Asbury's ministry. Financial contributions are being accepted for the bereavement receptions held during the times of loss for Asbury family members. If you wish to make a contribution to go toward the meals and/or refreshments, please designate "Bereavement Meals" in the memo section of your check. Thank you!



News from the Finance Committee

Finance Committee Update:

The gap is narrowing! Last month we reported a \$7,000 shortfall year-to-date. At the end of October this shortfall had decreased to \$3,000. If we continue this trend, by the end of 2014 we should be able to break even. Thank you for your continued generosity!

	<u>For the 10 Months Through October 31, 2014</u>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable/(Unfavorable)</u> <u>Variance</u>
Operating Funds:			
Receipts	\$158,668	\$173,896	(\$15,228)
Expenditures	<u>\$160,929</u>	<u>\$173,180</u>	<u>\$12,251</u>
Net Income/(Expense)	<u>(\$2,261)</u>	<u>\$716</u>	<u>(\$2,977)</u>
Special Giving*	<u>\$18,097</u>		
*Includes Souper Bowl, ABCCM, Manna Food Bank, Memorials, Disaster Relief, Youth Missions/Activities, Bread Tin			

A reminder that Asbury welcomes gifts of securities--as a special contribution or to offset part of your pledge. Depreciated stock has tax advantages for you and is a fine way to help Asbury Memorial UMC in ministry. Before you contact your broker, however, please check with Doug Tallent (251-2264), Sue Lane Muesing (255-8547) or Kitty Schaller (250-0566) to be sure that you have the church's Wells Fargo Advisors account number and broker name. It will help expedite your thoughtfulness---and save time.

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church

Church Calendar for December 2014

**Be sure to check our website calendar for any changes to the calendar.
Any meetings that change the time, location, or date
will also be communicated by a recorded phone message to those who are involved.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 am -Emmaus Group [YR] 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	2 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	3 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours 5:45 pm -Al-Anon Meeting [BC] 7:00 pm -Choir Rehearsal [CR] 8:00 pm -Narcotics Anonymous [FH] <i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i>	4 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	5 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	6 <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>
7 9:45 am -Sunday School 11:00 am -Worship [S] 11:00 am -Holy Communion [S] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]	8 7:00 am -Emmaus Group [YR] 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	9 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	10 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours 5:30 pm -Children's Program Rehearsal [S] 5:45 pm -Al-Anon Meeting [BC] 7:00 pm -Choir Rehearsal [CR] 8:00 pm -Narcotics Anonymous [FH] <i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i>	11 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm-6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	12 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	13 <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>
14 9:45 am -Sunday School 11:00 am -Worship [S] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]	15 7:00 am -Emmaus Group [YR] 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 12:00 pm -Preschool Christmas Program [S] with refreshments following [FH] 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	16 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	17 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm -Church Office Hours 5:45 pm -Al-Anon Meeting [BC] 7:00 pm -Choir Rehearsal [CR] 8:00 pm -Narcotics Anonymous [FH] <i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i>	18 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm -Church Office Hours	19 9:00 am-1:00 pm -Preschool [EB] 8:00 pm -Alcoholics Anonymous [FH] <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>	20 <i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>21</p> <p>9:45 am-Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am-Worship [S]</p> <p>11:00 am-Children's Christmas Program [S]</p> <p>12:00 pm-Christmas Luncheon [FH]</p> <p>8:00 pm-Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 am-Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p>3:00 pm- 6:00 pm-Church Office Hours</p> <p><i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am-12:00 pm-Church Office Hours</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Christmas Eve</i></p> <p>5:45 pm-Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p>7:00 pm-Christmas Eve Service [S]</p> <p>8:00 pm-Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Christmas</i></p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>3:00 pm- 6:00 pm-Church Office Hours</p> <p>8:00 pm-Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>
<p>28</p> <p>9:45 am-Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am-Worship [S]</p> <p>8:00 pm-Alcoholics Anonymous [FH]</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 am-Emmaus Group [YR]</p> <p><i>BULLETIN DEADLINE</i></p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>New Year's Eve</i></p> <p>5:45 pm-Al-Anon Meeting [BC]</p> <p>No Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>8:00 pm-Narcotics Anonymous [FH]</p> <p><i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</i></p>			
<p>FH=Fellowship Hall S=Sanctuary BC=Brown Chapel EB=Educational Building YR=Youth Room GE=Givens Estate PO=Pastor's Office CO=Church Office TBD=To Be Determined</p>				<p><u>Important Dates in January</u> January 1st - New Year's Day January 4th-11th - Room In The Inn January 15th - MLK Jr. Prayer Breakfast January 19th - MLK Jr. Day (observed)</p>		
<p><u>December Birthdays</u> Steve Rich, December 1st Chloe Jackson, December 9th Eliza Jackson, December 9th Bob Mair, December 9th David Benson, December 10th</p>				<p><u>December Birthdays</u> Kitty Schaller, December 15th Arlee Banks, December 17th Paul Benson, December 19th Hannah Milling, December 28th Day Ann Emory, December 29th</p>		



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule December 2014						
Date	Communion Servers	Lock-Up Volunteer	Counting Team	Ushers	Greeters	Sanctuary Stewards
12.7.2014	Curtis Goforth Deborah Hawkins Sallyanne McVay Rick Morehead	Mark Smith (primary) Julie Niwinski (secondary)	Mark Smith Madeline Moseley	Don Jackson Jessica Jackson Gary Tweed Toni Tweed	TBD TBD	Madeline Moseley
12.14.2014	NA	Mark Smith (primary) Julie Niwinski (secondary)	Kelli Conover Jane Hite	Don McGeary Kitty Schaller Robert Wiltshire TBD	Geri Allison Jessica Withers	Steve Rich Judy Rich
12.21.2014	NA	Mark Smith (primary) Julie Niwinski (secondary)	Elaine Poovey Claire Bailey	Mike Rice Sherry Rice Jerry Stubblefield Julie Niwinski	Kitty Schaller Claire Bailey	Arlee Banks Ellen Banks
12.28.2014	NA	Mark Smith (primary) Julie Niwinski (secondary)	Steve Rich Julie Niwinski	William Withers Jessica Withers Bud Allison Geri Allison	Ann Young TBD	Derick Tickle Margaret Tickle

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church Volunteer Schedule December 2014					
Date	Acolytes	Nursery Volunteers	Children's Church	Children's Message	Lector
12.7.2014	Harper Shook	Claire Bailey Heather Post	Heather Post	Sallyanne McVay	Curtis Goforth
12.14.2014	Barfuo Boakye-Boaten	John Stewart Julie Niwinski	Jessica Jackson	Curtis Goforth	Wylie Withers
12.21.2014	Cora Goforth Lylah Goforth	PAID WORKERS	Madeline Moseley	Madeline Moseley	Sallyanne McVay
12.24.2014		Christmas Eve PAID WORKERS			
12.28.2014	Chloe Jackson Eliza Jackson	Jessica Withers TBD	Sallyanne McVay	Sallyanne McVay	Mitchell Tucker

Volunteer Coordinators:

Counting Team:

Lock-Up Team:

Ushers:

Greeters:

Sanctuary Stewards:

Acolytes:

Nursery Workers:

Children's Church:

Children's Sermon:

Communion Servers:

Scripture Readers:

Sue Lane Muesing

Curtis Goforth

Gary Hutchins

Cynthia Stewart

Margaret Tickle

Sallyanne McVay

Davie Jackson

Sallyanne McVay

Sallyanne McVay

Curtis Goforth

Curtis Goforth

slmue@aol.com

curtis@asburymethodist.org

NA

crameystew@hotmail.com

margarettickle@aol.com

sallyanne@asburymethodist.org

daviejackson@hotmail.com

sallyanne@asburymethodist.org

sallyanne@asburymethodist.org

curtis@asburymethodist.org

curtis@asburymethodist.org

H: (828) 255-8547

H: (828) 484-8540

H: (828) 683-1948

H: (828) 251-9210

H: (828) 252-9887

C: (828) 230-4065

H: (828) 645-2928

C: (828) 230-4065

C: (828) 230-4065

H: (828) 484-8540

H: (828) 484-8540



News from the Missions Committee

The December Bread Tin Offering, a loose change offering, will go to the Red Bird Missionary Conference which is in ministry with Appalachian families living in the coal region of southeastern Kentucky. Its goal is to minister to the whole person by addressing spiritual, physical, educational and economic needs. The Red Bird Conference helps ease need and isolation through its churches and mission institutions. This isolation is caused due to the mountains of the region which make accessibility of various services virtually impossible and commuting to different service areas takes hours. Please give generously!

Here is another opportunity during this Giving Season: Ellen Banks has the names of vulnerable adults in Madison County who might not receive any gifts during this holiday season. If you would like to adopt a "Purple* Angel", please contact Ellen (ebanks453@aol.com; (c) 803-517-4450 or (w) 828-649-2711). *Purple is the color of Elder Abuse Prevention and Awareness. Please return gifts (wrapped or unwrapped) for Madison County adults to the church by Sunday, December 14th. Attach the Purple Angel to the item(s). Thank you for your generosity!

Our annual Mitten Tree will be in the sanctuary during Advent, and the Missions Committee invites you to hang hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, and even blankets on it. These will be taken to Haywood Street Church at Christmas.

As has been our custom for many years, the offering taken up on Christmas Eve will go to the ABCCM Fuel Fund to help those who have difficulty paying for fuel to heat their homes this winter. Thanks for your support of this ministry.

We have a request from the staff at Jones School, our neighborhood school, to do our giving to them at Christmas in a slightly different way this year. Instead of clothes and toys, they are asking us to fill a bag (provided by Jones School) with books, art supplies, and an educational game. We will be given an age and gender for each child. The hope is that these gifts will help narrow the achievement gap and enhance a love of learning. We will also take up non-perishable staple foods to help see the families through the long holiday. Thanks so much to all of you who give so freely and ungrudgingly to those who need our help!

The Missions Committee appreciates and celebrates all those who volunteered to help build the 2014 Methodist/Presbyterian Habitat House: Claire Bailey, John Stewart, Curtis Goforth, Keith Campbell, Sharon Campbell, Don Jackson, Doug Tallent, Mike Jansen (friend). Larry Wilson, Brad Arnold, and Derek Morgan. Helping to put a young family in a safe comfortable home is a mitzvah. Thanks to all.

By November's end, Asbury has contributed cans of tuna--as well as money to buy tuna--- to the level of 1755 pounds!!! That breaks all records for this time of the year since we began in 2000. With your help, we will reach our goal of 2014 pounds of good nutritious protein for our neighbors in need across the mountains. MANNA FoodBank thanks you---and so do the families who benefit from your kindness!

Our October Bread Tin collection totaled \$288.34. Thank you for supporting the Native American Cooperative Ministry, a United Methodist Global Ministries program in eastern North Carolina.

"I never knew I'd have to break my leg in order to find family." -- Wayne

Please join us on Sunday, January 11, 2015 as we celebrate the one year anniversary of Haywood Street Respite with cake and ice cream in the fellowship hall, 12:30 – 2:30 pm (297 Haywood St., Asheville NC 28801). Hear from folks like Wayne about what this program has meant to them, and discover how you can get involved with this and other transformational ministries of the Haywood Street Congregation.

www.haywoodstreet.org

News from the Youth and Children

Our Christmas Program rehearsals continue. Please bring the children participants to Godly Play and Worship each Sunday between now and the sharing of our program on December 21st. The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, December 3rd - 5:30 pm Baked spaghetti, bread and salad followed by rehearsal

Sunday, December 7th - 9:45 am Godly Play

11:00 am Worship- Children's Church will include rehearsal

Wednesday, December 10th - 5:30 pm Dinner to be planned, volunteers needed; rehearsal to follow

Sunday, December 14th - 9:45 am Godly Play

11:00 am Worship- Children's Church will include rehearsal

Wednesday, December 17th - 5:30 pm Dinner to be planned, volunteers needed

THIS WILL BE THE FINAL DRESS REHEARSAL

Sunday, December 21st - 9:45 am We would like to have a short Godly Play class; then a bathroom break and costumes on for Worship and the Christmas Program!

There will be a congregational covered dish luncheon following worship--stay and enjoy the fellowship!

Children Mentors Wanted

It is the time of year to begin planning for 2015. If you would like to volunteer in the Children's ministry of Asbury Memorial UMC, please speak with Davie Jackson or Sallyanne McVay. We have opportunities in Godly Play, Nursery, Children's Church and more. Please be in prayer about where God could use your gifts and talents for the glory of the church.



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
171 Beaverdam Rd.
Asheville, NC 28804-2514