



The Asbury Update

June 2011

Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
Rev. Billy Hester

Volume 16 Number 6
June 1st, 2011



Vacation Bible School

June 19th-24th, 2011 6pm-9pm

*Mark your calendars now! Enjoy a fresh, one-of-a-kind VBS 2011 at Shake It Up Café—where kids carry out **God's recipe!***

*In this kid-friendly café, kids explore the Bible as a **cookbook filled with recipes for living out God's***

word. Through interactive lessons, that are easy for kids to apply to their lives today, boys and girls will celebrate biblical festivals that reveal ingredients for being a follower of God. Join us June 19th-24th from 6pm-9pm for a fabulous time!

Parents please register your children by going to Asbury's Website at:

www.asburymemorial.org

DEADLINE is JUNE 15TH

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING ON SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH, 9:00AM for all VBS Volunteers in the Social Hall. You can come for the training and then stay and paint!!! We will still be having a normal workday beginning at 9 that Saturday for those of you who don't need the training. If you have had S.S. Training somewhere else, that is fine, however, you need to bring a copy for our files. If you don't get the training and the background check done, you can still work in the kitchen, or just come to Saturday workdays. If you have questions, contact Cheri Hester **by phone 695-1170 or email cbhester@comcast.net**.

*(Please note that if you are not helping with VBS but would like to help with the **Children's Ministries at Asbury in the future, we encourage you to come to the Safe Sanctuary Training on Saturday, June 4th at 9:00 a.m.**)*



10 O'clock Hour Programs Take a Siesta after June 5th

Our 10 O'clock Hour programs will be taking a summer break after the class on Sunday, June 5th. During the summer, we will be making plans for new, upcoming studies. Classes will resume in August.

1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401

www.asburymemorial.org

912-233-4351

912-233-5026 fax

TGIY Times



Thank God It's Youth

Wednesday, 8th - TGIY 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 15th - TGIY 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 22nd - TGIY 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 29th - TGIY 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



If you have any questions or need any information about our youth program, please contact

Debbie Wright by email: debbie203@comcast.net

Thanks for your support! Debbie Wright, Youth Minister

Older Youth Opportunity

This summer, Rev. Billy Hester will be offering classes for older youth who have not had Confirmation Classes. He will be taking them to Epworth By the Sea and a tour of the Methodist sites downtown. If you would like to participate, email Billy at bghester3@comcast.net.

Children's Church Leaders

June 2011

Grades K—3rd

Tom & Betsy Davis

Subs: Ellie Covington & Cheri Hester

Grades 4th—6th

June 5th:

Candace Jenkins & Deb Stewart

June 12th:

Debbie Eason

Betsy Woodward

June 19th:

KT Aull & Andrea Harrelson

June 26th:

Billie Ward

Subs: Debbie Anderson, Carter Campbell

Nursery Volunteers

June 5th

Amy Povie

Kate Strain

June 12th

Ricky & Dee Waddell

Tracy DuBois

June 19th

Jamie Brown

Vanessa Skaggs

June 26th

Ellie Covington

Gail Graham

God Bless You,

Jenifer Hall & Marie Parker

Nursery coordinators

Nursery services are provided for preschool children for the programs and services on Sundays and Wednesdays.

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- ✠ We extend our love and sympathy to Ann, Bill and Emily Anderson and family in the death of Ann's mother, **Helen Murray**.
- ✠ We extend our love and sympathy to Tom Nease and his mother, Betty, in the death of Tom's father, **"T.E." Nease**.
- ✠ We extend our love and sympathy to Bill Peterson, in the death of his longtime companion and canine friend, **Blake Edward Christopher Peterson (16 1/2 yrs)**.
- ✠ We extend our love and sympathy to Ginger, Kevin, Jordan and Sydney Veitinger and family in the death of **Ginger's grandfather, Bill Johnson**.

MEMORIALS

Gifts have been given to the
"Celebrate the Joy" Fund
in memory of:

- ◆ *Marjorie Edenfield* by Mary Ann Donahue
by Cynthia Herold
by Elizabeth Lariscy
- ◆ *Christopher Harley* by Mary Ann Donahue
by Karl & Judy Graham
- ◆ *Edna M. Jewett* by Joan Crane
- ◆ *Helen Murray* by Cynthia Herold
- ◆ *Harold Wiley* by Bill & Kathy Oakley
by Debbie Williamson



Members

Annette Anderson, Eric Anderson Family, Bolinger-Muendel Family, Jean Butcher, Gail Byrd, Abbigail Carter-Walter, Anita Clay, Stephanie Clegg, Dina Consentino, Kathy Consentino, Jeff Follett, Edna Girard, Sandy Golden, Gay Gwinner, Nell Hagins, Chase Harrison, Zaida Hester, Dewey Hooper, Betty Hunter, Judith Kessler, Elizabeth Lariscy, Justin Linthicum, Vicki Manibusan, Janet Mayne, Linda Ostrow, Marie Parker, Jo Poston, Barbara Rogers, Mike Skinner, Caroline Smith, Mina Smith, Amy Stewart, Cabell Stewart, Jean Stewart, Pat Stewart, Janelle Waters, Dot Whitlock, Joyce Wickstrom, Diane Williamson.

Family & Friends

Danny Adams, Eddie Adams, Maria Adgee, Pete Ashland, Stephen Austin and Tara Gilmore, Brian Beck, Rev. Grover Bell, Doris Brackette, Emily Brennan, Kelly Brown, Ronald Bryant, Brian Cail, Missy Calhoun, Alex Cann, Nancy Collier, Jackie Costello, Brenda Covington, Schaefer Dean, Jimmy Dillon, Amy Egan, Jim Ernsberger, Monique and Ryan Esteves, Bob Fennell, Caleb Flagg, Rick Gilbert, Robert Greene, Shirley Grover, Elizabeth Hall, Joan Harper, Leo Harrison, Jerry Hill, Edward Himes, Dave Hogg, Archie Iodice, McKenzie Jenkins, Ricky Knight, Lou Koel, Lisa Lopinski-Tyler, Scott McCoy, Phyllis McQuaid, Kathy New, Freddy Ogunkoya, Tiffany O'Quinn, Melissa Pittman, Joe Porterfield, Marilyn Sasser, Virlyn Sheppard, Dell Shore, Harry Shuman Family, Melissa Smith, Stella Smith, Sylvia Spann, Liam Steffen, Hazel Stubbs, Juan Thompson, Louise Thompson, Roy Thornquist, Jim Wamboldt, Frederick Walter, Susan Waters, Heather Widman, Ruth Wilson, Maya Zafari



Happy Birthday

Having a Birthday?

Let us know when! Sign up on the main bulletin board between the nurseries or call the office at 233-4351.

June



- 1st:** Jackie Fall
Roger Oliver
- 2nd:** Jan Durham
Amy Povie
- 3rd:** Lorelle Carter-Walter
Catherine Gilbert
Colin Harrison
Betty Perry
- 4th:** Jamie Braddock
Trina Dunn
Kathy Jones
- 5th:** Andrew Foster
Kathy Hodges
- 6th:** Anne Lynes
- 8th:** Jeff Follett
- 9th:** Charles Ennis
Erin McGavin
Tom Nease
- 10th:** Jennie Wilburn
- 11th:** Gay Gwinner
- 13th:** Carol Anderson
Linda Jensen
Carson McBrayer
Susan Smith
- 16th:** Whitney Braddock
Ruth Foster
Susan Harrison
Jeanine Hoag

June Birthdays cont'd

- 17th:** Robert McNew
Grady Mills
Michele Young
- 18th:** Wendy Ciccodicola
Claire Reeve
- 19th:** Robert Smith, Jr.
Butch Wright
- 20th:** Emma Campbell
Jewel Nieuwstraten
Joe Richards
Sally Stephens
Jean Stewart
- 21st:** Vanessa Skaggs
- 23rd:** Graham Cooper
- 25th:** Barbara Beam
Debbie Eason
Artley Lynah
- 26th:** Spencer Luke
- 27th:** Callie Downing
- 28th:** Naomi Britt
- 29th:** Helen Savidge
Kathryn Savidge
- 30th:** Russ Kirks



A Special Note...

Dear Pastor and Parishioners',

My husband Clif and I were blessed to be in your worship service Sunday, May 15th. It is our custom to worship while on vacation. We just chose the closest UMC to where we were staying. Imagine our delight when we discovered an inclusive, welcoming group of people in deed as well as in word. We have discussed the service many times and carried away a renewed hope that soon—very soon, please God—we can all say with conviction that all of our places of worship have open doors. We were in Savannah celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary (we got married when we were 5!!) and are so grateful for our experience at Asbury Memorial UMC.

God bless your every effort,
Clif and Joyce Weaver

A sburian Jamie Smith

Crowned the 2011 Belle of Savannah by Young Professionals of Savannah

Jamie Marie Smith was crowned the Belle of Savannah on Thursday, May 26th at The Mansion on Forsyth Park.

This is the second year for the event, which was sponsored by Low Country Luxe, the Young Professionals of Savannah and Savannah Magazine. The honor, named after two Low Country Luxe soy candles, recognizes “quintessential Southern charm true to every Beau and Belle, business leadership and dedication to making a difference in Savannah.”

“Jamie is truly representative of the Belle of Savannah. She is a young professional doing extraordinary things in Savannah,” said Natalie Evans, founder and president of Low Country Luxe. Jamie, an active Savannah volunteer, is a business developer with Coastal Home Care and manages the Lifeline medical alert services program. Among her many community activities, Smith is active with the Greater Savannah Coalition on Aging, the Alzheimer’s Association, Women in Business in the Telfair Academy Guild, Young Professionals of Savannah and the Ogeechee Riverkeeper. As well as being a member of Asbury MUMC is active member of the choir and the Asbury Memorial Theatre.

Hymnal Dedication

Would you like to dedicate a hymnal as a way to honor or memorialize a loved one, a friend or a group? Pick up a form in the narthex or office, complete the information and either drop it in the offering plate or mail to the church office. The cost is only \$20.

Chair Name Plate

One of the ways we are helping fund the renovation of the sanctuary is by giving people the opportunity to place a very tasteful name-plate on our beautiful sanctuary chairs. If you would like to remember or honor a Loved One in a special way, complete an order form and turn it into the church office. Forms are available in the church narthex and the office. Please turn in a completed form to the office. The cost is \$250.00.

Here are two examples of nameplates for the chairs:

Elizabeth Lariscy
A Southern Lady
By R. Ward Lariscy

In Loving Memory
of
Dix Elliott

For BLAKE

Written by Bill Peterson



I will miss you in the morning
when I hear your bark no more
And also in the afternoon
 when I'd lead you out the door
Especially in the evening
 when you'd welcome me home
I will miss you all the time
 but most especially when alone
I know that the day will come
 when I take the journey too
And one of the first to greet me
 not surprisingly will be you
For when I meet my Maker
 He made you as well
I will see His open arms
 and your wildy wagging tail

2011 Budget Offering

May 1st - \$9,855.88

May 8th - \$9,237.35

May 15th - \$7,168.00

May 22nd - \$8,899.26

May 29th - \$TBA

Weekly Budget Needed

\$7,788.46

Budget Needed to Date

\$163,557.66

Received to Date

\$172,042.34

Balance of the Operating Fund as of May 31st, 2011

\$118,897.13

Celebrate the Joy Campaign

Total Collected in campaign
\$1,283,983.80

Total Pledges Collected in campaign
\$896,094.69

Total Pledges Outstanding
\$126,807.84

Loan Balance
\$325,000.00

If you use the Yellow "Celebrate the Joy" envelope, please place your name and envelope number on the front. If you combine your contributions, please designate the funds on the memo line of your check. The Celebrate the Joy Campaign is not the same as Building Fund or Trustees.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Community's Top 10 Working Women Honored

AWWIN (Assisting Working Women in Need) recognized its "Top Ten Working Women of The Year" Friday, May 13th, during a gala at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum. Winners were chosen on their leadership; influence on the professional community; contributions to the vision of AWWIN, Inc.; service as role models to colleagues, peers and other; and the impact on the advancement of the status of women in the community. Of the Top 10...THREE of them are Asburians! They are:

Business - Iris Mack Dayoub, founder, Alpha Financial Management, Inc.

Education - Deborah Hargrove, Media & Technology Specialist, Savannah-Chatham School district/Technology Education Associates

Medical - Janet Steffen, Charge Nurse, Cardiac Rehab Unit at Memorial Health.

HONORARIUMS

A gift has been given to the "Janice Gantt Butterfly Miracle" Fund in honor of:

* *Chase Harrison by Colleen Robinette*

* *Chase Harrison by Anonymous*

Graduate Recognition Sunday

June 19

High School and college graduates of Asbury will be recognized in the worship service on June 19th as they move forward in the next chapter of their lives.

All graduating seniors, please contact Rev. Hester at

bghester3@comcast.net.



*Congratulations to Jake Dunn and Trina Dodd,
who were married Saturday, May 28th!*



Tithes and Offerings During the Summer

We all need to take breaks from our routine in order to recharge and refresh....to feel renewed. Many of us will even get to go out of town during the summer. Our church, however, never takes a break. It is always available as a house of God...an oasis in our community. In order for Asbury to stay available, we need to pay our bills. So please remember your tithes and offerings during the summer months. We are also still paying for the loan for the renovated sanctuary. So any contributions are appreciated!

Thank you, and may you have a wonderful summer!

Helping Vicki

Dear Asbury Members and Friends,

Many of you know that church member Vicki Manibusan has been battling cancer. After 7 months of treatment, 6 surgeries, 5 hospital stays, 27 pints of blood and countless procedures...Vicki has been referred to Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City for her final surgery. Vicki is more than 7 months out of her practice and needs her son, Frank, to accompany her on this trip. They will both need to be in NY for a number of weeks. There are travel, food, and lodging costs to consider for this time away.

A fund has been set up to provide financial support for Vicki's trip to Sloan Kettering as well as her recovery in NYC. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you can make a check out to "Asbury Memorial UMC." Be sure to make a notation on your check "Vicki Manibusan Fund" and mail to:

Asbury Memorial UMC
1008 E. Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401

You can also go to the church's website at www.asburymemorial.org and donate by credit card for her fund at "Support Asbury," "Type of Donation: General Operational Budget" and put as "Other" with her name (Vicki Manibusan).

Thank you for your consideration. Please keep Vicki and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Important...We need to... Help Our Children... and We Need You!

We want to use this summer to organize and strengthen our Children's Programs at Asbury. Two main areas we'll be focusing on are the programs for our elementary age children during the 10 O'clock Hour on Sundays and the G-Force Program on Wednesday nights. Helpers and teachers are needed. Rev. Hester says, "I often talk with adults who had horrible experiences in Sunday School as a child. They were taught things that turned them off of religion or were taught things they've had to work through as adults. We need to do better for our children. We want our best leaders working with our children so they can develop a healthy and strong spiritual foundation. I hope many Asburians will consider working with the children's program at Asbury. I look forward to working with adults who want to make a major impact now and in the future."

If you feel God is leading you to work with the children of Asbury...or if you want to learn more about this opportunity, please email Rev. Billy Hester at: bghester3@comcast.net. He will soon be organizing a planning session.

Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
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Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026
www.asburymemorial.org

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Flowers in the Sanctuary

Supplying the flower arrangements for the worship service is a wonderful way to commemorate a date that is important to you or a loved one. Please check the 2011 Flower Chart in the narthex and sign up. The cost is \$60. For more information call the church office at 233-4351.

Special Funds

One way to honor or to remember a loved one is with a memorial or an honorarium to the "Celebrate the Joy" (Renovation) Fund, the Piano/Organ Fund, the Hester-Children Education Fund, the Trustees Fund, or the General Fund.

Newsletter Information

If you have an announcement for "The Asbury Update," please send it to the church office in writing by the 15th of each month. Contact Claudette DeLong, Office Manager at 233-4351 or email to asburymumc@yahoo.com. Office hours are 9 AM to 2 PM, Monday thru Friday.

Mission Statement:

Asbury Memorial is a place where all people can develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we seek to love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.

[Our Members In the World](#)

Many of our church members are not only serving through the ministries of Asbury, but through their careers or special agencies or events. **Nanci Hartland shares with us her recent, "Semester at Sea Enrichment Voyage."**

My Semester at Sea Voyage on EV Explorer By [Nanci J Hartland](#)

I left Savannah for San Diego April 25th to begin a 3 week Semester at Sea Enrichment Voyage onboard the EV Explorer owned by the University of Virginia as a floating University that circum- navigates the globe twice a year. This voyage covered 7 countries and 12 ports in Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Panama Canal, Panama, Honduras and Belize ending in Ft. Lauderdale/Port Everglades, FL on May 19th. Our remarkable team of nine from exciting and diverse backgrounds came together to produce several events on board and to record our visits to Pediatric Cancer wards, orphanages, day care centers and do on the street interviews on how people are making a difference in their communities.



At the first port – Cabo San Lucas – we visited an orphanage/daycare center. A clean, well-maintained center with playful dedicated staff that truly care and are fully engaged in growing 148 sweet smiley faces from 1-5 years old. We brought toys, balls and bubbles. We sang to them; they sang to us. Ohh, they filled my heart with their young joy. Fish tacos and margaritas on the beach, a ride in a glass-bottomed boat finished off a perfect day. Life is good.

Days at Sea. Daily Yoga, classes on fascinating subjects pertaining to Central America, To name just a few: 'The Biodiversity of Central America', Sir Christopher Ball on 'The Power of Choice - Ordinary People - Extraordinary Lives', a tour of the Bridge w/the Captain, 'Maya and other Pre-Classical Pyramid Builders', evenings; 'Astronomy, the night Skies of Central America. Mike Cobb is bringing American higher quality building standards, LURC and green environmental protection principles to – 'The Challenges of Doing Business in Latin America.'

The toughest visit and the most rewarding is the Pediatric Cancer ward of a hospital in Puerto Quetzl, Guatemala. As we drive up in a van, I notice several young men and women standing in white smocks and red noses. Getting out of the van I watch a little boy of about 7 in a blue and white stripe T-Shirt, a bald-head, a mischievous enchanting smile and one of the biggest personalities I have ever seen comes strolling down the shaded parking lot with his hands in his pockets chatting with several men in white hospital smocks. One of them introduces himself as the Director, Dr. Antillon. The young boy is the mascot and beloved by all. He goes home in a few weeks after more than a year of successful treatment for cancer. He is with us for the tour, engaging with staff, the other children and our camera crew. We brought many gifts; hand puppets, stuffed cuddly animals, toy cars, planes, bubbles and lots of hugs and smiles. It was joyous, difficult and a highlight.

I had the privilege of presenting a PowerPoint for a conversation about R. Buckminster Fuller - Futurist, inventor visionary, architect; a remarkable man who called himself an 'active verb'. "I am not a noun, a thing..."

67 people showed up for 54 seats. (Usually these evening gatherings get about 20 to 25.)

The highlight is asking two of Bucky's most important questions to ponder:

"If the future of our planet and of my species depends on what I do and who I am... What am I going to do and who am I going to be?"

The 2nd question: "How can we make this planet work for 100% of humanity, in the shortest possible time, through spontaneous co-operation, without environmental damage or disadvantage to anyone?"

The evening introduced new people to "Bucky's BIG Ideas", others refreshing their knowledge of this great man. What followed were lively conversations on how we can all make a difference on the planet. I closed the event with a Blue Ribbon Ceremony, followed by hugs, tears, laughter and another hour of lively conversations in the room and the hallways.

Spent Mother's Day transiting the Panama Canal. WHAT an amazing adventure! I feel like a Happy Dog leaning out a car window!

After transiting the Panama Canal, we arrive in the middle of an angry strike as the inhabitants of Colon, Panama are still without water for over a week. All traffic is at a standstill. Our group decides NOT to venture out of the neighborhood open market next to the port.

Cont'd

Thirty-five Humber College students came aboard for the last 10 days. We spoke with their chaperones offering the *Global Solutions Game* for the students to play a miniature version of an exciting, innovative, interactive game that builds critical skills, social bonds, and global awareness. A fun integrated forum to learn, as well as offer your best ideas on solving some of our world's complex challenges.

Two of my teammates - Jennifer and Alia - and I split up the tasks. Alia introduced herself as a former student and told what an impact the ship had on her. Jennifer introduced "The Global Situation Room". I went thru a short factual slide presentation introducing Buckminster Fuller, explaining Bucky's 'World Game'. We handed out resources: million dollar bills, paint sticks representing natural resources, green candles representing renewable energy in direct proportion to the region of the world the students were divided up to each represent 3% of the world's population.

1st round - 20 minutes - play full out and grab all you can. That first round was chaos. One student actually said to a person representing Africa. "We won't negotiate with you as you have nothing!" The debrief was an eye-opener, as the students realized how badly they had behaved, how they had treated others.

The 2nd round - Now negotiate so everyone has enough. That took less than 20 minutes for them to reach agreements with all other regions to share. That debrief was authentic, profound and life changing for the students.

I ended with a "Who I am Makes Difference" Ceremony. I honored their teacher and chaperone, Mary, an amazing woman, a credit to the teaching profession. Her students respect and adore her.

Handing out Blue Ribbons to each student and asking them to honor the person next to them and tell them why they made a difference. Tears and laughter followed. Conversations continued for about an hour and their happy smiling faces were joyful to watch...

We are visiting a public square in Antigua, Nicaragua. With a video camera about to roll, we will be asking people what they do to make a difference. Suddenly, hearing many sirens, spinning around we watch as many large black SUV's with flags flying, a flatbed trailer followed by vans and a huge orange bus painted with Guatemalan War Criminal Presidential Candidate Otto Perez Molina's portrait comes down through the crowded streets led by a Policía escort on motorcycles. A huge political rally is set up facing the square with the backdrop of a beautiful church built over 400 years ago. Folkloric dancers in full costumes are suddenly on stage with a full band playing loudly. His team is immediately dispersing orange T-shirts by the hundreds to the crowd. It is a Fiesta guarded by dozens of uniformed soldiers carrying AK-47's throughout the square and on the rooftops. Otto Perez Molina is going to give a speech.

Debbie, Pavel and I quickly disappear into the darkened and calm Catedral de Santiago. An old toothless guide with a kind smile offers us a tour. Leaving the Cathedral through a side entrance we are led past huge intricately carved and now broken columns that fell during an earthquake in 1976. The original church was a magnificent structure originally built in the 1500's, partially destroyed and rebuilt again in the 1600's. Carefully descending old damp stairs, we peer thru bars into the original small dirt floor rooms dating back to an even earlier place to gather and worship. Entering the gloomy damp and impressive ruins of the giant nave from the south portal was well worth the modest admission charge.

As I am leaving the ruins, I spot a market stall in a dark corner. I find several things to purchase. As Carmelita is counting out my change, I ask her what she does to make a difference. Her response, with a bright and hopeful smile;"I recycle, I grow organic vegetables, I teach my children to put trash in the bins, not to throw trash on the streets. I tell others not to throw trash in the river. I conserve water. We just had an Earth Day Celebration here in the square." She made my DAY! I hug her with grateful thanks.

In Puntarenas, Costa Rica, some of us went on an overnight safari to the silent volcano, Arenal, soaking in the Mineral Hot Springs with great new friends, great food, great conversations.

We are all still working on a White Paper: "TAC - The Answer to Cancer. Declaring the End of Cancer by 2025."

On the rear deck the next to last night on the ship - as the lights of Cozumel and the coast of the Yucatan grow smaller behind us, the rhythm of the engines is felt below. I reflect on amazing conversations, the children's faces at the orphanage, the day care center and the Pediatric Cancer clinic, the many dedicated professionals who support these programs and the many new friends I met aboard the ship. How blessed I am...

Nanci