

A photograph of the Statue of Liberty in a teal color, set against a black background with large, golden fireworks exploding behind her. The statue is shown from the waist up, holding a torch in her right hand and a tablet in her left. The fireworks are large and starburst-shaped, filling the upper right portion of the frame.


SBURY UPDATE

**VOL 38
NO 7**

July BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 1 Alexis Gage
Jackie Stewart
Jeff Tucker | 7 John Hester | 14 J.J. Collins | 20 Ann Anderson | 26 John Giles
Ian Perry
Lucy Perry |
| 3 James Heilman
Rex Lutskiy
Barbara Ruggere | 8 Molly Hester | 15 Tina Austing
Marcia Budarz
Nancy Cvetan | 21 Carolyn Ingram | 29 Charlene Branan
Bridgette Kincade
McKinley Thomas
Barbara Wilkins |
| 4 Jan Corey
Steve Johnson | 10 Patty Lewis | 17 Charles
Richardson | 23 Jacob Smith | 30 Dennis Murphy
Tim Steinhauser |
| 5 Cindy Herold | 11 Stea Duane | 18 Nick Deffley
Jane Thimme | 24 Andrea Harrelson | 31 Diane "D" Connor
Meredith Solomons |
| 6 Madelyn "Mad
Dawg" Morgan | 12 Betty Estock
Austin Wright | 19 Warren Heilman
Mary Francis Karls
Kenn Waters | 25 Pat McIntosh
Morgan Page Faunce
Shirley White | |
| | 13 David Alley
Rev. Billy Hester | | | |

July Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| 6th
Amy & Larry
Burris | 16th
Adele & Ed
Packert | 16th
Pam Parker-Kress &
Walter Kress |  |
| 21st
Anne & Jim
Green | 22nd
Christy & Robert
Crisp | 22nd
Mary Ellen & Dwight
Campbell | |
| 22nd
Cliff Harley &
Tommy Schafer | 24th
Amy & Jeff
Tucker | 25th
Debbie & Evans
Wright | |
| | | | 27th
Shirley & Paul
Irvine |

JULY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 9:00a - WO 11:15a - AMC 1:00p - W.O.K.E. @WO	29 7:00p SMART Recovery @Episcopacy Center	30	1	2 7:00p Men's Group	3 6:00p 3 rd Space Event @GoodFortune Market	4
5 9:00a - WO 11:00a - AMC 1:00p - W.O.K.E. @WO	6 8:30a - 3:00p SING Summer Camp 7:00p SMART Recovery @Episcopacy Center	7 8:30a - 3:00p SING Summer Camp	8 8:30a - 3:00p SING Summer Camp	9 8:30a - 3:00p SING Summer Camp 7:00p Men's Group	10 8:30a - 3:00p SING Summer Camp 4:00p SING Summer Camp Concert	11 3:00p Memorial Service Lee Davison @AMC
12 9:00a - WO 11:00a - AMC 12:30p - Kids Bake off 1:00p - W.O.K.E. @WO 6:00p - 2 nd Sunday Seekers	13 7:00p SMART Recovery @Episcopacy Center	14	15	16 7:00p Men's Group	17 6:00p Movie Night Pete's Dragon 	18
19 9:00a - WO 11:00a - AMC 1:00p - W.O.K.E. @WO	20 7:00p SMART Recovery @Episcopacy Center	21	22	23 7:00p Men's Group	24	25
26 9:00a - WO 11:00a - AMC 12:30a - All Star Baking Contest 1:00p - W.O.K.E. @WO	27 7:00p SMART Recovery @Episcopacy Center	28	29	30 7:00p Men's Group	31 6:00p Movie Night Mr. Holland's Opus 	1

God at the Movies!



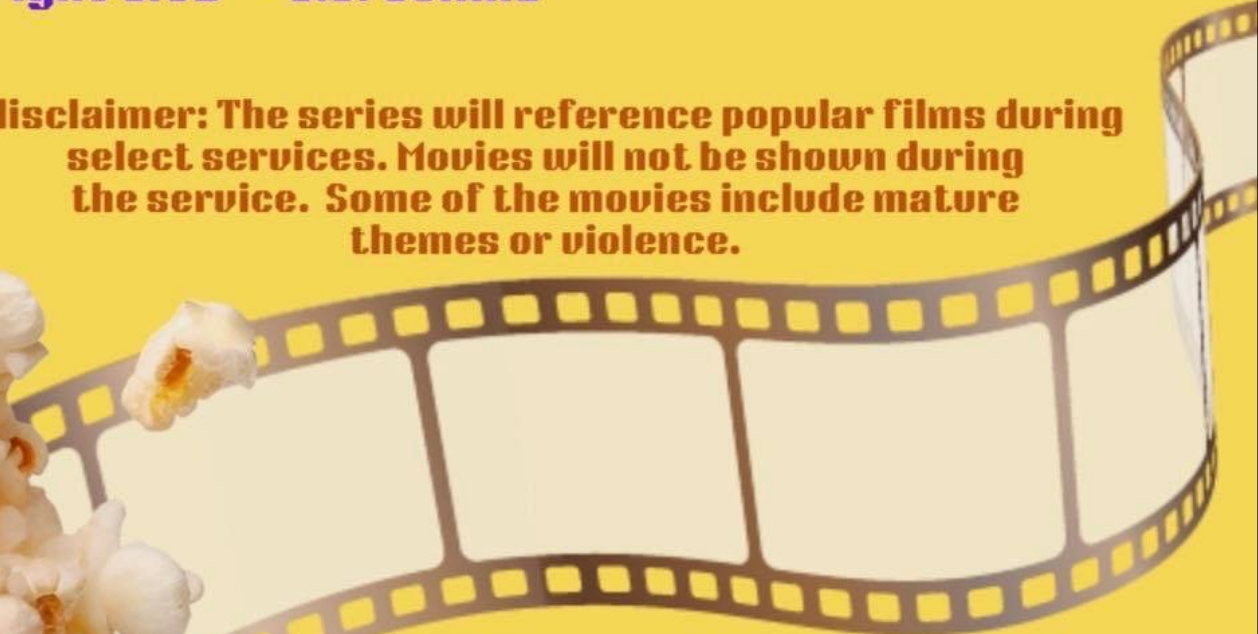
Sundays, June 7- July 5

Join us for a summer series exploring stories of faith, hope, justice and community through the lens of movies.

Movies Inspiring the Message:

- June 7 - "The Muppet Movie" - Rev. August Alderman
- June 14 - "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" - Tricia Kilgore
- June 21 - "Steven Universe: The Movie" - Rev. August Alderman
- June 28 "The Matrix" - Betsy Kammerud
- July 5 - "Fight Club" - J.J. Collins

***disclaimer: The series will reference popular films during select services. Movies will not be shown during the service. Some of the movies include mature themes or violence.**



**WESLEY OAK CHURCH
SERVICE 9:00 SUNDAYS**

AT THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE / 3101 WATERS AVE.

New
SERVICE TIME
for the Summer!



OLD TIME: ~~11:15~~ → NEW TIME: 11:00

Same great service. Just 15 minutes earlier!



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Baking Contest

SUNDAY
JULY 12

ASBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH
REGISTER – RELLIS101@GMAIL.COM

Asbury Memorial Church

SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT

Free Movie Night for ALL Ages!
Everyone is welcome.
Bring a friend and join us!

JULY 17 - 6:00 PM

Hot dogs and popcorn will be served
Bring a Chair and a snack to share!



Asbury Memorial

FREE
MOVIE
NIGHT



MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS

FRIDAY, JULY 31ST | AT 6PM

Bring a Chair and a Snack to Share
Asbury Memorial Church

2026 SUMMER PREACHING SERIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS @ ASBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH

11:00 AM



RABBI ROBERT HAAS (JULY 12)

- Rabbi Robert Haas, a native of McAllen, Texas, received his B. S. from the University of Texas at Austin. He began his first career as an elementary school teacher; then attended rabbinical school, later moving to Savannah in 2012 to serve in his current position as rabbi for Congregation Mickve Israel, the third oldest congregation in America.
- Rabbi Haas is also a sought-after comedian, lecturer, preacher, and interfaith leader, regularly speaking and performing for organizations, radio shows, colleges, theaters, houses of worship, and institutions.
- He is married to April, and they have a daughter named Amira and a son named Aryeh.



REV. DR. ANDREW J. YOUNG, II (JULY 19)

- Dr. Young has served in Christian ministry and advocacy for 30 years. At the age of 24, he led the turnaround of a suburban Atlanta congregation. He later served as Youth & Young Adult Minister at historic Central United Methodist Church in Atlanta. He then served a suburban congregation just outside of Columbus, OH, where he led that congregation's first satellite multiethnic church, Gethsemane Church.
- In 2008, he returned to Savannah to take the helm of New Covenant Church (formerly Epworth UMC). In 2017, New Covenant relocated and changed its name to Mosaic Church. Dr. Young still serves Mosaic Church today.
- In 2021, he began serving as one of Reverend Senator Raphael Warnock's outreach field representatives, working with local city & county elected officials, business leaders, and community advocates.
- Rev. Dr. Young is a graduate of Savannah State College (BBA) and an honor graduate of the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta (M. Div.). In 2008, he completed the Doctor of Ministry degree at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. He also has completed the prestigious Summer Leadership Institute of the Harvard Divinity School, focusing on youth, lay leadership and community development.
- Dr. Young has been married to wife Tracy for 30 years. Tracy holds a Master of Education degree and is employed as a Special Education Teacher at Garrison Middle School. They are the parents of three sons: Ajani, Zuri and Najee.



J.J. COLLINS (JULY 26)

- J.J. Collins has been Wesley Oak's choir director since 2014 and currently serves on their preaching team.
- She is currently in seminary pursuing her Master of Divinity degree at Mercer University.
- She holds a Master of Music in voice from Peabody Conservatory and is a professional vocalist and vocal instructor.
- She is a commercial real estate paralegal at Hunter Maclean.
- She moved to Savannah in late 2013 and enjoys the coastal life with her spouse, Parker Collins.



REV. AUGUST ALDERMAN (AUGUST 2)

- August serves as the Associate Minister at Asbury Memorial.
- He is also a member of the preaching team at Wesley Oak.
- August earned his Master of Divinity at Chicago Theological Seminary in April of 2025.
- He served CPE at Hospice Savannah and completed Field Placement with Asbury Memorial Church as Ministerial Intern.
- He was ordained in June of 2025 at Asbury Memorial Church.
- August was born in Savannah and grew up in Richmond Hill. He now lives in Savannah with his partner Jason and cats Esther and Daniel.



REV. DR. KATIE CALLAWAY (AUGUST 9)

- Rev. Dr. Katie Callaway is the director of development at BJC (Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty), where she leads a comprehensive fundraising program to support the work of defending faith freedom for all and countering Christian nationalism.
- A seasoned fundraiser and ordained minister, Callaway believes development is both storytelling and justice work. She previously served as the senior director of grants management at The Y in Central Maryland, where she managed a \$20 million philanthropic portfolio to advance equity-focused programs in youth development, health, and community engagement.
- Callaway graduated from Roanoke College with her B.A. in Religious Studies and there was also inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. She received her M.Div from Wake Forest University, a Th.M in Comparative Theology from Emory University, and a doctorate in creative writing as public theology from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



BETSY KAMMERUD (AUGUST 16)

- Betsy R. Kammerud, LCSW, LISW-CR, CCTP is a licensed clinical social worker with nearly two decades of experience specializing in grief, loss, trauma, and end-of-life care. She earned her Master of Social Work degree from The Ohio State University and has spent the last 19 years working primarily in hospice and bereavement services.
- Betsy currently serves as Head of Counseling Services at Hospice Savannah, where she leads innovative grief support programming and counseling services for individuals and families. Her work focuses on compassionate clinical care, community education, and developing creative approaches to grief support/mental well being across the life span. She is deeply committed to helping people navigate loss while building meaningful connection, resilience, and healing within their communities.
- For over the last 3+ years she has been part of the preaching team at Wesley Oak Church.



CHRIS KINCADE (AUGUST 23)

- Chris Kincade has served as Youth Director and Communications Director at Asbury Memorial Church for 10+ years.
- He is passionate about helping people discover God's love through authentic community, service, and inclusion.
- Chris believes the church should be a place where everyone feels welcomed and celebrated.
- His greatest joy is his family. Chris and his wife, Bridgette, are proud parents to their son, Fitz, who keeps them laughing, learning, and on their toes.
- Chris lives in Statesboro, Georgia, with his family and is honored to share God's message this summer.

REV. BILLY RETURNS (AUGUST 30)

1008 East Henry Street, Savannah, GA 31401
(at the corner of Henry and Waters)
asburymemorial.org 912.233.4351



Sisters in Faith June Luncheon



Friendship, laughter, and great memories...

Sisters in Faith Enjoy a Wonderful June Luncheon
The June Sisters in Faith Luncheon was a delightful gathering filled with friendship, laughter, and great memories. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful time together, sharing stories and fellowship in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

A special thank you goes to our talented musical guests, The Beached Boys, whose entertaining performance brought smiles, sing-alongs, and plenty of fun to the afternoon



Guests also treated themselves to a delicious banana split bar, which was the perfect sweet ending to a fantastic event. Between the music, the desserts, and the many laughs shared around the tables, it was truly a memorable day for all who attended.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the June Sisters in Faith Luncheon such a success. We look forward to gathering again soon!

GRADY MILLS BAKE-OFF ROUND 1 - MEN



CHARLES ENNIS



DANNY LEWIS



TOM LEWIS



WAYNE MCGOWEN



TIM STEINHAUSER



JASON ZIMMER

WINNERS

TASTE

- 1ST - DANNY LEWIS
- 2ND - TOM LEWIS
- 3RD - PRESTON HODGES

PRESENTATION

- 1ST - JASON ZIMMER
- 2ND - CHARLES ENNIS

ORIGINALITY

- 1ST - TIM STEINHAUSER
- 2ND - WAYNE MCGOWEN
- 3RD - JONATHAN HOLLOWAY

*SOME ENTRIES NOT PICTURED

GRADY MILLS BAKE-OFF ROUND #2 - WOMEN



KAY BOOTH



LINDA COMBS



MARIE FOLEY



KATHY HODGES



BRIDGETTE KINCADE



TARA ORCUTT

Winners

	1ST	2ND	3RD
TASTE	KATHY HODGES	MARIE FOLEY	KAY BOOTH
PRESENTATION	LINDA COMBS	BRIDGETTE KINCADE	MARIE FOLEY
ORIGINALITY	SALLY JILEK	MIMI WITHERINGTON	TARA ORCUTT



MIMI WITHERINGTON

*SOME ENTRIES NOT PICTURED

SINGChildrensChoir.org

SING CHOIR CAMP

JULY 6 - 10

Donate What You Can

TEAM-BUILDING, YOGA, VOCAL TECHNIQUE, DANCE, CHORAL SINGING

Rising K - 12th graders

Investment By
SAVANNAH
savannahga.gov

ASBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH

Blood DRIVE

**13 August 2026
1:00PM - 6:00PM**

**1008 E Henry St
Savannah, GA**

Your kindness can make a difference.

912.233.4351

3rd Space

BOOK & RECORD SHARE

GOODFORTUNE MARKET

Friday July 3rd 6 - 7

Bring a record. Bring a book. Bring a friend.

GREEN TEAM CORNER



July is a month filled with sunshine, celebrations, vacations, and time spent outdoors enjoying the beauty of God's creation. As we gather with family and friends, it is also a wonderful time to remember that caring for the Earth is one way we live out our faith.



At Asbury Memorial, we believe that justice, compassion, and stewardship are deeply connected. The health of our planet affects all of God's children, especially those who are most vulnerable to extreme weather, pollution, and environmental challenges. Every action we take to care for creation is also an act of love for our neighbors.



Loving Our Neighbor by Caring for Creation

SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP THE EARTH THIS JULY

Here are a few simple ways to make a difference this July:



BRING YOUR OWN

Keep a reusable water bottle, coffee cup, or shopping bag handy. Reducing single use plastics helps keep our oceans, rivers, and communities cleaner.



CELEBRATE SUSTAINABLY

Whether you're attending a cookout, picnic, or holiday gathering, choose reusable dishes and utensils when you can. Recycle what you can and compost food scraps if possible.



CONSERVE WATER

July's heat can make water conservation especially important. Water plants during the cooler parts of the day and fix any leaky faucets or hoses around your home.



PLANT FOR POLLINATORS

Butterflies, bees, and other pollinators play a vital role in our food system and ecosystems. Native flowers and pollinator friendly plants can make a big difference.



SUPPORT LOCAL GROWERS

Shop at farmers markets and local produce stands when possible. Supporting local agriculture reduces transportation emissions and strengthens our local economy.



LEAVE PLACES BETTER THAN YOU FOUND THEM

Take a walk in your neighborhood, a local park, or along the beach and pick up a few pieces of litter. Small acts of care add up and inspire others to do the same.



SPEND TIME IN CREATION

One of the best ways to care for the Earth is to appreciate it. Take a moment to sit beneath a tree, watch a sunset, listen to birdsong, or feel the ocean breeze. Gratitude often leads to stewardship.



"The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."

- Psalm 24:1



JUSTICE



INCLUSION



STEWARDSHIP

As we celebrate the joys of summer, may we remember that creation is not simply a resource to use but a gift to cherish. Together, through many small acts of care, we can help create a healthier, more just, and more beautiful world for all.

*Grace and peace,
The Green Team*

Asbury Memorial
A COMMUNITY OF FAITH. A CALL TO ACTION.



Stewardship 2027

SUMMER RECIPES



Simple ingredients. Fresh flavors.

Made to share.

Grilled Peach & Burrata Salad

WITH BASIL & HONEY

INGREDIENTS

- 4 ripe peaches, halved
- 1 ball burrata cheese
- 6 cups arugula
- ¼ cup fresh basil, torn
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp honey
- Salt & black pepper to taste

- 1 Grill peaches until tender and caramelized.
- 2 Arrange arugula, peaches, and burrata on a platter.
- 3 Drizzle with olive oil and honey. Top with basil, salt & pepper.



Lemon Herb Pasta Salad

LIGHT, FRESH & PERFECT
FOR ANY GATHERING

INGREDIENTS

- 8 oz pasta (farfalle or penne)
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- ½ cucumber, diced
- ¼ cup red onion, thinly sliced
- ¼ cup kalamata olives
- ¼ cup crumbled feta
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp lemon zest
- 1 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped
- Salt & pepper to taste

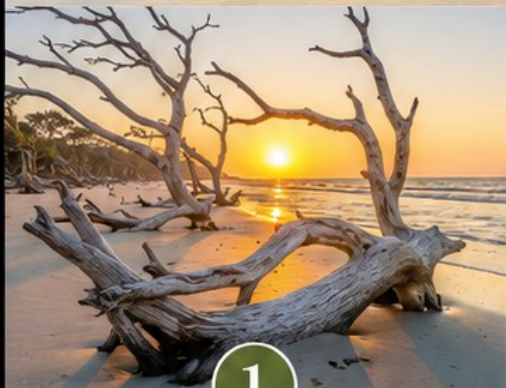
- 1 Cook pasta according to package directions. Rinse with cold water and drain.
- 2 In a large bowl, combine pasta, veggies, olives, and feta.
- 3 Whisk olive oil, lemon juice, lemon zest, salt & pepper.
- 4 Pour over pasta and toss to combine. Sprinkle with parsley and enjoy!



3 Budget Friendly GETAWAYS

FOR YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE

You don't have to spend a fortune to enjoy a refreshing vacation. These affordable destinations offer plenty of fun, beauty, and relaxation—perfect for individuals, couples, or families looking to make lasting memories.



1

JEKYLL ISLAND, GEORGIA

Just a few hours from Savannah, Jekyll Island is one of Georgia's hidden treasures. Known for its beautiful beaches, historic district, and famous Driftwood Beach, the island offers plenty of free and low cost activities.

- Collect seashells on miles of unspoiled beaches.
- Ride bicycles along scenic trails shaded by majestic live oaks.
- Explore the historic district and learn about the island's rich history.
- Enjoy a sunset walk along the shore.

With affordable lodging options and a laid back atmosphere, Jekyll Island is perfect for a relaxing getaway.



2

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Nature lovers will find endless opportunities for adventure in the Great Smoky Mountains. As America's most visited national park, it offers breathtaking mountain views, waterfalls, wildlife, and miles of hiking trails.

- Admission to the park is FREE.
- Camp under the stars or stay in a cozy cabin nearby.
- Hike to beautiful waterfalls and scenic overlooks.
- Spot wildlife and enjoy the peace of God's creation.

The Smokies provide a memorable escape that's easy on the budget and good for the soul.



3

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

Chattanooga combines the charm of a small town with the attractions of a larger city. Visitors can enjoy the outdoors, local culture, and plenty of family-friendly fun.

- Stroll along the Tennessee Riverwalk and enjoy beautiful river views.
- Explore unique local shops and great dining options.
- Visit interactive museums and attractions like the Tennessee Aquarium.
- Take in breathtaking views from Lookout Mountain.

Chattanooga offers plenty to see and do while remaining one of the Southeast's most affordable vacation destinations.



Travel Tip

One of the easiest ways to save money on vacation is to travel during the week instead of weekends.

Hotels and attractions are often less expensive, and you'll enjoy smaller crowds as well!

WHEREVER YOUR TRAVELS
TAKE YOU, MAY YOUR JOURNEY
BE FILLED WITH

rest, joy, and gratitude

FOR THE BEAUTY OF
GOD'S WONDERFUL WORLD.



"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." PSALM 24:1





SUPPORT FOR A BALANCED LIFE

Wesley Oak Church is proud to host SMART Recovery meetings every Monday evening from 7:00-8:30 p.m. SMART Recovery is a program designed to help individuals overcome harmful habits and addictions through practical tools based on cognitive and motivational psychology and addiction research.

Unlike traditional 12-step programs, SMART takes a science-based approach that emphasizes self-reliance, self-resilience, and self-empowerment. Participants are encouraged to become the experts on their own recovery journeys, choosing strategies and supports that fit their needs. Topics may include relationships, substance use, gambling, eating, spending, and other behaviors that can impact well-being.

There is no requirement to commit to a lifetime of meetings. Instead, participants decide when and how long they wish to be involved, making SMART a flexible and welcoming community. The program also recognizes that individuals may benefit from participating in more than one support group, and it values collaboration rather than exclusivity.

- **MONDAYS**
- **7:00P -8:30P**
- **EPISCOPACY CENTER AT 3101 WATERS AVE, SAVANNAH, GA**
- **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



WOV

— WESLEY OAK VOLLEYBALL —

Volleyball

AT JEA

VOLLEYBALL FOR MEDIUM-LEVEL & NEWER PLAYERS

A fun, encouraging place to learn, play, and build community!



STARTING

JUNE 25



TIME

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM



MONTHLY FEE

\$30

Helps cover gym rental costs



LOCATION: JEA GYM

5111 Abercorn St, Savannah, GA 31405



Whether you're getting back into volleyball or still learning the game, you are welcome!



QUESTIONS? CONTACT JESS HEALY



770-283-0227

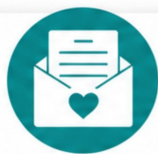


jesstellhealy@gmail.com

Ways to Give

We have multiple ways for you to continue your support of Asbury Memorial.

Thank you for your gifts!



MAIL

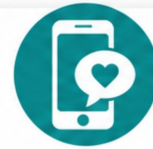
Mail your contribution by check to:

Asbury Memorial Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401



WEBSITE

- ✔ Log on to our website: **www.AsburyMemorial.org**
- ✔ Click on the **Give Now** button
- ✔ Complete the form as directed.
- ✔ You can set it up to be a **recurring donation!**



TEXT GIVING

- ✔ From your mobile phone:
- ✔ Send your contribution amount to **833-690-5966**
- ✔ Donate anytime, anywhere
- ✔ Use easy debit/credit card registration
- ✔ Make a one-time gift or set it up to be **recurring**

Thank you for partnering with **Asbury Memorial** to make a lasting impact in our community.

HOLY BAPTISM
6-28-26
Paul Solomons

Back To School

Supply Drive

JULY 1 - JULY 31
HELP US FILL THE CLASSROOMS

OUR YOUTH GROUP IS COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR STUDENTS

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- CRAYOLA RAYONS & MARKERS
- GLUE STICKS & ERASERS
- SCISSORS
- COMPOSITION & SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
- 2-POCKET FOLDERS
- OVER-THE-EAR HEADPHONES
- TISSUE BOXES
- CLOROX WIPES

PLEASE DROP OFF DONATIONS IN HOLLIDAY HALL
TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP EVERY CHILD START THE SCHOOL YEAR READY TO LEARN!

Wesley Oak

JULY LINEUP

<p>5</p> <p>J.J. COLLINS</p>	<p>12</p> <p>BETSY KAMMERUD</p>
<p>19</p> <p>REV. AUGUST ALDERMAN</p>	<p>26</p> <p>J.J. COLLINS</p>



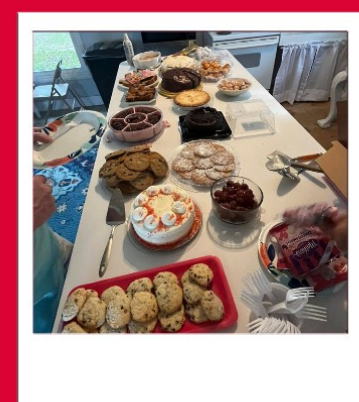
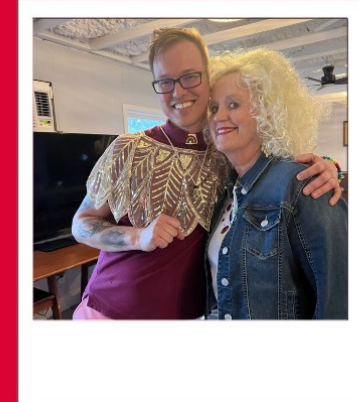
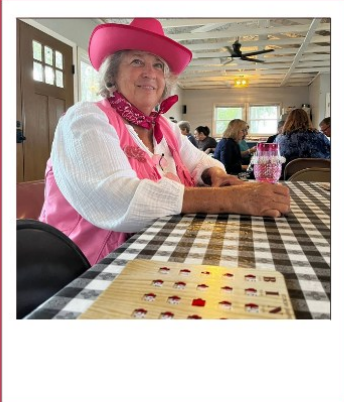
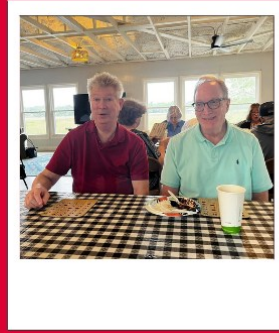
Dolly's Bingo & Desserts Night was a huge success, and we had an absolute blast together!

From the moment the games began, our 3rd Space gathering was filled with laughter, friendly competition, and plenty of Dolly-inspired fun. Everyone embraced the spirit of the evening, making it a truly memorable night of community and connection.

Of course, one of the highlights was the dessert table! Our guests brought some incredible treats that Dolly herself would have been proud to serve. From sweet Southern favorites to creative Dolly-themed delights, every dessert was made with love and thoroughly enjoyed.

Thank you to everyone who came out, brought a dessert or food to share, played bingo, and helped make the evening so special. Events like these remind us how much joy we can find when we gather, share a few laughs, and celebrate community.

We are grateful for each of you and can't wait to see you at our next 3rd Space gathering!



The Colorful History of Fireworks

★ A TRADITION THAT LIGHTS UP OUR SKY AND OUR HEARTS ★

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."
PSALM 19:1



ANCIENT BEGINNINGS

The story of fireworks stretches back more than 2,000 years to ancient China. According to legend, people discovered that when bamboo stalks were thrown into a fire, they would explode with a loud pop as the air trapped inside expanded. These sounds were believed to frighten away evil spirits.



THE INVENTION OF FIREWORKS

By the ninth century, Chinese inventors had developed gunpowder, and before long they were filling bamboo tubes with the mixture to create the first true fireworks. Over time, these dazzling displays spread along trade routes to the Middle East and Europe, where they became popular for celebrations, festivals, and royal events.



A NEW WORLD TRADITION

When fireworks arrived in America, they quickly became part of the nation's story. On July 3, 1776, even before the first anniversary of independence, John Adams wrote that the nation's freedom should be celebrated with "bonfires and illuminations." The following year, Philadelphia marked the first Independence Day with fireworks, launching a tradition that continues nearly 250 years later.

A Symbol of Celebration

Today, fireworks symbolize celebration, joy, and community. Their bursts of color remind us of the excitement of freedom and the hope that comes with gathering together. Whether viewed from a backyard, a community festival, or a city waterfront, fireworks have a way of bringing people together and inspiring a sense of wonder.



A TIMELINE OF FIREWORKS



200 BCE

Ancient Chinese discovered that burning bamboo created loud popping sounds.



900s

Gunpowder is developed in China, leading to the creation of early fireworks.



1200-1500s

Fireworks spread to the Middle East and Europe through trade and exploration.



1776-1777

Fireworks become part of America's Independence Day celebrations.



TODAY

Fireworks continue to light up our skies and unite us in celebration and gratitude.

As you enjoy this year's celebrations, take a moment to appreciate the remarkable journey of fireworks—from ancient bamboo stalks in China to the dazzling displays that light up our skies each Fourth of July.

★ **May your Independence Day be filled with joy, gratitude, and plenty of sparkle!** ★

Welcome

to the Asbury Memorial Family

We are delighted to welcome our newest members into the Asbury Memorial Church family! Each new member brings unique gifts, stories, questions, hopes, and experiences that enrich our shared life together.

As a progressive congregation that welcomes all, we give thanks for the growing community God is building among us. We look forward to worshipping, serving, learning, laughing, and walking alongside our newest members in the days ahead.

Please join us in offering them a warm Asbury welcome!



Amy, Larry, & Ella Burris



Betsy Gregory & Chick Williams



Rev. Jimmie & Dr. Emily Crawford



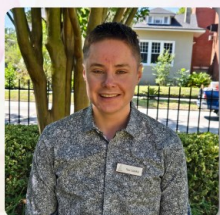
Maggie Hart



Carmel & Phil Hearn



Ernest Lehman



Rex Lutski



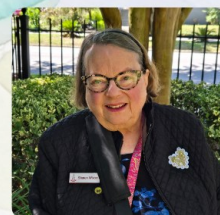
Madelyn "Mad Dawg" Morgan



Thu Vo



Kevin Wallace



Sharen Wixom

Dance for PD®

A PROGRAM OF
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

Dancee for PD

MOVE
TOGETHER.
FEEL BETTER.
LIVE BETTER.



DANCE CLASSES FOR
PEOPLE WITH PARKINSON'S
AND THEIR CAREGIVER

Move, connect, and
thrive—*together!*



FRIDAY

AUGUST
21
2026

🕒 10:30 AM

SATURDAY

AUGUST
22
2026

🕒 10:30 AM



OPEN TO
ANYONE WITH A
MOBILITY DISORDER
AND THEIR
CAREGIVER.

NO CHARGE
FOR EITHER
CLASS!



ASBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH

Parking behind the church!

1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401

TO REGISTER, EMAIL **RAY ELLIS** AT:



rellis101@gmail.com

PLEASE INCLUDE
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:



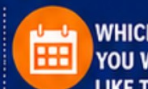
YOUR
NAME



EMAIL
ADDRESS



PHONE
NUMBER



WHICH DAY(S)
YOU WOULD
LIKE TO ATTEND



NO DANCE
EXPERIENCE
NECESSARY!



SAFE, SUPPORTIVE,
AND WELCOMING
ENVIRONMENT



ENJOY MOVEMENT,
CONNECTION, AND
COMMUNITY

ALL ARE WELCOME.



ALL ABILITIES.



ALL TOGETHER.





Linda Redfern Socks

MS. GEORGIA SENIOR WORLD 70S 2025 * ACE CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER
 CERTIFIED FITOUR GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTOR * CERTIFIED NUTRITION SPORTS CONSULTANT
 AHA CPR & FIRST AID CERTIFIED - FORMER FIGURE COMPETITOR * 1ST & 5TH IN MASTERS 2011

JULY EXERCISE TIPS

Did you know...

Based on studies, exercise can reduce the risk of 40+ chronic conditions, such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, dementia, stroke, and some cancers. In fact, exercising at least 30 minutes a day decreases your risk of developing 13 metabolic cancers, including breast, colon, and prostate, and after a diagnosis, your survival rate increases. Every organ in your body, all the systems associated with functioning, as well as every disease, benefits from exercise. Of course, you have to be consistent because physical inactivity has a high risk for disease. Exercise is now categorized as the most powerful drug for healthy aging.

Extra tip: Muscle does not weigh more than fat. Muscle takes up less space and is more condense. Fat is larger in volume and takes up more space. If you feel like you are gaining size when incorporating weight training or resistance training, don't stop; it's just your muscle pushing the fat layer out that surrounds your body. Once, you lose the fat, your body looks smaller and you will look tone from the muscle you developed. Remember: 5lbs of apples is the same as 5lbs of grapes. Just one takes up more space.

FACT: Muscle occupies less space than fat.



5 pounds FAT vs. 5 pounds MUSCLE

GET FIT WITH MS. LINDA

You determine the workout you want to get. You get out what you put in!

<p>SeniorFit45</p> <p>A 45-minute full-body workout focused on strength, mobility, and low-impact cardio.</p> <p>Monday - 11:45 am</p>	<p>SeniorFit30</p> <p>A quick, effective 30-minute class to build strength, balance, and endurance.</p> <p>Wednesday - 12 pm</p>	<p>Core Foundations</p> <p>Strengthen your core to improve balance, posture, and stability.</p> <p>Wednesday - 12:45 pm</p>
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programs at the GREENBRIAR GYM

(912) 665-6718

3709 Hopkins Street Savannah, GA 31405

PLAYBILL

BROADWAY TO

Rue Bourbon
Bourbon Street

The Fabulous EQUINOX ORCHESTRA

SONGS FROM: GUYS AND DOLLS, WEST SIDE STORY, MY FAIR LADY, HADESTOWN, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, DEAR EVAN HANSEN, HAIRSPRAY, OKLAHOMA! JERSEY BOYS, BYE BYE BIRDIE, SOUND OF MUSIC, COMPANY AND MORE

Presented by:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
ASBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH

1008 E. HENRY ST. SAVANNAH - DOORS 6:30PM - SHOW 7:00PM

GLOBAL EQUINOX MISSIONS

Memorials

Gifts have been given
in memory of
Jim Schlimmer
by

Mickie & Bob Townsend
Mary Ann & Tim Barnes
Ed & Jayn Swaim



Prayer Requests

Congregants of Asbury Memorial & Wesley Oak

DiAnne Amerson, Diane Connor, Deb Gibson, Vickie Harold,
Bubba Hughes, Carolyn Ingram, JJ King, Peggy Larson,
Virginia Moryades, Frank Ramsey, Rhonda Reed, Geri Spears,
Dave Thompson, Val Utsey, Kenn Waters, Shirley White,
Sharen Wixom, Debbie Wright

Family Members & Friends

Craig Deep, Ruth Henley, Kevin Wenzel, Betsy Tilling

OUR FINANCIAL Health

— AS OF MAY 2026 —

Here's a snapshot of how we're doing with our budget, giving, and expenses.

YTD BUDGET GOAL

What we planned to receive by May 2026

\$206,309

ACTUAL YTD CONTRIBUTIONS

What we've actually received through May 2026

\$278,933

ACTUAL YTD EXPENSES

What we've actually spent through May 2026

\$304,174

AHEAD / BEHIND IF BUDGET SPENT

Comparing contributions to budgeted goal

-\$41,322

CURRENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO EXPENSES AHEAD/BEHIND

Comparing what we've received to what we've spent

-\$25,241



Your generosity makes ministry possible and helps us live out God's love in our community.

Thank you for your faithful support!

TOGETHER, WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

When Shadows Fall

The members of Asbury Memorial & Wesley Oak extend our love and sympathy to:

Sam Durham, family, and friends in the passing of our dear Rev. Jan Durham

Joe Driggers in the passing of his "Bonus Dad," Elton Driggers and his aunt, Frances Ennis

Friends and family in the passing of our Mark Barner

Friends and family in the passing of our Lee Davison

Ken & Beth Carlino in the passing of Ken's mom and Asburian, Phyllis Carlino



Stephen MINISTRY

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

The Blessings of Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry multiplies blessings throughout the church and community:

- Congregations carry out Christ's commandment to "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12 RSV) in a powerful and practical way.
- Pastors have a team of gifted, trained, and committed lay caregivers ready to minister to hurting people.
- Laypeople nurture and use their gifts in meaningful ministry, growing spiritually as they serve others.
- People who are hurting have a caring Christian presence to provide emotional and spiritual support.
- In short, Stephen Ministry helps carry out the mission of the church.

ASBURY MEMORIAL'S

Heavenly Honey

You can purchase Asbury Memorial's Heavenly Honey ALL YEAR LONG!
Stop by the church office to purchase yours today!



Men's Group

Building Connection and Conversation

Our Men's Group meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM via Zoom for conversation, support, and spiritual growth. Anyone is welcome to join—any time, from anywhere. No experience or sign-up needed, just drop in and connect!

Meets Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Zoom.



GODLY PLAY

Wesley Oak Campus
9:30am
ages 4 yrs - 5th grade

EVERY SUNDAY
AT ASBURY MEMORIAL & WESLEY OAK

Asbury Memorial Campus
11:15am
ages 4 yrs - 5th grade

CHAIR NAME PLATES

As we worship on Sundays, how meaningful it is to see the name of a loved one etched into a nameplate on one of 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. The funds are used for the upkeep and maintenance of the sanctuary.

For my Asbury Family
By Robert D. McEwen

A Little Laughter FOR THE SOUL

What is a physics teacher's favorite Bible verse?
Romans 8:39: "Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Why wasn't Boaz a nice man before he got married?
He was Ruth-less.

Need a boat?
I Noah guy.

What type of car would Jesus drive?
A Christler.

What time of day did God create Adam?
Just before eve

How many of each animal did Moses bring onto the ark?
None! Moses was never even on the ark!
Come on, didn't you Noah that?

W.O.K.E. WESLEY OAK KNOWLEDGE EXPLORERS

SUNDAYS AT 1:00 PM | JOY COTTAGE

ARE YOU CRAVING DEEPER CONVERSATIONS ABOUT FAITH, LIFE, AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH? WOKE IS A WELCOMING GROUP OF SEEKERS AND THINKERS WHO GATHER EVERY SUNDAY TO EXPLORE BIG IDEAS AND ASK MEANINGFUL QUESTIONS. TOGETHER, WE DIG INTO THOUGHT-PROVOKING TOPICS THAT HELP US GROW—BOTH SPIRITUALLY AND PERSONALLY.

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS, YOUR CURIOSITY, AND YOUR OPEN HEART.

LET'S GROW TOGETHER.

BLOOD DRIVE

Asbury Memorial Church

August 13
1:00 PM - 7:00 PM

STRONGER TOGETHER. COMPASSION IN ACTION.

Save a life. Give blood.

Asbury Memorial Church

**1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401-7128**

INT.ID 206896

Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026

www.asburymemorial.org

Return Service Requested

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 Flower Chart in the narthex and sign up. The cost is \$70.

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 some of our different funds such as the Properties Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, Family and Children's Ministries Fund, Youth Ministry Fund, Laura Angell Scholarship Fund, Pet Memorial Fund or one of our Mission Funds.

Newsletter Information

If you have an announcement for "The Asbury Update," please email Chris Kincade at ckincade@asburymemorial.org.

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.