

ASBURY UPDATE

VOLUME 36 | NUMBER 2



February Birthdays

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	1ikk	i le	WIS		

- 5 Suzanne Cooler Iris Dayoub Becca Terrett Bob Walls
- **6** Kay Deffley
- 8 Valori Armstrong Camden Dalton Linda David
- 9 Carolyn Lewis

10 Laurie Fahey Tom Lewis Grayson West

ANDERSON

- 11 Clara Spivey
- 12 Danny Beam
- 13 Ryan Gage
 Wendell Hester
 Wesley Hester
 Judy Jones
- 14 Mimi Mangrum Numer

- 15 Carolyn Sanders
- 16 Cindy Hanks
 Val Utsey
- 17 Zoey Kaar
- **18 Sherry Woo**
- 19 Danny Edwards
- 20 Debra Skinner
- 21 Kelly Limehouse Nancy Munoz

22 Parker Collins

GAGNE

- 23 Aiden Taylor
- 24 Sandy McCloud Pat Vitkus
- 26 Ernie Lee
- 27 Jan Michals Ray Sears Donna Waller



February



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	7:00p Men Friends Men's Group 1	2	3
9:30p Sunday Service WO 11:15a Sunday Service AMC	7:00p SMART Recovery Meeting ® Wesley Oak 5	6	5:30p Youth Group 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7	6:30p St. Andrews Strings Concert 7:00p Men Friends Men's Group	9	10
9:30p Sunday Service WO II:15a Sunday Service AMC 6:00p Second Sunday Seekers (see WO for location)	12:20p Wisdom Seekers 7:00p SMART Recovery Meeting ® Wesley Oak 12	5:30p Shrove Tuesday Dinner *Asbury Memorial 13	8:00a Ach Wednesday Service Wesley Oak 12:00p Ash Wednesday Service Asbury Memorial 6:00 Renewal of Vows Ceremony 6:30p Choir Rehearsal	1:00p - 5:00p Blood Drive • Asbury Memorial 7:00p Men Friends Men's Group 15	16	17
9:30p Sunday Service WO II:15a Sunday Service AMC 18	7:00p SMART Recovery Meeting [®] Wesley Oak 19	20	5:30p Youth Group 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 21	7:00p Men Friends Men's Group 22	23	24
9:30p Sunday Service WO II:15a Sunday Service AMC 25	0:30p St. Andrews Chorus Concert 7:00p SMART Recovery Meeting [®] Wesley Oak	6:30p Church Council Meeting 27	5:30p WNS 6:30p Taize Service AMC 7:00p Choir Rehearsal 28	6:30p Finance Committee Meeting 7:00p Men Friends Men's Group		



FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR OF JOY

Stewardship By the Numbers

What is stewardship? At its most basic, the word "stewardship" refers to our best use of those resources that God has given us: including our time, our talents, and our money. As followers of Christ, and members of a church, stewardship is also about how we use these resources in the service of Christ through our support of the ministries of the church. It's fair to ask ourselves, how are we doing.

In terms of our giving in 2023, here are some numbers. Last year 155 households made pledges totaling \$515,337 to support our budget of 736,000. Total income for the year, including paid pledges, other gifts, and other income (rent, bequests, etc.) was about \$683,100. The budget was slightly underspent, and we covered the rest (about \$14,670) with a withdrawal from our savings account.



Here's how your contributions enable the church to show Christ's love for our church's members and friends. We hosted 104 live Sunday worship services at our two campuses and online. Our average Sunday morning worship attendance in 2023 was 166 at the Asbury campus, 40 at Wesley Oak, and 140 online via Live Stream between both campuses.



Our children and youth were involved in ongoing and occasional fellowship, educational, and recreational events.

Our 7 trained Stephen Ministers having built caring relationships with 13 members and constituents. We hosted an average of 70 at church fellowship dinners. Stephen Ministers, staff, and church members visited sick, shut-in, or grieving households.



We produced 5 "God On Broadway" worship services, as well as weekly dramatic and musical enhancements in our worship. Our pastor and his wife led a *Renewal of Vows* ceremony for couples on Valentine's Day at Asbury Memorial, and he led or assisted at 11 memorial services for church members and others during the year. Our church's Emergency fund, which we support through a special offering at Christmas, assisted 31 households with gifts totaling \$9,128. Our church also supplied food for children in need, as well as giving Christmas gifts to children and families who might otherwise have had none.



Now, looking forward, our budget for 2024 is 772,000. It includes plans for all the ministries we supported in 2023 plus a hope for some ministries we've not yet funded.

To support these ministries, we currently have 136 pledges totaling \$509,452. Given past experience, we also expect other income (unpledged gifts, cash, use of space donations, and bequests) of \$148,000 for a total of \$657,152.



You can see that if you haven't yet made a pledge to support Asbury Memorial Church financially, now would be a good time to do so. If you feel led to increase your pledge, that, too, would make a difference. Please be generous. We're hoping this will be a great year for the Asbury Memorial/Wesley Oak community of faith. We can each do our part, as witness to our faith in Christ through our responsible stewardship. And thanks be to God for our faith, which calls us to love God and love our neighbors in all that we do.

~ Rev. Richard Allen





Dear Asbury Family.

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers for our 5 3rd anniversary. Such a nice surprise. It really brightened our day!



You don't have to deal with this by yourself...

let us help!

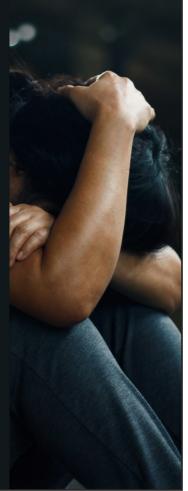
A Stephen Minister is just a call away.

Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. The identity of those receiving care and everything they discuss with a Stephen Minister remains private.

Contact Candace Jenkins for more information:

912.233.4351

✓ cjenkins@asburymemorial.org









SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

YOUTH FUNDRAISER



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13TH

5:30P - 6:30P

\$8 | MARDI GRAS MUSIC PANCAKES, TOPPING BAR & FUN!

• ASBURY MEMORIAL 1008 E Henry Street

RESERVATIONS

www.AsburyMemorial.org

Ash Wednesday February 14, 2024 Services

Morning service

@ Wesley Oak

Campus

8:00am

Mid-day service @Asbury Memorial Campus 12:00pm



2024 STEWARDSHIP

SEARCH YOUR HEART & PLAN YOUR GIFT

YOU CAN MAKE YOUR
PLEDGE ONLINE OR
THROUGH THE
CHURCH OFFICE

PLEDGE

COASTAL INTERFAITH GREEN TEAM



OKEFENOKEE PRAYER VIGIL

December 6th

The Green Team is back with an exciting calendar of events for 2024. We plan to organize one field trip per month on Saturday mornings and early afternoons. We are in the final stages of confirming dates and we should be able to share a calendar with you soon so you can plan ahead.

Our field trips have two purposes:

- To enable our members to see first-hand the good work that Savannah area environmental organizations are doing
- To advocate for environmental protections with government agencies and businesses in our area that are vital to our local economy and well-being

Some of the organizations we plan to visit in 2024 include:

- Oatland Island
 Wildlife Center
- Re-Purpose Savannah
- · Ogeechee Riverkeeper
- Gulfstream

- Skidaway Marine
 Science Center
- · Hyundai Metaplant
- Heritage Organic Farms

READ MORE >>>

Members of the Coastal Interfaith Green Team joined representatives from Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant faith communities across Georgia at the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge near Folkston for a prayer vigil on December 6. The purpose of the gathering was to urge lawmakers to enact Georgia House Bill 71, "The Okefenokee Protection Act" during their upcoming legislative session. The bill would restrict the issuance of mining permits on the Trail Ridge section of the Okefenokee. An Alabama-based company, Twin Pines Minerals, is seeking authorization to mine for titanium dioxide, a product that is used in cosmetics, toothpaste, and food products such as Oreo Cookies. While the mining company insists its work will not harm the swamp, the consensus opinion of hydrologists and other environmental scientists is that the mining would cause irreparable harm to the Okefenokee, the largest wildlife refuge east of the Mississippi.

The vigil was organized by Georgia Interfaith Power and Light, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to mobilize Georgia's faith communities in protecting the environment. The Coastal Interfaith Green Team is an affiliate of Georgia Interfaith Power and Light.

<<< READ MORE

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2024

MEN FRIENDS

Asbury Memorial and Wesley Oak Men's Group

We welcome all men to join us Thursday nights for fellowship and discussion. We talk about what is on our minds: a theological point or question, an interesting book or current events.

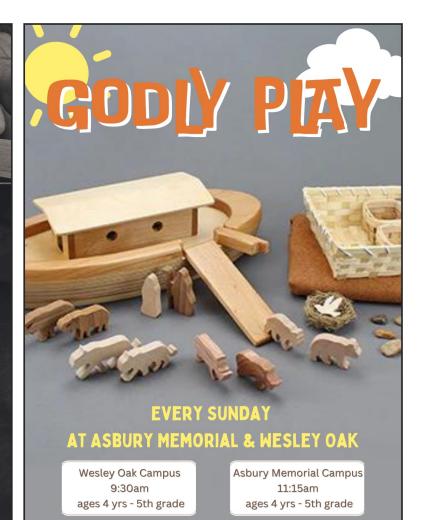
What's on your mind?

If you're looking for a way to connect, make new friends, participate in some fascinating discussions, and get to know others, please join us! We have a great time and all from the comfort of our homes.

Should you have any questions, contact Gregg Walther at gdw0517@gmail.com

We meet Thursdays 7:00-8:30 via Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 844 3633 5506, passcode: Asbury





SMART RECOVERY FOR INDIVIDUALS

Do you want to address an addiction problem or harmful habit? With our practical tools based on cognitive and motivational psychology and addiction research, SMART Recovery helps you make and sustain positive changes that lead to a balanced life.

Through our meetings, tools, and strategies, SMART can help you stop harmful habits and behaviors, including addiction to alcohol and other drugs, or negative behaviors related to relationships, sex, spending, gambling, eating and exercise disorders, and self-injury.

SMART Recovery is unique. Our science-based approach emphasizes self-reliance, self-resilience, and self-empowerment. With SMART, you are the expert on your recovery. You choose how to personalize your plan for successful change. There's no requirement to commit to a lifetime of SMART Recovery meetings. You decide when and if the time is right to move on.

SMART and Other Recovery Groups

SMART Recovery believes that people find their own paths to successful recovery. For some, that path may include 12-step programs or other support groups. Although SMART's approach differs from those of other organizations, it does not exclude them. We recognize and support the fact that many individuals benefit from participating in more than one support community.

Get Started

Ready to get started? SMART Recovery hosts online and face-to-face meetings around the world. Our online message board is an excellent forum to learn about SMART and get 24/7 support.

Learn More

Visit www.smartrecovery.org to search for local meetings and to join our online community.





LOCAL MEETING INFORMATION

Mondays 7:00-8:30pm

Wesley Oak Church 3124 E. Victory Drive Savannah, GA 31404

All are welcome!

LOCAL CONTACT

Ruthie Duran Deffley 912-312-0079 ruthie@healthymindga.com

CONFIRM MEETING DETAILS*

http://www.smartrecovery.org/meetings

*Meeting times, days, and locations are subject to change. Please confirm meeting details prior to attending.

Financial Health

General Budget as of Decmber 2023

YTD Budget Goal

\$736,000

Actual YTD Expenses

\$697,770.28

Actual YTD contributions

\$683,100.32

Actual Ahead / Behind if Budget Spent

\$-52,899.68

Current Contributions to Expenses Ahead/Behind \$ -14,669.96



The Salvation Army has started the "Sage Brigade" a senior program of many activities. Top of the list is Sr. Fitness, using light weights and cardio for a 45-minute fitness class that incorporates music from the 50's, 60's, 70's up to the present. The format is a warmup w/o weights, followed by weights and cardio, and finishes off with a cool down. Great for everyone from beginners to advance. Weights are provided. No floor work. \$25 for the entire year. The fee includes other fun activities like crochet, line dancing, and much more. Registration is at the door when you come for your first class.

Senior Fitness Classes (no age requirement to attend classes)

Led by Asbury Member, Linda Socks

The Salvation Army - 3000 Bee Road, Savannah

Mondays & Wednesdays @ 11:45 am. Some holidays excluded.





Men's Group



Men Friends

Facilitator:
Gregg Walther
Thursdays,
7:00pm—8:30pm

We welcome all men to join us Thursday nights for fellowship and discussion. We talk about what is on our minds: a theological point or question, an interesting book or current events.

If you're looking for a way to connect, make new friends, participate in some fascinating discussions, and get to know others, please join us! We have a great time and all from the comfort of our homes

ZOOM ID: 844 3633 5506 passcode: Asbury

STUDY GROUPS & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Asbury Memorial offers a wide variety of study and fellowship groups. We are excited about the rich and varied opportunities for adult study and fellowship, some via Zoom. We hope that you will join in one or more of the programs.

Wisdom Seekers

Facilitator: Trish Haverkamp

2nd & 4th Mondays, 12:30pm—2:00pm

If you have any questions about the group, please email Trish Haverkamp at

trish.haverkamp@gmail.com

Zoom Meeting ID: 864 8291 0310

Passcode: Asbury





A Course in Miracles

Facilitator: Rev. Marilyn Leigh Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30 pm

The Course in Miracles study group is dedicated to the study and practical application of A Course in Miracles to our daily lives. Our group allows the Course to guide us in becoming and expressing the Love that is the truth about us. It teaches the true meaning of forgiveness and challenges us to put God first in our lives.

If you are interested, contact Rev. Marilyn Leigh at revleigh@yahoo.com

When Shadows Fall

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

Pat Prokop in the passing of his friend, John Wetherbee

Becca Terrett in the passing of her mother,

Jane Atwell Henkel

Donna Waller and Maria Spears in the passing of Donna's mother and Maria's grandmother, Rosalie Felix

Betty Perry and Ruth Foster in the passing of Betty's husband and Ruth's father, Robert (Bob) Perry



Asburians

DiAnne Amerson, Pat Andres, Gordon Baker, Danny Beam, Lyn Carden, Dina Consentino, Sheri Coffey, Carrie Collins, Vicki Cronk, Gretchen Dodd, Sam Durham, Jimmy Drake, Katie Farmer, Ellie Gonye, Gerry Harman, Chase Harrison, Dale Karacostas, Judith Kessler, Rev. Marilyn Leigh, Jack Lewis, Marion Manigo, Greg Martin, Wendy McQuade, Brenda Mills, Virginia Moryadas, Marie Parker, Frank Ramsey, Nancy Saltsman, Tim Steinhauser, Cabell Stewart, Pat Stewart, Steve Tisinger, Mickie Townsend, Kenn Waters, Judy Wilburn, Diane Williamson, Peggy Zeigler

Family Members and Friends

Julie Alderman, Max Clements, Linda Cowart, Tommy Delleen, Travis Dodd, Sara Driggers, CT Harper, Priscilla Hearn, Joe & Mary Jurgenson, Jackie Lewis, Matt Moll, Pat Munoz, Tony Munoz, Leonard Nicoletta, Steven Odrezin, Fredia Peggs, Kartier Rico Raymond, Rachel Shelburne, Linda Southerland, David Steinhauser, Christi Yunkunis

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 912-307-3206
- Donate anytime, anywhere
- Use easy debit/credit card registration
- Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring

1 in 4 children in South Georgia live in homes where having enough food is a struggle every day.

P.A.C.K. is committed to packing and delivering over 10,000 bags a month to children in Chatham county and the surrounding areas.

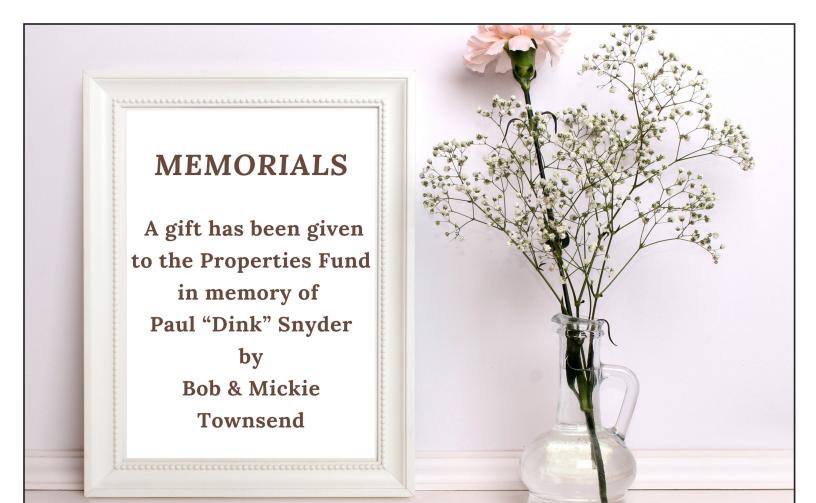
VOLUNTEER - Mondays & Thursdays 10am - 12pm

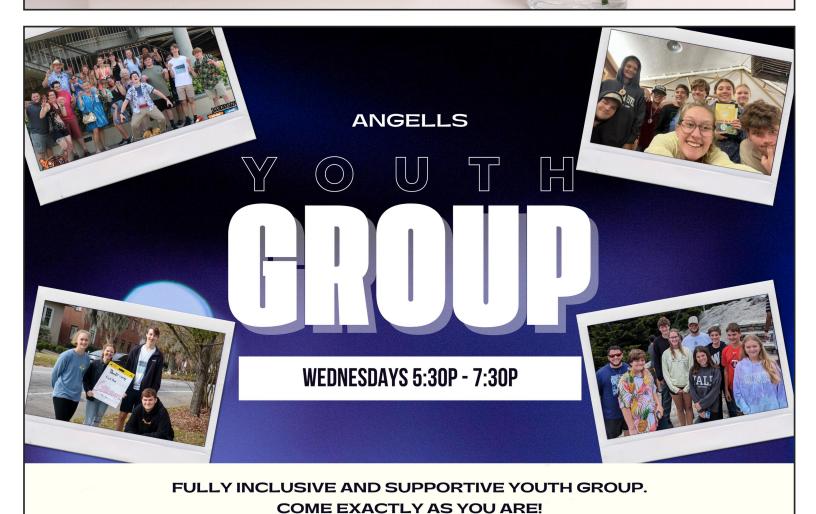
4 Mall Terrace - Savannah



www.packsavannah.com





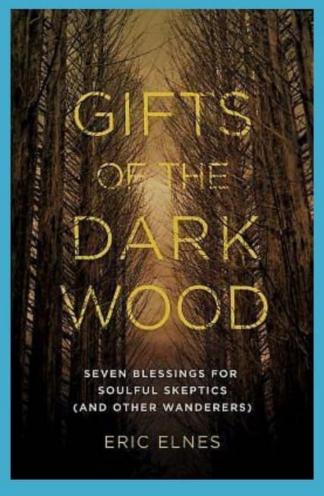






LENTEN BOOK STUDY

GO DEEPER THIS LENTEN SEASON



Book discussion and short videos featuring guests including: *Nadia Bolz-Weber *Parker Palmer *Brian McLaren *Winnie Varghese

JOIN US FOR A WEEKLY BOOK STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP.

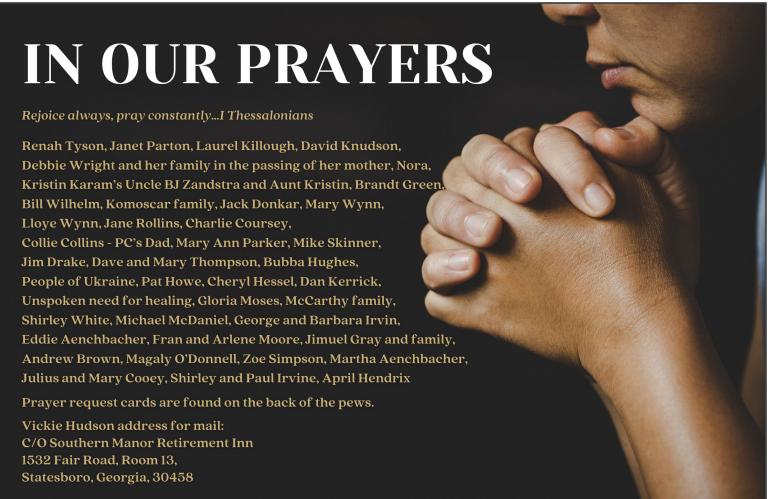
EVERY SUNDAY FROM 1:00-2:00 P.M.

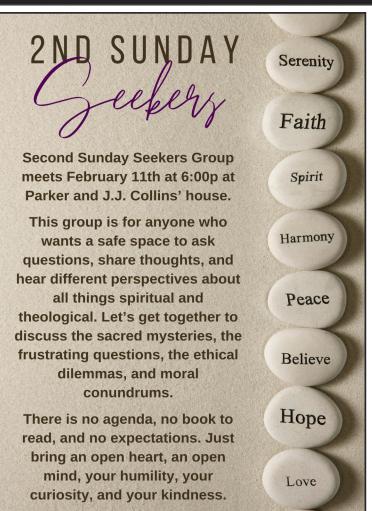
STARTS FEBRUARY 18, 2024

AT WESLEY OAK CHURCH

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For more information contact Ruthie Duran Deffley at ruthie@healthymindga.com or 912-312-0079 (text or call)







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

Non Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit #133 Savannah, GA

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.