

ASBURY UPDATE  
JANUARY 2023

HAPPY

*Retirement*

REV. CLAIRE MARICH

AND

*Thank you!*



VOLUME 36  
NUMBER 1



# January Birthdays

Having a birthday? Call the church office at 912-233-4351  
or email us at [church@asburymemorial.org](mailto:church@asburymemorial.org) so we can  
honor you on your special day

5th Jack Cooley  
Mary Prokop

6th Angie Jenkins  
Amy Porch  
Sam Tisinger

7th Pam Limehouse

8th Gloria Moses

10th Neal Saye

11th Carlton Angell  
Parker Hall  
Zan Reeve  
Henry White

12th Linda Socks

14th Candace Jenkins  
Nancy Meyer  
Jade Via

15th Wayne Bland  
Laura Lindsay  
Winnie Munro  
Charles Strain

16th Robbie Jenkins  
Stephen Swanger  
Diane Williamson

17th Cheri Hester  
Jean Hester  
Lawrence Hyde

18th Candice Parsons

19th Kate Strain

22nd Ray Ellis  
Joe Zeigler

23rd Pat Alley

24th Tom Davis  
Fitz Kincade  
Colin Knox  
Jennifer Knox  
Claire Marich  
Kevin Strong  
Anne Westbrook

25th George Lindsay  
Dylan Richards

27th Kathryn Murph  
Benjamin Murphree

29th Donna Danley  
Koel Strong

31st Rebecca Dayoub  
Debbie Hughes

# Happy Anniversary

5th

Ryan and Pam Boland

7th

Jack and Denise Cooley

10th

Chuck Long and Kenn Waters

20th

Craig and Cindy Meyer

23rd

Kevin and Tiia Strong

26th

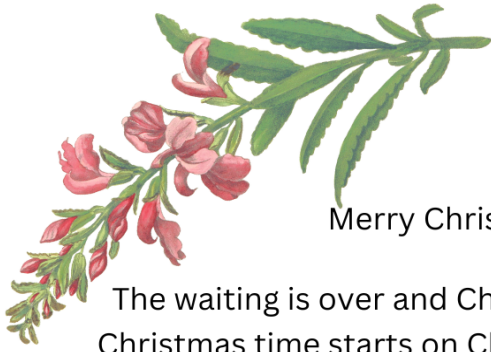
George and Laura Lindsay

28th

Joe Drake and Cheri Sheridan







Merry Christmastide and Happy New Year!

The waiting is over and Christmas season is here. In the church calendar, Christmas time starts on Christmas Day and lasts until Epiphany or Three Kings Day on January 6, when the wise men meet the baby Jesus. Our time of waiting in Advent, for the coming of a Messiah in the Jewish prophetic tradition and for the second coming of Christ in our tradition is made real by the birth of Emmanuel, God with us.

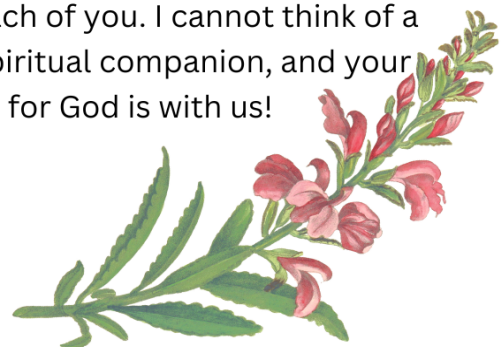
My time of anticipation has also come to fruition as I enter into retirement and new adventures and roles in the church and the community. John and I will be staying in our home in Savannah and as active members in the church. I am still a Stephen Leader and on the executive board of Justice Unites Savannah Together, our interfaith community organizing body.

I am so very grateful for the time serving with our wonderful staff. I never aspired to work within the church. My work background is in business consulting and healthcare chaplaincy. I was called to work in the world until God and Asbury Memorial gave me a chance to serve as a church minister. That took an unexpectedly refreshing, and very special congregation to beckon me in and a challenging God with a sense of humor to boot!

I thank you for your patience with me as I learned how to be church with you. It has been so exciting watching you be the hands, heart, and voice of God's ministry. We have been tested by a pandemic and found that while we love our beautiful sanctuary, we are the church together. I also thank the staff and Billy for welcoming a direct, loud Northerner with a head bursting with ideas into the fold. I have learned all I know about being a church leader from them and will always be grateful.

Thank you for letting me walk with you in the times of your life and letting me experience the real presence of God through each of you. I cannot think of a greater honor than being your minister, your spiritual companion, and your friend. And now it is time to celebrate, for God is with us!

Peace and passion,  
Claire







*Thank You for...*

*your service*

*your leadership*

*your dedication*

*your compassion*

*your energy*

*your smile*

*your kindness*

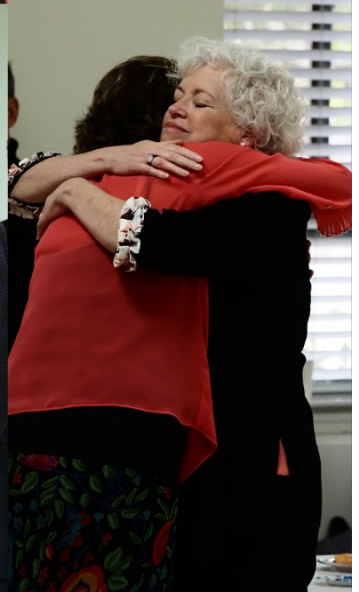
*your courage*

*your involvement*

*your drive*

*your hugs*


*your friendship*



# thank you



Thank you to everyone who supported our missions and other community projects this year!

- Poinsettias
  - Pecans, Pies, & Honey
  - Wreaths and Garland
  - Angell Tree
  - Hurricane Relief Efforts
  - Abasy Family Support
  - Spooky to be Hungry Food drive
  - Yard clean up efforts
  - and much much more!
- 





# Thank you to our Hospitality Team!

This small team accomplished BIG things this year!

Wednesday night suppers were resumed after a LONG wait! We could all once again enjoy the mid-week fellowship that we had missed so much!

Big coffee hours grew from small meetings in the courtyard to our old familiar social hall full of smiles and laughter.

They comforted numerous friends and families as they grieved by offering love, support, and food at the many funerals at our church.

Our hospitality team helped us celebrate the special moments like baptisms, retirement parties, special birthdays, and other joyous occasions.

This small team makes a huge difference in our church family and we cannot thank them enough! Thank you for sharing your gifts and for blessing us all with your incredible hearts of service!

*Thank You*  
*Celebritees*

A very special *thank you* to Meg Lego, Dale & Pam Karacostas,  
and the entire Celebritees team for their invaluable support and generosity!

## JANUARY UPDATE

# JUST

### ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

We had a great annual assembly at St. Paul's CME. I thanked the hosts for their hospitality and hope that we will be able to host an upcoming event. Thanks to all of you who attended in person and online and all of the others who held the assembly in prayer. With a wonderful spirit in the air, we had 160 people in attendance across all congregations, and with 90 votes, we chose to tackle education! We know that we have some tough fights ahead as we tackle both housing and education (and following up on court equity) but like we proved on Monday night, we can address these serious community problems when we are united together.

### RESEARCH COMMITTEES FORMING

If you want to be involved in the research, either with housing or education, come to ConneXion UMC on Tuesday, January 10th at 6:30pm for our Research Kick-Off. We will learn how to do research together before breaking up into groups to have our first research committee meetings for both housing and education. All interested persons are welcomed.

### TEAM LEADER OPPORTUNITY

With 50 people in the Asbury/Wesley Oak justice network, a team leader would be responsible for staying in touch with 10 network members to give them updates on opportunities and progress periodically. This is a great way to participate as the work is very light and allows us to deepen our relationships as we work to pursue justice together.

Contact Claire at [cmarich@asburymemorial.org](mailto:cmarich@asburymemorial.org)





# 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](http://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](mailto: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.**



**GODLY PLAY**

EVERY SUNDAY  
AT ASBURY MEMORIAL & WESLEY OAK

FOR ALL KIDS AGES 3 YRS THROUGH 5TH GRADE

*Radically Inclusive!*

*A SAFE PLACE*

**YOUTH** *fun*

*Come as you are and who you were meant to be*

**GROUP**

*ACCEPTING* *AFFIRMING*

*Wednesdays 5:30p - 7:30p*



#INCLUSIVITYROCKS #ASBURYMEMORIALWESLEYOAK  
#ANGELLSYOUTHGROUP



**COME JOIN OUR  
SOUND TEAM**

**Do you have an ear for sound? We need you!**

**We are looking for people with sound or video experience to join our  
sound and live stream ministry at Asbury Memorial.**

**For more information, please contact  
Ray Ellis at [rellis101@gmail.com](mailto:rellis101@gmail.com) or call the church office.**



# PFLAG SAVANNAH

4TH TUESDAY OF  
EVERY MONTH  
5:30PM – 8PM

FIRST CITY PRIDE CENTER  
1515 BULL STREET SAVANNAH, GA



PFLAG of Savannah Georgia is a locally based volunteer organization that was created to fill a need for support within the coastal empire, and the low country. PFLAG is all about kids, parents/family, and allies. We are here to educate, advocate and support those with LGBTQ+ children in our community.

PFLAG of Savannah Georgia sprang forth from volunteers at our local LGBTQ+ center First City Pride Center. We saw a lot of parents coming in and saying that their children had come out to them and they wanted to be supportive but didn't know how. Carla Faith Moore and Donna Vargas volunteers at the center took this as both a good sign and a challenge and ran with it. Beginning in May with an initial meeting to organize and ending in our official first meeting in September lots of work by many dedicated volunteers created this great group.

Our mission at PFLAG of Savannah is to provide support for families and allies of the youth in Savannah, coastal Georgia and the low country. We provide monthly support group meetings the 4th Tuesday of every month from 5:30- 8pm at First City Pride Center located at 1515 Bull Street, Savannah Georgia.

Email [pflagsavannaga@gmail.com](mailto:pflagsavannaga@gmail.com) or look us up on Facebook PFLAG Savannah GA | Facebook



## Pride Families Group



Pride Families Group is a social group for parents or caregivers and their LGBTQIA+ children ages 13 and younger. The group meets the third Saturday of each month to provide a safe, affirming place for fellowship, and for the kids to meet and connect over games and stories.

Check the Programs & Services calendar for program information or contact: Angelic by text 912-690-2148 or email [uniquelymyself@hotmail.com](mailto:uniquelymyself@hotmail.com)

Third Saturday of Each Month From  
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.







The

# 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](mailto:gdw0517@gmail.com)  
or 912-996-0854. We meet Thursdays 7:00-8:30 via Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 844 3633 5506, passcode: Asbury

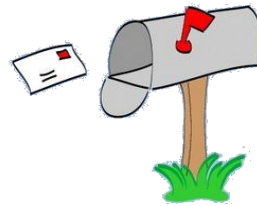




Have you missed that beautiful opportunity to place your contribution in the offering plate on Sunday mornings? Well, have we got options for you! We have multiple ways for you to continue your support of Asbury Memorial and have listed them below. Thank you for your gifts!

### 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](http://www.AsburyMemorial.org)

Click on



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



### Church Office:

Call the church office at 912.233.4351

**Both our Finance Chair and Stewardship Chair would also want to remind you,  
"It is NEVER too late to make and pay a pledge!"**



**Give Now**



# **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: Margaret Clay Mondays, 1:30—3 pm**

New book study to be selected in early January. Any questions about the group or the book email Margaret Clay at [margaretclay@comcast.net](mailto:margaretclay@comcast.net). Zoom Meeting ID: 864 8291 0310, Passcode: Asbury

## **Men Friends Men's Group for Asbury Memorial and Wesley Oak Facilitator: Gregg Walther Thursdays, 7:00pm—8:30pm**

The Thursday night Men's Group welcome all men to join us for an evening of discussion and fellowship. We talk about topics suggested by our members, recently 'Christian nationalism' and the state of the Christian Church in general has sparked much discussion. What's on your mind? Should you have any questions please contact Gregg Walther at [gdw0517@gmail.com](mailto:gdw0517@gmail.com). The Men's Group meets Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 via Zoom and welcomes all men. If you're looking for a way to connect, make new friends and participate in some fascinating discussions, all from the comfort of home, give us a try. We have a great time, come join us! Zoom meeting ID: 844 3633 5506, 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](mailto:revleigh@yahoo.com).





# TAX-SMART PHILANTHROPY FOR 2022

FROM SCHWAB CHARITABLE

EIGHT WAYS TO INCREASE GIVING POWER AND REDUCE TAXABLE INCOME



- Contribute appreciated non-cash assets instead of cash.
- Use a part gift, part sale strategy to offset capital gains tax from investment portfolio rebalancing.
- Bunch two years of contributions into 2022.
- Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) of Individual Retirement Account (IRA) assets.
- Use a charitable deduction to help offset the tax liability on a retirement account withdrawal.
- Use a charitable deduction to help offset the tax liability from converting a retirement account to a Roth IRA.
- Establish and contribute to a charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust.
- Open a donor-advised fund account now, while taxes are top of mind, and make tax-deductible contributions at any time before the end of the year.

For full article and detailed information, go to: <https://www.schwabcharitable.org/maximize-your-impact/tax-strategies>

Authors: Lund, Adams & Townsend

February 23, 2022 [www.schwabcharitable.org](http://www.schwabcharitable.org)

Greetings, Asburians!

As our ability to interact in person may be limited, we need to remember that we are not alone: that we are still a vibrant faith community and God is present in the messiness of our lives to love us, lead us and witness our daily strife and pleasures.

Stay connected and some comforting resources via our website.

## **Worship on Sundays**

Join us on Sunday mornings at 11:15 AM for in-person worship with relaxed worship guidelines. We ask that you register your attendance at the door. Online services may also be accessed from our website.

[www.AsburyMemorial.org](http://www.AsburyMemorial.org)

## **WHEN SHADOWS FALL**

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

*Margaret Clay in the passing of her mother, and Asburian, Anita Clay*

*Amy Jenkins and Payton & David Harn in the passing of their Aunt/Great-Aunt, Sheila Odom Jenkins*

*Amy Jenkins and Payton & David Harn in the passing of their Great-Aunt, Cora Herndon*

*Val Utsey in the passing of her husband, and Asburian, Jim Utsey*

## **HONORARIUMS**

*A gift has been given to the Asbury Memorial Theatre Fund in  
honor of  
Gordon Baker & Tom Lewis marriage by  
David Manderson*

*A gift has been given to the Music Fund in honor of  
Joan Byrd by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of  
Kim & Steve Johnson by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of  
Betty Hunter by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of  
Cheri & Billy Hester & Family by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of  
Jason Zimmer & August Alderman by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of  
Wesley Oak Church by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in honor of  
The birth of Anson Augustus Bradt by  
Mary Alice Garvin*

*A gift has been given to the Stephen Ministries Fund in honor of  
Sandra Katz by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in honor of  
Virginia Holliday's 99th birthday by  
Joan Byrd*





## **MEMORIALS**

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Harry Hoecherl by  
Sally Jilek*

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Chris Fahey by  
Sally Jilek*

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Chris Wilburn by  
Angelle & Charles Reichert*

*Gifts have been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Janet Arango by  
Bob & Mickie Townsend  
Joan Byrd*

*Gifts have been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Anita Clay by  
Jennifer Lindsay  
Joan Byrd  
Judy Jones*

*A gift has been given to the General Fund in memory of  
My beloved sisters, June Rogers Luster &  
Bobbie Rogers Moelich by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Kenny & Jason Lewis by  
Sally Jilek*

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Rev. Dr. Bob Herrington by  
Joan Byrd*

*A gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Dorothy Allen by  
Joan Byrd*

*Gifts have been given to the Properties Fund in memory of  
Lindsay Jahn Kessler by  
Sally Jilek  
Joan Byrd*

*A gift has been given to the Pet Memorial Fund in memory of  
Wendy & Pat Ciccodicola's companion & precious, "Katie" by  
Gloria Moses*

*A gift has been given to the JUST Fund in memory of  
Sanford Jones by  
Brighter Day*



# The Asbury Update January 2023 — Volume 36 Number 1



## General Budget As of November 2022

<b>YTD Budgeted GOAL</b>	<b>\$720,630</b>
<b>Actual Year-To-Date Expenses</b>	<b>\$632,764</b>
<b>Actual Year-To-Date Contributions</b>	<b>\$584,980</b>
<b>Ahead/Behind</b>	<b>\$-90,086</b>

**Average Worship Attendance 269**  
**(in person 133, online 134)**

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**



### **Asburians**

DiAnne Amerson, Ann Anderson, Tim Barnes,  
Fay Carroll, Sheri Coffey, Dina Consentino,  
Margaret Cook-Levy, Gretchen Dodd, Jan Durham,  
Sam Durham, Katie Farmer, Bob Francischetti,  
Sherry Giddens, Sandy Golden, Ellie Gonye,  
Gerry Harman, Chase Harrison, Trish Haverkamp,  
Roy Hill, Dale Karacostas, Zoey Kaar, Judith Kessler,  
Rev. Marilyn Leigh, Jack Lewis, Kelly Limehouse,  
Marion Manigo, Brenda Mills, Virginia Moryadas,  
Dan Nelson, Marie Parker, Pam Parker Kress,  
Frank Ramsey, Cabell Stewart,  
Pat Vitkus, Henry White, Judy Wilburn,  
Diane Williamson, Peggy Zeigler

### ***Chair Name Plate***

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.

Elizabeth Lariscy  
A Southern Lady  
By R. Ward Lariscy

In Loving Memory  
of  
Dix Elliott

(Two examples of nameplates for the chairs.)

## **Family Members & Friends**

Lisa Brown, Karen Browning, Max Clements,  
Collie Collins, Jennifer Despres Corey,  
Linda Cowart, Sara Driggers,  
Todd & Yolanda Eklund, Priscilla Hearn, Elvis Key,  
Lynette Jones, Walt Kress, Sue Leonard,  
Anna Lewis, Shirley Long, Fredia Peggs,  
Brianna Reeves, Jane Robinson, Lisa Swain,  
Neola Waller





# WESLEY OAK LEAF

January 2023



*May Goodness crown the year!*

*There is justice, and mercy, and lots of love to go around in a myriad of ways. Shall we take a moment to look around and give thanks for such goings on! The avenues of goodness move out of our worship onto the lanes of JUST and Stephen Ministers and SMART Recovery and Laity serving one another and Pastoral Care and Hospitality Area and small groups and learning events and Angell Youth Group and Godly Play and the daily witness of the children of God...on and onward. The psalmist was right as we seek to live out the life of Christ in the world today.*

*“Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.”*



## WORDS OF WISDOM FOR EPIPHANY & 2023

“At the center of the Universe is a loving heart that continues to beat and that wants the best for every person. Anything that we can do to help foster the intellect and spirit and emotional growth of our fellow human beings, that is our job. Those of us who have this particular vision must continue against all odds. Life is for service”

— Fred Rogers

“Dare to love and to be a real friend. The love you give and receive is a reality that will lead you closer and closer to God as well as those whom God has given you to love”

— Henri J.M. Nouwen

True love is delicate and kind, full of gentle perception and understanding, full of beauty and grace, full of joy unutterable. There should be some flavor of this in all our love for others. We are all one. We are one flesh in the Mystical Body as man and woman are said to be one flesh in marriage. With such a love, one would see all things new; we would begin to see people as they really are, as God sees them."

— Dorothy Day 1897-1980

## APPRECIATION

THANK YOU to all who helped prepare for Advent and Christmas from the Hanging of the Greens, the Chrismon Tree and poinsettias, the setting up/painting of the outdoor manger scene, participating in worship and Godly Play, and sharing special events during the season. Thank you to Jennifer Lindsay for the special personalized snow people! Thank you to Carolyn Ingram for the lace ornaments prepared for our homes. "God rest ye merry gentle people!"



## COME JOIN US IN THE WESLEY OAK CHANCEL CHOIR!

We meet on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. to learn the song for the 9:30 a.m. service. We would love to have you and your voice added to our number!

There is no pressure or obligation. It is okay if you can't read music, or if you have never sung in a choir before. There is a place in this choir for everyone to make a joyful noise before the Lord!

Please text or call J.J. Collins at 410-808-1110 with any questions.



# COLOR ON THE DAY OF EPIPHANY



## Carol of the Epiphany

I sought him dressed in finest clothes,  
where money talks and status grows;  
but power and wealth he never chose;  
It seemed he lived in poverty.  
I sought him in the safest place,  
remote from crime or cheap disgrace;  
but safety never knew his face; It seemed he lived in jeopardy.  
I sought him where the spotlights glare, where,  
crowds collect and critics stare; but no one knew his presence there;  
It seemed he lived in obscurity.  
Then, in the streets, we heard the word that seemed,  
for all the world, absurd;  
That those who could no gifts afford were entertaining Christ the Lord.  
And so, distinct from all we'd planned, among the poorest of the land,  
we did what few might understand:  
We touched God in a baby's hand.

by John Bell

# IN OUR PRAYERS

Rejoice always, pray constantly... 1 Thessalonians

Prayer request cards are found on the back of the pews. Place in the offering plate!

Shirley White, Bernie Morrison, Jane Rollins, Charlie Coursey, Collie Collins, PC's Dad, Lily Warmkessel  
Mary Ann and Walter Parker, Bubba Hughes, Fitz Kincade, People of Ukraine, Pat Howe Family of David Tammen  
Kacey Mayes, nephew of Tracy and Monty Osborn, Cheryl Hessel, Dan Kerrick, Unspoken need for healing Gloria Moses  
McCarthy family, neighbors of Carolyn Ingram, Sydjea Trice, Michael McDaniel, Jack Donker  
George and Barba Irvin, Eddie Aenchbacher, Fran and Arlene Moore, Jimuel Gray and family Andrew Brown  
William Cooley, Magaly O'Donnell, Zoe Simpson, Martha Aenchbacher, Bonnie Trammell, Julius and Mary Cooley  
Forsyth Farmer's Market UMC Worldwide,  
Vickie Hudson address for mail: C/O Southern Manor Retirement Inn,  
1532 Fair Road, Room 13, Statesboro, Georgia, 30458



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## O THOU WHO CAMEST FROM ABOVE

*O thou who camest from above, the pure celestial fire to impart,  
Kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart.*

*There let it for thy glory burn with inextinguishable blaze  
And trembling to its source return in humble prayer, and fervent praise.*

*Jesus, confirm my heart's desire to work, and speak, and think for thee  
Still let me guard the holy fire, and still stir up thy gift in me.*

*Ready for all thy perfect will, my acts of faith and love repeat,  
Till death thy endless mercies seal and make my sacrifice complete.*

Charles Wesley 1707-1788

A few years back, Mary Frances Karls sang the hymn above for worship at Wesley Oak. She would then sing it for us again for a few years after to remind us in the new year of the "flame of sacred love" and how it dwells on the valued altar of our hearts. Thank you, Mary Frances for using your talent to witness to us through Charles Wesley's hymn, of the Christ who brings the "pure celestial fire to impart." May the words inspire us in the days of the new year.



THUNDERBOLT COMPOST PILOT  
3124 EAST VICTORY DRIVE  
WESLEY OAK COMMUNITY GARDEN SPACE

SIGN UP AT [compost.com](http://compost.com) and begin actively caring for the earth through collecting food waste that will get it out of landfill and sewage drains to help filter/conservate water, decrease/remediate chemicals, decrease greenhouse gases, sequester carbon, and replenish growing medium for our food cycle. Free drop off station in the garden by the Joy Cottage!



## PASTORAL CONCERNS

If there is a concern, and you need to speak with Reverend Drake during the week, please call the church office, 352-0844, or 656-1974.

## CHURCH STAFF

Reverend Lynn Drake, Pastor

JJ Collins, Director of Music

PC Collins, Property and Administrative Assistant

Wesley Oak Church

3124 East Victory Drive Thunderbolt, GA 31404 912-352-0844

Email: [wesleyoak@asburymemorial.org](mailto:wesleyoak@asburymemorial.org)

## NEW EMAIL INFORMATION FOR OUR CHURCH AND CHURCH STAFF

Wesley Oak email address: [wesleyoak@asburymemorial.org](mailto:wesleyoak@asburymemorial.org)

PC Collins, Church Administrator, will receive all emails to the church and will pass vital information on to staff and to the congregation. To email Reverend Drake:

[lynnadrake@gmail.com](mailto:lynnadrake@gmail.com)

**Asbury Memorial  
Church**

1008 East Henry Street  
Savannah, GA 31401-7128

INT.ID 206896

Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026

[www.asburymemorial.org](http://www.asburymemorial.org)

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

**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 \$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 some of our different funds such as the Properties Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, Family & 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 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 [church@asburymemorial.org](mailto:church@asburymemorial.org)  
Office hours are 9 AM to 4 PM, Monday thru Thursday.

**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.**