





			JULY 2024			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2 -	3 —	4 —	5 —	—— 6 —
	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO			7:00p Men's Group		1:00p Memorial Service Bev Blank
7 — 9:30a Wesley Oak	8 —	9 —	10 —	11	12	—— 13 —
11:15a Asbury Memorial 12:30p Children youth baking contest	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO			7:00p Men's Group	6:30p Movie Night "Wish"	
<u> </u>	15 —	<u> </u>	17 —	18 —	19 —	<u> </u>
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury Memorial	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO			7:00p Men's Group		
<u> </u>	22 —	23	24	25 —	26	27 —
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury Memorial	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO			7:00p Men's Group		1
— 28 —	29	<u> </u>	31 —	11	2 —	3
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury Memorial	7:00p SMART Recovery @ WO					



FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR OF JOY

The Joy of Giving: Where Tithing Begins

At a meeting of Asbury's Stewardship Committee a couple of years ago I volunteered to write a stewardship piece for our church's monthly newsletter. I also said that our best gifts in life are born not of a sense of obligation, but from a feeling of true joy. About then, someone suggested that my official title should be "Director of Joy." The title stuck, as if I had been named in baptism. I was put in my place, you might say.

Thinking about that moment now, I rather like the title. Because, at its core, tithing to the church is born in the joy of gratitude for all that God has done for us. And thinking a little deeper, I realize that my sense of joy in giving was born in me long ago, in that little Methodist Church where I was nurtured in my faith in ways I barely understood at the time.

It was a yearly fundraising and social event, our Church Bazaar, that planted the seed of joy of giving in my heart.

This was a big event in the life of our small church. It was actually a festival, you might say, in the deepest meaning of the word, for its highlight was a feast: a barbecue dinner. As I remember it, Mr. Roger Burdic and his helpers roasted a whole hog overnight and the next day they trimmed and chipped the cooked pork and served up generous plates of meat, rice, hash, and slaw. Of course, there was also plenty of iced tea to wash it all down, and pound cake for dessert. Everyone in town shared the meal: few Baptists, Presbyterians, a Pentecostals, and even our Roman Catholic neighbors. My Jewish friend David Grossman and his family shared the non-Kosher meal. The whole town was there, and everyone seemed to enjoy it, even Mr. Burdic.



2024 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE



But there was more. There was a bake sale at the Bazaar. My dad's cousin, Lois Allen, always donated a caramel-iced layer cake. There were other cakes, and pies, and brown-and-serve homemade rolls, too. And out in the back yard there was more. Out back were donations from various businesses run by our church's members. My dad gave something from his furniture store, maybe a stove or refrigerator. And the families that ran our town's two cotton gins, the Gambles and the Mishoes, each gave a bale of cotton to be sold. The church referred to these donations as "the Lord's acre." And we understood that the Lord's acre was the first and best of the crop, given to God through our church.

The whole affair was a lot of work, but it was also a time to feel the joy of our community assembled together. It was also a lesson, a reminder, that God had provided so much to our little town, and our little church.

And it was up to us to return a portion of God's bounty to support our worship life, our missionary work, and our life as a church community.

Those memories remind me of how I learned to give. I invite you to ponder when, and how, and from whom you have learned the lesson of generosity. Remember, and be thankful. And then, with a sense of joy and thanksgiving, enjoy giving your own offering, the portion of the bounty with which you are blessed.

Rejoice!

~ Rev. Richard Allen Stewardship Committee Member







2024 SUMMER PREACHING SERIES ASBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH – 11:15 AM SUNDAYS



RABBI ROBERT HAAS - JULY 14

- Rabbi Robert Haas, a native of McAllen, Texas, became the 14th spiritual leader of Congregation Mickve Israel in Savannah, Georgia in 2012.
- After receiving his B. S. from the University of Texas at Austin, he began his first career as an elementary school teacher before matriculating at Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem and Los Angeles, where he earned his Master's Degree and Rabbinical Ordination.
- After graduation, he served as an associate rabbi in Dallas and in Houston, Texas. He then spent a year volunteering in Africa with American Jewish World Service before moving to Savannah to serve in his current position as the rabbi for 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.



- BETSY KAMMERUD JULY 21

 Betsy graduated from The Ohio State University with an MSW degree and immediately continued work in the hospice and palliative care field.
- She came to Georgia in 2007 to work for Hospice Savannah, Inc as a home care social worker.
- For the past 14 years, she has been part of Full Circle Grief and Loss, the bereavement wing of Hospice Savannah, Inc., as a bereavement counselor. She now is the Director.
- Betsy also volunteers with Give an Hour, an organization that provides pro-bono mental health support to veterans, service members, and their families.
- Betsy is a licensed clinical social worker and is also certified as a clinical trauma professional.
- Betsy has worked with individuals, couples, and groups promoting a healthy grief journey as well as healthy perceptions of self-image and strengthening core relationships for a more complete sense of self.
- Betsy understands that life can be overwhelming at times and is passionate about providing a safe space for people to process all of the feelings that life experiences can create.



AUGUST ALDERMAN - JULY 28

- August is a member of the preaching team at Wesley Oak Church.
- He serves as a Stephen Minister.
- August works in bereavement services with Hospice Savannah.
- He is a student of Chicago Theological Seminary.
- He has been an Asburian since 2018!
- August lives with his partner Jason in Savannah.



. Bertice Berry – August 4

- Sociologist Bertice Berry, PhD. is a best-selling author, an award-winning lecturer. She has been named Comedian of The Year, Lecturer of the Year, and Entertainer of the Year.
- She has published 13 best-selling fiction and non-fiction books, and she has won numerous awards and accolades for both her writing and presentations.
- Berry has had her own nationally-syndicated television show where she hosted and conducted interviews. She also has made numerous television, documentary, and radio appearances on a variety of diverse venues.
- Berry believes that every one of us has been given a unique purpose and it is our obligation to find it and use it to improve first our own self, and then for those we live and work with.



J. COLLINS – AUGUST 11

- 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 Masters 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, and their dog, Tinker.



CHRIS KINCADE – AUGUST 18

- His greatest accomplishment is still being Fitz's Dad.
- He is currently serving our campuses as:
 - Youth Director for Asbury Memorial / Wesley Oak
 - Children and Families Ministry Director for Asbury Memorial / Wesley Oak
- Communications Director for Asbury Memorial
- Chris is a huge fan of musicals and writing.
- He is proud to be husband of the incredible Bridgette Kincade.
- Chris has been part of the Asbury family for about 18 years.

RETURNS – AUGUST 25





COASTAL INTERFAITH GREEN TEAM

July 2024



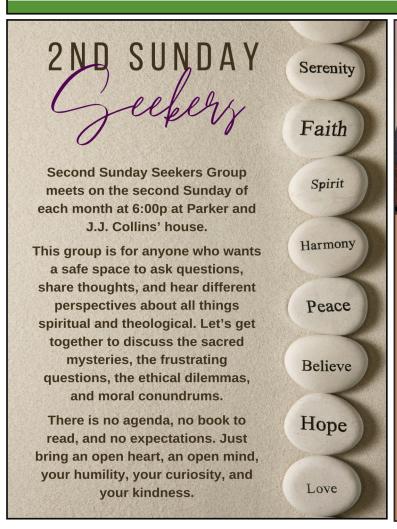
Green Team Get Together Tybee Beach Cleanup Saturday, June 8

Did you know over two million people visited the beach at Tybee last year? Did you know that some of those two million people left behind over 6,000 pounds of trash? Yet if you visit Tybee you will generally find very little trash as far as the eye can see. How is that possible?

For June's Green Team Get Together the Coastal Interfaith Green Team partnered with Tybee Clean Beach, a grass-roots organization made up of volunteers who sweep Tybee's beaches free of trash on a weekly basis. Members of our Green Team joined with some 30 other volunteers and collected buckets of plastic wrappers, aluminum cans, and cigarette butts.

June 8 was World Oceans Day. What better way for our Green Team to celebrate than to do our part to help keep Tybee Beach clean!







WESLEY OAK CHANCEL CHOIR

COME & JOIN IN!

THE CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSES ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 8:30 A.M. EACH WEEK. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF THE MUSIC AT WESLEY OAK CHURCH, PLEASE CONNECT WITH J.J. COLLINS, DIRECTOR.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!

Preaching Schedule

7 JUL

J.J Collins

14 JUL

Chris Kincade

21 JUL

Betsy Kammerud

28 JUL

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



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









NEW MEMBERS welcome home







& SILENT AUCTION

A little bit of Classical! A little bit of Country!









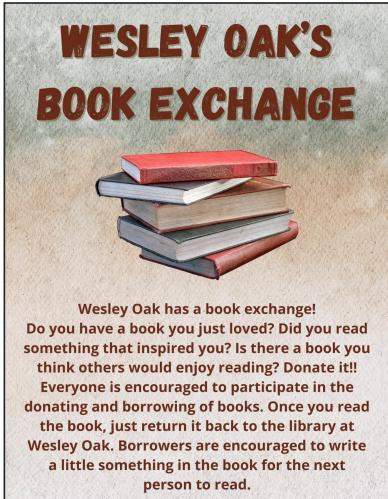
It was truly a WOW moment for me and the audience at the Musical Revue and Auction Sat. June 22nd at Asbury Memorial Church. From the talented performers, the choir, the band, the tech staff, the Silent Auction team, food servers, the cashiers, the ushers, the backstage help, props, sound, lights, programs and posters, the church staff, and all who made this a success I give a Big *Thank you*.

We are so blessed to have all these talented people in every aspect of putting on a production together. I have heard nothing but good things about the show. It was a wonderful experience and thank you all for your support. Love to all!

Linda











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.

Prayer Requests

Congregants of Asbury Memorial and Wesley Oak

DiAnne Amerson, Pat Andres, Wayne Bland, Marcia Budarz, Sheri Coffey, Carrie Collins,
J.J. Collins, Marty Coolidge, Mark Cooper, Gale Dick, Sam Durham, Katie Farmer,
Morgan Page Faunce, Jo Fausnacht, Deb Gibson, Ellie Gonye, Chase Harrison, Bubba Hughes,
Bridgette Kincade, Rev. Marilyn Leigh, Jack Lewis, Kim Limehouse, Marion Manigo,
Brenda Mills, James Mullins, Virginia Moryadas, Elizabeth Newkirk, Marie Parker,
Frank Ramsey, Greg Socks, Pat Stewart, Dave Thompson, Kathy Waters, Kenn Waters,
Peggy Zeigler

Family Members and Friends

The Abasy Family, Ann Austin, Max Clements, Kendall Cole, Sara Driggers, Anne Gooby, CT Harper, Priscilla Hearn, Joe & Mary Jurgenson, Rita Leopard, Jackie Lewis, Matt Moll, Leonard Nicoletta, Steven Odrezin, Jim Skoronsky, Fredia Peggs, Carol Schwalbe, Linda Southerland, Beth Vasta, Christi Yunkunis

When Shadows Fall

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

Carrie Collins in the passing of her niece Maria Adger

Kathy Waters in the passing of her sister, Jan Waters

Marcia Budarz in the passing of her sister, Phyllis Burns





We have added a section to the monthly newsletter to showcase the talents of our church family. Please submit pictures of your artwork, art pieces, poems, stories, etc. and we will pick a few of the submissions for each issue.

Please be sure to include your name, a description of your submission, and email everything with the subject line of "Creative Corner" to ckincade@asburymemorial.org

CREATIVITY CORNER - WRITINGS BY KATHY SIKES

Wings of Gold

It was the first week of April and my sister Laurie's birthday was soon coming up next week. The weather was very nice and even though summer was still a few months away, it had been unseasonably warmer than usual. With that being said, the pool in my sister's backyard was a tempting sight. Even though it was still too cool to take a plunge, a nice afternoon of sitting on the edge and letting her legs dangle in the water sounded relaxing after a day at school where Laurie was a teacher working with a class full of little ones.

Sporting her comfy shorts and her sunglasses, she was ready to start relaxing... thinking about the weekend.

Laurie closed her eyes and let the school day and little children's voices fade into the light breeze flowing through her hair. All of a sudden, she felt something on her arm. She quickly opened her eyes to find a beautiful butterfly with blue wings resting on her wrist, the one that was tattooed with her sweet grandson's name, Gage. It was only there a second then flew off. "That was strange," thought Laurie. "I guess it was attracted to my perfume."

The next day was Saturday and Laurie and her husband Shawn were looking forward to a weekend visit from Gage. Even though Gage was anxious to get in the pool it was not yet summertime. So he was content to play ball with his papa.

Laurie brought out some lunch so they could eat on the patio. As Gage reached for his tea the butterfly with the bright blue wings appeared. At first, Gage wanted to catch it but his Omi told him it was better to let the butterfly fly free, all the while wondering why it was back.

As the day came to a close, and Gage was settling down to sleep, he was looking out his bedroom window. Through the moonlight he could see the butterfly again. "I sure do wish I could catch you," he thought as he yawned and drifted off to sleep. Gage was up and raring to go the next morning. He came bouncing in the kitchen, ready for breakfast.

"Wow, you're up early" commented his Omi. "So, what do you want to do today?"

"I want to catch that butterfly!" stated a very determined little boy.

"Sweetie, remember what Omi said about the butterfly... you have to let it fly free. They fly around to make people happy with their pretty colors. Anyway, I don't think it will be back."

"But maybe it will. I'll be watching," said Gage.

Since it was in the upper 80's that day, Laurie let her grandson sit on the edge of the pool and let his legs get the first taste of summer. Sitting there, Gage's eyes darted all around the backyard hoping to see the mysterious

butterfly. All of a sudden, Gage jumped up and started shouting, "There it is, there it is!" Laurie couldn't believe it. The butterfly had returned.

"Be real still and quiet, maybe it will come closer to you, but don't try to catch it," advised Laurie. "Okay Omi, I won't hurt it."

The butterfly drew closer and closer to the little boy and landed on his arm. "It's so pretty... I love it."

"It is pretty," said Laurie as she watched the butterfly take off again, hovering over the pool so very low that it kissed the water ever so gently with its wings. And then it was gone.

It was time for Gage to go back home and back to school the next day. "I hope the butterfly comes back," he said.

"Maybe it will." Laurie said, still pondering about the whole weekend and the ever returning blue winged creature.

Monday morning came too soon, and Laurie was preparing to leave for work. She glanced out her back door to see something on the patio table by the pool. She went outside to discover a letter addressed to her. This was very strange as she began to read it...

"My dear Laurie, I decided it was time to pay you a little visit. You and Shawn have a beautiful little grandson. He's a treasure and I know you both treasure him. The swimming pool is wonderful! You know how much I loved swimming pools so I couldn't resist testing the water... too cold for me! Maybe I'll be back in the summer and see you again. Happy birthday, my sweet daughter. Daddy and I love you.

And underneath the patio table was an empty Pepsi can. Mom loved her Pepsi.

A Blessing in Pink

In December of 2022, Shannon, my niece, got remarried. Her sweet little son, Gage, from her first marriage, gave the beautiful bride away He waited so patiently for his mother as Shannon met him at the start of aisle and escorted her up to where she would say her yows to handsome Wallace Garrett.

It was a beautiful ceremony. A bit chilly, but everyone had a great time. A year passed so quickly, and it was 2023 - summer time! The skies were clear and bursting with sunshine. Saturday came around and sweet Gage couldn't wait to get to Papa and Omi's house where the pool awaited him. He was ready to have some fun! Shannon and her mom, Laurie, sat by the pool eating their lunch as Gage showed off his swimming skills. As Gage climbed out of the pool to eat his sandwich, he spotted a beautiful pink butterfly.

"Oh boy," he gasped, "another butterfly! This one is pink!"

"That is a pretty butterfly, Gage", commented his mom. As the pink butterfly flitted here and there all around the pool area, finally landing on the ladder. Gage watched the butterfly as it perched on the side of the pool and just stayed there for a few seconds, then it was gone.

"I sure hope it comes back," said a disappointed Gage, thinking about the blue butterfly not too long ago back in April. Remembering what his Omi had told him before about the butterfly, Gage said, "And I won't try to catch this one either."

Gage got to swim one more time and then he and his mom headed home. He was playing out in his backyard before supper when his mom called him in. Just as Gage was heading inside, the pink butterfly appeared again, this time almost flying into the house, but Shannon quickly shut the door. Surprisingly this did not frighten the mysterious creature, lingering there for a while before flying away.

The next day was Sunday. Wallace and Shannon took Gage to Sunday School. As they approached the car (yes, you guessed it) the butterfly had come back.

"Wow, there's that butterfly again!" My niece couldn't believe her eyes. "It's been hanging around Gage and me since yesterday!" And you wouldn't believe it, but the butterfly followed them all the way to church.

As Shannon opened the car door to get out, the pink butterfly flew into her lap, close to her stomach, only for a second and was gone.

When they got home that afternoon, there was a note inside their mailbox. Here's what it said...

"Summertime is here so I decided to trade in my blue wings for pink. Pink is nice... sugar and spice, well... As I tested the pool, it was a little better than last time. So much better that I really wanted to hang around a little longer. But I needed to get back to papa...he misses me whenever I'm gone too long. You have a beautiful family. A handsome new husband and that great-grandson is growing up too fast! It's time for a precious new baby girl. That's right, God sent me to tell my dear granddaughter this blessed news. The baby will be arriving on March 20th. Or, maybe a little early around the 12th? Just a thought.

Pap Herman and I love you so very much. Congratulations!!!"

And as they made their way inside to celebrate this glorious news, Shannon glanced down to see an empty Pepsi can on the ground, knowing just who left it there.

Financial Health

General Budget as of May 2024

YTD Budget Goal

\$ 311,771

Actual YTD Expenses

\$ 270,322

Actual YTD contributions

\$ 261,128

Actual Ahead / Behind if Budget Spent

\$ -17,238

Current Contributions to Expenses Ahead/Behind \$ -9,194

MEN'S GROUP

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.

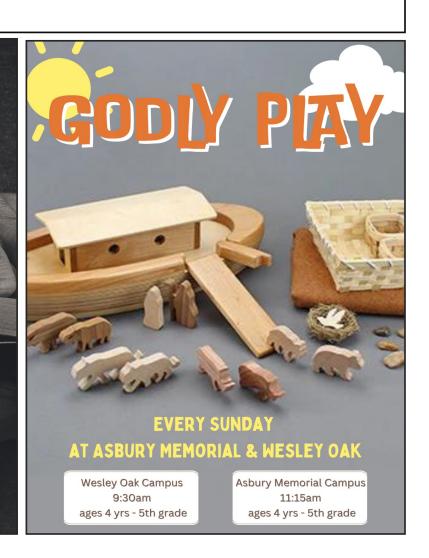
What's on your mind?

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.



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

Asbury Memorial Church

1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401-7128
INT.ID 206896
Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026
www.asburymemorial.org

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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.