





# JULY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a	7:00p			6:30p Online Study		
Asbury Memorial 1:00p	SMART Recovery @ WO	11	7	w/ Billy	- X 3	K 3
Wesley Oak Knowledge Explorers @WO				7:00p Men's Group	**	* 7
6 9:30a	7	8	9	10	11 4	12
Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury	7:00p SMART			7:00p		
Memorial 1:00p Wesley Oak Knowledge Explorers @WO	Recovery @ WO			Men's Group		
13 9:30a	14	15	16	17	18	19
Wesley Oak 11:15a Asbury Memorial 1:00p	7:00p SMART	6:30p Finance		7:00p	6:30p Sound of Music	A T
Wesley Oak Knowledge Explorers @WO 6:00p	Recovery @ WO	Committee Meeting		Men's Group	Sing-a-long @AMC	
2nd Sunday Seekers	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a						
Asbury Memorial 12:30p Bake Off	7:00p SMART Recovery			7:00p Men's Group		A
1:00p Wesley Oak Knowledge Explorers @WO	@ WO					
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9:30a Wesley Oak 11:15a	7:00p				6:00p Back to	
Asbury Memorial 1:00p	SMART Recovery @ WO			7:00p Men's Group	School Movie Night	
Wesley Oak Knowledge Explorers @WO	THE RESERVE TO THE RE		14		@AMC	6

# ONLINE STUDY WITH REV. BILLY HESTER

# Chololat

Rev. Billy Hester will be leading an ONLINE Study using scripture and the film, Chocolat. There will be 4 sessions all of Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. starting June 12th.

The sessions will be June 12th, 19th, 26th, and July 3rd.

You do not have to have seen the film to participate.

Nor do you need to come to all of the sessions to benefit from the Study.

We will send out the link for Zoom in a church-wide email the week of June 9th.

Hope you can join us! It's going to be delicious!!!

6:30P - THURSDAYS
JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup>, JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup>, JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>, JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>



2025

# Bake-Off

**Church-Wide Baking Contest** 

July 20th - 12:30pm

Think you've got the sweetest skills?

Join us for a fun-filled baking competition!

### **Awards in Each Division**

- Best Tasting
- Best Presentation

### **One Grand Prize**

Best Overall Baker

Bring your best baked creation and join the fun!



# 025 SUMMER PREACHING SERIES SBURY MEMORIAL CHURCH – 11:15 AM SUNDAYS



- **EV. JENNIFER FRIEDMAN JULY 13**Rev. Friedman is an Orlando, Florida native, and a Co-Vice President of the Southeastern region of the Federation of Christian ministries.
- Jennifer has her bachelors in Music from Stetson University and MDiv from Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University.
- She has over 20 years of ministry experience with youth and young adults. both in and outside of the Parish, international missions, worship ministry, and hospital and hospice chaplaincy.
- Her current full-time work is with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as a MS Navigator.
- She and her husband Sam Friedman moved to Savannah in August of 2024, and you can find them hanging out with their two dogs Charlie and Snoop, making good coffee, playing music, spending time with family, and getting to know their new home community in Savannah.



# RABBI ROBERT HAAS - JULY 20

- 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.



# REV. AUGUST ALDERMAN — JULY 27 • August serves as the Associate Minister at Asbury Memorial.

- He was ordained this past May at Asbury Memorial church.
- 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 this year.
- He served CPE at Hospice Savannah and completed Field Placement with Asbury Memorial as Ministerial Intern.
- August was born in Savannah and grew up in Richmond Hill and now lives in Savannah with his partner Jason and cat Esther.



### DR. DANIELLE PHILLIPS – AUGUST 3

- Dr. Danielle Pilgrim, a native of Trinidad and Tobago and New York, is a passionate advocate for social justice, dedicated to driving positive change through public speaking, education, strategic advocacy, and impactful public policy.
- After earning her B.S. in Community Health Education from York College, she pursued a Master of Divinity at Andrews University, where she deepened her passion for service and justice-centered leadership.
- She later earned her Ph.D. in Community Engagement with an emphasis in Public Policy from Point Park University, focusing her research on racial inequity and public policy.
- Dr. Pilgrim has served in various roles, which have advanced her purpose of improving the quality of life, particularly for those on the margins.



# CHRIS KINCADE — AUGUST 10 His greatest accomplishment is still being Fitz's Dad.

- He is currently serving our campuses as:
  - Youth 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 19 years.



### J.J. COLLINS – AUGUST 17

- 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.
- She has been Wesley Oak's choir director since 2014.

### REV. BILLY RETURNS - AUGUST 24

# REV

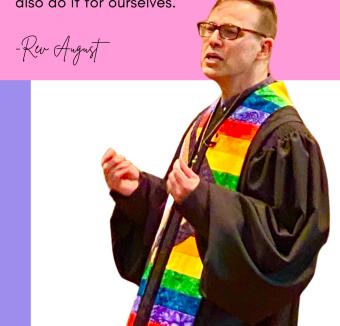
# -elations from August Alderman

From one of the altars of an associate pastor; an associate pastor's desk.

The title of this section comes from an idea I picked up from the Reverend Fred Craddock. Reverend Craddock stated that a desk is an altar for pastors as the desk is a place where one goes to read, study, write, reflect, and discern. The desk is such a space for many professions. A lesson I once read from Dr. Noel Leo Erskine also comes to mind, that we are told to place our hearts on the altar, our bodies, and our spirits. Dr. Erskine remarked that we neglect to remember that we must also bring our minds to the altar. Thus, the desk is one altar to which we also bring our minds!

As I sit down to write this to you, we are very much in summertime now. Yesterday we concluded VBS 2025! It was an amazing week. I am so thankful and I can tell you all the children who went on the VBS journey with us are also thankful. There were so many roles wonderfully fulfilled by church and community members. God's love was expressed very creatively and with so much energy. The sound that echoes most in my mind is everyone's joyful laughter, from our children, teenagers, and adults! Even though so much in the world has changed so quickly with technology, we find that children are very much the same as when we were children. The leaders kids need today are the same leaders we needed when we were kids.

Consider all the challenges in the world children face on their spiritual, religious, and faith journeys. Many are similar to our own challenging faith experiences yet one difference that comes to mind is that there is even less time to slow down. Technology has sped everything up. Technology has sped life up, and, you know, life already goes by fast enough! I propose to you that we carefully and caringly think about how to support our children in taking time to slow down; to experience slow time. In this intentional time, may they begin to develop imagination, a healthy inner dialogue, tools for critical thinking, and their spirituality. Summer goes by so fast, and not only has the world sped up for children, but it has also sped up for us. As we set aside time to support our children in these endeavors, naturally we also do it for ourselves.





### Learn, Pray and Enjoy Fellowship

The 10 O'Clock Hour Sunday School class has been meeting since September 15, 2024. The purpose of the class is to help us grow in knowledge and faith and to grow in relationships and community.

The class spent several months watching the video series, Living the Questions, which features scholars talking about such topics as Taking the Bible Seriously, Restoring Relationships, and The Prophetic Jesus. The class then spent several months studying the book, The Last Week by John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg. Lively, interesting discussions have followed. The class decided to continue meeting during the summer and on July 6

will begin the video series Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith. This series is described as "celebrating the communion of science and faith." Contributors include Rachel Held Evans and Episcopal priest Matthew Fox.

Anyone and everyone is invited to join the 10 O'Clock Hour in Holliday Hall, starting at 9:45. Class begins at 10:00. You will be blessed

EACH SUNDAY 10:00AM HOLLIDAY HALL

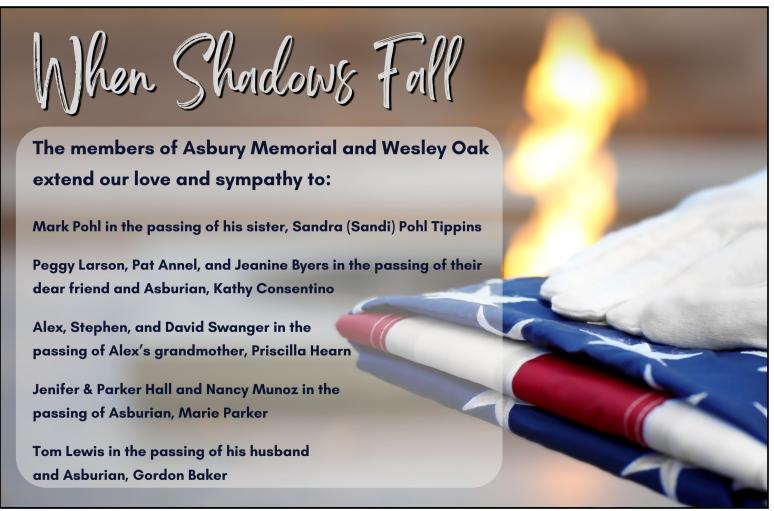
# THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED ORGANIZE THE PROP ROOM AFTER VBS! IT LOOKS AMAZING!

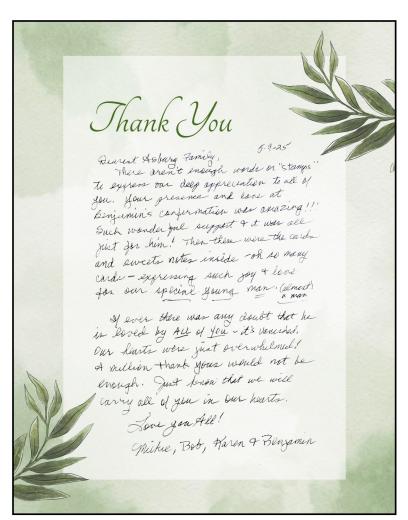


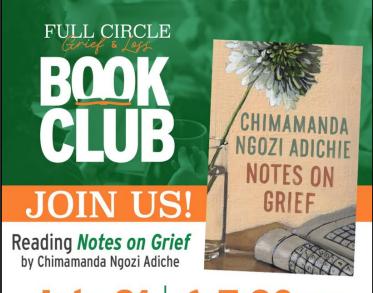












July 31 6-7:30pm

The Joy Cottage 2603 Mechanics Ave., Savannah GA 31404

Drinks and snacks provided. Space is limited.

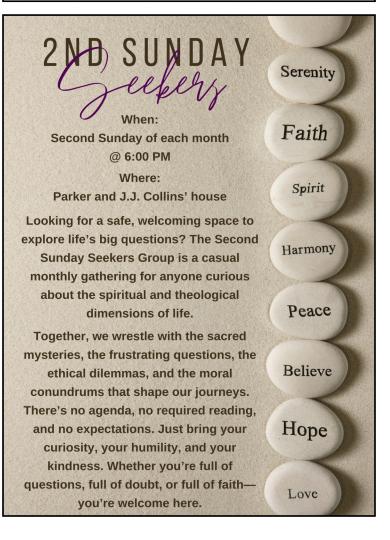
Please read book ahead of time.
Books available for purchase from The Stacks, or E. Shaver, Bookseller.

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFO: 912.303.9442

Full Circle Grief & Loss Center complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Full Circle Grief & Loss Center does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, olor majored scipia, age disability or sex.





















# Sunday, July 6th 9:30 am

# Wesley Oak Welcomes Lillian Grant-Baptiste

Lillian Grant-Baptiste is first and foremost a child of God. She accepted Christ as her savior at the tender age of 14. She is a member of the Kingdom Life Christian Fellowship, where she serves in various ministries. Ms. Grant-Baptiste is the daughter of Leon and Odessa Grant and the mother of one son, Alix Jean Baptiste, Jr. Lillian's personal mission statement is: "I will use the gifts, the influence and voice that God has anointed me with to connect with, and encourage, educate and equip those who are most marginalized to realize and actualize their God-given purpose, power and potential.



Lillian recently retired from the City of Savannah, where she created, developed, and championed several community engagement initiatives, the most notable being the Leadership Development Institute. The Leadership Development Institute is an extensive training program that is aimed at building the capacity of grassroots leaders to effect positive community change.

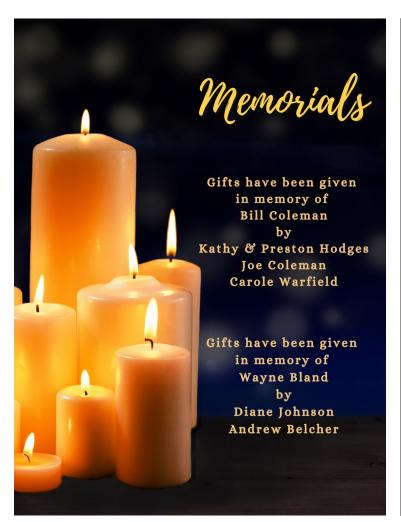
She is presently the founder and principal consultant of Baobab Consulting Group. Ms. Grant-Baptiste is also a sought-after trainer and motivational speaker that facilitates a variety of cultural diversity, youth development and leadership workshops locally, regionally, and nationally. She is also a renowned and prolific storyteller gathers and tells stories from diverse cultures but has a particular fondness and appreciation for folktales and stories from the African Diaspora.

Ms. Grant-Baptiste is known throughout Chatham County for her advocacy for personal, family and community empowerment. She has been actively involved in the Social Change Movement for more than 30 years. Lillian is the former chair of Healthy Savannah's Faith and Health Coalition and Step-Up Savannah's Faith-based Committee and the past Chair of Healthy Savannah.



Lillian Grant-Baptiste has always been an active leader in Savannah. She is very resultsoriented, always seeking and influencing tangible change in any community or individual she encounters.







# Cook and Connect with Creativity

Joy Cottage at Wesley Oak

Join Us for Suppers at the Cottage! Every fourth Sunday, we invite you to a delightful evening at the Joy Cottage where food, friendship, and creativity come together!

As we gather to prepare and enjoy a delicious meal together, you'll have the chance to cook, mingle, and forge new friendships.

But the fun doesn't stop with dinner!

At the end of each meal, we welcome a few brave souls to showcase their talents. Whether you have a poem to recite, a song to sing, or a craft to display, we encourage you to share what you love to do with the group!

Please come join us for an unforgettable evening of good food, even better company, and inspiring creativity. We can't wait to see you there!



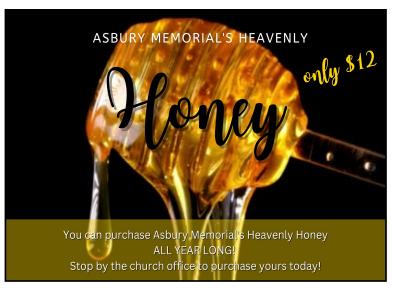
# WESLEY OAK CHANCEL CHOIR

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!





# Prayer Requests

## Congregants of Asbury Memorial & Wesley Oak

DiAnne Amerson, Mark Barner, Marcia Budarz, Jim Burris,
Rev. Bob Chvatal, Sheri Coffey, Marty Coolidge, Kyle Coombs,
Sam Durham, Delores Ellis, Katie Farmer, Deb Gibson,
Catherine Gilbert, Preston Hodges, Sandy Hoecherl, Bubba Hughes,
Carolyn Ingram, Pam Parker Kress, Pamela Lewanda,
Marion Manigo, Virginia Moryadas, Gloria Moses,
Nancy & David Phillips, Frank Ramsey, Karen Richardson,
Pat Stewart, Dave Thompson, Rev. Bob Townsend, Beverly Vasta,
Curtis Veal, Kenn Waters, Shirley White, Debbie Wright

### Family Members and Friends

Ann Austin, David Burger, Fred Hawker,
Dalton Hentry, Annette Higgins, Paul Higgins,
Nimrod Mehari, Barbara Ringham, Charlie Taylor,
Donna Weaver

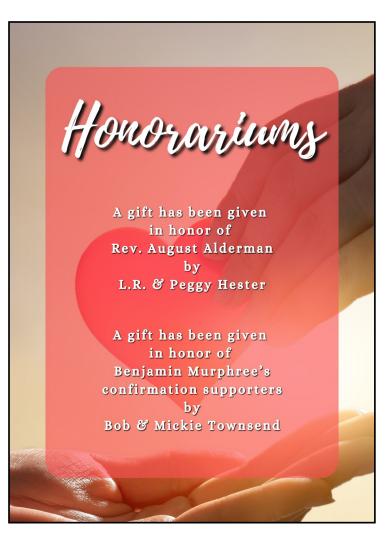


# SEEKERS

QUESTIONS? Contact Trish Haverkamp at trish.haverkamp@gmail or 610.334.1981 Women's Book Club Meets 2x a month

2nd Monday of each month @ I2:30 via Zoom 4th Monday of each month @ I2:30, typically in person





# HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH A SANCTUARY CHAIR DEDICATION

Each Sunday as we gather for our services, there's a sense of sacred connection that fills the sanctuary. This connection is made even more meaningful as we notice the names of loved ones carefully etched into the nameplates on our beautiful sanctuary chairs. These nameplates are more than just engraved markers—they tell stories of love, remembrance, and enduring faith.

Seeing the name of a cherished family member or friend serves as a tangible reminder of their presence, legacy, and the role they played in the life of the church community. It's a beautiful way to honor their memory while contributing to the spiritual life of our congregation.

If you would like to remember or honor a loved one in this special way, we invite you to complete an order form and submit it to the church office. Forms are conveniently available both in the church narthex and the office.

The cost of \$250.00 goes directly towards the upkeep and maintenance of our beloved sanctuary, helping to preserve this sacred space for generations to come.

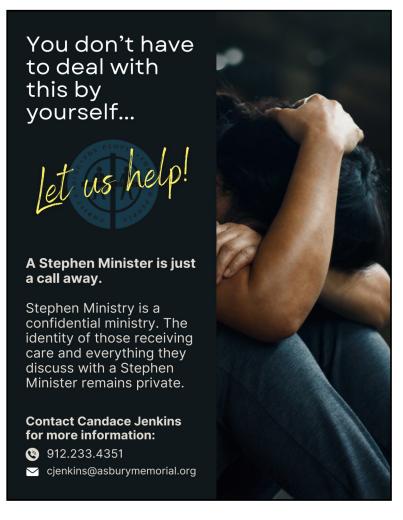
By dedicating a chair in honor of someone special, you participate in a tradition of generosity and love that supports our worship environment and celebrates the lives that have touched us so deeply.

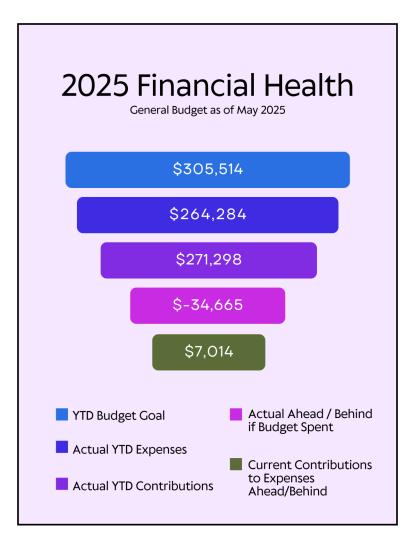
# A Beautiful Way to Remember or Honor a Loved One

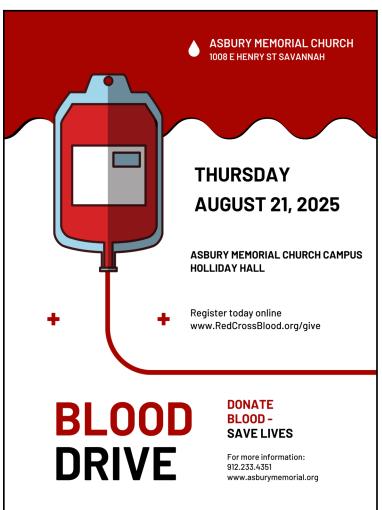
We encourage you to prayerfully consider this opportunity. If you have any questions or need assistance with the form, please do not hesitate to contact the church office. Thank you for being part of this meaningful act of remembrance and for supporting the spiritual heart of our community.











# WE HAVE MULTIPLE WAYS FOR YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT OF ASBURY MEMORIAL THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS!



### Mail:

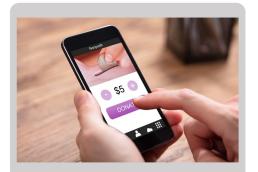
Mail your contribution by check to:

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

# 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.