



The Asbury Update

May 2022

Asbury Memorial Church
Rev. Billy Hester
Volume 35, Number 5
May 2022

Easter

2022



1008 East Henry Street, Savannah, GA 31401
www.asburymemorial.org

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!

Having a Birthday? Call the office at 233-4351
or e-mail us at church@asburymemorial.org.

May

2nd Mike Flatt

Beth Harn-Via

Zaida Hester

Tommy Schafer

3rd Lynne Allen

Jack Lewis

Freida McGee

4th Carolyn Stuber

5th Susan Bolinger

6th Mary Alice Garvin

7th Marlon Harman

Scout McCaffity

9th Bill Kelso

Emma Varland

12th Lynne Norton

Mike Skinner

Tom Wages

14th Don Stahle

17th Joan Byrd

Kathy

Consentino

Dylan Linthicum

Sara Linthicum

Keith Purtee

Shirley Sessions

Gregg Walther

19th Joe Driggers

Elizabeth

Newkirk

20th Brian Clyatt

22nd Jeff Dick

23rd Patty Steinhauser

24th Pat Annel

Tim Floyd

25th Carla McCaffity

Roberta Smith

26th Helen Downing

Pauline Munro

27th Eric Anderson

Christopher

Ciccodicola

Gerry Harman

Terry Harman

29th Sandy Golden

Tina Smith

31st Thomas Hunter

Alex Swanger



May

1st Colin & Jennifer Knox

1st Kelly & Kim Limehouse

4th Bill & Jamie Kelso

11th Pat & Mary Prokop

15th Bonnie & Jeff Kaar

15th John & Wendy Mason

17th Wes & Jack Hardcastle-Orr

17th John & Claire Marich

21st Chris & Barbara Gooby

27th Lawrence & Deborah Staab

28th Trina & Jake Dunn

30th Danny & Barbara Beam

30th John Giles & Roy Hill

31st Spencer & Carla Luke



Thank You

Dear Asbury family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful anniversary flowers.

What a surprise when I answered the front door. It's so wonderful to be remembered.

Thank you again,

DiAnne & Roger Amerson

2022 Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to all who helped and attended the Easter Egg Hunt at Wesley Oak Campus!!

Ellie Covington

Director of Children & Family Ministries



Asbury Memorial / Wesley Oak VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Asbury Memorial Campus

June 12th-17th | 5:30-8:30 p.m. (dinner)

VBS Sunday is June 19th

Cost is \$10 per child; \$20 family maximum

K-5th Grade | Registration now open:

asburymemorial.mycokesburyvbs.com



DISARM HEARTS
FORGE PEACE
CULTIVATE JUSTICE

BEATING GUNS

A Savannah Alliance of Pastors Event
Supporting Gun Violence Prevention Awareness

Saturday, June 4, 2022, 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Join us in forging a stronger community through:

- Survivor testimonies
- Music
- Spoken Word
- Prayer with author/activist Shane Claiborne
- Survivors beat a gun into a garden tool
- Talk with a grief counselor
- Meet and greet with participants

WEAR ORANGE TO SHOW SUPPORT



First African Baptist Church

23 Montgomery Street, Savannah, GA
(on Franklin Square)



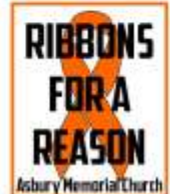
**RED LETTER
CHRISTIANS**



**MOMS
DEMAND
ACTION**
FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA



full circle
HOSPICE
SAVANNAH



**RIBBONS
FOR A
REASON**
Asbury Memorial Church

J.U.S.T.
Justice
Unites
Savannah
Together

Cash Bail

1

Reform

WELCOME

Using The DART Center's model for congregational based organizing, we have been moved by Micah 6:8, *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* Our call to to do justice comes from God and that call unites us across race, gender, socio-economic status and religion.

<https://justsav.org/>



HOUSING

2

3

NEHEMIAH ACTION



SAVANNAH

PAGE 1

Nehemiah Action

The Road to Social Change in Savannah!

By Maryanne Hedrick

The mood at our Savannah JUST RALLY meeting on April 4 was palpable with the strength of God and the community's sense of purpose. We had 115 people attending in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, in person, which by itself heightened the energy level of our meeting. We gathered to strategize how and what we would demand from City of Savannah leadership, to provide more affordable housing here and relief for our citizens who spend time in the county jail before being declared guilty of a crime.

The program for the meeting featured religious leaders and JUST members, helping us see the scope of our affordable housing and cash bail crises in Savannah, and the suffering of so many people affected by these community problems. Please refer to the attached fact sheets for numbers and trends defining these severe realities in the Savannah area.

On a personal note, I was very moved by Rev. Michael J. Culbreth's meditation on Social Change. He invoked the vision of Rev. Martin Luther King in his Letter from Birmingham City Jail, written in 1963, who wrote that people have a moral responsibility to break unjust laws and to take direct action rather than waiting potentially forever for justice to come on its own.

Cutting to the chase, here's our plan of action:

- 🔒 Get commitments from 1,000 people to attend our Nehemiah Action on May 2nd at 6:15 PM at the Johnny Mercer Theater
- 🔒 Demonstrate our people power at the Nehemiah Action!

THE 'ASK' For Affordable Housing

- 🔒 Ask City Manager Jay Melder to create a plan to invest \$3M from the city budget into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund in 2023, as opposed to exclusively sourcing funds from federal grants, which will eventually terminate.
- 🔒 Focus these funds towards creating affordable rental housing, through construction or renovation of existing units, for those making 80% or less of the Area Median Income. This translates to about \$60,000 for a family of 4, or \$42,000 for an individual.

THE 'ASK' FOR CASH BAIL

- 🔒 Ask District Attorney Shalena Cook-Jones to create a plan to at least double the size of the Early Intervention Program (EIP), which allows prosecutors to dismiss or divert less severe charges, reducing the number of people sent to the Chatham County Jail without a trial. Set a goal of at least doubling the number of cases resolved via the EIP in one year from 500 to 1,000.
- 🔒 A commitment from the District Attorney to collect uniform and more extensive data about defendants, and to share this information with all local jurisdictions, the courts and county jail. Data consolidation can minimize or avoid delays in the judicial process.

Your Commitment as Network Members

- 🔒 Bring 3 people to our Nehemiah Action on May 2 (you'll probably have to invite 8 people to get 3 people to join you).
- 🔒 Attend our Celebration Event on June 13th (more info will follow).
- 🔒 Invest \$200 or an amount meaningful to you to help continue the work of J.U.S.T.

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About our JUST Nehemiah Action

Date: Monday, May 2, 2022

Time: 6:15 pm - 8:15 pm

Location: Johnny Mercer Theater
Savannah Civic Center
Oglethorpe Avenue & MLK Blvd
Savannah GA

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There will be a limited amount of free parking in the Civic Center lot on Liberty and Montgomery Street! You must show your ticket or tell the attendant that you are here for the JUST Nehemiah Action.

Once the Civic Center parking lot fills up, we recommend using the Liberty Street Parking Garage.

Tickets to the event are free and will be available at the door for those who do not receive one in advance.

J.U.S.T. Executive Committee:

Co-presidents: Rabbi Haas and Rev. Thurmond Tillman

Vice President: Rev. Susan Karlson

Secretary: Rev. Da'Henri Thurmond

Treasurer: Rev. J. Michael Culbreth

J.U.S.T. Staff:

Rachel Hodes, The Dart Center
rachelhodes@thedartcenter.org

<https://justsav.org>



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

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!”



Asbury / Wesley Oak Stephen Ministry

Following our commissioning of Stephen Ministers in March, our Lay Caregiving Stephen Ministry has begun, and we are blessed and grateful to have our Stephen Ministers *August Alderman, Mary Ann Barnes, Barbara Gooby and Kimmi Sampieri.*

Our Stephen Leaders who are responsible for oversight and directing our Stephen Ministry are *Rev Claire Marich, Candace Jenkins, Sandra Katz, Rhonda Reed and Stephen Reed.*

Those who receive the care of Stephen Ministers are referred to as care receivers.

Possible care receivers are people from our congregation or community who are experiencing divorce, loss of a loved one, loss of a job, spiritual crisis, hospitalization, cancer or other health crisis or other life difficulties

Stephen Ministers are not counselors. They are trained Christian caregivers. Their role is to *listen* and care - not to counsel or advise.

Stephen Ministry is a supervised ministry. Stephen Ministers engages in twice-monthly supervision to ensure they are providing the best-quality Christian care.

Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. What a care receiver tells a Stephen Minister remains confidential. Even in supervision, the names of care receivers and specific details are never discussed.

Stephen Ministers do not make cold calls. They are assigned only to people who agree to receive the care of a Stephen Minister.

More than 13,000 congregations have enrolled in Stephen Ministry. More than 75,000 pastors and lay leaders from those congregations have been equipped as Stephen Leaders. More than 600,000 laypeople have received Stephen Minister training. More than one-and-a-half million people have had a Stephen Minister to walk with them offering one-to-one Christian care during a difficult time in their life.

Please call Candace Jenkins at the Church office with any questions 912-233-4351

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.

Adult Ministries 10 o'Clock Hour & Wednesday Night Programs

10 o'Clock Hour will return in the fall.

Stay tuned..... a Wednesday Night program is being developed as we go to press!

Wisdom Seekers

Mondays, 1:30—3 pm

The group will meet on May 2nd to start viewing and discussing a PBS documentary *Eva*. Any questions about the group email Margaret Clay at margaretclay@comcast.net.

Zoom Meeting ID: 864 8291 0310, Passcode: Asbury

Men's Group

The Men's Group has been meeting every Thursday for almost 2 years without a break. The group decided to take a little break. The Men's Group will return June 2nd!

Should you have questions please contact Bill Jahn at viajahn@gmail.com or Preston Hodges at preston-hodgesjr@gmail.com.

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.



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.

Here are some ways to stay connected and some comforting resources:

There are also links on the Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/asburymemorialsavannah/> and the Church's webpage: www.asburymemorial.org

Worship on Sundays

July 4th, 2021, we began our 11:15 AM in-person worship with relaxed worship guidelines. RESERVATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE ARE NOT REQUIRED. We will ask you to register your attendance at the door. Online services may be accessed from: <https://vimeo.com/event/1061155>

Online Devotionals

From our own Methodist tradition is the Upper Room which can be seen online here: <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>



WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Barbara Wilkins in the death of her sister, Ruby Bowden.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Susan Cooper in the death of her cousin, Judy Isriel.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Cheri, Billy, Christi, Wendell & Wesley and Chelsea & Chris Bradt in the death of Cheri's aunt, Ozella Walker.*

MEMORIALS

Gifts have been given to the Choir Fund in memory of Pete Vasta by

*Daisy Gantt
Alex & Stephen Swanger
Judy Jones
John Vasta
Wayne Bland
Michael J. Bailey
C. & Mary Portera
Jan & Patricia Nielsen
Rudy Holmes
Patricia Killewald
Henry & Anna Garfield
Howard & Judith Crawford
Ruthann & Dave Walsh*

Gifts have been given to the Children's Ministries Fund in memory of Rev. Grady Mills by

*Judy Jones
Mary "Monie" Boatright
Wayne Bland
Polly & Ellis Mills
Boaen Mechanical Services, Inc.
Bernie Colclasure & Charles Ennis*

*A Gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of Rev. Grady Mills by
Catherine Gilbert & Sandy Golden*

*A Gift has been given to the Properties Fund in memory of Stephen Heine Butler
by
Terri & Dave Butler*





**As of March
2022**

YTD Budgeted Contributions \$195,170.69

Actual Year-To-Date Expenses \$171,134.78

Actual Year-To-Date Contributions 130,011.65

**Average Worship Attendance 244
(combined in person and online)**



Godly Play

Montessori style of learning the Bible Stories

Godly Play is back during the 11:15 am worship service for Children K—5th grades!

Nursery care is available beginning at 10:00 am.

PRAYER REQUESTS



Asburians

DiAnne Amerson, Ann Anderson, Valori Armstrong, Neil Austing, Gordon Baker, Marcia Budarz, Fay Carroll, Anita Clay, Marty Coolidge, Gretchen Dodd, Helen Downing, Sam Durham, Katie Farmer, Bob Francischetti, Tyler Gage, Sherry Giddens, Ellie Gonye, Marlon Harman, Chase Harrison, Roy Hill, Virginia Holliday, Judith Kessler, Ernie Lee, Jack Lewis, Marion Manigo, Michael Matheny, Scott McCoy, Robert McEwen, Brenda Mills, Virginia Moryadas, Marie Parker, Barry Parker, Pam Parker Kress, Frank Ramsey, Lindsey Rogers, Roberta Smith, Tina Smith, Robert Smith, Tim Steinhauser, Cabell Stewart, Beverly Vasta, Kenn Waters, Diane Williamson, Marie Winters

Family Members & Friends

Dorothy Allen, Lisa Brown, Karen Browning, Max Clements, Jennifer Despres Corey, Linda Cowart, Sara Driggers, Dan Goff, Samantha Garcia, Twumwa Grant, Priscilla Hearn, Tom Hendrick, Lindsay Kessler, Walt Kress, Kim Lewis, Mary Jane Lundberg, Jennifer Payne, Fredia Peggs, GERAL Pinault, Steve Ray, Joanne Rowley, Neola Walker, Bonnie & Glynn Zimmerman

Asbury Memorial
Church
1008 East Henry Street
Savannah, GA 31401-7128
INT.ID 206896
Office 233-4351 Fax 233-5026
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
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.



WESLEY OAK LEAF

May 2022

O blessed spring, where Word and sign
Embrace us into Christ the Vine:
here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch
of this life-giving Tree.
Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive and join us to
Your Tree of Life.

Susan Palo Cherwien



May Flowers Sunday Brunch

Joy Cottage Garden

May 1st after Worship Service

Delicious Salads, Sweet and Savory Breads

Donations received for the People of Ukraine



“Songs of Home” CONCERT

Sunday – May 22nd – 3:00 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Church



JJ Collins will be singing “Songs of Home,” accompanied by pianist, Michael Braz, as artist, PC Collins paints her Mama Ellie’s home! Go to UU website for tickets.

Children & Youth
Events are happening.....

Godly Play on Sundays during worship! 9:30 a.m.

Youth Group on Sunday afternoons!

Vacation Bible School
is coming in June!

If you are interested in serving
children, youth, or both,
come on Events are happening here!

IN THE GARDEN



The garden is planted and continues to be planted and plants are growing and glowing with the morning dew! We are looking forward to days of harvest, but it is quite lovely now to be amidst the growing plants. The Joy Cottage Garden is gradually getting back to not only growing things but also to being a gathering place for all to enjoy quiet time, fellowship, and special dining times.

Earth Day, May 22nd, reminded us to give thanks for the earth's bountiful goodness. *"All nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres!"* May we hold the earth in our prayers and work even more to care for her through acts of conservation and recycling. Perhaps you may enjoy spending some time serving in the Joy Cottage Garden! Get your gloves and hat on and find your row!

JOHN WESLEY'S

*Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can.
At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.*



COLLINS CORNER

Soul Food

I love soul food. I'm not talking about that delicious plate of sweet potatoes, collard greens, fried chicken and cornbread. (Although I was raised on soul food and LOVE it).

I'm talking about the things and people that feed your soul. The way you feel after you've spent time in a healing environment or around the folks who leave you feeling fed. Remember that book, *Chicken Soup for the Soul*? It was such a nice collection of feel good moments and stories to help get us through life. We could all use a little *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. Eventually, we all experience grief, heartache and some form of suffering. That's life. We also hopefully have a support system that involves our faith, family, friends and self care. It's a great combination of soul food.

Do you provide others with support when they need it? Are you lifting them up and nourishing their spirits? What are the traits you appreciate in others that leave you feeling better than you did before you spent time together? It's so easy to get bogged down in the negativity and stress of life. Try to shine through it and gain strength from the lessons. Let grief make you softer and heartache make you stronger. Gain wisdom by learning from your struggles. Be open to sharing your light. Get your soul fed while helping to feed others. We are all in the kitchen together and can all leave happy and fulfilled.

Love you all! PC

IN OUR PRAYERS

Rejoice always, pray constantly... | Thessalonians

April Hendrix and family, Abbie Loftice and family, the Justice events next month,
Bubba Hughes, Dave Thompson, UKRAINE and all who are in the wake of war & suffering,
Barbara Gilley, Carol Schwalbe, John Marich, Cheryl Hessel, Dan Kerrick, Mike Chase,
Unspoken need for healing, Gloria Moses, McCarthy family, neighbors of Carolyn Ingram,
Rene Smith, Sydjea Trice, Michael McDaniel, Jack Donker, Beverly Drake,
George and Barbara Irvin, Eddie Aenchbacher, Fran and Arlene Moore,
Jimuel Gray and family Andrew Brown, Carter Cummins, Sunny Kirby, Cassie Watson,
William Cooley, Jack Cooley, John Sheehan, Dylan Moore, Magaly O'Donnell,
Zoe Simpson, Martha Aenchbacher, Bonnie Trammell, Julius and Mary Cooley,
Forsyth Farmer's Market, Kacey Mayes, nephew of Tracy and Monty Osborn

Vickie Hudson address for mail: C/O Southern Manor Retirement Inn,
1532 Fair Road, Room 13, Statesboro, Georgia, 30458

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

THUNDERBOLT MUSEUM

BAZAAR

2702 MECHANICS AVE.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH, 8 AM TO 3 PM

Come enjoy the bazaar and visit
the Wesley Oak/Asbury Memorial Tent.

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

SIGN UP AT 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

NEW EMAIL INFORMATION FOR OUR CHURCH AND CHURCH STAFF

Wesley Oak email address: 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