



The Asbury Update

October 2020

Asbury Memorial
Church
Rev. Billy Hester

Volume 33, Number 10
October 2020

GOD ON BROADWAY REDUX

Online Services – Sundays @ 11:15am

OCTOBER 4

The
PHANTOM
of the **OPERA**



OCTOBER 11

CHORUS LINE

OCTOBER 18

SHREK
THE MUSICAL

OCTOBER 25

Les
Misérables

In the age of online services and social distancing, the 2020 God on Broadway worship services will revisit musical selections from 2015 and 2016.

All services will feature:

- * A new sermon from Rev. Billy Hester
- * Cameo appearances by some of the characters
- * Video recordings from the earlier services

Inside this month:

A few articles that were published about the Disaffiliation

A few emails received from various states! about the Disaffiliation

A Special Presentation made Sunday, 09/20/20

A sneak peek at November happenings

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.

October

2nd Paul Baiad

Meg Lego

3rd Julie Gonye

Maria Spears

4th Laura Armitage

Bill Coleman

5th Paula Avena

Temperance West

6th Julie Varland

9th Deborah Bowen

Cece Coleman

Alec Knox

12th Monica Mathias

13th Julie Anderson

Chuck Eyler

14th Kiki Meraz

15th Abigail Becker

16th Mary Ann Barnes

Robert McEwen

17th Mike Anderson

Bill Peterson

18th Evelyn Bradley

19th Michael Dayoub

Heidi Hoffmann

Chesley Strain

Joel Varland

20th Mina Smith

22nd Rachel Veazey

24th Jim Burris

Ginger Miles

26th Carter Drake

27th Faith Boles

David Griggs

Karen Jahn

Pamela Lewanda

Pat Picone

Sam Ruggere

28th Becky Case

Pat Prokop

30th Phil Devlin

Daniel Folson

Cindy Telljohann

31st Barry Parker

Jo Poston



October

1st Chuck Eyler & Nancy Saltsman

1st Nancy & Kenneth Meyer

8th Todd & Ruth Foster

8th Barbara & Robert Plank

10th Chris & Bridgette Kincade

11th Karl & Judy Graham

11th Scott & Amy Porch

13th Maria & Geri Spears

15th Julie & Mike Anderson

15th David Grice & John Naylor

20th Tara & Kevin Redd

22nd Jeff & Gale Dick

27th Tim Burkett & Lance Wilhelm



Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to Karl and Judy Graham on becoming great grandparents for the 2nd time!! Wyatt Pryce Mullen was born Tuesday, 09/15/20. He weighed 9 lbs. and 8 oz. and was 21 in. long. Also, congratulation to parents, Britney and Kyle Mullen. Everyone is doing good!

Asbury Memorial Church
First Virtual New Member Class
September 06, 2020



Disaffiliation Emails Received

Thank you

Saw the news of your inclusion of all. (Not sure how I want to phrase my thoughts, but you'll get it). Thank you for your welcoming stance to the LGBTQ community.

Concord, NH

Hello!

My name is Sarah and I just read an article on NPR that you are leaving UMC because you believe in equality for people of the LGBTQ community. THANK YOU. Thank you so much. I have an 18 year old gay son that is currently struggling with his faith because of exactly this- most organized religions seem to believe his life is wrong- or a sin. He is actually the most beautiful soul I have ever met. He is kind to EVERYONE and I am proud to be his mother. And if I am wrong- and God does think my son is a sin for being born gay...well, I will gladly go where god decides to send my son when its time.

thank you so much for making this stand.

bless you all!

Church exits denomination for LGBTQ equality

By Heather Hahn

Sept. 9, 2020 | UM News



Asbury Memorial Church in Savannah, Ga., is leaving The United Methodist Church in support of LGBTQ inclusion. The church, with more than 300 members, is the first since 2016 to leave expressly in opposition to the denomination's bans on same-sex weddings and "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy.

Photo courtesy of Asbury Memorial Church. "

A church in Savannah, Georgia, is the first congregation in recent years to depart the United Methodist fold in support of LGBTQ inclusion.

Over the past four years, multiple congregations have left The United Methodist Church in response to its intensifying disagreement over how accepting to be of homosexuality. Most have done so citing weariness with the debate or a lack of enforcement of the denomination's bans on same-sex weddings and "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy.

However, Asbury Memorial Church — a congregation of more than 300 members in downtown Savannah — is the first since at least 2016 to leave expressly in opposition to those bans. And it is unlikely to be the last.

The South Georgia Annual Conference at its Aug. 15 virtual session accepted the departure of Asbury Memorial and six other congregations under new disaffiliation policies approved by the 2019 General Conference, a special session of the denomination's top lawmaking assembly.

The policies allow congregations to depart the denomination with their property "for reasons of conscience" related to homosexuality, if they meet certain requirements.

Among those requirements is that at least two-thirds of the congregation vote for disaffiliation and a majority of an annual conference's voters approve it.

Annual conferences are church regional bodies.

Departing churches also must meet certain financial obligations, including paying a share of their conference's unfunded clergy pension liability — that is, what conferences will owe retirees.

The Rev. Billy Hester, Asbury Memorial's senior minister, acknowledged that leaving comes with a hefty price tag. But he said the congregation could no longer wait to include its LGBTQ members fully in church life.

"I've seen a lot of people die in my congregation, especially LGBTQ people, and there are other people who are getting up in age, and I wanted them to see this day," Hester said.

"Another reason is we really need to be involved in addressing other issues, systemic racism, global warming, so many other issues. ... This will free us up."

The congregation will now be independent.



A painted door displayed at Asbury Memorial Church in Savannah, Ga., proclaims, "God's doors are open to all." Photo courtesy of Asbury Memorial Church.

Church exits denomination for LGBTQ equality—Continued Page 2 of 3

The Rev. David Thompson, the Coastal District superintendent in the South Georgia Conference, worked with the Asbury Memorial congregation as the church went through the disaffiliation process.

“These have been very gracious conversations between us, and the church has followed the process we have approved as the South Georgia Conference,” he said in a statement.

“We are never happy to see local churches depart from our fellowship, but we understand their desire to do so and pray for their future ministry.”

Thompson told UM News that churches have left from across the theological spectrum. The new disaffiliation policy does not require churches to announce where they stand — just that their departure is related to the homosexuality debate.

Of the seven departing South Georgia churches, Thompson described six as traditional — meaning they support LGBTQ-related restrictions.

United Methodist bishops called the special General Conference in February 2019 specifically to address divisions over the status of LGBTQ people.

By a vote of 438-384, delegates from around the globe approved the Traditional Plan that reinforced the denomination’s bans on noncelibate gay clergy and instituted mandatory penalties on clergy who officiate at same-gender weddings.

At the same gathering, a majority of delegates approved the new disaffiliation policies. At the time, some delegates expected LGBTQ-friendly churches that disagreed with the Traditional Plan to be the first to head for the exits.

Initially, that has not been the case. Instead, many congregations that object to the Traditional Plan opted to publicly resist it and seek reform from within the denomination.

So far, at least 14 churches have left under the new disaffiliation policies — including seven traditional congregations that departed from the Mississippi Conference last year.

Still, additional progressive congregations are considering departing.

The New England Conference, when it meets online Oct. 17, is set to take up a disaffiliation resolution from Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church in Peaks Island, Maine. The church, which has about 92 members, already has signed a disaffiliation agreement with conference trustees.

“We don’t have any reason to believe anything is going to be resolved soon in The United Methodist Church,” said the Rev. Will Green, the church’s pastor and an openly gay provisional elder. “We felt we had the opportunity ... to be proactive about our future.”

Eight other New England churches also are weighing disaffiliation but are not planning to bring resolutions to this year’s annual conference.

The New England Conference cabinet said in a joint statement that it cares for every member and faith community, and that when any part chooses to separate it affects the whole.

“While it pains us to see any church disaffiliate from our connection, we trust that the process of discernment and the action of the annual conference will be led by the Holy Spirit,” the cabinet said, “and it is important to note that nothing is final until the annual conference acts on this resolution on Oct. 17, 2020.”

Many progressive churches, including Asbury Memorial, identify as reconciling and work with the Reconciling Ministries Network, an advocacy group that has long sought to eliminate what it sees as the church’s discriminatory policies.

Jan Lawrence, executive director of Reconciling Ministries Network, said the group supports Asbury Memorial’s decision to leave for the sake of its ministry.

“Wherever a Wesleyan community of faith exists, the Reconciling movement is there to support them in their pursuit of LGBTQ justice and inclusion,” she said.

Wespath, the denomination’s pension agency, works with conferences to ensure pension obligations are met and is aware of a modest uptick in disaffiliation this year.

Church exits denomination for LGBTQ equality—Continued Page 3 of 3

“However, it is still quite small compared to the total number of congregations,” said Tony Prestipino, Wespath’s director of plan sponsor relations. As of 2018, The United Methodist Church had around 31,000 congregations in the United States.

For now, many United Methodist congregations and conferences are waiting to see what the next General Conference decides. United Methodists have submitted multiple proposals to resolve the denomination’s longtime debate over homosexuality by splitting the denomination. Among those proposals is the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation, a mediated agreement that, if accepted, would allow a new, traditionalist denomination to break away from The United Methodist Church.

The COVID-19 pandemic postponed what was to be the 2020 General Conference until Aug. 29-Sept. 7, 2021, in Minneapolis. Even with the postponement, the Wesleyan Covenant Association has continued to work on forming that new denomination.

For now, Asbury Memorial is also making plans for new ministries even while still worshipping virtually because of the coronavirus.

About four years ago, the congregation decided not to host any weddings until all couples in the church could marry in its sanctuary. The congregation plans to hold a virtual service Sept. 27 to recognize all couples who could not be married in their church sanctuary.

“You better have some tissues on hand!” the church’s newsletter said.

URL for Asbury Connect has been updated

Please update your browser to: <https://asburymemorial.360unite.com/>

STEWARDSHIP 2021



Saturday, November 21
3:00 – 05:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 22
3:00 – 05:00 p.m.

A fun and safe way to make your
pledge and receive a blessing from our
ministers. Stay tuned for more details.

Special Presentation

Sunday, 09/20/20

The Social Hall was renamed Holliday Hall in honor of our oldest living Elderberry, Virginia Holliday. Also, a portrait was presented to Virginia which will hang in Holliday Hall.



To Billy and My Asbury family,

At the moment I was speechless and also tongue tied and couldn't say anything for a few seconds.

Now that I'm home I can put everything together.

I just can't say enough for all who help put this "Special" day together. I can't name anybody special so I'm saying a "BIG" thank you to all who chipped in. I do not want to leave anybody out. You are all special to me. You all made this a very special day to remember.

I do not deserve such an honor. I really thank you all for thinking of me so highly. I really love you all and wish the best life can offer to each of you. You are all "SPECIAL."

It is music to my ears every time I walk in these doors of Asbury where my heart is.

Again, on a big high note, I say thank you and thank you.

May Gods' love and blessings be with each of you, and where ever you go and may His presence go with you providing light for your path.

If I never see another year this surely one to remember.

I love you all, and say a BIG THANK YOU.

Love, Virginia

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Savannah church leaves United Methodists over same-sex marriage

By [Shelia Poole](#)

There may be “I dos” in the future at Savannah’s Asbury Memorial Church.

Several years ago, the congregation decided not to perform any weddings at the church until they could do so for everyone, regardless of sexual orientation.

Now they can.

Recently the church, which has between 400 and 500 members, split from the United Methodist Church and is now nondenominational.

“This is a new phase in our church’s life,” said the Rev. Billy Hester, senior minister and a lifelong United Methodist. The denomination has always been “leaders in most social justice issues,” he said, but in terms of “the gay issue, we’re behind the times in not doing the right thing.”

He said about 35% of his congregation is LGBTQ.

The United Methodist Church’s Book of Discipline states that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching and that non-celibate LGBTQ clergy shall not be ordained as clergy; and same-sex weddings cannot be performed in the denomination’s churches or by its clergy.

Both carry the risk of disciplinary action.

The denomination has been divided over that issue for decades and reached a crossroads during a contentious special session of the General Conference in 2019 in St. Louis. The gathering of delegates from around the world led to a stricter adherence to the Book of Discipline’s stance on homosexuality.

Janet Wagner, a choir member at Asbury Memorial and chairperson of the church council, supports the decision to split from the UMC.

“In the way I understand God, there is no place for humans to judge other humans,” said Wagner, a small-business owner, who joined the church in 2004. “That is what discrimination does. So this is a moment of liberation for our congregation and I was very happy to be able to do my part in making that happen.”

Another member, Randy Canady, agreed. Canady, who is gay, joined the church in 2001. Canady, who works as the church administrator, said he and his husband, who also is on the staff, felt “very comfortable with who we were as a couple. From Day 1, we just felt like we could be at ease and we could worship more freely being who we are and not wear a mask.”

During the August virtual annual meeting of the South Georgia Conference, approval was given for seven churches to disaffiliate, which lets churches break ties with the denomination.

The South Georgia Conference includes nearly 600 churches and covers areas including Columbus, Macon and Statesboro, according to its website.

Each of the seven churches is at a different stage in the process. Once the requirements for disaffiliation have been met, the church will be released from the trust clause and will own its property, according to South Georgia Conference officials.

Savannah church leaves United Methodists over same-sex marriage

Continued

Nationally, “we’ve had churches leaving the denomination for really the last decade and not on the same side of the issue,” said David Thompson, coastal district superintendent for the South Georgia Conference. “They’re on both sides of the issue. We have churches that are very traditional that are tired of the arguing. We have churches that are very progressive that are tired of the arguing. The continuing debate has caused them to reach the point where they just need to go. They made that decision and we understand it.”

Thompson said six of the seven churches are considered traditional, while Asbury Memorial is considered progressive.

Asbury Memorial’s Hester said the congregation’s decision to leave the denomination has been several years in the making. The vote was 309 to 7.

The Savannah church’s policy on marriage meant Hester’s eldest daughter, Chelsea, had to marry her husband in another church, “but she was very supportive” of the reason why. One of the first things Hester wants to do is have a renewal of vows ceremony for couples — gay and straight — who couldn’t marry in the church.

“We have put so much time and energy on this one issue that it has taken away from the energy we could have put on other issues like racism,” he said. “We’re really looking forward to getting past this.”

Disaffiliation Emails Received

Wow! You're awesome!

Dear Congregants of Asbury Memorial,

Yay you!! I hope mine is one of many messages applauding your decision to affirm your belief that God accepts all people and break free from the shackles of intolerance. I am far from you, I am not gay and I am Jewish, and yet I feel like we are part of the same congregation. I adore Savannah – I’ve only had the opportunity to visit twice, but it is a city that calls me back. (I tried so hard to get my son to go to SCAD!) I will be back some day, hopefully when we’re be free from this COVID scare, and I’ll come find you on Henry Street and pray with you in solidarity.

Thank you!

Leonardtown, MD

Rev. Hester,

Thank you and your church for demonstrating the inclusiveness of the Gospel. I was a United Methodist for 58 years – serving three UMC congregations as organist and six years as a lay delegate to Annual Conference. The last time I played for an Annual Conference worship service (ironically celebrating the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women), I knew that I no longer belonged. My pastor, who knew I was gay, came up to me after that service and asked me how I was doing. I just looked at him and said that there is no room for me here. He nodded his head in affirmation. It still took me a few more years to leave, but I’m now the organist in a large Unitarian church. When I started playing there, I was one of four gay staff members (including the Associate Pastor). I’ve continued to follow UMC polity and politics and continue to be dismayed. I can’t tell you how excited I was to read about your church’s action. All I can say is Thank You.

Tulsa, OK

Church & Society

Voting Information

It's not too soon to begin planning for election day on November 3, 2020.

Since many of you are still sheltering in place or minimizing your trips into the outside world we are recommending you take advantage of your right to vote by Absentee Ballot. Here's some Information to help your election participation go smoothly.

The key to making sure your absentee vote counts is to

REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT NOW

FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

MAIL YOUR BALLOT IN NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 20TH or

DROP IT OFF IN PERSON USING THE BIG BLUE DROP BOX (Chatham County)

With the slowdown in service at the US Post Office mail time will be delayed. All Savannah mail goes to Jacksonville, FL processing center first. So mail your ballot at least 2 full weeks to reach the elections office.

An alternative to mail-in is drop-off. It is quick and secure for Chatham County residents to drop their ballots off at the Chatham County Board of Election's Office.

If you are going to vote in person, please check My Voter Page on election day to verify your polling place. Consider early voting to avoid long lines on election day.

In Georgia My Voter Page <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do> is your resource through the entire voting process.

In South Carolina SC Votes <https://scvotes.gov/> has all your information.

Key Dates in Georgia:

October 5, 2020

Last day to register to vote

October 12, 2020

Early in person voting begins

October 24, 2020

Saturday in person voting

November 3, 2020

Election Day



HAS BEEN
CANCELED
FOR 2020



HOWEVER, DON'T FRET!

We still will be selling shelled pecans and bottled honey
in late November. Stay tuned for more details.

Local Resources



The Coronavirus pandemic has stressed our resources in many ways: mental, emotional, financial, relational and spiritual. Your staff has compiled a list of resources to help folks with small businesses, to address budgetary changes, to find the latest information on symptoms and steps to take if you are ill, resources for mental health, obtaining food, and considerations for children and elders.

Go to the church website: www.asburymemorial.org and click on the COVID RESOURCES icon for more information. The resources will continue to grow and evolve as conditions change. Be Well! There is support in our community to ensure that you maintain a good quality of life and your church family is committed to your welfare.

Coffee Hour



Our “**Coffee Hour**” via Zoom has been a huge success on Sundays! It is wonderful to see so many faces and enjoy fellowship with one another after such a long time.

The **MEETING ID # 321 4986 081, Passcode: Asbury.**

Once you get into Zoom from their website, simply join the meeting with this number.

“Fitness Together”

Via Zoom

Join us for “**Fitness Together**” weekly workout class on Thursdays, 11 – 11:30 am.

. Zoom meeting ID: 836 1647 4648, Passcode: Asbury.



Disaffiliation Emails Received

Hello

This is to praise and congratulate you on your forward thinking action. There is no room for hate, bigotry, demonization and denial of human rights under any circumstances. I can't imagine that Jesus would endorse such hateful behavior.

Today's climate is very divisive and I'm certain it took much courage for the congregation to take this action. I'm Jewish and in my community one tends to find more liberal points of view, so I've not encountered such despicable behavior among my fellow congregants.

In Isaiah, God entreaties the tribes of Jacob to "be a light unto the nations." We all must set examples of how to treat all people humanely.

There is a phrase in Hebrew, "Tikkun Olam."

It means "heal the world." It's everyone's job to work towards this goal. We'll never reach perfection, but it's for everyone's to attempt it.

Regardless of one's belief, I strongly feel love, acceptance and embracing our differences is the only way to peace and apparently so do the leaders and parishioners of your church.

Best wishes to your whole congregation.

Laguna Woods, California

Hi there,

As someone who very recently lived in Savannah, I am enormously proud and thankful that you have taken the stand you have in regards to the LGBTQ+ community. Too many people in this country feel that treating others with respect somehow violates their rights or offends God in some way, so I am incredibly thankful when someone stands up as you have to say what you did.

Thank you, and keep up the amazing work.

We have received emails from Colorado, Iowa, New Jersey, California, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, Maryland, and many more states. It's been overwhelming. We tried to pick just a few to let you see the enormous coverage we received and the overall response. We would like to give Lesley Francis PR firm a big "Thank-You" for the media coverage.

We thank our Ministers Billy & Claire, Janet Wagner, Church Council Chair, and so many others for leading us though the Disaffiliation. The biggest "Thank-You" is to the members of Asbury Memorial Church for their conviction to do what is right, just and to be all inclusive!

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 this fall, all via Zoom. We hope that you will join in one or more of the programs. Zoom numbers will be sent in advance of meetings.

The Monday Group

Monday's, 1:30—3 pm

Studying: John O'Donohue's "Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom"

Why: It's a book that's big enough to "meet the moment"

Facilitator: Susan Bolinger zbbolinger@gmail.com

Zoom meeting ID: 864 8291 0310, Passcode: Asbury

Men's Group

Men's Group is meeting on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 via Zoom and welcomes all men. Members of the group are volunteering to select, share, and explore Biblical passages which they find personally meaningful.

Zoom meeting ID: 811 0124 8434, Passcode: Asbury

STEP UP Sunday, 09/20/20

C
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S





Are you missing being with one another for Sunday worship and having that lovely opportunity to place your contribution in the offering plate? 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!



Mobile App:

From your smartphone:
Download the free **GIVE PLUS+** app from the App Store or Google Play
Open the *GivePlus* app and follow the simple directions
You can setup an account or just give as a guest
Make a one-time gift or set it up to be recurring

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!”



Greetings, Asburians!

We offer you some new options for staying connected. As our ability to interact in person stays restricted, 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:

Devotions on Wednesday

Join us on Wednesday at 6 pm for live devotion and prayer. Click on the link here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/121907484?pwd=cUIEUUVhSIV5MnZVNTdPSExLVVhOQT09>

Passcode: Asbury.

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

Sign up for Zoom at www.zoom.us and tune in on these weekdays for live devotions together. Appropriate for all ages! Children of God of all ages welcomed. Passcode: Asbury

Encouraging Words

Dial 912-358-0842 to hear a recorded message of encouragement and grace. These messages from staff and laity will change frequently and are available 24-7 whenever you need a little pick-me-up. No Facebook account or computer needed!

Worship on Sundays

We will continue to worship virtually on Sundays at 11:15am.

Just go to www.asburymemorial.org and click on the worship link. Who knows what lies in store for us from week to **week? Tune in and see...**

Wishing you many avenues to find deep connections to your spirituality and community until we gather in person again.

And for the children and the child in all of us, check out the beautiful Godly Play stories posted through the church website or through Zoom meeting ID: 321 4986 081, Passcode: Asbury.

Coffee Hour

Join us on Sunday after the worship service to see and talk with your fellow Asburians. Just go to www.asburymemorial.org and click on the link for ZOOM Coffee Hour on the right side on the home screen or via Zoom.us and enter the meeting ID: 321 4986 081, Passcode: Asbury

Fitness Together

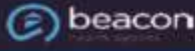
Weekly workout class on Thursdays, 11 – 11:30 am.

Zoom meeting ID: 836 1647 4648, Passcode: Asbury.

Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line 866-399-8938



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities



The Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line provides 24/7 free and confidential assistance to callers needing emotional support or resource information as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emotional Support Line is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals and others who have received training in crisis counseling.

A partnership between The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities, Beacon Health Options and Behavioral Health Link



Georgia Crisis & Access Line

1-800-715-4225

mygcal.com



Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL)

1-800-715-4225

GCAL is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year to help you or someone you care for in a crisis



CARES Warm Line

1-844-326-5400

Substance Abuse Challenges
Call or Text Every Day of The Year
8:30AM - 11:00PM



COVID-19 Hotline (844) 442-2681

The State of Georgia has a new COVID-19 hotline. If you believe that you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to the novel coronavirus, please contact your primary care doctor or an urgent care clinic. Please do not show up unannounced at an emergency room or health care facility.



Peer2Peer Warm Line

Operating since the opening of the Peer Support and Wellness Center of Decatur in 2008, the warm line provides Georgians the opportunity to receive peer support over the phone 24 hours a day.

How to contact the Peer2Peer Warm Line
Call 888-945-1414 (toll-free) statewide, or locally:

Decatur: 404-371-1414
Bartow County: 770-276-2019
Colquitt County: 229-873-9737
Henry County: 678-782-7666
White County: 706-865-3601



Feel Alone & Financially Insecure?

We're here to help!

Step Up Savannah helps in your journey towards financial security by connecting you with the right resources.



**step up
savannah**

Follow us on
Facebook Twitter Instagram

StepUpSavannah.org

GET REMOTE HELP WITH

SNAP

MEDICAID
HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

CAPS

TANF

WIC

APPLY REMOTELY FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS AT THESE LOCATIONS:

STEP UP SAVANNAH

Kimberly Paulk
912.330.6445
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
By phone appointment only

ST. MARY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

Johnetta Ferguson & Linda Youth
912.447.0578 Ext. # 5
M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
By phone in order received

FIRST HISPANIC BAPTIST CHURCH

Anabel Perez
828.244.2485
Lunes y Martes 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Solo por cita telefonica

MOSES JACKSON ADVANCEMENT CENTER

LeQuinton Kates & Sara Williams
M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
912.525.2166
By phone appointment only

SAVANNAH TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Jeisie Jones
912.509.0771 / unap@savannahtech.edu
Hours based on client need
By phone appointment only

WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTERS OF SAVANNAH, INC.

Valeria Flowers
912.447.5711 /
flowerstv_wcc1601@yahoo.com
hours based on client need
By phone appointment only

FORSYTH FARMERS MARKET

Tasha Cunningham
347.861.9824
Hours based on Clients Need
By phone appointment only



THESE REMOTE SERVICES ARE FOR THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEN SHADOWS FALL

- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Mimi Mangrum Numer in the death of her father, Erwin Mangrum.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Jeri & Billy Sires and family in the death of Jeri's grandmother, Rose Chance.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Mark Fordham in the death of his sister, Sheri Harshman.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Catherine Gilbert & Sandy Golden in the death of Catherine's mother, Marion Smith Gilbert.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Judith Kessler & Roberta Smith in the death of Judith's sister, Mary Kessler.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Catherine Gilbert & Sandy Golden in the death of Catherine's aunt, Mary Smith Reilly.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Greg Martin in the death of his aunt, Sheri Audrey Burger Graves.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to August Alderman in the death of his uncle, Joe Hohnerlein.*
- *The members of Asbury Memorial extend our love and sympathy to Ernie Lee in the death of his uncle, John David "JD" Lee.*



2020 Budget Offering

August 23rd—\$4,990.00
August 30th—\$10,438.65
September 6th—\$9,476.00
September 13th—\$7,445.00
September 20th—\$21,726.17
September 27th—TBA

2020 Weekly Budget Need
\$13,830.00

2020 YTD Budget Need
\$525,540.00

2020 YTD Received
\$468,080.51

Children & Family Ministries

Fall Family Outing

***Saturday, October 3rd
9:30 am at Forsyth Park***

***Let's meet by the playground near the
bandshell. Fur babies are welcome.
Wear a mask, limiting physical contact
but not social interaction.
For additional information or questions,
contact Ruthie Deffley at
rdurandeffley@asburymemorial.org***

Online Devotionals

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

PRAYER REQUESTS



Asburians

Andra Bowers, Becky Case, Anita Clay, Shane
Conner, Margaret Cook Levy, Gretchen Dodd,
Sam Durham, Ellie Gonye, Anne Hagan, Betty
Haldeman, Chase Harrison, Donna Haynes,
John Hohnerlein, Jack Lewis, Scott McCoy,
Ginger Miles, Brenda Mills, Grady Mills,
Frances Monson, Virginia Moryadas, Marie
Parker, Frank Ramsey, Charlie Ribbens,
Roberta Smith, Cabell Stewart, Val Utsey,
Beverly Vasta, Pete Vasta, Carol Walls, Diane
Williamson, Marie Winters, Joe Zeigler

Family Members & Friends

Steve Amerson, Joanne Anderson, Lisa Brown,
Karen Browning, Sid Case, Phyllis Chappell,
Madison Coe, Linda Cowart, James Thomas
Crosby, Peter DeCordova, Sara Driggers, Dan
Goff, Larry Grice, Matt Hearn, Priscilla Hearn,
Robie Hester, Elsie Hilliard, Keith James,
Annette Jenkins, John Leopard, Conrad,
Jordan, Dr. Joan Jordan, Lindsay Kessler,
Kim Lewis, Sonny Murph, Brogdon Nichols,
Lee Paul, Jennifer Payne, Don Purdy, Millicent
Scoggin, Edith Sedlak, Ronnie Spilton, Frank
Stanton, Neola Walker, Leslie Wantland

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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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 Trustee Fund, General Fund, Piano/Organ Fund, the Children's Fund, Youth 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.