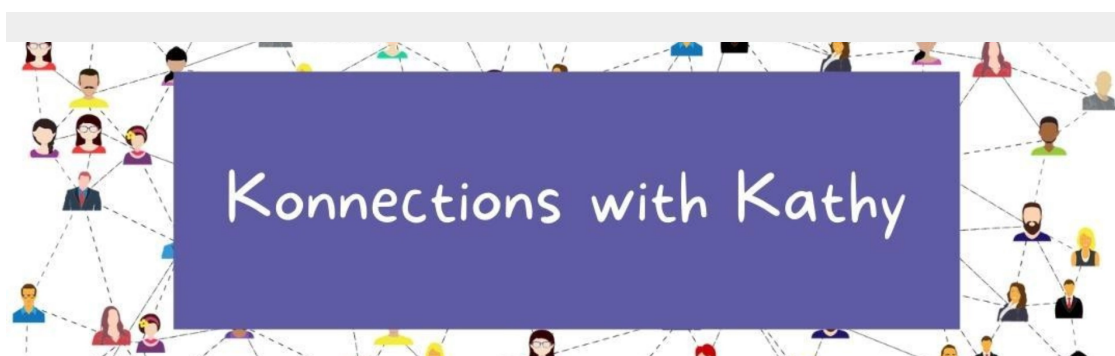




## Asbury Articles: February 1, 2023



### Pastor Kathy on Vacation

I will be on vacation February 1-11, 2023. While I am gone, please contact the [church office](#) or [Pastor Brad](#), if you need a pastor or something about Asbury.

Blessings,

Pastor Kathy

### Asbury Email Opt-In Survey

As we transition from one emailing system to another, we want to make sure that you receive the emails from Asbury that you want...and don't receive the ones you don't want! The last thing we want to do is clog up your inbox, but we also want to make sure that you have the opportunity to choose the information you want. Want to hear about everything? Great! Only want to hear about a few things? Also great!

Fill out this [survey](#) so that we know what lists to put you on!

Note: this is an **opt-IN** survey. You are selecting the emails you **want** to receive.

## UPCOMING ASBURY EVENTS

### Upcoming First Aid/CPR Training

How long has it been since you were First Aid/CPR trained?

We will be offering a class to all Asburyites taught by our very own Sharon Grant. Please let [Lori Day](#) know if you are interested. A future date(s) will be set once we know how many want to sign up.

### Sunday Brunch at Asbury

Sunday, February 12 | After worship

The Fellowship Team invites you to brunch after worship on Sunday, February 12th!

Stick around for blueberry french toast and spend time with the Asbury Community! Everyone is welcome, no matter if you've been a long-time member at Asbury or this is your very first Sunday with us!



### Asbury Bowls!

Sunday, February 26 | 2-4pm

Who wants to go bowling?! Asbury does!

We have reserved lanes at the Granada Bowl on Sunday, February 26 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and are excited to invite everyone (no matter what age you are) to come have fun! Asbury is paying for the bowling and shoes - so it is free to you!!!

What could be better? A little exercise, strikes for sure, and camaraderie with church folks of all ages is just what you need. Please come with us! These

reservations will go quickly, so put it on your calendar. Contact [Lori Day](#) to reserve you and/or your family's spot!

## Save the Date! Asbury Players is back in action!

March 4-12

What happens when four middle-aged women decide that life isn't over just because everyone else says it is? Come find the answers at the Asbury Players production of 'The Savannah Sipping Society'. Check back each week for more info, and plan to attend!

## Asbury Habitat Workday

Saturday, February 25

The next Asbury group workday for Habitat is Saturday February 25 at 1250 Las Juntas Way in Walnut Creek.

To register go to <http://vhub.at/unityday>

The 42 home Esperanza project now includes both interior and exterior work. At least through April, Habitat workdays will be the 4th Saturday of the month so they do not conflict with the parsonage project in Pittsburg. For questions about the project or carpooling for the workday contact [Bob Hoffman](#).

## January & February Choir Changes

**Asbury Band** will be playing in worship on February 5

**Youth Musical** will be on Sunday, February 12 (no adult choirs scheduled)

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

## American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, February 2 & Friday, February 3 | 11am - 5pm

Share your good health by giving blood or platelets. Donating blood could save a life. To schedule your appointment, log on to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), enter Sponsor Code: ASBURY925 or call 800-733-2767. If you have questions regarding your eligibility to donate blood, please call 1-866-236-3276. Photo Identification is required. Please sign up to donate today.



## Pittsburg UMC Parsonage Renovation Starts This Week

The renovation of the parsonage for the Pittsburg, CA UMC has begun and runs through Saturday February 4 with a series of Saturday workdays to follow. A team of Asbury folk have already signed up to work, but more would be welcome! You can work any number of days you choose.

We will be meeting At Asbury near the office building at 8:00am every day to car pool. We should be back by 5:00pm. Please email [Steve Elliott](mailto:Steve.Elliott@pittsburgumc.org) if you plan to participate. If you have questions please call Steve at 925-640-9797 or Dick Crawford at 925 413-4116.

The work this week will involve mainly gutting the kitchen, removing the existing flooring, electrical work ("Sparky" Everett in charge), prep for painting, and painting. All tools will be provided, but if you have some favorites, mark them if you bring them along. We will probably be doing some spray painting so a mask would be advisable. Also bring gloves, lunch and water.

If you choose to drive yourself (about 45 - 50 minutes) the address is 3345 Crestview.

We could use monetary donations toward this effort which is costing about \$20,000. If you choose to donate please direct to account 3100-02 Pittsburg Parsonage Renovation.

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## Byron United Women in Faith Event

Saturday, February 4th | 2pm | Byron UMC, 14671 Byron Hwy, Byron

The Byron United Women in Faith invite you to a Chinese Tea Party and Fundraiser for Gum Moon, a San Francisco Residential Home and Resource Center for Women and Children.

Gum Moon is a national mission for the United Women in Faith. Since 1868, Gum Moon has been empowering immigrant women and families to build a better future. The guest speaker for the event is Gloria Tan, the executive director of Gum Moon.

The suggested donation of \$10 will be accepted at the door, with all proceeds supporting Gum Moon.

For reservations or questions, contact [Heather Hammer](#) via email or phone (925-321-4298). We are hoping to have a table of 8 from Asbury. Please contact Heather to reserve your spot and carpool from the church by the end of January.

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## Interfaith Interconnect Religion Chat: February

Wednesday, February 8 | 5pm | Via Zoom

[Zoom](#), Meeting ID: 818 8084 4246

Zoom Room Opens at 4:45pm

**Chat:** 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Breakout discussion groups (optional):** 6:00 - 6:30pm.

**Topic:** How does your religion adapt itself to reflect changing times?

**Speakers:** Fr. Kwame Assenyoh, St. Charles Catholic Church, Livermore and  
Rev. Sangye Hawke, Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore.

All are welcome!



## Fertile GroundWorks Plant Sale

Orders are due by Monday, February 13th

It may be chilly outside, but soon enough it will be time to have seedlings ready for planting in our gardens. Let Fertile GroundWorks start some plants for you and your garden! Our plant sale helps support our Garden of Grace and Sustainable School Garden Program.



This year we're offering individual veggie seedlings in 3.5 inch pots, six-packs of lettuce and salad green seedlings, four-packs of beans and greens, and six-packs of herbs (a single variety or build your own). We've refined our selection slightly based on what grew well in our gardens over the years.

All plants in pots are \$4 each, four-packs are \$4 each, and six-packs are also \$4 each. We're also offering our famous complete organic fertilizer mix for \$6/bag (each bag covers 25 square feet of garden bed). *Note that due to current seed demands and shipping delays, seedlings may be smaller than usual and quantities are limited.*

Complete the checkout process online and pay for your seedlings (with check or cash) when you come pick them up at our Garden of Grace in early April. We will be in touch with pickup details in March. **Orders are due by Monday, February 13th. Quantities are limited so place your order early!**

Access our online store [here](#).

Thank you for supporting Fertile GroundWorks!

Happy gardening,  
Brenda Kusler

## ASBURY COMMUNITY

### We need Sunday morning greeters!

Interested in serving on Sunday mornings?

Enjoy welcoming people into the worship space?

Be a greeter!

Contact Don Faul to sign up!

**WANTED:**  
**Do you have a key?**



### Key Amnesty is Coming!

Sunday, February 12

Did you know that there are over 150 Asbury keys signed out?  
Do you have an Asbury key that you no longer need?

Please consider turning in your unneeded Asbury keys after worship on February 12. Look for Ruth Hawley at a table in the courtyard (or the Fellowship Hall if the weather is nasty).

If you aren't sure what an Asbury key looks like among all those unknown keys on your key chain, see the picture. And if you can't make it on the 12th, you can always turn your keys into the office!

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## Lent Theme: Good Enough

We are using *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Rich as a resource of our Lenten Worship Theme. Our Theme, Good Enough, celebrates kindness, honesty, and interdependence in a culture that rewards ruthless individualism and blind optimism. We can rest in the encouragement to strive for what is possible today while recognizing that although we are finite, the life in front of us can be beautiful. Jesus shows us how to be good enough.

We wanted to alert you now in case you would like to order the book and follow along. *Good Enough* is available in the following formats: physical book, Kindle, and audio (you can order through your favorite place to get books). Small group leaders have been notified and we will let you know if any groups decide to use it and are open to new folks attending.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22.

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## Asbury Masking Policy

Alameda County is following the CDC guidelines for masking. When community transmission is low, masking indoors may be optional. When community transmission is medium or high, masking indoors is strongly recommended. Asbury will follow the CDC guidelines, and we support and encourage mask wearing indoors, especially for those with underlying health conditions or who are not fully vaccinated and boosted.

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## Sunday Prayer Requests

Please pray for the [requests](#) that were made during prayer time on Sunday.

If you would like to be on the email prayer chain, please contact the [church office](#).

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## EVENTS AT A GLANCE

### RECURRING EVENTS

- **Sundays; 10am:** Asbury worship service
- **Sundays; 11:30am:** Cherub Choir rehearsal
- **Sundays; 11:30am:** Rainbow Choir rehearsal
- **Sundays; 11:30am:** Youth Choir rehearsal
- **Thursdays; 7:30pm:** Faith Choir rehearsal

### OPEN SMALL GROUPS

- **Every Sunday; 8:15am:** Meditation Circle on Zoom (Contact [the office](#))
- **1st and 3rd Monday; 6:30pm:** Monday Night Small Group (Contact [Ruth](#))
- **Thursdays; 7:45am:** Men's Bible Study on Zoom (Contact [Art](#))
- **Saturdays; 10am:** Craft and Chat [Zoom](#) gathering
- **3rd Saturdays; 10:30am:** Caregivers' Support Group on [Zoom](#)

### FEBRUARY

- **Thurs, Feb 2; 11am-5pm:** American Red Cross Blood Drive
- **Fri, Feb 3; 11am-5pm:** American Red Cross Blood Drive
- **Wed, Feb 8; 5pm:** Interfaith Interconnect Religion Chat
- **Sun, Feb 12; after worship:** Sunday Brunch at Asbury
- **Sat, Feb 25:** Asbury Habitat Workday
- **Sun, Feb 26; 2-4pm:** Asbury Bowling

### MARCH

- **March 4-12:** Asbury Players, "The Savannah Sipping Society"

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

### Have questions?

Reply to this email or call the office at 925-447-1950.

### Have an article, announcement, or event to submit?

Send them to the [Alaina Harrison](#), our Communications Specialist, **by 3pm on Tuesdays**.

### Miss a newsletter or need to go back and re-read?

Check out the [newsletter archive](#)!

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**Asbury United Methodist Church**  
4743 East Avenue | Livermore, CA 94550