



Asbury Articles: March 15, 2023

Pronouns on Asbury Nametags

As we continue to strive to be a more inclusive church at Asbury UMC, we will be reprinting our name tags to include pronouns.

Please click on the button below and fill out the two questions so we can have your correct name tag ready for you!

[Nametag Pronouns Survey](#)

UPCOMING ASBURY EVENTS

Asbury Spring Clean-Up Day is Coming!

Saturday, March 18 | 9am - 12pm

We have tasks appropriate to almost any age group and will supply all the necessary equipment – you provide the labor. We'd love to know how many to plan for, so please contact the office or e-mail [Ruth](#) to sign up to help (but you can always just show up).

UMCOR Sunday: March 19

On UMCOR Sunday, we join with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support The United Methodist Committee on Relief, an organization that acts on our behalf when there is a crisis. This allows for 100% of gifts given in response to disasters to assist with the disaster.

UMCOR can do this because the funds given on UMCOR Sunday join with those of millions of other United Methodists to help cover the costs of doing business. From training volunteers to keeping the office lights on, the UMCOR Sunday special offering equips the organization to respond quickly when disaster strikes.

You can give to UMCOR through Asbury by specifying that you want your gift to go toward the UMCOR Sunday special offering!



Farm Tour and Clean Up at Heirloom East Bay

Sunday, March 26 | 12:30pm - 4pm

Following youth choir practice on March 26th, we will eat a sack lunch before heading to Heirloom East Bay in the Castro Valley hills from 12:30-4:00 p.m. This organization is a church, farm, and intentional living community for the Tri-Valley. We will go and learn about what they do and then participate in their service work day. After the recent floods, they had much damage on their property. Please [RSVP](#) to Brad. We need to let them know well in advance how many are planning to come. For more information about Heirloom East Bay, check out their website [here](#).

Celebration of Life: Paula Leslie

Saturday, April 1 | 2pm

There will be a celebration of life for Paula Leslie, Rev. Heather's mother, on Saturday, April 1 at 2pm in the Asbury sanctuary. A reception will be held after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

The service will also be live-streamed on the Asbury [website](#) for those who cannot attend in person.



Easter Sunday at Asbury!

Sunday, April 9

Easter Sunday at Asbury is coming up and we have a full day planned!

- **Easter Sunrise at 6:15am:** a special early morning worship outside around the fire pit
- **Easter Sunday at 10am:** Sunday morning worship of celebration
- **Easter Egg-stravaganza at 11am:** lunch, egg hunt, games

Save the Date: Women's Retreat!

September 22 - September 23

Save the Date for the Women's Retreat at Asbury UMC from September 22 – September 23, 2023. Watch for more information coming soon.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lenten Taize service at San Damiano

Wednesday, March 15

Our worship theme for the Sundays of Easter will be *Lessons Learned From Taize*. In preparation for this time, Pastor Kathy, Rev. Heather, and Pastor Brad will be attending one of the Lenten Taize services at San Damiano on Wednesday, March 15.

We invite you to join us! The service is from 7-8pm and we will meet in the church parking lot at 6pm to carpool. If you would like to carpool, please let [Pastor Kathy](#) know.

For more information about the services, go to San Damiano's [website](#).

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, March 23 | 11am - 5pm

Special promotion for March 23 Blood Drive: Come donate blood and receive one (1) ticket to the Alameda County Fair June 16-June 30, 2023. (Ticket only valid in June)

Share your good health by giving blood or platelets. Donating blood could save a life. To schedule your appointment, log on to 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.

Save the Date: Hike for Hope!

Saturday, May 6

Save the date on May 6 for the "Hike for Hope" Walk at Del Valle to support Hope Hospice.

More info to come!



ASBURY COMMUNITY

Asbury Ladies Night Out dinners are back!

Time to resume our fun Ladies Night Out dinners! We will try every other month.

Please email [Kelli Walter](#) by Friday, March 26th if you are interested in being on the email list. I will send out a Google form to pick what weeknight and time will work for the majority of people. It will be the 2nd week of the month!

Please bring cash to pay for dinner!

Looking forward to getting together in fellowship!



Sara



Laura



Kayley

Support our Asbury Girl Scouts!

Want to support the Girl Scouts who call Asbury home? Buy some cookies!

Some notes about Girl Scout Cookie sales for this season:

- For Northern California online sales, only 3 flavors are available for purchase: Adventurefuls, S'mores and Thin Mints. Key dates for discounts on online shipping are March 31- April 2.
- For local in-person delivery, 1) inventory will be available the weekend of March 19. So, in-person sales will be from March 19 and will stay open until April 23, and 2) all flavors except Raspberry Rally will be available for in-person sales. Due to weather issues, there was an impact on the transportation to our area of that new flavor.

You can buy from [Sara](#), [Laura](#), and/or [Kayley](#) by clicking on their personal links or using their personal QR code!

Easter Candy!

Our Easter Eggstravaganza is coming! We need your help to make it happen. Please send in candy to fit into 2" eggs. Please be careful to make sure there are no peanuts in the candy. There will be a box in the sanctuary.

Also, you can hop your way over to Rooms 11 & 12 at 11:30 on April 2 to help load the eggs!

Supporting the Christmas Covenant Leadership Team

The [United Methodist Africa Forum](#) (UMAF) is organizing its inaugural gathering this April in Johannesburg, South Africa. UMAF is gathering United Methodists from across Africa dedicated to promoting unity and the future of the UMC in Africa. By doing so, UMAF seeks to promote African values and priorities and to further the mission and ministry of the UMC within the African context, while

engaging with other United Methodists from across the connection in their unique contexts.

UMAF has invited the Christmas Covenant Leadership Team to attend the gathering and share information. This invitation from United Methodist leaders in Africa is a unique opportunity for the Christmas Covenant Leadership Team to directly engage with UM leaders in Africa and support their organizing in the annual conferences of Africa to pass the constitutional amendments needed for the Christmas Covenant.

The Christmas Covenant Leadership Team has set a goal of \$30,000 to help cover travel expenses to Africa.

This will include team members from the Philippines, North America, and Europe. As of March 6, 2023, WMJM has raised over \$21K. Any additional funds raised will be used to help cover travel from other areas of Africa to Johannesburg and travel expenses in Johannesburg.

We have an opportunity in this moment to support the work of the Christmas Covenant leadership team and the UMAF. Please join in helping WMJM reach our current fundraising goal.

To donate:

- [online](#) - click "Support the Christmas Covenant at Africa Forum"
- make a check out to "Cal-Pac MFSA" (put "Christmas Covenant" in the memo line) and send to: Richard Bentley, Treasurer, Cal-Pac MFSA, 559 Harrison Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711

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.

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](#).



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](#)

MARCH

- **Wed, March 15; 7-8pm:** Lenten Taize service at San Damiano (carpool at 6pm)
- **Thurs, March 23; 11am-5pm:** American Red Cross Blood Drive
- **Sun, March 26; 12:30pm – 4pm:** Farm Tour & Clean Up at Heirloom East Bay

APRIL

- **Sat, April 1; 2pm:** Celebration of Life for Paula Leslie
- **Thurs, April 6; 7pm:** Maundy Thursday service (**virtual only**)
- **Fri, April 7; 8pm:** Good Friday service
- **Sun, April 9; 6:15am:** Easter Sunrise service
- **Sun, April 9; 10am:** Easter Sunday service
- **Sun, April 9; 11am:** Easter Egg-stravaganza

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](#)!

Asbury United Methodist Church
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