

Asbury Articles: May 3, 2023



Two of our office staff, Terri Gamble and Karen Bauman, have reached a milestone! They are retiring at the end of May. Terri and Karen have provided wonderful office support to all of Asbury's visitors and members along with the support of our Facility Manager (currently held by Ruth Hawley). We are grateful for their hospitality, compassion, and love which they have showered on all of us, as well as the endless bulletins, bulk mailings, phone answering, direction giving, organizing, and filing they have done. There will be a celebration of Terri's retirement on June 11 following worship. Karen's retirement celebration will be announced shortly (we are finalizing the date). Please take the time to say thank you and appreciate their service.

Staff Parish has begun the search for a new office manager. The position will be combined into one job known as Office Manager. The hours will be Monday-Thursday 10-4. The office will be closed on Fridays. We are asking for your help in advertising the position, if you know of anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to apply. You can find the document with the job description below. Thank you.

Pastor Kathy

Downloads and attachments

[Asbury UMC Office Manager job description.docx](#)

Call to Support and Action

Tuesday, May 9th

Tri-Valley for Black Lives has posted the message below on their website. We are hoping to get a group of Asburyites to attend the school Board Meeting on May 9th in support of our LGBTQIA community here in Livermore. Lori Day will have handheld pride flags to give out to folks at the meeting or you can get one from the church office during the week or on Sunday. If you can't attend the meeting, please consider writing a formal letter—see #3 in the call to action. A part of our walk in the following in the Way of Jesus is to stand with our marginalized siblings especially when others are acting with hostility. This is one way we can make a difference. Please consider attending.

Thanks,
Pastor Kathy

Attention all! We appreciate your support for our queer community at LVJUSD. Granada High School students are leading the way with professional developments, aiming to bridge the gap between students and staff for a safe and inclusive environment on campus. They've even created the Humans Against Hate club on campus, tackling hate speech. Follow their efforts [here](#).

Unfortunately, we are not receiving adequate support at the district level. Students and community members speaking up at school board meetings have been personally attacked, putting a target on one student begging community members to end the hate and bigotry. At the last board meeting, community members mocked and laughed at anyone who was not a part of their anti-LGBTQ mob. LGBTQ youth are more than four times as likely to attempt suicide than their peers, and this hatred cannot continue.

Community, please stand behind our queer students and pay attention to our local school board meetings. They should not be used as a platform for bigotry, lies, and intimidation. We must keep fighting for tolerance, inclusivity, and acceptance when our LGBTQ+ youth's lives are at stake. There is power in the people- let's move forward together.

CALL TO ACTION:

1. Support at the next board meeting on Tues, May 9th at 7:00 PM at the District Office <https://www.livermoreschools.org/Page/7134>
2. Make a public comment at the meeting under section 8.1 by filling out a TAN comment card
3. Submit formal written correspondence to the board by 4 PM the day before the meeting: <https://www.livermoreschools.org/Page/1444>
4. Come to the meeting and STAND when anyone speaks in support of the LGBTQ+ community to show that no one is standing alone (wear Pride merch or rainbow colors)

Let's get more people paying attention to meetings, emailing board members, and showing community support! Share this post with your friends and colleagues, let's rally together against hate.

Thank you for caring. We are a misunderstood community but we deserve love, respect, and the right to LIVE.

Celebration of Life: Bobb Smith

Friday, May 5 | 1pm

There will be a celebration of life for Bobb Smith on Friday, May 5 at 1pm 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.

Birthday Celebration

Sunday, May 7 | After worship

Following worship on this Sunday, May 7 all are invited to the Fellowship Hall to celebrate Veni Meafoou, Jr's first birthday! We will have lunch, cake and sing happy birthday. Please come and celebrate with us!

Asbury United Women in Faith Begins Again

Sunday, May 7

Our United Methodist Women's group (now called United Women in Faith) will be having a short informative meeting (20 minutes) on Sunday, May 7 after church (11:20 am) in the chapel. If you are interested in finding more about our mission, please join us after you get your coffee. If you need child care let Lorraine Magee know (989-6923) so we can have someone in the nursery for that time.

The group is open to all women of the church including teens. Former members are also welcome to join to hear about the ministry.



Register for our Rise Against Hunger event

Saturday, May 13 | 9am - 11:30am

As part of our Easter offering, join Asbury to help create 10,000 meal packets for distribution to a community in dire need! (FYI- You can still make an Easter donation to Asbury.)

This is a **multigenerational** event that is FUN for all ages, with plenty of various jobs to be done. Many of you may remember that we did this same event last year. We are hoping for a minimum of 40 people to help. The more the merrier- and the faster we complete this worthwhile project.

[Register for Rise Against Hunger event](#)

Dessert Auction Fundraiser for SSP Trip

Sunday, May 14 | After worship

There will be a Dessert Auction after worship on Sunday, May 14th as a fundraiser for the SSP trip. Anyone interested in helping raise funds for the SSP trip is encouraged to bring a dessert to Asbury on the morning of the 14th to be included in the auction.

Church Conference re: Tiny Homes

Sunday, May 21 | After worship

The District Superintendent, Samuel Hong, has authorized Asbury to hold an all-Church Conference on Sunday, May 21 following worship at approximately 11:15 am. The Reverend Michael Yoshii has been authorized to Chair the Church Conference. This Church Conference has one item on the Agenda: Tiny Homes.

The Conference will be asked to vote on the following which has been supported by the Board of Trustees and the Church Council: *We authorize the Trustees of Asbury to sign and submit the planning application for a community of 16 tiny homes and associated administrative buildings on Asbury's back lot to provide housing to the chronically homeless.*

The planning application and this approval do not obligate Asbury to build the tiny homes, even once the planning application is approved by the City of Livermore. The Tiny Homes Task Force will make a short presentation prior to the vote. The vote will be by written ballot. There will be one ballot box in the courtyard for those who are still avoiding indoor gatherings due to COVID. All are welcome to attend the Church Conference but only Church Members (the

technical term is Professing Members) may vote. If anyone needs a ride to the church conference, please contact the church office by May 18. Please direct your questions to Pastor Kathy or Rob Rudd. Thank you.



The Grill Team is Back!

Saturday, June 10 | 10am

Asbury's award winning Grill Team is back, and you can be part of it!

Want to have a great time representing Asbury in the Rodeo Parade? Please join the Grill Team! What's a 'Grill Team'?? It's like a drill team, but with mini BBQ grills!

The Livermore Rodeo Parade is Saturday, June 10 at 10 am. Asbury's Grill Team will march in the parade, with our mini-grills, and perform simple routines to our own band's clever songs (previous songs include 'You Ain't Nothing but a Hot Dog', 'My Grill', and 'Combo #5').

No experience required, and all equipment will be provided. The only requirement is the willingness to have fun! Rehearsals will be Saturday mornings and/or Sundays after church, to be arranged according to team member's schedules. Rehearsals will start in May.

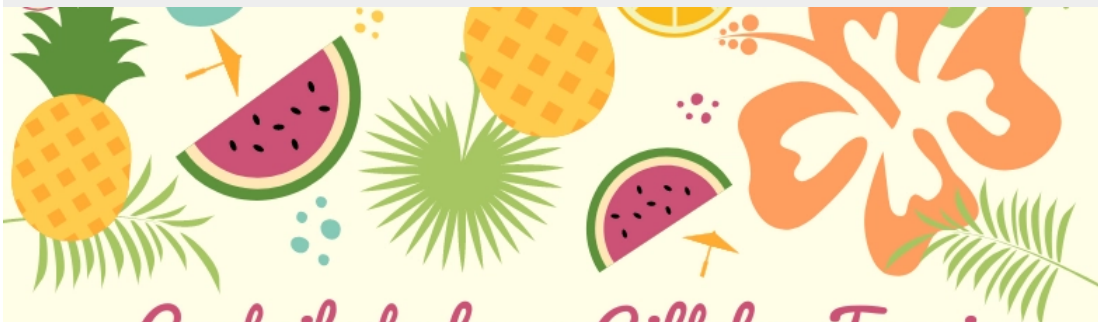
To sign up, or to get more information, please contact [Martie Muldoon](#).



Join us for a Retirement Celebration honoring Terri Gamble

Sunday, June 11

Following worship | Fellowship Hall
Hawaiian attire encouraged!



Contribute for a Gift for Terri:

Ellen will be in the worship hall after Sunday worship from May 14 - June 4. Cash may be donated or checks made out to Terri Gamble.

Cards with Well Wishes & Memories

We will have 3 x 5 or 4 x 6 index cards available in the Fellowship Hall for you to write well wishes or a memory for Terri. These cards will be available after Sunday worship from May 14 - June 4.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fertile GroundWorks: Pledge to Plant!

Fertile GroundWorks needs your help! Join us May 7th in planting seeds to grow a better future. Each pledge to plant a seed or seedling on #PlantASeedDay nominates us for funding that we'll use to teach more people to grow their own food while we grow and give fresh produce to our neighbors in need!

Let's grow together! Pledge to plant with us [here](#). Feel free to ask your friends to join you and pledge to plant more than one seed with your them.

With sincere gratitude,
Brenda



Pittsburg Parsonage Upgrade Almost Complete

The remodel of the parsonage for the Pittsburg UMC by a team of primarily Asbury folk is nearing completion. All interior work is finished and a day's work will complete the exterior (scheduled for May 9). Following is a thank you from the church:

Dear UMVIM Team Members,

Thank you for the update on the parsonage renovations. We will have our Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) start the move-in process with Pastor Adi Nabou.

Let us take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the incredible work you had done renovating our church parsonage. Your dedication and hard work have truly transformed the space into a beautiful and welcoming home for our pastor.

Your willingness to give your time, talents and financial resources to this project is a testament to the strength of our United Methodist connection and spirit of service that we embody as a Christian community. You have helped us create a space that will not only service as a comfortable home for the pastor and her family, but also a space that will foster fellowship and connection among our congregation.

From painting walls and laying new floors to installing fixtures and appliance, your attention to detail and commitment to excellence is evident in every aspect of the renovations. Not to mention your continued work on the exterior of the

property. Praise the Lord. Yes Yes We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated group of volunteers who are willing to give so generously of their time and energy.

Please know that your efforts have not gone unnoticed or unappreciated by our congregation, we are fully aware of your awesomeness. Your hard work will have a lasting impact on our church community for years to come.

Grace and peace be with you all.

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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.

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; 6pm:** 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](#)

MAY

- **Friday, May 5; 1pm:** Celebration of Life for Bobb Smith
- **Sat, May 6:** Hike for Hope
- **Sun, May 7; after worship:** UWF Informational Meeting
- **Sat, May 13:** Rise Against Hunger event
- **Sun, May 14; after worship:** Dessert Auction fundraiser for the summer SSP trip
- **Sun, May 21; after worship:** Church Conference regarding Tiny Homes

JUNE

- **Sun, June 11; after worship:** Retirement Celebration for Terri Gamble

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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