



Asbury Articles: April 1, 2026



Playground is Open!

This past Sunday, our new school-age playground officially opened with joy and celebration! Following worship, we gathered outside for a special ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking the completion of a project made possible through the generosity and hard work of our church community.

Pastor Ouk-Yean offered a meaningful blessing over the playground, dedicating it as a space for laughter, growth, and connection for all who use it. After the dedication, families and friends enjoyed ice cream together while the children eagerly explored and played.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, volunteered, and supported this project—we are excited to see this new space bring joy to our children for years to come!

Maundy Thursday



 April 2, 2026

 6:00 PM

 Fellowship Hall

 *songs, potluck, fellowship* 

Maundy Thursday Potluck

Join us for a meaningful Maundy Thursday evening of food, song, and fellowship as we gather to remember the Last Supper and the love Christ shared with his disciples.

We'll begin with a time of music, reflection, community; and will continue with a potluck meal—please bring a main dish or side to share as we enter into the sacred story of Holy Week together.

All are welcome—come as you are, bring a dish, and be part of this special evening.

RSVP [here](#).



Easter Eggstravaganza on Sunday! 🐰 🎨

Get ready for a joyful celebration—our Easter Eggstravaganza is happening right after church on Easter, and you won't want to miss it!

Bring your friends and family for a fun-filled morning with **two egg hunts, crafts, music, food, temporary tattoos, a photo booth, and more**. And yes—the **Easter Bunny** will be hopping by for a special appearance! 🐰

Come celebrate the good news—**He is Risen!**—with laughter, community, and plenty of Easter fun.



Give us just 2 hours to feed people impacted by famine and natural disasters.

Asbury's annual Rise Against Hunger food packaging event is coming up on **Saturday, April 18, from 9:00–11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.**

So far, we have **31 volunteers signed up**, which is a great start, but we need **at least 50 (60 would be even better!)** to reach our goal. This year, we've been asked to increase the number of meals we package from **10,000 to 12,000**, and we can do it in just two hours with your help. Please don't wait—[sign up today!](#)

When registering, be sure to select the **Volunteer Shift from 9:00–11:00 am**. If you're available earlier, we can also use a few people for setup from **7:30–9:00 am**, but the greatest need is during the packaging time.

This is a **multi-generational event** that is fun for all ages and a meaningful way to serve together. There's a role for everyone- if standing is difficult, tasks like sealing food packets can be done while seated.

There is an urgent need for these meals, especially in times of natural disasters and famine. Your time truly makes a difference.

Also, please remember to respond to the **Easter Special Offering letter** you received. Your donations help cover the cost of the meals we package on April 18.

For more information, contact Bob Johnson at bobjjr@aol.com



Clean-Up Day THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all those who showed up for Clean-Up Day. We had 1 Boy Scout, 13 Asbury-ites, and 17 Girl Scouts and moms sign in, which was excellent since we were competing with the No Kings Rally!

You can mark your calendars now for next year (it's never too early to plan ahead), when Clean-Up Day will be on Saturday March 20 from 9 – 11 am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Asbury Flower Ministry

The flower ministry was started to grow flowers for use in the arrangements for church services place on the alter table each week. After church service, the

flower arrangements can be taken to shut-ins or community centers for seniors such as assisted living centers.

When flowers are abundant, small flower bouquets can be sold after church services to support the cost of the flower ministry. Volunteers who work in the garden can also take flowers home to enjoy themselves.

The current volunteers are working to make the garden a welcoming environment for people to visit and reflect.

The flower ministry volunteers meet in the garden area **every Saturday morning at 9 AM** to tend to the garden (plant, water, weed, cut flowers and make the arrangement for the alter and small bouquets).

For more information or to volunteer please reach out to Kelly or Jolin Gully.

Kelly (925)724-4236 or kellygully@comcast.net Jolin (925)580-8772



Report on the Tucson Wheelchair Mission Trip

Imagine if you will, that you have limited mobility and a wheelchair or walker is your primary means of getting around. Your home has steep steps. You cannot afford to have a wheelchair ramp built. How do you get a ramp? Then a volunteer group comes forward with the financial means and skills to provide one. What a blessing!

During the week of March 21-28, 2026, a team of nine from the California-Nevada Conference, including four from Asbury, traveled to Tucson, Arizona to partner with the Desert Southwest Conference and an affiliated non-profit, SAWS Southwest, to build and install four wheelchair ramps. This mission was part of an effort to work down a backlog of requests. For example, one of our clients had been waiting a year and a half for a ramp.

We set up a construction site at First UMC of Tucson, who generously hosted our team. The requisite tools and workstations were transported from the main SAWS Southwest location in Phoenix. Each ramp had a custom designed set of engineering drawings to fit each client's situation.

We pre-cut and built the components of each ramp at the church and then hauled them to a client's site for final modification and assembly. While challenged by unexpected site requirements (space dimensions, slope of the property and other property considerations) we completed each unique installation successfully.

Despite the very physically demanding work in hot weather (20 degrees above normal for this time of year), this mission was a really rewarding way to be of service – meeting a critical life changing need. It was heartwarming to see our client's appreciation.

As with all mission trips, we enjoyed working together. Each day included reflection time in the evening and lots of shared stories of our lives. A special feature of this mission trip was an afternoon pondering the attributes of progressive Christianity at a local retreat center.

Our team included participants from three Cal-Nev churches – Los Altos UMC, Asbury UMC in Livermore and El Dorado County Federated Church in Placerville. We were joined during the week by volunteers from several Arizona churches - Christ Church in Tucson, Fountain Hills UMC in Phoenix and Red Mountain UMC.

As is always the case, we come away from this mission trip enriched by the experience, grateful for the time and talent to do it and pleased to be able to put our faith into action in a meaningful way.

And lastly, we are so appreciative of Ray Spooner from Desert Southwest and SAWS Southwest for putting all the details together. His efforts were key to this mission!

In Mission Together,

Steve Elliott, Dick Crawford, Bob Lee, Mary Morisset, Scott Smith, Steve Wilson, Bob Johnson, Ross Franke and Rhonda Franke; plus, participants from Arizona – Jo Robinson, Michael Edwards and Paul Johnson.



Garden Plots Available

The Fertile Groundworks plant sale is just around the corner. Would you like to have a garden, but don't have the space for one? There are several garden plots available behind the sanctuary for use. Several have irrigation already installed. Mulch is available free of charge and water is also provided. Come on out and enjoy working in the dirt and raising vegetables or your own flower garden.

For information and to reserve a plot, please contact Kelly Gully. Kelly (925)724-4236 or kellygully@comcast.net

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



LGBTQ Christian Book Club

The LGBTQ Christian Book Club in Livermore invites adult allies (18+ years old) to a book discussion of *UnClobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality* by Colby Martin. Contrary to what you may have been told, the Bible does NOT condemn LGBTQ+. Nor does it prohibit same-sex relationships. Ready to learn more? Attend our book discussion for allies at 2:00 pm on April 25

at Asbury Methodist Church. Please RSVP to the church office at First Presbyterian (925)447-2078 or Asbury Methodist (925) 447 - 1950.



Plant Sale Reminder

Join us for our open plant sale—rain or shine! Visit the hoop house at 4743 East Avenue to pick your own seedlings.

Fridays (Apr 3 & 10): 3–6 PM

Saturdays (Apr 4 & 11): 9 AM–12 PM

Bring a box and follow the signs. Plants are \$4 each, with a wide variety of vegetables, herbs, and greens available—plus our popular fertilizer for \$6/quart. Gardeners will be on hand to help answer questions.

We hope to see you there! 🌸

Have questions?

Contact the church office via [email](#) or phone, 925-447-1950.

Have an article, announcement, or event to submit?

Send them to the [Martina](#), our Office and Communications Manager, **by 3pm on Tuesdays**.

Want to donate online?

[Click here](#) or use Zelle (our ID is finance@asburylive.org)

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

Check out the [newsletter archive!](#)

Would like to get in touch with a fellow Asburyite?

Contact the office.

Asbury United Methodist Church

4743 East Avenue | Livermore, CA 94550



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

*You can view the full calendar of Asbury activities and facility use anytime on our [website](#) or through the **Asbury app**.

RECURRING EVENTS

- **Sundays | 10am:** Asbury Worship Service

CHOIRS:

- **Tuesday | 7:00pm:** Asbury Ringers (Contact [Michèle](#))
- **Thursday | 7:30pm:** Faith Choir (Contact [Jean](#))

- **Sunday | 11:30am:** Cherub Choir (Contact [Makayla](#))
- **Sunday | 11:30am:** Rainbow Choir (Contact [Jean](#))
- **Sunday | 11:30am:** Youth Choir (Contact [Bailey](#))

OPEN SMALL GROUPS

- **1st and 3rd Tuesdays | 1:30pm:** Women of the Vine (Contact [Burlyne](#))
- **2nd and 4th Wednesdays | 6-7pm:** Wednesday Zoom Group (Contact [Rita-Ann](#))
- **Thursdays | 7:45am:** Men's Bible Study on Zoom (Contact [Art](#))
- **Last Thursdays | 1pm:** Sew-In (Contact the [Office](#))
- **Saturdays | 8:30am:** B-MEN (Contact [Bob Berger](#))
- **Saturdays | 10am:** Craft and Chat (Online - Join [here](#))
- **3rd Sundays | 11:30am:** Friends of Wadi Foquin Circle (Contact [Bob Johnson](#))



Asbury Office

Asbury United Methodist Church Of Livermore