

***Growing, Leading,
Serving...***

**Saturday, October 8th
8:15 am**

*Medical Bridges Mission
Opportunity*

**Sunday, October 9th
2:00 pm**

*CROP Walk for Hunger
@ Crenshaw Park*

**Saturday, October 15th
10:30 am**

*Pumpkins Arrive (for our
Annual Pumpkin Patch)*

October 15th - October 31st
Pumpkin Patch open!

Saturdays Oct 15, 22, & 29
All day

*Rebuilding Together Houston
Mission Opportunity*

Sunday, October 30th
5:00 - 6:30 pm

Trunk or Treat

Our Church Office hours are:

Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Friday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

*Phone: 281-484-4814
Fax: 281-998-3438*

*Keep up with us on the net:
www.asbury-umc.com*

*Pastor's blog:
[http://
mikeatasbury.wordpress.com](http://mikeatasbury.wordpress.com)*

*follow Pastor Mike on
twitter: mikeybob*

Pastor: Rev. Mike Lindstrom

This Church Means This Much to Me

As most of you have heard by now, I will be on a one-month "Spiritual Leave" beginning Monday, October 3rd. This will be a time for me to pray and read and focus on my connection with God, and my call as your pastor. Midway through the month I will be at a conference in Nashville which is focused on Wesleyan Leadership. And I will have a time toward the end of the October where I spend time in study at Perkins School of Theology and attend a private retreat at a monastery in the downtown Dallas area. I plan to use this time as wisely as possible.

There are 3 things I want you to know as I prepare to leave. The first is that I love you and I love our ministry together. My reason for taking this time away is to give myself every opportunity to connect with God and hear His still, quiet voice. I long to be the pastor God needs me to be for your sake and for my sake – but mostly for God's sake. I have been at Asbury just over 5 years, and while all is still going well and we all still like each other, I am no longer seeing things with the same fresh eyes of a new pastor. This time away will help me see the forest and not just the trees – it will help me gain a greater clarity for our ministry together.

Secondly, there is an unavoidable reality to the life of a pastor. It is a 24/7 job. I am ready to do what I need to do at whatever hour I need to do it, and my heart and mind are constantly tuned into what's going on in our community. I feel every bump along our road. I face every challenge, from the financial crunch that comes during tough economic times to the changes in leadership as people feel called to serve in other ways. My soul aches for each of you to find that deeper, stronger connection to Jesus Christ, and I am constantly working toward that end. And in the midst of all of that I hear the statistic that 90% of those who start in ministry do not retire in ministry. 9 out of 10 pastors leave the ministry – some due to a new calling, but most due to either burn-out or a moral failure. I do not want to be one of the nine, which is why I am taking this time away.

Finally, I want you to know that you will be well taken care of. Our leadership team is ready to keep the bus moving down the road. They will work together in my absence to make the decisions we would be making together (which means it is only my voice that will be missing from the normal decision-making body). If there are pastoral emergencies, Pastor Jack Womack and Pastor Gary Crum of Hope Community United Methodist Church here in Pasadena have agreed to be available. They will offer outstanding pastoral care. For the Sundays I am away we have a great line-up of guest preachers – Rev. Melody Kraus, Associate Pastor from Deer Park UMC, Rev. Gale Towns from Friendswood UMC, Rev. Mark Fleming from Baytown, and Rev. Curtis Matthys, who is known to most of you and currently serves at First UMC here in Pasadena.

I know I will be anxious to be back with you on the first Sunday of November. I thank you for your willingness to let me take this time, and I am grateful for all the encouragement so many have given to me. I covet your prayers and want you to know you will be in my prayers daily.

Blessings



Welcome New Member!



Carolyn Garcia (pictured here with Susan Warner) joined Asbury on August 28, 2011 during the 11:00 am Service. Welcome Carolyn! We are so glad you are here!

Thank You

Members of Asbury United Methodist Church, I would like to thank all the members who grieved with me upon learning about the departure from this earth of my brother George - departed February 14, 2011, and my son Robert - August 25, 2011. They will be remembered in my heart forever.

*Sunshine fades and shadows fall,
but sweet remembrance outlasts all.*

Al McIntyre

+ + +

Blankets & Blessings,
Thank you so much for the beautiful comforter that was given to us through Vitas. It is beautiful and comforting. It will always be like a treasure to us and bring us joy. Thank you.
Sibyl & Eddie Dykers

+ + +

Our family at New Hope Women's Center wants to thank you for the lasagna dinner last Sunday, and the garden you have helped us cultivate.. We appreciate all your love and support.

Sincerely,
The women at New Hope Center

"The Real Christmas Story"

It is only October, but plans are already under way for the annual children's Christmas Eve Program.

We would like to invite all children to be part of our special Family Christmas Eve Service. Each year, our children participate in a short pageant about the birth of Jesus Christ. We will be rehearsing for this play on Sunday evenings from 5:00 - 6:30 beginning October 2nd.

All children are invited to participate - there are some speaking parts and some non-speaking parts. Even if you can't be at all the rehearsals, you can still be a part of the fun! Please talk with Brandy Harris and Heather Choate for more information.



*Young @ Heart Potluck Luncheon
Wednesday, October 19, 2011
11:30 am*

*Bring your favorite dish and enjoy
food & fellowship*

Young @ Heart is for adults age 50+ years. For more information contact Dorothy Fink at 281-487-6088.



Would you like to learn the play Handbells? We now have a Beginner Handbell Class that meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 - 5:15 pm. It is open to adults, ages high school and older. This is a class that will teach you the basics of playing handbells; how to hold and ring the bells, how to read the music with regards to notes and rhythms, and how to make beautiful music as a group. Contact the church office (281-484-4814), or Kay Lunsford (our Chancel Choir Director) for information and to sign up for the class.

Scrip Cards



For several years, Asbury's United Methodist Men have sold "scrip" cards as a fundraiser for their organization. These cards are available for a wide variety of grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants in our area, **can be given as gifts or used for everyday purchases, just like cash.** When the cards are purchased, the retailer gives Asbury a portion of the purchase price! **You may purchase scrip on Sunday mornings from any United Methodist Men member, or through the church office.**



Asbury's Pumpkin Patch

This year our Pumpkin delivery is scheduled for Saturday, October 15th, at 10:30 am.

Pumpkin sales will be from Saturday, October 15th, (after delivery) through Monday, October 31st (if there are any left).

***The patch will be open
Sunday - Friday, NOON until dark,
and 10:00 am until dark on Saturdays.***

As a special treat we will have ***Storytime at the Patch*** on Mondays, October 17th & 24th, and Thursdays October 20th & 27th. Storytime will begin at 10:30 am.

Help is needed daily with the sale of pumpkins. If you can come and "babysit" the pumpkins at any time during the week or weekend please let us know. A sign up sheet is in the Main Hall, call the church office (281-484-4814) or email andrea@asbury-umc.com.

***As always, the proceeds from Pumpkin sales will benefit
Asbury Missions.***



From the Reader's Corner...

Books located on shelves in the Community Room are for all to check out. There are a variety of books available, spiritual, missions, social action, and fiction. The United Methodist Women's Response magazines are also there with many current articles.

Donations of "gently used" books are welcome. Memorials, honorariums and any financial gifts are used to purchase books, including large print. The latest addition is the "Noticer" by Andy Andrews. "The Heart of Radical Justice" was given by the U.M.W. in honor of Brenda Hellyer. The Reader's Club continues to meet on the first Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm at Dixie McAdams' home. Members enjoy fellowship and sharing books. This group is open to everyone interested. Contact Lu Harrison or Dixie McAdams.



From our Youth Director: Big House 2012

Group registration starts on October 1st and I would like to get ours in early to secure our date. We have a lot of youth interested and would love to take everyone! A few important things to note:

- \$50 deposit due 9/25/2011 (if you want to get on the list but need more time for the deposit please let me know)
 - Trip Date: Thursday June 14th- Sunday June 16th, 2012
- We must take 2 Adults for every 5 youth. Please let me know if you would be willing to serve on this mission trip! It is truly a great experience!

If you want to learn more about Big House you can visit the Blog Site @ <http://bighousetx.org/>

I really encourage all those who will have finished 6th, 7th or 8th grade by next summer to join us! As always please call or email me if you have any questions. 713-249-7430 or laurelwaller@gmail.com.

Blessings,
Laurel



Trunk or Treat...

The New Beginnings small group invites you to participate in "Trunk or Treat" on Sunday, October 30th, from 5:00 - 6:30pm in Asbury's parking lot. Bring your car, truck, van or SUV and hand out candy, treats or trinkets to "trunk-or-treaters!" Feel free to decorate your vehicle (non-scary decorations, please) and bring a lawn chair, if you'd like. We ask that everyone bring their own treats to hand out, or donate treats to the church office if you would like to help!

Invite your friends, co-workers and neighbors to bring their children to this safe and fun event!

Get Involved...



From our Cross Talk Youth...

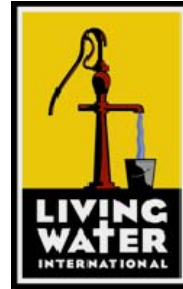
It's that time of the year again. Crosstalk Youth will be joining the MS movement to help contribute to a better future. We will be forming a "Crosstalk of the Boardwalk Team" and participate in the MS walk on Saturday, November 12th at 9:00 am at the Kemah Boardwalk.

Multiple sclerosis is an unpredictable disease of the central nervous system that affects 400,000 Americans and 2.5 million people worldwide. MS stops people from moving, but we're taking steps to stop MS.

We've formed a team for the Walk MS to help drive breakthrough research and vital programs provided by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. The Society funds more MS research than any other private organization and offers much-needed programs and services to everyone affected by this disease.

We're making strides to help those with MS and so can you. Join our team as a walker or a volunteer. Make a donation online. Send in a check. You can make a difference. Please join us and take that first step toward helping families with MS who need us.

Please take a moment to visit our Crosstalk page: <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/Crosstalk>
Anyone who donates or sponsors the "Crosstalk" team will receive a silicone bracelet with our team name!



Living Water International provides "Water" and the "Word."

Living Water International (LWI) is a Christian nonprofit organization that operates in 25 under-developed countries drilling & restoring wells, teaching health & hygiene, and spreading the Gospel while making disciples. We serve the thirsty with "a cup of water in Jesus' name."

Asbury is putting together a 12-person mission team to go on a 1-week mission trip **June 30th - July 7th 2012** to drill a well and/or participate in health & hygiene and/or evangelism. (LWI handles arrangements for all air travel, transportation, food, and accommodations for 1 to 12 people per trip.) Help Asbury UMC sponsor the well that will be dug in Nicaragua by the Asbury mission team in 2012. **The well cost \$5,000. If 250 people gave \$20 we could fully sponsor the well! That's only \$5.00 a week for 4 weeks.**

Contact Asbury's Trip Coordinators: Brad or Laurel Waller at 713-417-7033 or 713-249-7430.
knldrgr@yahoo.com or laurelwaller@gmail.com

Visit LWI at: www.water.cc

New Hope Women's Center

The Wesleyan Small Group has become involved with recovery center for women. In the spring, the class helped the women plant a garden to tend and grow their own vegetables. After our Sunday luncheons, food that is left is taken to New Hope for these women to enjoy.

If you would like to help support this ministry, items they can use are toiletries, women's undergarments, twin sheets, blankets, pillows, pillow cases, towels, washcloths, liquid clothes soap. Also needed are canned goods, meats, pancake mixes, hamburger and tuna helper, just to name a few. **There is a box in the Education Hall marked New Hope, for those wishing to help with this ministry.**



Rebuilding Together Houston is a non-profit organization working to preserve affordable home ownership and revitalize neighborhoods by providing home repair and renovation services free of charge to those in need. Asbury is putting together a team of volunteers to be a part of this Ministry. They will be working on homes here in Pasadena on Saturdays, October 15th, 22nd and 29th. **If you would like to be a part of this team, sign up in the Main Hall or contact Mike Sweny at 281-478-4486.**

<http://www.rebuildingtogetherhouston.org/>



If you love to sing, this would be a great time to join our choir. With the Christmas season coming, the Chancel Choir would love to have as many voices in the Choir as possible to worship God in song. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

We seek to honor our covenant through our Prayers, our Presence, our Gifts, our Serving, and our Witness...

PRAYERS . . .

Our Asbury family in the Hospital:

Mary Elder (Clear Lake Hospice)
Juanita Evans
Eli Johnson

Vicki Baker
Edna Bebinger
Kenneth Becker
Kenneth Bolch
Bobbie Boyer
Peggy Burt
Susan Choate
Cody Clement
Troy Crawford
Mable Crocker
JoAnn Dee
Patrick Eaves
Jenni Eckels
Lisa Edmoundson
Sharon Epperson
Lynn Fortier
Jim Franklin
Hortencia Galvan
Leonilla Gonzales
Sue Grounds
Brenda Hairgrove
Wesley Heil
Lee & Pauline Hendricks
Tom Higgins
Chris Hillebrand
Gilbert Hutchins
Aidan Immroth
Meredith Kelly
Marc Kichline
Theresa Kirsch

Continued prayers for:

Ross Bissonnet
Ronny Bolch
Lonnie Calhoun
Glenda Childers
Ona Mae Cook
Bettie Ellisor
Willis Evans
Jenny Fincher
Olga Galvan
Joe Godail
Bruce Guinon
Brenda Hellyer
Gene Leonard
Evanel McGraw
Connie Temple
Glenna Tolley
Tiny York

Also be in Prayer for:

Renee Abendroff
Lynn Alsobrook

Melanie Lamar
Yolanda Lerma
Jose Martinez
Wesley McCollum
Shane McCoy
Dottie Morgan
Megan Morris
Debbie O'Connor
Dottie Palmer
Frank Pugel
Erin Scott
Cathy Smith
Matty Steen
Dale Taggart
Lillian Thompson
Candy Walton
Marvin & Annie Watters
Family of Bessie Wigley
Miriam Williams
Vasullias Zoy

Our pastor, staff & church

Prayer requests will be printed for a period of 30 days unless an update is received in the church office.

Please pray for those serving our nation, especially:

Todd Archer, Adam Calcarone, Michael Chopcinski, Corey Ellis, John Ethredge, Jeremy Farr, Doug Goecke, Christopher Grantham, Derek Greer, Damon Gregory, Jessica Hamilton, Drew Hargus, Drake Inkster, Jeremy Jernigan, Jason Kelly, Todd Lockhart, Johnny Lozano, Donald Meyer, Mark Miller, Jesse Patterson IV, SFC Eric Quellhorst, Ronnie Randolph, Blake Sammons, Amy Southard, Jason Tisdale, Travis Waller, Andy Waller, Calvin Wallet, national & world leaders.

PRESENCE . . .

Sunday, August 28, 2011

8:45 am Worship Service 94
11:00 am Worship Service 178

Sunday, September 4, 2011

8:45 am Worship Service 78
11:00 am Worship Service 147

Sunday, September 11, 2011

8:45 am Worship Service 94
11:00 am Worship Service 146

Sunday, September 18, 2011

8:45 am Worship Service 103
11:00 am Worship Service 139

Sunday, September 25, 2011

8:45 am Worship Service 81
11:00 am Worship Service 160

Gifts Given in Honor & Memory...

To the Stuff the Bus Fund in Memory of:

Don Custer

by The Fishermen's Class

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of:

Don Custer

by Lonnie & Shirley Calhoun

To the McFarland Scholarship Fund in Memory of:

Robert McIntyre

by the Asbury Chancel Choir

Norma Jean Etheredge

by The Fishermen's Class

Maxine Mize

by the New Beginnings Small Group

To the McFarland Scholarship Fund in Honor of:

Diana Choma and Zalia Petersen

by The Asbury United Methodist Women



Blankets and Blessings recently celebrated their 3rd anniversary here at Asbury. Since August 24th, 2008 the ministry has provided hand-crocheted lap blankets that have been blessed with your prayers and sent to patients **in hospice care**. These gifts are a tangible expression of God's love for terminally ill patients and their families. If you are interested in this ministry you are welcome to join this group on Sundays from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. (If you don't know how to crochet, there are ladies in the group that will teach you!) If you would like to help but are unable to come on Sundays, donations of lap blankets, crochet needles or yarn are accepted. Come join and be a part of a vital and growing ministry!

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5354 SPACE CENTER
PASADENA, TEXAS 77505

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

I am but a humble servant,
If you see a sparkle, it's because God lit a candle.

I am but a faithful follower,
If you see a path, it's because God lit the way.

If I touched your life,
It's because God chose you and put me there.

If you see the joy in my life,
It's because God chose me and put you there.

Our next edition...Our Asbury newsletter is published monthly. Asbury's next Circuit Rider will be published Friday, October 28th. Please submit articles and/or information to the church office or via email at asbury@asbury-umc.com by Tuesday, October 25th.

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