

Asbury Articles: January 10, 2024



**Office will be closed
on Monday, January 15**

in observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**SPECIAL
SUNDAY**

**“I really am learning
that God doesn’t show
partiality to one group
of people over another.”**

—Acts 10:34 (CEB)



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

[CLICK TO WATCH VIDEO](#)



Human Relations Day is this Sunday!

Sunday, January 14

Join us as we celebrate beloved community. Human Relations Day is a denomination wide Special Sunday set aside to celebrate and raise awareness to further the development of better human relations by involving congregations in community and youth outreach. A special offering taken the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Gifts received for the offering build King's vision of "the beloved community"

through programs such as Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs.

1 Samuel 3:10 calls us to listen to God's voice and plan for our lives. Often, we think we cannot make an impact on our own, but when we accept God's call, we can do incredible things together. Your gifts to Human Relations Day support ministries such as:

Young Worker's Project: This project based at the United Methodist Church of East Congo provides vocational training and support for unemployed young people in the city of Kindu, where high unemployment rates among youth have led to conflict and anti-social behaviors.

Communities of Transformation: A partnership between the Montgomery, Alabama District criminal justice system and the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the UMC will provide the Next Steps Program, which is designed to help those awaiting adjudication. This program lowers the risk of reoffense and offers rehabilitative space.

Make a donation via Asbury's app or website, through your bank or check.

UPCOMING ASBURY EVENTS



Palestinian Liberation Bible Study

With world attention on the war in occupied Palestine, you may be asking yourself, *"Whose land is it, anyway? What does the Bible say?"* Rev. Heather is offering a one-time class on her research into Palestinian Liberation Theology. It will be Jan. 21 after worship, 11:15 am-12:30 pm, in room 11-12. Please sign up with [Heather](#) and, if you wish, bring a snack to share. This Bible study will explore Old and New Testament texts that shed light on "the land of Israel." It will give us some background to receive Rev. Michael Yoshii as guest preacher Jan. 28. Michael spearheads our Conference relationship with Wadi Foquin, a Palestinian village on the West Bank.



Handbell Course for Beginners

Calling all musical Asburyites Grades 6 -- Adult!

Have you ever wanted to try playing handbells? **Our handbell director will be**

holding a beginning handbell course after church January 14-February 18, from 11:30-12:30 each week. It will be structured based on the musical backgrounds and availability of the participants.

Music reading is not required but may be taught. Participants should be able to stand *for an hour, follow directions, and treat the equipment with respect.* (Accommodations may be made as equipment allows. Common accommodations include a stool to sit on, large-print music or handouts, smaller bells, etc.)

Participants will be expected to attend as many sessions as possible, and to notify me in advance of conflicts. An opportunity to play in church on February 25 will be encouraged for interested ringers but is not a requirement of the class.

Interested ringers should contact Fernanda by January 9 at fernandav@asburylive.org or by calling the church office at (925) 447-1950. Space is limited to 11 people.

Ladies Night Out

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH | 6 PM

LANNA THAI

2270 LAS POSITAS ROAD, LIVERMORE, CA 94550

PLEASE RSVP TO KELLI WALTER (KELLIWALT@GMAIL.COM) BY FRIDAY, 1/12

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING CASH! WE HOPE YOU ARE ABLE TO JOIN US!



ASBURY COMMUNITY



Asbury UMC Benevolence giving through the full year 2023

Members and friends of Asbury demonstrated great generosity in giving toward our local, national and international benevolence (mission) efforts. **Our church donated over \$100,000 to these worthy causes!** Following are the details.

Pastors fund	\$4,000
Backpacks	\$3,818
Intergenerational Mission	\$17,048
Shower & Laundry	\$6,654
UMCOR	\$4,910
Katherine Parker, missionary	\$1,360
UMCOR International, Turkey	\$625
UMCOR US, Hawaii	\$6,750
Student Day	\$600
UMCOR Sunday	\$3,375
World Communion Sunday	\$300
Native American Awareness	\$1,685
Conf. Spec., Friends of Wadi Foquin	\$400
Easter	\$3,685
Thanksgiving	\$3,888
Christmas	\$4,174
Partners for Change	\$15,485
Bus tickets (Asbury only)	\$2,190
La Familia	\$100

Fertile Groundworks	\$3,525
Habitat for Humanity	\$2,125
Christmas Alternate Giving	\$300
Open Heart Kitchen	\$1,450
Tri-Valley Haven	\$2,650
Alameda County Food Bank	\$1,750
Livermore Homeless Refuge	\$451
Meals on Wheels	\$100
AXIS Community Health	\$2,000
Total	\$95,398
Benevolence from budget	
Hope Crises Response Network	\$1,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$1,000
Tri-Valley Haven	\$1,000
Partners for Change	\$1,000
Intergenerational Mission	\$1,000
AXIS Community Health	\$1,000
Shephard's Gate	\$500
Alameda County Food Bank	\$932
Tri-Valley Haven Pantry	\$500
Total	\$7,932
Grand total	\$103,330



Point in Time Count

January 25, 2024, from 5 am – 10 am

Asbury has been asked to help with the Point in Time (PIT) count again this year. On the PIT, we go out into Alameda County and count the number of homeless in a 5-hour time period. This count helps the county to understand how it is doing on ending homelessness and is also used for getting federal and state grants.

PIT is January 25, 2024, from 5 am – 10 am. There will be training, and we will go out in pairs often with a guide from someone who works with unsheltered folks. We had a good contingent from Asbury help in 2023 we hope to have a good turn out this year.

To register please [click here](#) or use the QR code. **Be sure to mark that you want to count in Livermore.** And let [Jordan](#) know if you are going to join the PIT so we can let the city know how many from Asbury are involved. Invite you friends to join you! Thank you.



Tiny Homes Project Needs Your Support!

How can you help?

- **write letters of support to City Council Members and the Mayor**
 - email: LivermoreCityCouncil@LivermoreCA.gov
 - mailing address: 1052 South Livermore Ave., Livermore, CA 94550
- [attending the City Council meetings](#) in person (second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Meeting Hall, City Council Chambers located at 1016 S. Livermore Avenue), where you can speak during the public comment section. When you arrive, complete a speaker card to get your name on the speaker list.

TIPS FOR LETTER WRITING:

- Keep it short and genuine
- Let people know what you feel and why
- Please write as a member of the community and a part of Asbury
- Stress the need for housing the unsheltered
- Mention we are making the land available at no cost

- Discuss that it is part of Asbury's mission to care for those who are less fortunate
- Please remain positive in your comments
- This is a healing ministry because we will have wrap around services
- Please note you don't need to include all of the above in your letter—we are just giving you some ideas

[Here are some sample letters to get the creative juices flowing](#). If you would like to talk with someone on the Task Force, please [let the church office](#) know.

Yours with deep gratitude,
the Tiny Homes Task Force

ANNOUNCEMENTS



presents a

Virtual Religion Chat

Wed., Jan. 10, 2024

5:00-6:00 pm* via Zoom

**The Zoom room will open at 4:45 pm*

Optional breakout discussion groups 6-6:30 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84307041608>

Topic:

***Nearly all religions have a version of
"thou shalt not kill." How does your
religion/congregation deal with
the reality of war?***

Speakers:

Rev. Sangye Hawke

Unitarian Universalist Church, Livermore

Rev. Andy Lobban

St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church, Livermore

Our Mission: To enrich, inform, and educate ourselves and others about the great diversity of faiths and cultures in our Valley.

Interfaith Interconnect is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible. Tax ID # 87-4206222

Find us on: <http://interfaithinterconnect.weebly.com> and:
<https://www.facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect/>

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.

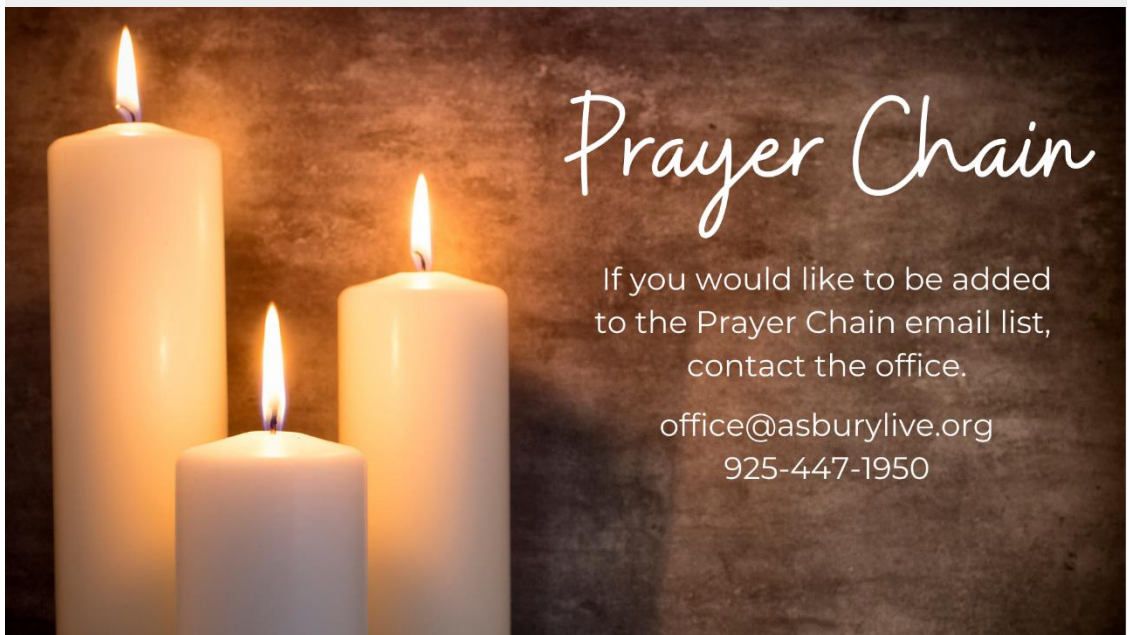
Asbury will follow the CDC guidelines, and we support and encourage mask wearing indoors, especially for those with underlying health conditions or who are not fully vaccinated and boosted.



Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain email list, contact the office.

office@asburylive.org
925-447-1950



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

RECURRING EVENTS

- **Sundays; 10am:** Asbury worship service

CHOIRS

- **Faith Choir** - Thursdays at 7:30pm: Sanctuary
- **Cherub Choir** - Sundays at 11:30am: Room 5
- **Rainbow Choir** - Sundays at 11:30am: Sanctuary

- **Youth Choir** - Sundays at 11:30am: Chapel
- **Asbury Ringers** - Sundays at 7pm: Sanctuary

OPEN SMALL GROUPS

- **Thursdays; 7:45am:** Men's Bible Study on Zoom (Contact [Art](#))
- **Thursdays; 5-7pm:** Family Small Group
- **Last Thursdays; 1pm:** Sew-In (contact the Office)
- **Saturdays; 8:30am:** B-MEN (Contact [Dick Ernst](#))
- **Saturdays; 10am:** Craft and Chat [Zoom](#) gathering

HOW CAN WE HELP?

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.**

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

Check out the [newsletter archive](#)!

Asbury United Methodist Church

4743 East Avenue | Livermore, CA 94550

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