

## Asbury Articles: January 24, 2024



### Help Friends of Wadi Foquin

Sunday, January 28 at 11:15 AM

Please join us on Sunday, January 28, after church to meet with Reverend Michael Yoshii to discuss the formation of a Friends of Wadi Foquin support group at Asbury. We will meet in Room 11-12 at 11:15 AM.

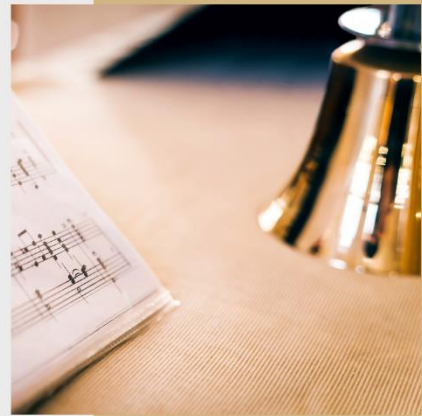
Rev. Yoshii chairs the *Friends of Wadi Foquin Committee*, which is a part of our California-Nevada Conference. The committee has partnered with the West Bank village of Wadi Foquin to support village-initiated community development projects and to organize advocacy for the village. The partnership has also resulted in the building of a soccer field for the children of the village. We would like to form a group at Asbury to support this ongoing work. Rev. Yoshii will explain what our involvement could look like and how to proceed.

*If you have questions please contact Bob Johnson.*

# HANDBELL HAPPENINGS

JANUARY 2024

by Fernanda Van Atta, bell choir director



January has been an exciting and busy time for handbells! Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend Handbell Musicians of America's "College" Ring-In in central Pennsylvania. This annual event is for young adult ringers under 30 to connect with each other while preparing a full concert in only three days! This is an event I have wanted to attend since its inception in 2016, and I'm very glad to have finally made it this year. As of writing this, the recorded concert is still available to view at [this link](#).

Mid-January saw the start of a six-week beginning handbell class. We have 11 new ringers of all ages learning how to play bells and read music—and doing amazing! I'm very proud of all their hard work and the progress they've made in only two weeks.

Asbury Ringers will be providing the special music in church this Sunday. Be sure to come hear them in person or tune into the livestream!

Finally, Livermore has a new ecumenical handbell choir: "Vine and Branches" brings together ringers from three Livermore churches: Asbury UMC, First Presbyterian Church, and Our Savior Lutheran Ministries. This ensemble will rehearse together in late spring and perform at the Handbell Musicians of America-Area 12 conference in Modesto on June 22. This conference is expected to draw ringers from across California, Nevada, and Hawaii. We are excited to have the opportunity to ring with musicians from other local churches and represent Livermore at this event!

Blessings,

Fernanda

UPCOMING ASBURY EVENTS

# Sew In



## January 25 1:00 - 3:30 PM

Please contact [Lorraine Magee](#) (925-443-7913) if you have any questions.



## Palestinian Liberation Theology Class

The Palestinian Liberation Bible Study has been rescheduled for February 4. 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 Feb. 4 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 following Rev. Michael Yoshii's sermon and Friends of Wadi Foquin meeting Jan. 28. This is not a political discussion. Come with fresh eyes to read the Bible!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Location Change for Rainbow Choir and Beginning Handbells

Starting this Sunday until February 18, **Rainbow Choir will meet in the chapel and Beginning Handbells will meet in the sanctuary.** Both groups will still meet from 11:30-12:30 after church on Sundays.



## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

### Youth Sunday School has started back up!

We will be meeting twice a month during worship to have fun and learn together. Our next meeting will be January 28th. All youth are welcome (and adults are welcome as second-adults!)



### Young Adult Gathering

February 9th at 6:00pm

All young adults are welcome to join for a casual dinner and conversation at 6:00pm. Contact [Jordan Sylar](#) or Rebecca Bernstein for more information.

## ASBURY COMMUNITY



Asbury is starting an LGBTQ group! We want to welcome those who have traditionally been excluded from church spaces. The group will spend time together sharing food, doing Bible studies, and having conversations about sexuality and faith. If you are interested in joining or supporting the group, please contact [Jordan](#) (423-790-6183).



## OPEN HEART REFUGE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Carrying on the legacy of Livermore Homeless Refuge, Open Heart Refuge (OHR) will continue supporting our unhoused neighbors by providing overnight shelter, dinner and breakfast.

Open Heart Refuge's primary purpose is to ensure that people have their basic needs met, receive a wide array of support, decrease interactions with law enforcement, be part of a community, and experience improved public health.

TO SIGN UP,  
SCAN HERE



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES  
MONDAY EVENING THROUGH  
SATURDAY MORNING  
EVENING, OVERNIGHT, AND  
EARLY MORNING SHIFTS  
AVAILABLE

FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL  
VOLUNTEERSERVICES@OPENHEARTKITCHEN.ORG

## 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

Asbury is starting an LGBTQ group! We want to welcome those who have traditionally been excluded from church spaces. The group will spend time together sharing food, doing Bible studies, and having conversations about sexuality and faith. If you are interested in joining or supporting the group, please contact [Jordan](#) (423-790-6183).

[Unsubscribe from 'Asbury News'.](#)

[Unsubscribe from all emails](#)

[Sent with Subsplash](#)