



Asbury Articles: November 29, 2023



Thank you to everyone who helped decorate our Asbury campus for Christmas! We had a wonderful turnout with many participants. Thank you for everyone's patience and flexibility when something didn't always go as planned. Our campus looks great and we are ready to celebrate the coming of Christmas. Thank you!



Christmas Flowers for Sanctuary

Christmas Flowers for Sanctuary are due Monday, December 11. You're invited to help provide the flowers that will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. If you would like to contribute, please fill out the <u>form</u> and email or bring it to the <u>Asbury office</u> or the offering box, along with your check for \$10.00, by Monday, December 11. Proceeds from these flowers will go to the flower fund. Please make checks payable to Asbury, note on all donations <u>Flower Fund - #2100</u>. If you would like to help deliver flowers after Christmas to those in need of some cheer, please mark the form or contact <u>Karen Bauman</u> or the <u>church office</u>.



Let there be - HEAT!

If you were at last Sunday's worship service you would have noted how nice and toasty warm it was in the Sanctuary. It almost wasn't, at 8:14am Kathy texted "It's only 62 in the Sanctuary ...brr". Our Facility Manager Ruth responded by finding the controls for our newly installed heat pumps and started them up. They brought the temp up to a very comfortable 68 degrees in just over an hour. Talk about just in time!

The Trustees voted to install four heat pumps in the Sanctuary using money collected from facility rental over the last few years. Each of these units is capable of putting out 24,000BTU/h of either heating or cooling. They are very efficient; as an example create 3.4 times as much heat as an equivalent resistant heater. If you are interest in more detail, click here.

UPCOMING ASBURY EVENTS



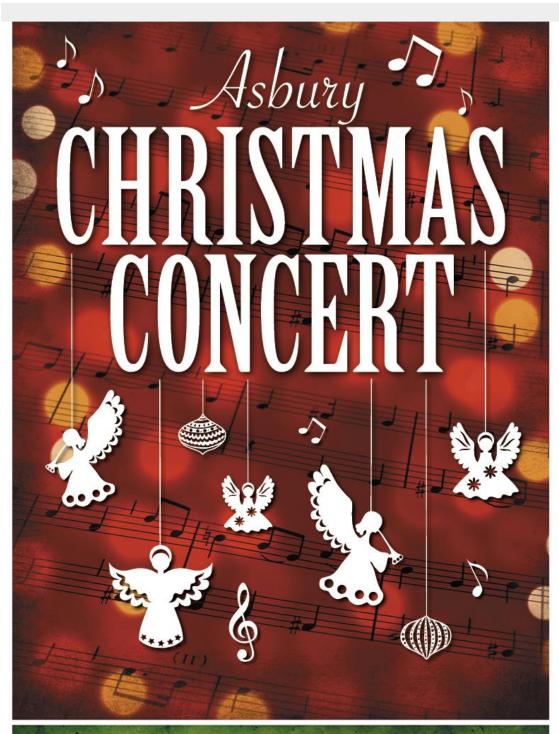
Calling all actors, come join the fun with Asbury Players spring production, which will be performed in March!

Auditions will be held Wednesday Dec. 6 at 7 pm, and Saturday Dec 9 at 10 am, in the Conference room (Asbury office building). You only need to attend one audition session, although you're welcome to attend both.

Auditions will consist of reading scenes from the play (TBD). Anyone high school and older is invited to audition, and we welcome all to come try out!

Rehearsals will begin in January, rehearsal schedule will be set depending on actors availability.

Questions? Reach out to Martie Muldoon.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023



OR WATCH ONLINE AT asburylive.org





FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

6:00PM - 9:00PM





Drop Off

Your Children Age 6 weeks - 12 year old in a

🦋 Loving 🧡 **Environment!**



Friday, December 15, 2023



Asbury ⊍MC

We're excited to invite you to another Parents' Night Out event! Leave the kids with us for a fun-filled evening while you enjoy a well-deserved break! Snacks provided. Email or call to RSVP by 12/10/2023.

Theme: MOVIE NIGHT

Contact Us



office@asburylive.org (#) 925-447-1950 C







Tony Gnecco will be leading a special lesson on Sunday, December 17th during worship. Youth and Youth Alumni are invited to come take the dreaded "Christmas Quiz" and enjoy some goodies. We will cover what is and is *not* a part of the Christmas story, and have a blast along the way!



We would love to invite you to come celebrate Christmas Eve with us! This year we are hosting three special events on Christmas Eve. Join us for games and fellowship time in the morning, interactive telling of the Christmas story in the afternoon and/or traditional candlelight service at 11 PM.

There will be a photo booth and hot chocolate after each event!

10 AM - Celebration of Christmas | Fellowship Hall

Let's enjoy fellowship time with donuts, bagels, our special hot chocolate, coffee and of course, something for people who can't have sugar.

We will sing carols, play Christmas games and share.

4:30 PM - Family Christmas Eve Service | Sanctuary

Let your inner angel, shepherd or Wise Guy have some fun at Asbury! Special service with the interactive telling of the Christmas story, candlelight, Christmas carols and Christmas music.

11 PM - Traditional Candlelight Service | Sanctuary

Traditional candlelight service will include music by Faith Choir Ensemble and the singing of carols. Following the worship service, we will have a hot chocolate bar after.

More info

ASBURY COMMUNITY



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS





Presents

Sing-It-Yourself Messiah



It's our annual holiday event.
Join friends and neighbors and professional soloists in singing Part I of Handel's great choral masterpiece.
Enjoy singing "Glory to God" and "For Unto Us a Child is Born" and finish with a rousing rendition of the "Hallelujah Chorus."

Bring Your Score, if you have one. We'll have loaners!

Admission: \$15.00

December 1, 2023, 7:30 pm Asbury United Methodist Church 4743 East Ave., Livermore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donating Stocks to Asbury

If you are interested in donating stocks or ETF's as part of your givings (pledged or otherwise) or for special projects you wish to support, please contact <u>me</u> or Gail Bryan. Such assets can be contributed directly to Asbury so as not to incur capital gains on the asset's appreciation.

Update especially for past donors of stock:

Charles Schwab acquired TD Ameritrade and Asbury's account transitioned to Schwab in September. A new Letter of Instruction is available by calling or emailing me.



As you are aware, Asbury is now in the middle its annual stewardship campaign, where we assess what will be possible in 2024, based upon the pledges made to the general budget.

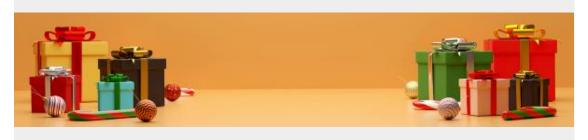
Asbury offers its members opportunities to connect, make friendships and grow spiritually through in-person and on-line worship, small groups, Sunday brunches, Asbury Players, choirs, Stephen Ministry, Youth and Young Adults Ministries, Sunday School for all ages,

nursery care and support and fellowship for parents.

Our reserves have been dwindling, and several top donors have moved away. To keep up its work, Asbury needs generous support. We are asking for a 10% increase over last year's pledge. We are also asking for more folks to step up to pledging.

We recognize that not everyone has the financial resources to increase a pledge or to make one at this time. But for those who do, we ask that you prayerfully consider making an investment in Asbury, and in the community, leaving a legacy of love by tithing (donating 10% of income) or working towards that goal.

Please return the Estimate of Giving or send an email to our financial secretary, even if you are unable to pledge this year, by November 26. Thank you for your serious consideration. God bless you and Asbury's ministry.



Christmas Gift Distribution

Tri-Valley Haven is looking for volunteers to help with the Christmas gift distribution.

- December 12th/13th/14th: we will need volunteers at 3663 Pacific Ave Livermore, to help us with sorting and organizing gifts.
- On Saturday December 16th at Asbury. There are 3 shifts available: 8am noon, 11:45am - 3pm, 2:45 - 6pm

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Nabanita Borua or call 925-667-2711 if you are able to help!



<u>Shepherd's Gate</u> is looking for volunteers for some of their holiday activities. Shepherd's Gate's mission is to meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of women and children suffering from homelessness, addiction, and domestic violence through the love of Jesus Christ. They have facilities in Livermore and Brentwood.

2023 Holiday Volunteer opportunities can be viewed here. If you prefer to donate gifts to their residents you can see what is suggested at this link.

Shepherd's Gate has been in operation since 1983 and been a 501c3 non-profit since 1984. They have helped over 13,000 women and children since then. Please consider helping them with their mission.

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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.





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

- 1st and 3rd Monday; 6pm: Monday Night Small Group (Contact <u>Ruth</u>)
- 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 <u>Dick Ernst</u>)
- 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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