



Hey church!

Ash Wednesday on March 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning of the Lent season for the church. If folks know anything about Lent, usually what they know is that they're supposed to give something up. The chocolate, the caffeine, social media or the TV.; these can be good habits for healthy living.

But this Lent, I'd rather us focus not on what we should say "No!" to, but instead, how and when we can say "Yes!". Tom Berlin, a UMC pastor and author, says, "Something is just not right if Christian people are not in church during Lent, Holy Week, and on Easter." Lent is a season of reflection of what's working in our lives with God, and what's not, and for centuries, it has been a time of explosive spiritual growth. Our March sermon series, "Saying Yes!" will explore what's so hard about saying yes well.

So I want to offer a **Lenten Challenge**, not necessarily to give something up for Lent, but to add a commitment to 3 things for the next 6 weeks. One- **daily Scripture reading**. We are making free copies of *Blessings of the Cross* available to all church members as a resource for incorporating daily Scripture reading into your routine. This was written by folks like Billy Graham and Max Lucado, and I know you'll be blessed in the reading. Two- commit to **weekly worship attendance**. The encouragement, fellowship, and leading of the Spirit that occurs when we give God a set-aside time every week is unmatched. And finally, three- **participate in a weekly small group**. Whether that's a Sunday School Life Group or Wednesday night Faith and Family study, or a home small group, small groups are where the growth happens.

I know for certain that you'll want to join us on **March 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am for our Church Meeting**. This will be a critical meeting, because we will not only celebrate what happened in Asbury in 2016, but we will **share the feasibility results** for the upcoming campaign. I will share the feedback compiled from you by Tyler Associates, including their recommendation for the scope and focus of our campaign. We will decide as a congregation whether we want to move forward with that recommendation. The things we will be discussing will impact the ministries of our church for years to come- please invest in this time as you already invest in our church.

Blessings,

Pastor Lindsay



**Our Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30pm Friday 8:30 am - Noon

**Contact Us:** Phone: 281-484-4814 Fax: 281-998-3438 **Online:** [www.asbury.cc](http://www.asbury.cc) [www.facebook.com/AsburyUMChurch/](http://www.facebook.com/AsburyUMChurch/)

**Pastor: Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick**

**Mark Your Calendars**

**Mar 5 – State of the Church Meeting**

Mar 1 – Ash Wednesday Service

Mar 4 – Crafting a Prayer Life

Mar 4 – UMW Unit Meeting

Mar 5 – Girl Scout Sunday

Mar 8 – Faith & Family Potluck

Mar 11 – Daylight Savings

Mar 18 – VBS Training Seminar

Mar 19 – Methodist Men

Mar 19 – Blankets & Blessings

Mar 26 – Dinner & Dessert Auction

Mar 27 – Readers' Group

Every Mon & Thurs – Aerobics

Every Wed – Faith & Family Nights

**Please Note**

March 5 & 12 – No Confirmation Class

March 16 – No Grief Share

Please ensure your group is meeting during Spring Break, March 13-17.

**Upcoming Events**

April 8 – Easter Extravaganza

April 13 – Living Last Supper

April 14 – Good Friday Service

April 16 – Easter Service

**An update on our Coats for the Cold Ministry:**



To Date 110 Coats and sweaters have been delivered to Pasadena Community Ministry and the Crossroads Homeless Ministry!

92 of these coats were brought during our Frozen event! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this cause!

We will collect coats through **March 12th.**

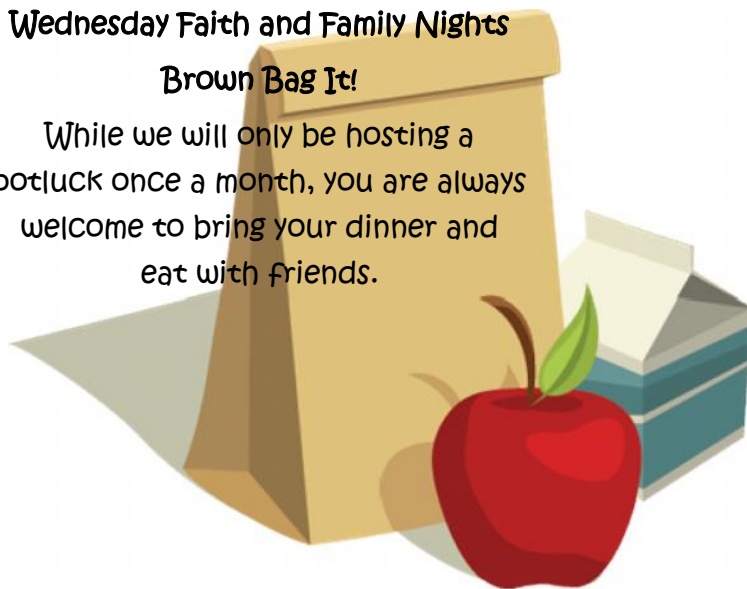
Dear Asbury,  
Thank you so much for all of your help in making Winter Wonderland a huge success. Your hard work and dedication means a lot.

Blessings,  
Pam Sweny

**Wednesday Faith and Family Nights**

**Brown Bag It!**

While we will only be hosting a potluck once a month, you are always welcome to bring your dinner and eat with friends.



Email or call Andrea by March 20th, and we'll buy the tickets so we can all sit together. (andrea@asbury.cc)

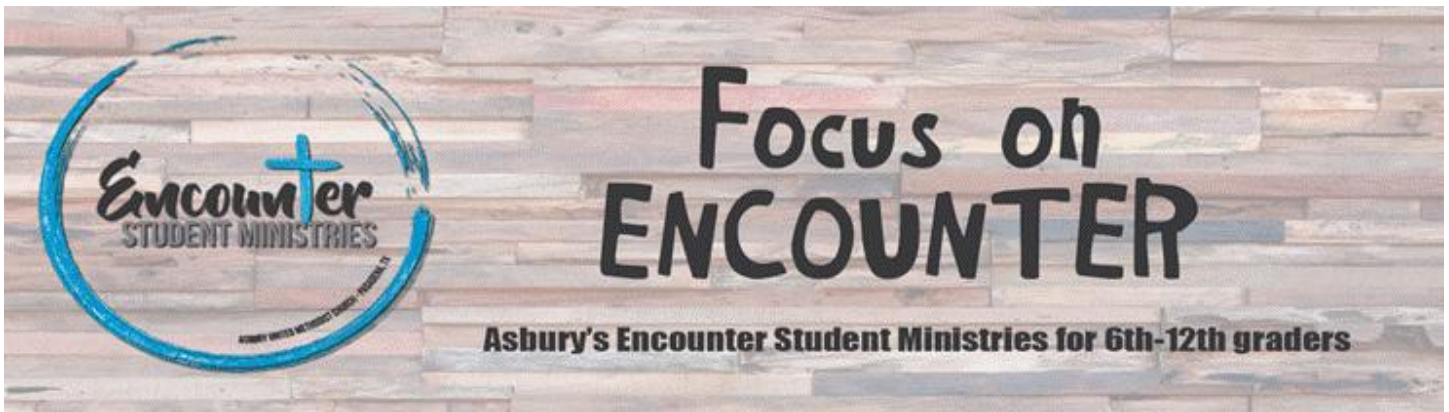
Join us for a special service on March 5<sup>th</sup>

honoring our Girl Scout Troops.

SPECIAL EVENTS PRESENTS  
**KSBJ**  
 35TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT  
 — 2017 —  
 MAR. 25 2017 AT 7PM  
 PRE-PARTY AT 6:15PM  
 BBVA COMPASS STADIUM  
 To purchase tickets visit  
 ticketservant.com  
 KSBJ ticketservant

SWITCHFOOT  
 STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN  
 FRANCESCA BATTISTELLI  
 JORDAN FELZ  
 FAMILY FORCE 5  
 PASSION  
 REND COLLECTIVE  
 NIK WALLENDIA





**Hey everyone!** I am really excited that it is once again time for Asbury's Encounter Student Ministries Annual Dinner and Dessert Auction!!

Join Asbury's Encounter Student Ministries on Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 11:00AM service at 12:00 noon for a chance to bid on your favorite homemade cakes, pastries, cookies, pies, and more! We will once again have a silent auction that will begin immediately following the 1<sup>st</sup> service and will end at the close of the live auction. The desserts in the silent auction will also have a "BUY ME NOW" price that will allow a bidder to take their dessert home instantly and without worry of being outbid!! The silent auction is a great opportunity to take part in this event even if you are unable to participate in the live auction. In addition to the live auction and



silent auction we are please to announce that we will once again have dessert BINGO cards available for purchase. We will play several rounds of BINGO spread out during the live auction so be sure to invite any of your BINGO-loving friends! Proceeds from this year's auction will benefit student ministry summer missions (UM ARMY & BIG HOUSE) and general student ministry needs.

### DESSERT AUCTION FAQs:

**I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE A DESSERT TO THE AUCTION. HOW CAN I DO THAT?** Thank you very much for your willingness to provide a dessert for the auction. You can sign up to bring a dessert by adding your name to the signup sheet in the main hall or by sending an email to the Director of Student Ministries, Laurel Waller at [laurel@asbury.cc](mailto:laurel@asbury.cc).

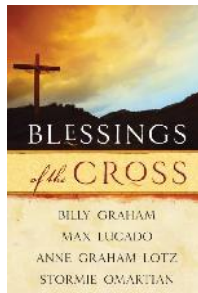
**HOW CAN I PAY FOR MY DESSERT THAT I WON IN THE AUCTION?** You can pay with cash, or a check made payable to Asbury UMC. And now you can pay via card using Asbury's secure online payment portal.

**I WOULD LIKE TO BID IN THE AUCTION BUT I CAN'T STAY. CAN SOMEONE ELSE BID FOR ME? YES!** We often have members who bid in place of other members who are not able to attend the live auction. Any desserts won can be paid for and picked up at the church during regular office hours the week after the auction!

# Here are some ideas to make the season of Lent more meaningful.

We will have this devotional and this children's magazine available in the main hall.

Please pick up a copy.



## Adult Lenten Observance Ideas:



Beyond Fasting:  
10 Tips for a More  
Meaningful Lent

[www.umc.org/what-we-believe/beyond-fasting-ten-tips-for-a-more-meaningful-lent](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/beyond-fasting-ten-tips-for-a-more-meaningful-lent)



Rethink Church:  
Lent Photo-a-Day  
Challenge

<http://www.rethinkchurch.org/articles/spirituality/2016-lenten-photo-a-day-practice>



The Lenten  
Sketchbooks of  
Paul Soupiset

<http://paulsoupiset.com>

## Lenten Observance Ideas for Families:

Family Study  
for Lent  
by MaryJane Pierce



<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/2017-family-study-for-lent>

“Creating a Lenten  
Prayer Space in the  
Home” by Emily  
Watkins



<http://www.buildfaith.org/creating-lenten-prayer-space-home/>

Coins for Lent:  
A Reminder of Our



<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/coins-for-lent>

## More Ideas for the Season:

- [www.umc.org/topics/topic-lent-and-easter](http://www.umc.org/topics/topic-lent-and-easter)
- [www.rethinkchurch.org/articles/spirituality](http://www.rethinkchurch.org/articles/spirituality)
- [www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org)
- [catholicmom.com/kids/lenten-activities-for-children/](http://catholicmom.com/kids/lenten-activities-for-children/)
- [flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/p/family-lent-ideas.html](http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/p/family-lent-ideas.html)



## Books for Lent:

- Youth: Live to Give by Austin Gutwein (a teen himself)
- Children: Lend a Hand: Poems About Giving by John Frank
- Children & Youth: Journey with J.W.: John Wesley's Ride Through Methodist History by Daphna Flegal
- Adult: The Christ Commission by Og Mandino
- Adult: Six Hours One Friday by Max Lucado
- Adult: The Women of Easter by Liz Curtis Higgs
- Adult: 40 Days, 40 Prayers, 40 Words: Lenten Reflections for Everyday Life by Bruce Reyes-Chow
- Adult: No Greater Love - A 40-Day Devotional Coloring Journal

We have something to sing about. Tommy & Sherry Lascoe have joined the church.



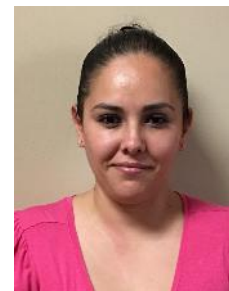
Welcome our new nursery staff.



Emily



Coordinator  
Sarah



Maricella

Please meet our new youth intern Justin Murphy.



**Thanks Received...**

Dear Asbury Family,

Thank you so much for your help and sympathy after my dad's passing. All of your support meant so much to me and my family. Thank you again.

Blessings,  
Pam Sweny

† † †

**Prayer Concerns:**

- Jackie Gaw: cancer
- Marge Colello
- Harold Hargus
- Joe Martinez: cancer
- George Anderson : hospice care

Please pray for our members and friends affected by cancer and other health concerns as well as all family members and friends currently serving in the Military.

*A weekly updated list of prayer concerns can be found in the Main Hall on the table to the right, before you enter the sanctuary.*

General Fund Snapshot

2017 Budget	\$517,126.00
<u>Received thru 2/19/2017</u>	<u>\$ 66,322.01</u>
Still Needed:	\$450,803.99

**PRESENCE . . .**

<b>Sunday, February 5, 2017</b>	94
8:45 am Worship Service	104
11:00 am Worship Service	
<b>Sunday, February 12, 2017</b>	
8:45 am Worship Service	70
11:00 am Worship Service	121
<b>Sunday, February 19, 2017</b>	
8:45 am Worship Service	74
11:00 am Worship Service	118

*Our vision is to bring Jesus from the margins to the center in ministry for and with neighborhood families*

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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Pasadena, TX

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Permit No. 104



It's time to start planning

## **VBS 2017 July 17-21**

We are looking for people to help with VBS this summer, and our need for volunteers is great. People will help with various tasks before and during the week.

Also, on **March 18<sup>th</sup>** Group publishing representatives will be hosting a training day for area churches. Please plan on attending to learn more about the VBS. You will not be obligated to volunteer if you come. Please let Heidi know if you plan to attend. There will be no registration fee for church members.

You can contact Heidi Schneider at [hidcycling@hotmail.com](mailto:hidcycling@hotmail.com)