

Mission Matters

As the scripture reads, "Ask and ye shall receive."

We asked, and we received in abundance. A great big thank you to the members of our congregation, as well as the Vacation Bible School parents. I had been out of town at MMDC last week, and wondered if there would be enough food to fill nine bags for our

Santa Fe Trail families. To my surprise, I saw the corner of the Welcome Center overflowing with food! Thank you to several people who helped to carry our bounty upstairs to the BackSnack closet. When I unlocked the door, I had another surprise. The closet was full! Asbury is filled with very generous hearts.

Blessings to all of you!

-JoAnne Covington



Memorial Garden News for May and June

Dot and Milan Johnson and Linda and Kirk Arnold have made donations to the Memorial Garden fund. The Johnson's have given, "...in memory of our mothers who loved flowers and taught us so much." Linda and Kirk Arnold are donating in memory in Doris Hughes who was Linda's mentor as a Garden Angel. Come and see the garden who's annual flowers are in full bloom now!

-Kathie White, Garden Angel



Asbury UMC— Welcoming Statement

In the spirit of "All Means All," Asbury United Methodist Church affirms that all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, marital status, family structure, and physical or mental ability, are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, and fellowship of this congregation.

- Adopted by Asbury United Methodist Church and Members April 30, 2017

Asbury Staff

Rev. Gayla Rapp, Senior Pastor
Rev. Lee Johnson, Associate Pastor
Heather Jackson, Director of Family Ministry
Justin Elder, Director of Development
Kelly Arnold, Director of Connectional Ministries
Rachael Holloway, Director of Communications
/Executive Assistant

Lindsey Lang, Director of Music
Kim Maddox, Business Administrator
Phyllis Williams, Office Coordinator & Financial Secretary
Dave Burton, Facilities Manager
Dan Neal, Building Manager
Dave Rybolt, Finance Coordinator



July Alive Newsletter

Dear Asbury Friends,

Thank you for your continued donations to The Villages! We have received toys, socks, g-rated movies!

We look forward to taking a trip to deliver these resources in Topeka the second week of July. We continue to stand for compassionate care of migrant families at the US border. We believe that all families deserve to be treated with respect; we continue to call on our representatives for immediate family reunification without legal barriers and immigration reform.

We've created a page on our website dedicated to a wish list from children at The Villages, a donation button that goes directly to their organization, and an address for their donation site.

Here is how we can directly help:

Children separated from their parents at the border have been shipped to Topeka, KS. They are receiving assistance and care at The Villages. They are in desperate need of the following items listed below. El Centro de Topeka, a partner organization, has offered to be a collection site. Please ship to El Centro's address listed below. Thank you for your generosity and compassion - let's practice what we preach!

Monetary Donations through Pay Pal to "The Villages"

WISH LIST:

Coloring books, Colored pencils, School folders, Big Chief tablets, Spiral notebooks, ABC flashcards, Sports equipment, Croquet set/s, Volleyballs, Soccer balls, Basketballs, , Plastic big balls, whiffle ball set/s, Disc golf, Frisbees, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, Jump ropes, Full-sized, regulation soccer goals, Adjustable basketball goal, Water balloons, Playdough, Colored rubber bands to make bracelets and jewelry.

Clothing and Comfort Items Needed:

Kids underwear, size boys and girls 6T to adult small, Socks, low cut, sizes 6-10, Books in Spanish, beginning English books, e.g: Dr. Seuss type of books, Rated G movies, Gently used or new stuffed animals, New or gently used percussion instruments, guitars, ukulele, hand drums, Gently used or new tennis shoes size 6-11

Donation Drop-Off/Shipping Address:



134 NE Lake, Topeka, KS 66616



Family Ministry

Dear Asbury Friends,

Asbury's Family Ministries kicked off summer by hosting thirty-nine kids at VBS June 10-14! Our adventure on the river helped kids learn that God is always with them. The beautiful thing about VBS is that it sticks with the kids. Since VBS ended I've talked with several parents whose children, including some of our youngest "rafters," are still singing the Rolling River Rampage theme song as recent as last week. Other parents have shared how their kids are still making art with Romper (our VBS puppet) stickers, talking about Romper, and asking if we can have another VBS. In fact, at our family fun night I had a conversation with one of our younger "rafters" about how no other animal but Romper can talk! Needless to say VBS makes an impact on both Asbury kids and the kids of the community. Like many of the kids who attended VBS this year, I look forward to our next VBS and hopefully reaching even more kids with the love of God. Thank you to everyone who made this year's VBS successful and I hope that we can include even more of the Asbury community in VBS next year.

Much like VBS our youth mission trip to Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas (June 24-29) helped our young people encounter the love of God and expand their concept of what it means to love your neighbor as yourself. The youth and sponsors learned about the importance of working together to overcome challenges and were daily asked the question, "If there is enough for all, why don't all have enough?" The eleven of us who spent the week on the ranch worked hard and learned about what it means to be stewards of our resources: money, material goods, food, and time. I'm sure that over the next month those of us who were on the mission trip will continue to be formed by our shared experiences. I hope you will plan on joining us on Sunday, August 19 between services for breakfast and to hear from all those who served on the Ranch! This will also be a time for youth who went to camp or Institute this summer to share the impact those experiences had on them. We might even hear a little about GodSquad!

Speaking of GodSquad, it's coming up! If you have or know of a child going in to 5th -7th grade this would be a great experience for them and a great way to help give back to their community! **God Squad July 30 - August 3rd.** We will be volunteering at various places in our community throughout the week and have a fun day on Friday. We will meet at Asbury (5400 W 75th St, Prairie Village, KS, 66208) each morning at 9AM and return around 12PM. Please arrange to have your young person picked up upon our return. Our tentative schedule is:

Monday, July 30th- Let's brighten somebody's day! We will be helping Children's Mercy by making and delivering Happy Kits. Happy Kits are fun packs that hospital workers give to the children who are being cared for at Children's Mercy.

Tuesday, July 31st- Time to put on those work boots! We will be volunteering at Hope Faith Ministries; where we will help sort through and organize donations to help the homeless.

Wednesday, August 1st- Smiling is sometimes the best medicine; so let's make others smile! We will be volunteering at Lake View Village a retirement center for those who cannot live on their own. We will keep their residents company as well as help with various activities and play games with them.

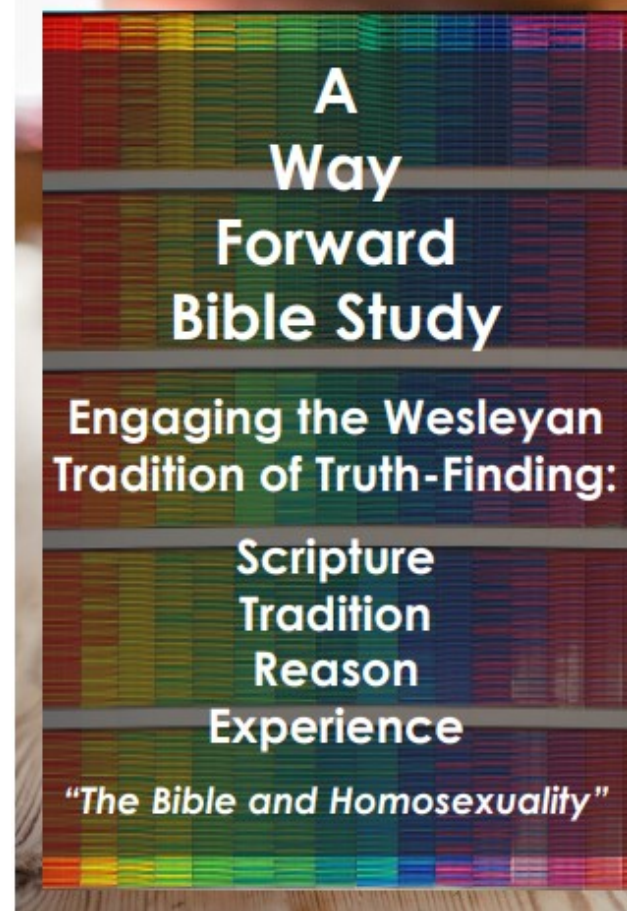
Thursday, August 2nd- Put on your gardening clothes, we are volunteering at KC community Gardens. Here we will be weeding, putting down soil, and other gardening activities. These community gardens help people who wouldn't have access to fresh and healthy foods otherwise.

Friday, August 3rd- After all the hard work the kids have put in it's time to relax and have some fun!

If this sounds like an event that your kids would like to participate register now on our website, www.visitasbury.org, under Registration Forms. If you have any other questions or concerns please contact Olivia Wilkerson by email OliviaW@VisitAsbury.org or phone: 913-991-3035
Let's continue our Family Ministries' amazing summer!

Sincerely,

Heather Jackson and Olivia Wilkerson



Mondays in July
7/2-7/30 from 6:30-8 pm
Asbury UMC Parlor
(5400 W. 75th St. PV, KS)

Led by Rev. Lee and Dr. Barbara Lukert
All Are Welcome!
www.visitasbury.org



If you'd like to join the "A Way Forward" bible study please call our church office at 913.432.5573
or email Rev. Lee at LEEJ@VISITASBURY.ORG.

If you are interested in joining our events listed below of registering for the *Jesus in the Gospels* class in the Fall. Please feel free to call our church office at 913.432.5573 or sign up on our website, www.visitasbury.org, under "Registration Forms!"

Fall Trip to Camp Chippewa
Oct. 6-7th
\$10/person
RSVP by Sept. 7th
at www.visitasbury.org



All-Church

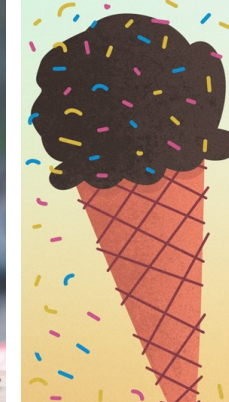
ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Hosted by the UMW

Sunday, July 29

4 pm in Hager Hall

Bingo and Prizes



Article Deadline: Please submit articles by Friday, July 20 for the August Alive Newsletter.
All articles should be sent to rachaelh@visitasbury.org