

THE ASBURY CIRCUIT RIDER

Delivering Water

Every week our Asbury neighborhood connection team go out to deliver water and food to families in need. They brave the rain and cold to make sure families have supply of water for the week.



Volunteer Spotlight Corner

The spotlight for this edition is on someone that quietly serves wherever he is needed - **Tony Craig**. Seen here serving spaghetti for students visiting from Central Michigan University. Tony is one of our Sunday ushers, a Trustee and a faithful servant of his Lord, Jesus Christ. Thank you Tony for all that you do.



Altars Everywhere

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Heaven's Armies. I long, yes, I faint with longing to enter the courts of the Lord. With my whole being, body and soul, I will shout joyfully to the living God.

Psalm 84:1 (NLT)

The 1st reference to the building of an altar appears in the flood story after the waters subsided and the passengers were once again on dry land. As God's story of salvation moves on, altar building became more commonplace. Scripture tells us that wherever Abraham set up camp an altar was built for worship. Who could blame Issac if after his near-death experience on an altar, he would not have anything to do with them. However, Issac continues the tradition of his father, building altars wherever life would take him.

The tradition of altar building continued in the next generation with Jacob whose family struggled to carry on practices that represented the intention of altar building and the role that altars play in our religious

Neighborhood Connection

Asbury Community Help Center
Opening Up Soon!
Water – Food – Personal Care Items
Physical & Mental Health Services
More information to follow in your
Circuit Rider and posted flyers.

MOVING FORWARD - TOGETHER



Asbury Food Pantry

Every week individuals and families turn to Asbury to help them supplement their food supply. Asbury is a partner with the Genesee County Food Bank where we can purchase at a big discount. **WE NEED YOUR HELP** with food items, including meats, and diapers. We also need your financial contributions.



FlintAsbury.org

Join in on the conversation taking place on our blog. Pastor Tommy posts his reflections during the week along with other special guests. Let us know if you have information or other content that you wish to share.

Neighborhood Connection

Every week truckloads of food and water are delivered to Asbury for distribution. Asbury serves thousands of families each month in our parking lot, but hundreds of families are unable to come to us so we go to them. If you know of a family in need, or have questions, you may call Reggie at 810-308-8648.

beliefs. Family dysfunction, cultural influence and the pressures of life resulted in "spiritual affective disorder" (SAD) in our spiritual ancestors. So Jacob told everyone in his household, "Get rid of all your pagan idols, purify yourselves, and put on clean clothing. We are now going to Bethel, where I will build an altar to the God who answered my prayers when I was in distress. He has been with me wherever I have gone" (Genesis 35:2-3 NLT).

Altar building at the places where God is present continued as God's chosen people made their way from slavery towards the promises God intended to keep. God had intervened into history and saved the people from destruction promising them that they could proceed without fear for the Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob was with them. But the people took altar building beyond what God had intended and soon graven images were included in their worship, distracting them from a focus entirely on God. It was time to get back to basics - to do away with anything that could push God aside. "Build for me an altar made of earth, and offer your sacrifices to me...Build my altar wherever I cause my name to be remembered, and I will come to you and bless you" (Exodus 20:24-25 NLT).

And so it is with altar building and altar usage. God gifts us in ways that will bring glory to God. For some of us our altar is a workbench. For others our altar could be a desk, a journal, a computer, a stove, our voices, a musical instrument. We did not get here by our own power, nor are our gifts created from our own ingenuity and intellect. The cells that make up our brain were organized by the only power that can truly create anything of worth.

We were created by God for worship. Our gratitude is shown through our labors whenever our labors glorify the One who makes our labor possible. When we serve one another we give glory to God. When we use our gifts to satisfy our own desires we honor ourselves and take credit for that which we did not do on our own. There are altars everywhere we look. Altars everywhere that we turn and whenever our attention is on God and we focus on gratitude and worship.

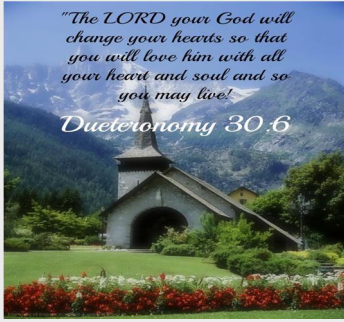
The Psalmist points out that the Sparrow lays her eggs in God's presence. In God's Holy Temple. God created the world for God's pleasure and has seen fit to share these pleasures with creation that we might experience God's presence in all that we do. The sacrifice that we make is ourselves. We can offer back only that which God gave us and in our offering we are reminded of our dependence on God alone. There are altars everywhere a sacrifice is made to the living Lord. Sacrifices that are nothing more than offering back that which God has given us, not because we earned it. Rather, we offer back the gifts we received out of God's love and grace.

Pastor Tommy



Asbury Neighborhood Connection Team

Hello, My name is Asia and I have enjoyed delivering water and helping the people effected by the lead in Flint Michigan.



Worship Guide

- Traditional Service
- 10:00 AM
- WELCOME
- JOYS AND CONCERNS
- OPENING HYMN
- CALL TO WORSHIP
- ANTHEM
- READING OF SCRIPTURE
- CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
- HYMN OF PREPARATION
- TEACHING
- PASTORAL PRAYER
- OFFERING & BLESSING
- CLOSING HYMN
- BENEDICTION
- POSTLUDE

Change in Worship Service

Bible Study	10:00 am
Traditional Worship	10:00 am
Coffee Break	11:00 am
New Beginnings	11:30 am

In Our Prayers

- Curtis Young Rachel Bastine
- Norma Buzzard Carmen Misner
- Merle Supernaw Barbara McIvor
- Shirley Moose Nancy Elston
- Austin & MarySuffle Shirley Craig
- Mary Armstrong Sarah Tanner
- Elizabeth Wright Judy Tanner
- Charlayne Oram Mary Lyons
- Jonathon Misner

FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES WHO ARE HOMEBOUND OR IN NURSING CARE

Sharon George Elaine Lamoreaux

My name is Cassandra McLaurin and throughout the water works program at



Asbury, I have learned so much and gain many new great skills, while serving the community. I really enjoy giving back to the community and serving the needy.

My name is Jordan and I enjoy helping throughout the water crisis and giving back to the Flint community.

My name is Marquise and the time I have

spent here at Asbury has been such a wonderful experience. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve my community.

My name is Heart Carter and in this program I have learned so much, and I enjoy passing out water and seeing the smiles and how grateful the people are to receive it.



Since arriving at Asbury UMC It has been a very uplifting experience. The staff here is professional, kind and courteous and very detailed orientated to the tasks at hand. It is a comfortable, but challenging job responsibility that requires teamwork and independence as well. We have worked and engaged with a huge diversity of people throughout the community dealing

with state and federal services that are offered on a daily basis, as well as other private and local businesses.

Kevin Croom, Neighborhood Connection Nutrition Manager

Ways to get involved ...

Worship helps us to connect with God through music, scripture, biblical teaching, prayer, reflection, adoration and fellowship.

Video & Sound Support We are looking for persons willing to support worship and other events by running our media control center. Training available.

Music Ministry Join the Asbury Choir or Praise Team. We are looking for vocalists and musicians.

Community Gardening The Asbury Center for Nutrition has several gardens, orchards and a hoop house that need your attention.

Book Club News



We will soon finish with Part 3 of our study, *Trusting the Covenant* ending with Daniel & Revelation. The prophets and books of ancient history are rich in Biblical tradition and are too often not well understood. It is always the right time to join in. Your insights and questions are welcomed.

Our goal is to continue to widen our circle and so we hope that you will join in on our discussion. We meet each Tuesday at Noon. Come join us for a light lunch, fellowship and discussion. Our food selections have been fantastic and we always have plenty to share. We are always on the lookout for our next book, video lesson or topic. Your participation and suggestions are greatly appreciated.

Feb 7 Daniel 1-4

Feb 17 Daniel 6, 7 & 9

Feb 21 Revelation 1-3

The Books of Daniel and Revelation are focused on what happens when all is finished. This makes them the least understood of our Scriptures.

Neighborhood Connect is a ministry that assesses individual gifts and passions and looks for ways to bring people together in ways that improve relationships and our community.

Food & Water Giveaway Join us on Thursdays at 8:30 AM to help give away food and bottled water.

Pantry - We need food items, including meats, paper products; personal items diapers, and financial support.

Social Media allows us to tell others about the work that God is doing. All of us can help enhance our presence in the social media by posting on our Facebook and utilizing our website for blogging.

Student Housing - the Asbury House offers local college students a way to use their gifts and passions together with their faith in building a better neighborhood.

Women's Circles - The women of Asbury meet regularly in small groups.

Pastor's Book Club meets each Tuesday at 12 for fellowship, food and learning.

Sunday Bible Study meets each week at 10 am to review & discuss scripture.

A Good by Message from Reggie...

Hello, this is a bitter-sweet moment for me. I have been with Asbury for about two years and my stay here has come to an end. I have enjoyed serving the east side community.



I will be leaving in a few weeks to pursue my Master's Degree in the field of social work. Getting to know many of you on a personal level has been a delight and I pray that all stay encouraged through the Flint Water Crisis. Always remember that my prayers will be with the east side community of Flint.

Thank you: Reginald Brandon, LLBSW

What's coming up...?

Our Worship Series

SAD: Spiritual Affective Disorder

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises over you. Isaiah 60:1



We began the New Year with Epiphany Sunday when we celebrated the gift of divine enlightenment. God revealed the birth of the Messiah to non-Jews who traveled to Bethlehem to worship the Christ child. We are in the midst of winter when we have longer periods of darkness. Winter can be a time of Seasonal Affective Disorder when the lack of sunlight affects our moods and ability to cope effectively.

Spiritual Affective Disorder can also be a factor as we lead lives that are too crowded, busy, overcommitted, sometimes disturbing and uncertain. At the turn of this new year, we will explore everyday life activities that can become spiritual practicesódeepening our experience of a meaningful life and make us more õlight-hearted.ö

Feb 12 Walk this Way
Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Feb 19 Leave Room for Dessert
Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-10

Feb 26 Don't Be Afraid
Matthew 17:1-7

February 5 Notes & Reflections – Altars Everywhere

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Heaven's Armies. I long, yes, I faint with longing to enter the courts of the Lord. With my whole being, body and soul, I will shout joyfully to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow builds her nest and raises her young at a place near your altar, O Lord of Heaven's Armies, my King and my God! What joy for those who can live in your house, always singing your praises. Psalm 84:1-4 NLT

Coming up this week ...

Feb 6	Mon		
Feb 7	Tues	9:00am	Water Resources Mtg at Food Bank
		12Noon	Pastor Book Club
Feb 8	Wed	12:30pm	Lydia Circle
		4:00pm	Youth Recreation
Feb 9	Thurs	10:00am	Water Delivery
		6:30pm	Choir Practice
Feb 10	Fri		
Feb 11	Sat	12Noon	Youth Recreation
Feb 12	Sun	10:00am	Bible Study
		10:00am	Traditional Worship
		11:00am	Coffee Break
		11:30 am	New Beginnings Worship

Look for announcements scrolling on our screen prior to the start of worship. Email announcements by the Friday before to FlintAsburyUMC@gmail.com

In our worship service

Greeter	Christine
Children's Time	Rev Tommy
Candle Lighting	Karen
Usher	Bob, Carolyn, Jim
Media Support	Bob
Nursery	Norma
Coffee Break	Bob & Carolyn Aldrich
Worship Leader	Karen 10:00am

Last Week for Worship

Attendance 46 Offering \$507

Coffee Break

Plan to meet outside the sanctuary each Sunday after the first service for coffee, tea, snacks, conversation and so on. The music will start when it is time to wrap up and head in for *New Beginnings*.

Asbury Staff

Rev. Dr. Tommy McDoniel	Pastor
Jim Craig	Church Council Chair Asbury CDC Board Chair
Connie Portillo	Office Secretary
Kathy Howe	Choir Director
Rebekah Britton	Organist
Phone/Fax	810-235-0016 (call first when faxing)

WELCOME! - Bienvenidos!

We are happy you are here to worship with us today. Please fill out an information card and place it in the offering plate in order that we may be able to serve you further.

OUR VISION – Nuestro Vision

We envision a community in love with God, one another and our neighbors, evidenced through the transformation of ourselves and our neighborhood

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - Anuncios de la Semana

2017 Worship Schedules: If you are interested in leading worship or supporting worship through video and audio technology support, talk to Pastor Tommy.

Please note Elizabeth Circle has been moved to February 15th at 7:00pm, instead of February 13th as it reads in the UMW directory.

Worship Team Meeting: There will be a worship team meeting on Monday, February 20th at 5:30pm. Please all involved plan to attend.











Message from Carmen Misner: Jonathon is doing much better; he is in physical therapy and improving each day. Thank you all for your prayers.

2016 Local Church Report to Annual Conference: The 2016 report has been submitted. Thank you all for submitting your information to me in a timely matter!

Please put your cell phone on stun!

Por favor poner el teléfono en silencio!

In order that we may be fully present in worship, please set your cell phone to silent mode. Tweets & Facebook posts are encouraged if they are relevant to our worship.

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> FEBRUARY 2017 Asbury UMC Monthly Planner </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 UMW 11am (Hostess: Lydia Circle) Luncheon/Potluck Youth Rec 4pm	2 Water Delivery 10am Taking it to the Streets Planning Meeting 2pm Water Crisis Coordination Meeting 3pm Choir Practice 6:30pm	3 	4 Youth Rec 12N
5 Bible Study 10am Traditional Worship 10am Coffee Break 11am New Beginnings 11:30am	6 	7 Water Resource Workgroup 9am (at Food Bank) Pastor Book Club 12pm	8 Lydia Circle 12:30pm Youth Rec 4pm	9 Food Truck Delivery 10am Water Delivery 10am Water Response Coordination Mtg 3 pm Choir Practice 6:30pm	10	11 Youth Rec 12N
12 Bible Study 10am Traditional Worship 10am Coffee Break 11am New Beginnings 11:30am Worship Leader Training 1-2pm	13	14 Recovery Wkgroup at 1938 Howard Ave 9am Pastor Book Club 12pm	15 Youth Rec 4pm Elizabeth Circle 7pm (Becky)	16 Water Delivery 11:00am Water Response Coordination Mtg 3 pm Choir Practice 6:30pm	17	18 Youth Rec 12N 
19 Bible Study 10am Traditional Worship 10am Coffee Break 11am New Beginnings 11:30am	20  Worship Team Meeting 5:30-6:30pm	21 Water Resource Workgroup 9am (at Food Bank) Pastor Book Club 12N	22 Youth Rec 4pm 	23 Food Truck Delivery 10am Water Delivery 10am Water Response Coordination Mtg 3 pm Choir Practice 6:30pm	24 	25 Youth Rec 12N
26 Bible Study 10am Traditional Worship 10am Coffee Break 11am New Beginnings 11:30am	27 	28 Water Resource Workgroup 9am (at Food Bank) Pastor Book Club 12N	1 MARCH Youth Rec 4pm	2 Water Delivery 11:00am Choir Practice 6:30pm	3	3 Youth Rec 12N