

THE ASBURYAN

Asbury United Methodist Church Newsletter

November 2017

Happy Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34

The Business of the Church

On Sunday October 8, Asbury along with Union Memorial, Samaritan, Unity, Beloved Community, Centenary and Lafayette Park met at Union. As a refresher, the charge conference, as defined in the UMC Book of Discipline ¶ 247, is the connecting link between the local church and the general Church and shall have general oversight of our Leadership Team. At the Charge Conference, held annually, the administrative business of the Church is discussed and the necessary reports are approved by the members in attendance and submitted to our District Superintendent, Rev. Londa Granger Wright. For the last three or four years a cluster of Churches have held their Annual Charge Conference at one location on the same day.

The Cluster Charge Conference started with a prayer and a nice buffet lunch provided by the members of Union Memorial. The Union Memorial choir-United Voices of Praise provided the music. After the District Superintendent's report each church met in their assigned room to discuss the business of their individual church. Continue on page 2



Pastor James meets former President Bill Clinton at the Community Garden in the Ville Neighborhood

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

We are going to do something a little bit differently this year. Asbury will partner with Rev Jason Barney and the congregation of The Unfailing Love Church located on Sarah and Maffitt. The Community Dinner will be from 11:00 to 1:00pm on Thanksgiving Day and will be held in the Annex at Asbury. By joining with Unfailing Love we're able to reach more people and more importantly it gives us the opportunity to let the community see that together God can lift us higher than we could ever dream. You will hear more about the Community dinner in the days ahead.

Pastor Ivan C. James III

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Asburyumcstl.org

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Worship Experience
Sunday Mornings
9:00 a.m.

Wednesdays in the Word
9:30 a.m.

Warm Start on School Days
5:45 a.m.—8:30 a.m.



Calendar of Events

Thurs., Nov. 23—Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner with Unfailing Love Church - Rev. Jason Barney Pastor

Sat., Dec. 2—The Annual UMW Christmas Party at 11a.m.

Sat., Dec. 9—Cool Kids 4 Christ Holiday Shop 12—2.30pm

Sat., Dec. 16—Bus Trip to Our Lady of the Snows (see page 2)

Laity Sunday *Therefore, Go! With HOPE through Hospitality*

*excerpt from United Methodist Church's Discipleship Ministries web page

In sticking with the theme of Laity Sunday the UMC discipleship web page put special emphases on "hospitality". As believers each of us has a responsibility to proclaim the Good News of Christ and reach out to others in love. Hospitality is a means for us to explore our relationship with Jesus Christ. Through the laity's relationship with Christ and the partnership with the clergy, the Church can live out Jesus' mandate to "go," and share the hope of Jesus Christ and begin to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

On Sunday October 15, we as United Methodist celebrated the ministry of the Laity. The Laity, anyone who is not clergy, has played an important role in

the history of the church. On Laity Sunday we celebrate the people in the pews, whose lives are empowered for ministry by the Holy Spirit. Laity Sunday offers lay people of all ages the opportunity to pause and consider again their own call to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On Laity Sunday lay people plan and participate in the worship service. For our worship experience that morning, David James responded to God's call by delivering a powerful message on "Testimony"! With uplifting music under the direction of choir director, Dorothy Heyward, accompanied by percussionist Cortez Little, and the Voices of Asbury choir, the inspiring service ended with the timely spiritual "This Little Light of Mine".

The Business of the Church *continue*

After the reports, general discussion were held regarding other church activities such as our ministries/programs, Vision and Mission.

Participants in this year's meeting included Pastor Ivan James, Lloyd Ivy, Doris Wilson, Loretta Thomas, James and Donna Cotter, and Victoria Blair. The facilitator for our Charge Conference was Rev. Michelle Sue Williams who was the Presiding Elder assigned by Rev. Londia.

Our Lady of the Snows Shrine Trip

We are planning a Trip to see the Christmas lights at the Our Lady of the Snows Shrine on Dec 16.

The bus will leave from the North Hanley Metro Link Station at 2:45pm and return around 7:30 pm. Cost for the bus trip is \$5:00 per person. Each person is responsible for their meal/beverage.

Contact Pat Flermoy for reservations.

The Real Deal "Harvest Edition" On Saturday October 28, several parents/family members and their children participated in The Real Deal, a children's Saturday worship activity. The topic, The Harvest, was based upon Matthew 9:37- Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." There was a scavenger hunt, in which the kids searched for pictures of foods that were harvested. On each picture were questions or bible verses that they each had to read and answer. This was followed by general discussions. The kids were so eager to read and surprised us with very thoughtful answers! There were rewards for each question answered. This was followed by the decorating of various sizes of real pumpkins donated by our partners in Christ from Webster Hills UMC. Even the adults took part in this activity! Afterwards, each person made their own yummy yogurt parfait using plain yogurt with a choice of blueberries and/or strawberries and cinnamon or raisin granola. Each child received a small bag of Halloween candies as they departed. Thanks to all volunteers which included 2 from Webster Hills and to Frank Martin & family who made the candy donations.

