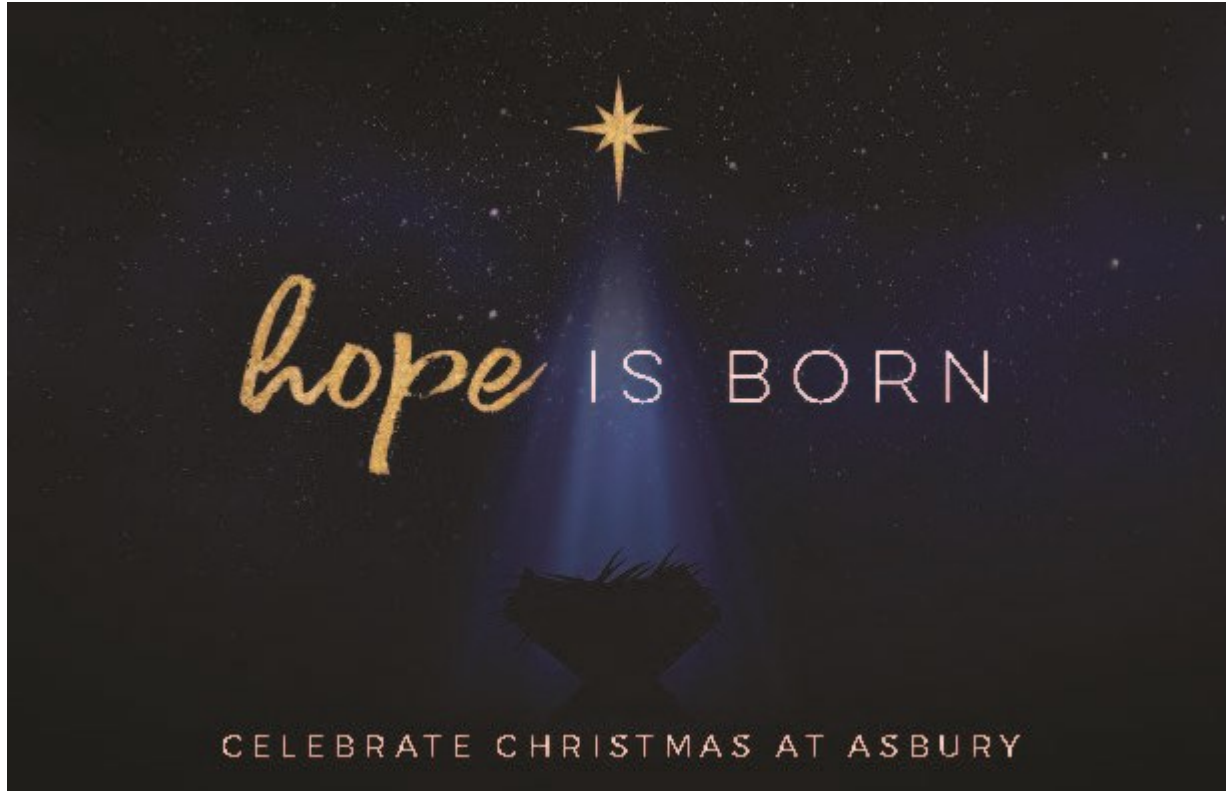


ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LOVING...SERVING...TRANSFORMING LIVES
DECEMBER 15, 2024 ~ 10:00 AM (IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICES)

“Rejoicing in Hope”



MISSION STATEMENT

Love God and one another, serve our community, and transform lives.

VISION

A radically inclusive community, empowered to spread God’s love throughout the world.

BELIEFS

We believe all are created in the image of God. We believe God loves everyone and through Christ saves-revives-renews the world. We believe God through the Holy Spirit changes lives. We believe the church is the body of Christ with a mission. We believe the Bible is the word of God. We believe that God has gifted everyone and the church for the purposes of God. We believe discipleship is a continuing journey.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2024 ~ 10:00 AM WORSHIP (IN-PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE)

†† = Those who are able may stand

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills
†INTROIT	<i>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep SilenceFrench Carol Melody</i>	
†GATHERING HYMN		<i>Heralds of Christ (567 UMH)</i>
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES		Mooring Family
MORNING PRAYER		Brenda Reid-Sanders
PRAYER RESPONSE		<i>Alleluia....Jerry Sinclair</i>
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Brenda Reid-Sanders
EPISTLE LESSON	Philippians 4:4-7	Henry Brown
†GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 3:7-18	Henry Brown
SERMONIC SELECTION		<i>Even Now, Come! ...Faithe Smith</i> Patrick Wilkerson soloist
SERMON	“Rejoicing in Hope”	Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills Lead Pastor
†INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP		<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (224 UMH)</i>
STEWARDSHIP MOMENT & INVITATION TO GIVE		Brandye Lee
OFFERTORY SELECTION		<i>While We are Waiting, Come ...Don Cason</i>
†DOXOLOGY		<i>Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>
†SENDING HYMN		<i>Hail to the Lord's Anointed (203 UMH)</i>
†DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills
POSTLUDE		<i>In the Garden....C. Austin Miles</i> Everett Williams

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Minister of Music: Everett P. Williams, Jr.

Music: Asbury Ensemble

Liturgists: Brenda Reid-Sanders and Henry Brown

Trustee on Duty: Rene' Carter

Third Sunday of Advent Candle of Joy



Reader 1: Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Peace. We light it and the Candle of Hope again as we remember Jesus, born in Bethlehem, our hope and our peace.

Reader 2: Today we will light the Third Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. We light the Candle of Joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting joy on earth. Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

(Say as you are lighting the Hope, Peace, and Joy candles—2 purple and 1 pink)

Reader 3: We light the candles of **HOPE**, **PEACE**, and **JOY**



Asbury's Week At-A-Glance

Sunday, December 15, 2024

9:00 am—All-in-One Sunday School, Ages 4-12, 3rd floor, Room 208

9:00 am—Adult Sunday School, Library

10:00 am — Worship Service (in-person and online via Livestream, [Link](#)), Dial In: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 861 5564 3955, Passcode: 123456

Monday, December 16, 2024

3:00 pm — Asburyan Deadline

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

11:00 am—Office Weekly Staff Meeting, via Zoom

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

8:00 am — Melodies of Faith Advent Study, Carol Travis, (Zoom [Link](#)), Dial In: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 847 1226 5946, Passcode: 238841

6:00 pm — Melodies of Faith Advent Study, Rev. Ianther Mills, (Zoom [Link](#)), Dial In: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 847 1226 5946, Passcode: 238841

7:00 pm—Combined Finance/Church Council Meeting, via Zoom [Link](#), Dial-In: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 879 4074 8235 , Passcode: 543758

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Friday, December 20, 2024

Saturday, December 21, 2024

9:00 am — Melodies of Faith Advent Study, Tawana Jackson and Rev. Clyde Nelson, (Zoom [Link](#)), Dial In: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 847 1226 5946, Passcode: 238841

9:00 am—Food Pantry Distribution, Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm –Live Nativity, On the Lawn



From The Senior Pastor's Desk

December 2024

Word for the Month: HOPE

Scripture of the Month: Luke 1-2

Thought for the Month:

Join us as we read *Melodies of Faith: An Advent Devotional for African American Churches & Families*. *Melodies of Faith* is more than a devotional—it's a journey through the heart of the holiday seasons, designed to deepen your faith and bring your family closer together. Daily reflections from distinguished contributors guide you through the sacred seasons, offering hope, peace, joy, and love. Engage with scripture and music that celebrate the rich heritage and traditions of the African American church. Thought-provoking reflection questions encourage meaningful conversations at home and in church communities. Special litanies, prayers, and songs for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany enrich your worship experience. Join us in celebrating the miracles of Advent, the joy of Christmas, and the revelations of Epiphany with this beautifully crafted devotional.

Emphasis for the Month: ADVENT/
CHRISTMAS

Pastor's Book of the Month: *Melodies of Faith: An Advent Devotional for African American Churches & Families* - editors Charisse L. Gillett and Tanya J. Tyler



Asbury United Methodist Church is a Lighthouse Congregation of the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am — 3:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am — 1:00 pm (**Office Closed**)

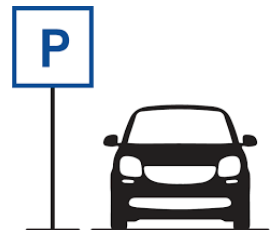
Parking Instructions

Monday—Friday

Asburyans and guests, on church business, should park in the parking garage and bring the printed parking ticket with them to be validated in the church office. Park on levels P2 or P3 and take the elevator to the "G" level to exit the building (to the left toward 11th Street). Drivers will scan the front of the ticket (invoice) and then scan the back (the payment). Push the call button if you have any issues and the LAZ Garage Staff will assist you.

Saturday & Sunday

Parking is available on Saturday and Sunday until 4 pm (unless otherwise noted). Park on levels P2 or P3 and take the elevator to the "G" level to exit the building (to the left toward 11th Street). The church provides parking passes (half sheet paper passes) to use as you exit the garage. **You must give the parking attendant your printed ticket and the parking pass.**



JOIN US



ONLINE

LIVE
STREAMING HD

www.asburyumcdc.org
Click WATCH LIVESTREAM

You Tube

www.youtube.com/c/AsburyUMCDCNewChannel

f LIVE

www.facebook.com/asburyumcdc/

zoom

Dial-In: (301) 715-8592
Meeting ID: 861 5564 3955#
Password: 123456#



WAYS TO GIVE

you can conveniently give this week
in the following ways:



IN PERSON

use an envelope
or write a check



ONLINE

visit our website
www.asburyumcdc.org
Click GIVE button



TEXT

text "GIVE"
to (202)952-9309



MAIL

send check to
Asbury UMC
926 11th St NW
Washington, DC 20001



Adult Sunday School

Adult Members and Friends! Are you looking for a new avenue of spiritual enrichment, refocus or additional clarity? Come, join us at Asbury for Sunday School. We have just begun our 2024 Fall series and discussions have been enlightening and uplifting. We invite you to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the church library.

For more information, contact Patrice Blackman, patriceghb@gmail.com or 301-922-9020.

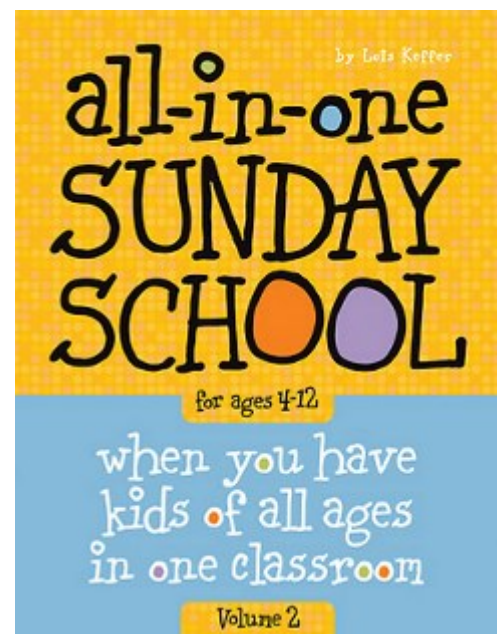
All-in-one Sunday School

Sunday Mornings

Ages 4-12

9:00-9:50 am

Located on 3rd floor, Room 208





hope IS BORN

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT ASBURY

JOIN US

EVERY SUNDAY IN DECEMBER
FOR A SPECIAL SERIES

Christmas Hope

~ 10:00 AM ~

LIVE NATIVITY

12/21 ~ 6:00 PM

MUSICAL CELEBRATION

12/22 ~ 10:00 AM

CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS & CAROLS

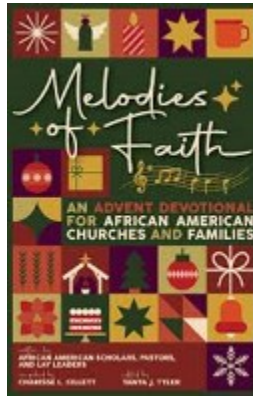
12/24 ~ 7:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE

12/31 ~ 7:00 PM

Melodies of Faith

An Advent Study



Melodies of Faith: An Advent Devotional for African American Churches & Families is more than a devotional—it's a journey through the heart of the holiday seasons, designed to deepen your faith and bring your family closer together. Daily reflections from distinguished contributors guide you through the sacred seasons, offering hope, peace, joy, and love. Engage with scripture and music that celebrate the rich heritage and traditions of the African American church. Thought-provoking reflection questions encourage meaningful conversations at home and in church communities. Special litanies, prayers, and songs for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany enrich your worship experience. Join us in celebrating the miracles of Advent, the joy of Christmas, and the revelations of Epiphany with this beautifully crafted devotional.

Join a Study/Discussion Group

Dates: December 1-January 6

Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. (on Zoom) Carol Travis
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. (on Zoom) Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills
Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. (on Zoom) Tawana Jackson & Rev. Clyde Nelson

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84712265946?pwd=S6vqTmyCiqTsgklxgvKUwaakbByN5A.1>

Meeting ID: 847 1226 5946

Passcode: 238841

Dial-in: (301) 715-8592

The devotional **Melodies of Faith** is available from Amazon, Christianbook.com, and Cokesbury.

Live Nativity



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

6:00 PM

(on the lawn)

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

926 11th Street NW | Washington, DC 20001

www.asburyumcdc.org

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Asbury Methodist Church Annual Poinsettias Dedication

This annual event gives you an opportunity to express love “In Memory of” or “In Honor of” your beloved ones during the Christmas Season. Your Poinsettias will beautifully adorn the church. To place your order, please complete the form below. Give the completed form with donation to Pat Crudup, or Judith Roberts.

Pat Crudup (pacrudup@gmail.com/ 202- 215-9622)

Judith Roberts (judy823@aol.com/ 202- 528-2889)

DONATION: \$20.00 per name

ORDERS DUE BY: December 15, 2024

IN MEMORY OF

1. _____ Relationship _____

2. _____ Relationship _____

3. _____ Relationship _____

Presented by: _____

Quantity _____ Amount \$ _____ Phone Number _____

If I am unable to be in attendance, I would like for _____ to pick up my Poinsettia(s).

IN HONOR OF

1. _____ Relationship _____

2. _____ Relationship _____

3. _____ Relationship _____

Presented by: _____

Quantity _____ Amount \$ _____ Phone Number _____

If I am unable to be in attendance, I would like for _____ to pick up my Poinsettia(s).

ALL POINSETTIAS ARE SCHEDULED FOR PICKUP AFTER THE 10:00 am Worship Service Sunday, December 22, 2024.





Loving God and Others... Serving Our Community... Transforming Lives

December 4, 2024

Dear Asbury Church Family,

By the grace of God we have had another amazing year. These are a few highlights:

- We were blessed to offer a hybrid worship experience every Sunday and on special days.
- On Easter Sunday we reached over 1,200 people through our in-person services and livestreaming on YouTube and Facebook.
- We supported our community through the Nehemiah Fund, Food Pantry, Sunday Morning Outreach, and Dinner Church, partnering with organizations that include Downtown DCBID, Impact Fellowship Church, SHARE Network, Mulholland Foundation, and Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness for a broader outreach.
- We supported the following organizations that serve young people: Project Transformation, TraRon Center, Homeless Children's Playtime Project, and Thomson Elementary School.
- Our Sunday school has resumed classes in-person for children, youth, and adults.
- We continue to connect online with bible studies, small groups, workshops, panel discussions, fellowship opportunities, and administrative meetings.
- Our Music Ministry continues to inspire us with the Asbury Ensemble and gifted vocalists and instrumentalists from the Washington Metropolitan area.
- We have remained current and are committed to paying 100% apportionments in connectional responsibility to support Baltimore-Washington Conference and world missions.

Accomplishing these things has not been without financial challenges. It has required that we reduce staff and significantly tighten our ministry budget. At the same time, we are continuing to work hard at meeting the challenges of major repairs to our aging building. The repairs include the bell tower, the educational building roof, the elevator, plumbing, HVAC, and flooring. These necessary repairs are beyond our planned operating budget.

We invite you to help us finish the year strong with an end-of-year financial gift to Asbury. **As you review your giving and the many ways God has blessed you in 2024, prayerfully consider catching up on your pledge. And in this season of gifting, why not make a Christmas gift to Asbury?** You can donate by contributing online at www.asburyumcdc.org; giving through your banking institution; texting GIVE and the amount to (202) 952-9309; or mailing a check to the church office at Asbury United Methodist Church, 926 11th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001. (Please note: In order for these gifts to be tax deductible for this calendar or tax year, they must be postmarked and/or given on or before December 31, 2024.)

Thank you for helping your Asbury church family accomplish the vision God has given us.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Dr. I. M. Mills
Rev. Dr. Ianther M. Mills
Lead Pastor

Beverly Allen
Beverly Allen
Trustees Chair

Robert Corbitt
Robert Corbitt
Finance Chair

Darryl Wyles
Darryl Wyles
Stewardship Chair

THE STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING

Financial Update: 2024 Year-to-Date Giving Summary

Grace and Peace Faithful Asburyans,

Thank you for your past and ongoing stewardship! Your gifts support Asbury’s operations and the impactful ministries that serve our community. The 2024 monthly budget **giving target is \$94,229** (see the solid line in the graph below). **Through November**, we have met this target in April, July, and September (December 31, 2023 was a Sunday, resulting in funds deposited in January). 2024’s lower giving levels has negatively impacted our ability to fully fund our ministries. We ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your December gifts, to enable ending 2024 in a healthy financial position.

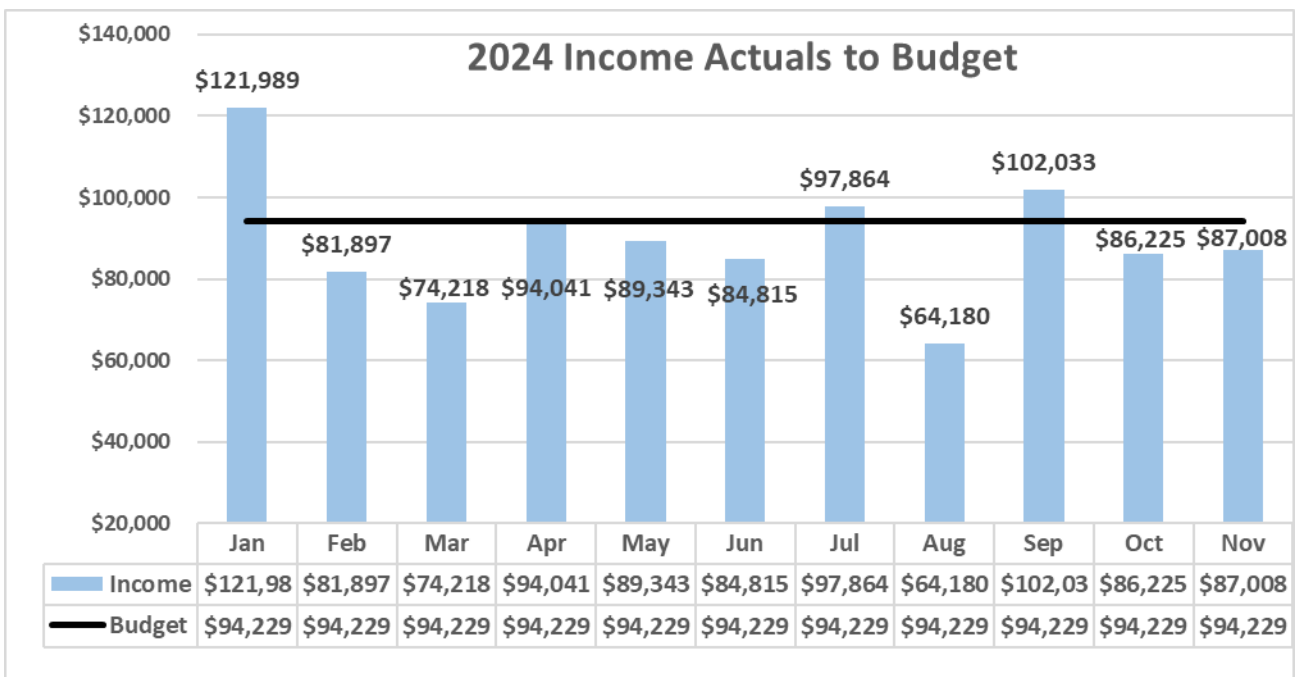
- **2 Corinthians 9: 6-8:** The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.
- **Luke 6:38:** Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

Robert J. Corbitt

Robert J. Corbitt, Jr.
Chairperson, Committee on Finance

Darryl Wyles

Darryl Wyles
Stewardship Chair



Asbury United Methodist Church
926 11th St. NW,
Washington, DC 20001

Coming Soon

January 2025

Membership Profile

As we embark on a new year filled with hope and renewed purpose, we are excited to announce an important initiative for our church community.

In 2025, we will be mailing out a Membership Profile to members of Asbury United Methodist Church.

Stay tuned for further information during the worship service each Sunday beginning in December or posted on our social media and website.

We encourage every member to participate.

Your Voice Matters!



Please fill out the profile and mail it back to the church in the return envelope. If you prefer, you can fill out the profile on our website.

Church Phone: (202) 628-0009
Website: asburymcdc.org



“JAF CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE”

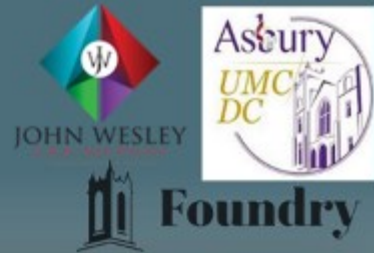
**Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma, Alabama
From Atlanta, Georgia**

Congregations of

**John Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church
Asbury United Methodist Church
Foundry United Methodist Church**

**June 16 – 21, 2025
[5 Nights / 6 Days]**

*“JAF is committed to challenging the unjust power structures
that support oppression and are working for equality in all
areas of life.”*



MARS Tours and Travel

“Southern Civil Rights Tour: Echoes of Justice”

Website/Registration Link: <https://takeafuntrip.wetravel.com/trips/southern-civil-rights-tour-echoes-of-justice-mars-tours-and-travel-50727806>

- ◇ Reservation Due by February 1, 2025 – No Deposit is Due at the Time of Online Registration
- ◇ First Deposit Due by April 17, 2025 - \$750.00
- ◇ Second Deposit Due by May 7, 2025 – Determined by the Room Occupancy Rate Category
- ◇ Final Deposit Due by June 2, 2025 – Determined by the Room Occupancy Rate Category



“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

THE UPPER ROOM — DAILY READING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
ISAIAH 9:1-7

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19
PSALM 3:1-8

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16
PSALM 31:19-24

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20
MATTHEW 7:7-14

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17
GENESIS 18:9-14

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
PSALM 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18
MATTHEW 5:13-16

GETTING AROUND

- ◆ There is an elevator in the Education Building that accesses all levels of the church—the sanctuary, the fellowship hall, and all the Sunday School rooms.
- ◆ Free parking is available Sundays in the garage adjacent to our 11th Street entrance. Pick up a parking pass from the 11th Street reception desk.
- ◆ Restrooms are on the lower level on either side of the narthex and on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

Asbury United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Ianther M. Mills, Lead Pastor

Everett P. Williams, Jr., Minister of Music

Tawana C. Jackson, Stephen Minister

Bishop Forrest Stith, Retired Bishop in Residence

Valentine Davies & Monica McEaddy, Lay Leaders

Rev. Dr. Johnsie Cogman, District Superintendent

Bishop LaTrelle Miller Easterling, Episcopal Leader of the Baltimore-Washington Conference

Visit asburymcdc.org for information about our ministries. Find us on Facebook and Twitter.

926 11th St., NW, Washington, DC 20001 ~ 202-628-0009 ~ asburymail@asburymcdc.org

Monday-Thursday ~ 8:00 am-3:00 pm / Friday ~ 8:00 am-1:00 pm Teleworking (The Office is Closed)