

NEW SIGN ERECTED

In mid-February Asbury's Administrative Council discussed how our congregation might respond to the hatefulness aimed at Muslims that is inconsistent with our Christian faith and with our nation's founding principles of religious freedom and pluralism. The Council requested the Mission and Outreach Committee to develop specific actions which our congregation might take to counter such hatefulness. Furthermore, in mid-March the United Methodist Church's General Commission on Religion and Race requested every church to: (1) welcome the immigrant and refugee- many of which are Muslims-in your midst; (2) seek opportunities to quell the fear and hate speech aimed at immigrant and refugee communities by rejecting all attempts to polarize, stereotype, and discriminate against them.

Asbury has responded to these requests in a variety of ways. The most recent response has been to erect a sign on the north-east corner of the church lawn reads as follows:

We welcome the immigrant and refugee in our midst

You are invited to look at the sign as you walk or drive past the church.

Veterans Day Parade

The Delaware Veterans Parade is set to step off from Ohio Wesleyan on Saturday, November 11 at 1pm. The parade will proceed through downtown Delaware and end at the Fairgrounds. Immediately following the parade there will be a Veterans Celebration and all are invited to attend. All Veterans are welcome to be part of the parade. The Parade is also open to local groups and businesses. For more information, please visit our website to obtain the application form: DelawareOhVeteransParade.com. Deadline to submit application is November 4. Volunteers are also welcomed. Please contact us for more information or with any questions at: DelawareVeteransParade@yahoo.com. Come support our Veterans and thank them for their service.



UMW Soup Lunch and Bake Sale

The United Methodist Women will be having the Soup Lunch and Bake Sale on November 12th after church as a fundraising event for UMW missions. The menu will include vegetable beef soup, potato soup, tomato basil soup, hot dogs, applesauce, and bread. Carry out will be available.

You will have an opportunity to sign-up to bring items for the bake sale and/or soup ingredients after church in the great room on Oct. 29 or Nov. 5 or you may call Linda Sheets (740-666-0619). We hope you can join us for fellowship and a delicious meal on November 12th.

Asbury United Methodist Church

October 22, 2017 Last Week's Attendance: 178



UMW General Meeting

Thursday, October 26, 7:00 p.m., Church Parlor

All are invited to join UMW members for a presentation on "Climate Justice" by Prof. Timothy L. Van Meter of Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Prof. Van Meter plans a brief presentation followed by plenty of time for questions and discussion.

Van Meter is Assoc. Professor in the Alford Chair of Christian Education and Youth Ministry and Coordinator of MTSO's Cross Cultural Program. He has been a leader of study and action at MTSO concerning ecology and climate justice. MTSO is actively involved in ecosystem projects such as the Seminary Hill Farm and installation of solar and geothermal systems.

Prof. Van Meter may be accompanied by Elaine Nogueira-Godsey, Asst. Prof. of Theology, Ecology and Race. On Oct. 24 at 7 p.m., she will be giving the annual MTSO Faculty Lecture, "Connecting Theology, Ecology and Race: A Conversation on Environmental Justice." The public is welcome.

There will be a brief UMW business session with election of 2018 officers, and time to enjoy fellowship and refreshments after the meeting. UMW Board members will host.



Weekly Activities October 22-28

Today—Messenger Deadline

4:00p Rabbits 'n' Smores.....McCoy

7:00p EYG.....McCoy

Monday

7:00p Trust Cmte..... Library

Boy Scouts.....Basement

Tuesday

7:00p Page Turners.....Library

Wednesday

4:15p Alleluia/Jr. Choir.....SS Class
& Great Room

5:15p MAP.....Library

5:30p Teen Choir.....Sanctuary

6:00p Bell Choir.....Great Room

7:00p Journey.....Library

Chancel Choir.....Great Room

Thursday

9:00a Messenger Mailing.....Library

7:00p UMW General Meeting.....McCoy

Friday

8:00a Prayer Group.....Library

Asbury Prayer Concerns

We welcome your participation in our prayer ministry.

Prayer Request cards are located in the pews and may be placed in the offering plate or the prayer box in the Great Room. We invite you to join the Prayer Group meeting every Friday at 8am in the Asbury Library. For additions, updates or changes to our prayer lists, please call the church office at (740)363-3611. If you would like to be part of Asbury's telephone prayer chain, please contact Julia Foster at (740) 363-3562.

IN OUR CONGREGATION



Steve Mead
Grace Lang Janet Gallant
Judy Smith Janet Schwab
Molly Michael Ed Hoar
Margaret Ellen Jones Sue Hetzel

FRIENDS IN NEED OF PRAYER

Juanita Wilden, Pastor Phil's mother
Kay Holfinger, Leslie Beyer-Hermesen's aunt
Steve Herminghausen and his wife, Georgia Blum
Ore Hall, father-in-law of Carrie Brulotte Hall
Leslie Wilkinson, friend of Carol Brulotte
Sharon and Leroy Gruber, sister and brother-in-law of Jacki Mills
Jon Cavanaugh, son of Janet Gallant

FAMILY AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Eric Proper, son of Larry & Sue Proper
Jesse & Valarie Long, Melody Long's son and daughter-in-law
Gabe Sheets, grandson of Carolyn Diersing
Jordan Humble, grandson of Sharon and Jim O'Neal

New Member Orientation

A new member orientation will be held on November 5 at 4:00pm. It will include discussion with current members and a tour of the church with dinner to follow at 5:30pm. If you would like to participate, please contact the church office at 740-363-3611 or email: church@asburyohio.org

Happy Birthday! Oct. 22—28

10/22: Anna Mae Ashburn;
Rebecca Wilden
10/25: David Todt; Lillian Todt
10/26: Marcella Smith
10/28: Carolyn Frobase; Marvin Philpott
Aaron Cook



SAVE THE DATE
Thursday, November 30,
5-8 pm

*Cookie Decorating for
Andrews House*

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Co-sponsored by
Lydia Circle & the Christian Education
Committee

Becoming a Reconciling Church: Moving Forward

by Brad Ross, Administrative Council Chair

During the past year, your Administrative Council has been actively engaged in pursuing a major goal established for 2017 — to determine if Asbury United Methodist Church should become a Reconciling Congregation and join the Reconciling Ministries Network. Instead of having a discussion or two during Ad Council meetings and then giving a thumbs up/thumbs down decision, the Council wanted you, the membership to have the opportunity to have “courageous conversations” about this important issue. If we were to do so, our church would be intentionally communicating to the community, both local and national, that our congregation welcomes people of all ages, nations, races and sexual identities. Joining the Reconciling Ministries Network would make resources available that would help us shape our mission to all people both inside and outside our doors.

Over the course of the past six months, these conversations have been held in committee meetings, Ad Council meetings and two open discussions. I have been extremely pleased with the content and depth of conversations, as well as the loving attitude of our membership as we have had agreements, disagreements, and discovery. If only our elected leaders could openly discuss issues of our nation in such a way!

Through all of these conversations, we have heard from a large percentage of the membership and will be moving forward to making a decision at the November 16 Ad Council meeting. If you feel you haven't had an opportunity to ask questions, express your opinion, or engage in conversation about becoming a reconciling congregation, you still have several opportunities. I would encourage you to email me (bradleyross@gmail.com) or call me (614-561-3723) to discuss anything you have on your mind. We will also have a few folks available following the worship service on October 29 and November 5 in the library if you would like to ask questions or express your thoughts. The November 16th Ad Council meeting is also open to all members and you may participate in the meeting at that time.

I thank all who have engaged themselves thus far in conversation. I witnessed a congregation that has grown closer as a family because of these conversations and am encouraged that we can continue having this level of conversations on other social/cultural issues in the future.

Peace to you all.