

THE ASBURY TRUMPETER



The Rev. Yohan Go, Pastor

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December 2024



Making Room

Recently, I learned the English expression "hustle and bustle." It captures the sense of being busy and bustling, and I also discovered that it's often used during the Christmas season. As Christmas approaches, our lives inevitably become more hectic. We decorate Christmas trees, shop for gifts to share with loved ones, and plan meals for gatherings. Truly, it's a season filled with hustle and bustle. Yet, amidst the year-end excitement and busyness, we may find ourselves losing a sense of peace in our hearts and risk overlooking the true meaning of Christmas.

Just as our lives today are filled with hustle and bustle, the world Jesus was born into was no less busy or chaotic. Two thousand years ago, Emperor Augustus issued a decree for a census across the Roman Empire, prompting people to travel to their hometowns to register. With so many people on the move, the roads, towns, and inns were overcrowded. Some were likely reconnecting with relatives and catching up with old friends, while others may have been hosting small welcome parties for family members arriving from afar. Yet, amid all this busyness, there was no place for baby Jesus, the Savior of the world, to be born.

While the Bible doesn't explicitly mention an innkeeper, tradition often envisions someone who found a way to offer a humble place for the mother-to-be. Whether the innkeeper welcomed Joseph and Mary for money or out of sympathy for the heavily pregnant Mary, we do not know. However, this person made room by moving the animals in the stable aside to create space for Mary. That night, the Lord was born and laid in a manger. That small space became the most sacred place.

This Advent, instead of letting ourselves be swept up in the busyness and excitement, let us make room in our hearts for the Lord. To create space for Jesus, take time each morning to pray. Following the Lord's words, "*What you have done for the least of these, you have done for me,*" dedicate some time and space to those who may not have the warmth of family or the abundance of Christmas to enjoy. Consider reaching out to someone in need, volunteering, or simply offering a kind word to a neighbor. In doing so, invite holiness into your daily life and reflect God's love in the world around you.

The Lord is coming. Let us prepare the way with joyful hearts—together as a community of faith.

Your Pastor Yohan Go



A Note from your Financial Secretary (Deb Rose)

I wanted to make our church members aware of something called a “Qualified Charitable Distribution” which allows individuals who must start taking money from their IRA’s as a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

A QCD allows you to donate up to \$105,000 total to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their RMD.

This donation, when made directly to the charity, is tax-free. You will need Asbury’s Tax ID number, so if you are interested in a QCD, please contact me and I will give the number to you.

I don’t know everything about this, but Frank and I used a QCD to make our annual pledge donation this year and it was very easy. You can also Google it on line for more information.



I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to each and every one of my bread helpers for contributing to the 2024 bazaar. Whether you mixed, braided, rolled, washed dishes, or bagged, I needed all of you to make the bread table the success it was again this year.

Because each year our “Bread Angels” pay for all the supplies, everything we sell is total profit. Also, Nancy Rowell, one of our members bakes numerous other breads and rolls at home to add to the grand total.

Each year we question how much longer we’ll be able to continue baking; as well as us getting older, the ovens are starting to show their age as well. But with God’s help and all of yours, we’ll continue with a smile on our face and a few aches and pains!

Sincerely,

Barbara Bishop





Dear Asbury Church Choir Members and Music Enthusiasts,

Weekly Choir Practice: A Sacred Time for Harmony and Growth

Each week, we come together not just to rehearse music but to create something extraordinary—a sound that glorifies God and uplifts our congregation. These moments of preparation are essential to our ministry, and your presence is invaluable.

- **Wednesdays:** 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Sundays:** 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Your dedication forms the foundation of our worship services. Let us commit to attending regularly and punctually, striving for excellence as we prepare to lead others in meaningful worship.

Welcoming New Voices: An Invitation to Serve Through Song

It is a privilege to welcome new members into our choir family. If you or someone you know feels called to serve the Lord through music, we invite you to join us. Whether you are a seasoned singer or new to the choir experience, your voice has a place here. Come to a practice session or contact me directly to learn more about this wonderful opportunity. Together, we will inspire hearts and glorify God through the gift of music.

Your Music Director: Leading with Faith, Passion, and Purpose

As your Music Director, I am honored to lead our choir in creating music that reflects God’s love and grace. My role is not just to guide you musically but also to support you spiritually and personally. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me. Together, we are building a music ministry that honors God and inspires our congregation.

Prayers and Support: United in Faith and Purpose

As we continue to grow as a choir and a community, I ask for your prayers. Please pray that our choir will glorify God, support our pastor's ministry, and bring grace to our congregation. If you have any prayer requests or need support, please feel free to share them with me or a fellow choir member. We are more than a choir; we are a family, united by our faith and purpose, supporting one another in love and grace.

Gratitude for Your Commitment and Faithfulness

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to the Asbury Church Choir. Every note we sing and every harmony we create is a testament to God’s glory. Through our music, we have the privilege of transforming lives, uplifting spirits, and spreading His love. Let us continue to make a joyful noise unto the Lord and inspire others with the power of our ministry. May God bless and guide us as we faithfully serve Him through music.

With gratitude, blessings, and love,
Hanna Noh
Music Director, Asbury UMC
857-231-0567



Staff Gifts

Certainly one of the cheeriest responsibilities for any Staff Parish Relation Committee Chair is to request donations toward Christmas gifts for our truly dedicated staff here at Asbury UMC. Your giving allows us to thank our music director Hanna, our office administrator Lori, our church sexton Gary and of course, Pastor Yohan.

Again this year, our staff worked faithfully, diligently and selflessly for us, always in tune with our many and varying needs here at Asbury.

I am asking you to be as generous as possible when giving this year. Please look for reminders in Pastor Yohan's weekly emails and during the announcements on Sundays. Please make checks payable to Asbury UMC with Staff Gifts on the memo line, give your check or cash to me on Sundays, or mail it to the church office in my attention.

The deadline for giving is Sunday, December 15th so that our gifts may be presented at the December 22th morning worship service.

Thank you for your continued generosity recognizing our hardworking staff.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Diane Newman-Goins
SPRC Chair



Gifts for the Staff

Help us grow

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow.

Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today!

Please visit our website and click on the giving link.

[https://
www.asburyumc.org/](https://www.asburyumc.org/)

[https://
www.asburyumc.org/
giving](https://www.asburyumc.org/giving)



The deadline for the January Newsletter is Saturday, December 25th .
Thank you!



Joan White is still collecting empty medicine/pill bottles.



ASBURY BAGS OF CARING (ABC Bags)

The Women's Group has put together more bags to take and give to someone that is in need of some hygiene products , snacks and etc...

To date we have made \$7,923.27 from our annual Christmas Bazaar! Thank you to everyone who helped achieve our goals!



Dear friends, the message last Sunday reminded us that economic disparity runs rampant locally and globally. You have always been a giving congregation and once again, your generosity and kindness has shone through to those in need. We collected 42 hats, 48 pairs of gloves, 60 pairs of socks and 4 scarves. These items have been sent to the school system in Warwick. The contact person was overwhelmed, and overjoyed, as he already knew where and how to distribute these gifts from you. Thank you for helping keep some hands, heads, feet, and hearts a little warmer this winter. "May the Spirit lead you into more possibility and hospitality than you can imagine, making room in the Inn for all." The Mission Committee.



Volunteer with



Food For The Soul



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND LOVE TO COOK?

NO? WELL MAYBE YOU LIKE TO ORGANIZE OR SEND MOTIVATIONAL NOTES.

Helping at Food for the Soul may be just what you are looking for!

Help with grocery shopping, making soup, packaging, delivering or handing out food

Contact Jill Rowe or Asbury UMC via email, phone or Facebook

Soups made at Asbury with packaging and delivery from:
Lakewood Baptist Church
255 Atlantic Ave
Warwick, RI 02888

Veterans Charity Donation

Please take a moment to consider donating towards organizations that help those who struggle with serious depression. Suicide and self harm can be preventable. Let's help give someone a better Christmas this year. By donating \$5 or more you will get a gift that includes a votive candle, glass holder, tissues, 22" Veterans bracelet, Key ring charm "One day at a time" and a Heartfelt Prayer card to give to someone struggling this holiday





Winter celebration



ASBURY UNITED METHODIST
SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH 4:30-6:30 PM

550 Fair Street Warwick, RI
(Just off Narragansett Pkwy)

JOIN US AT OUR INDOOR/OUTDOOR EVENT
All indoors for inclement weather

**CHURCH LIGHTING, ADULT & CHILDREN'S
CRAFTS, CAROLING, HOT BEVERAGES
& HAVE IT YOUR WAY S'MORES!**

**You read it right! Indoor S'mores with all the
fixin's! You make we bake!**

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A FRIENDLY AND CARING CHURCH
TO COME TO FOR THE HOLIDAYS? A PLACE YOU'LL WANT
TO COME TO AGAIN AND AGAIN?
GET A SNEAK PEAK AT OUR 12/14 CELEBRATION!

**Get updates and more at FB: [AsburyUMCWarwick](#)
IG: [Spirit.led_Neverdead](#) or email:
asburyumcri@gmail.com**





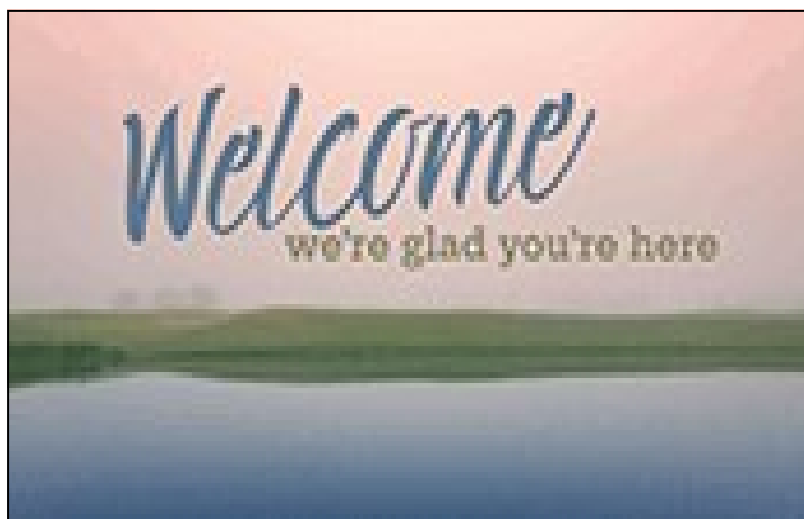
December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

~Birthdays~

- 2 Ashley Anderson Williams
- 3 Kevin Quinn
- 6 Amy Quinn Morin
- 7 Isla Poplar Arnold
Bob Bradbury
Grant Horatio Taylor
Seamus Sullivan O'Rourke
- 8 Annie Olive Arnold
- 10 Logan Moore
- 11 Barbara Marcoccio
- 13 Cheryl Francis
- 14 Nadia McGovern
- 17 Stephen Blanche
- 19 Deb Marshall
- 20 Zach Diffley
- 23 Carter Harrell
Jacob Harrell
Dawson David Whitham
- 24 Janice Anderson
- 28 Michelle Dorsey
Allison McGovern
- 29 Joann Mancini
- 30 Jordan Jones

~December Upcoming Events~

- 1 Worship Service 9:30 am
- 3 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am—12 pm
Pastor's Advent Reading 10:00 am
- 4 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am—12 pm
Women's Book Study 9:30 am
Choir Practice 7:00pm - 9 pm
- 8 Worship Service 9:30 am
Choir Practice 8:00 am - 9 am
Coffee Hour after service
- 10 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am—12 pm
Pastor's Advent Reading 10:00 am
- 11 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am—12 pm
Women's Book Study 9:30 am
Choir Practice 7:00 pm—9 pm
- 15 Worship Service 9:30 am
Choir Practice 8:00 - 9:00 am
Coffee Hour after service
- 17 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am—12 pm
Pastor's Advent Reading 10:00 am
- 18 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am—12 pm
Women's Book Study 9:30 am
Choir Practice 7:00 pm-9 pm
- 22 Christmas Eve Service 9:30 am
Choir Practice 8:00 am - 9 pm
Coffee Hour after service
- 29 Worship Service 9:30 am



Top Ten Things You Can Do On Our Website

Look at all the useful information update weekly on **AsburyUMCRI.org!** Check it out!

- 1) Check for worship schedule, COVID and weather status
- 2) Refer to each Sunday's bulletin and announcements (back to 2020)
- 3) Read historical sermon transcripts (back to 2019)
- 4) Refer to monthly newsletters (back to 2019)
- 5) Click to access our secure online financial giving site (set up one-time or recurring pledges/gifts, see your online giving history)
- 6) See information about major events at the Church
- 7) Find free food resources in the area when in need
- 8) See our Pastor's biography
- 9) Look at our gallery of pictures (work in progress- send Tim W. or the office pictures you'd like added)
- 10) Contact the Pastor or Staff via secure message

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