

THE ASBURY TRUMPETER



The Rev. Yohan Go, Pastor

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December 2023

The Gift of Being Present



Time flies! We are entering the last month of 2023. Time passes more quickly as we age, and we can keenly feel its fleeting nature. As David Vacchina approached his 100th birthday, I had the privilege of visiting him. In the course of our conversation, he shared, "I used to say that I live one day at a time, but now I live an hour at a time." It serves as a reminder that we only truly live in the present moment. Echoing the sentiments of Eckhart

Tolle, "Realize deeply that the present moment is all you ever have." However, our ability to fully embrace the present is often hindered by past regrets and future worries. Yet, God created us to live in the present.

Advent, a season often filled with concerns about organizing busy schedules and finding the perfect Christmas gifts, is an opportune time to reflect. While the act of giving gifts expresses our love for others, sometimes the most significant gift is our very presence. During my summer visit to Korea, I stayed at my mother's house. My presence brought with it additional tasks for her – preparing meals and tidying up the room where I stayed. Curious, I asked her, "Why are you so happy preparing a meal for your all-grown-up son?" She responded, "I don't know, but I am happy." Indeed, our very presence can be the best present. Similarly, we have already received the ultimate gift – the presence of God among us. "The Holy Living One is with you." (Isaiah 41:10)

While we may not always feel God's presence in the midst of our struggles, challenges, and busyness, Advent invites us to practice being present and mindful of God's presence. Throughout this Advent season, we will explore the spiritual practice of Christian mindfulness with the book, "Right Here, Right Now." I invite you to join our advent book study. My prayer is that we can uncover the gift of being present with hope, peace, joy, and love during this blessed Christmas season.

Peace,
Yohan Go

**The deadline for the January Newsletter
is Monday, December 25, 2023.**

Thank you!



Just a quick, but BIG, thank you to every one of you that helped make the bread table a success once again. Between the 224 cardamom breads, 76 cinnamon buns, Nancy Rowell's 3 types of dinner rolls and 4 other delicious breads, we raised a total of \$2,118! Without my tireless workers, the dishwashers and my husband assisting me every step of the way, it wouldn't have been possible! Once again our bread angels came through and paid for our supplies, as well as a generous donation by another member. When we're finished, we're a bit beat up, but with God watching over us we made it through another year. Praying we all stay healthy for next year.

Sincerely,
Barbara Bishop

**Thanks,
Everyone!**



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.asburyumcricri.org/](https://www.asburyumcricri.org/)


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






Dear Asbury Church Choir Members and Music Enthusiasts


We are excited to bring you the latest news and updates from our beloved Asbury Church Choir! Our dedicated choir has been working tirelessly since February to share the gift of song, and we were thrilled to reunite and glorify God again during last week's worship service. Here's what's happening in the choir this month:

 Weekly Choir Practice:


Please remember that our choir practices are held every Wednesday from 7-9 PM and Sunday morning from 8-9 AM at Asbury Church. We encourage all members to attend regularly and punctually, as your commitment contributes to beautiful harmonies and an inspiring worship experience.

 Welcoming New Members:

We feel incredibly blessed to welcome new members into our choir family. If you or someone you know has a passion for music and wishes to serve the Lord through song, please join us during our practice hours or contact our music director to learn more. New members of all ages and skill levels are always welcome!

 Asbury Music Director:

As the Asbury Music Director, I am honored and privileged to guide our choir in fostering an uplifting and spiritual atmosphere for our congregation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I am always here to provide guidance and support.

 Prayer Requests and Support:

As we continue to cultivate and nurture our choir community, we encourage everyone to keep each other in their prayers. If you have any prayer requests or need support, please feel free to share them with us. We are here for you, and together, we can uplift one another.

Thank you for your dedication to the Asbury Church Choir. May the Lord continue to bless our ministry and guide us in our mission to spread His love through music.

Sincerely,
Hanna Noh
Music Director, Asbury UMC
857-231-0567





December 2023						
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						

December

- 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



~Upcoming Events~

- 3 Worship Service 9:30 am
- 5 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30am-12 pm
- 6 Pastor's Hours 9:30am-12 pm
Women's Book Study 9:30am
Choir Practice 7:00 pm-9pm
- 10 Worship Service 9:30 am
- 12 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30am -12 pm
- 13 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30am-12 pm
Women's Book Study 9:30 am
Choir Practice 7:00pm -9 pm
- 17 Worship Service 9:30 am
- 19 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am-12 pm
- 20 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am-12 pm
Women's Book Study 9:30 am
Choir Practice 7:00pm-9pm
- 24 Advent Morning Worship 9:30 am
Christmas Eve. Service 5:00 pm
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30am-12 pm
- 27 Pastor's Office Hours 9:30 am-12 pm
- 31 New Year's Eve Worship 9:30 am





Holliman Food Pantry

Mark D’Aiello contacted me about the Holliman Nest Food Pantry. Jessica Bonneau, one of Holliman’s kindergarten teachers, is working with Mark and Pete San Giovanni, Urban Sociology teacher at Pilgrim High School, to restart the Holliman Nest Food Pantry. They are looking for a startup date of the 2nd week in January. Canned and jarred foods will be accepted

Pilgrim students will be available to meet parents after school to pick up food. They will also be available to deliver food if needed.

Mark stated that the need is greater than ever this year as food insecurity is on the rise and asked me to share his and the Holliman’s faculty’s sincere appreciation for our on-going support of Holliman and in our community.

Diane Newman-Goins

THANK YOU ALL FOR HELPING !!!!

Our collection of items to help keep people warm was a success with the following items donated. These will be taken to Project Outreach for distribution.

- 72 Pairs of socks
- 31 Hats
- 31 Pairs of gloves
- 6 Scarves
- 3 Earmuffs

Thank you again for being so generous.

Mission Committee



It’s that time to order a Christmas poinsettia

in memory of or to honor a loved one. Poinsettias will be placed in the Chancel on December 19th and will remain until after the Christmas Eve Service .

Pick-up will be done one person at a time.

Please complete the form below and mail or give it to:

Becky Arnold

80 Massasoit Drive

Warwick RI 02888

781-2111 or 935-5906

Please enclose cash or a check for \$15.00 for each plant, made payable to Asbury UMC.

Orders need to be in by December 8th.

Poinsettia Order

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **email** _____

In Honor of _____

or

In Memory of _____

By (As you wish to be Listed) _____

Check or cash in the amount of _____

Want Plant _____

Do Not Want Plant _____



westbay community action

Helping people. Changing lives.

November 6, 2023

Asbury UMC
143 Annmary Brown Drive
Warwick, RI 02888

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for recently donating 353 pounds of food.

Donations like these will benefit Westbay and the families and individuals who visit us for help in meeting their basic needs.

We are proud to be Kent County's largest multi-service agency serving the basic needs of Kent County residents and helping families gain greater self-sufficiency. We remain grateful for your continued generosity and care for those in need. Nothing warms our hearts more than seeing our community unite, helping people and changing lives.

For your records, Westbay Community Action, Inc.'s Tax ID number is 05-0311985.

To learn more about our programs and keep apprised of our activities and good works, please visit our website at westbaycap.org and/or find us on Facebook at facebook.com/WestbayCmty.

Yours truly,

Paul A. Salera
President/CEO

Administration Offices:

224 Buttonwoods Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886
Phone: 401.732.4660 Fax: 401.732.6965
Visit us on the web: westbaycap.org

The mission of Westbay Community Action, Inc. is to empower and mobilize people through our programs, partnerships and advocacy to gain greater self-sufficiency.



Staff Gifts

Perhaps the most pleasant task 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.

All of our staff worked diligently for Asbury aware of the nuances and needs of our small but mighty church.

Once again I am asking you to be as generous as possible when giving. 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, and then give your check or cash to me.

The deadline for giving is Sunday, December 17th so that our gifts may be presented at the December 24th morning worship service.

Thank you for your continued generosity toward our hardworking staff.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Diane Newman-Goins
SPRC Chair



The Christmas Card Tree is set up in the Dahlquist Room!! Please bring your card to church and tack it to the tree. Everyone can see your greeting! Plus you've saved cards, postage and your time!

Merry Christmas!



RECIPE CORNER



Sweet Potato Casserole

from Linda Mills

3 cups mashed sweet potato

½ cup butter, softened

½ cup evaporated milk

¼ cup sugar

¼ teaspoon salt

Topping:

2/3 cup brown sugar

¼ cup margarine, softened

1 cup pecans or walnuts

Directions:

1. Combine sweet potatoes with the next 4 ingredients in a 1 ½ quart casserole dish
2. Mix topping ingredients, sprinkle on top of potato
3. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes



Pumpkin Sheet Cake

from Marion Lightsey

1 can pumpkin

2 cups sugar

1 cup canola oil

4 eggs

2 cups flour

2 teaspoons baking soda

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ teaspoon salt

Directions:

1. Beat pumpkin, sugar and oil together
2. Add lightly beaten eggs
3. Mix dry ingredients together, add to pumpkin mixture, beat well
4. Place batter in greased jelly roll pan (15x10x1")
5. Bake at 350° for 25-30 minutes
6. Let cool, then frost with cream cheese frosting or dust with powdered sugar



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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