

THE ASBURY TRUMPETER



The Rev. Dr. Yohan Go, Pastor

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Finance Chair's Report

For the past few years I have used this space in our annual Church Conference booklet to review our financial highlights. Those highlights have included assistance from the New England Annual Conference in the form of Mission Shares relief, Equitable Compensation assistance, and special grants – including most recently a Technology grant and a “Food for the Soul” grant; special allocations from bequests and gifts; support from our partners at Zion Korean UMC and Haven UMC to share in the utility expenses at the Parsonage; and, during the pandemic, help from the Federal government through the Paycheck Protection Program.

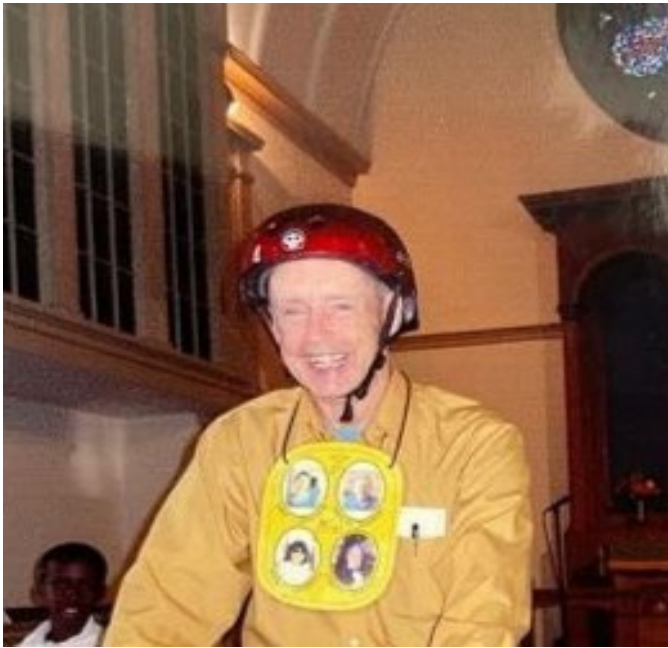
This year I want to use this space to say thank you. Thank you to the people who have supported our church family with their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their time, and their witness. Thank you to the people of this church for supporting one another in friendship and love. Thank you to this church family for refusing to be crushed by this awful pandemic.

Thank you for letting me serve as Finance Chair for three exceptional Church Council Chairs – Cynthia Norton, Joan White, and Jan Jones. Thank you for allowing me to serve with a remarkable group of Finance Committee members and volunteers: David Dorsey, our Treasurer; Joyce Moore and April Parker, our Assistant Treasurers; Debra Rose, our Financial Secretary; Kerri Dorsey, our Lay Leader; Tim Webb, Lay Member to the Annual Conference; Jan Jones, Church Council Chair; Warren Cole, President of the Trustees; Diane Goins, SPRC Chair who is represented at the Committee meetings by Debra Rose; Bob Hanke, Chair of the Permanent Investment Fund Committee; Andrea Dunn, representative from the Outreach Team; Patricia Smith-Disu, Member at Large; and our Pastor, Rev. Dr. Yohan Go. Not a sitting member of the Committee but critical to our efforts is Dianne Pratt, our Chief Steward who ensures the accurate recording and deposit of collections, and who is assisted by a faithful group of collection stewards; and Eric Jones, a remarkable gentleman of faith who has stepped up as a volunteer leader for our fund-raising efforts. Celeste Leal, our former Church Office Administrator, supported the work of our committee exceptionally for years; her work now falls to our new Office Administrator, Lori Brierly, whom we rely on to generate critical reports and maintain the files that help us continue to shine during our annual audits.

My time as Chair of the Finance Committee now comes to an end. I will be forever grateful to the people of this Committee for all they do for our beloved church family.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Lee H. Arnold, Chair



JOHN CARUTHERS OBITUARY

Born 1936 - Died 2022

He loved life and lived it to the fullest. He perfected the art of conversation to a religion. His joy overflowed to all who came in contact and knew him. Music gave him purpose and peace. John Miner Caruthers, after a long and fruitful life of 86 years, met his Creator and joined the heavenly choir from his residence at the Green Houses at United Methodist Senior Services in Tupelo on Dec. 23, 2022. John, known about Tupelo for his legendary means of transportation, his bicycle, was born in Memphis, Tn. on May 20, 1936 to the late Eugene T. Caruthers and Maxine Miner Caruthers.

At a young age, he developed a love for music taught to him by his Step- mother Ginnie Caruthers, with whom he had a close relationship. John could rip a piano up!! He graduated high school from the longtime prominent Castle Heights Military Academy in Lebanon, Tn. where he considered himself having the best Preparatory education in the land! John received his Bachelors Degree in Music from the University of Mississippi and later furthered his formal education with a Masters from Louisiana State University.

A born educator and lifelong student of learning, John had a full career as an elementary music teacher in the Rhode Island Public Schools retiring after 30 years. John moved to Tupelo about 12 years ago where he became a regular at musical and artistic functions in the area. His love of music led him to sing in the choir and play piano/organ for Sunday school at Tupelo's First United Methodist Church and later, at West Jackson St. Baptist Church, where he found great joy in the music and worship ministry there. A big fan of American Family Radio John's zeal and zest for life, living, singing and making music and serving his creator will be his legacy.

A service celebrating his life will be held at 11 AM Thursday, December 29, 2022 from the Sanctuary of West Jackson St. Baptist Church with his pastor, Dr. Keith Cochran officiating. Private burial will follow in Longtown Cemetery in Crenshaw, Ms. next to his parents. Visitation will be from 10 AM -service time on Thursday only at the Church. Holland Funeral Directors-Tupelo is honored to be serving their friends.

John has no immediate family remaining but was close friends to his first cousins, the Oscar Evans family and other relatives, Bobby Scott, and family members, as well as his West Jackson St. Baptist Church family and many friends in Tupelo who loved him and enjoyed his wonderful personality and presence.

Memorials may be made to West Jackson St. Baptist Church, 1349 W. Jackson St., Tupelo, Ms. 38801, American Family Association 107 Park Gate Drive, Tupelo, MS 38801 or [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#) 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105



Published by The Daily Journal on Dec. 27, 2022.

Thank you!

Thank you to so many for making Advent and Christmas so special, meaningful, and beautiful! With the inspiration of Jan and the hard work of Pastor Yohan, the Worship committee, and Chancel Guild, "Angels Among Us" became the theme for Advent and Christmas.

The beautiful music of Ahra, Hanna, Alice and Ned, and Warren enhanced our worship and brought us into a place of peace and joy each Sunday and service. Ned even wrote a musical piece about Joseph. The readers of which there were many each Sunday brought the Christmas story to life. The music of the musicians of Zion Korean church on Christmas Eve filled our hearts and minds. The children were so precious as they covered Baby Jesus in angel feathers, a gift of love.

The members of Chancel Guild created a beautiful sanctuary and chancel, adding more lights and feathers to remind us of angels. Several men of Asbury decorated the outside of church with angels, lights, and ornaments, creating a welcoming and inviting place to worship. To all, named and unnamed who made this season so special, thank you.

Every one of you is an angel, seen or unseen, a touch, a word of comfort, a gesture of love, a whisper....God be with you all.

Dear Asbury Family,

Thank you so much for your patience as I learn my job here at Asbury. It sure has been a challenging year for me!

I would like to thank all of the congregation for the generous Christmas gifts and all the nice things that you have done for me throughout the past year.

It has warmed my heart knowing that I have all of you folks here at Asbury that I can count on when life gets difficult.

From the bottom of my heart, I am forever grateful...

Lori Brierly

Office Administrator

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.asburyumcri.org/>

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4	Maryann Williams
6	Derek LaCroix
8	August Carl Whitham
10	Lisa Arnold Judy Rogers
14	Christine Mills
16	Patrick Rowe
17	Donna Dias
20	Cynthia Norton
22	Sara Capasso Dianne Pratt
23	Jessica Whitney
24	Steve Capasso Audra Drury
26	Marge Brindle

~ Upcoming Events ~

1	Worship	9:30am
2	Office Closed	9:30am - 12:00pm
3	Pastor is on Spiritual Retreat	
4	Women's Book Study	9:30am
8	Worship	9:30am
9	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am- 12:00pm
10	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am- 12:00pm
11	Women's Book Study	9:30am
15	Worship	9:30am
16	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am- 12:00pm
17	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am 12:00pm
18	Women's Book Study	9:30am
22	Worship	9:30am
23	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am 12:00pm
24	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am- 12:00pm
25	Women's Book Study	9:30am
29	Worship	9:30am
30	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30am-12:00pm
31	Pastor's Office Hours	9:30-12:00pm





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 butter, melted
- 1 cup pecans or walnuts

Directions:

1. Combine sweet potatoes with the next 4 ingredients in a 1½ quart casserole dish
2. Mix topping ingredients and sprinkle on top
3. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes

The deadline for the February Newsletter is Thursday, January 26, 2023. Thank you!



Peanut Butter Fingers from Marian Styles-McClintock

Layer 1

- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup peanut butter
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 1 ½ cup flour
- 1 cup quick cooking oats

Layer 2

- 6 ounces chocolate chips

Layer 3

- ½ cup powdered sugar
- ¼ cup peanut butter
- 2-4 teaspoons milk

Directions:

1. Cream butter, sugar and brown sugar together
2. Blend in the next 5 ingredients
3. Add flour and oats (add up to 2 tablespoons of milk if needed)
4. Spread in greased 13X9" pan
5. Bake at 350° for 20-25 minutes
6. Sprinkle immediately with the chocolate chips, then set aside
7. Combine Layer 3 ingredients
8. Spread melted chocolate chips evenly in pan
9. Drizzle with Layer 3 mixture, cool and then cut into small rectangles

As found in the 2005 Asbury UMC *Celebrating Food and Friendship* cookbook



TEDDY BEAR MINISTRY

It's time to replenish our teddy bear supply. You can refresh a teddy bear, wrap it up in a clear plastic bag, add a bow and bring it to church so that we can keep our teddy bear ministry going.

Everyone loves a teddy bear. There is just something about giving or receiving one of those furry animals that says you're loved and thought about. Our bears in church are waiting to be taken and given to someone special. This can be given for a joyful occasion like a special birthday, birth of a child, anniversary or any other celebrations.

They can also be given to someone who is having a bad week or just needs to be cheered up or a person who is not feeling well, or a person who has lost a loved one, or a special pet, people who are moving to a new location as well as people in a nursing home or in the military.

Anywhere and everywhere that the teddy bear will put a smile on a person's face is where our bears belong. Our bears are all over the United States and the world.

So think of someone and feel free to share a bear. If you do take a bear and would like to bring one back please feel free to give to any member of the church and ask that they pass it on to Linda Cameron.

Enjoy that warm and fuzzy feeling that bears can give. Blessings to all who take and receive our warm and fuzzy friends.



Project Outreach

The Asbury Gifts to Project Outreach were delivered and they were very happy. Some had been delivered to the McCauley House, some to a South Providence Elementary School and some to Kathy Blackburn for Project Outreach.

Here is a list of what was donated.

Children's gloves -21 pairs
Adult gloves -14 pairs
Scarves -5
Throws - 2
Children's socks -19 pairs
Adult socks - 41 pairs
Hats -58
Hat, scarf, glove sets -5
Ear muffs 2
Men's briefs - 6

A nice outpouring of Asbury love! Thank you so much for the donation of hats, mittens and hats for Project Outreach. Can't even believe how generous a small church like Asbury is!





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