

The Communicator Volume XXXVII Issue 1
FRANCIS ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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FRANCIS ASBURY UMC

PRAISING GOD • GROWING SPIRITUALLY • REACHING NEIGHBORS

THE COMMUNICATOR

Volume XXXVII Issue 1

JANUARY 2024

Welcome
to Our Church

Sunday
Worship
at
11 am

IN MINISTRY

Ministers & Missionaries-
ALL MEMBERS

Pastor	Avery White
Lay Leader	Val Grush
Music Director	Jess Mills
Administrator	Danya Sellers
Custodian	Glenda Shook
C&FM Director	Megan Serzan
Nursery	Amy Dayton
Faith C. Nurse	Dora Brown, RN



Join us for January Family Fun
"Game night in Pajamas"
on Sunday, January 14 at 4pm
in the Fellowship Hall.
Bring a **GAME** and **SNACK**
to share.
Fun for the whole church family!



WNCC UMC Equip & Connect Conference January 21-25, 2024

This conference is designed
for and open to all local
church leaders including lay
leaders, council members,
volunteers, and all who lead.

Connect virtually with other leaders across the conference and
learn about roles, best practices, and new ideas for ministry.
When you register, choose the topics in each breakout session
where you most relate and would like to participate in conversation.
(Sessions will be recorded and posted online after the conference.)

Attending the session will help you participate in dialogue,
watching the session later will help you glean information.

Here's the link for the complete schedule, to register and for more
information...<https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/EquipConnect2024>



Happy New Year! The beginning of a new calendar year is always an opportunity for us to look backwards and forwards at the same time. We reflect on the year that has just ended (and perhaps look back even further), and we dream about the year that is just beginning. Perhaps you want to take some time for reflection within your family, your marriage, your friendships, your small group, or your neighborhood. We will

also do this at Francis Asbury. Our Church Council leaders will gather for a time of reflection and goal setting that is specific to our congregation. Sunday school classes, small groups, teams, and committees are invited to do the same.

We will also begin a new sermon series this month called “Methodist Markers.” For five weeks, we will examine specific emphases of Methodism such as grace and connection. While we are first and foremost Christians, who hold fast to Orthodox Christian doctrine, we have chosen to live out our faith within the United Methodist Church. As with each denomination, there are some unique characteristics of Methodism with regard to doctrine and practice. Perhaps you have always wondered what those are.

To understand where we are now, it helps to know where we come from. The roots of Methodism go back all the way to the 1700’s, when a young Anglican priest sought to be faithful in his own life and ministry and worked for holiness and revival in his parish and denomination. In our series, we will consider how his witness grew into a movement that became a worldwide connection. Wesley taught that God’s grace is extended to all people, that we can choose whether or not to accept that gift, that we must practice our faith daily, that we are people of mercy and justice, and that we need one another on this journey.

Certainly, there is no perfect denomination, no perfect church, and no perfect pastor. In the year 2024, here in the Candler community, we are striving to live fully within God’s grace and grow in faith – individually and together. This month, as always, we will continue to live out our mission and serve our neighbors through our ongoing partnerships, monthly pantry, relationship building, small groups, bible studies, and more. I am grateful to be on the journey with you, and to be the Church together as we move into 2024!

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Avery



Thank you, Francis Asbury Church Family, for your very kind and generous Christmas gift to all our staff members!

We are blessed to serve this wonderful church family!
Happy New Year 2024!
With love-Pastor Avery,
Danya, Jess, Glenda Faye, Megan & Amy



On Sunday, Dec. 17, we were delighted to welcome our newest members, **The Nicholson Family (Mason and Emily, Emma Maye, Millie & Maisie)** into the FAUMC Family!



GATHERING on **Saturday, January 13, 2024** from **9am-12pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

All 2024 council members are urged to attend. Please see Pastor Avery with questions.



Our next FREE FOOD PANTRY & MARKET is Thursday, January 18 from **3-6pm** in the Gym.



The class is designed for those who are newer to Francis Asbury, or who desire to learn more and connect more deeply with our congregation. For some, the next step will be discussing church membership; however, this is not an expectation for joining the class. **Please sign up with Pastor Avery.**



JANUARY 7
Baptism of the Lord
Sunday
Scripture: **Mark 1:4-11**
No Communion

JANUARY 14
Scripture: **Psalms 119**
Sermon: **Methodist Markers: Practical Divinity**

JANUARY 21:
Scripture: **Ephesians 2:1-10**
Sermon: **Methodist Markers: Grace for All; Grace in All**

JANUARY 28:
Scripture: **Exodus 18:13-27**
Sermon: **Methodist Markers: Connection**

Pastor Avery will lead a two-week Newcomer Class on Sundays, January 28 & February 4 at 9:45am in the library.



2024 FAUMC DIRECTORIES will be printed in January. Do we have your correct address, phone number, email address, etc? Do we have your family's birthdates? Please see Danya Sellers ASAP, place any updates in the offering plate or box in the narthex, or email updates to office@faumc.com. Last date to submit updates is Jan. 10. Thank you for helping us maintain accurate records.



Children and Family Ministry Team Meeting
on **Sunday, January 7**
following worship



MEETING & BREAKFAST
Sunday, January 21
at **7:30am**
All Men are invited for good food & fellowship.



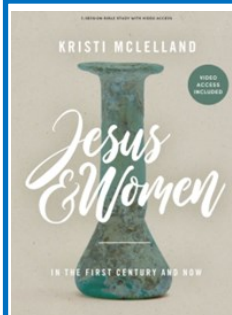
UM NextGEN-Night of Worship on **January 21** from 5-7 pm at **Covenant Community UMC** (11 Rocket Dr., Asheville, 28803). Students in grades 6-12, from across the Blue Ridge District, are invited for a night of food, fun, and worship. Please see Pastor Avery with ?s.



Francis Asbury UMC Gym
725 Asbury Road
Thursday, January 25 from **1:30 - 6 pm**
For an appointment, Call **(800) 733-2767**, **(828) 667-3950** or go to redcrossblood.org



JOY Meeting
on **Tuesday, Jan. 16**
at **10:30am** in the **FAB Room**.
All are Ladies are welcome!



Jesus & Women
Our Spring 2024 Ladies Bible Study will be "*Jesus and Women: In the First Century and Now.*" A 7-Session Study by Kristi McLelland.

Imagine walking the dusty roads of Galilee with Jesus of Nazareth—braving jostling crowds just to touch the edge of His cloak and hear Him say, "Take heart, daughter, your faith has healed you." Those words, once meant to comfort a hurting woman's soul thousands of years ago, were also meant for you. Join biblical culturalist Kristi McLelland on those dusty roads as she transports you back to Jesus' world, stepping into the footsteps of the women who came face to face with the living God. Over 7 sessions, examine the historical and cultural climate of first-century Middle Eastern society to not only understand Jesus more deeply but to fuel your worship of Him today. All Ladies Welcome!

Study Dates: Tuesdays at 6pm on **February 27; March 5, 19, 26; April 16, 23, 30; May 7.**

Facilitated by Becky Cantrall. Books are \$25 and include video access. **Sign-up in the Penley Room by January 31st.**



A Little Advice from Nurse Dora **RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR!**

This is the time of year when we think of what we might do to improve our health, happiness, productivity and well-being. So, here are some suggestions to consider:

Eat healthier and drink more water.

Eat more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats, and avoid overeating. Drink more water to hydrate your cells and organs, to flush out toxins and waste, to regulate your body temperature and blood pressure, and to improve your brain function and mood.

Exercise regularly to strengthen your muscles and bones, to burn calories and fat, to boost your metabolism and immune system, to improve your cardiovascular and respiratory health, and to elevate your mood and reduce stress.

Get enough sleep to enable your mind and body to rest and recover from the day's activities. To help your body repair your cells and tissues, to consolidate your memory and learning, to balance your hormones and emotions, and to restore your energy and alertness.

Set financial goals, such as:

- *To save more whether it be to shore up your emergency fund or to add to your retirement savings.
- *To create a budget which can help you set guidelines for what you can afford to spend and help you identify where you could cut back.
- *To pay off debt. The recommended strategy is usually to pay off your highest interest rate debt first, and to have a goal of paying credit card balances in full each month.

Practice gratitude daily.

Gratitude is the act of being thankful for what you have and appreciating the positive aspects of your life. Gratitude can improve your mental and emotional health, reduce stress and anxiety, enhance your relationships, and increase your happiness and satisfaction.

Wishing you a healthy and happy 2024!
Dora Brown, RN, Faith Community Nurse

IN MEMORY OF LLOYD PENLEY
GENERAL FUND
By Tony Brown

IN HONOR OF FRED & HEATHER HUDSON

EMS MINISTRY FUND
by Bat, Melanie, Malorie & Andrew Hudson



FAUMC WEATHER POLICY

- For FAUMC Sunday morning worship, closures will appear on **WLOS Closings**, our **Facebook page**, and a message will be on the **church office voice mail** (828-667-3950) by 8:30am.
- **No FAUMC Evening Activities**, if **No AB-Tech Evening Classes**.












JANUARY

2024



**Francis Asbury
United Methodist
Church**
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																	
<p>The January-February 2024 edition of the Upper Room devo is here.</p> 	<p>1 Office Closed New Year's Day</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3 10am Undecorating the Sanctuary 6-7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>4 5-7pm: Gym Reserved: Futsal 7-9pm: Gym Reserved: BVA</p>	<p>5 Office Closed</p>	<p>6 EPIPHANY</p> 																																																	
<p>7 10 Sunday School 11 Worship 12 Children & Family Ministry Team Meeting <i>Baptism of the Lord Sunday</i></p>	<p>8 3:30-4:30 Gym Reserved: FDNSC</p>	<p>9 11:15am PCPG 3:30-5:30 Gym Reserved: FDNSC NO January FAB Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm Gym: Cub Scouts</p>	<p>10 6-7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>11 7-9pm: Gym Reserved: BVA</p>	<p>12 Office Closed</p>	<p>13 9am-12pm Church Council Gathering in the Fellowship Hall 5-9:30pm Gym: Smoky Mountain</p>																																																	
<p>14 10 Sunday School 11 Worship 4pm Family Fun Game Night in Pajamas</p>	<p>15 Office Closed MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</p> 	<p>16 10:30am Joy Group 3:30-5:30 Gym Reserved: FDNSC 6:30-7:30 pm Gym: Cub Scouts</p>	<p>17 6-7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>18 3-5 pm in Gym</p>  <p>7-9pm: BVA</p>	<p>19 Office Closed</p>	<p>20</p>																																																	
<p>21 7:30 UMM Breakfast 10 Sunday School 11 Worship 5-7pm UM NextGEN Night of Worship at Covenant Community</p>	<p>22 3:30-4:30 Gym: FDNSC</p> 	<p>23 3:30-5:30 Gym Reserved: FDNSC 6:30-7:30 pm Gym: Cub Scouts</p>	<p>24 6-7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>25 11:15am PCPG 1:30-6pm in the Gym</p>  <p>7-9pm: BVA</p>	<p>26 Office Closed</p>	<p>27 5-9:30pm Gym: Smoky Mountain Dance Club</p>																																																	
<p>28 9:45 Newcomer Class in the Library 10 Sunday School 11 Worship <i>Hominy Valley ABCCM</i></p>	<p>29 3:30-4:30 Gym Reserved: FDNSC</p>	<p>30 Office Closed 3:30-5:30 Gym Reserved: FDNSC 6:30-7:30 pm Gym: Cub Scouts</p>	<p>31 6-7:30 pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>LAY READERS 7-C. Rice 14-Kim Leslie 21-Glen Champlin 28-Pam Hall</p>	<p>PEW PRAYERS 7-FAB Women 14-Ladies Class 21-Men's Class 28-Young Adult Class</p>	<table><tr><th colspan="7">February 2024</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	February 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		
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- 1/4 Jeanette Swann
- 1/5 Calvin Dixon
- 1/5 Bat Hudson
- 1/14 Melanie Hudson
- 1/15 Judy Surfus
- 1/16 Jack Surfus
- 1/17 Pat Munro
- 1/20 Debra Luther
- 1/21 Amy Dayton
- 1/21 Robby Scott
- 1/21 Brennan Larimer
- 1/23 Kari Beth
- 1/23 Carolyn Ledford



- 1/27 Bob & Amy Lewis