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Greetings in the name of the Lord!

As he was putting on his mask the other day, my son asked me, "In all seriousness, when is COVID going to end?" I wish I had an answer, but I am grateful we are getting vaccinations! The last time we were completely together was in March of last year. The promise of Easter seems even more needed—the necessity of Jesus bringing new life to ourselves and the community close .

The psalmist wrote about finding comfort in the Lord:

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

—Psalm 16:9—11

Joy is not a superficial feeling—it is where we know that we are connected to God in a way that transcends the challenges we face in our daily lives. Like the psalmist, we can feel assured that no matter what may happen, no matter the difficulties we may experience, God's peace and joy will get us through. This time will pass, and God's promise of new life in Christ will guide us into the future.

May you spread the love of God to all you encounter, Pastor Tracy



Bob Shepherd Retirement Party



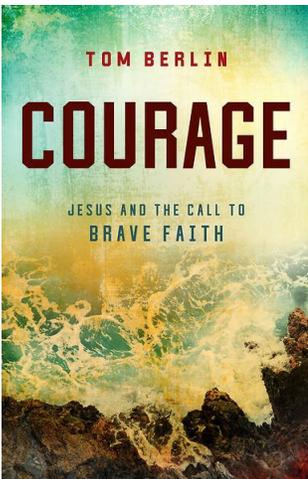
Help us thank Bob for his commitment to our congregation as well as celebrate his new beginnings!

May 23rd—after worship / Fellowship Hall
If you cannot attend, send a card:
Asbury UMC
300 East Basin Road,
New Castle DE 19730

We will miss him on a day-to-day basis but pray God blesses him in this new chapter!

Courage Bible Study—Online

Each Wednesday at 11:30am beginning May 18.



Unlock the courage that you already possess as a follower of Christ!

As Christians, we do our best to live our lives as Jesus lived, following the examples of his many virtues—including honesty, faithfulness, and generosity. But one virtue that is often overlooked is courage. By examining the life of Christ, we can begin to understand what true courage is and how God works in our lives when we exhibit a brave faith. In *Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith*, pastor and author Tom Berlin challenges us to unlock the courage that we already possess as Christ followers, and in doing so, we can begin to find the remarkable life Jesus offers us.

Join us through by dialing 1-408-418-9388 using Access code: 132 177 4858 or by [Webex](#)—Meeting number: 132 177 4858, Password: Acts2

Join Virtual GriefShare

After the funeral, when the cards and flowers have stopped coming, most of the people around you return to their normal lives. But your grief continues and you feel alone. GriefShare is a support group that meets weekly. For more information, please call Georgie Miller at 302- 328-5649 option one.



Asbury has partnered with Arise @Peninsula-McCabe and Richardson Park UMC in ministry to form the HOPP.

The mission of Harvest Outreach People Project (HOPP) is to provide access to basic human needs directly to the neighborhoods in underserved communities.

We will do that using food giveaways as a central place for people to access the services that address their needs.

Thanks to a grant from the Longwood Foundation, we are able to establish a central food distribution warehouse in Wilmington. At this time, fifteen UM churches have offered to be neighborhood centers. We also have several commitments from service nonprofits such as Brandywine Counseling and Friendship House to join us on giveaway days.

Our vision for enabling people to access the services they need beyond food is for partner non-profits offering those services to have representatives at the neighborhood distribution centers on a rotating and scheduled basis.

— **Our First Giveaway is May 7th, 2pm, at 206 Sykes Road, New Castle, DE 19720** —
Email us at office@asburynewcastle.net if you are interested in volunteering

Let Us Gather Together Each Week

Sunday Worship

9:30am—Asbury Worship

Asbury Facebook @asburynewcastleumc

[Worship Afresh Youtube](#)

Monday

6pm—GriefShare

Call 302-328-5649 option 1 for information

Tuesday

6:30pm—Access Prayer Night

Afresh Facebook Live @AfreshAsbury

and [Worship Afresh Youtube Channel](#)

Wednesday

11:30am—Bible Study [Webex \(click here\)](#)

7pm—Spiritual Outburst 7pm.

Afresh Facebook Live @AfreshAsbury

and [Worship Afresh Youtube Channel](#)

Thursday

7pm—Afresh Worship

Afresh Facebook Live @AfreshAsbury

and [Worship Afresh Youtube Channel](#)