“Sharing our Similarities, Celebrating our Differences”

“The Beauty of the World Lies in the Diversity of Its People”

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Love God and one another, serve our community, and transform lives.

**VISION**

A radically inclusive community, empowered to spread God’s love throughout the world.

**BELIEFS**

We believe all are created in the image of God. We believe God loves everyone and through Christ saves-revives-renews the world. We believe God through the Holy Spirit changes lives. We believe the church is the body of Christ with a mission. We believe the Bible is the word of God. We believe that God has gifted everyone and the church for the purposes of God. We believe discipleship is a continuing journey.
WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!
People: We come rejoicing and giving thanks.

Leader: This is the day God invites us to love and to live.
People: We seek to dwell in God’s love as we turn our hearts toward God.
Leader: This is the day to worship our creator and redeemer.
People: We worship the God of life.

MORNING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Jeremiah 29:4-7,11 (OT-Page 731)
John 1:12 (NT-Page 91)

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER
SERMONIC SELECTION
Give Me Jesus...arr. Schackley
Adelle Banks (soprano)

SERMON
“My Name is ... and I am Proud to be...”
Rev. Dr. Maidstone Mulenga
Director of Communications for the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYER AND PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERING
OFFERTORY
I Feel the Spirit Moving...arr. Hayes
Adelle Banks (soprano)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him, above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SENDING HYMN
Blessed Be the Tie That Binds (557 UMH)

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE
A Mighty Fortress... arr. Unfried
WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTERNATIONAL FLAG PROCESSION

††PROCESSIONAL

Footprints of Jesus (see insert page 9) (CHORUS only)

††CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God, you have made people of every imaginable kind,
People: Colors and shapes.
Leader: We have differences of every imaginable kind,
People: Perspectives and world views, countries and cultures.
Leader: Help us to love one another,
People: Even though we are different.
Leader: Help us to celebrate one another,
People: Even though we may not agree.
Leader: Help us to be kind to one another,
People: Even when we have been hurt.
Leader: We know that diversity of the people of the world is a great gift,
People: For our growth and edification.
Leader: Help us to see your vision for the world,
People: Where there are neither slave nor free,
Leader: Male nor female,
People: One race nor the other.
Leader: But we are all free, beloved and united,
ALL: In the peace of Christ Jesus.

INTERNATIONAL DAY WELCOME AND GREETING

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Ruth Scarbrough

††HYMN OF PRAISE

Leaning On the Everlasting Arms (371 AAHJ)

►►►►► (Congregants may now enter the Sanctuary)

LITANY FOR INTERNATIONAL DAY (See page 5)

CALL TO PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

Oh, How I Love Jesus (CHORUS only)
††SCRIPTURE READINGS
Jeremiah 29:4-7,11 (OT-Page 731)
John 1:12 (NT-Page 91)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

SERMONIC SELECTION
Christ the King Voices

SERMON
“My Name is ... and I am Proud to be...”
Rev. Dr. Maidstone Mulenga
Director of Communications for the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church

††INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
Guide My Feet (131 AAHH)
Worshipers are invited to pray at the altar in private or signal to an Intercessory Prayer member to pray with you. Also at this time, you may come down to join Asbury in Christian Fellowship.

PRAYER AND PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERING

OFFERTORY
Christ the King Voices

††OFFERTORY RESPONSE
Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him, above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

††SENDING HYMN
God Has Smiled on Me (152 AAHH)

††DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING
Throw Out the Lifeline... arr. Ufford

The congregation is asked to remain seated for the closing voluntary.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS
Minister of Music & Liturgical Arts: Everett P. Williams, Jr.
Organist: Earl Hargrove

Music: ☀ Adelle Banks (soprano) (8:30 am) ☁ Christ the King Voices, Christ the King Presbyterian Church, Berwyn Heights, MD (10:30 am)

Acolytes: Jazmine Scott (10:30 am)

Liturgist: Judith Hightower (8:30 am) Lauren Semper-Scott and Sanjana Tamrakar

Ushers: Men

Greeters: Marian Tatum-Webb, Michele Tatum, E. Marilyn Williams (8:30 am) and Judith Roberts, Jeanarta McEachron, Mary Roberts (10:30 am)

Trustees on Duty: Margaret Holmes (8:30 am) and Willie Clark (10:30 am)
Leader: O God, we thank you for the vast heritage of your people of faith.

People: For we know that on the first birthday of the Church, the Day of Pentecost, you gathered up and brought to Jerusalem religious pilgrims from all known parts of the world.

Leader: And we thank you that your Church today continues to represent a diverse heritage of faith.

People: So on this International Day, we come representing many countries where people of faith have sought to pass on the traditions of Pentecost.

Leader: And we thank you Lord that even though we come from many nations and come bearing different cultural gifts, we come with the same understanding that we are made into one body in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People: So even though we come from Angola, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Ghana and Guyana,

WOMEN: We are one body in Christ.

People: Even though we come from India, Jamaica, Korea, and Liberia,

MEN: We are one body in Christ.

People: Even though we come from Nepal, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States,

Leader: We are all one body in Christ. For it was the Spirit of Christ that first brought us together on the Day of Pentecost. And it will be the same Spirit of Christ what will lead us into the future.

ALL: This is our hope. And this is our prayer. To the full honor and glory of our maker, who has created all peoples of all generations for eternal fellowship with him. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.
Asbury’s Week At-A-Glance

Sunday, February 16, 2020

8:45 am—Men’s Bible Study, 1-11/1-12
9:00 am — Adult Sunday School, 1-9
9:30 am — Children’s Sunday School, 2-8/2-9
9:30 am — Youth Sunday School, 1-11/1-12
10:00 am — Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:30 pm — UMW Monthly Meeting, 2-8/2-9
5:00 pm — The Bridge Contemporary Service, Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 17, 2020

7:45 am — Downtown Cluster’s Geriatric Ctr., G-1/OSH/1-11/1-12
3:00 pm — Asburyan Deadline

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

7:45 am — Downtown Cluster’s Geriatric Ctr., G-1/OSH
11:00 am — Office Weekly Staff Meeting
7:00 pm — Fitness & Exercise with Gerald Davis

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

7:45 am — Downtown Cluster’s Geriatric Ctr., G-1/OSH
6:30 pm — Finance Committee Meeting, 1-11/1-12

Thursday, February 20, 2020

7:45 am — Downtown Cluster’s Geriatric Ctr., G-1/OSH/1-11/1-12
6:30 pm — Asbury FCU Board Meeting, Local Restaurant

Friday, February 21, 2020

7:45 am — Downtown Cluster’s Geriatric Ctr., G-1/OSH/1-11/1-12

Saturday, February 22, 2020

9:00 am — Asbury Reading Program, 2-8/2-9/Nursery
10:00 am — Asbury Handbell Choir Rehearsal, G-13
10:30 am — Prayer Bead Workshop, 1-9
11:00 am — Wesleyan Choir Rehearsal, OSH
11:30 am — Food Pantry
12:30 pm — Male Chorus Rehearsal, OSH
12:30 pm — Asbury United Methodist Men Monthly Meeting, Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm — Higher Praise Choir Rehearsal, OSH

From The Senior Pastor’s Desk

February 2020

Word for the Month: “Our Roots Run Deep”
Scripture of the Month: Psalm 1

Thought for the Month: Within these 28 devotions, you’ll discover new ways to celebrate your heritage, deepen your faith, and build stronger communities. A Scripture verse, a reflection on the Scripture, a prayer, and related activities are included for each day and are perfect for use by families and groups as well for individual devotion. Although this intergenerational devotional makes a wonderful study for use during Black History Month, it may be used at any time of the year.

Emphasis for the Month: Heritage

Pastor’s Book of the Month: African American History & Devotions: Readings and Activities for Individuals, Families, and Communities by Teresa L. Fry Brown
We hope that through word, music, fellowship and prayer you will experience the presence of God today. Please make sure you sign the attendance register as it is passed so that we can share with you about what is happening in the life of this church.

Welcome & Announcements

Asbury UMC Live Stream
Go to asburyumcdc.org and select the live stream button on the home page to watch the 10:00 am service. Change your browser if there’s no connection.

The Bridge
The Bridge: A Diverse Community Gathered for The Word, Worship, Wheat and Wine (Contemporary Worship Service)
February 16, 2020
5:00 p.m.
Rev. Alexis Brown
Join us in Fellowship Hall today.

State of the Church Meeting
Sunday, March 1, 2020
12:00 Noon
Rev. Dr. Maidstone Mulenga

The Rev. Dr. Maidstone Mulenga is a communicator, author, journalist, minister, pastor, church administrator, husband, father and most importantly, a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Dr. Mulenga serves as the Director of Communications for the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. In this role, Dr. Mulenga serves as the point person for all the official statements of the Council of Bishops and works with all the bishops throughout the world on communication planning and strategizing. Previously, Dr. Mulenga served in the dual role as the Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Connectional Ministries in the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

As an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church, he has previously served as pastor in several churches in the then Western New York Conference and as director of communications in the Upper New York Conference.

Before answering a call to ordained ministry, Dr. Mulenga worked at several newspapers in Michigan and New York as editor of various departments and at various levels, including as Managing Editor. He has served as delegate to the General and NEJ Conferences and is the editor of the Northeastern Jurisdiction Conference Daily Christian Advocate. Dr. Mulenga also serves as secretary of the General Conference Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision, the committee that edits the Book of Discipline.

Dr. Mulenga serves as director on several boards including the United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville; the Jane Bancroft Robinson Foundation in Washington, D.C.; the Board of Child Care in Baltimore, the Asbury Communities Board in Gaithersburg; and the Mid-Atlantic United Methodist Foundation in Lancaster, PA.

He holds a doctorate in theology and degrees in divinity, computer-mediated communication, and journalism from colleges in Zambia, Michigan, and New York states.

He is a published author in several books and publications including his own, To Our Readers: A Study of Guilt Redemption in Newspaper Corrections.

He is married to Charity and they have two daughters, Lukonde and Mukuka, who attend the University of Michigan and Penn State respectively.
Footprints of Jesus, that make the pathway glow;

We will follow the steps of Jesus, wher e'er they go.
## Asbury’s International Families

### Angola
- Sandra Sarney
- Soma Fernando
- Karte Mponda
- Leba Vicente

### Bahamas
- Barbara and Philip Parhams

### Barbados
- Clive and Fern Callender
- Huxley and Jean Williams
- Patricia Williams

### Brazil
- Tania Feliciano de Lima
- Cileide Oliveira

### Ghana
- Labi Koi-Larbi
- John, Victoria,
- Kobina and Efuwa Nyarku

### Guyana
- *Sheila James

### India
- Shanta, Duane, Ashok,
- Anjali and Allysha Williams

### Jamaica
- Metirah Apenteng
- Enid Bogle
- Duchanna Brown
- Norma and Alfred Clinkscales

### Korea
- Esther Kahng and Corey Martin

### Liberia
- Charles and Rita Ross

### Nepal
- Sanjana Tamrakar and Tange Mills

### Nigeria
- Samson Adeboye

### Nigeria
- William Owens and Alice Airall Owens
- Marsha, Maxim, Elle, and Harper Waters
- Everett Williams, Jr., Rev. Allen L. Williams, and Theresa Bennett-Wilkes
Asbury’s International Families

**SIERRA LEONE**

Festus and Gilbertine Campbell
Rosaline Coker and Wallace, Victoria and Jazmine Scott
Elisha and Victoria Davies
Mona, Valentine, Mason and Miles Davies
Cyril During
Bridgett Elliott
Alice Sesay
Gilbertina Tumaku

**Trinidad and Tobago**

Charles Jean-Pierre Collier
George, Noreen, Bryan and George, Jr. Dick
Claudette, Akua, Diarra, Keya, Natasha, and Princeton John
Donna, Anthony and Malika Doyle
Mary LeCompte, Nina, Fawn, Damon and Derek Johnston
Liesl Semper
Lauren and Jordanne Semper-Scott

**ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

Adelle Banks, Kelvin and Marshal Childs
A GLIMPSE INTO OUR INTERNATIONAL COUNTRIES

ANGOLA

The word "Angola" derives from the title used by the rulers of the Ndongo state. The title ngola was first mentioned in Portuguese writings in the sixteenth century. A Portuguese colony founded on the coast in 1575 also came to be known as Angola. At the end of the nineteenth century, the name was given to a much larger territory that was envisaged to come under Portuguese influence. These plans materialized slowly; not until the beginning of the twentieth century did Portuguese colonialism reach the borders of present-day Angola. In 1975, this area became an independent country under the name República Popular de Angola (People's Republic of Angola). Later the "Popular" was dropped.

There is no single national identity. The country is divided along many lines: Ethnic, religious, regional, racial, and other factors interact in the conflict. However, the notion of being Angolan is strong. The Portuguese language sets Angola apart from its neighboring countries and has created long-standing ties not only with Portugal but also with Brazil, Mozambique, and other Portuguese-speaking countries.

The official language is Portuguese. Many Angolans are bilingual, speaking Portuguese and one or several African languages. In nearly all cases this is a Bantu language; those speaking a Khoisan language number less than 6,000. Six of the Bantu languages were selected as national languages: Chokwe, Kikongo, Kimbundo, Mbunda, Oxikuanyama, and Umbundu. Many people are able to understand one or more of the national languages, but some forty languages are spoken.

BAHAMAS

The Bahamas extends 760 miles from the coast of Florida on the north-west almost to Haiti on the south-east. The group consists of 700 islands, of which 30 are inhabited and about 2,400 cays (coral reefs). British settlement in The Bahamas was established in 1647 by a group of English settlers in search for religious freedom. In 1783 The Islands of The Bahamas became a British Colony.

On July 10, 1973, The Bahamas became a free and sovereign country, ending 325 years of peaceful British rule. However, the Bahamas is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations and celebrate July 10th as Bahamian Independence Day. The Bahamas is a constitutional parliamentary democracy and a commonwealth realm. Head of State is Queen Elizabeth II.

English is the official language of the Bahamas; although you might hear Bahamian English. It’s a mixture of the Queen’s diction, African influence and island dialect. The “h” is often dropped, for example, “ouse” for “house” or “tanks” for “thanks.
BARBADOS

Situated about 320 km (200 mi) of Trinidad and about 160 km (100 mi) of St. Lucia, Barbados is the most easterly of the Caribbean islands. The island is 34 km (21 mi) long and 23 km (14 mi) wide, with an area of 430 sq km (166 sq mi) and a total coastline of 97 km (60 mi). Comparatively, Barbados occupies slightly less than 2.5 times the area of Washington, DC.

The Barbadian population is a diverse melting pot of individuals, the majority of whom are of African descent. However, Barbados is also made up of people who are of mixed race, Caucasian or European ancestry, East Indian, Oriental and Middle Eastern.

The capital city of Barbados, Bridgetown, is located on the country’s southwestern coast. Barbados originally supported a considerable population of Arawak Indians, but invading Caribs decimated that population. By the time the British landed, near the site of present-day Holetown in 1625, the island was uninhabited. Almost 2,000 English settlers landed in 1627-28. Soon afterward, the island developed a sugar-based economy, supported by a slave population. Slavery was abolished in 1834 and the last slaves were freed in 1838.

In more formal settings, British English is both spoken and written; however, in most casual settings, Barbadians speak a unique Bajan dialect – an English-based Creole language with African influences.

BRAZIL

Brazil, officially Federative Republic of Brazil, Portuguese República Federativa do Brasil, the country of South America that occupies half the continent’s landmass. Brazil is the fifth most-populous country on Earth and accounts for one-third of Latin America’s population. Most of the inhabitants of Brazil are concentrated along the eastern seaboard, although its capital, Brasília, is located far inland and increasing numbers of migrants are moving to the interior. Rio de Janeiro, in the eyes of many of the world, continues to be the preeminent icon of Brazil. The nation’s burgeoning cities, huge hydroelectric and industrial complexes, mines, and fertile farmlands make it one of the world’s major economies. However, Brazil struggles with extreme social inequalities, environmental degradation, intermittent financial crises, and a sometimes deadlocked political system.

There are more people of mainly African descent in Brazil than in any other nation outside of Africa, and African music, dance, food, and religious practices have become an integral part of Brazilian culture. Between the 16th and 19th centuries, the slave trade brought to Brazil some four million Africans, mainly peoples from West Africa and Angola. Most were taken to the sugarcane plantations of the Northeast during the 16th and 17th centuries. From the 18th century onward, when the mining of gold and diamonds began, more slaves were sent to Minas Gerais.
The majority worked as laborers and domestic servants, but some escaped and fled into the interior, where they established independent farming communities or mixed with Indian groups. After the abolition of slavery in 1888, a large proportion of Africans left the areas where they had been held captive and settled in other agricultural regions or in towns; however, the Northeast retained the heaviest concentration of Africans and mulattoes. From the 1860s to the 1920s, Brazilian manufacturers hired millions of European immigrants but largely avoided employing the descendants of slaves, who remained at the margin of Brazil’s economy. By the turn of the 21st century, an increasing number of individuals used education to attain upward mobility.

GHANA

Ghana, a country on the West Coast of Africa, is one of the most thriving democracies on the continent. It has often been referred to as an “Island of peace”. It shares boundaries with Togo to the east, la Cote d’Ivoire to the west, Burkina Faso to the north and the Gulf of Guinea, to the south.

In 1957, Ghana (formerly known as the Gold Coast) became the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to gain independence. After leading the country for nine years, the nation’s founding president, Kwame Nkrumah, was overthrown in a coup d’état in 1966. After Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana was ruled by a series of military despots with intermittent experiments with democratic rule, most of which were curtailed by military takeovers.

The country's economy is dominated by agriculture. Ghana is one of the leading exporters of cocoa in the world. It is also a significant exporter of commodities such as gold and lumber. Ghana is multilingual country in which about eighty languages are spoken. Of these, English, which was inherited from the colonial era, is the official language and lingua franca. Of the languages indigenous to Ghana, Akan is the most widely spoken.

GUYANA

Guyana, full name Co-operative Republic of Guyana, is a tropical country situated on the northern coast of South America. Although Guyana is a part of the Caribbean, it is one of the few Caribbean countries that is not an island. Guyana was originally colonized by the Netherlands. Later, it became a British colony, known as British Guiana, and remained so for over 200 years until it achieved independence on May 26, 1966 from the United Kingdom. On February 23, 1970, Guyana officially became a republic.

Modern Guyana is bordered by Suriname to the east, by Brazil to the south and southwest, by Venezuela to the west, and by the Atlantic Ocean to the north. Guyana is an Amerindian word meaning “land of many waters” and is often referred to as the land of six peoples, reflecting the multi-ethnic composition of its population: East Indians, Blacks, Amerindians, Chinese, Portuguese, and a large racially mixed population. The official language of Guyana is English. Creolese, an English-based creole, is widely used as a language of informal communication.
JAMAICA

Jamaica is an island country situated in the Caribbean Sea, consisting of the third-largest island of the Greater Antilles. The island, 10,990 square kilometers (4,240 sq. miles) in area, lies about 145 kilometers (90 Miles) south of Cuba, and 191 kilometers (119 miles) west of Hispaniola, the island containing the nation-states of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Jamaica is the fourth largest island country in the Caribbean, by area.

Inhabited by the indigenous Arawak and Taino peoples, the island came under Spanish rule following the arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1494. Named Santiago, it remained a possession of Spain until 1655, when England (later Great Britain) conquered the island and renamed it Jamaica. Under British rule, Jamaica became a leading sugar exporter, with its plantation economy highly dependent on slaves imported from Africa. The island achieved independence from the United Kingdom on August 6, 1962.

Jamaica is the third most populous Anglophone country in the Americas (after the United States and Canada), and the fourth most populous country in the Caribbean. Kingston is the country’s capital and the largest city. Jamaicans are predominantly African descent, with significant European, Chinese, Hakka, Indian and mixed-race minorities. While English is the official language of Jamaica, the large majority of the Jamaica people speak a form of English Creole, known by linguists as Jamaican Creole or Patois. Jamaican Creole can best be described as an English-lexified Creole language; a mixture of English and a variety of West African languages.

KOREA

South Korea, a country in East Asia, occupies the southern portion of the Korean peninsula. The country is bordered by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea) to the north, the East Sea (Sea of Japan) to the east, the East China Sea to the south, and the Yellow Sea to the west; to the southeast it is separated from the Japanese island of Tsushima by the Korea Strait. South Korea makes up about 45 percent of the peninsula’s land area. The capital is Seoul (Sōul). Korean, also called Hangul, is the official language of both North and South Korea. The Hanguk dialect is spoken is South Korea.

LIBERIA

Liberia, officially the Republic of Liberia, is a country on the West African coast. Liberia means “Land of the Free” in Latin. It is bordered by Sierra Leone to its west, Guinea to its north and Ivory Coast to its east. English is the official language and over 20 indigenous languages are spoken, representing the numerous tribes who make up more than 95% of the population.
The Republic of Liberia, beginning as a settlement of the American Colonization Society (ACS), declared its independence on July 26, 1847. The United States did not recognize Liberia’s independence until during the American Civil War on February 5, 1862. Between January 7, 1822 and the American Civil War, more than 15,000 free and free-born Black Americans from the United States and 3,198 Afro-Caribbeans relocated to the settlement. The Black American settlers carried their culture with them to Liberia. The Liberian constitution and flag were modeled after those of the United States.

LIBYA

Situated on the coast of North Africa, Libya is the fourth-largest country on the continent, with an area of 1,759,540 sq km (679,362 sq mi), extending 1,989 km (1,236 mi) and 1,502 km (933 mi). Comparatively, the area occupied by Libya is slightly larger than the state of Alaska. It is bounded on the north by the Mediterranean Sea, on the east by Egypt, on the south east by the Sudan, on the south by Chad and Niger, on the west by Algeria, and on the north west by Tunisia.

Libya became independent as a kingdom in 1951. A military coup in 1969 overthrew King Idris I. The coup leader Muammar Gaddafi ruled the country from the Libyan Cultural Revolution in 1973 until he was overthrown and killed in the Libyan Civil War of 2011.

The largest city and capital, Tripoli, is located in western Libya and contains over one million of Libya's six million people. The other large city is Benghazi, which is located in eastern Libya. Tripoli, with its metropolitan area, has a population of about 1.1 million people. The official language of Libya is Modern Standard Arabic. Most residents speak one of the varieties of Arabic as a first language, most prominently Libyan Arabic, but also Egyptian Arabic and Tunisian Arabic.

NEPAL

Nepal, a landlocked multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-religious country, is situated north of India in the Himalayas between India and China. The country along the southern slopes of the Himalayan mountain range is host to eight of the 10 highest peaks in the world, including Mount Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, and Kanchenjunga (on the border to Sikkim).

With an area of 147,181 km, Nepal is slightly larger than 1.5 times the size of Portugal, or slightly larger than the U.S. state of Arkansas. Nepal can be divided broadly into three ecological zones: the lowland, the midland and the highland. The mountain region accounts for about 64 percent of total land area, which is formed by the Mahabharat range that soars up to 4877 m and the lower Churia range.

In the Kapilavastu district, there is a place called Lumbini where in about 500 B.C.E. Queen Mayadevi is said to have given birth to Siddhartha Gautama, better known as Buddha. Nepal has a population 31 million (2016 est.). The largest city and national capital is Kathmandu. About half of the population speaks the official language Nepali; the rest uses one of the several other Tibeto-Burman languages.
**NGERIA**

The Federal Republic of Nigeria commonly referred to as Nigeria, is a federal constitutional republic of South Africa, bordering Benin in the west, Chad and Cameroon in the east, and Niger in the north. Its coast in the south lies on the Gulf of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean. It comprises 36 states and the Federal Capital territory, where the capital, Abuja is located. Nigeria is officially a democratic secular country. Nigeria became a formally independent federation in 1960.

Nigeria is often referred to as the “Giant of Africa,” owing to its large population and economy. With approximately 184 million inhabitants, Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world. Nigeria has one of the largest populations of youth in the world. The country is viewed as a multinational state, as it is inhabited by over 500 ethnic groups, of which the three largest are the Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba; these ethnic groups speak over 500 different languages, and are identified with a wide variety of cultures. The official language is English.

**SIERRA LEONE**

Sierra Leone, officially the Republic of Sierra Leone, is a country in West Africa. It is boarded by Guinea on the north, Liberia in the south-east, and the Atlantic Ocean in the south-west. Sierra Leone has a tropical climate, with a diverse environment ranging from savannah to rainforests. Sierra Leone is divided into four geographical regions: the Northern Province, Eastern Province, Southern Province and the Western Area, which are subdivided into fourteen districts. Freetown is the capital, largest city and its economic and political center. Bo is the second largest city.

About sixteen ethnic groups inhabit Sierra Leone, each with its own language and customs. The two largest and most influential are the Temne and the Mende people. The Temne are predominantly found in the north of the country, while the Mende are predominant in the south-east. Although English is the official language spoken at schools and government administration, the Krio language is the most widely spoken language in Sierra Leone and unites all the different ethnic groups in the country. Sierra Leone became independent in 1961.

**ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is an island country lying within the Lesser Antilles, in the eastern Caribbean Sea. It consists of the island of Saint Vincent and the northern Grenadine Islands, which stretch southward toward Grenada. The island of Saint Vincent lies about 20 miles (32 km) southwest of Saint Lucia and 100 miles (160 km) west of Barbados. It is 18 miles (30 km) long and has a maximum width of 11 miles (18 km). The larger islands of the Grenadines associated with Saint Vincent are Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, Mustique, Prune (Palm) Island, Petit Saint Vincent Island, and Union Island. The Tobago Cays, just to the east of Mayreau, have been designated a wildlife reserve.
The name Saint Vincent originally applied to the mainland and the group of smaller islands associated with it. After the attainment of independence in 1979 the multi-island state was renamed Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The capital and major port is Kingstown, on Saint Vincent. The country is a member of the Commonwealth.

Two-thirds of the inhabitants are descended from Africans who were enslaved and brought to work on the sugar plantations, and nearly one-fourth of the population is of mixed African, European, and Carib ancestry. There are small minorities of people of South Asian, European, and Carib descent. Those of mixed African and Carib descent are known as the Garifuna. English is the official language. An English patois is commonly spoken and referred to in some academic quarters as “nation language” (that is, a postcolonial version of a language that was imposed by colonizers—in this case, English—that incorporates underground language codes from formerly suppressed languages, in this case the African languages of the slaves).

Carnival is the major cultural event. The Nine Mornings Festival takes place in Kingstown in the nine mornings preceding Christmas. While traditionally it consisted of early-morning street parades accompanied by caroling, bicycle races, and other festivities, the focus now in Kingstown is on early-morning street concerts. In the rural areas, celebrations of this festival are more diverse and include attempts to revive dying cultural practices. Some of the Grenadine Islands have annual regattas that include carnival-type activities.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Trinidad and Tobago consists of two main islands, Trinidad and Tobago, and several smaller islands in southwestern West Indies. Forming the two southernmost links in the Caribbean chain, Trinidad and Tobago lie close to the continent of South America, northeast of Venezuela and northwest of Guyana. Trinidad, by far the larger of the two main islands, has an area of about 1,850 square miles (4,800 square km). Tobago, much smaller, with an area of about 115 square miles (300 square km), lies 20 miles (30 km) to the northeast of Trinidad.

The original inhabitants of Trinidad migrated from the Orinoco River delta region of northeastern South America and probably spoke an Arawakan language. Tobago was settled by Cariban-speaking Indians when Europeans first arrived there. Trinidad and Tobago achieved independence from the United Kingdom in 1962 and obtained membership in the Commonwealth and the United Nations that same year. It became a republic in 1976.

The capital of Trinidad and Tobago is Port of Spain. The ethnic makeup of Trinidad is dominated by two groups, roughly equal in size: blacks, descended from slaves brought in to work on cotton and sugar plantations beginning in the late 18th century, and Indo-Trinidadians, or East Indians, whose ancestors were primarily laborers who immigrated from the Indian subcontinent as plantation workers after the abolition of slavery in the mid-19th century.
People of mixed ethnicity constitute a slightly smaller third group. Migrants from Spain and other European countries, Africa, East and Southeast Asia, and the Middle East have all contributed to the ethnic composition of the islands’ population. Although English is the official language, most people speak Trinidad English, a creole language. A few people, mostly in rural areas, speak a French-derived Creole, Spanish, or Hindi.

Some 85% of Zimbabweans are Christian; 62% of the population attends religious services regularly. The largest Christian churches are Anglican, Roman Catholic, Seventh-day Adventist and Methodist. English is the main language used in the education and judiciary systems. The Bantu languages Shona and Sindebele are the principal indigenous languages of Zimbabwe. Shona is spoken by 70% of the population, Sindebele by 20%. Less than 2.5%, mainly the white and "colored" (mixed race) minorities, consider English their native language.
Celebrating Black History Month 2020 with Asbury’s Oral Histories

As we celebrate Black History Month, videos and video clips from Asbury’s 2019 Oral History Project are now publicly available online.

The project, supported by a grant from the D.C. Oral History Collaborative, included interviews of five Asburyans. Please check out the links below to view the Oct. 5, 2019, showcase highlighting the project and its five narrators: Carol Thompson Cole, Leonard Haynes, Bill Johnson, Robert Mallett and Carol Travis.

Some short clips of the interviews and full-length interviews are also available. Some full-length videos from both 2018 and 2019 can be found by searching for “Asbury United Methodist Church and DC and oral history” and clicking on “videos.”

**Asbury United Methodist Church Oral History Project Showcase on Oct. 5, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full-length oral history interviews of Asburyans recorded in 2019</th>
<th>Playlists of clips</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Leonard Haynes oral history interview on May 11, 2019</td>
<td>*Carol Thompson Cole</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Bill Johnson oral history interview on June 15, 2019</td>
<td>*Leonard Haynes</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Robert Mallett oral history interview on May 30, 2019</td>
<td>*Bill Johnson</td>
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<td>*Carol Travis oral history interview on July 27, 2019</td>
<td>*Robert Mallett</td>
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SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES AND PLAN TO ATTEND:

♦ **BIBLE STUDY**: **FEBRUARY 16 - MARCH 29** EACH SUNDAY 8:45 - 9:45 ROOMS 1-11 and 1-12 SIGN UP TODAY

♦ **JOIN BISHOP STITH AS HE HIGHLIGHTS HIS FAMILY HISTORY AS DOCUMENTED IN HIS DAD'S BOOK "SUNRISES AND SUNSETS FOR FREEDOM"** SUNDAY, **FEBRUARY 23 12:30 PM**

♦ **MEN'S FORUM SUBJECT: PROSTATE CANCER**: **SUNDAY, MARCH 1 12:30 PM**

PLEASE NOTE THAT ASBURY UNITED METHODIST MEN'S MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE FIRST SUNDAY AT 12:30 PM BEGINNING **MARCH 1**.

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**Celebrate the closing event of Asbury’s 2020 Black History Month**

**Sunday, February 23 - 12:30 to 1:30 pm**  
**Rooms 1-11 and 1-12**

One of our favorite storytellers, Bishop Forrest Stith, will share fascinating highlights of his family's history - including his great grandfather's escape from slavery to the building of the first Black Homestead Settlement.

Signed copies of the book documenting this journey - written by Bishop Stith's father with reflections by Bishop Stith - will be available for purchase.

Light refreshments will be served.
### WHO ARE WE

**A JOURNEY FROM HEAD TO HEART: WHO ARE WE AS PEOPLE CALLED METHODISTS?**

Begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 26**

Times, Location, and Facilitators will Vary

Contact: Rev. Dr. Ianther Mills, imills@asburyumcdc.org

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**JOIN US**

Friday, February 28, 2020 6 PM – 8 PM

**GAME NIGHT**

@ ASBURY

926 11th Street NW Washington DC

Light snacks will be provided.

Contact Patrice at pab3@erols.com; Rhonda at rlynnpierce@aol.com or Vanessa at williford_v@hotmail.com for more information.

Hosted by Children & Family Ministry of Asbury UMC
This year Women’s Day will be observed on March 15 with one service at 10:00 a.m. We need all the women of Asbury to join in helping to make our annual celebration of women a success. Again this year, we are asking at least 100 Women of Asbury to boldly and faithfully contribute at least $100. Even if you can’t contribute $100, we want every woman of Asbury to contribute to Women’s Day as you are able. Women’s Day contributions will be used to support our Neighbor-to-Neighbor Toiletry and Underwear Ministry, sending Asbury Youth to Mission U, the Seniors’ Christmas Luncheon, and other mission projects to help women and youth.

Women’s Day contributions will be accepted before and after morning worship in the Fellowship Hall, starting today. Thank you.

Thanks for all who participated in the celebration of HBCU Sunday. If your name was omitted, please contact the church office to ensure that your name is included as we go forward. We will re-publish the HBCU brochure on the fourth Sunday of the month.

The flowers on the altar are in honor of

Richard S. Nero, Sr.
May 6, 1926           February 15, 2010

We remember you with gratitude to God.  We are thankful for your gifts of love and care. Love never ends.
In loving memory,
Gloria, and children, Michelle, Richard Jr, Gregory, Janis, Sharon and Families.
On behalf of my family, I would like to thank my Asbury family for all the loving gestures you extended to us at the time of my sister, Jacquelyn Chandler’s, passing. The cards, calls, meals, visits, donations and other expressions of love were so uplifting and we appreciate every generous act. May God continue to bless you all.

Sincerely,
Jeanarta McEachron

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Dear Asbury,

Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

Sincerely,
The Price Family  
(Family of Clyde Brayboy)

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<tr>
<th>DAILY WORD</th>
<th>GETTING AROUND</th>
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| **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16**  
Psalm 33:1-5 | ♦ There is an elevator in the Education Building that accesses all levels of the church—the sanctuary, the fellowship hall, and all the Sunday School rooms. |
| **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17**  
Luke 2:25-35 | ♦ Free parking is available Sundays in the garage adjacent to our 11th Street entrance. Pick up a parking pass from the 11th Street reception desk. |
| **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**  
2 Corinthians 9:8-15 | ♦ Restrooms are on the lower level on either side of the narthex and on the 2nd and 3rd floors. |
| **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**  
1 Corinthians 3:6-11 | |