



Who to Contact When Care is Needed

Notification in case of Emergency

In an emergency situation, please make sure to talk to someone personally if at all possible. Technology is good, but it is not always reliable for timely communication — especially during non-office hours.

Notification for a Non-Emergency

For non-emergency situations, speaking to someone personally is preferred, but an email or voice mail message will be sufficient.

Contact Information

John Boyd <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Church: (859) 441-1466 Home: (859) 363-0146 Mobile: (859) 468-8461 Email: revboyd@fuse.net
Kevin Griffin <i>Assistant Pastor/Youth Minister</i>	Church: (859) 441-1466 Home: (859) 442-5512 Mobile: (859) 462-3630 Email: griffkevin@gmail.com
Linda Howarth <i>Parish Nurse</i>	Church: (859) 441-1466 Home: (859) 572-9110 Mobile: (859) 466-4540 Email: howlin@fuse.net
Missy Chalk <i>Children's Ministry</i>	Church: (859) 441-1466 Home: (859) 363-7134 Mobile: (859) 866-4415 Email: asburyumckids@yahoo.com
Kathy Ingram <i>Care and Nurture Team Leader</i>	Home: (859) 441-5494 Email: misski@hotmail.com
Asbury Church Office <i>Ruth Purnell, Administrative Asst.</i>	Church: (859) 441-1466 Email: asburyum@fuse.net Prayer: asburyprayer@fuse.net

ASBURY CHURCH

A United Methodist Congregation



Congregational Care Guide



Asbury United Methodist Church

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Growing a Christ-like World ... *one life at a time.*



Why Congregational Care?

It's Biblical ...

Throughout the New Testament, the people called “The Church” were organized, encouraged, and instructed to care for, pray for, encourage, nurture, and love — one another. The mandate from Scripture is overwhelming:

Acts 2:45

Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as they had need.

Romans 12:13

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

1 John 3:17

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in them?

James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Acts 18:2

When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:14

And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

Hebrews 3:13

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 10:25

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- Offer to run errands for someone who has transportation needs or other limitations.
- Call Kathy Ingram (Care & Nurture Team) and find out how you can visit with members who have difficulty getting out.
- Find out who is in the hospital, nursing home, ill, or shut-in, and call or visit them.

☞ NURTURE.

Help one another grow in Christ-likeness.

- Get involved in a Small Group to encourage others and to mutually help one another grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Get involved in Wednesday Night G.R.O.W. or participate in Sunday School.
- Volunteer to serve with others in Outreach ministries such as Interfaith Hospitality Network, local and distant mission trips, servant evangelism opportunities. When we serve others together, we also deepen church relationships and care for ourselves.

☞ LOVE.

Care more for others than for self.

- Give sacrificially of your time, energy, resources in order to build others up in the faith.
- Think — God's Kingdom first, Asbury Church second, other church members third, personal wants and needs last.
- Constantly ask yourself, “How can I be a part of growing a Christ-like world?”
- Practice the Fruits of the Spirit — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

These are just a few of many ways we can care for one another. Be resourceful. Get creative. Above all, take time, and make time, to care!



Ways to Care for One Another

Member to Member Congregational Care

The following are ways that we as the Body of Christ can care for, pray for, encourage, nurture, and love — one another:

☞ PRAY.

Earnestly and diligently pray for one another.

- Request to be placed on the Asbury Prayer Line by simply emailing us at: asburyprayer@fuse.net
- Make prayer needs known to staff, teachers, and leaders.
- Pick up the weekly Prayer List in the narthex and covenant to pray for those in need.
- Commit to daily pray for the church staff and leadership of Asbury Church.

☞ ENCOURAGE.

Discover and resolve to encourage one another.

- Take a few minutes out of your week to call those who are unable to leave their homes or dwellings — encourage them.
- Send a card or note to lift someone's spirit. Find ways to let others know that you are thinking about them.
- Call someone you haven't seen in church for a few weeks. Let them know they are missed.
- Take a meal to someone who you know isn't feeling well.
- Sit in different places during worship and other regularly attended events — get to know someone new.
- Invite church members who you don't know as well to eat Sunday lunch with you. Get to know them.
- Offer to provide transportation to someone who needs a ride or has difficulty getting around on their own.

John 13:34

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

John 13:35

By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Romans 12:10

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

1 Peter 1:22

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers and sisters, love one another deeply, from the heart.

For further study, see also these passages:

Acts 10:2, 2 Corinthians 8:14, 2 Corinthians 11:9, 1 Timothy 5:3, James 2:16, Acts 1:14, Romans 15:30, 2 Corinthians 1:11, Ephesians 6:18, 1 Thessalonians 5:25, 1 John 4:7, Matthew 25:35-36, Ephesians 4:2, Hebrews 10:24, 1 Peter 3:8, Romans 1:12, Romans 12:8, Romans, 15:15, Titus 1:9

It's Practical ...

As any congregation continues to grow, the ability of the pastors and staff to care for the needs of church members is often taxed. A congregation that takes its Biblical mandate seriously helps provide quality care for all its members without overtaxing a smaller group of caregivers.

It's Healthy ...

A healthy body cares for its parts. Whenever the human body falls ill or is wounded, without hesitation, different body parts and functions run to the aid of the effected part to bring health and healing. So it is with the Body of Christ. When we provide care for one another, it is healthy — both for the one giving care and the one receiving care.

At Asbury, we want to be people who care for one another in Scriptural, practical, and healthy ways. The pages ahead are a plan for us to minister effectively in such ways.



Organized to Care for One Another

At Asbury Church, we realize that Jesus' intent was that we care for one another. Here's how we intend to be the Body of Christ who cares for, prays for, encourages, and loves — one another:

Care & Nurture Team

The Care & Nurture Team is designed to help lead all of us in caring for one another. This group of leaders organizes and gives ministry to our entire church family.

☞ Cards & Calls

Cards are sent out on behalf of the congregation for birthdays, anniversaries, and other special days. Calls are made for encouragement, celebration, and care.

☞ Ministry to those with Homebound Limitations

Bulletins and audio recordings of weekly worship services are taken to those who are homebound. CD players are also provided for those who need them.

Special attention is given for those who cannot readily be a part of the activities and events at the church site. Phone calls, visits, and other expressions of care are given to those unable to always attend.

☞ Meals for Special Situations of Life

Meals are provided for those experiencing transition in life due to special circumstances. Meals are provided to help ease the burden of life during these special times of need. If other situations arise, please contact Kathy Ingram to see how the Care and Nurture Team might help in other special circumstances. Meals are provided for persons:

- home from the hospital
- new baby at home
- during times of bereavement

Contact Person: Kathy Ingram

Please contact Kathy for needed care or to get involved in the Care & Nurture ministry. Her contact information is on the back cover.

Bereavement Ministry

The Bereavement Ministry seeks to care for members of our church family that are grieving the loss of a loved one. Through this ministry we provide:

- ☞ Ongoing personal care for at least one year by a trained bereavement caregiver.
- ☞ The bereaved receives periodic visits, monthly letters, grief resources and other support.
- ☞ Because of the special care needed for this ministry, participation in the Bereavement ministry requires training. To become a Grief Counselor, those interested must complete 6 classes of training followed by continued mentoring and support. While the training is intensive, the reward for ministering to others during a time of great need is quite special.

Contact Person: Linda Howarth

Please contact Linda for needed care or to get involved in the Bereavement ministry. Her contact information is on the back cover.

Pastoral Care & Hospital Visitation

While there are many times that we as the Church can and should care for one another, we recognize there are times that pastoral care is especially needed and desired. To better serve you, please keep the following in mind:

- ☞ It is important to inform us of upcoming surgery, hospital stays or procedures when at all possible.
- ☞ If you have a specific pastor you would like to have visit with you, simply call and request it. Otherwise, we follow the following hospital visitation rotation as we seek to share the responsibility of pastoral care.

Pastor John Boyd Fridays & Sundays

Pastor Kevin Griffin..... Wednesdays & Thursdays

Linda Howarth Mondays, Tuesdays, & Saturdays