Investing in Jesus...Investing in Asbury

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10

Vacation Bible School

A wonderful Asbury ministry is Vacation Bible School. This year a volunteer staff of about 50, plus another 21 who fed the volunteers dinner each evening, served about 90 children in VBS. Through the “Shipwrecked” themed Bible and video lessons, crafts, music, and drama children learned that Jesus rescues us from loneliness, worry, struggles, and doing wrong (sin). Each evening also included fun “seaworthy” games and snacks.

The VBS mission again this year was collecting macaroni and cheese for Love Chapel. The children, with young Grace Hartman’s encouragement, outdid themselves by exceeding their goal of 500 boxes!

Faith Promise

Faith Promise Sunday this year was May 6th. Our guest speaker was Mary Beth Ingals, the Craft Marketing Manager for Red Bird Mission. This concluded another very successful year for our missions work. We contributed over $55,000 to various mission projects. We are still working on our 2018/19 goal, so if you have not submitted your pledge you are encouraged to do so!

Children & Family Ministries: Meet Jason!

The Staff Parish Committee had some good news in June. They have filled the Children & Family Ministry position with Jason Shemanski. Jason is married with two young children and has lots of ideas for his new position. He is already getting involved. We look forward to this focus on our younger folks and to helping him in his mission with all of our stewardship gifts- particularly our service! If Jason asks you to be involved in an upcoming event, please consider saying YES! Stay tuned for more news in the area of children and families!
**Red Bird Mission**

Recently Asbury hosted a Redbird Mission Craft show. Asbury supports and partners with Redbird Mission and the craft show helps support the artisans. The crafts are made by Appalachian community members, and Redbird helps them become marketable craftsmen.

Redbird Mission is located in the Appalachian Mountains in Southeastern Kentucky in Clay County, the poorest county in the U.S. Redbird Mission is a Christian organization and is the most comprehensive mission effort of The United Methodist Church. The Mission includes a school with grades 1-12, medical and dental clinics, family counseling services, a thrift store, a craft store and a county-wide outreach to help neighbors in need of home repairs.

Asbury has supported Redbird’s housing repair outreach by sending a team there for most of the last 13 years to help with this effort. Asbury’s work team is scheduled to go to Redbird September 9th - 15th. Please, prayerfully consider joining this team. Contact Mary Beth Wert (812-378-0400) for details.

**Disaster Response Team in Houston**

A Mission Columbus Team made a second trip to Houston, this March, to provide volunteer construction assistance for homes damaged by flooding in wake of Hurricane Harvey, which struck the Texas coast last fall. As with the first trip taken in November, the crew worked in Houston’s 5th Ward, performing technical structural repairs for homeowners who had no way of completing these necessary repairs on their own, due to disabilities and limited fixed incomes. The Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church is managing long term recovery support for over 10,000 homes, spread across a 7 county region. The Spring Crew from Mission Columbus was 15 strong and worked on 4 homes over the week. Projects included electrical installations, siding repair, window/door installations, framing, roofing, demolition and restoring the front of a house. Thanks to gracious donations from the Faith Promise fund, Garage Sale earnings and other Mission Columbus patrons, we were able to cover all material costs for the projects, allowing the Texas Conference to reallocate their limited budget to other properties.

**10 Years since the Flood in Columbus...**

This summer marks 10 years since the flood in Columbus, and the Asbury Disaster Response Team (better known as D.I.R.T.) is still going strong. The flood was not the start of our efforts as a church to provide disaster relief, but it was a time during which we were able to leverage our skills in home repair and involve more volunteers than ever before in our local projects, including coordinating help from other churches throughout the area. We brought our skills honed in previous work camp mission trips to the local community, helping many people move back to their homes, bringing help and hope to so many.

**Ways to Give:**

If you are interested in using auto withdrawal for your church giving, please let us know! The church would be happy to set it up for you. Simply call the office or send a message via the website and we will get you the appropriate paperwork.

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

- Winston Churchill