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[Questions](#)

[AsburyMethodistVillage.org](http://AsburyMethodistVillage.org)

*This message is going to associates, and to residents and family members on our community distribution list.*

## A Message from the Executive Director

August 21, 2020

Dear Residents, Family Members & Associates,

I am happy to share some great news with you! As you know, associates at Asbury Methodist Village are pretty incredible and they have worked harder than ever over the past several months to serve you and each other during this challenging time. We know how great these superheroes are and now the rest of the world will be reminded too!

Late Wednesday we learned that we were named a Great Place to Work®-certified (GPTW) organization ... AGAIN! Associate responses to the recent survey landed us on this prestigious list and if being a GPTW certified organization sounds familiar, that's because it is! This is a three-peat for us and I am so proud. You can [view our GPTW profile page by clicking here](#).

I am also especially excited to share that for the second year in a row we actually beat the Fortune 100 Best Company benchmark for the survey statement: "My work has special meaning; this is not 'just a job.'"

This recognition gives me the opportunity to reflect on all the hard work associates have done to serve. They have stepped up in the face of COVID-19, from quickly implementing screening procedures to pulling together to perform COVID-19 testing to continually evolving our safety measures in line with health authorities. These examples show that we do live by our mission every day in every way to do all the good we can for those we serve. National recognition such as this GPTW certification is evidence of just that.

So when you see an associate today, consider giving them a thumbs up to show that you

recognize their efforts in creating a great place to work. We are #AsburyStrong and we take pride in having the opportunity to serve those who live and work here.

## Important & timely community updates

*Please note that these updates and reminders are also included on our community operations site, [Asbury.org/asbury-methodist-village/resources-events/family-friends](https://www.asbury.org/asbury-methodist-village/resources-events/family-friends):*

- **Our campus has begun to slowly ease visitation restrictions in line with public health and state and local guidelines.** See visitation details [here on the Friends & Family page](#).
- **The Wellness Center and Pool are currently closed, but phased reopening plans are being developed.** The campus grounds are open! New umbrellas and picnic tables will be arriving and placed around the campus next week. Many fitness classes, programs, clubs, and events are available via our AVTV television station. Outdoor fitness classes are being phased back in with appropriate distancing and masking, and staff are scheduling one-on-one consultations. For a current schedule or more information call Belinda Degboe at 301-987-6444, [bdegboe@asbury.org](mailto:bdegboe@asbury.org).
- **CVS Reminder:** CVS will continue to deliver prescriptions and other items directly to resident doors and is now open by appointment to service-urgent needs. Residents needing in-store service must call ahead to 301-216-4372.
- **As a reminder, all COVID-19 data is updated daily on the Asbury COVID-19 Response and Communication webpage at [Asbury.org/COVID19](https://www.asbury.org/COVID19).** You can find the daily status charts in the first blue button on the side bar.
- **Weekly Phone Calls: Thank you** to everyone who is so patiently participating in the Wednesday Wellness Checks. Though not as personal as speaking with each of you individually, this automated call allows us to reach out to see how you are. Thank you to all who call us back if we've missed you.
- **Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church** has requested permission to come to campus and offer communion. This service will be outdoors, with no more than 20 people, and all safety precautions will be followed. More information will be shared through our Pastoral Care team. I have also informed Pastor Frazier that outdoor worship services may be held.

## Lake Forest Mall

**Development:** On Aug. 17, the Mayor and City of Council of Gaithersburg voted to impose a maximum 12-month moratorium on the redevelopment of the mall site. I will be kept up to date as information is available.

**Lake Forest Mall COVID-19 Test Site Status:** Montgomery County is establishing the mall as a testing site, and has already placed one trailer in the parking lot. They are awaiting a second trailer and utility hookups. The County has informed us that no appointments, prescriptions, or fees are required. I will keep you posted as more information is available.

**Please remember**, if any resident is tested for COVID-19, they are to inform [Stephanie Sabine](#) at 301-216-4337 so they can be included in the Daily Dashboard, per the Federal Government. As a resident receives test results, they must share those with Stephanie to be removed from the Daily Dashboard, per the Federal Government.

## Voting

The Montgomery County Board of Elections voted to use 25 Montgomery County Public High Schools and 3 additional locations as Vote Centers on Election Day in lieu of the traditional Precinct polling places. Therefore, Asbury Village will not be serving as a polling location for the November election.

Residents are encouraged to request a Mail-In Ballot by visiting <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/onlinemailinrequest/InstructionsStep1> or calling 240-777-8550. The State will be sending all registered voters an application for a Mail-In Ballot later this month.

Nearby, the Activity Center at Bohrer Park will serve as an Early Voting Center – October 26 through November 3, Election Day. And, Gaithersburg High School will open as a Vote Center on Election Day. Voting hours at both locations will be 7:00 am – 8:00 pm.

AMV is considering options for transportation to Bohrer Park, but please know the lines will be very long. Again, you are encouraged to request a [mail in ballot](#). We are also working on getting a ballot box on campus.

## Have you seen AMV on TV?



Have you seen our new television commercial? It is now airing on all Washington, D.C., networks as well as cable stations that include CNN, Hallmark, CNBC, ESPN, TLC, History Channel, and MSNBC. We hope you enjoy and special thanks to all of the residents featured within! We greatly appreciate your continued support of our marketing efforts. Click the video image above to view.

## Resident-run book drive results in over 1,500 donations



There's a growing body of evidence that just having books in the home improves the educational outcome of students. But with schools and libraries shut down, our resident-run Gaithersburg Beloved Community Initiative, helped make sure students were still reading this summer. The three-month drive (with help from a local non-profit organization) brought in more than 1,500 books for donation to Gaithersburg Middle

School for distribution during their Grab & Go meal pick-ups for food-insecure families. We love to see residents helping their community!

## Educating the public about who we are



This week we launched a multi-month marketing campaign about the value of community, highlighting that our communities are safe, with appropriate precautions in place and that we are an incredible place to live. The campaign will share how Asbury's proactive approach to safety and well-being during COVID-19, which includes infection-control experts, dedicated staff, and a wealth of resources and support services, has created an outstanding record of resident safety. This is a digital display and a Facebook ad campaign that supplements our digital and traditional marketing efforts. The campaign will also include research-based articles and videos about the value of community. If you'd like to check it out, [click here](#). Featured above is a [video](#) that's included in the campaign.

## Messages of appreciation

More than 200 messages of thanks from family members and residents have come in for associates across the Asbury system in recent weeks. We are so appreciative of those messages, like the one below from a family member:

***"Dear Asbury staff, I am so appreciative of how hard you all work to keep the residents safe and cared for. My 98-year-old mom lives in the Wallace Building and she feels very safe there. I also appreciate the excellent communication from Asbury leadership. My mom doesn't always remember the latest Asbury info, but I***

***read the online newsletter and share it with my brothers so that we all know the latest news from Asbury. Thank you all!"***

If you'd like to share a note of thanks, [please click here to launch a form](#) where you can type in your note of appreciation. We will take your submissions and find creative ways to share with associates. Thank you!

We are all in this together. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation. We are #AsburyStrong!

Sincerely,

**Michele Potter**

**Executive Director**



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[www.Asbury.org](http://www.Asbury.org)

[www.facebook.com/asburymethodistvillage](https://www.facebook.com/asburymethodistvillage)

[www.twitter.com/asburycomm](https://www.twitter.com/asburycomm)

