A Message from the Executive Director

September 26, 2020

Dear Residents and Family Members,

We’ve had a long journey together during the pandemic. I don’t need to remind you of where we were eight months ago – and the evolution of all the measures and precautions we’ve worked through since then with one goal above all else: the health and safety of those who live and work here.

As we have continued to perform regular testing with minimal, if any, positive results, we’re at a point where we are able to expand upon our reopening across the community. This is in line with CDC, CMS, Maryland, and local guidelines and requirements, as well as in consultation with the Asbury Communities Clinical and Operations teams.

We have shared before what Asbury President & CEO Doug Leidig has said “reopening is not like turning on a light switch. Think of it as slowly turning up a dimmer switch.” Well, moving the dimmer switch here at Asbury Methodist Village has intentionally been slow and steady, and today I’m happy to announce that we are increasing our visitation opportunities beginning Monday, October 5.

Here’s what you need to know:

- Residents in Residential Living will be able to have more than two visitors at a time. The number of visitors allowed must be determined by the host resident with consideration of the size of the residence to allow for 6 feet of physical distancing at all times.
- There is no time limit for visitors, and overnight visits are fine so long as physical distancing and all hand and health hygiene measures are followed.
• As we have recently shared, visitors are required to screen in through the new 98.6 process and must pass the screening to enter the community. This includes the online screening form available at https://bit.ly/AsburyEntryPass and use of the temperature kiosk at the screening area.
• Visitors to cottage residents are not required to screen in unless they enter the main community with a resident to visit a shared space.
• Residents should continue to utilize the self-monitoring checklist daily. Click here to view or refer to the hard copy version you have been provided.
• We are opening the guest suites for overnight guest stays. Reservations can be made through Becky Baxley, Housekeeping Office Coordinator at 301-216-4080. Guests must follow all safety protocols and go through screening at the Concierge desk daily.
• Kindley Assisted Living is currently only scheduling virtual and window visits. Cooler weather is approaching. We encourage our residents, families and friends to dress warmly.
• Wilson Health Care Center remains closed for visitation. We continue to work with State and health officials as we consider a visitation plan.

I cannot stress enough the importance of making the right health and safety decisions when both here and outside of our community.

As we open up for more visitors, please keep in mind that it does not mean we are safe from the virus or that the crisis is over. Each and every one of us has an obligation to exercise personal responsibility for ourselves, for our families, for those who serve us and for our neighbors. If Montgomery County should regress or if we encounter a new positive COVID-19 case, we will revert to previous measures and we will communicate that change with you. As a reminder, all COVID-19 data is updated daily at Asbury.org/COVID19.

Please note that these updates and reminders are also included on our community operations site, Asbury.org/family-friends.

Looking a little further ahead, we are working through plans now for the upcoming holiday season and determining how best to accommodate residents and families. Certainly, these plans will be fluid, but as we establish how Asbury Methodist Village will handle each circumstance, we will communicate with you.

Thank you for your continued commitment to safety and for abiding by the precautions we have in place. I know the challenges have been significant, the road has been long and the path ahead might still be bumpy at times, but our ability to come together as an Asbury Methodist Village family has gotten us to this point. I look forward to seeing you around the community!
Additional Community Updates

Package and Grocery Delivery to Apartments
For residents of Mund, Trott and Edwards-Fisher, packages will be delivered directly to those buildings beginning Monday, September 28. The Concierges, now located in the lobbies of those buildings, will call residents when packages arrive.

For all apartment buildings, grocery deliveries (Pea Pod, Instacart, Shipt, etc.) will now come directly to resident doors. All delivery people will go through screening before proceeding past the lobbies.

We ask for your patience as we communicate these changes to the many delivery services that come on to campus.

Voting - Secure Ballot Box
The Montgomery County Board of elections has provided AMV with a secure ballot box to be used for the General Election. It will be installed in the Rosborough Building.

If you have questions about voting, please contact the Elections Board at https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections/index2.html or 240-777-8500.

Please enjoy our outdoor spaces
Please, enjoy all the beauty AMV has to offer. There are many places to sit with your guests throughout the campus:

- Park View Patio
- Picnic tables around the pond (additional tables have been installed)
- Parker Lawn
- Hefner Lawn near the tennis court
- Green space in front of Trott (additional tables have been installed)
- Trott roof

Even during outdoor visits, masks must be worn and remember to physically distance.

Announcing: Newly Resurfaced Tennis/Pickle Ball Court
The tennis court behind Diamond is being resurfaced this week and will be ready to play on Monday, September 28th. The court will include pickle ball lines, and a set of four pickle ball paddles and balls will be in the box by the shuffleboard court so everyone can come out and try it!
Driving Safety
With an increase of activity across campus, please be mindful of your speed. The speed limit is 20 MPH campus wide.

Dining rooms opened on September 23

- Reservations are required for all dining venues including the Blue Note Bistro.
- Reservations will be accepted in 15-minute intervals with a maximum number of reservations allotted to each time slot.
- Residents who arrive as parties of one may join other groups up to the maximum size of four.
- The maximum size for any party to be seated will be four persons.
- Six feet of distance will be maintained between all tables.
- Self-service stations such as salad bars, fruit bars and all buffets will be eliminated (Sunday and holiday meals will be served à la carte).
- The number of à la carte menu options has been reduced from the number previously offered before COVID-19.
- Menus will be displayed on screens above each podium.
- Residents will order and pay for their meals at the podium prior to being seated.
- We will continue to offer delivered meals as before and waive the delivery fees.

Hours of operation

Crawford
- Dinner (Mon.—Sat.) 4 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
- Sundays/Holidays  11 a.m.—2 p.m.

Hefner
- Lunch (Mon.—Sat.) 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m.
- Dinner (Mon.—Sat.) 4 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
- Sundays/Holidays  11 a.m.—2 p.m.

Park View
- Dinner (Mon.—Fri.)  5 p.m.—7 p.m.

Blue Note
- Daily 11:30 a.m.—7 p.m.

Russell Avenue Café
- Weekdays  7 a.m.—9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.—2 p.m.
- Weekends/Holidays—11 a.m.—2 p.m.

The Shoppe
- Monday—Friday—10 a.m.—3 p.m.
The shop reopened to in person shopping on Wednesday, September 24. There is a limit of 5 patrons in the Shoppe at a time.

With the need to maintain social distancing and our dining team returning to their normal duties, we are unable to maintain call in orders and delivery service. We thank the resident who volunteered to make all the deliveries and we look forward to seeing our resident shoppers again.

Changes in Social Services – A message from Erika Baylor

I have truly enjoyed the past 20 years that I have spent here at Asbury Methodist Village. My first job was in the Crawford dining room while I was in high school. And even before that I fondly remember performing here as a child when we had ballet recitals. Now, my own children volunteer here. Asbury has been a big part of my life for a very long time.

The decision to leave has not been an easy one. Having only had two jobs as a Social Worker, I would like to explore other opportunities for personal growth and change. My last day at Asbury will be October 2.

It is going to be difficult when I drive to work in the morning, not to drive through the Asbury gates as I have done for the past 20 years. I am going to miss all the residents, families, and associates that I consider to be friends and extended family. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives for such a long time.

Please welcome Priscilla Ofori Adarkwa. She will be joining the Asbury team as the Social Worker for Residential Living. Her first day with us will be October 5th, her office will be in Trott building on the first floor.

Priscilla has a Master’s Degree in Social Work from Howard University, graduating in 2012. Her past experience includes working as a Certified Nursing Assistant providing care to older adults. Most recently, she worked as a Social Worker for a skilled nursing facility in Montgomery County.

Please take a moment to stop by and welcome her!

Reminder: Please get your flu shot

The resident flu clinics are scheduled for the following days, times & locations:

- Tuesday, September 29, in Hefner Auditorium, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 30, in Parker Hall, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
We are partnering with Giant Food Pharmacy who is providing the high-dose vaccine. Every precaution will be taken as all CDC guidelines are followed. Masks must be worn, physical distancing will be practiced, and those administering the shots will be donned in personal protective equipment (PPE) for your safety. Also, to reduce the wait time, residents are encouraged to complete the consent forms prior to coming to the clinic. Click to open following forms: Pharmacy Consent Form; Additional Vaccine Form. Hard copies will be placed by campus mail cubbies.

Finally, the vaccine is covered by most insurances. We know that there are many residents with Kaiser Permanente insurance. Kaiser will not cover the cost of the vaccine administered through the AMV Flu Clinic. However, those covered under Kaiser may prefer to receive the vaccine through the AMV clinic instead of leaving campus for a Kaiser participating physician. The out of pocket cost for the vaccine is $82. Payment may only be made via check to Giant Pharmacy. However, there will be a discount card on hand that may lower the cost by $15-$20 dollars.

We are #AsburyStrong.

Sincerely,

Michele Potter
Executive Director

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