

Quotable Cafe Quotes ...

"That was the best pie I've ever had. It was better than ***."

"Yes ma'm, we sell the best sin in town."

Do unto "The Customer" as you would have them do unto you!
— Luke 6:31

"Yes, that's right, if the light is on we have the pie in stock. I think."

"My oven got dirty baking all those pies. We need to buy a new one." — Yes Dear

*** Better left to your imagination.

Friends of the Cafe ...

Thanks to Voicestream for the loan of cell phones during the fair.

Thanks to Joe Provonzie of Printing Services for the free printing of our counter slips.

Details At Website

For more details check our website at ...

<http://members.aol.com/asburyumc/cafe>

October 1997

Asbury United Methodist Church

Asbury Cafe
Special Edition

Asbury Trails



A WORD OR TWO OF THANKS ...

For most, The Asbury Cafe has ended for another year, but for me the hard task remains to thank everyone. Saying thanks is easy after seeing countless instances of selfless giving. Being able to identify everyone to thank is another matter. Writing dozens of personal notes, making numerous calls, and talking with individuals will not cover all the bases.

Even though I can't thank everyone personally, let me mention some special servants. The Cafe would not have opened on time without the many hours of preparation by Jimmy and Celia Richardson, and Doris Bowen. They were there at close up too. Take time to thank our coordinators and church representatives (listed in the sidebar). These folks put in many hours making it happen. Thanks again to Carl Hein for transporting 2200+ pies to the Cafe. And how about Nancy Kruger, she made at least 4 of those pies fresh everyday. It may seem to some inappropriate, but I would personally like to thank our suppliers: Zanios Foods, Coca Cola of Albuquerque, and Earthgrains (Rainbo Bakery). Others don't directly experience their exceptional service and support, but some things I didn't have to worry about throughout the fair.

One person I can thank personally also deserves a little public recognition — chief gopher, taxi driver, pie maker, Cafe laundry service, morale booster, and silent partner — thanks Dear.

A very special thanks to all our partner churches. Despite my overall involvement, I'm sure there are others worthy of noting that I have missed. Over the past few years we have received widespread and unsolicited help from many unknown individuals and churches for whom words of thanks go unspoken. If you know of anyone deserving a word of thanks, please take time to offer it on behalf of the Cafe and myself. And let us all give thanks to God for this opportunity.

With my gratitude — thanks,

Dave Campbell

1997 Cafe Representatives

- Asbury - Serena Smith - Allison Costello - Lynette Schatz - Carl Hein - Dave Wintermute - St. John's - Doris Bowen - St. Stephen's - Glenn Machin - Fred Zutavern - Covenant Presbyterian - Jean Harrison - Central - Carolyn Palmer - Mountainside - Coren Hamilton - Height's Cumberland Presbyterian

Project Share	\$6,500
Rescue Mission	\$6,500
The Storehouse	\$6,500
Joy Junction	\$6,500
First Meal Prgm.	\$400
Noon Day	\$1,200
Pastor's Funds	\$3,400
Young Children's Health Center	\$1,000
Total	\$32,000

**\$32,000 in Donations
On Your Behalf**

**ASBURY METHODIST CHURCH
10000 CANDELARIA NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87112**

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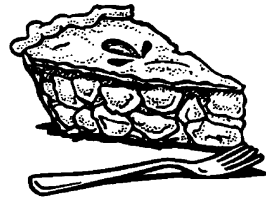
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Our Legacy

by Dave Campbell

Press release ...



Asbury Cafe '97 Upgrade Completed ...

Management announced the recent completion of the Asbury Cafe '97 program. Most workers reported that once it was up and running the new program seemed to operate slower than the previous release. Indeed, performance numbers indicate this as well, though many also noted a few valuable new features and several bug fixes. A few, who skipped the previous release, were very impressed with new capability offered in this release and were happy to make the upgrade. The system operator noted that installation of this release did not go as smoothly as the previous, despite having significant experience with previous efforts. Developers have received feedback suggesting better ease of use if they expect to maintain their dominance of the marketplace and end users have already begun making demands for features to be included in the next release. Altogether, Asbury Cafe '97 represents a program suitable for everyone's enjoyment and comes highly recommended.

Sounds like a software review and in at least one way I note a similarity to The Asbury Cafe. Without making a product endorsement, I have to say I was much more impressed with Microsoft's release of Windows '95 than most users. That's because most of the efforts in changing from Windows 3.11 to '95 were transparent to users. Microsoft had an installed base of many 10's of millions of customers that simultaneously demanded new and improved services while maintaining compatibility with their infrastructure investment. Microsoft provided such — users who upgraded got significant new features while continuing to use nearly all of the software and hardware in which they had already invested. All this could be summed up in one word — legacy. Microsoft valued legacy and managed to balance new features with old ways. A very difficult task with critics on both sides.

As I worked with the cafe this year, thoughts of legacy kept coming to mind. The cafe has operated for 37 years now. More years than some participants would like to remember and more than others have known in their lifetime, that's a legacy. We have endurance and time tested strength, that's legacy. We have a reputation for good pie, hardworking volunteers, and community service, that's legacy. Legacy can be seen in resistance to change, but also in adaptability of drawing from a reservoir of experience to solve new problems in new ways. Legacy is seeing "old timers" and "new blood" working side by side. Legacy is having a feeling of pride in telling everyone that the whole effort goes back to our community and knowing our work gives Christ a presence in the world. Legacy is that feeling of embarrassment for each piece of pie returned for a refund. Legacy is told in the facts, figures, and stories that remain.

Legacies grow and die with time. The best legacies are long remembered. But I believe we sometimes miss the fact that a legacy such as our Asbury Cafe is earned. You know that when others recognize your efforts.

Cafe Fate ...

Over the years we have faced many challenges big and small with respect to continued operation of the Cafe. There are a number of stories floating about concerning the fate of the Asbury Cafe. I know because some began with me. The situation is serious enough to warrant open discussion, but I would first like to use this opportunity to try and identify the issues on a common ground.

First is the issue of volunteer costs. I remember when I first worked the Cafe, 13 fairs ago, we received all the admission coupons we needed. This year we received 12 daily punch passes and 2 parking in proportion to our concession fee for more than 600 volunteers spread across 5-6 churches. I estimated that our volunteers paid around \$2000 for parking and admission for the privilege of volunteering. The days of volunteers who worked 6-8 times are gone because they can't afford it. With it we lose experience and consistency and the task of finding additional help grows beyond reasonable efforts — sometimes 40 calls to fill a time slot. It's one more thing that lowers our return on investment, which many see as already too low. I spoke to State Fair Manager, John Garcia, and Governor Johnson about this issue and told them it must be resolved favorably, if the Cafe is to continue. They both agreed that we provide a valuable service to the community and that the fair would be less without the Cafe.

The second item involves some concerns regarding pies. We currently sell pies at the Cafe under a waiver from the State Environment (Heath) Department. New regulations from the FDA take effect in two years. In brief, without debating the validity or justification of these regulations, they significantly exceed our ability to comply. We do not yet know if a waiver would or could be continued. In addition, the rapid growth of the Cafe in recent years has left us with a dependence on "mass produced frozen pie party pies" with a noticeable and steady decline in quality. We need to get a handle on this problem before it undermines our best efforts.

The third issue involves leadership and church participation. All of the current Cafe leaders have assumed their duties for at least 2 years, much longer in some cases, with no relief in place. We use these individuals until they are used up. More than one person has noticed that there are no recent Cafe chairpersons at Asbury! This year we had changes in commitments just weeks and days before the fair, leaving leaders scrambling for help. We need to establish Cafe ownership within the governing bodies of the participating churches so responsibility and commitment for leadership and participation can be clearly established well in advance of the fair each year.

I invite your prayers. I invite your feedback. You can contact myself, anyone involved in the leadership of the Cafe, your pastor or church leaders.

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "DC" or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Dave Campbell
1997 Cafe Chairperson

Nearly 2100 Pies Sold!