

**Verse of the Month:** “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” ~ John 3:16



The Presbyterian Church at Absecon

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## Summer Schedule Begins June 24

Our summer schedule of single services at 10:00 will begin June 24, the Sunday after Father's Day. Refreshments will be served outside, weather permitting. Please note the following about summer:

1. Sunday School does not meet. Instead 40 Minute Club will leave the service after the children's sermon. Helpers are needed. 40 Minute Club is for children PreK through 7<sup>th</sup> Grade. Those above this age are expected to be in church.
  2. The choir does not generally sing during the summer, but this year they will continue until July 1. They will conclude with patriotic music for our Independence Weekend worship. There will be a variety of special music options the rest of the summer.
  3. Breakfast is not offered during the summer. Refreshments following worship will be available outside weather permitting.
  4. Church office hours may be reduced during the summer depending on the need.
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## Sunday School and Related News for June

We had fun in May preparing a Mother's Day project for all the mothers in the church as our mission project. On Mother's Day all the kids and teens had a great time making their moms a gift from an assortment of projects. We enjoyed a visit from Camp Haluwasa. Finally we celebrated Youth Recognition Day.

Summer quickly approaches and we have a lot of year end activities and exciting events to look forward to. Hopefully, you can join us for most of these. There will be sign ups in Madden Hall to help with 40 Minute Club, Field Day, and our annual canoe trip.

## **Up Coming Events**

- Our summer program and **40 Minute Club** will begin on **June 24<sup>th</sup>**. Like last year, we will have two groups that leave the sanctuary following the junior sermon: the first group will be for grades PreK-3 and the second group will be for grades 4-7. (Teens who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade or higher are expected to stay for worship. Parents of kids in grades K-7 are asked to take a turn or two running the program in the summer. A lesson plan and craft are provided along with a list of suggested games to play in case the class finishes early. Parents and other adult volunteers can sign up to be a teacher or an aide. Pairs of friends work well together. Parents who sign up as teachers can pick the craft for their week.
- **Field Day** will take place on Saturday, **June 2<sup>th</sup>** on the field behind the Manse. Jack Cobb will most likely set up his water slide which will be included in the day's events. Races on the field will begin at **10:30** am and include races such as the egg and spoon, 50 yard dash, piggy back race, potato sack race, and the hula hoop contest. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place **ribbons** will be awarded for each event. We will break for a cookout lunch and then resume our activities with carnival games. The Sunday School will cover the cost of food at the BBQ and people are able to contribute to the meal by bringing desserts. **Prizes** come from our own

donations. Clean out your closets and basements. Please bring with you on the day of Field Day all games, books, toys, puzzles, etc. that you are ready to donate to the prize booth. Basically, this is the largest toy swap this side of the Missouri River. Wear your **swimming suits** because the pool and water slide will be open to all once everyone has had their fill of the carnival games. The day generally wraps up by 1:00 pm or so. A great time is had by all. Bring your friends. The more the merrier.

- **June 9th is our canoe trip.** We'll be canoeing from the Wading Pines Campground located in the Chatsworth area of NJ about 30 minutes north up the parkway. The cost is about \$20 a person or \$40 per canoe. (That will be confirmed before we go.) One extra person may be added to a canoe for the additional charge of \$5. Bring a picnic lunch, towel, sunscreen, and bug spray. We'll leave the church at 10 am and get to the site around 10:30. Hopefully we'll be in the water canoeing by 11am. We'll stop for a picnic lunch along the way and be done around 2 pm. Every one should be back home by 3 pm. The church van will drive up and back. Usually we have a bit of a caravan going.
- **June 10th is Teacher Recognition Sunday.** We certainly appreciate the commitment our teachers, aides, substitutes, and sponsors have provided for our kids. It is always an honor to recognize the people who donate their time in such a meaningful way. Please say a special thank you to teachers Dawn Duran, Karen Little, Tina Harvey, Diane Lee, JoAnn Sabo, and Bob Gillis. Our teacher's aides have been very supportive this year and we'd like to thank Jacqueline Bhatti, Kathy Cruz, Fran Tanner, Dawn Houseworth, Jason Imlay, Sheila Mazzatta, Tina Brown, Dawn Lewis, Barbara Hudak, Barbara Hughes, and Janna Beth Cobb. We also are grateful to our many sponsors who support our classes both spiritually and financially. Our program is terrific because of them. We will have certificates and gifts for our teachers, aides, substitutes, and sponsors at the 9:30 service.
- **June 17th is Father's Day** and the last Sunday of regular Sunday School until the fall. We will be making special crafts and cards for our dads. No two gifts will be alike. This is also Graduate Sunday and all graduates from 8<sup>th</sup> grade, high school, post high school, and college programs will be recognized.

I personally enjoyed walking around the Christian Ed building on Sundays and seeing everyone involved in their classes. We truly have a wonderful group of teachers and aides and I know the kids and teens are learning so much. I'd like to offer a special thanks to Lee Wolff for helping me in so many ways, and to the leadership that stepped forward to support and lead with our Christmas musical, Christmas Eve Pageant, and Easter Drama. They were truly highlights of the year. We have so much to look forward to in the upcoming months between our Field Day, canoe trip, and all the Sundays of 40 Minute Club. May God bless you all with a happy healthy summer.

Love,  
Priscilla

### Lions & Lambs

Our May meeting afforded us a wonderful opportunity to learn how Christ works through us to carry others through difficult times. Our first annual "Footprints in the Sand" walk was held at Patriot Lake in Galloway where eight of our Lions & Lambs families gathered to learn of those who suffered devastation from the floodwaters in New York State- the aftermath of last August's

hurricane. Little minds envisioned what massive water does to the sand castles that they'll soon be building, as their hearts went out to those whose homes were destroyed in the northeast. The children were sorry to learn that they were too young to go on the mission trip but were eager to share their many ideas for the purchase of building materials that would support those who are giving a

week of their own lives to help them rebuild. Yes, as Our Wise Master, Jesus, taught us - there is no greater gift of love than to give your life for a friend. Lions and Lambs intends to use the funds collected in the water bottle banks to assist with our church's on-site recovery efforts. Thanks to all of you whose contributions helped each of those little minds prosper in mission and fellowship.

In His Service,  
JoAnn Sabo

Stay tuned: We'll be joining A2J for a LAWN GAMES EVENT some time this summer!!! Be well.

### **Senior Youth News**

Senior youth group's last formal meeting was May 21. The teens have decided to plant another vegetable garden this summer. We will be growing tomatoes and peppers. They will be donated to the Food Bank. We have not finalized our summer trip yet. There are a few ideas on the table.

It has been a great year for me. This is the largest group we've had since Jack and I have been involved. We had so much fun. This year we: went to the Haunted Junkyard, spent Saturdays @ the Bakely House, pulled staples out of the floor at 19 School House, served brunches and sang in church. Jack always has a Bible study followed by: man hunt, volley ball using your feet only, game of concentration or being in a huge wagon being pulled by a tracker and so much more.

I would like to thank all of the parents. The dinners were excellent. It was a little different this year bringing food for 18 people.

Have a great summer. I will contact all parent about our summer plans,

Thank you!  
Karen



### **Men's Fellowship Breakfast June 9**

The Doug Jablonski Men's Fellowship will meet Saturday, June 9, at 8:30am. We will be electing new officers and possibly planning a summer activity. All men of the church are invited!



**Worship Committee**

### **From the Choir Loft**

I would like to start a Junior Choir for grades 4 - 7 starting Sunday, June 3, with a rehearsal after Sunday School at 10:45 am in the lounge. I would like them to sing on Father's Day at the 9:30 service.

This will be the only time they sing this season, and we will begin again in September.

Thanks,  
Harold



## **Fathers to be Honored on Father's Day, June 17**

The first 72 fathers will receive a Father's Day key chain equipped with compass. Dad, thanks for providing direction in our lives. We love you!

## **Terri Villegas and Kristin Flaherty to be Confirmed June 10**

There are only two young people to be confirmed this year. They have completed an extensive course of preparation and will appear before session on

June 5. They will be confirmed on Teacher Recognition Sunday, June 10.

Congratulations, girls!



## **New Members Received on May 20**

The following people were received as new members on May 20. Please add their names to your directories.

Harold & Cheryl Hawkes

Debra J. Benton

Kathy Moore  
(Donovan, Kaitlin)

Ginni Anne Stadler

Bryan & Victoria Hawkes  
Nick  
(Jordan, Christian)

Also Vic and Anna Mae Werner, who were in Europe the end of May, will be received as members in June.

Introduce yourself and take some time to get acquainted.

Note: Full contact information is available from our online directory. Follow the link to the directory from our website and use the "Our Members" tab. (The password is on the inside back cover of your copy of the photo directory.)



## **Mission/Evangelism -**

Thanks to your donations we were able to put together 54 health kits. They were sent to Church World Services. Health kits are used in disaster areas here and around the world.

The Pleasantville Presbyterian Church held its Mustard Seed Auction and raised 56 hundred dollars that will benefit Real Partners in Uganda.

Tools of Hope and Blankets are being combined and running from May 20th through June 17th. This offering will be received June 17th.

This year's mission trip will be held in Schoharie, NY July 15th through July 20th. They suffered damages from Hurricane Irene. For more information see the article below or contact Alice Smith or Loretta Metz.

We also have Tee-shirts for sale between services. Adults \$10 and children \$8. See John Harvey.

Thank you for your support;  
God bless Russ Adkisson Jr.

### **Schoharie, NY Mission Trip**

July 15<sup>th</sup> will find our Mission Team on the road again, heading to an area west of Albany where Hurricane Irene hit the hardest. 200 families were forced to leave their homes because of the damage caused by flooding. The Presbyterian Church there had extensive damage as did the manse. Our team will be working in homes of the residents and will be staying at SUNY Cobleskil College Dorm. Our volunteers will be required to pay for lodging at the college as there were no vacancies at local churches. We will be staying Sunday to Friday and are looking forward to a rewarding experience. In the past, our volunteers have always expressed that they, while giving of themselves, are the ones that actually receive the most back from the trip. If you are looking to have a meaningful experience this summer, while really making a difference to a family in need, please consider joining us the week of July 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are not able to participate, please consider sponsoring a team member, and in this way you will become a part of our Mission Team. We have several high school students that are planning to join us and will work along side of the adults.

Please see Alice Smith, Loretta Metz or Pastor Cobb for volunteer forms that must be submitted.

Your Mission Committee

### **News from the Deacons**

The board of Deacons last met on Tuesday, May 8, at 6pm and then stayed to report to Session. We reported that due to hygienic reasons and ease, Deacons will be using commercially prepared communion bread wafers for all future communions.

Deacons held their bi-annual Bereavement (Friendship) luncheon on April 29 and over forty people attended. Sincere thank you to Rev. Dave Cobb and Rev Gerry Reedell, Gay Channell who printed our invitations and programs, Harold Hawkes for playing the piano, Cheryl Hawkes for helping with set up and cleanup and to **all** the Deacons and everyone who participated and helped make this event so meaningful.

The Deacons also helped with the funeral luncheon for Marge Conover on May 19. Again, a loving thank you to past and present Deacons and friends who always are ready to help when called upon. You know we cannot do our work without your valuable help, support and generous contributions. Thank You! Thank You!

The next Deacons meeting will be on October 27 at 10 am in Cobb Lounge.

In Christian service and love,  
Naida Burgess, Moderator  
Kris Jenoriki, Vice Moderator

## Lessons from a Croatian Vineyard

Little did I know when I agreed to go help a Croatian friend's 76 yr. old Mom in her vineyard, that at the end of the afternoon I would walk away with a much deeper and positively inspiring view of chapter 15 in the gospel of John!

I was on the island of Hvar, off the Croatian coast. A few of us had traveled there to see about holding

a Discipleship Training School in the region sometime in the next year or so. As we watched Angelica, the vinedresser, at work and listened to her explain the responsibilities of caring for a vineyard, I felt like the discipleship process had already begun. We were the ones being schooled in what Jesus REALLY meant when He said, "I am the vine, you are the branches . . ."

Here are a few of the lessons I learned that afternoon:

1. *A grape seed is in the ground 3 years before you begin to see the vine push through the soil.* A great reminder that producing "fruit that will last" takes time, patience and trust in what we cannot see.
2. *The pruning process, if done regularly, is just a matter of taking off the leaves and non-fruit bearing growth that appears on the vine.* I had always pictured the pruning process as a big pair of shears cutting through a vine. I thought if God was going to prune my branches it would be painful and drastic. I was fascinated with the fact that as long as the pruning is done regularly (a key point) then it is really not a big deal.
3. *An overgrown, unattended vineyard does not produce fruit.* There was a very sad illustration of this. Right next to the vineyard we were in, was one that had vines covered in weeds and not taken care of at all. When I asked what the story was of that vineyard, my friend said it belonged to the local church parish and no one took care of it - ouch.
4. *Protection from disease at an early age is crucial.* Angelica told us that if a vine gets diseased early on, it will never produce its potential. You must protect the vines when they are young!
5. *The more intense the environment, the better the fruit that is produced.* Enough said!
6. *The vinedresser has an active part in the growth process.* He/she comes to the vineyard regularly to prune and protect. It screams of relationship between the vinedresser (God) and the vines (us)!
7. Angelica was a bit wary of us pruning because we did not know the plants and the process. She was afraid we would take off a potential fruit-bearing bud. *The vinedresser knows the difference between what will bear fruit and what is a weed!*

There is so much more I could share . . . after being in the vineyard, our small group went home and we read out loud John 15. As I read the words, I felt my spirit light up with new revelation and understanding of my relationship with God, my vinedresser, and what it really means to abide in Christ (the vine).

"I am the vine, you are the branches, he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing . . ." John 15:5

It was great to be with you a few months ago. Thank you for your continual support and encouragement - it is a blessing to serve.

Much appreciation, Lisa Whitaker



Lisa, Angelica (the vinedresser), Bexi and Jarod (fellow YWAM staff)

### Stewardship Committee Report



Following is the statistical summary for April. Monthly giving is comparable to April, 2011. Rental income continues in the negative due to the Stopfer Building being unrented. Some approvals have been granted to use the facility as a child care center; the prospective renter is waiting for people from the State to review the facility and its proposed use. Hopefully in next month's report we will have good news following their visit. Stay tuned.

As we enter the summer months and our summer schedule, remember that we – as you personally - must meet our expenses. Please keep your pledged contribution current so we can pay our bills.

#### Statistical Report for April

Budget for 2012	\$220,771.00
Budgetary needs through April 29, 2012	\$ 76,420.80
Our giving through 4/29/12	\$ 60,526.52
Investment Income	\$ 7,480.80
Rental Income (net)	\$ (1,430.49)
Total	\$ 66,576.83



Amount under budget

\$9,843.97

Average weekly giving by month

	<i>2012</i>	<i>2011</i>
January	\$3257.33	\$3665.34
February	\$3384.29	\$3126.90
March	\$3326.92	\$3391.40
April	\$3527.09	\$3545.45

Gerald W. Hoenes  
Stewardship Committee Chairperson

**Golf Tournament**



The Golf Committee has worked on the Golf Tournament dinner/auction for about 9 months. There were countless emails going back and forth, text messages, checking out the different golf courses and dinner meetings. We mailed out letters to friends and local businesses, followed up with flyers and registration forms. We had 19 hole sponsors, 4 huge tables of donated gifts and gift cards, 39 golfers and a great day!!

ideas and Jim McManus for your contributions. Thanks to all the volunteers that sat for hours at the hole-in-one holes: Janna Beth, Al, Priscilla, Jack, Robert and Bobby. Thanks also to Taylor and Cassidy our 2 gofers. Thanks, Roy Birkbeck, for helping us collect the auction monies. And special thanks to the Orange Shirt Team: Nancy Conover, Sandy Shinsato, Leo Ransone, Dawn Duran, Darlene Lombardi, Gayle Ackerman, and Tina Brown. You are the BEST! We did it!

I have to thank John Harvey for putting up with my constant texting and thanks for getting our orange shirts. Thanks, Melvin Washington, for your great

Cheers,  
Karen



**May Thank You's**

May saw the biggest outside group of volunteers to ever grace our church. Keller Williams Realtors sent 40 volunteers who raked, planted flowers, made repairs, and left a lot of food for the Bakely House and the Leek House residents. They also weeded the playground area and put a weed barrier under the mats. Thanks to Barbara Morgan for coordinating this great effort!

Other thanks go to the following:

1. Nancy Sooy for a great meat loaf dinner, Joan Hoenes for arranging the Matthews Brothers, and the dozens of workers who made our May 5 congregational event a smashing success.
2. Gary Cresse for replacing the ground fault receptacle on the sump pump out back. It works great now!
3. Dave Stebbins for painting the shed behind the Leek House and many other jobs.
4. Dawn, Karen, Nancy, Kirk, Leo, Sandy, Tina, Darlene, and all who helped with our first ever golf tournament on May 20. Great job! Can't wait until next year.

5. Naida and the deacons for a great job on the funeral lunches for Marge Conover, May 19, and Connie Gras (Grace's daughter-in-law) on May 25. Here's hoping the need for these lunches is over for a while.
6. All our youth leaders for a great year with the youth groups. All our groups are now over for the summer.
7. Jan Jorgensen, Bill Davenport, Melvin Washington, and others for repairs.

### Fellowship Committee News



The Strawberry Festival was a great success. This event is always filled with lots of fun, music, and, of course, food. Thank you to John Channell and his friends for the great entertainment. Madden Hall comes alive when they play. Also, thank you to everyone who provided baked goods, ice cream, whipped cream, as well as helped set up, serve and clean up. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Summer is fast approaching and usually means outside activities. We are currently exploring several event options and welcome any suggestions. Please be sure to read your Sunday bulletin as information is provided.

Just a reminder - when church services move to summer schedule the week after Father's Day refreshments will be outside weather permitting.

### Pastor to Offer Picnics During the Summer



As in past summers, the pastor will offer a series of picnics during the summer. These casual "come as you are" events are divided up for various groups in the church. You do not need to sign up, but it helps.

Activities include swimming, badminton, horse shoes, or just hanging out. If you want to bring something like potato chips or a dessert, that is welcome. The picnic comes with hot dogs, hamburgers, sodas, deviled eggs, corn (in season) or baked beans.

Tentative dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, June 19 – Evergreens
- Sunday, June 24 – Youth Groups
- Sunday, July 1 – Independence Day picnic open to all
- Sunday, July 8 – Sunday School
- Sunday, July 22 – Church officers
- Sunday, August 5 – Music Ministry
- Sunday, August 12 – open to all

### Lunch Bunch to Pirate's Den Restaurant June 6

Meet at the church on Wednesday, June 6, at 11:30 or at the Pirate's Den Restaurant in Brigantine at noon. We will beat the summer rush to the shore.

The July Lunch Bunch is currently scheduled for Thursday, July 5, due to the holiday.



## Summer Cabin Trips

The pastor will offer a series of trips to the Poconos this summer on Lake Wallenpaupack. These trips will be during the week and are limited to ten people. Possible activities include boating, tubing, hiking,

campfires, games, and whatever you can afford. You can also just relax. If you can cook, that would be great. Trips are limited to ten people. Cost is \$35.00. Sorry for the increase, but gas, food, etc. has gone up. Extras, like riding go carts, are on you.

1. June 12-14 – adults only, come help open up and have early season rest.
2. June 20-22 – end of school year – parent/child fun
3. June 25-28 – full mountain experience. We hike Ricketts Glen, swim, water ski, tube, etc.
4. July 10-12 - A2J youth group only
5. July 30-August 1 – We vote on activities



### Jim McManus Receives New Liver May 19

Jim McManus was the recipient of a donor liver on June 18 at Jefferson Hospital. His old liver was diseased, and this replacement gives Jim a new lease on life.

We rejoice that everything went well and Jim is doing great (as of May 22).



Thank you so much for the Prayer shawl for my friend. I sent it to her and she sent a Thank You to say that she loves it and Thank You Very Much.

Betty Price

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Pastors, Deacons, and Church Family,

May I send a huge and sincere THANK YOU for all of your prayers, phone calls, cards, visitations, and wonderful goodies during my recent hospitalization.

I certainly appreciate it all and am looking forward to seeing you all in church very soon.

Ruth Bird



## How Do You Function as a Pastor?

“I solemnly charge you: proclaim the message, be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.” ~ 2 Timothy 4:1b-2

At the pastor’s conference in Atlanta May 14-18 we were challenged to think about how we lead the flock of God, the church. They told us there were basically three kinds of pastors:

1. Visionary. These people, usually in large churches, are idea people. They usually have a theme or clearly defined goal, like evangelism, and everything they do is related to that goal. Their strong points are inspiring people, adding enthusiasm, and giving people a sense of where they and the church ought to be going. They are great at leadership development, setting goals, finding resources, and letting people know what is going on. Their sermons are about casting a vision and letting people know what the church is about.
2. Pastoral. These people tend the flock. They are relational and spend their days visiting the sick, counseling, and taking care of people’s personal needs. They teach small classes, do visitation, and always seem to be there when someone is in crisis. They know everybody’s name, and give the impression that they care about you. Their sermons are about God’s love and how God is personal and will always be there for you. These people don’t give much direction, but it doesn’t matter. Everybody knows they care and each person is important. That is more important than vision. Theirs is a ministry of comfort.
3. Custodial or Maintenance. These people are interested in carrying the torch and making sure everything is taken care of. They have a lot of interest in history because they look backwards to find their direction forward. They are interested in keeping the peace and taking care of the church. They are usually hands on, and show up for work days and get their hands dirty. They see the church as the great embodiment of tradition and faith, and have little interest in changing that. They want to pass the faith, the building, and the worship on just the way they found it. Therefore, raising budget, taking care of the building, and maintaining worship are their goals. In a changing world, the church is a rock, not a vision or a comfort. Their sermons are usually about great historical people of faith we need to learn from and be like. The congregation feels safe and secure with these people. No need to worry about big changes. Perhaps the only thing to worry about is what will happen when this person leaves. He took care of everything, and kept the church preserved and secure. That’s what people want in their church, isn’t it?

I could see myself in all three of these roles, but all members are pastors and wear these hats, too. Some people are pastoral, and some want to maintain our traditions, property, and appearance. None of these roles is right or wrong, but no matter what hat you wear, you’re bound to irritate the other two. The others just don’t get what the church is mostly about.

If you would like to give me feedback as to what kind of pastor you think I am, please do so. But be ready for me to tell you where I see your role as well. It should be helpful to us all because the church needs all three. Let’s try to appreciate each other.

See you in church,

*- Dave*

**Lay Assistants**

3 9:30 Joan Nale  
11:00  
10 9:30  
11:00  
17 9:30 Russ Adkisson  
11:00 Vic Abelson  
24 10:00



**Acolyte (9:30)**

3  
10  
17

**Nursery (9:30)**

3 Jennifer Platt  
10 Gloria Achamizo  
17 Alice Malfi  
24 (10:00) Fran Tanner

**Head Ushers**

3 9:30  
11:00  
10 9:30  
11:00  
17 9:30  
11:00  
24 10:00

**Van Drivers**

3 John Channell  
10 Barb Hughes  
17 John Harvey  
24 Vic Abelson

**Collection**

3 9:30  
11:00  
10 9:30  
11:00  
17 9:30  
11:00  
24 10:00

**Refreshment Hosts**

3 Hughes Family  
10 Gillis Family  
JoAnn Sabo  
17 Hawkes Family  
24

**Deacons for the Month**

9:30 Kris Jenoriki  
11:00 Mary Bew

**Breakfast Club Kitchen Crew**

3 Set-up – Edith Budd  
Cook – John Harvey  
Clean-up – Joe Marshall  
10 Set-up – Bob Wilkenloh  
Cook – John Channell  
Clean-up – Bill & Ginny Davenport

Thanks for your support! See you in September!

**~ For Sale ~**



Two White EMCO FOREVER storm doors  
(1-36”w and 1-32”w, both standard height)  
Scalloped ½ top windows.  
Parts to install included. \$28.00 each.  
Call Jerry Hoenes.