

Good News

September 2013



*Return
to
Regular
Worship
Hours*

The Presbyterian Church at Absecon

208 New Jersey Avenue

Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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What a Great Summer!

The summer of 2013 will be remembered fondly for great times of worship, fellowship, and fun. Many of our activities were photographed and shown on PowerPoint before worship, so we are learning how to celebrate ourselves. Remember these events?

1. Canoeing on June 8 after a stormy week – that was treacherous!
2. Family Fun Day, June 22. It was our first attempt, and it was a big success. The Mayor and others still rave about us. On August 15th the Mission Committee voted to do it again next year – only bigger and better!
3. Breakfast with the Pastor – This went really great. We got a lot of great feedback for the fall.
4. Mission Teams – We hosted six. We served a dinner to all of them.
5. The Men's Fellowship hosted a Memorial Day picnic and a 4th of July picnic – both well attended. Their last picnic will be Sept. 2. Melvin will again serve his famous ribs.
6. The pastor hosted an additional four picnics, including one for the Evergreens.
7. The church picnic at Egg Harbor Lake on August 18 resumed an old tradition. Over 50 people attended. It did not rain.
8. Guest speakers and music – Our own Scott Sabo spoke two times, and the Holland Family did the entire service (with Scott's help) Aug. 11. Rev. Gerry spoke Aug. 25. Church was well attended all summer. We liked being together.
9. Fun times like Lunch Bunch continued. On Aug. 7 we spent the day in Cape May.
10. There were many special celebrations like remembering Priscilla's years as our Christian Ed. Directory, Bud's confirmation, anniversaries, etc. We also bid farewell to Eleanor Elbertson and Flora Hutchinson.

Life goes on, but great memories remain.

Meet Our New Staff

This September we welcome three new additions to our church staff. Please welcome and support them:

Senior Youth Co-Leader – Kendal Cobb

Kendal has been involved with our senior youth for five years as a helper and Jack's assistant. They have been married for 3½ years and are expecting their first son in September.

Kendal is a teacher by trade, a graduate of East Carolina University majoring in special education. She currently works for the ARC. Kendal loves dogs and spends a lot of time with Spirit and Pepper, their two terriers.

Kendal is now moving up into Karen's shoes as a co-leader of the group.

Christian Education Coordinator – Tina Harvey

Tina is the mother of JD, Christopher, and Jackson Harvey. She has worked for the South Jersey Transportation Authority for 19 years. She has served our church in many capacities and will continue to teach her Sunday School class as she holds this position.

Tina likes to read history and novels. She also likes to garden, take walks, and spend time with her children.

Tina has already put a lot of time into planning a great year, and there will be great events, mission projects, etc.

Tina works for the Christian Education Committee.

Worship and Program Directors – Anna Mae & Vic Werner

Anna Mae & Vic joined our church just two years ago, but already we have been pleased by Vic's trained voice and music leadership. Now the team of Anna Mae and Vic will bring new dimensions to our worship with drama, singing groups, and special presentations by our young people.

Vic is a graduate of Oakcrest High School and partner for 40 years with his brother of Werner Plumbing of Brigantine (they installed our church air conditioning four years ago). Vic's first love (beside Anna Mae) is singing, and they sing with the Mainland Choral Singers, and the Meister Singers.

Anna Mae is a graduate of Pilgrim Academy and is currently taking college courses in medical assisting. She loves to do hand work, scrap booking, and church work. Anna Mae gave her heart to Christ as Lord and Savior in our church when she was seven years old. She has been involved at First Baptist and Beacon and currently teaches our adult Sunday School which she intends to keep doing.

Anna Mae and Vic have been married 37 years and have four children and three grandchildren. Anna Mae's mother is our own Fran Weir.

Let us welcome these new staff and offer them the prayers, love and volunteer help they will surely need.



Christian Education Committee:

The CE Committee is excited to be getting ready for a new school year that will feature some new faces and lots of new ideas. We welcome Tina Harvey as our new Sunday School Coordinator - she will be working closely with our dedicated youth group leaders, Sunday School personnel, and other church leaders to help ensure that all of our youth are provided with the best possible opportunities to continue their own spiritual growth, while enjoying fellowship and developing into adult members of our congregation. Keep your eyes and ears open for news about some of the exciting things that are being planned for this year!

In His Service,
Scott Sabo
CE Chairman

Sunday School to Kick Off with Rally Day September 8, 2013

Welcome back! Hopefully you are feeling refreshed from some relaxing summer activities. Here at church some good things happened over the summer as well. The 40 Minute Club ran smoothly thanks to the many volunteer teachers and aides and to the families who brought their kids. Our church was blessed to host multiple mission teams as well as offered many opportunities for our youth to get together throughout the summer.

Rally Day will take place on **September 8th** at the 9:30 service. Everyone should arrive 30 minutes early to find our groups. Our Sunday School theme for this year is **Jesus is the light, from John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."** Following the activities of Rally Day, the youth of the Sunday School, Teachers and Aides will enjoy a pancake breakfast. During this time we will be presenting core values, Sunday School goals and will be opening the floor to the children for suggestions and ideas on how to enhance our Sunday School program.

Sunday School will run from 9:30-10:30am each Sunday. Classes are offered for 3 yr olds through adults. A nursery is available for our babies and toddlers.

Classes for **grades 7-12** will continue to remain in the Worship Service on Communion Sundays to participate in the sacrament and worship experience. Communion Sundays for our **1-6 graders** will be fellowship Sundays with these classes coming together in Madden Hall for organized learning and fun. This will allow our Teachers and Aides the opportunity to participate in Communion.

A **Bible Study for adults**, led by Anna Mae and Vic Werner, will take place every Sunday in the Cobb Lounge from 9:30-10:15am. Many adults have already expressed interest in attending and can enjoy going from this Bible Study to the 11:00am worship service with refreshments in between.

Kids and adults are encouraged to **bring friends** and new families to the church. We take note of this throughout the year and present **Evangelist Awards** in the spring to kids and adults who bring others to the church. Attendance makes a big difference to everyone. We'll be recognizing **Attendance Awards** in the spring with **Bronze** (15+), **Silver** (20+), **Gold** (25+), and **Kryptonite** (30+). This year in addition to that, the **Infinity and Beyond Award** will be presented to anyone with **35+** weeks and will receive an individualized **Christian t-shirt** that could be worn and admired anywhere anytime but are perfect for Sundays, youth group events, Calls to Worship, Mission Trips, etc.

Our **Sponsors** continue to support our Sunday School classes spiritually and financially. Sponsors donate \$25 to a particular class for small incidental purchases. All interested adults are accepted.

In our Christian Ed Program we offer three **Youth Group** experiences. These groups offer many hands-on opportunities that extend Bible Lessons and develop faith and friendships. More information on each group will be found in your Good News.

Lions and Lambs is a youth group for PreK- 4th graders that meets once a month from 11:00-12:30 on the 1st Sunday of every month (Communion Sundays).

A2J is our youth group for grades 5-8. This group meets every Sunday from 11:00 am-1:00 pm.

The Senior Youth Group is for grades 9-12. This group meets on Mondays from 6:00 pm -8:00 pm.

Our team is really looking forward to a blessed and productive year, we are super excited about new opportunities to come together and worship in His name!

In His service,
Tina



Lions and Lambs

Hooray for Peanut Butter and Jammies!!! Great attendance . . . great orientation to Sister Jeans . . . a great way for kids to make Pb & J sandwiches and a great pillow fight! Let's try making some more on August 28th as a part of game night, shall we? . . .

\$\$\$FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS\$\$\$ we have to contribute to the expense of feeding, housing and showering some wonderful mission folk in hospitality at our church this summer! Thank you for all of your coins for our Footprints in the Sand walk/fund-raiser, and your patience. That was an awful lot to count!!!

A jaw-dropping farewell to Jack, Will & Jacob!!! You're how old?!!! You're off to A2J!!! See you for our joint events, fellas!

PARENTS: we'll be meeting briefly on a Sunday in September after 1st service to plan the events for the upcoming year. I can't wait to share the fantastic ideas that have come forth in some brainstorming that I've had with some Christian Ed. participants this summer!

*** Please note, Lions & Lambs youth members should have completed kindergarten. Those with older sibling members are always welcome with shadowing by their parent*** Perhaps someone would like to start a play group for our kindergarten and preschoolers?

Enjoy the rest of this blessed summer, everyone!
Fondly, JoAnn Sabo, Lions & Lambs Director

Addicted₂Jesus (A₂J) – Junior High Youth News

It just seems that a couple of weeks ago we held our end of year picnic. In reality, a busy summer has passed and we are headed back to school and ready to kick off the A₂J Program. Over the summer the A₂J youth participated with Lions and Lambs in our Peanut Butter and Jams event. We had a great time learning about Sister Jean's Kitchen and why the sandwiches are needed. For fellowship, we went to Ocean City for mini golf as well as Manco and Manco pizza. We concluded our summer events with a Fun and Game night.



An exciting year is planned for A₂J, and our youth/parent meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 8, at 11 am. Our first full meeting for youth is scheduled for Sunday, September 15th, at 11:30 am in the high school classroom. Youth will be serving brunch this day and cleaning Pitney Road. A new curriculum is being used this year for Bible study with lessons that are relevant to our junior high youth, and we'll enjoy some fun games, crafts and fellowship. Hope to see all youth returning from last year.

I don't pull the program off by myself. I have help from several dedicated members of the congregation. Returning once a month to help me again this year are Janna Beth Cobb, Tina Harvey, and Dawn Duran. A new

member assisting this year is JD Harvey taking the place of Bob and Chris Gillis. Welcome and thanks for your dedication to our youth!



All Youth in 5th through 8th grades are invited to join us weekly at 11:00 am in the 7th/8th grade classroom for check in. Guests are encouraged and welcomed to try the program. If a parent did not attend the parent meeting, they need to speak to me about registration for the A₂J Program. I can be reached on my cell 609-533-5187.

In His Service,
Linda

Christian Readers Book Club Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6:30pm

It's hard to believe it is time for the Christian Readers to begin another year of great reading and meeting. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 18th, at 6:30pm. The book we will be discussing is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. It is the story about a poor woman who worked the same land as her slave ancestors. When she was in the hospital her cells were taken from her and called Hela. They became

one of the most important tools in medicine. Her cells were grown in cultures and are still being used today. They help uncover facts about cancer, viruses and improve in vitro fertilization, cloning, and genetic mapping. The cells of Henrietta and her family have been used without their permission for years and have turned into a multimillion-dollar industry, and the Lacks family never profited from it. There are 12 copies in the library system.

WOMEN'S CIRCLES

I hope everyone survived the hot summer months. I have good news about our September Circle meetings. My good friend, the Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, will be *spending a few days here in New Jersey*. Karen has agreed to speak at all three of our Circle meetings and answer your questions about her work as a Presbyterian Mission Coworker in the Czech Republic. She is a life-long member of Presbyterian Women. All of her higher education has been in Presbyterian institutions. She received her B.A. from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, her M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and her D.Min. at San Francisco Theological Seminary. The date of the **Ruth Circle** has been changed to Wednesday, September 11th. We will meet as usual at the home of Betsy Cunius at 1:00 p.m. The **Sarah Circle** will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 11th, in Cobb Lounge. The **Martha Circle** will meet at the home of Carol Thomas at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, September 12th.

All women of the church are encouraged to join us at any of these dates for this special event. If you have never been to any of our Circles, please plan to come and meet with Karen. Just call Gerry at 404-9271 so we can set up enough chairs for everyone.

Monday Bible Study to Begin Sept. 9

The pastor's Bible study will begin meeting again on Monday Sept. 9. We are in the book of Titus.

There is no homework, and we need more members. Why not come out and make new friends while we learn a little more about God's Word?



Worship Committee News

Worship Committee

Worship Committee is pleased to announce that Anna May Werner has taken the position of Worship Program Director. She will be reaching out to parents to learn about their children's talents and strengths. She has a lot of great ideas for dramas and calls to worship!!! Carol Thomas is scheduling ushers, Ginny Davenport is scheduling communion servers and Barbara Hughes is scheduling Acolytes. Linda Gillis has scheduled a quick training session for those who wish to be an acolyte. Thank you ALL for you help!!!!

I would like to bring up a few things in regards to the "Passing the Peace". It is the time to pass the Peace of God by saying "Peace of God be with you". It is not a time to schedule lunch dates. Please keep in mind that when you leave your seat to talk to someone 3 rows away, that you are walking AWAY from people. I have turned to shake a hand, only to have that person turn their back and walk away. Please keep in mind that "passing of the Peace" is NOT the 7th inning stretch, nor is it an intermission. Take advantage of coffee hour.

AND

May the Peace of God be with you!!
Karen Muldoon



Mission/Evangelism News

This summer we hosted six visiting mission teams. The teams came from Wisconsin, Mass. Va. and Wenonah, NJ.

Our committee members prepared one dinner and dined with each visiting team. Some of the work being done was in Wildwood, Ventnor, and Atlantic City. One team from Va. attended our church service, and Dave had visiting team leader (Bill Niess) sing with the men's choir. It was a pleasure having these groups here.

The mission team met on 8-15 as a follow up to our Fun Day event. We discussed what we could improve on and agreed to put on a 2nd annual Fun Day later in the summer of 2014. I would like to again thank all that made Fun Day happen.

We are looking for volunteers to organize a mission trip. Alice Smith and Loretta Metz organized the N.Y. trip and have since stepped down leaving this opportunity for others.

Thanks for your support and God bless,
Russ Adkisson Jr.

Prayer Shawl Ministry to Resume

When-- Saturday 9:30 AM September 7, 2013
Where- In the chapel

All those who knit or crochet or like to do no-sew blankets are encouraged to join this wonderful ministry that shows God's love and healing strength thru the making and praying of the blankets and shawls that are given to those who need comfort.

You may come and go as your schedule permits. Hope to see you there.
Loretta Metz

CROP Walk to be Held October 13

Once again this year the CROP Walk will be held on a Sunday afternoon leaving from Heritage Park about 1:30. Walkers are needed, and Tina Harvey hopes this will become a significant event for our Sunday School this year. The total distance around town (you end where you started) is about two miles.

The office and Greg Hamaty (our chairman) have sponsor forms. Make a difference – Walk.

News from the Deacons

As Summer winds down we start thinking of cooler weather and Fall activities. Deacons will need your help again with our Harvest Home donations to the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. Starting in late October, we will be collecting non-perishable food and personal items. Look for our table (and a large box for gently used jackets and coats) in the vestibule for your donations.

A sincere thank you to all who continue to help when called upon to set up, bring baked goods,

serve, and clean up for memorial services and funerals. Thank You!

The next Deacons meeting will be on October 19 at 10 am in Cobb Lounge.

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

News from Our Missionaries

September 2013

I am so blessed to serve the Church as a Mission Coworker in the Czech Republic. There is never a dull moment. One of the joys of my service is having an annual time for itineration back here in the US. I am so excited about my upcoming trip to New Jersey. I am looking forward to being a part of your worship on Sunday 15 September. I love telling people about what I do on your behalf in the Czech Republic. As a pastor I love preaching and leading worship. I also enjoy talking to people in other groups of the church. As a life-long member of Presbyterian Women I am looking forward to meeting with some of your Circles and Women's Groups. God is doing such amazing things all around the world, both in the Czech Republic and here in the US. What a joy it is to share our stories and to celebrate God's movement in our world today.

In addition to visiting all of you in New Jersey I have been spending time with my family in the Midwest. My itineration has also involved trips to our national headquarters in Louisville which also involved participation in the Big Tent at the beginning of August. It's so much fun to spend time in places that have been a part of my life. Before coming to New Jersey I'll be visiting a congregation in my natal state Florida. While in New Jersey I'm reminded of my time in Tom's River as a child and my years in Princeton while studying with Pastor Gerry at Princeton Theological Seminary. It often amazes and amuses me how God brings us around to places we've been before and opens the door to new and exciting places as well.

Thank you for all of your support for my ministry. It is a joy to serve on your behalf as a Mission Coworker in the Czech Republic. I look forward to being with you in September and feel free to check out the website about my ministry at:

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/missionconnections/moritz-karen/>

Blessings, Karen

Barrels in the Desert

I was recently in a discussion with one of our staff in the Middle East. She had some questions that are very familiar to many of us. How do I know I am doing what God wants me to do? How do I know when or if I have gone off the right path? She sincerely desires to be obedient to God, but with no heavenly map quest available, no written explanation from God, she was doubting her decisions and questioning her journey.

A fellow staff member who works in Africa began sharing with her the following. When driving through the Sahara desert it is very easy to lose your way. The terrain is all the same, miles and miles of unchanging white sand. With no paved roads, it is very easy to head off in the wrong direction and find yourself in the middle of the desert with no clue as to which direction is which. Sound familiar?

What the desert “road crews” have done to assist wayward travelers is to place barrels along the road, every 2-3 miles. Staying on the road is quite simple. When you come to a barrel, check your odometer, then proceed to the next barrel. If you have been driving for more than 5 miles and have not seen a barrel, you know you have somehow taken off in the wrong direction. If that happens, you retrace your path in the sand back to the last barrel and take off again.

As I listened to this desert road advice, God was showing me several things.

1. It is so important in life to be aware of the right path, taking notice of the barrels (markers) in our life where we know we are following God, listening to Him and being obedient. Those “barrels” provide a concrete reference when we get lost. Go back to the last thing that God told you, or go back to the point where you know you were on the right path.
2. The scariest place to be on the road is in between the barrels. If we cannot see the last barrel and we cannot see the next barrel, that is where faith, listening to God’s voice and taking risks become very practical. Throughout life, there are the “in between the barrel” seasons and it is important in those seasons to trust God, listen closely to His guidance and continue on the path, keeping our eyes fixed on Him.
3. Storms of life often hit us in the in between times. We cannot see where we have been and we are confused as to where we are going. When the storms hit, it is perfectly fine and even wise to stop, slow down, sit out the storm, as opposed to blindly plunging ahead. The storm will pass, and as it does either the last barrel becomes clearer or the way forward is more obvious. Don’t be ashamed to stop in the storm.

I found this desert road advice very helpful as did this staff person. As we prayed with her, God clearly showed her the last barrel where she knew she was on the right path. That gave her great confidence to drive on through the desert being keenly aware that God would reveal another barrel to her very soon.

Some of the upcoming events in my fall schedule are:

September - Teaching at our university workshop in Mexico

October - Teaching at a leadership school in Haiti and attending an intensive 2 week course as part of my Master’s studies

November - Teaching at our Discipleship Training School in Kiev, Ukraine and the Fall Women’s Retreat in Ocean City.

Thank you for your continual support through prayer and finances,

Lisa Whitaker

Stewardship Committee Report



Overall, we are getting through the summer in good shape, financially. Included in this report is the statistical information for June and July. Compared to last year at this time, your pledges are greater this year even though the average weekly giving is flat. Investment income is higher and rental income is substantially higher if the \$18,000 expenditure for 23 School Street is not included.

Last year at this time we were over \$16,000 under budget and this year we are a bit over budget if the \$18,000 is not included. This is quite a difference from year to year and is because all three properties are rented.

Still time to pay your per capita fee

To date, we have received \$3793.00 from you as payment of the per capital fee that we must sent to the Presbytery. Last year we received \$4003.00. We are assessed \$38.00 for each member and request that you reimburse the Church for this amount. Whether you make this payment or not, our Church has already paid the full amount of \$9805.00 so the amount we are not reimbursed comes out of the general fund.

Statistical report for June

Budget for 2013	\$225,721.00
Budgetary needs through June 30, 2013	\$112,860.54
Our giving through 6/30/13	\$ 90,894.77
Investment Income	\$ 12,352.00
Rental Income (net without the \$18,000 expense)	\$ 9,030.49
Amount <u>under</u> budget (without considering \$18,000 expense)	\$ -583.28
Amount <u>under</u> budget (with \$18,000 expense included)	\$ -18,387.88

Statistical report for July

Budget for 2013	\$225.721.00
Budgetary needs through July 28, 2013	\$130,223.70
Our giving through 7/28/13	\$104,505.77
Investment Income	\$ 14,401.00
Rental Income (net without the \$18,000 expense)	\$ 12,063.49
Amount <u>over</u> budget (without considering \$18,000 expense)	\$ 746.56
Amount <u>under</u> budget (with \$18,000 expense included)	\$ -17,253.44

Average weekly giving by month

	<i>2013</i>	<i>2012</i>
January	\$4080.67	\$3257.33
February	\$3531.38	\$3384.29
March	\$3056.94	\$3326.92

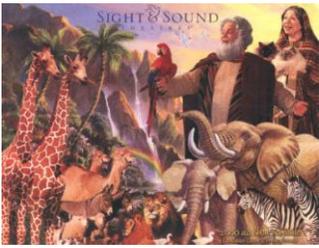
April	\$2757.42	\$3527.09
May	\$3299.46	\$3271.90
June	\$2686.87	\$3403.33
July	\$2934.00	\$3085.94

Gerald W. Hoenes
Stewardship Committee Chairperson

Volunteers Needed for Everything

Fall is the start up time for us, and we need your help. Churches are run 90% by volunteers, and now is the time to prayerfully ask yourself, “Where can I be used by my church?” Below are several categories where help is needed. A name and phone number is indicated. Please call, or see these people to talk about your participation. We really need over a hundred and fifty volunteers. So call up and sign up.

1. Choir: Harold Hawkes, 978-9693 – Meets every Thursday for practice
2. Bell Choir: Jan Cobb, 641-1102 – Meets Thursday before choir beginning in October
3. Ushering: Carol Thomas, 641-4089
4. Sunday School: Tina Harvey, 568-6077 – Teachers, aides, helpers, events, seasonal, trips
5. Worship: Anna Mae Werner, 652-9050 - Drama, special music, etc.
6. Sunday Breakfast: Cheryl Hawkes, 978-9693 – Set up, cooking, clean up, etc.
7. Fellowship Events: Dawn Duran, 965-6706 – Coffee hour, Apple Fest, Sunday Brunch, etc.
8. 2nd Monday of the Month Lunch: Karen Muldoon, ?? – We are looking for people to help with our lunches. We set up about 9:00 am, serve @ 11:30 am, and clean up is finished by 1:30. If you would like to help please contact Karen. The lunches will begin **NOVEMBER 11th**.
9. Worship Technology: Pastor, 641-3759, or Vic Werner, 652-9050 – Sound system, PowerPoint operation, add sound & video to projection capacity, etc.
10. Building & Grounds: Dan Hughes, 652-9638 – Weeding, trimming, Work Day, painting, etc.
11. Van Drivers: Kris Jenoriki, 748-1214
12. Youth Groups
 - a. Lions and Lambs: JoAnn Sabo, 804-9431
 - b. A2J: Linda Gillis, 573-5279
 - c. Senior Youth: Kendal Cobb, 412-4665
13. Sister Jean’s: Pastor Cobb, 641-3759 – we go the second and third Thursdays at 11:45



Lancaster Trip – Sight & Sound Theater October 14

Join the Presbyterian Church of Absecon on Monday, October 14th, for our annual Columbus Day bus trip to the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster PA. Trip includes deluxe roundtrip motorcoach transportation, a stop for some shopping at Kitchen Kettle Village, "Family Style" lunch at Dutch-Way Family Restaurant, and reserved seat admission to the show "Noah".

Ticket Costs:

Tickets are all-inclusive (including all gratuities, taxes, and fees) and are \$115 for adults, \$95 for teens, and \$75 for kids.

Itinerary:

9:00am - Depart from Absecon Presbyterian Church (208 New Jersey Avenue)

11:00am - Shopping at Kitchen Kettle Village

1:30pm - Lunch at Dutch-Way Family Restaurant

4:15pm - "Noah" at Sight & Sound Theater

9:00pm - Arrive at Absecon Presbyterian Church

Tickets sold out very quickly last year. Don't miss out on a great day of fellowship and fun. See Dawn Duran, Scott Sabo, or Linda Gillis.

Work Day to be Held October 12

Bring your Windex, rakes, and gloves. Meet at the church at 9:00am. If we work together we should have the place ready for winter by noon.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

We held our Church picnic at the lake on Sunday August 18th. The event was RAIN FREE and enjoyed by all that attended. There were about 60 people in attendance and we thank everyone for coming and bringing their delicious side dishes and desserts to share. A big Thank you for Jim McManus for cooking along with me. The water was a bit cold but the children didn't seem to mind and still swam. Our picnic at

Egg Harbor City lake was such a success that people were suggesting that we should do it again next year. Hopefully it won't rain then either.

The yard sale that was planned for Sept 28th has been canceled!

Our next big event will be our Applefest on Friday, October 25th at 5:30PM. The cost will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 12 and under and

any additional hotdogs will be sold at \$1 a piece. John Channell and friends will be playing again. They are fantastic! There will be a sign-up for people to bring apple desserts. We will need lots of yummy desserts so please sign up!

Mark your calendars to save the date because the Holland family will be returning Dec 21st for a church concert. This will be just the concert, no dinner! Due to the busy holiday season and uncertainty of inclement weather it was decided to forgo the dinner and have just the concert instead. Come in join us to hear beautiful music. If you have never heard them you are missing something really special. Those who have heard them know how wonderful they are so **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our regular programs are starting back up. Breakfast will begin again on Sept 8th and

refreshment hour will be move back inside. Our first brunch of the year will be held on Sept 15th. And Happy Friday will start back up on Sept 13th. The Second Monday Monthly Luncheon will not start until November (please make note of this). One reason for this is because on October 14th the FUNdraising Committee will be having their second annual bus trip to Sight and Sound to see Noah. This is sure to be a great time!

We would like to thank Elaine Risley for hiring a professional cleaner to come in and clean the kitchen. It looks fabulous! Our next fellowship meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th at 7PM.

In Christian Love and Fellowship,
Dawn Duran, Chairperson

Happy Friday, September 13, 6pm

Happy Friday returns September 13th 6pm with new ideas and good fellowship. Join us for a season of fun and happy times. As usual bring the dish of your church for our meal.

Happy Friday! Rita and Vic



Men's Fellowship Sponsors Trip to Landis Theater

Won't you join the Doug Jablonski Men's Fellowship for a fabulous trip to see the world's greatest band, the official GLENN MILLER Orchestra, in concert on Friday, September 20, at the Landis Theater in Vineland.

We will meet at the church at 12 noon, have lunch at the Landis Marketplace, and then the concert.

Total cost of \$33 includes the concert and lunch. Please send checks payable to Absecon Presbyterian Church by September 9.

Lunch Bunch to Travel to Tuckahoe Inn Sept. 4

We dive right into Lunch Bunch the first Wednesday of the month. Meet at the church at **11:15** (note the earlier time) to ride the van to the Tuckahoe Inn, or meet at the restaurant at Noon.

Our Online Calendar has Updated Information!



Be sure to visit [our website](#) calendar for up to date information! This is a great tool if you are planning an event or hoping to attend one. (Use the Agenda tab at the top right for easier viewing.)

Also, most events off church premises have a link to Google maps. Click on the event (like Lunch Bunch on June 5) then click “map” for the location and directions.



Remember, Deadlines are Important!

“Good Morning” (Sunday bulletin announcements) – Noon Tuesday

“The Presby Post” (Friday email) – Noon Wednesday

“Good News” (monthly newsletter) – 9:00am on the 20th of the month

Articles are to be **in writing** and submitted to the office (email preferred) by the due date. Please keep in mind it may be necessary to edit due to space limitations in our printed publications.

A NOTE OF



Gus and Doris Steel offer their sincere thanks to the Deacons for the lovely fruit basket. They were very pleased to find it did indeed belong to them!

Directory Update

Loretta Metz
401 Ocean Heights Ave., Apt. C16
Somers Point, NJ 08244

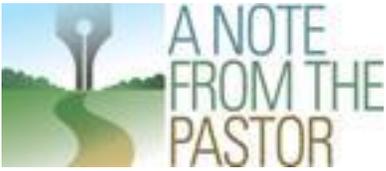
In Our Father’s House



Eleanor Elbertson July 4

Flora Hutchinson August 5

“Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.” ~ Revelation 14:13



Times of Transition

“Behold, I make all things new.” ~ Revelation 21:5

As I get older one thing I realize I need in my church is a link to a solid past. These days everything is changing – technology, climate, relationships, culture, values, diet, fashion, TV programs, and the way we work, play and live our lives. I can understand the anxiety of our children as they wait at the bus stop that first day of school. “Will I like my new teacher?” “Will she like me?” Will the homework be too hard?” “Will I make friends?” “Will I be bullied?” “Will I get lost?” “Will everyone laugh at me if I don’t understand?” “Why can’t I go back to my old classroom, teacher and friends?”

We hate to admit it, but we love the familiar, the tried and true, the old ruts that entrap us, but at least they are familiar. What’s wrong with roots that don’t change? The great thing about history is it can’t change.

But that’s also the worst part of history – wars, segregation, injustices, prejudices of the past leave a lasting wound that heals slowly, and those entrapped in the values and problems of the past are doomed to paralysis. Not only do we not grow, we become worn, stale, boring, set in our ways. Church becomes not a way to deal with our faith in a changing world, but an escape from the world. Our theology is little more than “Stop the world, I want to get off.”

But Jesus calls us to move forward. It’s exciting to see His Spirit leading us and that’s where we are. Last year we did well adjusting to screens, PowerPoint, etc. This fall will see more changes in our Sunday School, order of worship, worship style, etc. Some of what we will attempt is uncharted water. Some is just substituting one event for another (the Halloween party will be a fall event – more appropriate for a church) and some will resurrect past highlights we haven’t done for years like choir chimes. Children’s sermons may become something else, and adult education will move in new directions.

We can either panic and long for the “good old days” of less technology, change, and innovation, or we can welcome it with expectation that the God who has led us thus far has many more exciting days in store for us ahead. It will be our joy to enter into the newness of God’s kingdom.

We all need to lighten up and let it happen. I’m learning to be thankful for this God who moves mysteriously in our midst to bring about His will for our church.

See you on Rally Day – Let’s dive in!

- Dave

Lay Assistants

- 1 10:00
- 8 9:30
11:00
- 15 9:30
11:00
- 22 9:30
11:00
- 29 9:30
11:00

Head Ushers

- 1 10:00 Dee & Jack Heil
- 8 9:30 Elaine Risley, Carol Thomas
11:00 Tina Brown, Jean Delesantro
- 15 9:30 Jan & Carol Jorgensen
11:00 Joanna Howell, Cheryl Hawkes
- 22 9:30 Ilsa Smith, Irene Hunter
11:00 Mary Bew, Betty Lloyd
- 29 9:30 Ron & Joyce Pfeiffer
11:00 Shirley Smith, Denise Ott

Collection

- 1 Joe Marshall, Roy Birkbeck
- 8 Edith Budd, Bob Wilkenloh
- 15 Bob & Barbara Hudak
- 22 Bill & Ginny Davenport
- 29 David & Naida Burgess

Deacons for the Month

- 1st Svc Kris Jenoriki
- 2nd Svc Mary Bew

Acolyte

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22
- 29

Nursery

- 1 Jennifer Platt
- 8 Gloria Achamizo
- 15 Alice Malfi
- 22 Fran Tanner
- 29 Jennifer Platt

Van Drivers

- 1 John Channell
- 8 Barb Hughes
- 15 Tina Brown
- 22 Vic Abelson
- 29 Ed Little

Refreshment Hosts

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22
- 29

Breakfast Club Kitchen Crew

- 1 **No Breakfast**
- 8 Set-up – Kris Jenoriki
Cook – John Channell
Clean-up – Ginny & Bill Davenport
- 15 Join us for Brunch!
Set-up – Youth Group
Clean-up – Church Members
- 22 Set-up – Jordan & Christian Hawkes
Cook – Bryan Hawkes
Clean-up – Olga Davies, Jean Delesantro
- 29 Set-up – Linda Adkisson
Cook – Russ Adkisson
Clean-up – Gayle Ackerman

United Methodist Church at Absecon
4th Annual Women's Retreat
Coffee Conversations and Communion WITH GOD

Keynote Speakers: Lisa Whitaker and Cindy Hunt

When
Friday, Nov. 15th
Saturday, Nov. 16th
Sunday, Nov. 17th

Where
Port-O-Call
1510 Boardwalk
Ocean City, NJ
www.portocallhotel.com

Costs

Double Room* - \$188 per person Triple Room* - \$164 per person
Saturday Retreat - \$49 per person (supplies & dinner included)
Payment Options available - \$20 deposit due with registration

Reservation deadline: Sun., Nov. 3rd

* All rooms have 2 DOUBLE beds, a refrigerator, and a Keurig

Detach and return form to The United Methodist Church at Absecon,
Attn: UMW, 100 Pitney Rd., Absecon, NJ 08201
Contacts: Sue Reitmeyer (652-1390 or sjreitmeyer@verizon.net)
Barbara Sabath (646-3675 or sabathsabby@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to Absecon UMW

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Double Room-\$188 per person** My Roommate is _____

Triple Room-\$164 per person** My Roommates are _____

**Includes 2 breakfast buffets, 1 sit-down dinner, room, tax, gratuity & materials.