

June 2014

Good News

Verse of the Month: *“In your anger do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.” ~ Psalm 4:4*



The Presbyterian Church at Absecon

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Summer Schedule

Father's Day/Graduate Sunday, June 15, marks the end of our regular schedule. The following will be offered the last time before the summer on that day.

1. Sunday Breakfast
2. Sunday School
3. Two worship services with the Chancel Choir
4. Refreshment hour in Madden Hall

Starting the following week, June 22, there will be one service at 10:00 a.m. This service will generally feature special music, but we do hope for some extra appearances by our praise group and church members. (I you want to help see Harold Hawkes.) None of the above activities (1-4) take place in the summer, but we do serve refreshments outside and there are frequently picnics, etc.

The regular Sunday schedule will begin again on September 7 with breakfast, two services, etc. September 7 is also Rally Day.

Enjoy your summer break!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

As our Sunday School and Youth Group programs wind down for the year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the leaders, teachers, aides, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters of our Sunday School and Youth Groups. Of course, we also need to remember our Christian Education Director, Tina Harvey, who is finishing up her first year on the job... you will recognize her as the small tornado of energy and enthusiasm that always precedes any Sunday School event. Thanks and congratulations to her and to all for a job well-done!

We are already starting to plan ahead for next year. One of the significant changes that you will see is that we will be restructuring our younger Youth Groups (Lions & Lambs and Addicted 2 Jesus). We have noticed that over the course of the year, as school, sports, and other commitments compete for time and attention of the youth and their parents, the participation in the Youth Groups tapers off. Next year, in order to try to help these programs better fit into everyone's busy schedules, we will be replacing the formal Youth Groups with a series of special events (hayrides, movie nights, family game nights, and more) that will be run by parent volunteers and coordinated by Tina Harvey. Look for more information over the summer, and be ready to sign up to help run an event.

There are other changes in the works for next year to make our programs even better... stay tuned for more information.

Your Christian Education team doesn't take the summer off... they are working to make next year the best it can be!

Thanks again to all of the volunteers, employees, sponsors, and supporters that make it happen!

In His Service,
Scott Sabo, Christian Education Committee Chair

Sunday School and Related News for June



It's hard to believe that our program year is almost over! We have had a great year with lots of fun and fellowship. A big **thanks** to all the parents and volunteers who have made it a huge success.

Up Coming Events

- ◆ Even though we have had a tough winter, many of our young people have had fantastic attendance this year and are encouraged to keep it up.
- ◆ June 1st we will recognize our young people with certificates for attendance and other achievements throughout the year.
- ◆ June 8th will Teacher Recognition. Please come out to support and show our gratitude to all those who devote their time and efforts to our children.
- ◆ Remember that we offer \$100 camp scholarships to any of our Sunday School kids who attend a Christian camp this summer. Contact the office for details. Representative from Camp Haluwasa came out and gave a great presentation and got everyone excited about all the fun things to do while celebrating our love for Jesus.
- ◆ June 14th will be our final day of Sunday School. We will also be Honoring our Graduates and Fathers. We will be doing a small craft in our classroom to show Dad how much we love him.
- ◆ On June 21st we will begin 40 Minute Club. A signup sheet for volunteers will be available during coffee hour this week. Please sign up and help our summer program be a success.
- ◆ Stay tuned for more events to come this summer!

Thank you to all whose love and Support have helped our program,

In His Service, Tina



Lions And Lambs

The Good News is that Lions & Lambs is going to be somewhat absorbed into the Sunday School Program for the upcoming school year due to some spectacular visioning, that visioning committee members believe will embellish our youth programs while enhancing family participation opportunities. I am looking forward to working more closely with Tina, Linda and all of the parents to make our program fit the needs of our church family members. Amen!

We will begin by integrating the youth's First Night Kit mission project for the Atlantic City Rescue Mission right into the summer Sunday-not-so-much-school program.

Thank you for your ongoing love, prayers and support.

In His Service, JoAnn M. Sabo

Bible Study Pastor's Monday Bible Study To Conclude With Lunch June 16



The Pastor's regular Monday Bible study will have their last study on June 9. On June 16 we will meet at noon for lunch at the Phoenix Diner. All are welcome.



Praise Band To Sing More Often During Summer

Voices Of Praise, which has been singing about once a month, will sing more frequently during the summer. As you might remember, we usually begin with a few hymns before the 10:00 hour, and our praise team will begin with a variety of music styles leading us right into worship at 10:00.

Fathers To Be Honored With Special Gift On Father's Day

All fathers in attendance on Father's Day, June 15, will receive an "Instant Shoe Polisher" with a Bible verse on the handle. This high tech sponge brush will bring back the shine on any color shoes.

Dads, this is our way of saying thanks for your spiritual leadership in our homes.

God bless you!



News From Prague

God may have created the world in 6 days, but I'm here to tell you that it took a lot more time than that to put together our seminar "In the Footsteps of Jan Hus and Martin Luther". It was a seminar planned and sponsored by the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (ECCB) and the PCUSA. In addition to Pastor Gerry and Tina Brown, from your congregation we had 14 other participants from many places around the world. We had a great time wandering around Prague, the Czech Republic and Germany. No 2 days were alike. We spent some time in seminars led by professors from the Protestant Theological Faculty and the Czechoslovak Hussite Church Faculty, as well as pastors from several congregations. We went to museums and exhibits. We ate tons of Czech food. And yes, we had Czech beer too. And, boy, did we

walk! If Pastor Gerry and Tina have recovered yet they can tell you all about it. We learned about Jan Hus, the Hussites, the Taborites, Martin Luther and the Lutherans. We also learned a lot about each other and the church across the world.

And, as Church people, we also spent time in worship. We had an opening worship service led by the Moderator of the ECCB Rev. Joel Ruml and others from the ECCB which also included some participants from the seminar. We began our time together in the historic church Martin in the Wall in which Communion was served in both kinds for the first time in 1414. We concluded our seminar with worship in the Corpus Christi Chapel in Lutherstadt Wittenberg. We worshipped in the place where Luther led worship and often conducted weddings. It was a great way to end our time together.

Now there's just tying up all the loose ends following the seminar. I wonder if God has to spend as much time in follow-up? I'm sure you'll hear more about it from Tina and Pastor Gerry. I'll also have a more detailed article on my website for PCUSA World Missions.

With many thanks for your prayers and support,
Karen

Rev. Dr. Karen R Moritz
PCUSA Mission Coworker
Prague, Czech Republic
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Karen.moritz@pcusa.org



News From The Deacons

Ahhh, summer is right around the corner and (after such a rough winter) we are really looking forward to it! The board of Deacons last met on Tuesday May 6 at 6pm and then stayed to report to Session. One of the items discussed were the needs of various non- profit organizations in our area. This month we would like to help the South Jersey Food Bank. Specific food items are always needed and include: prepared meals such as tuna fish, boxed mac and cheese, cereal, beef stew, family size cans of raviolis, spaghetti, and pasta. So, for the month of June the Deacons will need your help collecting these items. A box will be in the vestibule to collect your donations. Thank you in advance for helping us help others!

Deacons held their bi-annual Bereavement (Friendship) luncheon on April 27 and over fifty people attended. A sincere thank you to Pastor Cobb, Gay Channell, and Harold Hawkes and to **all** the Deacons and everyone who participated and helped make this event so meaningful.

The Deacons also helped provide refreshments at the recent memorial services for Sonny Kleiner and for the mother-in-law of Jim Maurer. 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 11 at 10 am in Cobb's Lounge.

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

Ocean Heights Church Holds Mission Auction June 7 For Mustard Seed Academy

Once again this year the Ocean heights Presbyterian Church in conjunction with the Brigantine Presbyterian Church will host a Mission Fair to benefit the Mustard Seed Academy in Lukaya, Uganda. The benefit project this year is computers and technology equipment for the school. Our church has supported Mustard Seed for many years, and several of our members sponsor students.

Please plan on attending this event from 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, June 7. The van will leave at 5:30. Free admission, food and drinks. See the posters around the church for details and a list of goods and services being auctioned off.



Stewardship Committee Report

The good news is this is the first month this year when the average weekly giving was greater than the same month last year. The bad news is the budget deficit has increased from (\$5938.37) last month to (\$7,299.93) at the end of April. All properties are now rented and this should have a positive impact on future budget reports.

Statistical Report for April

Budget for 2014	\$231,696.00
Budgetary needs through April 27, 2014	\$ 75,746.90
Our giving through 4/27/14	\$ 56,340.40
Investment Income	\$ 7,065.20
Rental Income (net)	\$ 5,041.37
Total	\$ 68,446.97
 Amount below budgetary needs	 \$ 7,299.93

Average weekly giving by month

	<i>2014</i>	<i>2013</i>
January	\$3050.76	\$4080.67
February	\$3057.82	\$3531.38
March	\$2727.57	\$3056.94
April	\$2935.81	\$2757.42

Stewardship Committee Chairperson

May Thank Yous

The month of May saw two huge events in our church - The Second Baptist Choir on May 3 and the golf tournament on May 18. Both events took dozens of volunteers, and we thank them all.

Joan Hoenes arranged and directed the concert. Nancy Sooy prepared a delicious ham dinner.

The Golf Committee, led by Nancy & Karen, worked all year on this event. Many thanks to those who watched the holes, manned tables, arranged contributions, did publicity, and took care of details. It was a great event!

Additional thank yous for May go to:

1. Cheryl Hawkes who provided a continental breakfast the day of the tournament.
2. Richard Garrick for the patriotic trumpet music on May 25.
3. The deacons and those who helped with refreshments following Sonny Kleiner's memorial service May 17.
4. Lee Wolff for planting beans, flowers, etc. along the cemetery drive.
5. Betsy Eberhard and the pastor for weeding and sealing cracks along the cemetery drive.
6. Donna Hughes for making new curtains for the Bakely House.
7. Voices Of Praise for their music May 11.
8. Autumn Henson for her rendition of "Shout To The Lord" as our Call To Worship on May 18.

Thanks For Your Help!

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. ~ Colossians 3:17

A special Thanks to all who came to help on April 26th, Spring Work Day, with cleaning and sprucing up the grounds and Church building with much needed maintenance of things like spreading mulch, cleaning windows, cleaning gutters and much more. The list of people that need to be acknowledged:

Greg Hamaty	Bob Hudak	Linda Adkisson	Richard Wood
Harold Hawkes	Jean Delesantro	Timothy Bedford	Kris Jenoriki
Cheryl Hawkes	Dave Cobb	Marie Cronauer	
Virginia Ginder	Russ Adkisson	Carmen Devece	

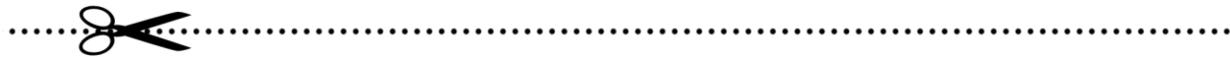
Your hard work and dedication to Absecon Presbyterian Church is appreciated, and your hard work shows, with everyone able to enjoy our beautiful Church.

Thank You,
Dan Hughes
Property Committee Chairman

Also a special thanks to Donna Hughes for making the curtains installed in the Bakely/Mission House.



We are planning on implementing an automated notification system over the summer that would replace post card notifications and phone chains. It is anticipated that this system will save time and money compared to sending physical post cards, and can provide better service for last-minute notices like cancellations, changes, or reminders. Notifications will be sent only to the group or committee that the announcement is for, so you will not receive notifications that do not apply to you. Notices can be sent via voice, text or e-mail and participation is voluntary. To sign up, please fill out the form below indicating your preferred phone number and notification method and return it to the office.



YES, I WANT TO BE PART OF THE NEW, FAST, EASY PHONE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM!

Name _____

Phone number for notifications _____

Preferred method:

- Voice
- Text
- Email



Fellowship Committee

On May 3rd we had the Second Baptist Gospel Choir from Atlantic City perform at our church. The beautiful music could be heard throughout the whole church and everyone that attended had a wonderful time. Dinner was prepared by Nancy Sooy, and it was delicious as always. A special thank you to Joanie Hoenes for organizing the whole Congregational Concert. Also thank you to the all people, both on my committee and off, that helped in the kitchen, set-up, served, or cleaned-up.

Our next big event will be our annual Strawberry Festival, which will be held at our church on Friday, June 6th. The time of the event will be from 6PM - 8PM and the cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 12 and under. Entertainment will be provided by John Channell and his friends from Albert Hall. Please join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, good food, and great music! If you would like to donate some pound cake, ice cream, or cool whip please sign-up on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule.

Be advised that our last breakfast before our summer break will be Father's day, June 15th. Also, refreshment hour will be served outside, weather permitting. Brunch and 2nd Monday Monthly Lunch have both been wrapped up for the year and will resume in the fall.

Even though our programs are wrapping up for the year, our committee will still be busy at work. We are looking into a dinner cruise to take place possibly in July and another church picnic at the lake in late summer. Then we are planning a church yard sale for September 20th with a rain date of September 27th. Please be alert for more information on any of these events that I just mentioned.

Our next Fellowship meeting will be held in Cobb Lounge on Wednesday June 11th at 7PM.

In Christian Love and Fellowship,
Dawn Duran, Chairperson

Lunch Bunch To Meet At Laguna Grill In Brigantine On June 4

The van will leave at 11:30 on June 4 to travel to the Laguna Grill in the Brigantine Hotel. If you want to drive yourself, meet us there at noon.

Note: July Lunch Bunch will be on July 9 as Pastor will be on vacation the first week of July.



Men's Fellowship To Meet June 7

The Doug Jablonski Men's Fellowship will meet for the last time (until September) on Saturday, June 7, at 8:30 a.m. in Madden Hall. Breakfast will be pancakes, sausage, bacon and orange juice for \$3.00.

We will plan a summer picnic event.

Evergreens

Evergreen's will not be meeting again until September. However we will have a picnic at the Manse during the summer. Watch for announcements.

Thanks to Anita Brown, Johanna Howell for handling reservations for Evergreen Luncheon and for Gay Channel for weekly reminders in Sunday Bulletin. .

Evergreens Picnic To Be At Manse On June 25

The Evergreens will have their summer picnic at the manse at noon on June 25 (weather permitting). Hotdogs, hamburgers, barbequed chicken, deviled eggs and drinks will be provided. If you want to bring a salad, dessert, etc. that would be nice.

Or just come! This will be a great early summer event before the Cobbs leave on their Alaskan cruise June 28.

Cobbs To Take Alaskan Cruise June 28-July 5

Rev. & Mrs. Cobb, Janna Beth and Al Ciccone will be departing on a seven-day cruise of Alaska from the port of Seattle, Washington, leaving June 30. Their flight will leave from Philadelphia June 29 and they will return July 5.

Rev. Gerry Reedell will preach June 29 while the Cobbs are away.

The Cobbs will be away on vacation at least three other Sundays during the summer. Two of them will be July 20 and August 10. The Holland family will lead the service in music and preaching on Aug. 10.

Absecon Presbyterian Church Facebook Quiz

- 1) What secure on-line media does the Absecon Presbyterian Church use to share current photos and videos of Church events?
- 2) Can anyone join?
- 3) Is our Church Facebook site accessible to the public?
- 4) How many members are there?
- 5) How do I join?
- 6) Who administers the site?
- 7) Who can post messages and photos on this site?
- 8) Is the site accessible from the Church's website?

Answers:

- 1) Facebook: Absecon Presbyterian Church.
- 2) No. Only those who attend our church can be members.
- 3) No. The content is only available to members of our site. This in contrast to the Church's web page, which is open to the public.
- 4) There are currently 114 members of our Church Facebook Site.

- 5) You must be logged into Facebook. While in Facebook, search on Absecon Presbyterian Church. You will be directed to the only page the public can see. There you have the option to request to join.
- 6) Gay and myself administer the site, and both of us will be notified of your request to join. We are the only ones that can approve membership in our Church's Facebook site.
- 7) Any member that wishes to share photos, news and announcements of Church events.
- 8) Yes.

Louise Speitel



Dear Friends,

Thanks to everyone for their prayers and the cards since my recent hospitalization. God does answer prayers doesn't He?

My test results were negative. I didn't have the diagnosis they were so sure of them being. So, thank you.

Thank you, Deacons, for the soups, cookies, etc. that you send from time to time. The Easter "basket" was filled with goodies that were far too good. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Kris, somehow or other, the "bread" tasted like "meatloaf" and it was awesome. (Ask Ilsa about that!) Like Marge and Franks Lobe said, "The pistachio loaf is a little bit of heaven"..... That's no bread, it's more of a dessert. Everything is so good. Many, many thanks.

Betsy Cunius

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To The Deacons,

Thank you to the Deacons for the Wonderful Friendship (Bereavement) Luncheon on April 27<sup>th</sup>. At a time when so many of us are going thru the grieving process your love and support were greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all who were behind the scenes.

Dee and Jack Heil

**Brigantine Pastor's Daughter Hurt In Fall**

On May 17 Lizzie Scotland received her college degree from Boston University. Later that day the family attended a Boston Red Sox game at Fenway Park. After the game Lizzy fell down a fourth floor elevator shaft and landed on an elevator car about 30 feet below.

Her condition and the cause of the accident are uncertain. The family is with her at a Boston hospital.

Cards and/or contributions can be sent to the Community Presbyterian Church, 1501 W Brigantine Ave., Brigantine, NJ 08203.

Let us be in prayer for this family in this time of crisis.

## **Former Pastor, Dr. E. Bradford Davis, Dies On February 7**

We have received word from Thomas Davis, a professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, that his father Dr. Brad Davis died in Pennsylvania at the age of 93. Dr. Davis pastored this church from 1959-1966.

Dr. Davis pastored five churches during his long career. He earned a PhD from Princeton Theological Seminary specializing in church history, and served as moderator of Philadelphia Presbytery after he retired. He also served as chaplain for The Civil Air Patrol, The Boy Scouts, The General Society of Mayflower Descendants, and at Willow Valley Manor where he finished his days.

Dr. Davis had two sons, both of whom entered teaching. His other son, Edward (Teddy) teaches at Messiah College.

Dr. Davis's years at our church were good years. His wife Edna led several women's organizations, and Brad had a spiritual rebirth himself at the altar of our church.



### **Absecon American Legion Post 28**

What: Family Fun Day and Pig Roast - a Family friendly event with free pony rides.

Where: Legion Post 28 Grounds at Mill and NJ Ave

Cost: \$15 Adults and \$10 Children

When: Saturday June 21 4:00 to 7:30 PM

Sponsor: American Legion Post 28 to raise money for Veterans needs and community projects

Absecon American Legion Post 28 will be holding Family Fun Day and Pig Roast on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> from 4 to 7:30 PM. The event will take place on the Legion Grounds at New Jersey and Mill Road in Absecon. In case of rain the event will be held in the Post Hall. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets include free pony rides for the kids. Additionally take outs are available for those who are on the go.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or through Walt Krouse who can be reached at 641-6786. Proceeds from the event are used to support community projects.



## An Awesome Combination

“And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.” ~ Acts 2:2-3

As I write this the season of Easter in the church year is coming to a close. We have looked at resurrection appearances on the Emmaus Road, Jesus promises to be with us, the Good Shepherd, etc. They have been a source of faith and knowledge for me that Jesus is really with us 2000 years after the cross.

What we need now is power – power – to put that resurrection presence and faith into action; and that’s why June 8 is a big day. It’s Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit descended with power and settled on each one of the disciples. They left the upper room, Peter preached with conviction, and 3000 were baptized. The church began when they were empowered. The images of power were the two most common images of power ancient people know – wind and fire. When you think about it, ancient people would naturally be amazed. Where did the wind come from? What made it move and blow down their tents? And what made fire burn? It, too, was awesome to them because it destroyed their crops and burnt their homes. Yet these two forces were what ran the windmills, cooked their food, gave light, dried the clothes on the line, etc. They were in awe, and so should we.

In an age of atomic energy, economic uncertainty, political acrimony and terrible violence toward many innocents, the wind and fire of California have been the lead stories on the news for the last week. Thousands were evacuated while they tried to figure out what the fire would do and where the wind would blow. The terrible combination of wind and fire scared them to death. And at the same time more than one commentator remarked if there was just some way to harness that wind and fire for useful purposes we could solve the energy crisis!

Well, the same is true spiritually. If we could just harness the wind of the Spirit and the flame of the Spirit there would be no shortage of spiritual energy. Indeed, we would be energized to do endless mission, worship, and evangelism. There would be no shortage of resources, and revival would never cease.

On June 8 we will release balloons and reach for that source of energy. It is available, and if we don’t use it, it will be released somewhere else. Maybe it will reach out to other people. Or maybe it will just be lost like some storm that rages over the Atlantic but never reaches land and we sigh a sigh of relief that we didn’t have to deal with it. Sadly, we often sigh a sigh of relief when Pentecost comes and goes and we don’t have to deal with the Holy Spirit either.

Shame on us! Like wind and fire, the Holy Spirit is the most awesome power imaginable. And spirit filled Christians harness that Power every day. June 8, Pentecost, is a great day to reach out for that awesome power. Don’t let it get away! Easter people need to be Spirit Filled people to do the work of God.

See you in Spirit Filled Worship!

*- Dave*

Lay Assistants

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

Head Ushers

- 1 9:30 Vic & Rita Abelson  
11:00 Tina Brown, Shirley Smith
- 8 9:30 Elaine Risley, Carol Thomas  
11:00 Jean Delesantro, Cheryl Hawkes
- 15 9:30 Ron & Joyce Pfeiffer  
11:00 Joanna Howell, Nancy Swank
- 22 10:00 Kirk & Nancy Conover
- 29 10:00 David & Naida Burgess

Collection (9:30)

- 1 Joan Nale, Franklin Nale
- 8 Jack & Dee Heil
- 15 Ginny Davenport, Roy Birkbeck
- 22 Richard & Doris Wood
- 29 Sam & Bud Burgess

Deacon for the Month (9:30)

1<sup>st</sup> Svc Jo-ann Weller

Acolyte

- 1 Terri Villegas
- 8 Libby Little
- 15 Bud Burgess

Nursery

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

Van Drivers

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

Refreshment Hosts

- 1 Joanna Howell, Jason Imlay
- 8 Marjorie McGuigan, Irene Hunter
- 15 Barb Hudak, Jackie Bhatti
- 22 Joanie Hoenes, Linda Gillis
- 29 Denise Sarkis, Linda Gillis

Breakfast Club Kitchen Crew

- 1 Set-up – Libby Little  
Cook – Ed Little  
Clean-up – Richard & Doris Wood
- 8 Set-up – Kris Jenoriki  
Cook – John Channell  
Clean-up – Ginny & Bill Davenport
- 15 Special Father’s Day Breakfast – Still \$2.00

