

September 2014

# Good News

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**Verse of the Month:** *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."*  
~ *Philippians 4:13*

## Return to Regular Hours



*The Presbyterian Church at Absecon*

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## **The Summer That Was**

As the Good News goes to press we are putting the finishing touches on a really great summer. Highlights included the following:

1. The Strawberry Festival was on June 6 and was probably the biggest and most profitable ever. Many thanks to Tina, Dawn Duran, and John Channell for a great event.
2. June was punctuated with special worship events including Youth Recognition, Teacher Recognition, Graduate Sunday and Confirmation Sunday. They were all glorious times of celebration.
3. There were many picnics. The pastor held three behind the manse plus the Evergreens had theirs on June 25. The Men's Fellowship had a picnic with taps and Melvin's ribs on July 13. But the biggest picnic was at Egg Harbor Lake on July 27. About 65 people attended on a perfect day. Thanks to Dawn and Gayle for leadership, Steve Irish and Ed Little for barbequing, many contributions of food, and good fellowship that went late into the afternoon.
4. The summer saw some boating events. We had a dinner cruise on July 2, and canoeing on July 12.
5. There were three trips to the pastor's cabin – one for kids, one for adults, and one for the senior youth group. A good time was had by all.
6. Traditional summer events flourished. Lunch Bunch never missed a beat, and we had a gorgeous day for our annual trip to Cape May on July 28.
7. Special speakers while Pastor was away included Pastor Gerry Reedell, Bob Gillis, Dave Bailey, and the Holland family who did the whole service on Aug. 10.
8. The biggest event of the summer was probably Family Funday on Aug. 16. After several organization meetings, a town blitz of door hangers hung on Aug. 9, 100 year signs, and dozens of helpers the day of the event, we pulled it off. Hopefully we will see some new faces in church as a result.

## **Fall Schedule To Begin September 7**

Our last single service of the summer will be on August 31. That will be a communion service at 10:00 led by the pastor. There will be a Labor Day Weekend picnic behind the manse that day as our official end of summer event.

September 7 is Rally Day, and our children will leave the 9:30 service with their teachers to begin our Sunday School year. The choir will sing that day, and there will be a second service at 11:00 a.m. Please note all the following events that begin September 7:

1. Breakfast will be served at 8:45. Still just \$2.00.
2. Refreshments will move back into Madden Hall at 10:30.
3. Choir will practice in the lounge at 9:00 a.m.

Youth programs will be scheduled differently than in the past. (See Sunday School article.)



## Sunday School to Kick Off with Rally Day September 7, 2014

Welcome back!! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. We had some great events; we saw Despicable Me and visited the Cape May Zoo. Forty Minute Club was a success thanks to the many volunteers that helped bring it together. The kids made PB & Jelly sandwiches for Sister Jean's kitchen and put together hygiene kits for those in need. It was a busy and productive summer.

**Rally Day** will take place on **September 7<sup>th</sup>** at the 9:30 service. Everyone should arrive 30 minutes early for direction. Our Sunday School theme for this year is **Thrive – Anything is possible!** This connects to September's verse of the month, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. Following the activities of Rally day, the youth of the Sunday School, Teachers and Aides will enjoy a continental breakfast. During this time we will be discussing what we planned for the upcoming year.

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. Anyone interested in teaching or being an aide please contact me.

Classes for **grades 7-12** will continue to remain in the Worship Service on Communion Sundays to participate in the sacrament and worship experience. Once a quarter, on 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 schedule of these dates and events planned will be posted in each classroom and available on the church calendar.

A **Bible Study for adults**, led by Anna Mae and Vic Werner, will take place every Sunday in 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 is perfect for Sundays, youth group events, Calls to Worship, Mission Trips, etc.

Our **Sponsors** continue to support our Sunday School program spiritually and financially. Sponsors donate \$25, or an amount of their choice, for small incidental purchases. Anyone interested should see Tina Harvey or Linda Gillis. All help is appreciated!

As many of you are aware, after much consideration the decision was made to dissolve Lions and Lambs and A2J. Thank you to Linda Gillis and JoAnn Sabo for all of their hard work and dedication to our youth and the programs that they led. In order to keep our youth engaged in mission and fellowship, we have formed a Youth Leadership team. This group will be responsible for coming up with ideas for events and mission projects that will help develop our children's faith and biblical knowledge. Events and dates of importance will be advertised in the Good News and weekly bulletins. Think about coming out and joining the team!!!!

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

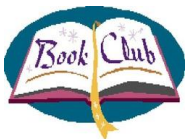
## **Bible Study** Pastor's Monday Bible Study To Begin September 8



September is a great time to begin Bible Study. We are in John's gospel, which is a great place to begin if you haven't been part of a regular study group before.

Come join us, as we begin our fall program in God's Word.

We meet in the lounge every Monday at 1:30 p.m.



## **Christian Readers Bookclub September 17 at 6:30**

It's that time again. The Christian Readers Bookclub will be meeting on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30p.m. We will be reviewing our summer books – "The Next Level" and "Growing Up Amish".

Please bring any suggestions of books to read for 2015.

Hope to see you there.

## **New Members Classes To Begin September 21**

Church membership is a privilege and a responsibility. Joining church is not difficult, but there is a process and the elders receive you and we welcome you. Many have said joining church was one of the most significant things in their entire lives.

There are three classes, one on our faith, one on church history and Presbyterian government, and one on our church programs and makeup here in Absecon.

The first class will be on September 21 at 4:00 p.m. Subsequent classes will be on Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, also at 4:00. We will meet with the session to be received on Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 8:00 p.m. If you can't come on a Tuesday the officers will arrange to meet with you at your convenience.

Pastors Cobb & Reedell will teach the classes. Tell either of them about your interest, or just show up in the lounge at 4:00 on Sunday, Sept. 21, 28 & Oct. 5.

You'll be glad you did.



## **Women's Circles**

Our last lesson before the summer break ended with the single greatest event in the Hebrew people's history. God held back the waters of the sea so they could escape from the Egyptians to safety. Incredibly, the people were barely past this amazing experience when they began to complain. Only three days later, the people came to a spring and when they found that the water was bitter they blamed Moses. They even accused him of bringing them out of Egypt to let them die from thirst in the desert. Join us at our September meetings to see how God provided for their needs.

The **Sarah Circle** will meet one week earlier on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. in Cobb Lounge. The **Martha Circle** will also meet one week earlier on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. in the home

of Carol Thomas. **The Ruth Circle** will meet on their regular date on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Betsy Cunius. All women of the church are encouraged to join us at the time that best meets your needs. You will be warmly welcomed.

## **CARE BOXES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Our women's circles will be making up care packages for all of our college students. We need profile information for each of our students so we can be sure to include everyone. Please return the following information to the church office through the offering plate or email [absecon\\_presby@msn.com](mailto:absecon_presby@msn.com) no later than **October 19!**

*Please print clearly*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Projected year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_



First I would like to congratulate the CONFIRMATION Class: Sarah Gillis, Robert Hudak, Nick Hughes, Maddie Lewis and Kassie Little. You all did such an amazing job!

There are so many people to thank for making this summer such a wonderful worship experience! We were inspired through music by: Sarah Gillis, Nicole Gillis, Neil Plum, the Sunday School classes, Kassie Little, Lydia Mohr, Vic Werner, Richard Garrick, Mrs.

Plum's guitar class and the Praise Band. We learned about some of the women in the Bible through dramas performed by: Nancy Swank, Dawn Duran, Linda Gillis, Kassie Little, Terri Villegas, Micheal McManus, Jan Cobb, JoAnn Sabo and Priscilla Schultheis. When Pastor Cobb was away we were lead with not only words, but music and video thanks to Gerry Reedell, Bob Gillis, the Holland family and Rev. Dave Bailey. THANK YOU ALL!!!!

If you would like to serve on the Worship Committee please call me. We would love to have you.

I would also like to say a huge THANK YOU to all those who worked so hard to put our community fun day together. What a great success!

Have a Blessed month,  
Karen Muldoon

**From The Choir Loft**

Welcome back, Choir. Rehearsals start 7:00 p.m. Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, and we will sing on Sunday, September 7, Rally Day.

I am looking for people who might be interested in joining the choir (no auditions necessary). All are welcome, and please join us for our first rehearsal.

Harold



**Mission/Evangelism Update**

We had four scheduled visiting **mission teams** this summer. Three teams had to cancel their trips, but we did host a team from Virginia which was two churches combined. Some of the team members had been here last summer. Our mission members prepared dinner and dined with them one evening. It gave us a chance to talk with them. I was speaking with one of the visitors and told him Linda & I were in Norfolk, VA on Good Friday to greet our daughter back from a nine month deployment in the Persian Gulf on the USS Harry S Truman aircraft carrier. He told me he worked on the construction of this carrier. All of us had a very enjoyable evening. They said there is

still much needed work to be done from Hurricane Sandy and expressed they would like to come back in 2015.

August 16<sup>th</sup> we held our **second Family Funday**. Dan Skeldon didn't let us down. We had perfect weather for it. Since I've been on session and chairman of Mission/Evangelism I have believed our events should reach out beyond the walls of the church to the surrounding communities. We started this last year to promote growth in the church enabling us to spread the Word of God. This year was a bigger and better turnout than last year. Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, there were new faces in church brought in by this event. Last year our

committee was looking for a way to promote growth. Kirk suggested a public barbeque. This idea hatched Family Funday, a barbecue with fun and games. It comes with an expense.

We are a little more prepared for our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Funday. Instead of renting, we purchased a commercial grill and 5 pop-up canopies which will help bring the cost down in future Funday events. We also put more effort into advertising this year with door hangers, road signs, flyers, ads in the Hometown and Galloway/Port and Absecon/Pleasantville Current.

This year improved by having the Big Kahuna waterslide, games and live music featuring our own praise band. The bands, magician, and face painters were all volunteers.

Thanks to all who helped, those who donated bottled water, and Dirk Williamson for getting the ice we needed. Thanks to Leo for the food preparation. He also designed and put out road signs. I would come to a corner to put out a sign and

Leo had already been there. Priscilla did a great job of organizing this event.

We are looking forward to our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Family Funday 2015. Priscilla and I have already signed on.

The **CROP Walk** is scheduled for Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. Walkers and sponsors are needed. Also **Rev. Karen Moritz** will be back with us in October.

The next event on the corner lot will be **Movie Night Under The Stars** featuring “The Lion King. See Tina Harvey. She might need some popcorn or drinks. This is another event that could help in church growth.

Our next Mission Committee meeting will be held September 6 at 9:30am.

Again, thanks for all your support.

God Bless,  
Russ Adkisson, Jr.



### Christmas In September

The goal of this program, “Christmas In September”, is to provide a Christmas gift package for each student in the Mustard Seed Academy in Uganda. Each package contains beef, rice, oil, beans, salt and soap, and costs \$10.00. This provides not one, but several meals for each family.

Last year our church assisted in this program. Our church and A2J youth group gave enough money to provide for 116 families.

Once again we’d like to support this program. If you can help this wonderful project, we ask that checks be made out to the Absecon Presbyterian Church. Designate “Christmas In Uganda” on the memo line. September 28 is the deadline to ensure that our donations will arrive in time to be organized in Uganda.

Cards are available if you would like to make a donation “in memory of” or “in honor of” a special person.

Thank you.  
The Mission Committee



## CROP Walk to be Held October 5

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 pastor and church office have sponsor forms. Make a difference – Walk.



## PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to join our Prayer Chain please notify the office. **The only requirements are that you have a willingness to pray and keep all requests in confidence.**

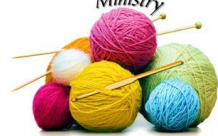
Currently requests are emailed to our Prayer Warriors as they are received in the office. Once our new notification system is in place you will have the option of how you wish to be notified.

We trust that you do already pray for special needs, and perhaps God is calling you to be part of this ministry.

*If you have an emergency or prayer need please call the office. Your request will be kept in strict confidence.*



## Prayer Shawl Ministry



To all women of the congregation, we will begin to meet again on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 AM in the Chapel. If you can knit or crochet or would like to learn how, please join us. We also make No Sew blankets which are easy to do. Our core group of ladies have created so many beautiful shawls and blankets that have been given to many in our church family and friends of many who are not affiliated with our church.

This is an open gathering, and you may come and leave when you have to. We are usually all gone by noon. You supply your own needles or hooks and yarn.

This is a wonderful ministry of showing God's love and caring at a time of sickness, family crisis or feeling lost. Hope to see you there to share this experience of love and friendship.

Loretta A. Metz



## Family Promise Of Atlantic County

### **Homeless Facts:**

- ❖ *68% of homeless children are 5 and under in Atlantic County*
- ❖ *In Atlantic County, there are only 11 rooms available for children and their families.*
- ❖ *Out of 746 homeless people in Atlantic County as of January, 2013, 172 were homeless children.*
- ❖ *The number of children who are homeless has shown an increase of 71.5% in Atlantic County between 2011 and 2013.*



This summer Barbara Sabath of Family Promise of Atlantic County gave a Minute For Mission during worship sharing these facts and more. The need is great and continues to grow. Here are two ways you can help.

The annual Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" program will be on **Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**, from 9am to 11pm. Discount shopping passes cost \$5 each and are available in the church office. Get some good deals on things you need (or things you don't need but can't pass up) and help support the cause. **Family Promise of Atl. Co. keeps the entire \$5 from every shopping pass sold.**

Join **Club172** and provide a family of 4 with 10 days of service in the Family Promise Program. For the cost of \$172.00 you can help Family Promise of Atlantic County make a difference. Make a one-time donation of \$172, or \$86 semi-annually, or \$43 per quarter. That's just \$3.31 a week. Or give a gift in the amount of your choice. Commitment cards are available in the church office.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers as they work to provide families with a safe place to sleep, nutritious hot meals, a chance to secure employment, safe affordable housing, care by a host of volunteers, and **Hope**.



### News From The Deacons

Wow this Summer just seemed to be starting and here we are thinking of cooler weather and Fall activities! In June, Deacons collected almost 100 pounds of food for the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. The Food Bank is anticipating a greater need for food as more and more casinos close.

Starting this month, we will have an ongoing food drive and continue this until the end of December. There will be various way to contribute including an online virtual food drive and monetary donations and of course we will still be collecting non- perishable food and personal items. The greatest need at this time is for canned tuna, spam, chicken, ham and any meaty soups, chili, stews and mac & cheese. There will be a complete list of foods needed on our Harvest Home Table in the vestibule. Look for more information in upcoming church bulletins, too.

Deacons wish to thank everyone in advance for helping each other and our community in this time of need.

The next Deacons meeting will be on October 11 at 10 am in Cobb Lounge.

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

### An Apple A Day . . . By Lisa Whitaker

As I stood up to teach there was no doubt in my mind where I was in the world. A sea of 120+ blond haired, fair-skinned, Scandinavian faces smiled back at me! I was at one of YWAM's locations in Sweden teaching staff that had come from across Northern Europe - which includes not only Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland - but also the Baltic States of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania. You don't hear much from this part of the world, at least it

seems the news isn't pouring out about the number of fish caught in the North Sea or tales of the sun never setting in these endless summer days. The news I CAN tell you is that I found a passionate group of young adults, eager to share Christ both in and beyond Northern Europe. Throughout the week we used the image of an apple. God allows us to be fruitful, to bear fruit in our life. What is amazing about the apple is that not only is the apple itself

fruit, but the seeds within the apple have the potential for a vast multiplication of more fruit. Sitting in that room, we had a basketful of apples. YET, the potential of those apples, taking the seeds within them and planting them, watering them and nurturing them - THEN we had not only a basketful, but a potential forest of apple trees! God works that way. Can I remind you of the fish and the loaves? Can I help you recall how God took a family of 12 and turned them in to a nation? Remember Jesus' words to GO and make disciples . . .even to the ends of the earth! I wonder if multiplication is God's favorite kind of math? He loves to take a tiny mustard seed of faith and with that "hard-to-see-because-it-is-so-small-faith" MOVE a bigger-than-life-about-to-swallow-you Mt. Everest! As I looked at these descendants of Vikings, I could see them not pillaging and taking over lands, but loving and serving all over the world! I sat with a Danish girl who said with a smile . . . "wow, you've been in YWAM MY whole life - I'm 22 years old". She proceeded (after I swallowed hard and politely laughed) that she has a vision to start discipleship in Copenhagen. We talked about what that might look

like and how God was leading her . . . I then sat with a Norwegian young lady who will lead a Discipleship Training School in just a few weeks. She pummeled me with questions and I saw within her an orchard of fruit coming forth. Rest assured my friends, there is much fruit for God's kingdom being planted and coming forth from Northern Europe. The majestic fjords, the quiet, icy lakes and the frozen Nordic lands are melting hearts around the world. YOU are a part of that as you continue to send me here and you to share the seeds of the good news. Next time you eat an apple, say a prayer for the orchards being planted by this enthusiastic, amazing group of young people from the lands of the midnight sun!

Much love,  
Lisa

Next up : A return to visit the Asian school I taught in April. Looking forward to hearing their stories of God's faithfulness as they have ministered in Central Asia this summer!



### **Stewardship Committee Report**

Through July 31<sup>st</sup> we have made up the deficit that cropped up during the first quarter of the year. Our expenses are running very close to budgeted amounts. Investment income is almost identical to last year. All our rental units are occupied, leading to a net rental income of \$10,032. Our giving as of July 31<sup>st</sup> trails 2013's giving by \$20,000. Although we are keeping up with our budgetary needs for 2014, we must build a surplus going into 2015. Expenses associated with renovating the manse will be a new budget item in 2015. Thank you all for your generosity. As we move forward please do your best to support our financial goals.

Kirk Conover  
Stewardship Chair

### **Summer "Thank You's"**

Summer saw a reprieve from choir, Sunday School. Youth programs, etc., but that doesn't mean we weren't busy with lots of special activities. Special thanks go to the following:

1. Russ, Kirk, Priscilla, our Mission/Evangelism Committee, and dozens of helpers for a great Family Funday on Aug. 16. 500 came out, and we fed and entertained them all. We thank our youth who participated and helped all day, the cooks, door hanger hangers, and the dozen people who fed people all afternoon. Great job! Carol Kleiner made mission boards and the Prayer Shawl ministry showed off their work. Two families were in worship the next day who came to us through that event.

2. Dawn Duran for organizing the church picnic at Egg Harbor Lake on July 27, and Gayle Ackerman for her work on the dinner cruise on July 2.
3. The pastor for many picnics and two trips with church folks to the cabin. Jack & Kendal took a third trip to the mountains with nine kids from the senior youth group.
4. Tina Harvey for planning a great event at Cape May County Park/Zoo on August 24 and the Minion Cupcakes at the movie night on July 31.
5. Priscilla and cast for great dramas in church this summer. Priscilla also put together the canoe trip on July 12.
6. The Doug Jablonski Men's Fellowship for picnics around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day.
7. Karen and the Worship Committee for finding coverage for the pastor who was away 4 Sundays.
8. Betsy Eberhard, Denise Ott, Elaine Risley, and others for keeping the flowerbeds healthy. It took a lot of weeding.
9. For all those who helped with 40 Minute Club. We had some great Sunday events.
10. Vic Werner and Voices of Praise. They performed five times over the summer.
11. Harold Hawkes for arranging special music each week. Thanks also to Sarah Gillis, Nicole Gillis, Neil Plum, the Sunday School, Kassie Little, Lydia Mohr, Vic Werner, Richard Garrick, and Mrs. Plum's guitar class for sharing their talents.
12. Our Mission/Evangelism Committee hosting the visiting mission team from Chesapeake, VA.
13. Josh Howling for her faithfulness in making reservations for Lunch Bunch each month.



### **Mission Garden News**

We planted a little bit of garden along the driveway this year with leftover seeds and have been able to deliver 3 large summer squash and 2 pounds of green beans to the Food Bank so far. Imagine how we will be able to help feed the hungry with a dedicated garden next year! The Food Bank said they take any kind of produce so we have

lots of planting options. We will be working in September and October to create our raised beds, ready for next spring. We need soil, manure, peat moss and empty wooden pallets. If you have any of these to donate, please drop them off in the corner of the lot behind the manse or call Lee Wolff, 226-3873. I can arrange for help with loading/unloading or even arrange pick-up if necessary.



We are now registered with One Call Now (our new notification system) but not quite ready to go. If you signed up for our message notifications via text, voice, or email, you should receive a TEST message soon. Postcards for meetings and events will no longer be mailed once we're up and running. (Sunday Servants will still receive reminders.) This new system will also be used for last minute changes, information, or cancellations for all committees, groups, events, and worship services.

**If you haven't signed up yet please call the office.** You may miss some important updates!

## **Church Picture Directory**

The church picture directory has arrived and will be distributed between services.

The on-line directory will be accessible from the church web page. The password is provided in the inside back cover of the paper directory.

New church brochures should also be available shortly.

Louise Speitel  
Chair, Picture Directory Committee



## **Fellowship Committee**

This was a great summer for Fellowship, weather was nice and everyone enjoyed all the great picnics and outings.

First we had our Dinner Cruise on July 2nd. We took the hour and a half boat ride through the inland way of Atlantic City, where we enjoyed a delicious meal onboard. The weather was a bit windy, but the storms held off until after we returned home. Many thanks to Gayle Ackerman for organizing this successful event. Also, thank you to the many hands who help lug items on and off the boat.

Next we had our Annual Church Picnic at the Lake. The weather was absolutely beautiful and good for swimming. We had about 70 people in attendance, and everyone enjoyed the time they had. Thank you to our wonderful cooks, Dirk Williamson, Steve Irish, and Ed Little. Also thank you to Gayle Ackerman, Denise Ott, and Dirk and Desiree Williamson for helping to transport items and for helping to set up. And thank you to Denise Ott, Rita and Vic Abelson, Joe Marshall, Louise Speitel, and John and Jackson Harvey for helping

with clean up. I apologize if I forgot anybody, but thank you, all of your efforts were greatly appreciated.

Our next big event coming up is our Annual Church Yard Sale, which will be held on Saturday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, from 8AM to 2PM on the corner lot. Please let me know, ASAP, if you are interested in reserving a table. The cost for the tables are \$10 each. Please come early to set up your items. In addition to the various yard sale items, there will be food and drinks available for purchase. We are hoping for nice weather but in the case of rain, there is a rain date of Sept 27<sup>th</sup>. We are also currently seeking volunteers to help that day. We could use help in the following areas: Setting up tables, setting up food area, grilling, food sales and service, clean up, and breaking down tables. If you can help in anyway, please let me know. Please come out and support us in any way that you can!

The Annual AppleFest will be held on Friday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, from 6PM - 8PM in Madden Hall. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 12 and under. The price includes a hotdog with or without

sauerkraut, a drink, an apple dessert and entertainment. There will be additional hotdogs for sale at \$1 each. John Channell and his friends from Albert Hall will be playing for your listening pleasure. There will be sign up sheet available to donate baked goods, ice cream, and whipped toppings. Hope to see you all there!

Our Congregational Concert will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30PM in the sanctuary. The Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble will be performing. The cost will be \$12. This is a concert only (no dinner). Please be on the lookout for the tickets when they become available.

Refreshment hour will be held inside again starting on Sept 7th. Breakfast also starts back up on Sept 7th. Thank you, Cheryl Hawkes, for continuing as

### **Summer's Final Picnic To Be Held August 31**

The Doug Jablonski Men's Fellowship will assist in the summer's final picnic behind the manse after communion worship on August 31. Come for Melvin's ribs and potato salad. We will offer hot dogs, hamburgers, watermelon, corn on the cob, deviled eggs, etc. \$5.00 donation is required. Don Mills will hold the cash box.



### **Lunch Bunch To Travel To Windjammer In Somers Point September 10**

We will leave at 11:30 on Wednesday, Sept. 10, to travel to the Windjammer in Somers Point. Come for good food and fellowship.

September is a great month to get involved in something new.

### **Sunday Brunch Is Back!**



Our first Fall brunch will be Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, and we are in need of people to help set up tables and chairs, decorate the tables, prepare hot and cold dishes, clean up and breakdown the table and chairs, etc. If anyone is interested in helping out in any way, please contact Kris Jenoriki at 748-1214 or Leo Ransone at 646-5154.

breakfast coordinator. Our Sunday Brunches will start back up on Sept 21st and is under the leadership of Kris Jenoriki. Thank you, Kris. The 2nd Monday Monthly Lunch will resume in October. (See separate article.) If you are able to help at all with the 2nd Monday Monthly Lunches, please contact Karen Muldoon and let her know, thank you.

The next Fellowship meeting is planned for Monday, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7PM in Cobb Lounge. See you there!

In Christian Love and Fellowship,  
Dawn Duran, Chairperson

Remember that these brunches are for all to enjoy, but many people are needed to make them a success. Hope to hear from you soon!!

Yours in Christ,  
Kris Jenoriki

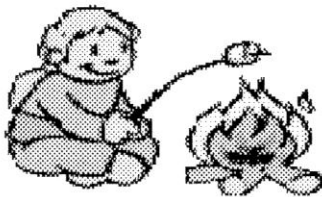
Movie Night under the stars!!!

Free Popcorn!

Free Drinks!!

Come out to see the

THE LION KING



There will be a bonfire with Smores!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

When: September 12, 2014

Where: Absecon Presbyterian Church

Time: 7:00 pm

Contact: Tina Harvey at (609-568-6077)



**Men's Fellowship To Meet September 6**

The Doug Jablonski Men's Fellowship will meet September 6 at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast will be pancakes. Come and plan for the fall.



**Evergreens Meet At Noon September 24**

Evergreens will have a "fall round-up" at noon on September 24th. Bring a sandwich; dessert and beverage will be provided.

We will share experiences and special times, trips we had this summer and have a brief organizational meeting. Special speaker is pending. Let's have a good turn out!

**Second Monday of the Month Lunch is starting October 13th!**

If you would like to help out cooking or serving please let me or Loretta know. We would truly appreciate the help. Sign ups will be posted in September and the cut off date will be Sunday, Oct. 5th.

We are looking forward to another year of great food and fellowship!

Karen Muldoon



Dear Deacons,

Many thanks for the delicious soup, vegetable beef barley, also cookies. They were much appreciated and thanks so much.

Essie Newell

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Members of Session,

Thank you so much for your gift! I really appreciate it, and the gift card will be very useful in the near future, when I start shipping for school supplies for high school!

Love,  
"Kassie" Little

\* \* \* \* \*

A Great Big Thank You

I know it was because of all your prayers that my recent shoulder surgery went so well. My physical therapy is almost done and I have regained almost all of my range of motion back.

Thank you so much for your cards, phone calls and to the Deacons for the lovely fruit basket I appreciated everything so much.

Loretta A. Metz 🙏

\* \* \* \* \*

Thanks for your prayers and well wishes during Joe's recent hospital stay. Your visits, cards, baked goods, support, and friendship during this difficult time are so much appreciated.

Thanks to the prayer shawl committee for making and praying over the beautiful knit blanket.

Joe Marshall & Louise Speitel



**Absecon American Legion Post 28 Beef & Beer**

Absecon American Legion Post 28 will host its 26<sup>th</sup> annual Family Friendly Beef and Beer on Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00PM. The family friendly event will be held on the Legion Grounds at Mill and New Jersey Avenues.

Cost is \$15.00 Adults, \$12 Children which includes dinner, desert and a beverage. **Children's tickets include Free Pony Rides Face Painting, games and a Bounce House.**

Proceeds from the event help sponsor community and youth activities. In case of inclement weather the event will be moved to the Legion hall.

Please contact Walt Krouse 641-6786 for tickets. Thank you.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Oceanville Volunteer Fire Company #1**  
**Ladies Auxiliary**

Yard/Craft Sale  
Saturday, September 20  
9:30am – 3:00pm





## Authenticity – What The World Needs Now

“You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart” ~ Psalm 51:6

If you had asked me a week ago if Robin Williams was a happy person I would have told you he was one of the happiest people on earth. But then lots of entertainers who end up in rehab time and again all seemed happy to me, too. Until I read it in an editorial I never realized that suicide was such a common thing among comedians. Clearly, what we see isn't always what is really there, and the tabloids and gossip shows make millions trying to expose the “real” celebrity. There is an assumption that TV preachers, smiling politicians, and Hollywood stars are nothing like they appear; that their public appearance is just a façade. And social media makes it easier than ever to create a phony persona. The world is full of hypocrites, so is it any wonder the secular public is so suspicious of church people? Is Christianity real or an “act” to look good? Does our faith actually help us live better lives, or do we just pretend that it does? Is the fellowship in our church real, or do we just act like we really care about each other?

The media articles I read about the public's perception of us seems to go from one buzz word to another. Words like “respectability”, “social standing”, and “looking good” used to be used as society's understanding of why people go to church. Sadly, few people care about those things any more, so words like “phonies”, “hypocrite”, and “show off” became more common. Several years ago the word “irrelevant” became common in describing churches, but that sentiment retreated when it became apparent that there are certain things we all get out of church life – a sense of belonging, peace, friends, a chance to help out, a value system, even some fun times. Studies show that church people are happier, have higher self esteem, a stronger sense of right and wrong, a better work ethic, and often a faith that gets them through hard times.

So why aren't we packed with people that desperately need what we have to offer?

The newest buzz word is “authenticity”. The world doubts that we are authentic. Our job is to convince people we are real and that what they see here is what they will get. Sadly, there are few people out there who can't tell you about a cheating pastor, pedophile priest, or church leader who hurt them in some way. Church people can be as phony as anybody else.

But not all. Some churches are full of people who love God and each other, who want to do mission, and will pray for each other and help each other. These Christians are for real, and these churches grow.

Our church needs to grow. It won't happen with a pretty building, fancy programs, or even good sermons. Only we can make it grow, and the road to success is built on us. – Are we authentic? The world really hopes we are. They have been disappointed by everything else.

So this fall don't just put on a happy face, be happy. Don't help out because it's expected, but because that's the kind of person you are. And don't be friendly because you think you should. Be friendly because you really are friendly. And when you sing and worship, do it from your heart. Be authentic and you'll be happier.

And the world will come to us because we're the real deal.

*- Dave*

Lay Assistants

- 7 9:30  
11:00
- 14 9:30  
11:00
- 21 9:30  
11:15
- 28 9:30  
11:00

Head Ushers

- 7 9:30 Vic & Rita Abelson  
11:00 Mary Bew, Betty Lloyd
- 14 9:30 Elaine Risley, Carol Thomas  
11:00 Joanna Howell, Shirley Smith
- 21 9:30 Ilsa Smith, Barbara Hughes  
11:15 Jean Delesantro, Tina Brown
- 28 9:30 Naida & David Burgess  
11:00 Mary Bew, Betty Lloyd

Collection (9:30)

- 7 Joan Nale, Franklin Nale
- 14 Dee & Jack Heil
- 21 Roy Birkbeck, Jo-ann Weller
- 28 Bob Wilkenloh, Edith Budd

Deacon for the Month (9:30)

1<sup>st</sup> Svc Anita Brown

Acolyte

- 7
- 14
- 21
- 28

Nursery

- 7 Gloria Achamizo
- 14 Alice Malfi
- 21 Fran Tanner
- 28 Jennifer Platt

Van Drivers

- 7 John Channell
- 14 Barb Hughes
- 21 Tina Brown
- 28 Vic Abelson

Refreshment Hosts

- 7 Elaine Risley, Priscilla Schultheis
- 14 Joanie Hoenes, Naida Burgess
- 21 Join us for brunch!
- 28 Kris Jenoriki, Leslie Harvey

Breakfast Club Kitchen Crew

- 7 Set-up – Libby Little  
Cook – Ed Little  
Clean-up – Vic & Rita Abelson
- 14 Set-up – Kris Jenoriki  
Cook – John Channell  
Clean-up – Ginny & Bill Davenport
- 21 Join us for brunch!
- 28 Set-up – Jordan & Christian Hawkes  
Cook – Bryan Hawkes  
Clean-up – Olga Davies, Jean Delesantro

