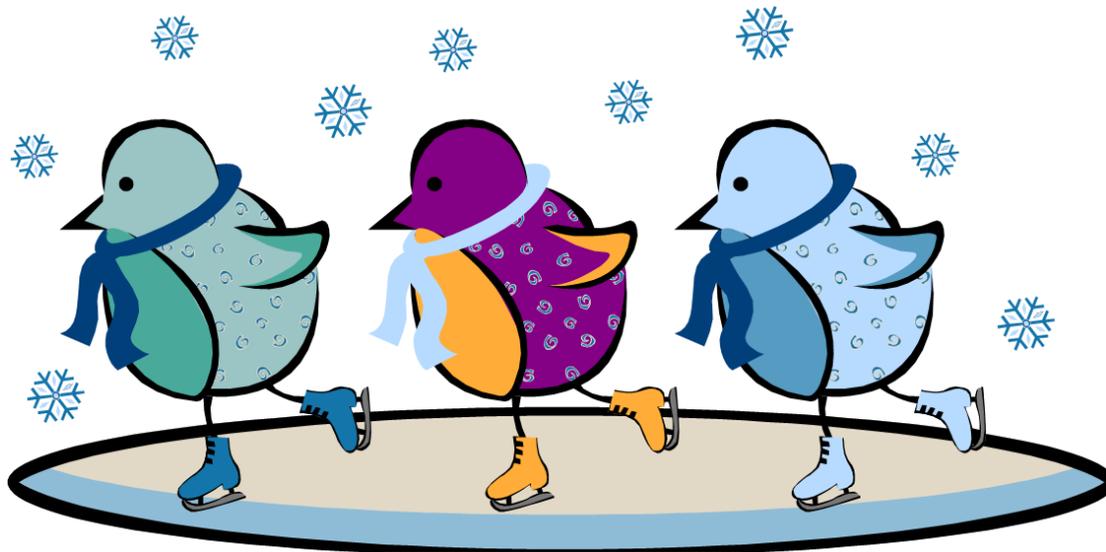


January 2018

GOOD NEWS

Verse of the Month: “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” ~ John 16:33



The Presbyterian Church at Absecon

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Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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Office email: absecon_presby@msn.com - Website: abseconpresby.org



Winter Storm Warnings

We do not advertise on radio or TV, but you may get a message advising you of cancellations in the event of bad weather. In any case, call the office if you are uncertain. We will try to keep the church answering machine up to date.

If you feel uncertain about coming in the snow, you have our permission to stay home.

(If you have not yet signed up for auto-notifications and would like to receive messages please call the office!)

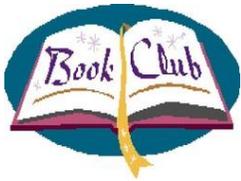
Deadline For Annual Reports Is January 8

The annual meeting of the congregation and corporation has been called for Sunday, February 04, 2018. It is the goal of office staff and volunteers to have the booklet prepared and in your hands on or before the Sunday prior to the meeting. The deadline for all end-of-year reports from our various committees, groups and organizations is Monday, January 08. Please be prompt.



Women's Circles

The Women's Circles will not meet during the month of January. When we meet again in February, we will begin a new study of the Letter to the Hebrews.



Christian Readers Book Club

We had to postpone the meeting in November so on January 17 we will be reviewing the books "Shaken" by Tim Tebow and "Twelve Days of Christmas" by Debbie Macomber. These books are available at the library. Come join us for a lively discussion. We meet in the lounge at 6:30 Wednesday night January 17.





Worship Committee Report:

Your Worship Committee met for the 4th time in 2017 on Sunday, December 17. Issues discussed for 2018 included Communion set up/servers, worship leadership (Rev. Meilands will continue to provide worship leadership in January and February 2018), ushers, the talent bank, lay assistants (who need to insure that the candles are put out at the end of each service), and music.

Anna Mae Werner will assume the Chair of the Worship Committee, and I (David Burgess) will continue as the Co-Chair. If any members of the Congregation wish to serve on the Committee, please contact Anna Mae or myself.

Rev. Cobb's picture is being reframed, and the plaque listing his dates of service is being reengraved.

The Ordination/Installation of the new church officers will be celebrated on Sunday, January 21, 2018.

I (David Burgess) attended a seminar on house of worship safety presented by state and local Law Enforcement Agencies at the WinSan Center in Pleasantville on Tuesday, December 19. Pertinent information will be provided to our Session for review and discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
David Burgess M.D., Chair.



Christmas Projects

We had 45 boxes for the Operation Christmas Child project and 40 gifts from our Angel Tree tags. Wow! Thank you so much for your giving to these projects.

The Mission Committee.



News from the Deacons

January 2018

Hard to believe another brand New Year is here! We pray that you have health and peace and find solace in knowing how much the Lord loves you. Deacons wish to thank you from our hearts for your monetary donations as we are solely funded by you. So, THANK YOU!! We were able to help many church families in need through your gifts.

We wish to thank retiring officer/treasurer Bob Hudak as he steps into his new role as Elder and welcome new officer Deb Wong. We also thank Jaqueline Bhatti and Betsy Eberhard for signing on for three more years. If you received a meal or bread from one of the Deacons you can thank Kris Jenoriki for keeping our freezer stocked with soup and bread, thanks Kris!

Communion will be celebrated January 7. We wish to thank Loretta Metz and Bob Hudak for setting the communion table this month. If you are an ordained Deacon or Elder (past or present) and wish to help serve Communion please let Naida Burgess know as she is looking for servers.

Thank you for all your donations to the Food Bank this past year!! We ended up donating almost 900 pounds of canned goods and produce from our Church garden. January is a difficult time of the year for many and your donations of nonperishable, non-expired, (not in glass please) food items are greatly appreciated. The Food bank takes laundry detergent and disposable baby diapers too.

Deacon for the month of January will be Naida Burgess

Our next meeting will be Saturday January 20 at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for your continued support during this time as our church seeks a new called Pastor. We continue our prayers for the Pastoral Nominating Committee and are **all called to Pastor and pray for each other** not only during this time but always. Through Jesus all things are possible. Amen

In Christian service and love,
Naida Burgess, Moderator
Loretta Metz, Vice Moderator



Evergreens

Evergreens will meet for their sandwich luncheon at noon on Wednesday, January 24th. We will be discussing the future for Evergreens so bring your thoughts and suggestions. Dessert and coffee will be provided.



In case of inclement weather please call the office or Fran.

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERY ONE

Lunch Bunch January 10

The van leaves at 11:30am for Olive Garden on Wednesday, Jan. 10. If you prefer to drive yourself, meet us there at noon.



Seeking The Perfect Pastor

December 8, 1992 By DEAR ABBY, Syndicated Columnist

Dear Abby: I am serving on a pastor search committee for my church and have given the job a lot of thought and prayer. A church friend told me that a few years ago you had a wonderful letter in your column concerning the search for a new pastor. Will you run it again? -- J.C. Humble, Glendale, Ariz.

Dear Mr. Humble: I recall the letter. It was submitted by the Rev. C.W. Kirkpatrick, Union Church of Christ, Ludlow, Mass. And here it is:

Dear Abby: One of the toughest tasks a church faces is choosing a good minister. A member of an official board undergoing this painful process finally lost patience. He`d watched the pastoral relations committee reject applicant after applicant for some fault, alleged or otherwise. It was time for a bit of soul-searching on the part of the committee. So he stood up and read a letter purporting to be from another applicant.

`Gentlemen: Understanding your pulpit is vacant, I should like to apply for the position. I have many qualifications. I`ve been a preacher with much success and also have had some success as a writer. Some say I`m a good organizer. I`ve been a leader most places I`ve been.

“I’m over 50 years of age. I have never preached in one place for more than three years. In some places, I have left town after my work caused riots and disturbances. I must admit I have been in jail three or four times, but not because of any real wrongdoing.

“My health is not too good, though I still get a great deal done.

“I’ve not gotten along well with religious leaders in towns where I have preached. I am not too good at keeping records. I have been known to forget whom I baptized.

“However, if you can use me, I shall do my best for you.”

The board member looked over the committee. “Well, what do you think? Shall we call him?”

The good church folks were aghast. Call an unhealthy, trouble-making, absentminded ex-jailbird? Was the board member crazy? Who signed the application? Who has such colossal nerve?

The board member eyed them all keenly before he answered, “It’s signed, the Apostle Paul.”

(Submitted as a reminder to pray daily for our PNC)



Many thanks to our church officers and to all of you for the generous Christmas gift. My “Wants” list seems to grow on a daily basis, and this will indeed come in handy!

Wishing everyone a blessed New Year!
Gay Channell



Serving in January

Lay Assistants

07 Leo Ransone
14 David Burgess
21 David Burgess
28 David Burgess

Head Ushers

07 Vic & Rita Abelson
14 Elaine Risley, Ginny Davenport
21 Bob & Barbara Hudak
28 Mary Bew, Betty Lloyd

Offering

07 Joan Nale, Franklin Nale
14 Jack & Dee Heil
21 Ann Wallace, Roy Birkbeck
28 Tina Brown, Greg Hamaty

Acolyte

07 Franklin Nale
14 Jacob Sabo
21 Jackson Harvey
28 Laly Ramirez

Deacon of the Month

Naida Burgess

Nursery

07 Gloria Achamizo
14 Jennifer Platt
21 Gloria Achamizo
28 Jennifer Platt

Van Drivers

07 John Channell
14 Tina Brown
21 Tina Brown
28 Vic Abelson

Refreshment Hosts

07 Vic & Anna Mae Werner
14 Vic & Rita Abelson
21 Carol Thomas
28 Edith Budd

Breakfast Club Kitchen Crew

07 Set-up: Priscilla Schultheis
Cook: Melvin Washington
Clean-up: Deb Wong, Betsy Eberhard
14 Set-up: Kris Jenoriki
Cook: John Channell
Clean-up: Vic & Rita Abelson
21 Set-up: Donna Hughes
Cook: Dirk Williamson
Clean-up: Jim McManus, Rob Perry
28 Set-up: Edith Budd
Cook: Melvin Washington
Clean-up: Olga Davies, Jean Delesantro

Counters

07 Barbara & Bob Hudak
14 Barb & Dan Hughes
21 Debbie & Don Wong
28 Leo Ransone, Nancy Conover

