

Please join us in worship Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (hymn sing 9:45). We welcome Rev. Gerry Reedell to our pulpit. Her sermon is titled "Words We Don't Want to Hear" from [Matthew 16: 21-28](#).

Serving communion are ordained officers Betty Lloyd, Louise Speitel, Mary Bew and Naida Burgess. The Deacons greatly appreciate the monetary support which our church family members contribute to continue the work which we are dedicated to provide. Envelopes can be found in the church pew racks every Sunday. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Rev. Scott Morchauser will return to lead us in worship on September 10 and Scott Sabo will be leading on Sept. 17.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **A Message to the Congregation**

The members of the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) have been getting a lot of questions about the progress of our ongoing search for a new Pastor. Perhaps some are beginning to get anxious or concerned that the search is taking so long and wondering why it has not yet been completed, or have become more concerned with the departure of our Interim Pastor. Please rest assured that nobody is more interested in bringing this search process to a successful conclusion than the people who have collectively been spending hundreds of hours of our own time methodically working our way through it. Please understand that we did not define the process; it is a methodical and structured (which is a nice way of saying "slow") process defined by PCUSA and followed by all Presbyteries.

Through this process, we have considered more than 65 different individuals provided through the Presbytery matching process over the past months. From those applicants, we selected five that we considered potential candidates for the Pastoral call. Three were interested and available. After extensive consideration, one of the three candidates was the clear choice - you may have heard that this candidate (at our invitation) preached at Brigantine Presbyterian Church recently. Unfortunately, to our great surprise and disappointment, in the end this candidate chose not to accept our invitation to consider a call with our congregation.

The PNC then went back to work in an effort to find additional candidates, essentially starting the process over again. The next set of potential matches provided by the Presbytery did not produce any clear choices for a new candidate. We have since requested that the criteria used to identify potential matches for our congregation be modified in order to increase the pool of potential candidates, and as mandated by the process, we are awaiting approval of these requested changes and a new set of potential candidates to evaluate.

Obviously, this is not the news that we had hoped to be presenting to the congregation at this time. As disappointed as everyone is at this news, rest assured that nobody is more disappointed than the members of the PNC who continue to meet together and spend many hours searching for our next Pastor. We ask that you please continue to be patient, and to prayerfully support us in our task as we work together to seek out the Pastor who will be just as excited to join our church family

as we will be to receive them. We have faith that God will lead us in the right direction and to the right person...according to His own schedule and in accordance with His own plan for all of us.

In Christ,  
Scott Sabo, PNC Chair  
On behalf of the PNC Committee of the Absecon Presbyterian Church

\* \* \* \* \*

**The church office will be closed Monday in observance of Labor Day.**

\* \* \* \* \*

September 10 is Rally Day and we should all know what that means...time to get back into our regular schedule!! Breakfast will be served at 8:30. Children and adults will meet in Madden Hall from 9:00-9:45 for our new Bridges program or adults can attend Sunday School class with Vic & Anna Mae leading. Refreshments will be served in Madden Hall before worship at 10:00.

Rock Solid, a new program for middle and high school youth will meet Mondays from 4:45p-7:15p beginning Sept. 11, and King of Kings returns the following day meeting on Tuesdays from 4:15p-7:00p. Chancel Choir, Women's' Circles, Lunch Bunch, Evergreens, etc. are all getting back on track.

Now is the time to get back into the swing of things. Or try something new!

\* \* \* \* \*

Chiz Rider Concert Tickets for our Saturday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> Congregational Event are now available - \$15/Adult, \$5/18 & Under (includes concert & Roast Pork Dinner) See Joanie in the vestibule **before** worship, or call 641-1839. Planned by your Fellowship Committee, Priscilla Schultheis, chair.

\* \* \* \* \*

The **Martha Circle** will meet at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, **September 14<sup>th</sup>** at the home of Carol Thomas. All women of the church are encouraged to join us at the time and place that is best for you. Come and join us for study and fellowship.

\* \* \* \* \*

Come join us for an afternoon at the **Cape May Zoo** on Sunday, **Sept. 17!** The van will depart the church at noon and return around 5 pm. We will enjoy the zoo and have a cook out while the kids enjoy the playground! It's a great time, don't miss out. Bring a dish to share.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Outdoor Movie night** will be held on **Friday, September 22**. We will be enjoying the movie "**Sing**" with popcorn, drinks and lots of fun and fellowship. We will meet on the end lot at 7 pm with a campfire!! Don't miss out; bring a friend to this wonderful outdoor event.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Robert is at 85% of his goal for "Bike MS" September 23 and 24, 2017.**  
**Can we help him reach 100%?**

I'm riding in this year's Bike MS: City to Shore Ride, and would love your support in my fundraising efforts!

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body. Symptoms range from blurred vision, loss of balance, poor coordination, slurred speech, tremors, numbness, extreme fatigue, problems with memory and concentration, paralysis, blindness and more. MS is different for everyone, and that makes it all the more challenging to solve.

Believe it or not, pedaling a bike could be the answer to a world free of MS. Mile by mile, dollar by dollar, Bike MS provides much needed funding not only to research, but to ensuring people affected by MS can live their best lives. I just signed up for this year's ride and I'd really appreciate your support in my fundraising efforts.

Your tax-deductible contribution will help the National MS Society fund groundbreaking research and life-changing programs for people living with MS. And ultimately, end MS forever.

Thank you so much!

Robert Mellon

[Click here to visit my personal page.](#)

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Wellness Shot Clinic**

Rite Aid is partnering with Absecon United Methodist Church in offering wellness shots on two different dates this fall!

Shots will be offered on: Tuesday, September 26, from 1 to 3 p.m., and Thursday, October 19, from 5 to 7 p.m.

  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
GET YOUR  
FLU SHOT**

The following shots will be offered: Flu, tetanus booster, shingles vaccine, pneumonia, and MMR booster for those born after 1957. Children can receive shots with a prescription from doctor.

***Bring insurance card and ID.***

Any questions, call Donna Hill at 609-645-2413.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church**

**Favorite Recipes  
Appetizers**

**\$8.00 per copy**

Available for purchase at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Center.  
603 New Jersey Avenue, Absecon  
or email [SEASrecipes@comcast.net](mailto:SEASrecipes@comcast.net) or phone 652-0073

Includes 350 taste-tempting easy-to-prepare appetizer recipes.  
Free e-Book included with each purchase.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN FOR ATLANTICARE HOSPICE**

**AtlantiCare Hospice and Palliative Care  
is having a  
Hospice Volunteer Training  
Saturday, September 23, 2017  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Volunteers visit patients who live in the vicinity of the volunteer's home or place or work. Time commitment is once a week for a few hours to provide companionship to patient/caregiver, or to stay with the patient to allow the caregiver respite. Visits are scheduled by the volunteer to accommodate the volunteer's schedule. AtlantiCare Hospice provides excellent end-of-life care and a volunteer is an important part of our team.

The training will be held at the hospice office in the Airport Commerce Center, 6550 Delilah Road, Suite 210, Egg Harbor Township.

To register or for more information, please call Kathleen Donadio at 609-407-2026 or Maureen Hope in the Volunteer office at 609-404-7477.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Sunday Servants

Lay Assistant  
David Burgess

Head Ushers  
Vic & Rita Abelson

Deacons Guest Book  
Laurie McManus

Offering  
Joan Nale, Franklin Nale

Nursery  
Gloria Achamizo

Van Driver  
John Channell

Refreshments  
Fellowship Committee

### Please Remember in Prayer

Carol Jorgensen	Barbara McLaughlin	Dee Heil
Jim Mong	Joan & David Smith	Bob Gillis & Family
Mildred Felsberg	Gus & Doris Steele	Ethel Washington
Taylor	Isaac Umoren	Ruth Bird
Russ Adkisson	Monica	Carol DeLaurentis
Nicholas	Barbara Hughes	Jaynie Perry
Ferd Morgan	Dottie Hanlon	Fran McManus
Cathy Guenther	Jordan Torjussen	Joanna Howell
Virginia Loeb	Susan Little	Ruth Carmen
Robin McBrearty	Chuck Inman-Sergott	Rose Scott
Betsy Cunius	Kayla Storr	

Victims of Hurricane Harvey and other natural disasters  
Christians in Pakistan & the Middle East, People of South Sudan  
Pastor Udo, his Churches & all Christians in Nigeria  
Conflict and unrest throughout our nation and around the world

### This Week in Our Church . . .

Sunday

9:45 Hymn Sing  
10:00 Worship  
11:15 Refreshments

Monday     Labor Day  
Office Closed

Tuesday  
7:00 Session

Wednesday

Thursday  
12:00 Serve at Sister Jean's  
7:00 PNC, chapel

Friday

Saturday  
9:30 Deacons Meeting