

# Absecon Presbyterian Church

## PRESBY BITS AND PIECES

*Sunday, December 31, 2023*

### LUKE 2:46-49

Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. When they saw Him, they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You." And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's house?"



### CHOIR SINGERS

If you would like to be part of our new Choir,  
please see Rick DeKarski after the church service.

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### USHERS AND LAY ASSISTANTS

If you are interested in being an usher,  
please see Mary Bew.

If you are interested in being a Lay Assistant,  
please see Janet Gee.

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### SERVING

#### THIS MORNING:

#### LAY ASSISTANT:

Janet Gee

#### USHERS:

Diane Kleiner and Mary Bew

### ATTENDANCE

#### LAST WEEK:

Worship – 10:30 – 53

Worship - 3:30 - 40

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

at 10:30 In Person or Online  
on APC Facebook page at

[www.facebook.com/  
abseconpresby](http://www.facebook.com/abseconpresby)

### LISA WHITAKER

is with us again this Sunday  
as our Temporary  
Pulpit Supply Minister

### SERMON TITLE:

“Pondering Our Story  
for Future Generations”

Psalm 139:1-3, 23-24

Luke 2:15-19

Luke 2:46-51

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## **ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**

Wednesday mornings at 11:00 am with Rita Abelson

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 with Tina Harvey

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## **LISA WHITAKER'S FALL TRAVELS AND MINISTRY**

Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00

At the Absecon United Methodist Church

Lisa will be sharing about her fall travels and ministry.

All are welcome. Light snacks will be provided.

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## **BLOOD DRIVE**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

1:00 pm - 6:00pm

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## *Prayers of the People*

Each week the people of God at APC join in prayers of thanksgiving, praise and petition to pray as one community for needs in the church. Praying for others keeps our focus outward and opens us up to know the will of God in our own lives. Consider making these prayer lists part of your daily prayer life. Doing so, may just help your feelings of isolation. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit brings others, even strangers, closer to you.

### *Please Keep These Requests In Prayer*

**The prayer book is on the table in the vestibule by the side entrance to the sanctuary.**

**Please write any requests/praise items you wish to be included in prayer during worship.**

Keep in mind that Facebook comments and requests read by the minister during worship are being recorded for broadcast and can be heard by the general public worldwide. For the privacy of those you are praying for, consider using just a first name or making your prayer requests general in nature.

- † For victims of gun violence and their families
- † Peace in Ukraine, Middle East and other countries experiencing conflicts.
- † For God's guidance as we continue the process of calling a new pastor.
- † Members of our armed services.
- † For confidence to know that in the struggle, God is with us.
- † For renewed commitment to God's purpose in us all.
- † For us to come together in the bond of self-giving love.
- † For renewed energy in finding our place in God's church,  
as people who pray, share and volunteer.
- † For wisdom and discernment when facing the unknown.
- † For God's church to embrace the poor and marginalized,  
to see God's image and be God's image in this broken world.
- † For a revival in our faith to live boldly for God's Kingdom.
- † For these individuals and families in acute need right now who are connected to your church in Absecon.
- † For those on our standing prayer list and for the needs of your church not listed here, including those intentions held in our hearts and those shared in the comments of Facebook.

**For these the individuals and families in acute need right now who are connected to your church in Absecon:**

Skip and Sarah Belino, Kathy Bordanora, Maddie Caracozzo, The Carpenter Family, Chip Channell, Don Croneberger, Robin Deaver, Julie Dougherty, Jerry Falivene, Cathy Follansbee, Wendy Garwood, Christopher Green, Carol and Dave Guenther, Margareta Gustafasson, John Harvey, Jack Heil, The Hughes Family, Carol Johnson, Susan Lobrano, Bob Kitchell, Walter Koteles, Sr. Carol McDowell, Jim McManus, Sam Mitchell, The Morris Family, Lisa Nagle, Betty Price, Jan Rogiers, Minerva Stadlmeir, Dave Stebbins, Judy Stebbins, Sandy Sylvester, Ann Marie Taggart, Stan Weir, The Family of Doug Winkler, Bill Young.

**Continued prayers always for:**

Rita Abelson, Kathy Boyte, Edith Budd, Emilia Carboy, Lucy Cronberger, Darryl, Khristen and Quetin, Olga Davies, Carol DeLaurentis, Jean Delesantro, Marie C. and Carmen Devece, Gail Driscoll, Kavonna and Essence, Dorie Keener, Eric Lajeuness, Aiden and Wendy Licolli, Marge Loeb, Robin McBrearty, JoAnn Morgan, Essie Newell, Rob Perry, Joyce Pfeiffer, Marilyn Rosado, Irene Smith, Georgina Umoren, Mary Umoren and Family, Ethel Washington, Frances Weir, Dirk Williamson

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### **PRAYER SHAWL GROUP**

The Prayer Shawl Group meets the first Saturday of every month at 9:30am in Madden Hall. All are invited who enjoy knitting or crocheting or who would like to learn.

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**Please join us for**

### ***Coffee Mingle***

All are welcome to gather in Madden Hall following Sunday worship.

Brought to you by your Church Family and Fellowship Committee.

Help is needed with set up, clean up, and providing baked goods, cookies, etc.

If you are able to assist in any way please sign up on the clipboard in the vestibule.



## Deposit made on December 22, 2023

### General

Envelopes Undesignated (includes Loose Offerings)	\$329.73
Envelopes Designated	\$780.00
Initial Offering	
Per Capita	
Energy	
Christmas Flowers	
Online - Undesignated	
Online - Designated	
Online - Energy	
<b>General Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$1,109.73</b>

### Benevolence

Envelopes Undesignated (includes Loose Offerings)	\$37.90
Envelopes Designated	\$30.00
Mission Bouquet	
Gift to the Magi	\$60.00
<b>Benevolence Total</b>	<b>\$127.90</b>

### Capital Expenditures

Envelopes Undesignated (includes Loose Offerings)	\$11.37
Envelopes Designated	\$240.00
Online - Undesignated	
Online - Designated	
<b>Capital Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$251.37</b>

<b>Combined Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$1,489.00</b> <hr/>
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# Word Search Puzzle

From WhenWeWordSearch.com

Words in a straight line left to right or top to bottom

December 31, 2023

**LUKE 2:46-49**



Words in the puzzle are printed in **bold italics**

Then, after three *days* they *found* Him in the *temple*, *sitting* in the *midst* of the *teachers*, both *listening* to them and asking them *questions*. And all who *heard* Him were *amazed* at His *understanding* and His *answers*. When they saw Him, they were *astonished*; and His *mother* said to Him, “*Son*, why have You *treated* us this *way*? *Behold*, *Your father* and I have been *anxiously looking* for You.” And He said to them, “Why is it that you *were* looking for Me? Did you not *know* that I had to be in My Father’s *house*?”



**OLGA DAVIES**

Olga's eyesight is failing.  
If you would like to call or visit,  
her new address is:  
Meadowview Nursing Home Room #182A  
Northfield, NJ 08225  
609-645-5595

**MARGE LOEB**

If anyone would like to send Marge a card, her new address is:  
Marge Loeb, Floral Creek Room 25A  
600 Township Line Road, Yardley, PA 19067

**DON CRONBERGER**

If anyone would like to send Don a card, his new address is:  
Don Cronberger, c/o Spring Home at Galloway Room D9,  
Galloway, NJ 08205

**MINERVA STADLEMEIER**

If anyone would like to send Minerva a card, her new address is:  
Minerva Stadlemeier, c/o Seashore Gardens Room 257B  
Galloway, NJ 08205

**American Red Cross**

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



**Blood Drive**  
**Lolla Chiropractic Center**  
**Absecon Presbyterian Church**

Hall  
208 New Jersey Ave.  
Absecon, NJ 08201

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**  
**1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: Lolla Chiro to schedule an appointment.

**Share your heart! Come give in Feb. for a \$20  
Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See [rcblood.org/heart](https://rcblood.org/heart)**

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

©2017 The American National Red Cross

[853] - Order ID: 1513077 - Item ID: 745565 - Qty: 1 of 1 - US774 - 2023-APL-1137 - APR2 - 25648



# Sister Jean's Food & Clothing Pantry

**Believe it or not, the otherwise helpful government program SNAP, does not cover these essentials!?!**

**There is a big demand for dish soap and toilet paper and other cleaning products. They need the sizes for home use, not bulk containers as these are for individuals. Even just grabbing a few items at a dollar store will help. Don't forget dish cloths and sponges... you know, the essentials.**





Please help  
replenish our  
homemade soups  
and breads for  
our shut-in  
members.

— — — — —  
| LABEL your soups and breads and |  
| please, DO NOT use nuts in your |  
| receipes as many people have an |  
| allergy to them. |  
| Please put DATE on label. |  
— — — — —



## Tips for Healthy Eating on a Budget

*Get the biggest nutrition bang for your buck*

- **Plan out a few meals** for the week and make your shopping list based on these ingredients.
- **Choose meatless meals.** Plant proteins such as beans and tofu are generally more affordable than meats and fish.
- **Don't shop on an empty stomach.** Munch on a piece of fruit or some nuts before entering the store.
- **Allow for flexibility in your shopping list** if fresh produce or poultry and fish are on sale, purchase extra quantities and freeze them for later use. Meats, fish, bananas, berries, avocados, broccoli, cauliflower, and corn freeze well.
- **Purchase nonperishable foods in bulk.** It may cost more up-front to buy "family-sized" products like whole grains, lentils, and dried beans, but the cost per unit is usually cheaper.
- **Buy store-brand items.** They're generally cheaper because less money is spent on advertising and fancy food labels.
- **Use what you have before buying more.** Take inventory of all the food in your kitchen twice a month. Bring forward the buried items and plan meals based on these ingredients.

### Low cost, nutritious foods:

#### Proteins

Beans, Peas, Lentils (dried, frozen, canned)  
Canned fish (tuna, salmon, sardines)  
Lean ground turkey, Chicken thighs (remove the skin)  
Peanut butter, Low-fat cottage cheese  
Tofu, Eggs

#### Produce

Leafy greens (kale, collards)  
Whole heads of lettuce or cabbage  
Broccoli, Radishes, Carrots  
Apples, Bananas  
Frozen unsweetened fruit  
Frozen or canned vegetables (no salt added)

#### Whole grains and pastas

Store-brand high-fiber cereals (plain shredded wheat, bran)  
Whole rolled oats  
Whole grains (brown rice, millet, barley, bulgur)  
Whole grain pasta

#### Snacks

Peanuts, Popcorn cooked in an air-popper, String cheese

It's not too late  
to get your  
Flu Shot  
Protect Yourself  
and Others

### Free Flu Vaccination

for adults 18 years and older

No appointment  
needed

Walk-In Tuesdays  
9am - 12noon  
201 S. Shore Rd, Northfield

Walk-In 3rd Tuesday  
10am - 12noon  
310 Bellevue Ave, Hammonton

**Pediatric Flu Vaccination**  
for children 6 months – 18 years old  
**Available by appointment.**  
Call 609-645-5933

## Beat the Winter Blues

Feeling sad when the weather and seasons change is common. To beat the winter blues, get moving. 20 minutes of activity four times a week has been shown to lift your mood. Get out in the sunlight or brightly lit spaces, especially early in the day. Set your alarm clock and stick to a sleep routine. Try to spend time with family and friends. Eat healthy foods and avoid overloading on sugar and carbohydrates like cookies and candies.

See a mental health professional if sadness doesn't go away or interferes with your daily life. For mental health resources visit [www.mhaac.info](http://www.mhaac.info). If you or someone you know is struggling or having thoughts of suicide, call or text the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988 or chat at [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org). In life-threatening situations, call 911.

