

# Absecon Presbyterian Church

## PRESBY BITS AND PIECES

*Sunday, April 14, 2024*

### JOHN 21:1-6

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.



### CHOIR SINGERS

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

### 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.

**SERVING  
THIS MORNING:**

**LAY ASSISTANT:**  
Don Wong

**USHERS:**  
Bob and Barb Hudak

**ATTENDANCE  
LAST WEEK:**  
Worship – 46

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
at 10:30 In Person or Online  
on APC Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/  
abseconpresby](http://www.facebook.com/abseconpresby)

**REV. JUDY FIOCCO**

**SERMON TITLE:**  
“The Right Side of the Boat“

John 21:1-19

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## **ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**

Wednesday mornings at 11:00 am with Rita Abelson  
Wednesday evenings will resume on the 24th at 6:30 with Tina Harvey.  
The Study will be on the book of Daniel.

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Every Sunday starting April 14th from 9:15 to 10:15am in Cobb Lounge  
Adult Bible Study will be led by Pastor Judy's husband Larry Jones  
and Elder Gwen Monhollen.  
The first Biblical text they will study is the small but important epistle "Philemon".

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## **GAME NIGHT (For All Ages\*)**

Sunday, April 28th from 7:00 to 9:00pm at the church.  
Please bring a snack to share if you want to munch.  
See Pastor Judy Fiocco or Tina Harvey if you have any questions.

\*Children under 11 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

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## **LIFELINE SCREENING**

Tuesday, May 7, 2024  
One day community health screening event

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## **PRAYER LIST**

Please see the Bulletin for the Prayer list.

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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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## **COFFEE MINGLE**

Please join us!

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.

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## Sunday, March 31, 2024 and March online

### **General**

Envelopes Undesignated (includes Loose Offerings)	\$389.76
Envelopes Designated	\$370.00
Initial Offering - 2024	
Per Capita - 2024	
Energy	
Easter Offerings	
Online - Undesignated	\$2,295.18
Online - Designated	\$19.64
Online - Per Capita	\$4.00
<b>General Total</b>	<b>\$3,078.58</b>

### **Benevolence**

Envelopes Undesignated (includes Loose Offerings)	\$44.80
Envelopes Designated	\$70.00
One Great Hour of	\$125.66
Online - Undesignated	\$263.81
Online - Dividends	\$0.66
Online - Sister Jean's	\$99.96
<b>Benevolence Total</b>	<b>\$604.89</b>

### **Capital Expenditures**

Envelopes Undesignated (includes Loose Offerings)	\$13.44
Envelopes Designated	\$120.00
Online - Undesignated	\$79.14
Online - Designated	
On-line Fund Raiser	
<b>Capital Total</b>	<b>\$212.58</b>

<b>Combined Total</b>	<b>\$3,896.05</b>
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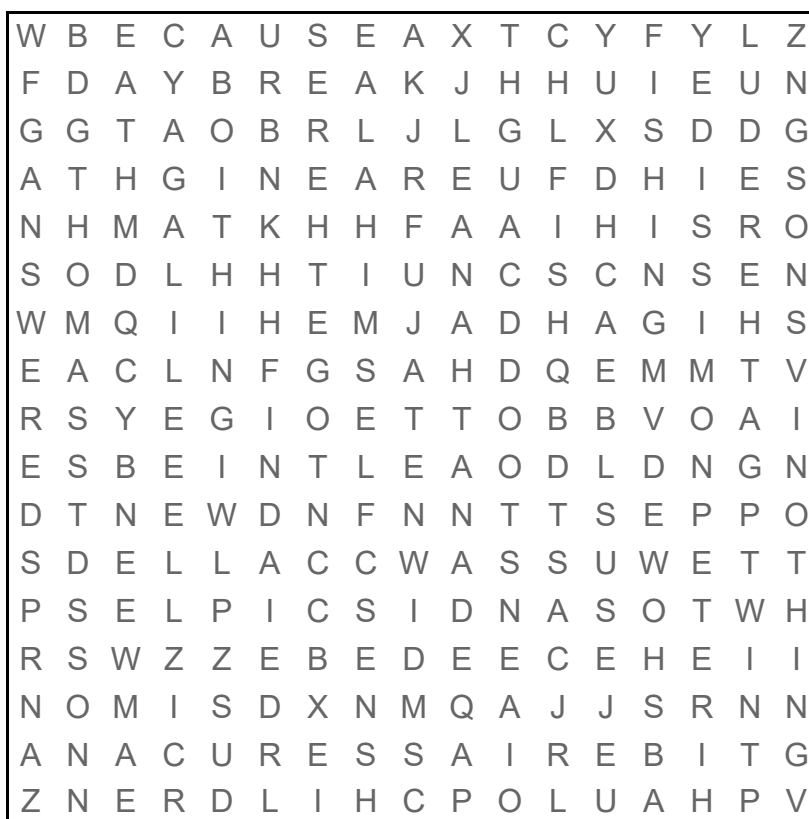
# Word Search Puzzle

From WhenWeWordSearch.com

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

April 14, 2024

**JOHN 21:1-6**



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

After these *things* Jesus *showed* himself again to the *disciples* by the *Sea* of *Tiberias*; and he showed *himself* in this way. *Gathered* there *together* were Simon Peter, *Thomas called the Twin*, *Nathanael* of *Cana* in *Galilee*, the sons of *Zebedee*, and two others of his disciples. *Simon Peter* said to them, 'I am going *fishing*.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They *went* out and got into the *boat*, but that *night* they *caught nothing*. Just after *daybreak*, *Jesus stood* on the *beach*; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, '*Children*, you have no *fish*, have you?' They *answered* him, 'No.' He said to them, '*Cast* the *net* to the right *side* of the boat, and you will *find* some.' 'So they cast it, and now they were not able to *haul* it in because there were so many fish.



**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

# 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. |  
— — — — —



# Peanut Butter and Jam Sandwiches Ministry



**Urgent need for jam!**

**We need volunteers to make sandwiches!**

**We need donations of peanut butter and/or jam!**

*Just leave the jars in the kitchen with a note saying it's for PB&J Ministry.*

**We need donations to purchase fresh bread!**

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*Questions?*

**Please see or call Betty Price at 609 457-5155.**

**Your gifts and/or time will be very much appreciated!**

How fortunate the Church is to have Betty Price and Jo-ann Weller who meet every other Thursday at 8 a.m., in the Church kitchen and make peanut butter and jam sandwiches for the Rescue Mission in Atlantic City. Maybe you could give them a helping hand.

**Be assured, the Rescue Mission patrons appreciate everything that they receive.**



## APRIL IS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

About 18 million adults have an alcohol use disorder (AUD), a condition that applies to people who have strong cravings for alcohol, can't control their drinking, show withdrawal symptoms if they stop drinking, and continue to drink despite health or other alcohol-related problems. AUD can range from mild to severe, and can affect anyone, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, profession, or financial status.

Unfortunately the stigma that still surrounds alcohol use may prevent people from getting the help they need. Stigma refers to the negative thoughts, attitudes, and beliefs about people or groups based on characteristics that set them apart from others, such as mental health conditions including AUD. Stigma can cause people to downplay how often they drink, how much they drink, and the impact drinking has on their life.

**Identify your drinking habits** Excessive alcohol use includes binge drinking and heavy drinking.

- Binge drinking = 5+ drinks for men and 4+ drinks for women within a 2-hour period.
- Heavy drinking = 14+ drinks for men and 7+ drinks for women within a week.

**Understand the dangers of alcohol** Excessive alcohol use increases a person's risk of stroke, liver cirrhosis, alcoholic hepatitis, cancer, and other serious health conditions. It leads to risk-taking behavior, such as driving while impaired and unprotected sex. Alcohol also increases the risk of death from car crashes, injuries, homicide, and suicide.

**If you think you may have a problem** It is important to overcome stigma, be honest about your drinking habits, and seek support from a health care provider. Online screening tools are available to help you understand if you are at risk, visit: [www.cdc.gov/alcoholCheckYourDrinking](http://www.cdc.gov/alcoholCheckYourDrinking)

### Resources for More Information

- \* **Atlantic County Office of Addiction Services**  
609-645-5932
- \* **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)**  
800-604-HELP
- \* **Al Anon 888-944-5678** [nj-al-anon.org](http://nj-al-anon.org)
- \* **Reach NJ (844) 732-2465**  
[nj.gov/humanservices/reachnj](http://nj.gov/humanservices/reachnj)
- \* **Rethinking Drinking**  
[rethinkingdrinking.niaaa.nih.gov](http://rethinkingdrinking.niaaa.nih.gov)

### Help Reduce Stigma

- Avoid negative labels
- Listen without judging
- Treat people with respect
- Be supportive
- Speak up when others use stigmatizing language
- Be kind
- Help educate others
- Share your story

**ATLANTIC COUNTY  
PROUD TO BE  
STIGMA - FREE**

### Words to Avoid

- Alcoholic, Addict, Junkie
- Drug Habit
- Abuse
- Clean/Dirty
- User
- Recovering Addict

### Words to Use

- Person with Alcohol Use Disorder
- Substance use disorder
- Misuse or harmful use
- Actively/not actively drinking/using
- Person in risky use or misuse
- Person in active recovery





My Dear Friends,

For emergency purposes, please put my cell phone # in your phone: 510-548-8125. I was recently talking to someone in our congregation who was hesitant to do so because she didn't want to bother me. Yes, I appreciate you not "bothering me", but in an emergency or crisis situation, do you really think you'll run to your "Bits and Pieces" to find my number?

Also, as we explained to the youth on Friday night, this church is a safe space. Nobody should be made to feel "less than". While I can't monitor every nasty comment myself, if you hear something mean spirited, pause and say a little prayer to figure out what to do about it. Even if you don't respond directly to the ill-mannered speaker, you can always make sure listeners know that their behavior does not represent Absecon Presbyterian Church. Sometimes dementia can make people say something inappropriate. Regardless of what you do in the moment, please tell me. Meanness has no place in God's House!

Finally, we are planning our first Game Night on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Tina Harvey and I want to provide opportunities for different kinds of games depending on people's tastes. So, whereas some of us enjoy louder parlor games, others may prefer board games. Hopefully, we'll have enough people so that all can find others with whom to play. We are seeking to provide fun and fellowship for this flock.

God bless you All!

Your Pastor, *Judy*