

**CONNECTING, GROWING, SERVING, LOVING
AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING
August 2017**

August 1, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been a full summer of worship, preaching a special series on *The Seven Wonders of the Faith* and preparing for the fall bible study on the Parables (see information below). We have had the chance to meet many visitors, and I have enjoyed hearing their comments about the services. Hope you have connected with some of the visitors, too. It makes such a difference when you greet them and say a few words. It makes people feel truly welcomed. Thanks for offering Christian hospitality to everyone!

It has also been great seeing so many visiting children on Sunday mornings at 10. Thank you to the teachers that stepped up to keep children's Sunday school going this summer.

Thanks also to the Thrift Shop and Soup Kitchen volunteers who truly are ambassadors for the church. People in both ministries meet and greet large numbers of visitors (and locals) each week. I don't know how you do it, except by the grace of God, which of course is abundant. Keep up the great work!

I have been meeting with area pastors to talk about things our churches might do

together. We are currently planning to offer a study using a book by former senator John Danforth titled The Relevance of Religion: How Faithful People Can Change Politics. It's available on Amazon. I'll let you know when it will start up. We are also working on a movie series to raise awareness about some of the social justice issues of our time. In October, there's a dinner at St. Peter's Lutheran to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Finally, I am very excited about an invitation to all of us from Susan Warshaw, Rabbi at Temple Bat Yam. She has invited us to a special service and dinner, also in October. It's called *Simchat Torah* and involves unrolling the Torah (the scroll of the first 5 books of the Bible) and joyfully carrying it around the congregation. I will provide more details closer to the time, but mark your calendars for Friday, October 13th. Since we have so many active retirees in our congregations, we are hoping that these events, plus others that are being planned by church members at Atlantic will draw more people into the life of the church. It's all a work in progress, so keep praying and thinking about what God might have in store for all of us.

Continue to have a blessed summer and be safe! Blessings, Pastor Patty

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...
BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR PATTY
RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER**

The sessions will be held on Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The study will begin on 9/20/2017 and finish on 11/15/2017. There will be an accompanying preaching series beginning on Sunday, September 24th.

Pastor Patty will incorporate learnings and pictures from her recent trip to the Holy Land to offer a backdrop for the places and traditions that were in place in Jesus' time. These places and traditions are very much a part of the stories he told.

As one writer says, "the parables of Jesus are among the greatest and most picturesque lessons in all his ministry". They also can challenge us greatly because they can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

Are you ready for what could be a wonderful spiritual journey to new understandings of Jesus and his teachings?

Study materials will be provided at each session. Bring a favorite bible if you have one.

If you haven't attended bible study in a while, you may really enjoy this chance to delve deeper into some of Jesus' greatest and challenging teachings. Mark your calendars to join us. Contact Pastor Patty at pastorpatty@atlanticumc.org with any questions.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Finding Joy

When you think about it, the Bible never really tells you how to be happy. It just encourages you to be joyful. Contentment and joy go hand in hand because they're both based on gratitude. Comparisons crush joy! Joyful people aren't jealous ("I want what

you have!") or envious ("I can't have it, so you shouldn't either!"). And while they may not have the best of everything, content folks make the best of everything. That's the starting point for joy.

Joyful people understand the truth of Psalm 24:1: "The earth is the Lord's, and fullness thereof." They know God owns it all and that they are stewards of His good gifts. Trusting Him to meet their needs eases the stress that can steal joy. If they get that right, they know everything else will fall into place.

That's why joyful people see themselves through God's eyes. They just serve an audience of one. One way to serve him is to forgive. Forgiveness leads to pure joy because we are never more like Jesus than when we forgive others—and ourselves (Ephesians 4:32).

Joyful people are givers. But they don't just give their money. In fact, for many joyful people, investing their time and talents is more fulfilling than sharing their treasure. The Bible says, "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones" (Proverbs 17:22). If you're feeling a little dry these days, shower yourself in the joy that only God can provide. It's good for what ails you. *Stewardship Committee*

MESSAGE FROM JUNE TODD

On Sunday, August 6th, we will welcome the Wills Family as our guest singers. Some of you may remember the Parker Productions with Bill as Prospector Parker and the children's theater. They also had a Dinner Theater at the Carousel. I played for them for a few years. Our own friend, Frieda Bruce was a nun in Parker Production's "The Sound of Music". Sue and Jennifer sang in the church choir for many

years. Our Christmas pageants were amazing under Sue's direction. Bill & Sue now live in Florida and are still active with their "Presidents and First Ladies" tour. Jennifer went on to Broadway and starred as Christine in "the Phantom of the Opera". See you on August 6th, 10:00 service as we welcome the Wills Family.

MARTHA CIRCLE - JACKIE STERLING

The Martha Circle will be holding its first meeting, after our summer break, on Tuesday, September 12th at 11:45 in Tilghman Hall. All women and friends are invited to join us. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. This promises to be another busy year for us. We will be helping with the annual women's retreat in October at Camp Pecometh on Oct. 10th and 11th. In November, we will host the annual Christmas Bazaar. It will be held Friday, November 10th from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, November 11th from 10:00 - 2:00. This is the first year we will be open Friday night, and a pasta dinner will be available for purchase. More to come about the bazaar from our chairwoman, Brenda Wimperis. Please plan on joining us September 12th.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

We are always in need of pictures for the website, newsletter, bulletin boards, etc. When you are attending events at AUMC, volunteering in the many ministries or group events at AUMC, get your smartphone out and take a picture. Just email the pictures to the Church office

atlanticumc@atlanticumc.org

***Articles for the September edition of "Here's What's Happening" are due August 25th.**



**Friday, November 10th
& Saturday November
11th**

**AUMC 39th Annual Christmas
Bazaar**

Sponsored by The Martha Circle

Meetings & Special Events

**Meeting times are subject to change; committee chairs will notify members of meeting cancellations.*

August 14 – 6:30pm – SPRC

August 15 – 5:30pm – Finance

August 22 – 6:30pm – Administrative Council

September 5,6,7,8, 9 - AA Sessions

Tilghman Hall – morning/afternoon

September 11 – 4:00pm Worship Team

September 11 – 6:30 pm Trustees

September 12 – 11:45 am –

Martha Circle

September 14 – 6:30pm – Leadership Development

September 20 thru November 15 – Bible Studies with Pastor Patty

September 26 – 6:30pm –

Administrative Council

October 10,11 – Women’s Retreat – Camp Pecometh

October 26 – 7:00pm- Charge Conference

August & September Birthdays

August 1 - Nola Beadenkopf

August 4 - Patti James

August 5 - Mary Price

August 11 - Delores Cook

August 17 - Robert Nock, Sr.

August 17 - BO Spicer

August 18 - Beth Truitt

August 22 - Peg Ewancio

August 25 - Amy Morgan

August 27 - Billie Wall

September 2- Darlene Prejean

September 6 - Bill Jones

September 6 - Linda Jones

September 7- Maura Vlachos

September 8 - Bob Johnson

September 9 - Mike Trivits

September 11 - Helen Trivets

September 15 - Candace Allen

September 17 - Cliff Berg

September 17 - June Todd

September 23 - Tim McGuire

September 24 - Ed Montgomery

September 26 - Joe Cain

September 30 - Diane Kleinfelter



