

AUMC

A Community in Faith Where Active Adults Can Grow and Thrive

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

April, 2018

Friends in Christ,

I recently had the opportunity to understand personally what it means to listen to Jesus. Preaching the series of this title and hearing about those who knew and responded to Jesus in scripture, I became more aware of the need to do this as a daily routine.

A few weeks ago, on a routine Tuesday as I rounded a corner near home, a car strayed from its lane coming directly into mine. For a split second, I was sure we were going to hit head on. I swerved to avoid it and wound up in a ditch. Once in the ditch, I realized I was headed for a brick wall. I believe in my panicked state there was one lucid moment where I heard a voice in my head say, "break gently". I listened, gently put my foot on the break, and avoided hitting just before impact. When the car stopped, I was shaken but unharmed. I thanked God for being with me since I am convinced the voice I heard was God's. At that point no one else was in sight. The other driver was long gone. I had a moment to be deeply grateful that I listened to the "still small voice" inside my head.

Having lucid/calm moments in the midst of daily struggles is a gift that I attribute to God and God's grace. It's the lucid moments that keep us steady and moving forward. It's the lucid moments that can keep us from harm, and from harming others with our words and actions. The season of Lent prepares us for troubling times. It causes us to take time out to reflect on God's provision, and to listen for God's voice. Through practicing the presence of God during the calm times, we are ready to depend on God when life throws curve balls at us.

Easter is a glorious season for Christians! We celebrate God with Us – God who loves us and walks with us in our troubles. As the old hymn goes, "there are some things I may not know, there are some places I can't go, but I am sure of this one thing, that God is real for I can feel God deep within" (Kenneth Morris, *Yes, God is Real*). God's Easter people proclaim - Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! May this teaching of our faith be real for you. May it provide a sense of assurance as you continue your journey in faith. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

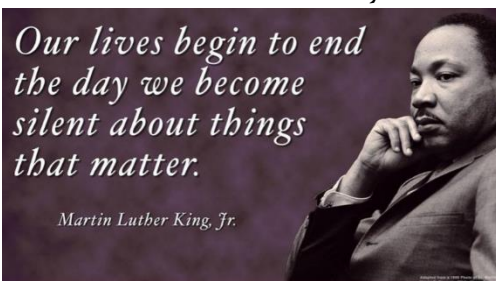
Pastor Patty



The CURE group organized the *Your Neighbor's Religion* series to build bridges of understanding among people who may not know much about each other. Though all sessions were well attended and meaningful, the final session at the Delmarva Islamic Society in Salisbury was especially uplifting. Members of the society were very welcoming. Their religious teacher or *Imam* taught us about *The Five Pillars of Islam*, which include offering peace to others, visiting people when they are sick and helping people when they are in need. We heard that several women of the mosque work behind the scenes to keep things going, for example, calling a plumber when needed and making sure there are snacks for fellowship. Not so different from what many women do in our churches! To honor their traditions, we removed our shoes and women wore head coverings. After the presentation, participants were invited to ask questions and meaningful dialogue took place. The members of the society thanked us for taking the time to attend. It was a blessed evening. Thank you to everyone from Atlantic UMC who made time to learn something new about our neighbor's religion.



The next event offered by the CURE group is a prayer breakfast honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the 50th anniversary of his death. It will be held on Saturday, April 7th at Holy Savior Catholic Church in Ocean City. The cost is \$10.00 per person. See the flier later in the newsletter for more information. Please call the church office for tickets.



LEAD TEAM UPDATE

Pastor Patty

One of our first quarter goals is to expand ways to get the word out about Atlantic United Methodist Church. For Easter we asked everyone in the congregation to use a prepared postcard to invite friends and neighbors to our services. We also ran advertisements for the services in the local newspapers and included information on the front page of our website. We are seeking someone to help with updating website information and pictures – training will be provided. Let the office know if you are interested.

As another way of boosting communication, we asked you to complete a *Servant Ministry Program, Time, Talent and Interest Survey*. Results have been tallied and you will be hearing from ministry leaders soon. In the meantime, 9 of you checked the box to help with special mailings. This is great news! We will be in touch with you soon. If you didn't have a chance to complete a survey, it is available on our website (atlanticumc.org). If you complete it on the website the results will be sent directly to the church office. If you would rather complete a hard copy, it is included later in the newsletter. Thank you!

Another first quarter goal is to offer fellowship activities that may be of interest to you and the wider community. These are great ways to connect new people to the church. The survey was also very helpful in this regard. Some of you are interested in a golf group; we hope to start one in the spring. Some of you are interested in a book club; we are working on making that a reality. We also had a very good response in the "help with fun events category". You'll be hearing from us when your services are needed!

A special event that just finished was the *Lenten Scriptures Art Class* led by Christy Powell. Attendees shared it was fun, relaxing and encouraging. It was so successful that Christy plans to offer another one this summer!



The annual Thrift Shop Bag Sale had a lot of helpers. I went in to see what it was all about and wound up sorting donations. It's interesting what you learn about people while doing something worthwhile. This was the crew in the back.

Nancy, Kaaren and Linda sort through all the generous donations – of every kind it seems!



Another fellowship event coming up in June is the annual bus trip to Sight 'n Sound. Bill and Linda Jones are thrilled that the bus is almost full! If you want to come, better make your reservation soon!

As you know an objective this year is for Atlantic UMC to build on its strength in connecting with active adults. Active adults come in many ages and sizes, and they are the group that seems most interested in connecting with Atlantic. For the first quarter, we are focusing on communication and fellowship. It seems to be working since we have new active adults connecting through the Thrift Shop and Fellowship events. Lately, it has been my joy to welcome returning visitors at both services. They share they feel at home here. A few are already helping in the Thrift Shop and Friday Soup Kitchen. Please be sure to greet our visitors on Sunday mornings. You might just make a new friend!

Lead team members will provide these updates and more at the worship services on April 8th. If you have questions, please contact any Lead Team member: Debbie Collins, Dan Geary, Grace Hoption, Jean Marx and Larry Yates. The Lead Team thanks you for your support and encouragement!

BELL CHOIRS – BILLIE WALL, DIRECTOR

April is here, the glorious Easter morning has come and the " Lord Is Risen! He is risen indeed!" What wonderful words to shout so all this world can know the excitement of those early Christians who were eye witnesses to the horror of the crucifixion and frightened by the sight of the empty tomb. The joy of knowing that the tomb was not the end, but the beginning of the glory of our Savior has continued to bring joy, adulation, and peace to a world so in need. As we celebrate this season in the Christian year with trumpets, voices and instruments we, the Handbell Choirs of Atlantic thank you all for the support and encouragement that you so willingly give to our choirs.

We will be playing for services in April, May and June. We, as always, can use more ringers and will continually pray that someone's heart will be opened to the idea of joining us in ringing with joy!

May the early days of spring warm your heart and bring peace to you and yours.
God's Blessings, Billie Wall, Director, Handbells

CHANCEL CHOIR – JUNE TODD

A sincere thanks to the choir for the faithful attendance during the Lenten season. We will continue to rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:00pm until the end of May,

The Worcester County Choral Workshop will be held at Community Church on April 21. The concert, open to the public will be Sunday, April 22 at 3:00pm. Several of our choir members will be participating.

Have a Blessed Spring, June Todd

MARTHA CIRCLE – JACKIE STERLING



Martha Circle treated Berlin Nursing Home Residents, celebrating March birthdays, to a very special birthday party, including gifts, food and a fun sing-a-long.

Martha Circle will be meeting Tuesday, April 10th, at 11:45 in the fellowship hall at church. All ladies are invited. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages and desserts will be provided.

Our hostesses for the month will be Linda Jones and Joan Strang. Officers for the fall have been elected; they are as follows: President Brenda Wimperis, Vice President, Jackie Sterling, Secretary, Sharon Rutherford, and Treasure, Donna Berg.

We continue to work Monday mornings upstairs working on crafts for the bazaar. You don't have to be crafty to help out. Come any time after 10:00.

Blessings, Jackie Sterling

MISSIONS – BILL JONES

Thrift Shop

In mid-March we successfully had our semi-annual Bag Sale and Shop Turnover. We were thrilled that about 30 people helped with various aspects of the weeks activities and we have a great start to the Spring season. Many thanks to everyone who helped and to the 43 people who have signed up to work various shifts at the shop. The greatest blessing that we have seen so far is that everyone seems to be having fun, working in the shop, and that's really what this is about.

Cold Weather Shelter

The exceptionally cold and dreary winter has caused the Shelter to be open an excessive number of nights. Luckily resources and volunteers have been available to open the shelter when needed. This year we have seen as many as 22 guests come to the shelter for protection. This has far exceeded our normal 10-12 guests and has certainly tested everyone. But God provides so the shelter has been there when needed. Our thanks to those Atlantic UMC members who have contributed in any way to this year's success.

Fellowship Connection

Our next activity is the June 7th Sight-and-Sound Bus Trip to see the show "Jesus". We have received some feedback that this may be the best production ever at this theater. We are accepting reservations for the trip via a signup board in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for the trip is \$113 per person which includes the bus, a stop at Kitchen Kettle, lunch at Hershey Farms Restaurant and the show. It is a great day so sign up soon. We have a limit of 50 seats and we expect to fill the bus.



Spring Clean-up Update

Thanks for helping clean-up and organize storage areas around the church. Removal of items on the top shelves in the double door closet was necessary to comply with fire code regulations regarding the sprinkler heads.

With much help from several congregants, Spring Clean-up began two-weeks ago in the kitchen and closets. We found several things that were broken or missing parts, and they were, well you guessed it, disposed of. There may be other non-functioning items around and the lower cabinets in the kitchen need attention.

The task now is to complete labeling containers and shelving in the double door storage area to accommodate the needs of the many ministries. The next and continuing task is to maintain the organization of these areas. Drawers, cabinets, and shelves are labeled as to their contents.

Since the available storage space for the kitchen, scullery and closets throughout the Church is at a premium, everyone who uses storage space is asked to check supplies and only order what is needed and not over purchase or overstock. Dot will take inventory after all the reorganizing, relabeling, and consolidating is done so adequate supplies of needed items are available.

All suggestions are welcome as to how to consolidate. Please pass along your thoughts to Dot Simpson or a member of the Trustees.



Mid-March was a very busy time at the AUMC Thrift Shop. Thanks to our many volunteers we had a very successful bag sale, turnover, followed by a very successful Grand-Reopening.
Thank you for supporting this ministry!





ATLANTIC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"A Community in Faith Where Active Adults Can Grow and Thrive"

SERVANT MINISTRY PROGRAM - TIME, TALENT AND INTEREST SURVEY

Please Share with us your skills, gifts, talents and interests.

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
 Cell Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please place an X in the box next to the area(s) of ministry/volunteer service and spiritual development in which you would like to participate.

WORSHIP: Usher Greeter _Worship Leader _Collect Offering Connector
 _Prepare Sanctuary for Service _Communion Steward Communion Server
 _Chancel Drama

MUSIC: Chancel Choir Soloist Vocal _Instrumental Instrumental Ensembles
 Play an Instrument Which Instrument(s): _____
 _Accompanist Which Instrument(s): _____

NURTURE AND CARE: _Member of Nurture & Care Team _Home Visitation of Shut In's _Quick Response Team (cares for church members in various ways) (emergency meals, transportation & other needs of members)

SUPPORT GROUP(S): Coastal Hospice Grief _Divorce Women's Retreat _Men's Retreat
 Other: _____

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: _Member of Education Team _Sunday School Assistant
 _Vacation Bible School _Disciple Bible Study _Small Group Bible Study _Leader

COMMUNICATION: _Member of Communication Team **OUTREACH:** Member of Outreach

FELLOWSHIP: Member of Fellowship Team Golf League _Book Club Fun Events
 _Supper Club (Quarterly Supper with Other participating couples at different homes and participants each quarter)

STEWARDSHIP: Member of Stewardship Team

GROUP MINISTERIES: _Martha's Circle _Children/Youth Ministries Donna Holdren Prayer Shawl
 Other: _____

LEADERSHIP/ADMINISTRATION: _Church Admin Council _Trustees _SPRC Finance
 _Leadership Development (Nominations) Missions Help in Nursery

FUND RAISING & REOCCURRING MISSIONS EVENTS: Weekly Soup Kitchen Annual Soup Sales
 Annual Holiday Bazaar _Call me when an event comes up – Dinners, Breakfasts, Picnics, etc. _Thrift Shop
 _Back Pack Program _Shepherds Crook Food Pantry _Cold Weather Shelter

STAFF SUPPORT: _Office Volunteer _Help with Special Mailings _Copy Materials _Help Fold Bulletins
 _Computer Support

Meetings & Special Events

Saturday, April 7 – 8:00am – Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast –
Monday, April 9 – 6:30pm – Trustees
Tuesday, April 10 – 11:45am – Martha Circle
Friday, April 13 – 11:00am – 1:00 Soup Kitchen Resource Day
Saturday, April 14 – Noon – Justice Prayer Walk
Tuesday, April 17 – 5:30pm- Finance
Wednesday, April 18 – 5:30pm – Lead Team
Tuesday, April 24 – 6:30pm – Administrative Council

Recurring Events

MUSIC

Mondays – 6:30pm Atlantic Bell Choir
Tuesdays – 10:00am – Morning Glories
Wednesdays – 7:00pm – Chancel Choir

Bible Studies

Tuesdays-9:30am with Bob Johnson & Jack Moore
Wednesdays – 9:30am with Joe Cain

Missions

Thursdays – 8:30am Backpack
Fridays – 9:30am – Prayer Shawl Ministry
Fridays – 11:00am – 1:00pm – Soup Kitchen

Thrift Shop

Monday thru Saturday – 10:00am – 2:00pm



April 5 - Marci Will
April 7 - Michelle Bankert
April 9 - Grover Collins
April 11- Martha Bennett
April 24 - Kathleen Geary
April 27 - Shirley German
April 29 - Gary Thomas
April 30 - Christine Parks

**The Ecumenical Clergy (Cure) Group of Ocean City
Welcome you to attend
Prayer Breakfast honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
On the 50th Anniversary of his Death**

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Coffee & Conversation: 8:00am

Breakfast: 8:30am

Speaker 10am

Workshops/Discussion 10am-11:15am

**Holy Savior—Fr. Connell Parish Center
1705 Philadelphia Avenue
Ocean City, MD 21842**

Cost:

\$10.00 per person

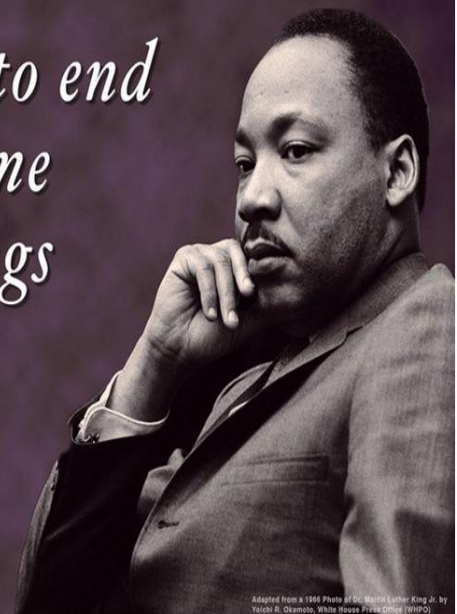
**Tickets are available at
your local Ocean City
Church Office**

Breakfast will include:

**Scrambled & Western Eggs
Pancakes
Biscuits, Cream Chip Beef
Sausage & Bacon
Hash Brown Casserole
Fresh Fruit & Pastry
Coffee, Tea & Juices**

*Our lives begin to end
the day we become
silent about things
that matter.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Adapted from a 1966 Photo of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by
Yoshi H. Okamoto, White House Press Office (WHPO)

ATLANTIC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Community in Faith Where Active Adults Can Grow and Thrive.

Ministries at AUMC:

AUMC Soup Kitchen

AUMC Thrift Shop

Ocean City Elementary Backpack Program

Donna Holdren Prayer Shawl Ministry

Helping Hands Ministry

Chancel Choir

Handbell Choir

Martha Circle

AUMC supports the following community ministries:

Ocean City Crisis Coalition

Community Food Bank

Cold Weather Shelter

AUMC supports these missionaries:

Patrick Whaley, Ukraine Missions

Steve Young, International Student Ministry