

AUMC

A Community in Faith Where Active Adults Can Grow and Thrive

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

December, 2018

Dear Friends,



As I write this the church is preparing again for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. It is difficult to believe how quickly the year has wound down! It is already “the most wonderful time of the year”!

We begin with Advent -the first season of the Christian church year, which includes the 4 Sundays leading to Christmas. One writer says the season of Advent reminds us of what comes from God for the creation of his kingdom on earth. It leads us to keep his coming in our hearts and to shape ourselves according to it. That which is to come from God is the most important thing we have, in the past and in the present as well as in the future. Advent reminds us of this timeless quality of God’s kingdom. For this reason, it is a necessary and beautiful prelude to Christmas.

We will remember the spirit of Advent throughout December, lighting the Advent candles on Sunday mornings and seeing beautiful sanctuary decorations to mark the season. We will also have our annual Christmas Eve service on Monday, December 24th at 7:00 pm. This year we will present a special service that includes readings and carols.

To be in a time of expectant waiting for God is difficult, if not impossible, when we allow ourselves to become all caught up in the consumer frenzy that tends to seep into even the quietest moments of the day. Coming to church, being in God’s holy place, helps us to rejuvenate and resist all the hustle and bustle of the season.

Thank you to all who will help to make this season so special. May we all be renewed and blessed. Most of all, may God be glorified through all that happens at Atlantic United Methodist Church.

A note of thanks...

At this time of year, I like to thank the many people who give so freely of their time and talents to serve God at Atlantic UMC. I see so many of you giving countless hours to serve God through what you do. Your service shows! As we move toward year's end, I especially want to thank those who will be stepping down from the various church committees. Your service has been an invaluable gift to the church and to me as your pastor.

*Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Patty*

Lead Team Update

Greetings from your Lead Team members, Debbie Collins, Grace Hoption, Jean Marx, Larry Yates and Pastor Patty.

As you know in January 2017 the church hired the Rev. Jack Shitama as a coach for one-year. With his help and your feedback, Atlantic developed a one-year strategic plan to build on the church's strength with Active Adults. We have been working hard to implement the plan and Jean will give a report at the first Administrative Council meeting in January. In the meantime, we are thrilled that the adult *Faith & Fellowship Sunday School* class seems to be a hit! There has been great attendance each week since it started. We have seen people from both services having fellowship together before it begins and then staying for the class. We have also had some visitors attend. We are grateful to the facilitators that have stepped up to lead each week. We thank you, the congregation, for your willingness to change worship times in order for this to happen. We realize it may have been an inconvenience, but you have hung in there with us. The plan seems to be working! Thank you again!

Closer to Christmas we will be sending out an invitation to the Oyster Harbor zip code area inviting people to our Christmas Eve service. We are targeting this area because so many of our current attendees come from there. If you live there yourself, this could provide an additional opportunity for you to invite friends and neighbors to church. The bulletin tear-off sheet allows us to track how people found out about the church, and we will continue to monitor if these directed mailings are helping us to connect with new people. Again, we could not do our work without your support. Thank you so much for working with us. If you have any questions about our work, please do not hesitate to speak with one of us. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year!

Kid's Zone

With the departure of our children's Sunday school teachers, you may have noticed that we now have a "KidZone" in the Nursery on Sunday mornings. From 8:15 through 11:30, Ellen Whittemore provides child care. The room has been set up to have "kid corners" for toddlers and children. There are now a TV so that age-appropriate videos can be shown, a craft/coloring table, a computer where simple appropriate games can be played, a reading corner with lots of Bible story books, and toys for toddlers. There is also a pack and play for infants.

We would like to add an I-pad with simple bible games downloaded. If you have an iPad to donate, we will add the games. Young children enjoy playing on the computer and the iPad has a lot of neat age appropriate bible games we can download. If you have one to donate, please let Dot know. We look forward to the time when some new adult volunteers may be led to offer a Sunday school ministry to our children and youth. Until then, we are thankful that Ellen has been willing to expand her ministry to include all children. Please speak with Pastor Patty if you have any questions.



WORCESTER GOLD HELPING HANDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

This Christmas, the Mission Committee is again partnering with the Worcester GOLD Helping Hands for the Holidays program. We are sponsoring 8 children and 6 vulnerable adults this year. There will be a tree in Tilghman Hall with ornaments on it containing the names, ages, sizes and suggested gifts for these people. Feel free to take an ornament for the child or adult that you would like to sponsor. The amount of money that you spend is entirely up to you; but, Worcester GOLD requests that the value of the gifts for each person not exceed \$ 50.00. Please return your wrapped presents to the Christmas tree no later than Sunday, Dec 9th.

If all the names have been taken OR you are unable to get out to shop, there will be a box under the tree for monetary donations. These donations will be given to help Worcester GOLD provide gifts for those clients who have not gotten sponsors.

The Mission Committee thanks everyone for their generous support of this program. We hope that many of you will be able to participate in this very worthwhile program again. Last year your generosity brought many smiles to needy children and grateful Thank You's from struggling adults.

BELLS – BILLIE WALL

And the glory, the glory of the Lord!"

Our Atlantic Bell Choir has not yet mastered any of the selections from *the Messiah*, but we are preparing selections of the season to play in worship as we are able. Did you know? *The Messiah* was written in 21 days! What an achievement and the magnificent oratorio is often performed to begin the season of music and wonder of the birth of the baby Jesus.

May our world be filled with the peace, hope, and joy brought to us on that star bright sky of old. The Atlantic Bell Choir wishes you a very peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Billie Wall, Director Atlantic Bell Choir

MARTHA CIRCLE – BRENDA WIMPERIS



Martha Circle will have a meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 11:45. If you know of a family or person, in our area, that has special needs this holiday season ~ please bring the information with you. We, as a group would love to assist a family at this time of year.

Joanne Waysz will lead us in assembling a special “Cross In My Pocket” ~ a small (easy) craft that we can put together. These crosses will be added into our January “Friends to Remember” mailings.



Our 40th Annual Church Bazaar was a huge success!

We grossed \$16,310.40 ~ a 12 percent increase from last year! Friday night weather became awful ~ rained in buckets! Saturday's weather was perfect for a Christmas Bazaar ~ cold and windy!

Hugs and Thank You to all the area Coordinators ~ Becky

Yates and her crew on Friday night kitchen duty ~ Terry Hopton,

Jim and Ann Kelly, Larry Yates, Gary and Shirley German~ best Ziti Dinner ever; Jackie Sterling and her crew on Saturday ~ Joe and BJ Cain and daughter Melissa, Chuck Strang, Pam Zorn, Bill Sterling, Bob Pugh, Joy (Linda Jones sister), ~ delicious chicken salad and best Vegetable Beef Soup from Joe; Susan Lauer & Joann Waysz for coordinating all the dining room and scullery assistants; Adele Biel and her daughters for taking charge of the ever popular White Elephant; Fran Robinson and her crew for having a most successful Take and Make Christmas supplies; Linda Jones and her helpers for a fabulous Christmas Home Place; Donna Berg and Sharon Rutherford for a most successful Silent Auction; Verla Hamond for a special jewelry sale; Joanne Harner and all the “bakers” for a wonderful Bakery Home Place and Gifts; Joan Strang for taking care of all the Advertising; Dot Simpson and Sharon Rutherford for putting together the Ad Book.

All the helpers who were in the “halls” all week helping set-up ~ Bill Jones, Bill Wimperis, Cliff Berg, Gary & Shirley German, Bill Sterling, Pam Walter, BJ Cain, Nancy Sitskorn, Peggy Timmons, Sara Comley, Charlotte Montgomery, Kaaren Hook and her son Michael, Earl Robinson, Frans daughter ~ Kim; all the additional helpers the days of the bazaar ~ Betty Rose and her daughters & grand-daughter, Bev Steen, Marilyn James, Grace Hoption, Jeff & Becky McArthur, Lisa Harner, Mary Eastman, Jen Albright, Martha Bennett, Pastor Patty; the clean-up and Silent Auction (after) crew: our custodian Mike, Butch & Pam Walter, Wade Walter & friend, Sue Harting and Nancy Thomas.

Most of these people helped the Sunday before the Bazaar to carry down everything from upstairs! I’m sure I’ve missed someone ~ I apologize!

As you can see, it took a “village” to pull off this successful bazaar and we do have a wonderful, willing village of supporters!

A big *Thank You* to everyone!

Brenda Wimperis, President

Martha Circle

MISSIONS – BILL JONES

Thrift Shop

The last couple of weeks have seen a decline in the number of people stopping by the Thrift Shop but we are still pretty busy as the holiday season approaches. Donations continue at a surprisingly high level as people seem to be cleaning out their homes in anticipation of new things. As always, we remain very grateful to the many volunteers who diligently sort, hang and put out the clothes and housewares.

Soup Kitchen

This mission activity continues to be perhaps our most valuable contribution to the community as we serve approximately 75 people each week. At this time of the year we are seeing the people we call “regulars” coming in on Fridays for lunch. In addition to the meal it is a blessing to be able to interact with each of them and to let them know they are cared for.

Holiday Food Boxes

By the time you read this we will have participated in the assembly and distribution of twenty Thanksgiving food boxes to members of our church, Soup Kitchen guests and others who need the extra help with Thanksgiving dinner. We will be repeating this for Christmas by helping with the food box packing on Tuesday, December 18th at 8:30 AM at the Mountaire warehouse in Selbyville. Volunteers will be needed to help get this done. Please report to the warehouse or see me if you would like more information.

OC Cold Weather Shelter

On November 21st, the Cold Weather Shelter opened earlier than anticipated due to the Code Blue situation during the Thanksgiving holiday. Several members of the church have taken the training to help in the shelter and I very much appreciate your involvement. The shelter is always in need to people to either prepare food for up to 20 guests, help with registration from 5:00-7:00 PM, or more importantly to spend the night in the shelter. If you would like information on any of this please talk to me.

TRUSTEES REPORT – LARRY YATES, VICE CHAIR

Trustees continued their due diligence in the maintenance and repairs as needed to the Church building and campus throughout this year without any major issues.

2018 - Capital Improvements:

- Repair and recoat the parking lot.
- Enhancement to, and installation of the ADT fire alarm system.
- Enhancement and installation of emergency panic buttons to our ADT Security alarm system.
- Kitchen use, functionality and storage has long been an issue. We along with stakeholders/users looked at several things to improve the functionality of the kitchen such as adding a utensil/pot rack, pull out shelves in several of the storage shelves areas, replacing several household grade appliances with more sturdy reliable commercial grade items, replacing aluminum stock pots with more functional and sturdier like size stainless steel pots, and rearranging some of the smaller appliances to allow for more counter space and storage space. Storage and functionality remain a concern, we continue to work within our budget constraints and guidelines with the users and help them in any way we can to improve kitchen and storage functionality. The plan is to install more user-friendly items such as additional pull out shelves, replacement of the aforementioned stock pots, additional shelving/cabinetry where possible, etc.

2018 – Repairs:

We had a few instances of normal maintenance issues requiring our attention. Partial roof replacement, dishwasher repair (both items were a bit costly but within budgetary guidelines and restraints), leaking pipes, leaking roof, etc.

All required and identified repairs, except for the following have been completed:

- Double wooden entry doors off fourth street need immediate repair. We have done several repairs, but they do not secure adequately and will only get worse without attention. We have received and approved another repair at the cost of \$2,100.00 We are confident this will fix the problem and working to hopefully complete the repairs within 30 days. The option of replacement of these doors is cost prohibitive at this point, but not out of consideration if needed in the future.

- Emergency Lighting throughout the building needs repair and enhancement. We are evaluating the scope of the work and will be planning with the electrician to have the work done as soon as possible.
- General inspection of all kitchen equipment. All items such as stoves, ovens, dishwasher, refrigerators, freezers, etc. needs to be done to ensure any repairs, or preventative maintenance issues are completed asap to maximize our usage and longevity of the equipment. We are evaluating the scope of the work and will be planning with the appliance representative to have the work done as soon as possible.
- Water leak during heavy rain. Overhang at the Phila Ave parking lot entrance, and at the porch area of the Thrift Shop facing the parking lot, we believe both leaks are coming from the roof area above the overhang. We are evaluating the scope of the work and will be planning with the roof repair representative to have the work done as soon as possible.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

- **Contribution Envelopes** are available in Tilghman Hall. If you do not use or need contribution envelopes, please notify Dot. Stop writing checks - electronic giving is a great option. Contact the church office if you have any questions.
- **Drop your pledge card** off in the designated box in Tilghman Hall or mail to the church office. We would appreciate receiving all pledges by the end of December
- **Christmas mailboxes are in Tilghman Hall.** Everyone is welcome to put Christmas cards in the boxes for the AUMC family to exchange cards. Donate the savings in postage to the church! Wish the church staff a Merry Christmas by dropping a card in the Staff Mailbox.
- **Deadline for Poinsettia orders – December 10th.** Poinsettias will be in place for services on Sunday, December 23rd and Christmas Eve. Order form is included in this newsletter.



SOUP SALES

2019 is fast approaching and the first Soup Sale is scheduled for **Thursday, January 10**. The second sale is scheduled for **Thursday, January 24**. Please sign up for these activities on the sheets posted in Tilghman Hall.

The menu for both January events (January 10 and January 24) is:

- Ham and Bean Soup
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Ham Salad Sandwiches
- Egg Salad Sandwiches

To get ready for January 10 and January 24, below is the schedule for both January Soup Sales.

Friday, January 4, 2019 and January 18, 2019

8:00 AM – Place one sign at the corner of Baltimore Avenue and 4th Street by the marquee on Philadelphia Avenue.

Monday, January 7, 2019 and January 21, 2109

11:00 AM – Accept delivery from supplier.

Cook chicken.

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 and January 22, 2019

9:00 AM – Cook and shell eggs.

Wednesday, January 9, 2019 and January 23, 2019

9:00 AM – Prep chicken and hams for soups.

Chop vegetables.

Make ham and egg salad.

Set up carry out room and dining room.

Thursday, January 10, 2019 (day of sale) and January 24, 2019 (day of sale)

5:00 AM – Start cooking soups.

8:00 AM – Start making biscuits. **Finish by 9:30 AM.**

9:30 AM – Start packaging carry-out orders.

Start making sandwiches.

11:00 AM – Doors open for service. Both Dining Hall and Carry out.

1:00 PM – End sale, clean up.

If you have questions, please contact Becky or Larry Yates at 301-275-2526 or by e-mail at beachcomber201@comcast.net.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 2 - Tom Zimmer
December 4 - Joyce Baker
December 5- Jack Moore
December 6 - Jeffrey James
December 27 - Mary Eastman
December 28 - Fran Phillips
December 29 _ Dave Moquin
December 30 - Chris Klebe
December 30 - Frank Wright
December 31 - Pat Parks
December 31 - Chuck Strang

CHURCH CALENDAR

2019 Soup Sales

January 10
January 24
February 7
February 21

Recurring Events

MONDAYS:

6:30pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal

TUESDAYS:

9:30am - Bible Study with Jack Moore & Bob Johnson

WEDNESDAYS

11:00am – Disciple Study with Pastor Patty

6:30pm - Disciple Study with Pastor Bill

7:00pm – Choral Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAYS:

8:30am – Backpack Program

FRIDAYS:

11:00am – 1:00pm – Soup Kitchen

1:00pm – Donna Holdren Prayer Shawl Meeting

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

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Honor a loved one with a poinsettia and beautify the altar on Sunday, December 23rd and Christmas Eve. Please complete this order form and include cash or your check, payable to AUMC. You may place your order in the offering plate or mail it to AUMC, 105 Fourth St., Ocean City, MD 21842. The cost of each plant is \$7.50. **Deadline is December 10th.**

IN HONOR OF:

(Please print clearly.)

_____ by _____

_____ by _____

_____ by _____

_____ by _____

IN MEMORY OF:

(Please print clearly.)

_____ by _____

_____ by _____

_____ by _____

_____ by _____

2019 Leadership Team

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL	
Chairperson	Maura Vlachos
Lay Leader/Lay Member to Annual Conference	Debbie Collins
Reserve Lay Member	Ed Kriege
Finance Chair	Martha Bennett
Treasurer	Dot Simpson
Staff Parish Relations Chair	Sherry Dare
Trustee Chair	TBD
Martha Circle President	Brenda Wimperis
Missions Chair	TBD
Nurture & Shepherding Chair	Joanne Harner
Recording Secretary	Grace Hoption

OTHER COMMITTEES/MINISTRY AREAS

TRUSTEES		
2021	2020	2019
Jim Kelly	Earl Robinson	Pam Buckley
Grover Collins	Larry Yates	Ed Kriege
Jeff Facello	Tim McGuire	Gary Marshall

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS		
2021	2020	2019
Larry Yates	Sue Harting, Secretary	Sherry Dare, Chair
Carol McGuire	John Trumpower	Terry Hoption
Bill Jones	Tom Zimmer	Kurt Marx
Debbie Collins – Lay Member to Annual Conference		
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT		
2021	2020	2019
Joanne Waysz	Penny Miller	Donna Berg
Pastor Patty Frick, Chair		
Debbie Collins – Lay Member to Annual Conference		

Missions Committee

Bill Jones
 Penny Miller
 Chuck Strang
 Joann Waysz
 Pam Zorn

Finance Committee 2019

Chair, Martha Bennett

Pastor, Patty Frick

Lay Member to Annual Conference, Debbie Collins

Church Council Chair, Maura Vlachos

SPRC Representative, Kurt Marx

Trustee Representative, TBD

Financial Secretary, Ed Kriege

Memorial Fund, Bev Steen

Treasurer, Dot Simpson (employee/non-voting position)

At Large Members

Roger Marino

Carol McGuire

Gary Thomas

Bill or Linda Jones (Thrift Shop Representative)

Finance Sub-Committee:

Adkins Christian Education Endowment Fund: Finance Chair, Council Chair, Pastor

CHRISTMAS

BEGINS WITH

Christ



