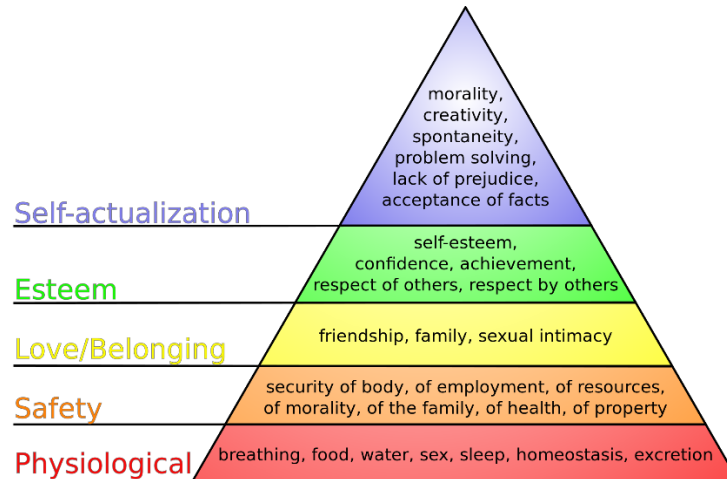


**AUMC**  
*A Community in Faith Where All God's Children Can Grow and Thrive*

*June 2020*

**MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOE**



**Desperately in Need**

Are you aware of this pyramid? If not, let me describe it. In 1943, Abraham Maslow presented a paper entitled “A Theory of Human Motivation.” In his reasearch he detailed a hierarchy of needs that must met in order to go on to the ascended needs.

In his work, he inittally stated that the lower needs must be fully met, then later refined his work to state that the lower needs may be partially met. He wrote in his paper:

“It is quite true that man lives by bread alone — when there is no bread. But what happens to man’s desires when there is plenty of bread and when his belly is chronically filled? At once other (and “higher”) needs emerge and these, rather than physiological hungers, dominate the organism. And when these in turn are satisfied, again new (and still “higher”) needs emerge and so on. This is what we mean by saying that the basic human needs are organized into a hierarchy of relative prepotency” – pg. 375

When these needs are not met, then it may send people into a crisis mode. Let me give you a recent example. In the United Kingdom, there is an alarming rate of attempted suicide among the elderly during this pandemic.

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1287630/suicide-attempts-elderly-people-coronavirus-lockdown>

In the San Francisco area, the suicide rates during this pandemic are approaching the cumulative of a whole year! Along with this, are drug overdoses are on the rise in many areas.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/may/22/bay-area-sees-years-worth-of-suicide-attempts-duri/>

I write this, not to alarm you or anyone concerning your response to this pandemic – no, never! Nor am I blaming the lockdown, or certain political leaders – no!

But, I write this to reveal to you the several reasons why Maslow's pyramid is not applicable:

Jesus and the Bible are correct! We need more than food to survive. In **Matthew 4:4**, Jesus is tempted by Satan to turn the stones into bread (because Jesus had been fasting), but Jesus refuses to satisfy a lower-based need (according to Maslow) in order to fulfill a higher-based.

Jesus quotes **Deuteronomy 8:3** *“Yes, he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. (NLT)* Actually, Jesus fulfills the highest level need, which is self-actualization and specifically, morality. He chooses morality, because He will not succumb to Satan's request to fulfill a basic need.

This defines a powerful dynamic found in the Bible: ***a person can deny themselves of a basic need in order to concentrate on a higher priority need, if fulfilling the basic need violates their morality.*** Hence, we get the purpose of fasting!!

Another example is Jesus' meeting the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well (John 4) and telling her woman, “I AM the messiah” (John 4:26, NLT)). The disciples then return from the nearby town where bought food, and offer some to Jesus. Jesus refuses the food and says, “I have a kind of food you know nothing about” (John 4:32, NLT). Then the disciples ask each other, who gave him food? Did someone

feed him? What was Jesus' response? **John 4:34**<sup>34</sup> Then Jesus explained: "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work." (NLT)

This defines a second powerful dynamic in the Bible: a person can deny themselves of a basic need if sacrificing meets a need for another person. This is why a parent will do without something in order to give to their child(ren). AND, hence, we now get the purpose of the cross – the crucifixion of Jesus!

There is a reason for our masks, social distancing and not holding in-person worship services. It is your sacrifice in order to meet another's need(s)! May the rest of society realize the importance of this.

May God bless you as we continue to feed on the presence of Jesus in our daily lives and never give in to despair, for there is a purpose in everything God is doing!! AMEN

### **Online Worship for Atlantic UMC**

<https://atlanticumc.org/get-connected/worship-services/>

**(just audio, download mp3 file & play)**

<https://www.facebook.com/ATLANTICUMCOC>

**(we will upload to Facebook on Sunday a.m.)**

**Share these links with friends!**

Dear Members and Friends of AUMC,

Atlantic United Methodist Church has been busy preparing for our eventual reopening of Worship in the sanctuary. We are following stringent guidelines set by both the State of Maryland and Worcester County on all uses of our Church, including Worship, Thrift Shop, Soup Kitchen, etc.

We desire to provide the very safest possible environment for attendees, staff, volunteers and patrons. We know that some of you would prefer not to attend Worship services in person when we reopen because of health issues or other circumstances; the good news is that we will continue to post the audio recordings on the Church website, and the video of the worship service on our church Facebook page, so that you can continue to be connected and involved in the life of the church.

We have compiled a very detailed list of safety requirements for each and every use of our Church property, including; thorough cleaning and sanitizing of all areas, safe distancing, masks, hand sanitizers, etc. You will hear more about these procedures in forthcoming communications.

Our hope is to possibly reopen sometime during the month of June. You will receive notification and more detailed information by these means: Pastor Joe's robo call, the Church's website, an email blast and a letter in the mail. This communication will highlight the exact date and times to recommence our worship service and when the Thrift Shop will resume. Please know this! WE ARE NOT IN A RUSH TO REOPEN and we will wait until all persons are reasonably assured it is the right timing, and procedure to reopen. It is our highest aim to give God all the praise and glory, and to serve the Lord with excellence in all things!

We all miss each other and have been eagerly awaiting the privilege of worshipping together once again!

May God bless all of you with good health!

Maura Vlachos, Chair  
AUMC Administrative Council

Rev. Dr. Joseph Barth  
Pastor

## **Monthly Report of Trustees Activities and Work Projects Status Month of June 2020**

### **Board of Trustees of Atlantic United Methodist Church reports the following:**

Hello all. Even though we have not been able to meet and worship or have our buildings and campus open for regular business or worship since March 15<sup>th</sup> we have still been busy attending to the safety and security of our Church.

The facilities are officially closed and admission to the building is controlled and restricted to persons who must enter. Otherwise no one is permitted in the Church building or Thrift Shop.

We dearly miss the opportunity to gather and worship and seeing our church family. We are out of sight but not out of mind!! We anxiously wait to hear the weekly, and sometime more frequent "One Call" messages from Pastor Joe. We enjoy checking on our members by phone or text. It seems everyone is doing ok under these tough circumstances. Hopefully, we will return to some semblance of order sooner than later.

Pastor Joe, June, Mary & Terry continue to facilitate weekly televised worship sessions via the technology of the internet. Even though it is not the same as being in our building with each other, it is nice to have a worship service, they are outstanding and nicely done. Thank you to all who participate and help with these services.

At the writing of this report we are totally prepared, but not quite ready to reopen our Church. We are under the guidelines and directives set forth by the Federal Government, CDC, Worcester County, and Town of Ocean City, and our Conference leadership and Bishop.

The Stakeholder leadership group of the Church has been extremely busy. We have meet by way of Zoom several times. We have formulated a plan to reopen the Church when we believe it is safe to do so and operationally feasible.

We are tentatively looking at around the middle part of June (This is pending). We must not be in a hurry to open. We are moving cautiously and correctly.

Please remember that our plans must follow all Federal, State and Local mandates directing Safety & Health which could change our plans and how we move forward.

You will be receiving correspondence from our Pastor and Chair of Administrative Council as well as from our Stakeholder group detailing all our plans and what you can expect when we return to our Church services on campus.

In the meantime, here is a shorter summary of our detailed plans:

AUMC Will be operating under the Phase I directives and safety protocol of the Federal Government, CDC, State of Maryland, Worcester County, and Town of Ocean City.

- Safe Distancing of 6.'
- Wearing of face masks.
- Handwashing.
- Sanitizing.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT IF YOU ARE SICK, EXHIBIT SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19, OR HAVE MEDICAL CONCERNS THAT GIVE YOU PAUSE PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE CHURCH CAMPUS OR ATTEND SERVICES.**

- Worship Service(s):
  - We will have one (1) worship service starting at 10:00 a.m.
  - The service will be about 40 – 45 minutes in length.
  - There will not be any bulletins printed or available. – No handouts of any sort.
  - There will not be any passing of the plate for collections. Collection of the offerings will be made in a drop off box/basket at the rear of the Sanctuary. We encourage congregants to send in their offerings electronically, or by mail.
  - Communion is permitted but may be suspended or very restricted.

- This service will be recorded on Sunday morning live and placed on the face book page. The audio of the service will also be placed on the Church website.
- **Hospitality, Social Time - Food & Beverage Services:**
  - All social time, food and beverage services are not permitted and are suspended until further notice.
- **Education, Sunday School, Nursery Care:**
  - All Education, Sunday Schools, and Nursery Care is not permitted, and are suspended until further notice. All children should remain with their family during service.
- **Special Services, Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, etc.**
  - Weddings, Baptisms will not be permitted and are suspended until further notice.
  - Funerals are permitted but may be suspended or very restricted.
- **Choir & Music:**
  - We will not have a Chancel or Bell choir. We are permitted to have soloists and similar special music.
- **Safe Distancing Seating and Occupancy Charts for Sanctuary and Tilghman Hall:**
  - We may occupy at 50% of our permitted capacity – The maximum of 75 people will be permitted in the Sanctuary.
  - We may occupy at 50% of our permitted capacity – The maximum of 47 people will be permitted in Tilghman Hall.
  - During Sunday Services, there will be a Greeter posted at the Philadelphia parking lot doors who will control the number of people entering, leaving and remaining in the building.
  - Capacity must not exceed allowable number.
  - We have removed all Bibles, Hymnals, Faith We Sing Books, and Handouts from Sanctuary and other areas of public access such as hallways, Tilghman Hall, etc.

- **Duties of Greeters and Ushers:**
  - There will be a noticeable change and difference in how the Ushers and Greeters are utilized during Church Services. The ushers and greeters will receive specific training regarding their duties. **WE ASK EVERYONE TO PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THEIR REQUESTS AND DIRECTIONS.**
  
- **Cleaning – Both Thorough and Routine:**
  - Thorough Cleaning and disinfecting of entire Church campus buildings has been done.
  - Building Services Custodian will be directed to clean and disinfect all exposed high contact surfaces such as tables, counters, doors, desks, pews, etc. on a regular scheduled basis and after each use.
  - This will continue as part of our routine cleaning and sanitization process.
  
- **Personal Protection, Masks, Gloves, Hand Sanitizer, etc.**
  - We have and maintain an adequate supply of gloves and sanitizer.
  - **Facemasks MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE IN THE CHURCH BUILDINGS AND ON CHURCH CAMPUS.**
  - The masks are the responsibility of everyone. **INDIVIDUALS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO BRING AND USE THEIR OWN PERSONAL MASKS.**
  
- **Additional, more specific signage for inside building and or exterior doors.**
  - We have posted additional signs for all three of our access/exit doors that address the following:
    - 1 Entrance – This will be the doors that enter from the parking lot on Philadelphia Ave.). Persons may exit from the 4<sup>th</sup> street door or the Philadelphia Ave doors. In event of an emergency the Baltimore avenue door is accessible.



- **AUMC Meetings, Studies, Classes:**
  - Building use by AUMC groups will be permitted at the discretion of the Pastor/Meeting Leader/Committee Chair, etc. All attendees must adhere to the Safety Protocols directed by the State of Maryland for:
  
- **Outside Groups – Meetings, Studies, Classes:**
  - Building use by outside groups is not permitted and will be suspended until further notice.
  
- **Special Social Get Togethers – Luncheons, Dinners, Potluck, etc.:**
  - All social activities and events involving use of our building and campus is suspended until further notice.
  
- **Physical and operational changes to Thrift Shop and Weekly Soup Kitchen:**
  - There have been changes in the entire operational and safety protocols for the Thrift Shop and weekly Soup Kitchen.
  
- **Limited access to Church building and offices:**
  - Access to the Church building during regular business hours will be limited to only those with business needing immediate attention necessitating they enter the building.
  - We are encouraging the use of electronic communications to help limit exposure.
  - Pastor will limit congregant visits and meetings to the confines of his office.
  - We ask that everyone use electronic communication, or designated mailboxes to leave communications or items for Church Staff.
  
- **Requests for ordering supplies, Receipts, and use of Church Credit Cards:**
  - Anyone with the authority to order supplies or equipment must submit their request electronically to the Church Administrator.

- Anyone with the authority to purchase supplies or equipment must do so using their Church issued credit card.
- The Church will only be issuing reimbursement checks under limited and restricted circumstances.
- All receipts must be submitted to the Church Administrator. (if this is not possible, use the Church Administrator’s mailbox).

**NOTE: PPEs (Masks will be the responsibility of individuals). Gloves will be provided and available for Church staff and volunteers only.**

**Since our last report in the previous newsletter the Board of Trustees reports the following:**

**Broken Air Conditioning Unit:**

The AC Unit that controls the lower level of Church including Offices, Meeting Rooms, Sanctuary, etc. – was found to be broken beyond repair. It would not hold a charge or run properly, It was a very old unit. This required us to replace the unit. After approval of Finance and Admin Council the Trustees ordered this unit be replaced.

**STATUS: COMPLETED Friday May 15, 2020.**

**X**

Work done by: Ocean City Comfort

**EVERYONE STAY SAFE AND CAREFUL. WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED ON THE STATUS OF THE BUILDING OPERATIONS AND CLOSURE STATUS AS SOON AS IT CHANGES.**

**CONTRIBUTION REPORT - DOT SIMPSON**

| April 30, 2020        | Current Period | Year to Date | Year to Date Budget | YTD Budget Difference |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| CONTRIBUTION INCOME   |                |              |                     |                       |
| Pledges and Donations | \$13,813.02    | \$57, 254.79 | \$70,000.000        | (\$12,745.21)         |

April 2020 Contributions to Soup Kitchen – \$1901.00

## **DONNA HOLDREN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - JOANN WAYZS**

The Donna Holdren Prayer Shawl Ministry's busy hands are still hard at work. We have a lovely collection of new shawls available. Depression is surfacing as one of the side effects of our self-distancing. Many feel powerless because to help themselves and we feel unable to help them because we can only have remote contact. If you know someone in need of a soft hug; a tangible object that carries God's love and comfort, just contact the church office or Joann Waysz and we will get a shawl to them; near or far. Our shawls have traveled the globe!

I thank Mary Price and Peggy Timmons for their efforts during this difficult time. Again, if anyone wants to be part of this very effective ministry just call Joann Waysz. I have posted a note from Kathleen Geary on the bulletin board for all to see when it's possible. It speaks volumes.

## **THRIFT SHOP –Bill and Linda Jones**

As we continue to evaluate a time frame for re-opening the Thrift Shop, we wish to thank Pam Zorn for her creativity and hard work in transforming the work area. Pam has painted three walls, arranged for the installation of cabinets, and a more permanent wall behind the cashier's station. We also now have a plexiglass shield between the cashier and customers to help protect everyone. Anyone who visits the work area will see that there is now much more room for the volunteers to function as well as the additional storage space.

With July 1<sup>st</sup> rapidly approaching we are anticipating our retirement as managers and are looking forward to Pam and Jim taking over the reins. We certainly still plan to be present, in the shop, for a couple of shifts each week but we will certainly miss seeing many of you on a regular basis. Thank you so much for the love, dedication, and persistence you have shown this last two-and-a-half years.

From Pam Zorn: IF any church member has Thrift Shop donations, please call, text or email me and I will pick them up prior to the opening of the drop off room – [pamzorn@comcast.net](mailto:pamzorn@comcast.net) - 443-235-1576

## **SPRC – Bill Jones**

Since my last report we have experienced a significant blessing in having our Payroll Protection Program Loan/Grant application approved. This money has been the difference between being able to retain our entire staff on payroll and having to furlough some of them. With the completion of the loan/grant in mid-June we will again be facing some financial decisions concerning retention of staff. With the Thrift Shop closed we are losing a major contributor to our revenue and it will take some time to recover even once the shop re-opens. We will ask for your prayers as we move forward and encourage everyone to keep up their giving to the church in hopes of minimizing the financial impact of the Coronavirus.

## **MARTHA CIRCLE – BRENDA WIMPERIS:**



*The next Martha Circle Meeting will be .....*

*Sometime this summer!*

*We're going to wait till you "feel safe leaving your house"!*

Talking with a lot of you, I know you just want to wait till "local Covid 19" cases are down ~ really down"! When we meet, it'll be outside where you can keep a safe distance and we can celebrate seeing each other! We're in no hurry ~ we have no official business to tend to in the summer ~ so we'll just wait!

*A huge CELEBRATION* we all can help with is *Les Munro will be 108 Years Old on June 15<sup>th</sup>!* June Todd contacted me and thought it would be nice to have him flooded with cards ~ at least 108 cards! AND, if you'd like, add a gift card or a little \$ ! Of course, Les has his many personal needs, but evidently, he appreciates a little "toddy" in the afternoon ~ and at 108 years, he deserves it!

Les Munro's address is ~ in care of Ruth Wright, 4227 Key Court, Snow Hill, MD 21863

Martha Circle members were unanimously glad to assist in the purchases of supplies to aid the Thrift Shop and Church Trustees to “re-open” when the Church Administration feels it’s safe! We’re almost READY!

We are moving ahead with plans for our 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas Bazaar this November. We realize that it may have a different look and be a different event BUT till we learn differently, the Christmas Workshop is open upstairs at church. If you’d like to get out of your house and spend a couple hours “crafting” contact Linda Jones or Brenda Wimperis and schedule a time to “craft” by yourself or with only one other person ~ we social distance!



Working upstairs in the Christmas Workshop, Linda Jones found a big plastic tackle/tool box full of “jewelry making” supplies! Perhaps you’d like to tackle a new project of jewelry making? Contact Linda Jones and she’ll bring it to you!

*Stay safe, stay healthy and we’ll be together again soon!*

#### **CHANCEL CHOIR – JUNE TODD**

Omar and I were married on June 16, 1962 in a lovely old church in the Oleg Valley, Pa. Since Omar had been married before, I only sent a few invitations to the Ocean City Area. I was pleased, but embarrassed when Rev. & Mrs. Gibson from AUMC arrived, very late. I had forgotten to include directions to the church – Christ Lutheran in Spangsville! The Gibson’s, Judy and Richard served here from 1960 to 1965. They were our dear friends. Richard baptized Mary and they were also her Godparents. We stayed in touch with calls and visits until their passing, June, 2015 and Richard in 2018. Mary and Martha are still friends with their children, John & Kathy.



Once the church opens, I hope to see the choir singers and all the friends and members of AUMC. I miss you all! There will be no choir rehearsal or choir during worship until we reach phase 3.

I want to express my sincere thanks to my daughter, Mary for her inspiring singing during these past 10 weeks. It’s been our weekly time together and I really look forward to it. We appreciate all the positive comments and compliments.

Thanks to Pastor Joe & Terry Hoption for preparing and producing the online services.

A reminder – Our good friend Les Munro will be 108 on June 15th. Please remember him with a card or note. His address is Les Munro, % Ruth Wright, Stay well. Keeping praying and supporting AUMC! Hope to see you soon!

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### *June Birthdays*

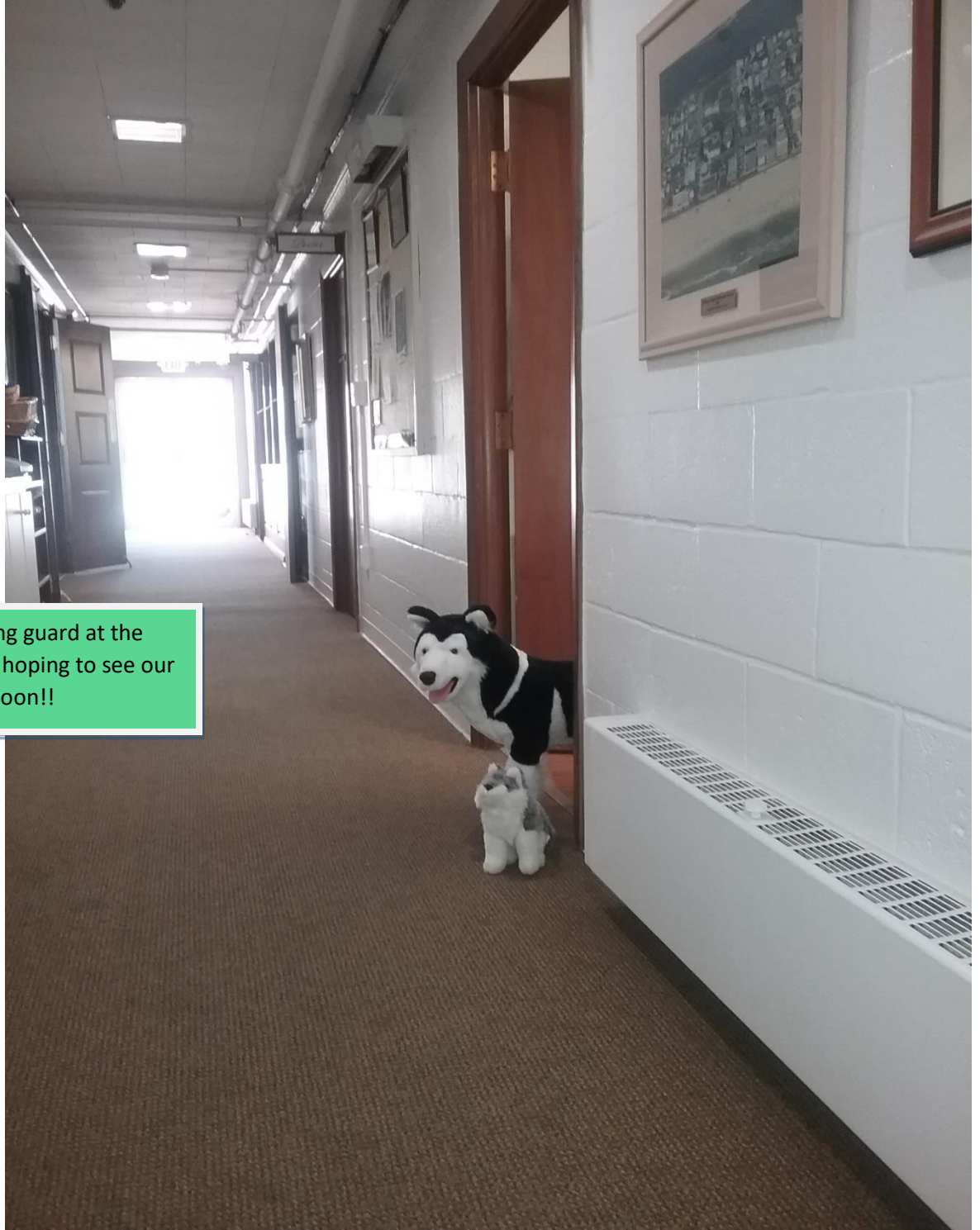
- June 2 - Sherry Dare*
- June 6 - Verla Hammond*
- June 8 - Kurt Marx*
- June 10 - Moira Biddle*
- June 10 - Bob Eastman*
- June 15 - Terry Hoption*
- June 15 - Les Munro*
- June 19 - Rebecca Galyon*
- June 26 - Adele Biel*
- June 29 - George Godfrey*
- June 29 - Renee Greene*

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### **Prayer List**

**Please pray for our church, our pastor, our ministries  
and for those listed below:**

- Jerry Albright, Laurie Brucki, Grover Collins, Karen Conlon, Norman Connell,  
Family of Robin Derrickson, Tricia Dougherty, Bob Eastman Jeff Facello,  
Calvina Fisher, Gary German, Renee Greene, Hughes Family,  
Henry Hungerford, Stuart Jarmon, Alice Jones, Ed Kriege, Susan Lauer,  
Roger Marino, Milly Marx, Family of David Moquin, Josh Shaffer,  
Nancy Smedley, Marvin Steen, Richie Tesar, Paul Wall, Alfreda Warren,  
Nina Wheeler, Allan Woodmancy, Larry Yates,  
Essential Workers First Responders



We are standing guard at the Church Office, hoping to see our AUMC family soon!!