

# Connections

## *Word of Grace...from the Pastor*

*"I will show you what it's like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then follows it. It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against that house, it stands firm because it is well built. But anyone who hears and doesn't obey is like a person who builds a house right on the ground, without a foundation. When the floods sweep down against that house, it will collapse into a heap of ruins." (Luke 6: 47-49).*

Thanks be to God for Atonement Church's firm foundation that began over 155 years ago! Faith in Jesus Christ and God's Word are that firm foundation that have brought us to where we are today. Our core values over the decades have spurred us on as a vital faith community to bring the Good News of God's love and salvation to the "Claymont Community and Beyond." For this, we give God all the glory, honor, and praise!

Back in March of this year the Leadership Team, along with a few laity in attendance, studied and reviewed the results of the survey taken in the previous month leading up to the Strategic Planning sessions. One part of the survey revealed and confirmed, "Who We Are." And the results of the survey said!-

**WE ARE** diverse children of God who stand on the Truth of the Bible and God's promises. **WE ARE** compassionate and **WE ARE** loving disciples who are committed to moving forward with the Great Commandment and Great Commission- our goal since 2009. **WE ARE** sinners, forgiven and walking in grace. **WE ARE** forgiving as we have found forgiveness from God. **WE ARE** a gifted Body of Christ, doing our best to serve God and serve the least and the lost of our communities. **WE ARE** known to be a praying people, generous, and God-fearing people who are filled with God's love, grace, and mercy. We love and accept people of all nations, all walks of life, all ages, all socio-economic statuses. Basically, **ALL PEOPLE ARE WORTHY OF OUR LOVE, RESPECT, AND ACCEPTANCE.** For the past 14 years we have received almost 350 people as new members! Praise God! It is all because of who God is and how the Holy Spirit's gifts of hospitality are growing in us. **WE ARE** a House of Prayer.

As we move forward in love, in unity, and in Christ we will fulfill our purpose and God-given mission. **WE ARE** serious about building on Atonement's vision: *"To Connect the Claymont Community and Beyond to Christ."* I ask all of us to keep Atonement Church and our congregation in their prayers throughout the summer. In Jesus Name and by the precious blood of the Lamb of God, we will find God's blessings and favor in the days to come. May we be found faithful.

Giving God all the glory!

*Pastor Amy*



card or phone call to our  
Homebound friends would  
Certainly brighten their day!

## June

- 1 Andrea Ryan
- 10 Dayna Ogorek
- 12 Kathleen Bailey
- 20 Benjamin Alexander
- 22 Walt Erbenich  
James Lang

## July

- 2 Dolly MacNamara  
Laura Brooks Pierce
- 3 Dawn Shomper
- 6 Joyce Akers
- 8 Karen Wise
- 10 Cindy Pascuzzo  
Gail Ross
- 22 Kristen Alexander  
Lisa Sell  
Ryan Smith
- 23 Renna Schmidt
- 24 Christopher Peters
- 27 Charles Parker
- 29 Laura Scott

## August

- 1 Millie Dyson
- 8 Josh Lang
- 15 Abby Calzone
- 19 Cindy Scalise
- 21 Laura Calzone
- 24 Victoria Speechley
- 29 Debbie Cox  
Sam Wise

**Helen Albright** 302-764-0684  
16 N. Rodney Drive  
Wilmington, DE 19809

**Adrian Dejong** 302-793-1068  
2402 Garfield Ave  
Wilmington, DE 19809

**Jean Eck** 302-764-2309  
c/o Debbie and Bob Clark  
2 Bell Hill Road  
Wilmington, DE 19809

**Marty Hargan** 302-798-5781  
Captains Deck  
7807 Governor Printz Blvd.  
Claymont, DE 19703

**Gerri Kaut** 302-654-5587  
244 Sandra Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803

**Frank & Doris Kerr** 302-798-7601  
8 Fairfield Road  
Claymont, DE 19703

**Darla Laramore** 302-439-4814  
319 Chapel Ave, Apt A  
Claymont, DE 19703

**Florence McDowell**  
2215 Shipley Road, Room 24  
Wilmington, DE 19803

**Jim & Marge McQuage** 302-478-1358  
4 Delores Court  
Wilmington, DE 19809

**Jack Scott** 610-485-6574  
1310 Cherry Street  
Boothwyn, PA 19061

## **June Message Series**

### **Book of Jude**

**June 5**

**Pentecost Sunday**  
"Contend for the Faith"  
Jude 1-4

**June 12**

**Pastor Cliff Werline preaching**  
"Apostasy"  
Jude 5-11

**June 19**

**Father's Day**  
**Pastor Jeff Peters preaching**  
"Woe to Them!"  
Jude 12-16

**June 26**

"Build Up Your Faith"  
Jude 16-25

## **July Message Series** **Government, Not Politics**

**July 3**

"Rule and Reign of God"  
Isaiah 9: 1-7

**July 10**

"Ruled by God"  
Romans 13: 1-7

**July 17**

**Pastor Cliff Werline preaching**

**July 24**

**Pastor Jeff Peters preaching**

**July 31**

**Fifth Sunday**  
**One Worship Service 10:00 a.m.**  
**Church Picnic, Pool & Baptisms**  
"Fellowship of the Believers"  
Ephesians 4: 1-6, Psalm 133: 1-3

## **August Message Series**

### **Heroes of the Bible**

**August 7**

"The Popular Hero, David"  
1 Samuel 18: 5-8

**August 14**

"The Militant Hero, Deborah"  
Judges 4: 1-10; 14-16

**August 21**

"The Hesitant Hero, Esther"  
Esther 4: 10-17

**August 28**

"The Visionary Hero, Daniel"  
Daniel 11:32

## **Connections**

### **The Deadline for next newsletter is August 22**

Please send all information to be  
included in the newsletter to:

Lynn Peters  
umcatonement@comcast.net.

If you leave anything for the news-  
letter in the Church Office, please  
put your name on it so I know who  
to contact if I have a question.

Thank you, Lynn Peters

### **United Methodist Church of the Atonement**

3519 Philadelphia Pike  
Claymont, DE 19703  
[www.atonementchurch.net](http://www.atonementchurch.net)  
302-798-8472

Lead Pastor Amy Peters  
302-218-5896

Youth Pastor Jeff Peters  
302-932-1878





**Nathan Yoder**  
Williamson Trade School

## Congratulations

to the recipients of the  
**Church scholarship**

Pastor Jeff Peters  
Palmer Theological Seminary-  
Eastern University

Timmy Armstrong  
Widener University



### **KNOLLWOOD SPORTS CAMP IS COMING!**

**On Monday, June 13 at 6:30** in the Welcome Center, there will be a meeting to move forward with SPORTS CAMP in Knollwood (also known as Vacation Bible School). We are in need of small group leaders for the students, hospitality helpers, and “coaches” to oversee the wide variety of possible sports, such as soccer, basketball, touch-football, badminton, volleyball, croquet, cheerleading, perhaps a little golf, or something new for the kids to try.

The Camp will run Sunday through Thursday evenings from 6 to 8pm. Hopefully, the team of helpers will be available the week of July 31-August 4<sup>th</sup> before school starts. This is up for discussion June 13<sup>th</sup>. Contact the Church Office to join this amazing opportunity to reach many children for Christ! Or just show up on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>! Your presence and support is invaluable to our efforts!



**HEY MOMS, DADS, & KIDS!**

**SUNDAY JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30PM**

**BELLEVUE STATE PARK FISHING TRIP**

With outdoorsman and fishing expert, Mr. Tom Sterling who is willing to supply rods, reels, etc. He's also quite confident **EVERYONE** will catch fish!

Ages 5- and up are welcome to come with a parent or two! Sign up at Welcome Center desk.



**SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH**

**Ephesian 6: 2-3**

**“Donuts for Dad’s Day”**

**10:00—11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time**

**Thank God for Dads today! Atonement Church will honor our Dads with a monetary gift to the Sunday Breakfast Mission. Stay strong, Dads! We Love You.**

**Sunday, July 31 IT’S FIFTH SUNDAY!**

**ONE SERVICE 10:00am in the Church Sanctuary**

**ATONEMENT’S ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC**

**Celebration of our Baptisms by sprinkling, pouring,  
or immersion in an outdoor pool.**

**SIGN UP FOR PICNIC FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE STARTING  
ON JUNE 13 ON THE EASEL IN THE WELCOME CENTER.**

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday**

**October 21, 22, & 23**

**ATONEMENT CHURCH’S**



**Guest Evangelist Kenny Davis and wife, Kim Davis  
IT’S GOING TO BE HOLY SPIRIT WONDERFUL!**

## THE PROTOCOL OF RECONCILIATION AND GRACE THROUGH SEPERATION:

Since its inception decades ago, the United Methodist Church been divided on theological and morality issues, which has led to this church split. Like the Presbyterians, Anglicans, Episcopalians, Lutherans, and numerous other denominations- the United Methodist Church believe it would be better to separate, as did these other denominations. In the coming months of summer there will be opportunities for our congregation to learn more on this topic in order to eventually decide as a church whether to stay with the UMC or affiliate with one of the other evangelical denominations associated with Wesleyan theology. **Sunday, June 12 at 5:30 p.m.** there will be a covered dish supper at Atonement Church followed with a presentation and question/answer session. Your attendance is sincerely appreciated. Let us enjoy the fellowship of the believers as well as good food and a holy conference on this all important matter. Pastor Amy is available to anyone who would like to talk privately or in small groups. If you are willing to host a small group in your home for further discussion, please contact the Church office. On Tuesday mornings from 9-10am there is a prayer meeting in the Welcome Center to cover the United Methodist Church in prayer as well as the future of Atonement Church. All are welcome to join in this prayer meeting.



**Thursday through Saturday, June 16-18,** is the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference. To obtain access on the Zoom live streaming, contact Lynn Peters in the Church Office. Atonement's Lay delegates are Tom and Patty Bailey.

## SPECIAL ABILITIES MINISTRY AND SUPPORT GROUP

June Meetings: **SUNDAYS** June 12 and June 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm in Room 102. Everyone is welcome! Thanks so much to this ministry for serving with others on the Hospitality Team on Sunday mornings.

July and August meeting times are yet to be determined. Learn more, contact Liz Tryens at 302-246-0383.



**ATONEMENT LEGACY GIVING...**please remember us in your will and trusts. Legacy giving is an act of making a commitment to give a gift over time or at death as part of one's financial planning. Legacy gifts are usually bequests, charitable gift annuities, or gifts of stocks. There is no better way to grow disciples and strengthen God's Kingdom than through legacy gifts. We are pleased to announce free classes on estate planning coming up this Fall. It will be a time to learn about estate planning, ways to leave a legacy gift, and to have questions answered by Kathy DeLacy, Esquire and the chairperson of Atonement's Finance Committee. Thanks to Kathy for her willingness to provide her expertise to these classes. In the past three years, legacy giving from the Wagner and Sprout families, as well as the Shirley Wilson estate, have been huge blessings to Atonement Church. Please remember us in your will and trust. Leave your legacy of hope for the generations yet to come.

## ATONEMENT CHURCH'S PARTNERSHIP WITH URBAN PROMISE

In conjunction with Urban Promise and Elizabeth "Joy" Kelly, a professional opera soprano, the Urban Promise Academy (Middle & High Schoolers) and Atonement Church hosted two performances of *The Essence of Dance: A U-choose Opera*. Elizabeth worked with students from the Academy for 7 weeks as an "Artist in Residence." With money from a grant for this project, the performance was accompanied by a chamber ensemble of professional musicians. On Friday, May 13 and Sunday, May 15, Urban Promise children and families along with Atonement Church supporters attended the two shows in our Sanctuary. It truly was a huge success and the young people of both the Urban Promise Academy and the Elementary School were thrilled to have this experience!





SURGE is getting ready to wrap up for this school year. Following our lock-in that we hosted on May 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, we will only be having our youth group meetings one or two more times before the Summer begins. This is a slightly earlier end than I usually would have, but given my upcoming chaplaincy internship at Christiana Hospital for this Summer, I cannot guarantee the availability of my schedule to go much further. The lock-in was a great success, and while we weren't able to see the entire group come out for a variety of valid reasons, we had a good sized group nonetheless, and a good time was had by all. Special thanks again to all the adult volunteers that make SURGE possible each week, and especially this week to Patty Bailey and Mary Ryan's daughter Kelly, who were of great assistance to me that night. Along with all the fun and fellowship we had, we also had a great lesson on the book of Jonah, which I believe the kids benefitted a lot from, and they seemed to take a lot away from. It is times like that which make me anticipate the next school year so greatly, as I enjoy these opportunities to spend time in the Word with our youth, and to teach them not only all that I know about it, but also how we can apply and see the relevance of the Bible to our own lives. I recall quite well how much I needed these lessons when I was their age, and I can only hope that through my own experience that I can help them to receive these lessons better than I did at their age. Anyone who would like to help out with SURGE in the future, especially in the coming school year should feel free to contact me at any time, whether that's to offer up your time, to provide any food or snacks, or even to offer us opportunities to have the Youth group serve our Church or the community. These do not have to be exclusive to the next school year either, if you have any suggestions for things the youth could take part in during the Summer, I would also love to hear them, and I would even be open to anyone in the congregation taking charge of the youth in my place to do anything during this off-season.

As I previously mentioned, I will be taking place in a chaplaincy program at Christiana Hospital for the duration of the Summer months, something that will provide me with needed academic credit, important credentials as I move forward into eventually becoming ordained as a pastor, and most importantly invaluable experience in ministering to the spiritual needs of those who may be in very dark or difficult places. This program will involve roughly 30 working hours in a week, as well as a supplementary weekly overnight on-call shift, which constitutes about 16 hours. I'm greatly anticipating my time in this program, and the lessons I'll be able to



take from it as I move forward in ministry in other areas. I want to ensure our Serving Atonement has been an immense blessing for me, both in the experience it has provided, the chance to serve God it has given me, and how it has helped to provide for the costs of my education. As such, Atonement will always be my highest priority as long as I am called to serve here, and regardless of whatever responsibilities may be required of me, I will continue to faithfully serve our congregation, the congregation that has raised and nurtured me in whatever capacity is required of me, and wherever and however I am needed. I want to thank you all again for providing me this opportunity in ministry, and for bearing with me through this academically rigorous period of my education.

*Pastor Jeff Peters*





## NEW MEMBERS

Krista Anthony  
5 Franklin Ave  
Claymont, DE 19703  
302-377-4244

Pastor Ethel Coker  
325 Lenape Way  
Claymont, DE 19703  
302-798-4638

Rebecca (Becki) Daswick  
316 Chapel Ave, Apt A  
Claymont, DE 19703  
302-743-8746

Richard Daswick  
316 Chapel Ave, Apt A  
Claymont, DE 19703  
302-565-5952

Sandy Osgood  
2122 Foulk Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803  
302-479-5820

Thomas Sterling  
5 Franklin Ave  
Claymont, DE 19703  
302-723-3449

Cliff Werline  
54 Neponset Rd  
Wilmington, DE 19810  
302-588-7823



Krista Alexander & Tom Sterling  
New Members joining



Lucas Alexander Knutson  
Baptism Day

## DAD, GOD'S MASTERPIECE

*God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight.  
Then God combined all these qualities,  
When there was nothing  
more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece  
was complete,  
And so, He Called it....Dad*

# FOOD CLOSET MINISTRY

Our Food Closet serves many people in our church and community. On average, we are handing out 20 bags/month. We want to continue serving our community and beyond but need your help.

We are currently in need of:

cans of fruit  
soup, rice, pasta  
crackers  
apple sauce, pasta sauce,  
Pancake mixes and syrup  
jelly and peanut butter  
instant potatoes



Please note that we cannot give out food past the expiration date. Please check the expiration date before donating to our food closet. Thank you!



## Change for Clean Water

Thank you for your continuous support to provide a pure-water drinking well to a country where uncontaminated, clean water is desperately needed.

Water jugs for your coins can be found the Welcome Center area. (Any coin or bill will gladly be accepted).



## BOOK COLLECTION:


Archmere Academy students built a community library box which is located right outside the front of the church near the bus stop. We are asking for donations of books for all ages. They can be new or used books. You can leave them in the library box or drop them off in the Welcome Center.





# JUNE 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:00 Coffee Time Between Services 10:10 Bible Study with Ellie Kwick 11:00 The Branch			1	2	3	4 9:00 Evangelism Prayer Meeting 2:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 8:30 AA Mtg
	6 7:00 AA Mtg	7 7:00 AA Mtg.	8	9	10	11 9:00 Evangelism Prayer Meeting 2:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 8:30 AA Mtg
5 GRADUATION SUNDAY 						
June 1-4 12 5:30 Q & A Presentation Covered Dish Dinner	13 7:00 AA Mtg	14 7:00 Leadership Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	15	16	17	18 9:00 Evangelism Prayer Meeting 2:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 8:30 AA Mtg
June 5-11						
19 <b>HAPPY FATHER'S DAY</b> June 16-25	20 7:00 AA Mtg.	21 7:00 Trustee Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	22	23	24	25 9:00 Evangelism Prayer Meeting 2:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 8:30 AA Mtg
26 Kide 16-25	27 7:00 AA Mtg.	28 7:00 AA Mtg	29	30		