

ATONEMENT METHODIST CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

January 2024

PASTOR'S LETTER.....

*You crown the year with a bountiful harvest;
even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.*

(Psalm 65:11NLT)

The day is coming when all of creation, along with us, is going to rejoice in God, our Savior. Scripture gives us such hope and anticipation for the millennium rule of Jesus that is yet to come. Remember, too, that creation is part of God's salvation plan. It is written in Romans 8: verse 21, "because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Paradise will be regained for all! All of creation will finally be set free from decay and death. With all of humanity, the hills and valleys will sing and shout the victory!

At Calvary's cross the Lord Jesus paid the full price of our conversion, as well as the redemption of creation. Because we are saved, we have entered into the blessings and benefits of Jesus Christ saving us. When Jesus takes charge of this world, all will experience the magnificent liberty which can only belong to the children of God. This should cause us to count our blessings once again as we enter into the New Year of 2024. God is at work in the world and in our church! The seven blessings of the book of Revelation are God's promises to us in these last of the Last Days. (See the Seven Blessings of Revelation in this edition of Connections).

"Bless the Lord who redeems your life...who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies (Ps. 102: 2,4). When they come, accept even the times of testing and trials in the framework of God's grace and love. God has made us a little lower than God's Self and crowned us with glory and honor (Ps.8:5). We truly have so much for which to thank the Lord. And best of all, with His own presence! "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." (Ps. 103:2). Let us give God the glory for the great things He has done in the past and for the bright future ahead for Atonement Methodist Church.

WALKING WITH YOU into the future of 2024!

Pastor Amy

IT'S TIME FOR WINTER LIFE GROUPS...beginning Sunday, January 14th we will have Winter Life Groups. Check out the Life Group easel in the Welcome Center. Volunteers and participants needed. If you are willing, sign up as a leader, host, or attendee. Bible study, book study, a service group, or something new to promote discipleship and fellowship! Contact Pastor Cliff to get more information. (302) 588-7823

For God says, "I will break the strength of the wicked, but I will increase the power of the godly." Psalm 75: 10

You have two choices. You can reject Jesus. That is an option. You can, as have many, decide that the idea of God becoming a carpenter is too bizarre - and walk away. Or you can accept him. You can journey with him. You can listen for his voice amidst the hundreds of voices and follow him.

And The Angels Were Silent'
Max Lucado

COVENANT PRAYER OF JOHN WESLEY

*I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with
whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set
aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have
nothing.
I freely and fully surrender all things
To your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
You are mine, and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made
on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven.
Amen.*

*Connecting
the
Claymont
Community
and beyond
to Christ*



BIBLE READING 2024, you can sign up in the Welcome Center to read through the bible, through the Old or New Testament! God is a rewarder of those who seek Him. And there's no better way to get to know God than to read God's Word! Choose from 3 different Bible reading options available at Welcome Center desk. **BE SURE TO LET US KNOW YOU'RE JOINING BY SIGNING UP!** We like to recognize and honor your efforts, too!

BIBLE IN A YEAR, 2023: Congratulations! If you completed the Bible in a year or the New Testament in a year, please contact the church office to let us recognize your efforts. We suggest buying a "Through The Year Bible." Well done, good and faithful Bible readers.

REBECCA'S CIRCLE is meeting the second Wednesday of the month January and the location is to be determined. Rebecca's Circle is definitely sponsoring a soup sale on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11th.



Happy Birthday January!

Jan. 2 - Lynn Borreggine
Jan. 7 - Ellen Knapp
Jan. 10 - Owen Bush
Jan. 14 - Cindy Reinhardt
Jan. 17 - Alan Tryens
Jan. 18 - Drew Wanstall
Jan. 18 - William Hofferth
Jan. 22 - Faith Yanovitch
Jan. 23 - Shirley Hornyak

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Read the verse and answer these four questions:

What does this passage say?
Why is it important?
What should I do about it?
How can I remember this?

PRAY (remember to write down answered and unanswered prayers alike)

The Deadline for the next newsletter is Sunday, January 21st.

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

Brenda Stephens

atonementmc@gmail.com

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

12 NOON PRAYER TIME

Wherever you may be, let us join with the Global Methodists daily to stop and pray the Lord's Prayer at noon time. Please ask God to bring peace to Jerusalem, as well. This is our time to pray for our world!

Toiletries Needed for Persons in need:

Atonement Church has been providing essentials of soap, shampoo/creme rinse, shaving cream, razors, toothpaste and brush, and men's and women's deodorant. Please label any donations "Toiletries for Atonement" and leave at Welcome Center desk.

Something good is happening!

Atonement Church is now sponsoring a sock drive for Sojourners shelter. We are asking for donations of new socks for men, women, and children. This sock drive will extend through January. Please leave donations in the box behind the welcome center. Contact Cheryl Blevins if you have any questions.

**NEWS
ON
ATONEMENT'S
FOOD CLOSET**



Due to the price of food, we continue to help the hungry weekly. Please help with donations of boxed potatoes, gravy (chicken or turkey), pancake mix, peanut butter, ramen noodles, mac and cheese, canned meat, pasta sauce (no glass jars if possible), ritz crackers, Chef Boyardee, quart milk. Our Food Ministry monies also contribute to other items. No canned vegetables, please. Donated items can be placed in the shopping cart outside the Nursery.

ATONEMENT'S Food Closet is in need of shopping bags, but not paper or plastic. If you have any recycling shopping bags (plain or printed, small to medium sizes) and are not using them, could you donate them to our food ministry? The recycled bags would need to accommodate a box of cereal, P.B. & Jelly, pasta and sauce, waffle mix and syrup and about 6 or so canned items. Leave your donations at the Welcome Center or in the grocery cart with food donations. Thanks to any help you can be!

EMPOWERMENT TEAM starts a New Year meeting on the first Sunday, January 7th at 12:15 pm in room 102.

THE SEVEN BLESSINGS OF REVELATION

1. *Blessings that result from reading and heeding God's Word. (Rev. 1:3) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words...and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near."*
2. *The blessing of dying as a believer. (Rev.14:13) "...Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord...that they may rest from their labors..."*
3. *The blessing of expectancy: Rev. 16:15 "Behold, I AM coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches..."*
4. *The blessing of being the Lord's dinner guest: (Rev. 19:9) "...Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!"*
5. *The blessing of the ruling with the Messiah in His Kingdom (Rev.20:6) "Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection...they shall be priests of god and of Christ..."*
6. *The blessing of obedience. (Rev. 22:7). "Behold, I AM coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."*
7. *The blessing of taking up residency in the New Jerusalem (Rev.22:14) "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter..."*

Excerpts from Messianic Perspectives, Gary Hedrick: CJF Ministries, October-December, 2023.

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED in the Ministry of Poinsettias for Christmas. The red and white flowers were a beautiful site in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Please help yourselves to any leftover's downstairs or upstairs at The Branch. Thank you.





ATONEMENT METHODIST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

*A card or phone call to our homebound friends
would certainly brighten their day!*

The purpose of the Atonement Methodist Church is to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ that we will be able to offer to people near and far, by word and deed, the saving love of God in Christ.

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

As servants of God, we are sent into the community to reveal the love of God and demonstrate words and deeds, that we may be renewed after the image of our Creator. To be able to minister in Christ's name is a gift and a task. The gift is God's grace, the task is unstinting service. We are sent out by Christ to live and work together, to profess our faith to the community in order that they might hear the Word of God.

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Pastor Amy Peters, Lead Pastor
302-218-5896

Cliff Werline, Assistant Pastor
302-588-7823

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5 SURGE Lock-In 7pm	6 AA Meeting 8:30pm
7 Worship Service 9am & 11am	8 Finance Meeting 7pm AA Meeting 7pm	9 Prayer Group 9am Leadership Meeting 7pm AA Meeting 7pm	10 Rebecca's Circle	11 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	12 SURGE 7 - 9pm	13 AA Meeting 8:30pm Prayer Group 9am
14 Worship Service 9am & 11am Life Groups Kick-off	15 AA Meeting 7pm	16 Trustee's Meeting 7pm AA Meeting 7pm	17	18 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	19 SURGE 7 - 9pm	20 AA Meeting 8:30pm Prayer Group 9am
21 Worship Service 9am & 11am	22 AA Meeting 7pm	23 AA Meeting 7pm	24	25 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	26 SURGE 7 - 9pm	27 AA Meeting 8:30pm Prayer Group 9am
28 Worship Service 9am & 11am	29 AA Meeting 7pm	30 AA Meeting 7pm	31			