

ATONEMENT METHODIST CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

MAY 2024

WORDS OF GRACE.....from the Pastor's heart.....

(Excerpts from The Good News Magazine, March/April 2024: article titled, Holy Love and the Genius of Wesleyanism by Ryan Danker)

In some of John Wesley's earlier writings, John described biblical religion as "No other than love: the love of God and of all mankind; the loving God with all our heart, and soul, and strength, as (God) having first loved us, as the fountain of all good we have received...and the loving (of) every soul which God has made...as our own soul." In the spirit of the Great Commandment found in Matthew 22:36-40, Wesley continued, "This love is the great medicine of life, the never-failing remedy for all the evils of a disordered world, for all the miseries and vices of men. Wherever this (love) is, there are virtue and happiness, going hand in hand."

The article continued, "A true Wesleyan view of Scripture begins with the question of holiness, and throughout our history we have been convinced that a holy life and a biblical life are one and the same; the Bible is a means of grace, a faithful helper in that journey toward holy life, which is a Christ-like life." "And... Jesus is the pattern for holiness." Wesley's love for Jesus, for humanity, for God's Word, and the Church unite believers down through the ages in our purpose: "... to be holy as I AM is holy." (1 Peter 1:16).

This month of May we enter into the church season of Pentecost, beginning with Pentecost Sunday on May 19th. Our messages will be focusing on God's amazing sanctifying grace and the continuing process of transformation into Christ-likeness. Jesus has made us holy by His work on the cross, so we are God's holy ones- saints. Just like John Wesley, let us continue the Wesleyan vision of God's grace as the powerful and precious holy love of God fuels the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Claymont Community and Beyond! And all to the glory of God! Stay focused Atonement Church! The best is yet to come!

Blessings of peace and joy in Jesus,
Pastor Amy

THE BODY OF CHRIST

When you volunteer at church, it's so much more than simply filling a slot or helping out on a Sunday. Something supernatural happens when the church begins to serve together.

FIVE INCREDIBLE THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU SERVE YOUR CHURCH

1. **You Make your church stronger.** It's like exercising your spiritual gifts. It builds up **The Body of Christ.**
2. **The Church becomes united.** When Jesus prayed for the future church (John 17), above all He prayed that the church would be united. When we serve together we become invested in our church. Serving strengthens **The Body of Christ.**
3. **You discover more about Jesus.** You can read a book on how to drive, but you can't get behind the wheel and drive without the hands on practice. It's the same thing with your relationship with Jesus. You can figure out only so much in a Sunday School classroom. To experience more, you're going to have to roll up your sleeves and start serving.
4. **You mature in your faith.** We look at maturity as when a person goes out and gets a job, pays bills, supports a family, etc. When you serve in your church it's a sign of Christian maturity because it shows that you've grown enough in your faith to realize that it's not just about consuming, but about giving back.
5. **We achieve together something far greater than what we can attain on our own.** When we serve Christ's church like this, we create **The Body of Christ.**

On a personal note, I came to church one day during the week to see a person I didn't know working with the flowers on the altar. I introduced myself and she did likewise. I told her what I was doing at the church and she explained what she does with the flowers. We talked about the cloths that were put on the altar and lecturns and pulpit. Then someone else cleaned the sanctuary. Others cleaned bathrooms, others taught Sunday School. The list goes on and on.

I had a sudden revelation that **WOW**, all these people in the church were **The Body of Christ** in action. Our people are Jesus (with skin on)...“making a well oiled mechanism” to serve the Claymont Community and beyond. **AND...I got to meet a sister in Christ that I had not known.**

Sandy Vidro

ATONEMENT METHODIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM 2024

The Branch
Jeff Knoettner
Laura Calzone

SURGE
Dave Lang
Amanda Lang

Staff/Parish Relations
Tom Bailey
Karen DeJong

Hospitality Team
Praying for
Leadership

Life Groups
Evangelism Team
Cliff Werline

Trustees
Mark Peters

Worship
Steve Calzone

Outreach/Missions
Cliff Werline

Finance
Walter Erbenich
Ed Hearn

Congregation Care
Arlene Skotnicki

Knollwood
Community Center
Pastor Amy Peters



MEMORIAL SERVICE

INVITATION - to the Atonement Family of God. Sara Zacharius graduated to glory on March 1st and there will be a celebration of her life here at Atonement on Saturday, May 18th. Visitation is 10:30 to 11:00 am and service is 11:00 am to noon. All are welcome to attend!

CAREGIVER OR CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANT (CNA)

One of our Atonement men who is home-bound is in need of aid for 2 or 3 hours weekly. He lives in Boothwyn with his wife. Their social services have been eliminated. Please contact the Church Office to help. (302-798-8472)

DID YOU KNOW? Atonement Church has had a prayer quilt ministry since 2008. They have created 650 prayer quilts. As part of the prayer quilt ministry, the congregation helps by praying for those in need. Each quilt represents 64 different people who are praying. If interested in learning more, contact Betty Wilbur at 302-299-7632.



she is clothed in strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Proverbs 31:25-26

Parkway Christian Church



New Members Class of May, 2024

"You are a member of God's very own family... and you belong in God's household with every other Christians." Ephesians 2: 19 LB

Christine Friday | 3007 4th Ave., Claymont, DE 19703 | Cell - 302-690-6594 | cafriday@yahoo.com | Birthdate - July 26

Beth Ann Friday | 2106 Philadelphia Pike, Claymont, DE 19703 | Cell - 302-650-5466 | bfriday@christianacare.org | Birthdate Aug. 7

Steven Prendergast | 50 4th Ave., Claymont, DE 19703 | Cell - 302-230-6449 | stevenprendergast93@gmail.com | Birthdate Dec. 11

Donna Prendergast | 50 4th Ave., Claymont, DE 19703 | Cell - 302-898-1220 | donnaprendergast309@gmail.com | Birthdate Nov. 3

Ewnetu Gebremariam | Garnet Valley, PA | Cell - 925-664-5042 | ewnetu@comcast.net | Birthdate May 29

Bonny Werline | 54 Neponset Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810 | Cell - 484-432-9261 | baybeebon03@aol.com | Birthdate April 14

Caidence Bishop | 24 Balfour Ave., Claymont, DE 19703

Matthew Lang | 21 Everett Ave., Claymont, DE 19703

The new members will join our church at both services on Sunday, May 19th.

VERY IMPORTANT

ANNOUNCEMENT: In the last several months there have been a number of people who have had allergic reactions to perfume, colognes, scented soaps and lotions. Reactions have been varied, but not insignificant. Did you know that fragrance sensitivity and allergic reactions affect approximately one-third of the population, with nearly 10% of the population having allergic reactions? Because of the health issues at stake, would you be willing to consider God's House a fragrance-free zone? Some of our church family are having to leave because of trouble breathing and headaches. Your cooperation is appreciated.



SPECIAL THANKS to The Gideon's International for their presentation and presence here on Sunday, April 28th. We are grateful for their ministry, which has impacted the Claymont Community and Beyond as they distribute pocket New Testaments, Bibles, and lead many persons to faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. How thankful they were to receive a love offering of \$507.00 from our church! Gideon's Sunday has been an annual event for decades here at Atonement! For more information on The Gideons, visit their website at gideons.org.

GRIEF SHARE - Meetings are now ongoing at 6:30pm in the SURGE Youth Room. Leaders are Bruce and Deborah Gayley. Call the church office or just show up. (302.798.8472) Even though the course has started, walk-in's are welcome at any time.

SPECIAL SUNDAY IN MAY...starting with May 12 is Mother's Day at Atonement Church. It's a great day to invite the Moms in your life to church! All Moms are welcome- and all women who have a Mom, which is every women! To honor motherhood, Atonement Church's Outreach monies will go to support mothers seeking help for motherhood through the Door of Hope Pregnancy Center with two locations in Wilmington and Newark. Bring your coins, dollars, or checks with you and put them in our huge water bottle in the Welcome Center. Your "Communion envelope" donations support our outreach efforts. Thanks to all who are charitable! (if you do not have church envelopes and would like them, contact the Church office.)

QR CODE - Atonement now has a QR Code that will make giving to the church easier. Aim the camera on your phone on the code and it will take you to Atonement's Giving Page on our website. And then, continue to follow the prompts. No App necessary!



12 NOON- THE LORD'S PRAYER

As part of the Global Methodist Church, everyone is invited to stop at 12 Noon sharp, if possible, and take a moment to pray with all our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world. The Lord's prayer is the perfect prayer model, so if time permits, why not take a moment and ponder the different segments of the prayer and go deeper with God. May God bless the Global Methodist Church worldwide as we all devote this time of prayer to God.

CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES enhanced our Easter celebrations with the Maundy Thursday service. About 45 attended and shared in the Lord's Supper with our guest, Elisabeta Karp. For the message and with a captive audience, Elisabeta explained Isaiah 53 from the Messianic perspective. She left a copy of "Isaiah 53: Explained This Chapter Will Change Your Life" by Mitch Glaser who is president of Chosen People Ministries. Thank you to all who supported Elisabeta in her ministry to the Jewish people. Your donations of \$528.00 will support their efforts to reach the Jewish people for the Messiah. Did you know that Chosen People Ministries birthed the Jews For Jesus organization? We are helping to build God's kingdom here on earth, Atonement. All glory be to God and our Savior, Jesus!

WALKING WITH JESUS BLOG is in need of creative writers. The blog is on the church's website (atonementchurch.net) Linda Cobourn originated this blog and is looking for help. She will come along side you in order that you may share one of your "Walking With Jesus" stories. (610-485-5157)

WAKE-UP CALL: A daily devotional that is great! Wake-Up Call sets the pace for a good and godly day. Join your brothers and sisters at Atonement Church every morning with the wakeupcall@seedbed.com. It is a Global Methodist publication that is an encouraging way to begin your day.

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.

Happy Birthday May!

May 3 - Jeremy Ryan

May 5 - Noah Lang

May 5 - Fay McCall

May 8 - Tom Bailey

May 8 - Todd Bezilla

May 11 - Voni McMinn

May 16 - Diane Hill

May 17 - Walter Mitchell

May 19 - Daniel Yoder

May 26 - Nathan Yoder

May 31 - Valerie Pilkington



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH 2024

"Moving in the Spirit" Galatians 5:25

"If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit."

Northeast Convening Annual Conference

It was such a joy and honor to attend the Global Methodist Church conference held Thursday April 11th through Saturday April 13th. Pastor Amy and husband Mark joined our two delegates, Patty and Tom Bailey, for a refreshing times of worship, prayer, and holy conferencing. We met Mark Webb, our new bishop for our area that stretches from Maine down to Washington D.C. We experienced the love, the freedom and the presence of the Holy Spirit as we were encouraged to be part of the movement of God. The conference was bathed in prayer and encouragement filled the atmosphere in the beautiful mountain setting. And the ordination was super awesome as 45 persons were ordained on Saturday morning! Visit globalmethodist.org. If you would like to hear more about this sacred gathering, contact Tom and Patty Bailey.



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

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

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

Marty Hargan
4200 Verona Drive
Wilmington, DE 19808

Lois Hopper 302-798-4812
711 W. Birchtree Lane
Claymont, DE 19703

Gerri Kaut
Lodge Lane
1221 Lodge Lane
Wilmington, DE 19809

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

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

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

The Deadline for the next newsletter is Monday, May 20th.

Please send all information to be included in the newsletter to: Brenda Stephens -
atonementmc@gmail.com

**ATONEMENT METHODIST
CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

The purpose of 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.

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 unwavering service. We are sent out by Christ to live and work together and to profess our faith to the community in order that they might hear and respond to the word of God.



Atonement Methodist Church

3519 Philadelphia Pike
Claymont, DE 19703
www.atonementchurch.net
atonementmc@gmail.com

Pastor Amy Peters, Lead Pastor
302-218-5896

Cliff Werline, Assistant Pastor
302-588-7823

MAY 2024

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