

ATONEMENT METHODIST CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

FEBRUARY 2025

GOOD NEWS FROM THE PASTOR....

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who[a] have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 (NLT)

Praise the Lord! For 2024, Atonement Church has been a blessing to so many in our church as well as our community of Claymont, and beyond! Your contributions to Atonement's Communion Fund (and other local contributors) subsidized organizations and ministries such as: Missionary to Ukraine, Wayne Hendrickson; Door of HOPE Family Center, Salvation Army, Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child, Kenny Davis Ministries, Chosen People Ministries, Gideon's International, and Urban Promise. Rebecca's Circle also blessed Atonement and the Claymont community during the Claymont Christmas Parade, Superbowl Sunday soup sale, sponsoring bake sales for funds for Red Bird Mission, and places like Seaman's Center, Sunday Breakfast Mission, Claymont Community Food Bank, Sojourners, and Friendship House. In 2022, another source of money was given to HOPE Community Church in conjunction with Atonement. We called it the "Shirley Wilson inheritance." This monetary legacy gift was given under the supervision of the lawyer handling her estate. It is with this money that Atonement's 12 passenger van was purchased this past summer. Shirley's money immensely helped the families, youth, and children of Knollwood, Claymont, and Wilmington these past two years. Globally, ministries such as Samaritan's Purse and Mercy Ships also received financial support for their untiring efforts to help people. Atonement is truly a missional church. "Let us never grow weary of doing good for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9) Let us give God the glory for He has accomplished infinitely more than we could ever hope to do! PRAYER IS WORKING, my brothers and sisters! It's the power behind all we do! Won't you consider joining one of our prayer meetings on Tuesday or Saturday? May God continue to bless each and every one of us at Atonement Church so that we may be a blessing.

Serving our Savior, Jesus Christ,

Amy

FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES **HOLINESS OF LIFE - THEME**

February 2: HOLINESS OF HEART

Pastor Amy

*Holiness of life arising from a holiness of heart.
Love of God with all heart, soul, and mind is the
sum of Christian perfection. (John Wesley)*

February 9: HOLINESS OF MIND

Todd Bezilla

February 16: PROMISES OF PERFECTION

Cliff Werline

February 23: HIGHWAY OF HOLINESS

Pastor Amy



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 5th at 6:30PM. A time of preparing for Lent by receiving Holy Communion &/or the receiving of ashes. Since Council of Nicea in AD 325, Lent is a 40 day communal focus on Jesus - time to open eyes and set straight the suffering and reality of the love of God through Christ's life, death, and resurrection. Surrender your soul; simplify your life for 40 days in order to enrich your communion with God the Father, Son, and Spirit.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2025 also known as Sports Camp at the Knollwood Community Center needs a team to organize for this summer. Please pray for leaders and helpers! Contact Pastor Amy to join the team. Let's get an early start this year and make it the best one ever.

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.

CALEB LANG'S NEW ADDRESS

Lang, Caleb A.
1st RTBN Bravo Co PLT 1013
PO Box 16130
Parris Island, SC 29905-6255



It's "SOUPer Bowl" SUNDAY SOUP SALE

February 9, 2025

After 9am & 11am worship services

Volunteer to make/donate your favorite
SOUP / STEW / CHILI!...\$8.00 per quart
Volunteers: Pick up soup containers
behind the Welcome Center desk.

**Please, support this
"Rebecca Circle" Fundraiser**

*Sign up at the Welcome Center if you would
like to volunteer to make soup/stew/chili*

*Questions contact:
Debbie Clark (302) 764-2309*

“BUILDING ON THE VISION OF ATONEMENT CHURCH”

“Connecting the Claymont Community & Beyond to Christ”

Over the years Atonement Methodist Church has been blessed by gifts given through estate planning. During uncertain days like these, we often evaluate what is really important to us in this world. The life and ministries of Atonement Church are very important to the health and welfare of Atonement, as well as the entire community. Your donation through legacy giving will bring honor to the Lord, as well as financial help to Atonement’s vision and mission. There are ways for you to contribute directly to the General Operating Budget, the Memorial Fund for Worship, and the Building Fund. Your legacy gift leaves real hope for sustaining the future of Atonement.

LITURGIST SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

- February 2: Traditional - Pastor Amy
The Branch - Pastor Amy
- February 9: Traditional - Ellie Kwick
The Branch - Pat DeFeo
- February 16: Traditional - Linda Cobourn
The Branch - Laura Calzone
- February 23: Traditional - Arlene Skotnicki
The Branch - Kathy Bailey

Happy Birthday FEBRUARY!

- 3- Samantha Blevins
3- Jackie Wanstall
5- Miatta Ashiara
6- Lyn Needs
8- Tim Armstrong
9- Ron Schmidt
19- Nancy Furman-Hargis
20- Sharyn Ford
24 - Joel Ugorek
25- Russel Schmidt
26- Timmy Armstrong



LIFE GROUPS....

it’s not too late to join!

Wednesdays from 1-2pm in the Welcome Center Library. This Bible study unpacks Psalm 91, which is an affirmation for God’s people. Even in the worst of times, countless people have been able to trust in God for His protective care- found in Psalm 91. God truly is our shelter in the storms of life.

WINTER DISCIPLESHIP

OPPORTUNITIES begin with Class Meetings on February 2nd and run four to six weeks. Class Meetings are a life group experience for up to 10 people per group. Male and female will gather together for fellowship and a time to put our faith into practice. The most important ingredient of a successful Class Meeting is a group of people who are willing to take an interest in each other’s lives, and who are interested in growing their relationship with Jesus. Sign up at the Welcome Center desk.

MARK CALENDARS for Lenten Study Groups beginning Sunday, March 2nd through April 6th. More details to follow. If interested in helping with a Lenten Study Group, contact Church Office.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS FOR 2025

Sign up begins and continues throughout the month of January for anyone interested in learning more about becoming a member of this awesome Atonement Methodist Church. The class is scheduled tentatively for Sunday afternoon, February 16th from 3-6pm. New members will be received into the church on the Fifth Sunday of March- March 30th. This includes a time of instruction, a tour of our building, and dinner together in the Welcome Center. Sign up at the Welcome Center desk. Questions: Text or contact Pastor Amy for answers.

2025 COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

*Revised 12/31/2024 - *May be subject to change*

LEADERSHIP TEAM (LAY LEADERSHIP TEAM):

Lead Pastor: Pastor Amy Peters (chair, Pro Temp)

Assistant Pastor: Cliff Werline

Lay Director: Laura Calzone

Ex-Officio Lay Delegate: Tom Bailey

Secretary: Brenda Stephens

Ed Hearn

Pat DeFeo

Laura Calzone

Sandy Vidro

Cliff Werline

Mark Peters

PASTOR STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

Class of 2025

Karen Dejong

Debbie Clark

Cliff Werline

Class of 2026

Nancy Furman-Hargis

Roberta Berger

Class of 2027

Pat DeFeo

Mike Jones

EX-OFFICIO (with vote):

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Chair: Walter Erbenich

Ex-officio: (with vote): Tom Bailey

Pastor: Amy Peters

Treasurer: Ed Hearn

Treasurer's Assistant: Walter Erbenich

Financial Secretary: Tom Sterling

Lay Director: Laura Calzone

Chair of Trustees: Mark Peters

SPRC: Tom Bailey/Karen DeJong

Recording Secretary: Brenda Stephens

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Class of 2025

Cliff Werline

Tom Bailey

Class of 2026

Mike Jones

Class of 2027

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Chairperson: Mark Peters

Secretary: Brenda Stephens

Lay Delegate: Tom Bailey

Class of 2025

Donna Harden

Ron Schmidt

Walter Erbenich

Class of 2026

Randy Kinch

John "Randy" Keim

David Lang, Jr.

Tom Bailey

Class of 2027

Walter Erbenich

Mark Peters

Tom Sterling

EDUCATION TEAM:

Pastor Amy Peters

Valerie West

Cliff Werline

Ellie Kwick

David Lang

Pat Defeo

Amanda Lang

Sandy Vidro

Bonny Jones (Sub)

MUSIC

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Maria Bezilla

OUTREACH TEAM/MISSIONS: Cliff Werline

WORSHIP TEAM:

Chairperson: Steve Calzone
Altar Guild: Fran Hershberger
Chief Usher (Traditional): Arlene Skotnicki
Chief Usher (The Branch): Laura Calzone
Communion Stewards: Arlene Skotnicki, Cindy Pascuzzo

Music Director: Maria Bezilla
Worship Team Leader: Jeff Knoettner
Flower Coordinator: Lynn Armstrong
Pastor Amy Peters
Linda Keim

EMPOWERMENT TEAM: NOT ACTIVE

No Leadership as of 2024 (Praying for Leadership)

EVANGELISM TEAM

Tom Bailey
Pat Defeo
Pastor Amy Peters
Cliff Werline

Patty Bailey
Gretchen Elixon
Mark Peters

Laura Calzone
Sandy Vidro
Ann Meddings

AUDIO/VISUAL/LIVESTREAM COORDINATOR

Joseph Pukatsch

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR

Kathy Bailey

NURSERY VOLUNTEER

Tori Bezilla

CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

Brenda Stephens

YOUTH DIRECTOR

David Lang, Sr.

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

Amanda Lang
James Lang
Valerie West
Tom Bailey
Patty Bailey
Corrine Coates
Beth Friday
Laura Calzone
Amy Peters

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

REGARDING THE SAFETY OF OUR BUILDING

Atonement's Board of Trustees continues to implement (effective January 31, 2023) the following policies and responsibilities in regard to the security of our building:

ALL ENTRANCES TO THE BUILDING ARE TO REMAIN LOCKED AT ALL TIMES

Participants of all worship services, events, and gatherings will be held responsible to keep all entrances locked at all times. To allow people to enter the building there are 2 options:

Option #1 - Someone must be stationed inside of the designated entry to allow people in. If no one is present as a "doorkeeper" then option #2 must be followed:

Option #2 – Complete a short form showing the name and phone number to call to allow entry into the building. Attach the form on the glass of the entry door.

The only exception to this policy applies to the Welcome Center/**Sanctuary entrance during scheduled Atonement Worship Services and events. This entrance will be unlocked 30 minutes prior to and then locked 15 minutes** after the "start" time of Atonement events. During this 45 minute window there will be eyes on this entrance by Trustees.

This policy is being implemented because of an increased frequency of uninvited people finding open doors and gaining access to the building. This causes disruptions to Atonement's worship services as well as other church groups that use our facility. Disruptions have occurred during our youth group meetings, prayer groups, praise band rehearsals, weddings, funerals, and even a baby shower.

With the growing troubled condition of our society, we are taking these measures now in response to what has been happening and to hopefully prevent any type of future heartbreak. It is up to each and every one of us to keep our building secure. Your compliance and assistance in this matter is not only appreciated but most importantly, it is being good stewards of caring for God's house. If you see something that looks suspicious, please inform someone of it.

Thank you for your cooperation,

AMC Trustees



*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

Millie Dyson 302-588-8232
2016 Naamans Road, Apt A6
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

Phillip Komorny 302-798-3264
9 Marion Avenue
Claymont, DE 19703

Walter & Barb Mitchell 302-479-5879
3336 Morningside Drive
Wilmington, 19810

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

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

Church office hours are Tuesday – Thursday 9-3 pm
Worship hours are Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 am
5th Sunday One Service time 10:00 am

Pastor Amy Peters, Lead Pastor
302-218-5896
Cliff Werline, Assistant Pastor
302-588-7823

FEBRUARY 2025

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

*Life Groups for "Class Meetings" and Lenten Study:
day and time to be determined.*