

Aston Press

Monthly Newsletter



July 2024 Events

July 4th - 4th of July

July 4th & 5th - Church Office Closed

July 7th - First Sunday in Heibeck Hall

July 21st - Summer Communion Sunday

Elder of the Month

Bill Gawne

610-800-4403

Church Office Hours

Erin Schuler Coia
Administrative Assistant

Mondays 10am - 1pm
Tuesdays 10am - 1pm
Thursdays 10am - 1pm

610-494-2634
astonpcusa@gmail.com

From the Pastor's Desk

As I write this we are in our first heat wave of the summer. I pray everyone has a way to remain healthy and cool this summer. Remember, please, to stay hydrated!

We will move our worship service into Heibeck Hall on the first Sunday in July and we will remain there until the first Sunday after Labor Day in September. The Summer Preaching Series will be "God's Endless Blessings" taken from the Beatitudes. I hope you can join us for this series. The Beatitudes are eight blessing declared by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount which is found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 5, verses 1-10. In these verses, *blessed* refers to a state of spiritual well-being and happiness. The happiness is a deep joy of the soul. The blessed have a share in salvation and have entered the kingdom of God, experiencing a foretaste of heaven.

Matthew 5:1-10 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

I am experimenting with some changes to the service for the summer by adding more music. I have taken some newer hymns from the Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal. The words will be written in your bulletin and the sheet music will be available. There will be an Ascription of Praise, 'Awesome God' before the Call to Worship. After the Prayer of Confession there will be a sung Response to Confession; 'Change My Heart, O God'. We will stop singing the Gloria Patri for the summer. Instead of a Prayer of Illumination there will be a Hymn of Illumination; 'Thy Word'. Our Affirmation of Faith will be taken from the Brief Statement of Faith. This was written in 1983 when the two largest divisions of the Presbyterian Church reunited. In place of the Doxology we will sing 'Give Thanks'.

These new hymns will be repeated each week so everyone will learn them by the end of the summer. I encourage your feedback on these changes. Do you like them? Do you hate them? Should we continue them? Please let me know.

God's blessings to all, Rev. Christine

APC Committees



July Birthdays

- July 2nd - Donna Marie Gawne
- July 4th - The USA
- July 23rd - Rick Clements
- July 29th - Pat Zebley

July Anniversaries

- July 9th - Jessica & Jeremy WorriLOW
- July 25th - Bill & Joanne Schuler



Staying Healthy with the Summer Heat



1. Stay Hydrated
2. Take Breaks and avoid being outside for long between 10am and 4pm
3. Dress in loose and lightweight clothing
4. Use sunscreen
5. Cool Down with a cool shower or bath
6. Eat light meals

More Tips and Information at www.ready.gov/heat

Buildings & Grounds/St. Andrews

Come join the free coffee hour on Wednesday morning at 9:00 am around the "Round Table" in the boiler room or in the garage. Be prepared to solve the world's problems.

Contact Bill G if you have questions.

Mission & Stewardship



Aston Presbyterian Church
Food Cupboard

The **Food Cupboard** in the Narthex continues each month with all food items (non perishable) being provided to Chester Eastside Ministries. Your continued support of this Mission is appreciated and encouraged.

Cents-Ability offerings for June will go to City Teams



Igniting Hope. Restoring Lives.

Financial Corner

Financial Corner as of May 31 , 2024

How are we doing?

	YTD Budget	YTD
Envelope Giving	26,666.67	29,794.00
Loose Offering	208.33	335.00
DC Learning Ctr	5,000.00	6,000.00
Building Use	500.00	540.00
Initial Offering	100.00	97.00
Per Capita	400.00	272.00
Investment Fund Div.	1,458.33	1,712.33
Insurance Div.	-	641.48
Misc. Income	104.17	-
Income	34,437.50	39,391.81
Local Expenses	34,105.42	34,072.57
Mission Giving	1,612.19	794.26
Operating Expenses	35,717.61	34,866.83
Surplus (Shortfall)	(1,280.11)	4,524.98
Other Mission & Special Offerings		\$ 794.26
Capital Expenditures		\$ 2,000.00

Our 2024 surplus at this point in time is \$4,524.98. This surplus is due to the fact that some members having pre-paid their pledge for the entire year or a partial year, which helps not to have to withdraw from our investment account early on. We paid the balance of \$2,000 for materials and labor for the repair of the parking lot cracks. This came from our Capital Investments. As we always say, your church needs you, as we all need our church. There is much we need to take care of, so we must be careful not to neglect anything. We miss all of you former "regulars". We express our "Get Well's", "Peace" and "Condolences" to all those in need of these prayers.
Respectfully submitted: Michele Kane



We have arrived at the midpoint of our 2024 year as we prepare to celebrate the 248th Birthday of our nation. July also brings backyard cookouts, vacation time for many of us and the hot days of midsummer. So, we pause now to reflect on some of the past happenings during the summer at Aston Presbyterian Church.

Five years Ago - 2019 - Pastor Michelle Grunsiech in her column wrote about summer being part of ordinary time in the church year. She said it was a season of rest, refreshment, renewal, and relaxation. She reminded us of that Psalm 46:10 tells us, "Be still and know that I am God." On July 7th, the summer worship schedule began in the air conditioned Heibeck Hall.

Ten years ago- 2014 - Ruth Voss, Clerk of Session in her column, talked about how the Session Search Team was working to find a new Supply Pastor for us. The Day Care Summer Camp program held the following events: a Face Painting Day, a Bug Day, a visit to Tyler Arboretum, the St Jude Bike-a-thon. The Worship and Music Committee was seeking candidates to fill the Music Director's position.

Fifteen years Ago-2009-Pastor Jane Ritterson in her column spoke about things slowing down at church during the summer months. The following new members were received in June of 2009: Kellie Anderson, Jane Dimaio, Bonnie Lazor, Barbara Salvadore, and former member June Sidoriak by transfer from Concord Liberty Presbyterian Church. The DayCare in their Summer Program had these events: visit to "Curtain Call Theatre to see "The Magic Cookie." A visit to Bettes Fun Center, a visit from Mr. Malcom, a Storyteller.

Twenty years Ago-2004-Pastor Pam Cowan in her "From the Pastor's Hat Rack" column, she talked about meeting many Christian friends while traveling during vacation time. Pastor Pamela was leading the Philadelphia Presbytery Delegation to the 2004 Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University from July 20-25. The delegation included our own: Jessica Sampson and John Schultz. The following persons supplied the Pulpit while the Pastor was away: July 4th Elder Pat Zebley, July 11th Elder Tom C. Zebley, July 25th Elder Bill Schuler, Jr.

Twenty-five years Ago-1999- Interim Pastor Paul Tuttle in his "In Between Thought" column wrote that it being a small world, no matter where we go, we can find someone that we know through our church relationships. Thomas Joseph Zebley, son of Thomas C. & Teresa Zebley recently graduated from Sun Valley High School.

Thirty years ago-1994-Pastor Scott Cupp in his "Ex Cathedra " column talked about the Session and Deacons working to create a new Mission statement for Aston Presbyterian Church as we look toward the 21st Century. The following new members were received: Mike and Jessica Collins, Stephen and Ellen Janis, and Jim and Donna Vojcsik. Stephanie Carpenter was named Outstanding Business Student at Sun Valley High School; David Health received his MBA from Temple University.

Thirty-five years Ago-1989-Pastor Scott Cupp's "Ex Cathedra Column" thinking about what the Church would be like in the coming 21st Century. He said that we must be open as we seek the Holy Spirit's leadership as we consider APC's witness in the new century. Vacation Bible School was held from July 31 -84 with the theme being "Celebrate God's Love"

Forty years ago-1984-Alicia Dove was welcomed to Aston Presbyterian church as our new Organist in July of 1984.

Forty-five years ago-1979 - the Vacation Bible School theme for 1979 was: "I Love To Tell the Story" and was held August 6th to 11th. Our Church's annual trip to a Phillies game was on August 20th.

50 years ago-1974- We held a Vacation Bible School jointly with Saint James Episcopal Church with Janet John of our Church and Peggy Graber of St. James as co-coordinators.

Now as we move on through July and August and look ahead to the new church year that begins in September let us give thanks for God's blessings of rest, relaxation, and travel during these summer months. May these words from the old Sunday School Song, "I'll Be A Sunbeam" give us inspiration for our journey as witnesses for Jesus Christ our Lord:

Verse 1: "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, To shine for Him each day; In every way try to please Him, At home, at school, at play."

Verse 2: "I will ask Jesus to help to keep my heart from sin; ever reflecting His goodness, and always shine for Him."

Verse 3: "I'll be a sunbeam for Jesus, I can if I try; serving Him moment by moment, then live with Him on High."

Chorus: "A sunbeam, a sunbeam, Jesus wants me for a sunbeam; A sunbeam, a sunbeam, I'll be a sunbeam for Him."

May the sun always shine on our service for Christ Jesus.

Grace and Peace,
Bill Schuler, Jr.

Aston Pres. Learning Center



July 2024 Learning Center Events

July 4th & 5th - Learning Center Closed
 July 14th - Spirit Night at Just Ice Cream 1-9pm
 July 25th - Christmas in July

Happy Feet Soccer



Every Wednesday
 through Summer

APC Learning Center

Happy July! Summer is flying by here at Aston Pres. as we soak up the sun! There is always something to look forward to whether it's our fun filled water days, soccer practice with Coach K of Happy Feet or guest performances the kids can't get enough! This month we are excited to have Tye Dye day with our little ones as we watch their creativity come alive! Our Bike Wash event is always a favorite as well as celebrating Christmas in July with Mrs. Claus. A new fundraiser and Spirit Night the center is talking about will be at 'Just Homemade Ice Cream' in Aston on Sunday July 14th from 1-9PM. Please save the date and mention our name at check out! Hope to see you there!



Spirit Night at 'Just Homemade Ice Cream!'

Where: 4736 Pennell #12; Aston, PA
 When: July 14th from 1pm - 9pm

Mention Aston Presbyterian Church Learning Center at Checkout

