



The Beacon

February 2018

LET ALL
THAT
YOU DO
BE DONE
WITH
LOVE.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14 NKJV



PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

Have you had a chat with the Lord today? No appointment needed, the opportunity is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Keep praying, prayer changes things.

PRAYER EMPHASIS FOR FEBRUARY

What is Love anyway?

No matter what our situation or the hard times we might be facing, we can choose to focus on what God says. He reminds us, *"Love covers a multitude of sins."* Love covers any shade of grey, every uncertainty, and all worries or fears. It's greater than any obstacle or struggle we face in this life. The powerful love of Christ wins every time against the enemy's lies of defeat. We don't have to let him win. We can choose the better way. We can choose whose voice we listen to. We can choose to walk in truth. We can choose to walk in love.

God's love is perfect, faithful, unconditional, forgiving, all-encompassing, pure, lasting, sacrificial, strong, enduring, refreshing, redeeming, everlasting, lavish, full, inspiring, hope-filled, gracious, and so much more. It's never based on us, our abilities, or striving to ever be good enough. It's found in Him, His character, and huge capacity to give. It knows no boundaries and has no limits. There's no place too deep that His love can't reach us still.

His love letter to us breathes grace, strength, hope, and peace. Believe the truth He speaks over you...

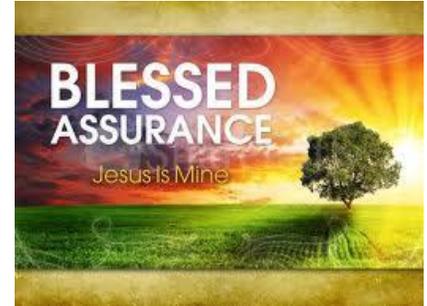
"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

1 John 4:9-11

A Foretaste of Glory Divine

The title for this pastor's page is, of course, taken from the hymn, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine." Not much is known of the background of this Fanny Crosby hymn, save that a certain Mrs. Joseph Fairchild Knapp, wife of the organizer of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, went to visit Ms. Crosby to get an opinion of a tune Mrs. Knapp had written. "What does it say to you, Fanny?," she asked. Fanny's answer was "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine." And then a few minutes later she handed to Mrs. Knapp the completed lyrics of the hymn. The tune and the lyrics were put together and are still sung today.

Fanny Crosby wrote over 8000 hymns. She said about her blindness, "The first face ever to gladden my sight will be when I get to heaven and behold the face of the One who died for me. . . . I verily believe that God intended that I should live my days in physical darkness so that I might be better prepared to sing His praise and lead others from spiritual darkness into eternal light. With sight I would have been too distracted to have written thousands of hymns."



Fanny Crosby demonstrated an amazing faith in the providence, love, and salvation of God. What some would have construed as a curse, she found to be a blessing. What would have driven others to despair drove her to praise and worship God. She is a sterling example of how we should respond to adversity in gratitude to God for his abiding goodness, grace and love. She lived in anticipation of the glory to be revealed to her. With the apostle Paul, she could say, "this light momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure" (2 Cor. 4:17).

We will soon be in the period of Lent, a time of preparation for the remembrance of the crucifixion and then the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ for us and our salvation. Lent is to be a time of self-examination, of repentance, and of renewed commitment amongst those who are the "heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood." It is to be a time in which we prepare for the glory to be revealed to us in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, a glory that anticipates the final glory that shall be ours when "he will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself" (Phil. 3:21).

Are you preparing yourself in this time to meet the Lord? Are you "watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love"? Do you have that blessed assurance that Jesus is yours, and that you are his? That assurance comes from submitting our hearts and lives to Christ each day, meditating on his Word, resting in his promises and his sufficiency, and following the Lord each day. Let us commit ourselves to him afresh in preparation for the glory God will reveal through Jesus in us!

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long.

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Pastor Randy

Pastor's Report for December, 2017
Prepared for Session Meeting of Jan. 14, 2018
Rev. Randall Otto

- A. Service of the Lord's Day
 - a. Prepared and led worship on 5 Sundays, and two on Christmas Eve
 - b. Administered sacrament of Lord's Supper on Dec. 3
 - c. Sunday night activities: cookie baking, caroling
- B. Visits and Contacts (Pastoral and other)
 - a. visits: 1 (visited with homebound when caroling)
 - b. Hospital visits: 0
 - c. Picking up Tammie Brewster each Sun now for worship
- C. Administration
 - a. wrote the pastor's page, other items for Beacon
 - b. did updating of church website and Facebook page
- D. Community outreach/church connections
 - a. Presby meeting at Red Clay on Dec. 2
 - b. Attended cookie walk Dec 8
 - c. Dress rehearsal for cantata Dec 9
 - d. Met with Rev. Son Dec. 20
 - e. Moderated Elkton church's session meeting on Dec. 20
- E. Ideas for consideration and/or action:
 - a. Appoint elders to team (committee) leadership and go over Standing Rules.
 - b. Rev. Scott Burkley will come to Feb. 11 session meeting to share about the Bethel Bible study program, with which he has been affiliated for many years.
 - c. Korean Church of Service—as I indicated in a Dec. email, Rev. Son has departed from KCOS for other ministry and that church will seek new pastoral leadership. Nothing changes in its relationship with St. Andrew's.
 - d. Confirmation class overview

2018 SESSION

Clerk	Eileen Hunt
Buildings & Grounds	Myron Hardesty/Grant Hardy
Christian Ed	Cliff Wood
Fellowship	Dave DiMartine
Membership & Outreach	Flora Atangcho
Memorials	
Missions	Florence Fonjweng
Pastor/Personnel	Mary Anne Colbert
Stewardship	Cliff Wood
Treasurer	Darrell DiStefano
Worship Celebration	MaryAnne Colbert/Julie Guns

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED SESSION MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2017

Moderator Rev. Dr. Randy Otto opened the meeting with prayer at 4:07 pm.

Members in attendance: Darrell DiStefano, Julie Guns, Flora Atangcho, Myron Hardesty, Cliff Wood, Jane Wright and Florence Fonjweng.

Members not in attendance: Dave DiMartine and Mary Anne Colbert.

Quorum present

November Session Meeting was cancelled for a lack of a quorum.

Minutes from the October Session Meeting and the Congregational Meeting were approved.

December docket was approved.

CLERK'S Report: Attendance for the 5 services in October was 288 people. Attendance for the services in November was 257 people.

TREASURER'S Report: Income for October 2017 was \$12,166.10. Expenses for October were \$14,055.09. Deficit for October was -\$1,888.99. For the YTD as of October the deficit was -\$20,459.41. Income for November 2017 was \$10,752.10. Expenses for November were \$13,144.66. The deficit as of the end of November was -\$2,392.56. The deficit for the year as of the end of November is -\$22,851.97.

Motions made, seconded and approved:

- New members René and Emelian Tabali will be received into membership by their reaffirmation of faith.
- New member Michelle Lombardi will be received into membership by her profession of faith.
- Proposed budget for 2018
- Congregational Meeting will be immediately after service on January 28, 2018.
- Vacation for Randy Otto for week beginning March 3, 2018 and week of May 16-27th 2018.
- January 7, 2018 the installation of new officers will be during the Sunday Worship Service.
- Mission Study Report was approved with a note of thanks to all the work of the committee members.
- To set up a Restricted Fund for Coffee Hour donation to be used as needed.
- Money (\$4,357.25) was appropriated from the September Golf Outing as follows;
 - ❖ Newark Empowerment (\$1,452.42)
 - ❖ My Sister's Keeper (\$1,452.41)
 - ❖ Door of Hope (\$1,452.42)
- For Motions which need approval before the next session meeting, the following procedure has been put into place. First the motion is presented to Rev. Otto and he will send it to the Clerk of Session. The proposed motion will be e-mailed to all members of Session by the Clerk. A quorum of members must respond to the Clerk and the majority of the results of the votes will rule. Responses must be received by the Clerk of Session within 48 hours of the date e-mailed. Session members should "respond to all" with their vote. Clerk of Session will also send a text to all Session Members to alert them to check their e-mail for a needed email vote. Clerk of Session will report results of voting to Moderator and all Session Members by e-mail.

The next scheduled Stated Session Meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2018.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen B. Hunt, Clerk of Session

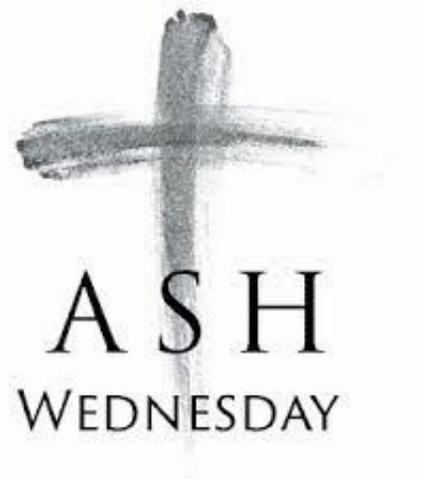
Confirmation Class Scheduled



Pastor Otto will be offering a confirmation class for those in sixth grade or above each Sunday after worship for 45 minutes from Feb. 4-March 18 (no class on March 11). This class will be held in the pastor's office right after worship so parents can enjoy their coffee and fellowship time and then take their children home with them. Those wishing to join to church will share a statement of faith in Jesus as their Savior with the session at its meeting on Sunday, March 18 (be there at 5 pm) and then be received in the worship service on Easter Sunday, April 1 at 10 am.

Ash Wednesday Worship, Feb. 14

The community Ash Wednesday service will be held on Feb. 14 which, as we also know, is Valentine's Day. The service will be at St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church, 10 Old Newark Rd, Newark, at 7 pm. Rev. Asher Tunik of Kingswood Methodist will bring the message and opportunity will be available to all who wish to have the sign of the cross in ashes placed on their foreheads. Please join us for the beginning of the season of Lent in this time of preparation for the cross and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.



March 11 Special Worship and Offering

Special Worship

On March 11 for our 10 am worship, St. Andrew's will host a group of Cameroonians belonging to the Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF) in Washington DC as part of their evangelism efforts. They will run the entire service, including bringing the sermon, with musical performance with their instruments (drums etc.). This will coincide with our annual fund-raising effort on behalf of the Cameroonian Pastors' Retreat, for which a second special offering will be taken that day. Please come prepared to contribute as you feel led to that additional offering on behalf of the pastors of the Cameroon Presbyterian Church.

FROM THE DEACONS FEBRUARY 2018

Keep Our Pantry Stocked

Please continue to bring in food; calls from people in need come year-round. Place your donations in a basket in the narthex on any Sunday. Remember we cannot use outdated foods.

Thank you for supporting this ongoing ministry.

- Cake mixes
- Cereal
- Fruit (applesauce, etc.)
- Jelly
- Mac and cheese
- Meats (canned tuna, etc.)
- Pasta
- Peanut butter
- Rice
- Soups
- Spaghetti sauce
- Vegetables (canned)

Coats for Hope & Just Socks

Thank you for your generous donations of warm clothing and socks that helped many in need. We are no longer collecting at this time; we will resume in the fall.

Deacons did not meet in January. Next deacons meeting: Feb. 4, 2017

THE BOARD OF DEACONS 2018

Katie Hardy

Mackenzie Connors

Debbie Stowell

Rick Hardy

Sue Staudt (moderator)



Youth Group

Wow, January has already come and gone. It seems like time just flies by. The youth had another successful New Year's Eve lock in. This year we had 25 youth stay the night. I'd like to give a shout out to Chaison, Elvin, and Tanner for making time to stop by for a little time at the lock in. I'd also like to thank Chaison for the supplies donated for the lock-in.

I'm calling out to everyone in the congregation to spread the word about our Sunday Night activities. We'd love to get some more youth involved. Do you have grandchildren, nieces, nephews or even neighborhood children that would benefit from Sunday Nights? If so please invite them or let me know how to contact them and I'll invite them.



Morning Circle

The next meeting will be Thursday February 1st at 10 AM in the home of Betty Winter.

Esther circle

The Ruth and Naomi Circles have combined to become the Esther Circle. They are using 2017-2018 PW/ Horizons Bible Study, *Cloud of Witnesses; The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. The next meeting is Tuesday February 20th at 7PM at the church. All women are welcome to join.

There will be a brief (10-15 minutes) meeting of all PW in the balcony immediately following worship on Sunday February 11th. Please stay to discuss how the PW funds will be spent this year.

DOLLARS AND SENSE - THE BOTTOM LINE

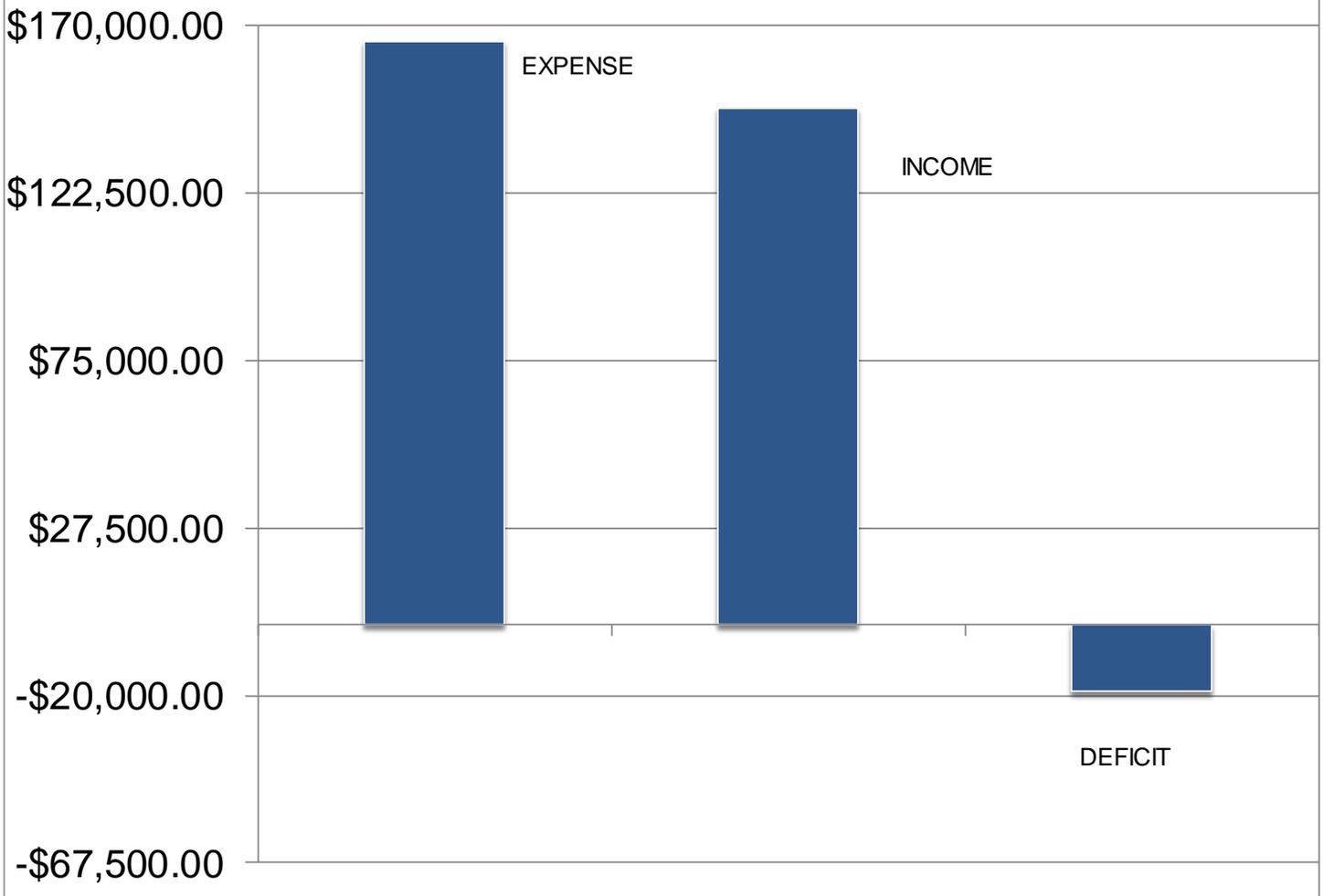
In December, St. Andrew's received \$17,264.11. That amount is \$4,156.11 more than the \$13,108 budgeted for the month. We spent \$13,330.09 in December. That is \$784.69 less than the budgeted expenses. The surplus for the month was \$3,934.02.

In 2017 St. Andrew's received \$146,592.32 and spent \$165,510.27 resulting in a deficit of \$18,917.95. Obviously, our reserves will not cover this much deficit spending for very long. At the end of December, our reserves were \$64,652.31. Our reserves at the end of 2016 were \$65,500.28. So even though we spent nearly \$19,000 more than we received, our reserves decreased by only \$857.97. Our deficit spending was almost entirely offset by increases in our investment accounts. We are thankful for God providing this increase, but we cannot depend on that continuing at that rate. However, if we continue to spend \$19,000 more than we receive each year, our reserves will be exhausted sometime in 2021.

There is little wiggle room in our budget. Salaries are 79% of our spending. Building costs are 16%. Those two categories represent 95% of the budget. Program, per capita and missions make up the remaining 5%. Any meaningful reduction in spending would have to come from salaries. Depending on the salary of our new pastor, whom I assume will be called sometime in 2018, we might be able to save a few thousand dollars there. The presbytery minimum effective salary for 2018 is \$50,917. If the new pastor is hired for the presbytery minimum, we would save about \$12,500 annually.

ST. ANDREW'S DECEMBER FINANCIAL POSITION - ACTUAL VS BUDGET

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD INCOME	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
DECEMBER	\$17,264.11	\$13,108.00	\$4,156.11	\$146,592.32	\$157,296.00	-\$10,703.68
	EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD EXPENSE	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
PASTOR	\$6,981.03	\$7,250.11	-\$269.08	\$86,716.51	\$87,000.00	-\$283.49
STAFF	\$3,883.60	\$3,983.73	-\$100.13	\$47,450.39	\$47,803.00	-\$352.61
PROGRAM	\$203.12	\$312.72	-\$109.60	\$1,690.99	\$3,750.00	-\$2,059.01
BLDG GRDS	\$1,368.34	\$2,270.22	-\$901.88	\$25,901.01	\$27,240.00	-\$1,338.99
PER CAPITA	\$894.00	\$298.00	\$596.00	\$3,576.45	\$3,576.00	\$0.45
MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$83.37	-\$83.37	\$174.92	\$1,000.00	-\$825.08
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$13,330.09	\$14,198.15	-\$784.69	\$165,510.27	\$170,369.00	-\$4,858.73
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$3,934.02	(\$1,090.15)		(\$18,917.95)	(\$13,073.00)	



All Things New Castle Presbytery – January 2018

Last year, two search teams were selected to find the people who will fill the positions of Connectional Presbyter and Missional Presbyter. A brief description of these positions follows.

Connectional Presbyter:

- Pastoral support, for both ministers of the Word and Sacrament and elders, including commissioned lay pastors (CLPs), who are serving actively in the work of the NCP,
- Advocate and agent, for recruiting ministers of the Word and Sacrament for service within the NCP.
- Stated Clerk, serving the NCP in accordance with the specifications of G 3.0104 and G 3.0305 of the Book of Order.

The Connectional Presbyter will be the staff person connecting the system of governance and the bodies responsible for congregational ministry within the NCP and also within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) In both celebration and challenge she or he will resource the NCP's Committee on Ministers and Congregations (formerly the Committee on Ministry) its Committee on Nominations, and its Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC). He/she will also manage and coordinate the work of the NCP office staff.

The search team for this position have been collecting applications and are currently interviewing their short list of candidates. They hope to have a candidate by the March Beach Retreat Meeting in March.

Missional Presbyter:

- Development of enthusiasm and hope in member churches by helping them to connect their dreams, ideas, and leaders with the work of the Ignite Team of the NCP
- Engagement of member churches in connecting with one another and with other worshipping communities and community groups to be about the mission of the Gospel outside the walls of their own churches.
- Cooperative work with the NCP Coordinating Committee and the Committee on Leadership.

The Missional Presbyter is expected to serve in the following specific

areas; Staffing and resourcing the Ignite Team, to help the NCP become more missional; working with the Ignite Team in developing a new

handbook for missional best practices; visiting among the congregations of the NCP, with the intention of interpreting a new missional agenda for the NCP; leading worship through preaching and liturgies that emphasize the missional activities of the church and offering hope for what God is doing in the NCP and in the world; teaching, training, and directing missional education for member congregations and clusters; encouraging and mentoring ministers of the Word and Sacrament and elders in missional

work; encouraging member churches individually and in clusters to organize mission experiences of both day trip and extended stay varieties; connecting missional efforts with other denominational and interfaith groups

and agencies also engaged in missional activities while staying grounded within core values of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); keeping the NCP connected with other presbyteries and PC(USA) denominational efforts

focused on missional activities; creating strategies for launching "new worshipping communities" within the NCP and insuring ongoing support for those involved; connecting the NCP congregations

to available grant, loan, and scholarship resources for pursuing missional activities; staying attuned to and trained in mission education; and helping with the design of NCP meetings and other regional gatherings, to keep missional themes in the foreground.

The search team for this position is just beginning to collect applications and will begin the early interview process by the end of January.

In the past, these roles have been filled by an Executive Presbyter, a Stated Clerk, and the administration of grants and missions through a committee.

Stay tuned for more exciting changes coming to New Castle Presbytery!

If there are specific topics or questions regarding changes, please feel free to email me at winniencp@gmail.com, or call me 302-368-1365. Stay tuned for the next Beacon for more information on All Things New Castle Presbytery!

Winnie Wagner

FREE TO A GOOD MUSICAL HOME

- Console Baldwin piano and bench.
- Circa 1980
- Location: 23 McCord Drive, Brookside, Newark
- interested party would be required to handle the move of the piano
- If interested, contact Jim and Lorraine Ebert on 410-360-0388 (home) or 410-608-0991 (Lorraine's cell) for access to the house
- 2 photos are attached



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2018

1 Thursday	Morning Circle	10:00 a.m.
	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:00/7:00 p.m.
2 Friday	Groundhog Day	
4 Sunday	Blended Service w/ Communion	10:00 a.m.
	Youth Sunday/Food Collection Sunday	
	Deacon Meeting	11:00 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	NO SUNDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES	
7 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
8 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
11 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Confirmation Class	
	Session Meeting	4:00 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
14 Wednesday	Ash Wednesday/Valentine's Day	
	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Community Ash Wednesday Service @ St. Nicholas	7:00 p.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
15 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
18 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
19 Monday	BEACON DEADLINE	
	President's Day	
20 Tuesday	Esther Circle	
21 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
22 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
25 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
28 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2018

 <h2 style="margin: 0;">HAPPY BIRTHDAY</h2>	<p>2 Debbie Stowell 4 Michelle Lombardi 6 Jane Wright 9 Norman Jackson 9 Randy Otto 16 Scott Hunt</p>	<p>18 Willem Avenarius 18 Emmanuel Ndifor 18 Leah Kuykendall 27 Charlotte Walker 28 Matt Kupelian 29 Celestine Atangcho</p>
---	--	--

 <p><i>Happy Anniversary</i></p>	<p>2- Herb & Alice Hoeflinger 25- Rob & Karen Johnson</p>	<p>1 Morning Circle 10AM Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM</p>	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p>
--	--	--	--	----------

<p>4 Blended Service w/ Communion Youth /Food Collection Sunday 10 AM Deacon's Meeting 11:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM NO SUNDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES</p> 			<p>7 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>8 Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM</p>		
--	--	--	---	--	--	--

<p>11 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Session Meeting 4:00 PM Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study 6:00 PM</p>			<p>14 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM Community Ash Wed Service 7PM St. Nicholas KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>15 Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM</p>		
---	--	--	---	---	--	--

<p>18 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study 6:00 PM</p>	<p>19 Beacon Deadline</p> 	<p>20 Esther Circle 7PM</p>	<p>21 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>22 Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM</p>		
--	--	---	--	---	--	--

<p>25 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study 6:00 PM</p>			<p>28 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	 <p style="font-size: small;">heathereking.org</p>		
--	--	--	--	---	--	--

Presbyterian Women in New Castle Presbytery
Annual Retreat 2018

*"I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd gives His life for the
sheep."*

John 10:11

"The Lord Is My Shepherd"



Friday, April 20 - Sunday April 22, 2018

Dunes Manor Hotel

2800 N. Baltimore Ave.

Ocean City, MD 21842

For Registration call Marty Cropper 410-213-1592 or Mabel Rogers 410-641-5883

Or Email benzgrammyinoc@yahoo.com or thimbly@comcast.net