

SAVE THE DATE

What: Game Night
When: Tues, Oct 29th 7—9:00p.m.

Bring a game, deck of cards and join your church family for an evening of fun and fellowship!

SAVE THE DATE

WHAT: Church family Thanksgiving Dinner
WHEN: After Worship - November 10th

More information to follow about dinner

Announcement for Bible Study

We will continue our Bible study on the book of Philippians this **Thurs, Oct 17 at 11 AM** in the Fellowship Hall continuing our discussion of Chapter One. All are welcome!

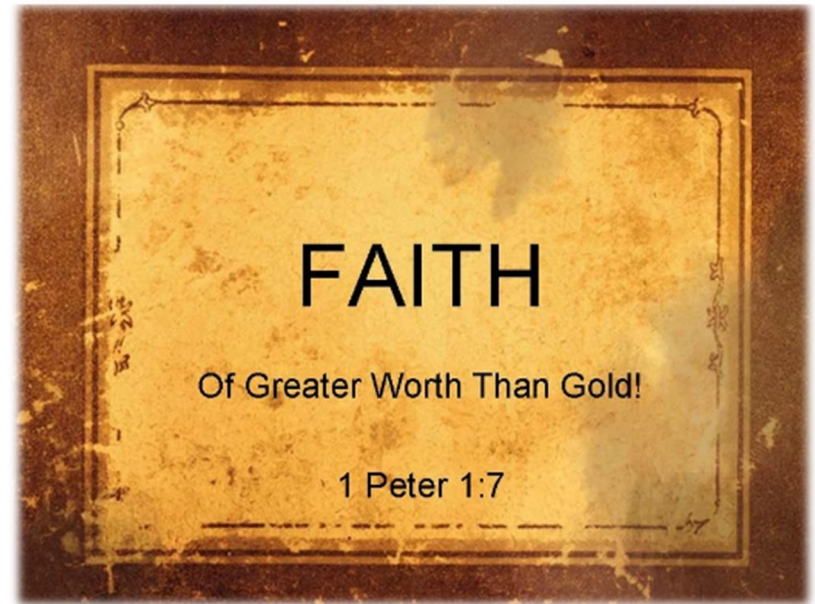
Pastor Debbie is now in Ocean City from **Sunday through Thursday**. She is always available by texting or calling:

843-568-6480

or via email:

djhj3675@gmail.com

Sunday, October 13, 2024
21st Sunday after Pentecost
10: 30AM



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"Is Our 'Stuff' Getting in the Way of Following Jesus?"

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster
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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, October 13, 2024

21st Sunday after Pentecost

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "When we put God first, all other things fall into their proper place or drop out of our lives. Our love of the Lord will govern the claims for our affection, the demands on our time, the interests we pursue, and the order of our priorities."-
Ezra Taft Benson

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Deacon Beth Fisher

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the God of gods,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us worship God!

Choral Introit: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

* Hymn: " Seek Ye First" # 42

* **Passing the Peace** - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ*

Call to Confession:

Let us willingly embrace that which we believe is true - we can come to the seat of grace, bringing our prayers of confession to the One who is filled to overflowing with mercy and hope. Join me as we pray together our collective prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Merciful God, we become so enamored of the glitz and glitter of the world. It is as though our lives were lived in "catalog shopping" design. We have so much and want so much more. We listen to the pitches in the media about the latest and best of everything, and rather than striving to serve you more faithfully, we strive to gather more and more possessions. Forgive our crass materialism. Break the bonds and chains of

Current Prayer Concerns:

Diane Ayres, Virginia Miller, Billie Jones, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, Margie Baugher-Cramer, Graison Wainwright and family.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Oct	20	Beth Fisher & Peggy Webster
Oct	27	Ann Hales & Brenda Wilkinson
Nov	3	Barb & Betsy Kipila
Nov	10	Lisa Bayles & Jonelle Jones
Nov	17	Dawn Butler & Robin Quinn
Nov	24	Vickie Cairns & Jan Owens

Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace and Unity

The ecumenical group, AFFA (All Faith Friendship Association) is planning an Ecumenical Prayer Service **for Tuesday, October 22 under the pavilion at Stephen Decatur Park in Berlin from 5-6:30 pm.** The event will be intentionally non-partisan as we gather the community two weeks before the national election lifting prayers for peace, unity and empathy among our citizens. All members of all denominations are invited to attend. Pastor Debbie has been on the planning team for this event and will be participating.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

* Hymn: "Lift High the Cross" #304

Charge

Benediction (Responsive)

Postlude and Response: "God Be With You"

Liturgy credit: Rev. Stephanie Sorge for The Presbyterian Outlook, Lectionary Liturgies

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Wed	Oct	16	Hand Bells Practice	5:00	PM
Wed	Oct	16	Choir Practice	6:00	PM
Thu	Oct	17	Bible Study—Philippians	11:00	AM
Fri	Oct	18	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00	PM

Birthdays: *Larry Hak (10/15) Sally Bradford (10/16)*

Flowers: *Chancel vase flowers are given:*

~To the Glory of our Risen Savior and in memory of our father, Andrew Kilpila as he celebrated his birthday on October 10th and in honor of Barbara and the celebration of her birthday on October 4th. ~ *Betsy and Barbara*

Congregation Financials as of September 30, 2024:

(\$110,558.25 from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$170,740.07

Total parking lot receipts for Oceans and Country Calling (5 days): \$14,393

- Year-to-date disbursements: \$124,358.91

Note: A bookkeeping change was made to charge \$20,166 against Capital Improvement for the new windows installed in the Manse in 2023. Capital Improvement balance now stands at \$89,666.08.

our oppression and enslavement to greed. Open our hearts to know that the riches of the kingdom are in service to you. Help us to understand the call you have given us to service, and having heard and understood that call, may we be about the work of the kingdom. For we offer this prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Children of God, hear and believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* **Gloria Patri:** (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering:

When the Apostle Paul called for Gentile Christians to contribute to the offering for the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem, he reminded them, "for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." Mindful of and grateful for the many blessings we have received from God, let us give generously that we may supply the needs of the saints and overflow with thanksgivings to God.

Offertory

* **Doxology:** (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

Generous and merciful God, we thank you for your indescribable gift of Jesus Christ. As we present our offerings today, give us grateful and generous hearts, that we may always follow Jesus in what we say and do. Help us to remember that every generous act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, from you, our heavenly Father. Amen,

Choral Anthem: "Sharing the Love"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

Almighty God, we join the psalmist as we say, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, may our hearts be illumined by your Holy Spirit. May our lives and actions reflect the light of your Word that others may follow your path, also. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Job 23: 1-9, 16-17 [NRSV]

Robin Quinn

Then Job answered: ² "Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. ³ Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling! ⁴ I would lay my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. ⁵ I would learn what he would answer me and understand what he would say to me. ⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No, but he would give heed to me. ⁷ There the upright could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge. ⁸ "If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; ⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him. ¹⁶ God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me. ¹⁷ If only I could vanish in darkness,

2nd Scripture Reading: Mark 10: 17-31 [NRSV]

Pastor Debbie Johnson

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.' " ²⁰ He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. ²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them

again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." ²⁸ Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹ Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the good news ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "Is Our 'Stuff' Getting in the Way of Following Jesus?"

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* Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us" # 375

Affirmation of Faith-The Apostles Creed (unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.