"Then Samuel told him everything, and hid nothing from him. And Eli said, "It is the LORD. Let Him do what seems good to Him."

1 Samuel 3:18 (NRSV)

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Worship Live online Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on APC's Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/AbseconPresby

Pastor's sermon is titled "Listening Even When the Truth Hurts Our Ears" from 1 Samuel 3 (NRSV) available for you in the attached bulletin.

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If you or someone you know from church is sick or hospitalized, please notify the office at 609/641-3759 so Pastor Drew can reach out to you.

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Please Keep These Requests in Prayer

For peace, cooperation, and integrity in our political process.

For an end to the COVID pandemic, the success of the vaccine, the continued improvement of treatments.

For those battling this virus, including several on our list of intentions, that they would know a full recovery.

For those mourning loved ones lost and those who have gone without care for other conditions due to the virus.

For your wisdom where we gather, protection from the virus and consolation as we grieve change.

For the lonely and isolated, the angry and afraid, especially those struggling with mental illness.

For the marginalized, the poor, and downtrodden here in our communities, our state, our nation and the whole world.

For this, your church community to live into its purpose and offer your love to those who do not yet fully know you.

For a revival in our faith to live boldly for your Kingdom.

For these the individuals and families in acute need right now who are connected to your church in Absecon:

Jerry Hoenes, Judy Stebbins, The Gillis Family, JoAnne Morgan, Minerva Stadlmeir, Dan Hughes, Marge Loeb & her caregivers, Doreen & Alan Wacaster, Stan Weir, Julie, Rob Perry, Robin McBrearty, Christopher Green, Diane Ford, Dorie Keener, Patti, Jim & Devon Morris, John King

Continued prayers always for:

Louise Speitel, Kavonna & Essence, Darryl, Khristen and Quentin, Rich Hardy, Dirk Williamson, Jim Price, Donna Hughes, Rita Abelson, Bill Tilley, Elaine Risley, Frances Weir, Emilia Carboy, Irene Smith, Aiden & Wendy Licolli, Kathy Boyte, Jean Delesantro, Betsy Cunius, Marjorie McGuigan, Rich & Rob, Doris Steele, Essie Newell, Joyce Pfeiffer, Don & Lucy Croneberger, Marie C. & Carmen DeVece, Olga Davies, Carol Thomas, Jim Mong, Edith Budd, Carol DeLaurentis, Ellen Plum, Mildred Felsberg, Virginia Loeb

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I would like to thank the Deacons for the Christmas gift. Our family greatly appreciates our church family. May you all be safe and stay healthy until we can be together safely again.

Patti, Jim and Devin Morris

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SPECIAL CALLING YOU TO PRAY FOR PEACE ON WEDNESDAY

The Wednesday Morning Prayer ministry has asked that we all make this coming Wednesday a special day of prayer for peace in our nation. As Christians our calling is to pray and even when we do not have the words, the groanings of the Holy Spirit will pray for us. *Please take some extra time Wednesday to pray*. The church <u>Facebook page</u> will provide some resources, including a basic liturgy you can use at home in your prayers.

If you wish to join the Wednesday morning prayer group at 8:30 a.m., please send an email to PrayerAPC@ gmail.com and you will be sent the link to join Zoom on Wednesday morning.

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IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT NEXT SUNDAY Annual Meeting Scheduled for Zoom after Service Every 'Active Member' of the church should have received a letter around Christmas to inform you of the upcoming Annual Meeting of both the Congregation and the Corporation. Included in this letter were proposed revisions to the church's bylaws for both the congregation and the corporation.

In the Congregational Meeting, you will be asked to vote on the bylaws, approve revisions to the pastor's terms of call, elect new Elders, Deacons and Trustees, and elect the Nominating Committee. In the Corporation Meeting, the only vote will be on the bylaws. In both meetings, you will have a chance to review and ask questions about the annual report.

Due to the Pandemic, we must hold the meeting on Zoom to comply with New Jersey state law, which is why it is important we use this meeting to update our bylaws. We need all members who can access Zoom to participate. If you have any questions, please call the office.

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Do you consider Absecon Presbyterian Church your local church, but you are not an official member?

Thank you for being here! Would you consider joining? In truth, you are a part of the community even if you are not a member. This is your church. However, in our church's form of government, to become a member is a profession of faith that amplifies your voice, by allowing you to elect the leaders of the church, vote on major issues, and be an ordained leader. Please call Pastor Drew if you would like to learn more.

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The Presbytery of West Jersey is Changing

Presbyterian Church (USA) presbyteries in New Jersey are consolidating from seven to four, and our Presbytery will add six new churches from Burlington and Ocean counties. This should mean few, if any, substantial changes.

Pastor Drew has been called to serve on a transition team for the Presbytery of West Jersey to help guide this process. This team has been charged with naming the presbytery and writing or re-writing the bylaws, standing rules, and other policies for the new and larger Presbytery.

The new boundaries will include all of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem counties, and the southern portion of Ocean County, south of Lacey Township.

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Other Ways to Join Worship

Do you or someone you know struggle with using Facebook for Sunday services? Facebook is ideal because we can interact with each other, but if you or someone you know does not have an account, you can still see the services live and throughout the week via our Web site: www.AbseconPresby.org

If you or someone you know is not connected to the Internet at all, we will mail the bulletin and sermon out midweek. Call the office to add a name and address for the mailing.

And every Monday, afternoon the previous Sunday's sermon will be available by phone to listen day or night at your convenience by calling this number: (609) 212-0313.

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Wednesday Morning Prayer

Throughout these months of being socially distant, this Morning Prayer Ministry has continued to meet via Zoom to lift up the names of all who are affiliated with the church and the specific prayer requests that you send in.

If you have a request for prayer or would like someone who you love to be included in prayer, please call the church or send an email to PrayerAPC@gmail.com.

If you would like to join the prayer group go to https://bit.ly/PrayerAPC at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings.

Wednesday Zoom

Every week Pastor Drew checks in with the congregation through Zoom, a free program for your smart phone, tablet or computer. Usually, around 10 to 15 individuals stop in to chat with each other about what's going on in our lives and in the church. If you would like to join in, please call the office for the link, which is protected with a password to ensure that you are safe.

Pastors of the Absecon-Galloway Ecumenical Community offer a weekly Facebook prayer group Thursdays at Noon. All are welcome to sign into Facebook and use the link below to meet with our local pastors in prayer. This works the same as our online worship.

https://www.facebook.com/YourChurchesTogether/

What can I give?

The church is one body with many parts. Each of us has something different to offer in terms of time, talent and treasure.

Please consider giving your time by calling and checking in on fellow church members, including friends, but also those you do not talk to regularly.

Please consider giving your talent, by considering ways your skills may help to alleviate the strain put on us all by this pandemic.

Please consider giving your treasure by mailing in your tithes and your offerings. Mail your checks to:

Absecon Presbyterian Church 208 New Jersey Avenue Absecon, NJ 08201

You can also give your gift online at: www.AbseconPresby.org/give

All gifts made Online are safe and secure through the Presbyterian Foundation. At this time, gifts to the General Fund and Benevolence are what is most needed.

Giving Deposited Jan. 8:

	2020	2021	Combined
General			
Loose			
Envelopes Undesignated	\$330.60	\$353.22	\$683.82
Envelopes Designated	\$120.00	\$170.00	\$290.00
On-line Undesignated			
On-line Designated			
Per Capita		\$153.00	\$153.00
Initial		\$5.00	\$5.00
Energy	\$5.00		\$5.00
General Total	\$455.60	\$681.22	\$1,136.82
Benevolence			
Loose			
Envelopes Undesignated	\$38.00	\$40.60	\$78.60
Envelopes Designated	\$85.00	\$30.00	\$115.00

On-line Designated			
Pakistan - On-line			
Benevolence Total	\$123.00	\$70.60	\$193.60
Capital Expenditures			
Loose			
Envelopes Undesignated	\$11.40	\$12.18	\$23.58
Envelopes Designated	\$100.00	\$20.00	\$120.00
On-line Undesignated			
On-line Designated			
Winter Fund Raiser			
Cemetery			
Capital Total	\$111.40	\$32.18	\$143.58
Combined Total	\$690.00	\$784.00	\$1,474.00

On-line Undesignated

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Please know that we love each and every one of you, and you continue to be in our prayers.

Stay safe – Follow Official Guidelines – and Know You Are Loved!