

September 11, 2022
10:00 a.m.
14th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolyn Stevenson

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

The foolish say, 'there is no God.'

We come, trusting in Jesus, the face, the voice, the presence of the God who loves us.

The scoffers of our age ask, 'why do you seek after God?'

We come, in this time, because God's grace has spilled over in our lives.

The hopeless around us think, 'no one cares about me.'

We come, in this time, to this place, because Jesus has found us and brought us home.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Although we believe we are experts at faithfulness, Holy God, we must confess we are unskilled workers at doing good for others. Too often, we turn a deaf ear to the cries of people we have judged to be fools. We easily scoff at those we believe have nothing to teach us or share with us. How foolish, searching God, how foolish we are! Forgive us and restore us to your goodness. Then, send us forth to search for all who sit in the shadowed corners of our world, yearning for someone to come and find them, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, came to find us.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Our actions sometimes show we do not know God. Our words and lives show we do not understand God's hopes for us. But with utmost patience, God sets aside our foolishness, and fills us with mercy.

Mingled with faith and love, grace is poured into our sin-parched souls, giving us new life, restoring us as God's children. Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN #298 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:1-10 (N.T. pg. 78)

ANTHEM "Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone"
Chris Tomlin, Louie Giglio, and John Newton

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: "Suffering, Struggling, and Succeeding"
Rev. Alice Batchner

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #263 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

SANCTUS #581 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but

deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

...The gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast.

HYMN #513

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #220 “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” (MATERNA)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able

CONGREGATION MEETING

BY ORDER OF THE SESSION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AVENEL, NEW JERSEY, A CONGREGATION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE MANSE.

Rev. Alice Batcher Bio:

Reverend Alice Batcher is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary in NYC. Originally ordained with the ABCUSA, Alice now has standing with the UCC. During the week, Alice is a hospice chaplain. In her spare time Alice enjoys working with her little poodles, COVID adoptees.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

September 11, 2022



“Suffering, Struggling, and Succeeding”

Rev. Alice Batcher

Prayers for those with long-term concerns

We ask that these friends have God in their lives, that they and their families feel His loving presence, and comfort during their continued struggles. Updates will be printed as available.

Jennifer Perez – RSD/CRPS, & gastroparesis

Maria - a friend of the Knotts and Haggerty families; she is in an acute care facility for traumatic brain injury.

Friends and Loved Ones in the Service and their Families

STATESIDE

Robert L. Gillis – invasive cardiovascular technologist in the US Navy and stationed at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington DC, grandson of Barbara & Bill Morgan.

Lauren Hansen-Salmond – 1st LT, – Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky's niece

Jeffrey Hansen – 1st LT, Kuwait, Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky's nephew

Daniel Hedner – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Steven Stockl – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

OVERSEAS

The children and youth in our congregation and our youth ministry
Racial equality reconciliation in Woodbridge Township and our nation.

Our ministry partners –

Boys Town

Camp Johnsonburg

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

Elijah's Promise, New Jersey

International Justice Mission, Washington DC

International Students, Inc.

Mr. Matt Barany Jr., who serves with Second Level Ministry

Reliant Redemption Church, Pennsylvania

Navajo Ministries

Salvation Army of Perth Amboy, NJ

Saint Jude's Children's Hospital of Memphis, Tennessee

Walter Hoving Home

World Vision

Prayer Concerns and Praises September 11, 2022

The Prayer Chain - provides immediate prayer for *critical and emergency situations*. All other needs will be taken care of through the prayer list. To place someone on the prayer chain call Millie Knotts at 732-382-9391.

The Prayer List - provides opportunities to share prayer within our church family. Prayer requests will be published for up to 6 weeks unless updated. To add someone to this list call the church office at 732-634-1631.

(Note: Please be sure the person you are adding to this list has given his or her permission to do so).

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people”

Ephesians 6:18

New Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the Spewak family on the passing of John, Carol Palmer's sister's father-in-law.

2nd Week

3rd Week

4th Week

5th Week

Please pray for Vilma Ambis who has continuing health issues.

Please pray for Robbie Olah who is home from the hospital and recovering.

6th Week

Prayers and Sympathies

SHUT-INS

Please continue to keep in your prayers those members who are unable to join us for worship on Sundays.

Health and Healing

Carol Palmer and Jen Perez

The mission of First Presbyterian Church is **to grow in Christ and make Him known**. This is based on John 15:5: "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches, apart from me you can do nothing." The Holy Spirit strengthens us to:

1. **Connect** to the vine,
2. **Grow** to maturity,
3. **Share** the fruit

STEWARDSHIP 2021

In an effort to help our congregation track our annual budget as it compares to giving, the Session has decided to include a brief monthly report. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and are completely dependent upon tithes, offerings, and donations to fulfill our budgeted expenses.

General Fund Balance	Net for the month	YTD
12/31/2021 \$ 76,156.39		
01/31/2022 \$ 73,393.05	\$(2,753.34)	\$(2,753.34)
02/28/2022 \$ 73,809.90	\$ 416.85	\$(2,336.49)
03/31/2022 \$ 64,806.01	\$(9,003.89)	\$(11,340.38)
04/30/2022 \$ 59,120.22	\$(5,685.79)	\$(17,026.17)
05/31/2022 \$ 54,878.34	\$(4,241.88)	\$(21,268.05)
06/30/2022 \$ 60,701.39	\$ 5,823.05	\$(15,445.00)
07/31/2022 \$ 67,525.20	\$ 6,823.81	\$(8,621.19)
08/31/2022 \$ 74,944.98	\$ 7,419.78	\$(1,201.41)

CHURCH PROPERTY ACTIVE STEWARDS NEEDED (for pay) – When we rent church property such as the gym (Westminster Hall) or Jacob Morgan Hall, a church member must be present on site. Stewards open/close the building and oversee good property stewardship. For their service, stewards are paid \$12/hour (by renters). If you are able to serve in this way (occasionally or regularly), or have questions or would like more information, please call the church office from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

Per Capita Amount has been changed from \$45.00 to \$40.00
WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING. WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE
HERE! WE BELIEVE YOU ARE HERE FOR A DIVINE PURPOSE.
LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN SERVE YOU TODAY!

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY, September 11, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. Alice Batchter)
 COMMUNION SUNDAY
 Live Stream-Facebook

MONDAY, September 12, 2022

TUESDAY, September 13, 2022

WEDNESDAY, September 14, 2022

7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg – CR

THURSDAY, September 15, 2022

FRIDAY, September 16, 2022

SATURDAY, September 17, 2022

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

SUNDAY, September 18, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. Alice Batchter)
 Live Stream-Facebook

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: September 18th & September 25th. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and is to be paid in advance.

PRAYER GATHERING – will begin on September 22nd and continue every Thursday evening at 8 pm. Dial (425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Kosakowski 908-930-3628.

WORSHIP SERVICE LIVE STREAM – via Facebook every Sunday at 10:00 am. We hope you will join us online if you will not be attending at the church. Please tell your friends, especially shut ins.

BULLETINS – will now be on our website. Weekly bulletins can be emailed as well. If you would like a weekly bulletin emailed, please contact the Church Office to be put on the emailing list.

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – is on Saturdays from 9:30am to 11:00am in the Sanctuary's Choir Room. Bring your projects, a friend, and any patterns you would like to share or may need help with. We can learn new things from each other.

WALTER HOVING HOME – will be celebrating 55 years and hosting a two-night Faith, Hope, and Love banquet at the Palace at Somerset Park beginning Thursday, September 29th. Registration is 6:00pm and Dinner and Program to follow at 7:00pm. Please visit WWW.HOVINGHOME.ORG/NJ Tickets for details.

A TOWNSHIP REMEMBERS – a salute to the Woodbridge First Response Community will be held on today at 1:00pm at the

Township Stage of Woodbridge High School. Check the bulletin flyer for more details.

WRESTLING-N-WRECOVERY – On Saturday, Sept 24th and Saturday, Oct 29th Wrestling-N-WRecovery will be doing wrestling events in our gym. This organization is a fun family event for all recovering addicts. They will have vendors, food, and all types of addiction literature. All are invited! For ticket information, please email: Wrestlingnwrecovery@yahoo.com

Any other questions please see Carolyn Stevenson.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, September 18, 2022, is Rev. Alice Batcher.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE!

Visitors, we welcome you to this morning's time of worship. If you are looking for a church home or would like to explore the meaning of membership at Avenel Presbyterian Church, please ask an usher or the worship assistant.

Joseph Fernandez	Music Director	resolutjoe@gmail.com
Michael Peterson	Sexton	avenelpres@gmail.com
Stephanie Kurowsky	Stream Lines	avenelstreamlines@comcast.net
Belinda Kerchner	SS Superintendent	For 2022
Linda Vassallo	Church Office	(732) 634-1631
Susan Smolsky	Webmaster	rustisioux@comcast.net
	Church Email	avenelpres@gmail.com
	Church Website	avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, September 18th

Luke 16:1-13



September 11th
Flyer.pdf



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Ferrie Sept. 5, 2022.1

WRESTLING N WRECOVERY

Presents

**Addiction Awareness Outreach Event
September 24th, 2022
11:00am to 6:00pm
First Presbyterian Church of Avenel, NJ
07001**

**We are seeking vendors. \$30.00 for 1
table and 2 tables for \$50.00 If you are
interested in being a vendor. Please
contact me (Renee) at
wrestlingnrecovery@yahoo.com or
leave your email address and I will send
you more information.**

**Thank You!
Wrestling N WRecovery**