



# Pinelands United Methodist Church

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Church office: 5213 Pleasant Mills Road, Sweetwater, NJ 08037  
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7th Sunday of Easter May 21, 2023

[www.PinelandsUMC.org](http://www.PinelandsUMC.org)

Prelude

Time of Greeting and Announcements

❖ Hymn ..... #529 “How Firm a Foundation”

### ❖ Call to Worship

*LEADER: Beloved, let us worship God!*

**PEOPLE: Let us give praise to God, the one who rides upon the clouds!**

*LEADER: Parent to orphans and Protector of widows,*

**PEOPLE: God gives the desolate a home and leads the imprisoned into prosperity.**

*LEADER: As God led the Israelites through the wilderness and provided for them,*

**PEOPLE: we too find our dwelling in God’s goodness and provision.**

*LEADER: The Rider in the heavens speaks throughout creation;*

**PEOPLE: We gather to listen and ascribe power to God!**

**ALL: Awesome is God in the sanctuary of creation!  
Blessed be God! Amen.**



## Opening Prayer

God, we confess that we rarely recognize the Holy Spirit at work, even when it smacks us in the face. Worse yet, even when we do recognize this work of the Spirit, we don’t acknowledge that it is you at work in our lives and in the world. This week, you sent angels to watch over us. We barely uttered our thanks. We hurried on our way. Forgive us our inattentiveness and reluctance to credit you loudly and joyously. Teach us to tell our children and our children’s children of your goodness. Teach us to tell our parents of your goodness. Teach us to tell even the supermarket clerk of your goodness! We long to hear the good news of the resurrecting love of Christ Jesus. Still our hearts long enough for us to hear that you are with us. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading ..... Acts 1:6-14

2nd Scripture Reading ..... 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

❖ Hymn ..... #512 “Stand By Me”

❖ Gospel Reading ..... John 17:1-11

Sermon

Joys and Prayers of the People of God

Offering God's Tithes and Our Gifts

❖ Doxology ..... #95

❖ Hymn ..... #413 “A Charge to Keep I Have”

❖ Benediction

God bless you and not let you out of his sight.  
God keep and protect you by day and night.  
Let love, understanding be yours evermore.  
God’s grace be with you forever more.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Pastor Dave Carber  
 Barbara Kurowski  
 Linda Hirst  
 Bill & Linda Green  
 Kathy Simpkins  
 Marge Clifton  
 Zelda Carber  
 Anna Walker  
 The Lister Family  
 Jerry  
 Sandra Allebach  
 Brian Plasket  
 Robin Green  
 Paul Cowan  
 Dave Dixon  
 Hayley  
 Ed Rabush  
 Kaitlin DeLucca (US Air Force)  
 Max Lister (US Army)  
 Jacob Lynn  
 Stephen Lister  
 The Rabush Family  
 Evelyn Roland

Frances Ernwood  
 Wilma Brown  
 Margie Cochran  
 Sean Plasket  
 McCartney Family  
 Barbara Ford  
 Joseph Newton  
 David & Emily Elkin  
 Denise  
 Tom Rheault  
 Cathy Carber  
 John Allebach Sr  
 Nicholas Cellini  
 Darlene  
 Baby James William  
 Joanne Wunsch  
 Billy Cheatham (US Marines)  
 Tiernan James (US Coast Guard)  
 Riley James (US Marines)  
 Melodee Ashby  
 Margaret Yahrling  
 Tom Hamilton  
 Larry Acker



# CHURCH NEWS

**MAY 21, 2023**

### MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE @ BATSTO



On **May 29, 2023** Mullica Township VFW Post #5043 will be presenting a Memorial Day Service at our Batsto Church at **9:30 am** (rain or shine). There will be Buddy Poppy Distribution and also a recruiting event. All are welcome.

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2023 Annual Conference for The United Methodists of Greater New Jersey takes place in May at the Wildwood Convention Center, Wildwood, NJ on **May 21-23**.



### 22nd ANNUAL RIVER BLESSING @ ST MARYS



On **June 17, 2023** at **11:00 am** St Mary's in the Pines will be holding the annual blessing on the river in the historic cemetery located on Pleasant Mills / Jackson Road. Plan to arrive early to get parking and bring your own chair.



### **NESCO CHURCH FOOD PANTRY**

Our food pantry is open each **Monday** night from **4:00 pm - 7:00 pm** in our Nesco Church building. If you are experiencing food insecurities we urge you to take advantage of this free program offered by Pinelands United

Methodist Church. If you have items you'd like to donate to our mission please call the church office at 609-804-1844 or speak to Kathy Wooton / Liz Rabush about your donation.



### **CAPE ATLANTIC POVERTY TASK FORCE**



**DONATE**

The Cape Atlantic Poverty Task Force is collecting donations for the forest fire season. They are currently collecting water, Gatorade, Powerade, granola bars, trail mix, individual packs of crackers, single serve hand held snacks. These items will be collected and distributed to firefighters working

the scene of forest fires. Please donate if you are able. Contact Dave or Wendy Dorfman for donations ~ Dave (609) 287-6525 or Wendy (609) 287-5965.

Kind words are like honey—  
sweet to the soul and  
healthy for the body.

Proverbs 16:24

