



THE VINE

Aspen Hill Christian Church

13501 Georgia Avenue, Aspen Hill, Maryland 20906

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Pastor: Dr. D. Robert Chance

AUGUST 2024

BY CHANCE

The Case of the Strange Rolodex



If you're under a certain age you may not even know what a "Rolodex" is. If you are above a certain age, you most certainly will know what a Rolodex is and may well have kept one at some point in your life. If you're like me, you may still be using one. The Rolodex is definitely "a blast from the past."

For those of you too young to know what a Rolodex is it was once the predominant desktop tool used in an office for recording the names, addresses, telephone numbers and contact information for business or friends in an office setting. It came in various sizes depending on the number of contacts you were keeping. It came in the form of a rotating spindle or a small tray to which removeable cards were attached.

With the advent of computers and cell phones and other modern devices the Rolodex went out of use for many if not most businesses. Most Rolodexes got relegated to the trash or the "Good Will" store. I still keep and use mine, along with the same records on my cell phone as well as my Outlook program on the computer. I also use 3-M Post-it notes, the backs of envelopes, pieces of scrap paper and any and all other forms of jotting down records. Miraculously, sometimes I even find names, numbers, and addresses for whoever I am looking for 😊.

Back to the Rolodex. What makes the "Case of the Strange Rolodex" so strange in my office is not only that I keep it up to date to use along with my Address Book in Outlook but that I keep dead people in my rolodex. Well, not really "dead people" but the Rolodex cards for dead people. I have dozens and dozens of people's names; phone numbers and addresses and sometimes little personal "notes" about someone or a particular item of interest. That's right, there are countless dead people still listed in my Rolodex. I see the name of a "Hal & Shirley Rummel" or a "Norm & Pat Laine" or a "Jeff Trollinger" or "Ralph & Carolee Norton" and countless others the good Lord has sent to me to be blessings in my life, and I am overwhelmed with gratitude.

Why do I keep dead people in my Rolodex you might ask? I do it because it becomes a way of reminding me of people who were once an active and important part of my life who have since gone on to their reward in heaven. It works like this. I'm scanning for someone's current telephone number or address and as I flip through the cards I come across someone's card who has passed long ago and I think of them. I remember them and I pause, even for only a brief second or two to thank God for them having once shared the journey of life with me.

One of the side benefits of this seemingly strange record-keeping habit of mine is that I am constantly being reminded how rich and blessed I have been with wonderful people all along the road in life's journey. Think about it. Even if you don't keep a Rolodex find whatever method works for you and remember those who are gone but will forever be a part of your life. Ends up; the "Case of the Strange Rolodex" isn't so strange at all.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you. Philippians 1:3 ESV

*NEWS AMONG OUR
CHURCH FAMILY
PRAYER LIST*

Please let us know if you know of someone who is sick or is a shut-in. Thank you.

Edwina Meheaux – Please keep in your prayers. Give her a call on the phone.

Patty Collins- Please keep Sam's Splaine's mother Patty, in your prayers. She loves telephone calls too

Carol Ingraham-Carol is shut-in and appreciates being in your prayers and thoughts.

All those who suffer from grief and loss and who struggle with illness in any form.

There are always others—keep all in your prayers, named or unnamed. Let us know if we've missed someone.

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Veronica Williams
- 11 Bob Chance
- 12 Jayna Knight
- 12 Colson Knight
- 15 Angel Hampton
- 20 Barbara McCall
- 21 Jane & John Small
- 25 Erin May

PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW IF YOUR BIRTHDATE AND/OR ANNIVERSARY DATE IS WRONG OR MISSING, SO WE MAY CORRECT IT.

***UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY
AVAILABLE***

THE 2024 CHURCH DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE DURING OFFICE HOURS. ONE COPY PER HOUSEHOLD, PLEASE.

NEWS FROM OUR MINISTRIES



FELLOWSHIP...Amy Buckingham/Mary Chance

Recently I was talking to someone about the picnic we had in June. One seemed to have a really good time socializing and of course eating! We were talking at program council about activities we could have for the same fun and food. Connie sponsored a fellowship hour to celebrate those folks that have a birthday in July. What a great idea. I am going to do the same in August for August birthdays. Let's see if we can get enough folk to take a month and celebrate all the birthdays for that month. Please let me know and sign up on the fellowship list. Great idea Connie! Let's keep the party going.

PROPERTY...John Small

If you are interested in helping with our property ministry to keep our church facilities in good condition, please contact me (johnsmallmb66@gmail.com).

We have had several large building expenses but due to your generosity are able to keep our building in excellent condition.



OUTREACH...Connie Spoon

The Backpack Drive is off to a great start! Please consider a donation for this worthy outreach project. The suggested school supply list is included in this newsletter, but if you prefer to make a financial contribution, please mail or provide a check to the church and we will shop for you! The children at Georgian Forest Elementary School will be blessed by your generosity. Our food pantry is available to anyone in need.

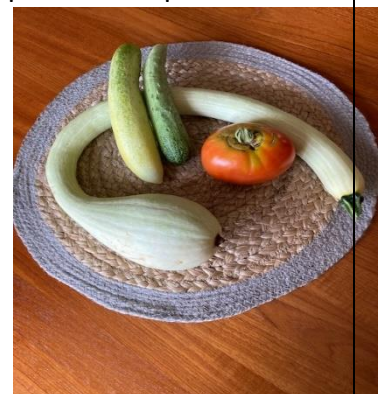
Please contact the church office for assistance.

WORSHIP...Gwen Mott via Carol Knott

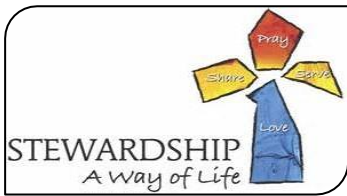
We are moving through the summer months and are having our inspiring worship services each Sunday to look forward to. One Sunday an unexpected surprise was having Judy Vandeman as our piano accompanist and special music. Her singing while playing the harp is always beautiful.

During our fellowship hour that same Sunday we were all invited to receive produce that one of our members, Kim Morrison grows in her backyard. Don't miss Sunday worship services as you do not know

what you might miss!



STEWARDSHIP...



Please Don't forget to send your offering in or place it directly in the offering plate on Sunday morning. You can also mail it to the church or drop it in the mail slot outside the main doors. We will soon be launching our Annual Every Member Commitment program. Be on the lookout for a thoughtful and creative and important EMC effort as we seek your pledges for our 2024 ministries. The cost of living is somewhere around 2.5 % so any increase in your giving of less than that is actually a cut in your giving. Faithful Living Equals Faithful Giving!

Your offering makes the Lord's ministry possible! Thank you for all you do!



FACTS & FIGURES: WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR JULY

The good news is attendance is increasing and heading in the right direction. The bad news is there is a long way to go to reach pre-pandemic numbers. If you haven't returned yet, now is the time and please invite and bring friends and family to join you.

(INCLUDES BOTH IN PERSON AND ONLINE)

July Average Total: 48 (34 in person /14 online) 😊

Year to Date Average: Total: 52 (35 in person /16 online) 😊

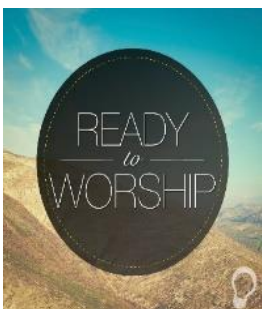
"I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

Are you inviting friends, neighbors, co-workers to church? Sharing the Good News of Jesus and of our church are a privilege and responsibility of every one of us.

11:00 AM Sunday

The Worship service will also continue to be offered live and online. Keep checking www.aspenhillcc.org, click on the You Tube link and choose the date you want.

Worship in person at 11:00 every Sunday & Live on our YouTube Channel



We are doing our best to get people back in person, but we do understand that some people cannot make it to church on certain Sundays. To view online click www.aspenhillcc.org, then click on the Watch Us Live on YouTube icon. Once at our YouTube Page be sure to click the thumbs-up icon and subscribe to our channel. You can also make any nice comments you want to, that helps us be more visible. Comments help drive our visibility to others up. Share the links for our weekly worship with your friends and neighbors.

Please submit your articles, updates, and information we might like to include in future newsletters to Rosemary for inclusion in the future.

The deadline for the September newsletter is August 18th.

**Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM**

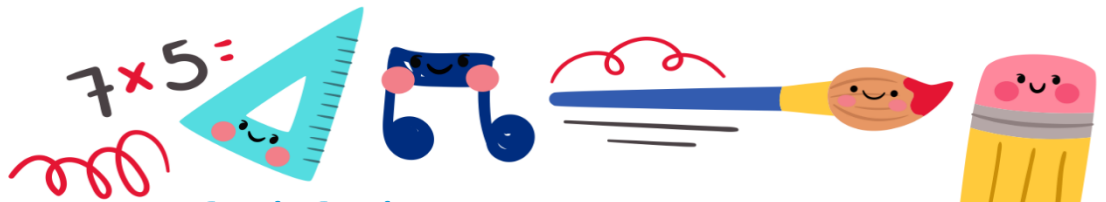


Please let the office know how you would like your newsletter delivered! USPS, Email or Both.
office@aspenhillcc.org or call 301-871-7222



2024 Capital Area Prayer Calendar for This Month

- 4 - Pilgrimage Christian Church, Suitland, Maryland - Zimbabwe
- 11 - Rockville Christian Church, Rockville, Maryland - Puerto Rico
- 18 - "More Than Enough" special campaign to support a full-time Regional Minister/Syria
- 25 - Lansdowne Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland - Bangladesh



Back Packs Starting

July 28th through August 18th

Please shop for an in-expensive but decent Backpack for a needy child about to go back to school.

In the Backpack place:

- Black Binder 1" or 2 ½"
- Black Composition book
- Wide Rule loose leaf paper
- Box of 24 Crayons
- Zipper Pencil Case
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Yellow Highlighter
- Pocket Folders
- Large Erasers
- Pencils

Most of all "lots of love and hope"

Place Backpack in box and say a prayer for the child who will receive it.

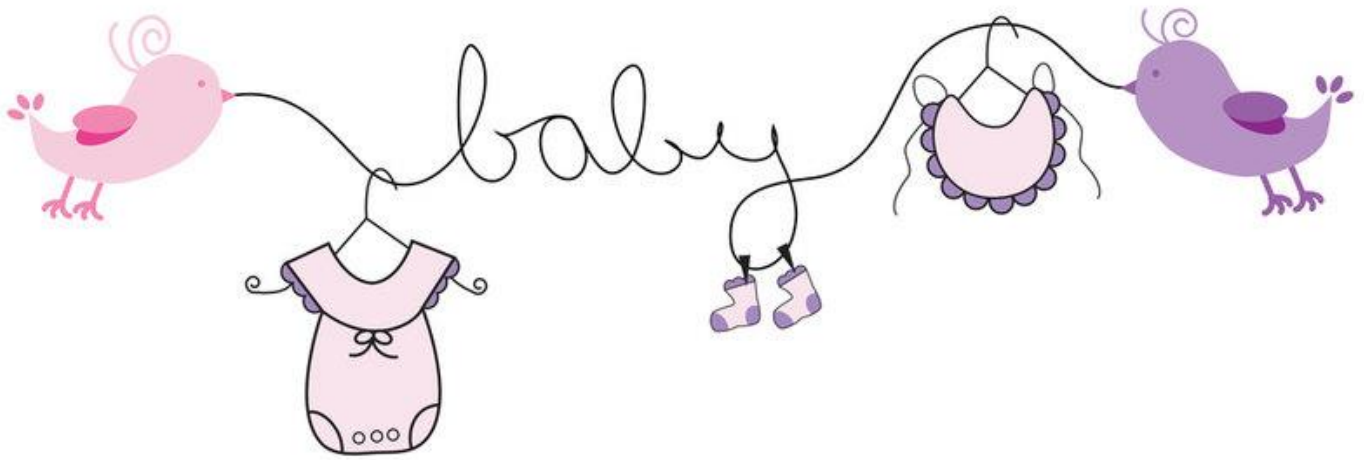


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Dear Rev. Chance + AHCC family

Thank you so much for
the beautiful showers. We appreciate
you all thinking about us. We
are blessed to have a new
granddaughter Samantha. and Owen
loves his little sister! Stay safe
and healthy

Judy + Sam Splaine