

The Midweek

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

For those of you tuning in this week to get the third of my HGTV parables, I'm sorry to say you will have to wait a week. I like to use this opportunity in the Midweek to show places where we can see God at work and scripture made relative to what is happening in our day-to-day lives.

Sometimes we wish our circumstances were such that we didn't have to try and figure out what God is up to and why. I find myself in that very situation this week after not being successful in my attempt to pass the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM). Now I have to wait another year and try again next March.

I have spent the week grieving the whole situation and moving through the stages of disbelief, anger and finally acceptance. But mostly, I have spent the week feeling very loved by the people of Avenue Church. I can't thank you enough for wrapping me up in your prayers, stopping by my office, sending the emails and texts, leaving the cards, and letting me know that you are glad I am here.

I am also very glad that I am at Avenue and there is no place I would rather be. I love you all SO MUCH and I am happy that I will probably get to stay here for a year longer than I expected. If staying here longer is God's plan and reason for this happening than not only do I accept what happened but I am grateful for it. Avenue is home for me and I like being home as long as possible.

So thank you for showing me the love that Christ tells us we should have for each other. You are God's hands and feet in this world and you are doing an amazing job of witnessing to the Savior. Thank you for praying for me and my family as we deal with the disappointment of not being commissioned this year. Thank you also for keeping Tom, Kevin, Cliff, Kelly and Curtis in your prayers as they had to deal with me as I dealt with all the paperwork, studying and meetings with my mentor. Thank you for the letters to the Bishop and Board supporting my candidacy and ministry.

I think God for all of you every day and these words that I write are completely inadequate to express the love, appreciation and gratitude I have for everyone in this church. If I don't get the chance to tell you individually, please know that you are a blessing to me and I thank God for all you are to me. I am looking forward and excited about what we will do together at Avenue to bring glory to God in the years to come.

To the Lord be the glory, honor and power forever and ever.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor hey



Lenten Bible Study

Restored Finding Redemption in our Mess By: Tom Berlin

Monday, April 3rd

7 p.m. in the Grier Room

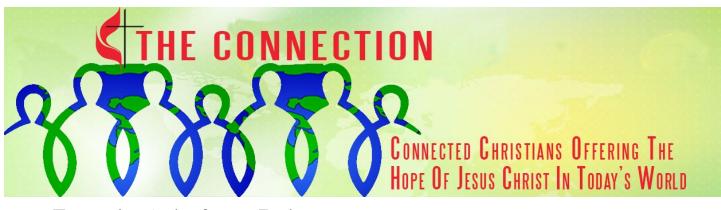
Led by Pastor Wendy

Friends,

We are looking for a reliable and inexpensive car to help the transportation needs of one of our Code Purple guests. If you have a used car that you are willing to part with, please call the church office.

Thank you,

Pastor Tom



From the desk of our Bishop. .

Health Care

Recently health care has been in the news and in our hearts. Regardless of culture, religion, race or gender, we all have health. And we have all experienced an injury or illness. It's a part of being human. And health care is central to Christianity. One of the names given to Jesus is "Christ the Great Physician." And with good reason. We hear repeatedly throughout the Gospels about Jesus healing people. He did so without regard to religion, social standing or their ability to pay. He sent out his disciples to preach the Good News and to heal the sick and he calls us as his 21st century disciples to do the same.

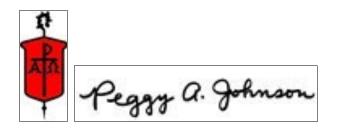
The United Methodist Church has a long history of following Christ's command by addressing health care needs across the globe. John Wesley, our founder was keenly interested in health and wrote a book of health advice (*Primitive Physick*) and one of his "Simple Rules" calls us to "Do No Harm" (a vow taken by medical doctors). Our hospitals, other health organizations and local churches have a commitment to ensuring access to health care. Indeed, drawing from our faith, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church has declared, "health care is a basic human right."

We have decided, as a society, to provide health care to people through a system of health insurance. The rate of uninsured people is the lowest it has ever been. More than 20 million people gained health insurance in the last few years, but millions remain without access to affordable health insurance and care. More needs to be done to ensure that everyone can access this basic human right.

However there is much conversation happening right now that seems to be about how to cut health insurance coverage, not expand it. Instead of helping more people, it appears we're trying to help fewer and fewer in order to lower costs. Our elected officials are even talking about changing Medicaid and potentially abandoning people living in poverty.

We are at a critical juncture as a nation. We can decide which path we want to take. Do we want to create a society where health care is rationed based on income? Or do we want to follow God's vision and Jesus's call to care for all of God's people?

Pray for our legislators as these decisions are being made. Call or write to them and share your ideas and concerns.





March 29, 2017 Dinner at 6:00pm and Study at 7:00pm at the home of Poncho and Lisa Johnson Led by Donny Hopkins

SAVE THE DATES

EASTER CANDY & BAKE SALE

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND

April 7th & 9th

<u>Friday</u> 10:00 am—2:00 pm

<u>Sunday</u> after all three services

Presented by the Ladies of Avenue. All proceeds to be used for missions supported by the Avenue Methodist Women. Our Church is blessed by all the wonderful cooks that share their talent and time to bless others.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Easter Flower Order Form

The Sanctuary is never prettier that it is when the spring flowers arrive for Easter. Placing Lilies and Tulips in the church in memory or honor of loved ones is a beautiful and cherished tradition.

This year we will again only be ordering 6" pots of Lilies and Tulips at \$7.50 each. The Altar Guild has requested that we only order 100 pots of flowers and the Tulips will be PINK. All additional funds will go to the Parish Purse.

| Sponsor's | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Sponsor's Name | | | |
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| | | | |
| Memory | | | |
| | | | |
| of | | | |
| | | | |
| Honor | | | |
| of | | | |
| | | | |

The cost of the Lily's and Tulips are \$7.50 each

Tulip



Lily

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Please us a separate order form

For each name in memory of or honored **Please Print Clearly**

Names of sponsors and those remembered and honored will be in the Easter Sunday Bulletin Please make checks payable to Avenue United Methodist Church

Orders must be in no later than April 3rd

<u>We are sorry but NO orders will be</u> accepted after April 3rd as the flower order will be called in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOSPITAL VISITS: Please help the pastors by calling the church office at (302) 422-8111 when someone from the church is hospitalized.

ELECTRONIC GIVING is being offered at Avenue Church. An *Information Sheet with Authorization Agreement* is available on the table in Fellowship Foyer. Simply fill out the authorization agreement and return it to the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you want to reserve a Sunday please call the church office then call Country Flowers. Flowers are placed in the altar vases up by the cross.

PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK: Owen, Joan and Bill Dudley, Debbie and Bob, April McIntyre, Al, Colleen Dunham, Marion Jarrell, the Bergez family, for all those in need, Carmella and Richard, the family and friends of Bruce Workman, the family and friends of Betty Collins, the family and friends of Dot Denney, Leslee, Karen Moore, Joshua, Sierra and Jasey-Rae, Christopher, Shirley, Mary, Hannah, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Lillie Brittingham, Kirsten Pearce, Kathy Sullivan, Charles Harding, John Siegrist, Sean Morris, the family and friends of Donna Jackson, the youth and Fusion ministries, Gary Seal, our nation and its leaders, Code Purple, the family and friends of Ed Hudson, Howard Haverkamp, Art Blanchet, Betty Ziesel, Ray, Jimmy, Katie, Jake, Tom, Tim Toe, Lauren Downes, baby Faryn Downes and Kim Crampsey.

Recently hospitalized: Carolyn Wright.

Rejoice with: Don and Pat Fisher, the family and friends of Solenne Mastio, the 13 year old singer at the Lions Club Show, for all involved with the Chrysalis gathering and for the beautiful duets at the 8:00 and 11:00 services.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Owen, Joan and Bill Dudley, Debbie and Bob, April McIntyre, Al, Colleen Dunham, Marion Jarrell, Emma Burton, Bobby Bergez and family, Carmella and Richard, Leslee, Karen Moore, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Lillie Brittingham, Kirsten Pearce, Kathy Sullivan, Charles Harding, Daisy Daniels, The family and friends of Donna Jackson, The family and friends of Kenneth McKnatt, Our nation and its leaders, Code Purple leaders, guests and volunteers, Howard Haverkamp, Art Blanchet, Betty Ziesel, Ray, Tim Roe, Jacob Robertson, Lauren Downes and baby Faryn Downes, Ariana, A friend who is having mental health issues and is dealing with suicidal thoughts, For someone undergoing cancer tests, may God bless them with complete healing, Patricia Marney and Dawn Kifer and their families, Traveling mercies for Adi Nelson, Sharon Bailey, Bonnie Shea for healing, Nick for healing, For those affected by the nightclub shooting in Cincinnati, For Bill Gaskill's family, For a difficult pregnancy and guidance from God, Pastor Wendy, Joe Terrone, Abel Heller and Jacob Slater.

Recently hospitalized: Gary Seal, Anita Van Horn and Les Armour.

Rejoice with: The family of Owen Preston Pusey.

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

JHandbells Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary JMomentUM Praise Team Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary JMispillion Children's Chorus Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m., Music Room JPraise Team Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary JSanctuary Choir Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m., Music Room JAveNotes Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary Do you like to sing? Do you play an instrument? If you a

Do you like to sing? Do you play an instrument? If you are interested in using your musical gifts here at Avenue Church please contact Kevin Chamberlain, kbchamberlain@avenueumc.com or (302) 236-1276.

UPCOMING

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES are held each Wednesday at noon followed by a soup luncheon at various churches.

The schedule is: March 29th, *Mt. Enon Baptist Church* April 5th, *Avenue UM Church*

LENTEN ORGAN RECITALS ~ 12:05-12:35 P.M.

All recitals are held at Avenue Church each Thursday during Lent. A soup luncheon held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following all recitals. All are welcome.

The Schedule is: March 30th, Jon Rania April 6th, Kevin B. Chamberlain

UMW CANDY SALE: UMW will be hosting a candy and bake sale on **April 7th & 9th**. They will be open in Fellowship Hall **Friday, April 7th 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m and Sunday, April 9th after each service**. If you have questions or would like to contribute to sale contact Bonnie Carmine at (302) 422-7193.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT AVENUE:

April 9th, Palm Sunday Services

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

April 13th, Holy Thursday Service with communion 7:00 p.m.

April 14th Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES:

6:30 a.m. - Sunrise Service

8:00 a.m. - Festival Worship

with choir, brass and organ

9:30 a.m. - Worship with praise team

11:00 a.m. - Festival Worship

with choir, brass and organ

ALASKA MISSION TRIP 2017 is scheduled for June 10th-17th. The team is now forming! Several people have expressed interest and we always have room for more. If you would like to be a part of this amazing experience, talk with Pastor Tom or Mike Williams. We will keep you posted on our next meeting and hope to see you there. Next meeting of the team is April 5th at 6pm in the Grier Room.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES

A NEW CLASS ON CHRISTIANITY: Thinking our way through the Gospel of Mark led by Dan Nelson. Class will continue on April 2nd, 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: We will continue our study on **April 4th**, Women of Easter by Liz Curtis Higgs. Please call Ginny Van Tine (302) 422-4282, Brenda Powers (302) 422-8821 or leave a message in the church office if you would like to join us. We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Grier Room.

WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP will meet on April 5th at 2:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room. Come join us. Contact Janice Abbott at (302) 422-1863.

H.O.P.E.: H.O.P.E. is a safe place to talk and express your feelings. Whether you are discouraged, dealing with sadness, have no one to talk to, or feel kike life is hopeless, this group is for you. H.O.P.E. is an inspiration and hope-seeking support group. Hold On because Pain does End. H.O.P.E. will continue every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in Holzmueller Room. If you are interested, please contact Brittany Gunderson at blg2011motherof2@yahoo.com with questions and comments.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: The Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group will meet the 2nd Monday of each month. The next meeting will be April 10th at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room

EXPLORING FAITH BOOK CLUB meets on the third Sunday of the Month at 12:15 in the Holzmueller Room. Our next study is **April 23, 2017**. The Book is "The Will of God" by Leslie Weatherhead. When bad things happen to good people, is this the will of God? If it is not, what is the will of God? If these questions have sparked an interest in you, then plan to come and "explore your faith" as these questions and others pertaining to God's Will are discussed.

OUTREACH

AVENUE PRESCHOOL: Registration for the 2017-18 school year. Registration is now taking place for current and former Avenue Preschool families for the 2017-18 school year. Please contact the school as noted below if you are a former family interested in enrolling your child. Registrations must be done in person. Space is very limited. To be eligible, a child must be at least 36-months old on or before August 31st. You can contact the preschool office at (302) 422-8775 for information or send an email to: <u>office@avenuepreschool.org</u>. Be sure to visit our Facebook page and website at: <u>www.avenuepreschool.org</u>.

COMMUNITY

Award winning chili and krispy Kreme donuts come to Avenue!!!!

The Alaska Mission Trip Team will be in the foyer the next three weeks to take orders for pints (\$5) and quarts (\$10) of the Award Winning Chili Cook-off Chili by Seth Wilcox himself!! Additionally, order forms will be available to order fresh, piping hot Krispy Kreme Donuts for \$10 a dozen. Both chili and donuts will be delivered fresh and available for pick up after church services on Palm Sunday, **April 9**th. Thank you for your support!!

ALASKA MISSION TRIP TEAM will be hosting a Fundraiser at "The Palace" in Milford on April 18th from 4pm to close. A portion of the evenings proceeds will be donated to the Mission Trip for Alaska. Coupon to follow!!!

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

| | _ |
|------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 2016 | 2017 |
| 56 | |
| 126 | 77 |
| 365 | 180 |
| 128 | 55 |
| 141 | 79 |
| 0 | 5 |
| 0 | 42 |
| 816 | 438 |
| | $56 \\ 126 \\ 365 \\ 128 \\ 141 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0$ |

CALENDAR

<u>SUNDAY</u> 4/2 ~ Communion

| 8:00 a.m. | Traditional Worship |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 9:30 a.m. | Contemporary Worship |
| 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| 11:00 a.m. | Traditional Worship |
| 3:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop 272, Heritage Room |
| a a a - | |

6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room & Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 4/3

| 11:00 a.m. | AA, Wesley Room |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 6:30 p.m. | Handbell Choir, Sanctuary |
| 7:00 p.m. | First State Harmonizers, |
| | Fellowship Hall |
| 7:00 p.m. | Boy Scouts, Wesley Room |
| 7:00 p.m. | AA, Room 206 |
| 7:00 p.m. | Lenten Bible Study, Grier Room |
| 7:00 p.m. | Sunday School Meeting, |
| | Heritage Room |

TUESDAY 4/4

| 10:00 a.m. | Archives Comm. Meeting, |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Archives Room |
| 10:00 a.m. | Sisters Bible Study, Grier Room |
| 12:00 p.m. | Card Ministry, Grier Room |
| 1:00 p.m. | UMW Board Meeting, Room 207 |
| 6:00 p.m. | MomentUM Praise Team |
| | Rehearsal, Wesley Room |
| 6:00 p.m. | Covenant Discipleship Group, |
| | Wendy's Office |
| 6:15 p.m. | Mispillion Children's Choir, |
| | Music Room |
| 6:30 p.m. | Cub Scouts—Bears, Fellowship Hall |
| 7:00 p.m. | Central Delaware Chess Club, |
| | Room 206 |
| 7:00 p.m. | Praise Team Rehearsal, |
| | Sanctuary |
| 7:00 p.m. | Leadership Team Meeting, |
| | Carpenter Room |
| | |

WEDNESDAY 4/5

| THEFT | |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| 12:00 p.m. | Lenten Service, Sanctuary |
| 12:30 p.m. | Lenten Luncheon, Fellowship Hall |
| 1:30 p.m. | Knitting Group, Grier Room |
| 3:00 p.m. | Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary |
| | and Music Room |
| 5:00 p.m. | Instrumental Rehearsal, |
| | Sanctuary |
| 5:00 p.m. | Women's Emmaus Reunion, |
| | Room 202 |
| 6:00 p.m. | AveNotes, Music Room |
| 6:30 p.m. | Cub Scouts—Webelos 1, |
| | Wesley Room |
| 6:45 p.m. | Pride of Delmarva, Fellowship Hall |
| | |

THURSDAY 4/6

| 9:00 a.m. | DCOM, Heritage & Conference Room |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 11:00 a.m. | AA, Wesley Room |
| 12:05 p.m. | Lenten Organ Recital, Sanctuary |
| 12:30 p.m. | Lenten Luncheon, Fellowship Hall |
| 2:30 p.m. | Women's Emmaus Reunion, |
| | Room 202 |
| 6:30 p.m. | Boy Scouts—Wolves, Wesley Room |
| 6:30 p.m. | Worship, Sanctuary |
| | |

FRIDAY 4/7

| 10:00 a.m. | Candy Sale, Fellowship Hall |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 8:00 p.m. | AA, Wesley Room |

SATURDAY 4/8

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

<u>SUNDAY</u> $4/9 \sim Palm Sunday$

| | Candy Sale, Fellowship Hall |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | Traditional Worship |
| 9:30 a.m. | Contemporary Worship |
| 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| 10:45 a.m. | Confirmation Class, Grier Room |
| 11:00 a.m. | Traditional Worship |
| 6:00 p.m. | FUSION, Wesley Room & |
| | Fellowship Hall |
| | |

"A Dynamic Faith Community Growing in

Hope, Love and Service"