

AVENUE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, September 21, 2016*

*From the desk of our Pastors . . .*

Fall kickoff came and went last weekend and we are now into the full spectrum of activities here at Avenue. I am excited about the trajectory we are on over the next few years to make disciples for Christ. There are great things happening here as evidenced by the full calendar, the number of events taking place, an increased demand for meeting space and a vibrant energy infusing the entire congregation. The Holy Spirit is moving!

What inspires me the most however is the introduction of the new worship service on Thursday evenings. The first service will be tomorrow night, September 22.

There has been a lot of discussion about whether this will be a “relief valve” for the overcrowding at 9:30. The answer is both yes and no.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to be part of this new worship. The need for a service focused on people who cannot make it on Sundays has been increasing especially given the availability of public transportation and the number of people who work on Sunday.

But this service is not contemporary worship – part two. Thursday night worship will be shorter, contemplative, reflective, and the music will be more eclectic with cultural flares and genres that are not part of any current service. As it is being held in Fellowship Hall there will not be an organ. The praise team is not participating as an entity as it does on Sunday. Musicians and vocalists will come in and out over the different weeks based on the theme of the service and the musical needs for the evening.

The most important element of this service however is the opportunity to worship God in an unique and different way as part of community. So I hope you will put it on your calendar for Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. As you discern whether you will be able to join us, keep in mind the words of Psalm 100 which reminds us why and how we are to worship.

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.*

*Worship the LORD with gladness;*

*come into his presence with singing.*

*Know that the LORD is God.*

*It is he that made us, and we are his;*

*we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,*

*and his courts with praise.*

*Give thanks to him, bless his name.*

*For the LORD is good;*

*his steadfast love endures forever,*

*and his faithfulness to all generations.*

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings as we praise and worship our Lord and Savior.

To God be the glory forever and ever.



Pastor Wendy



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**Be Inspired ... Be Transformed ... Become**

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GriefShare is a network of 12,000+ churches worldwide equipped to offer grief support groups.

The program is nondenominational and features biblical concepts for healing from your grief.

Learn more about GriefShare at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org)

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### **GriefShare**

has begun and runs thru December 8<sup>th</sup>  
(barring any cancellation due to inclement weather)

Classes run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Meets in the Grier Room

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Avenue United Methodist Church

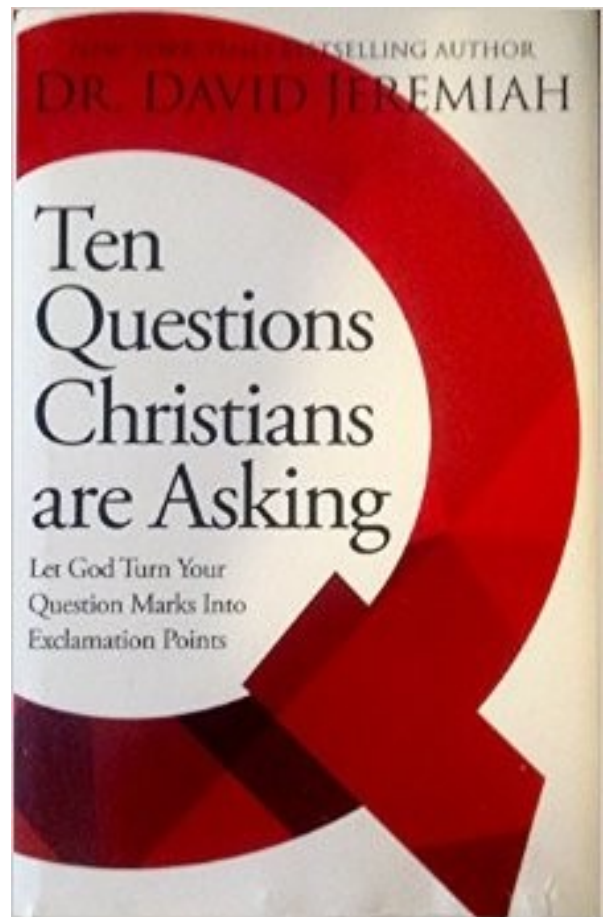
20 N. Church Street  
Milford, DE 19963  
(302) 422-8111  
[www.avenueumc.com](http://www.avenueumc.com)



**NEW BIBLE STUDY:** On Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m., a new small group study led by Gary Powers will focus on the book by David Jeremiah entitled “Ten Questions Christians are Asking.” Along the way the group will discuss answers to:

- Is there a sin God cannot forgive?
- Is there only one way to God?
- How can I be sure of my salvation?
- How can I find forgiveness?
- Why don't my prayers get answered?
- What is faith?
- How can I overcome temptation?
- How can I get victory over worry?
- What is the greatest commandment?
- Why do Christians have so many problems?

If you are interested in joining the group or have questions, call Gary at (302) 422-8821. The group will be meeting in the Holzmueller Room.



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## FALL STUDY

### *So, Now What??*

Based on the

**“The Life You’ve Always Wanted”** by John Ortberg

Wednesdays

6 p.m. Dinner; 7 p.m. Bible Study



BENEFITS OF A

# *Fresh Start*

AVAILABLE TO ALL AT  
AVENUE CHURCH

**Have you ever thought about what it would take  
to make a Fresh Start?**

**How about a Fresh Start with God?**

Well, if you haven't now is the time! Join us as we continue a brand new sermon series on the benefits of a Fresh Start. Let's embrace the grace that God has lavished upon us in this new year of ministry here at Avenue.

**It's time for a Fresh Start.**

# COMING THIS SEPTEMBER TO AVENUE **The Mispillion Children's Chorus**

All students AGES 6-12 years old  
are invited to begin attending  
rehearsals here at Avenue Church

**Tuesday evenings 6:15-7:00 p.m.**

*Also available at the original rehearsal location:*

*The Milford Boys & Girls Club  
Tuesday afternoons 4:30-5:30 p.m.*

***NO AUDITIONS!***

***NO FEES!***

***NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!***



*Just a commitment from parents and  
guardians that students attend regularly  
and participate in performances.*

## **QUESTIONS**

[themispillionchildrenschorus@gmail.com](mailto:themispillionchildrenschorus@gmail.com)

Kevin B. Chamberlain (302) 422-8111

Sharon Starling (302) 422-2785

## 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:** The following dates are available in **2016:** December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>. 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:** The families and friends of those lost fifteen years ago on 9/11, Barbara Vederose, a family in need of protection and guidance, a son and family who are in Japan, Layla Messick, V. Paul Sherwood, Fran Scott, The family and friends of David Wagner, Sr, Donna Robinson, April McIntyre, Colleen Dunham, Jim Greenly, Our world and country for peace, Upcoming Chrysalis and Emmaus weekends, Calvin Baker, Shelby Swain, Ed Hilligoss, Jacob Kimmey, Joan, Laura, Bernie, For all of our farmers as they prepare for harvest, For the Dufendach family who lost their daughter, B J Ennis, Morgan Vezmar The family and friends of Ila Myers who passed away on Thursday, Robert Mercer, Jerry Jackson, Kim and Mike for God's help, Yvonne Nelson, The Kurlak family in the loss of their daughter in law in the 9/11 tragedies, Bill Gustin and Millie Remick.

**Recently hospitalized:** Charles Clendaniel, Ramie Zeisel, V. Paul Sherwood, B. J. Ennis and Morgan Vezmar.

**Rejoice with:** : Morgan Roberts who celebrated her birthday this last week, for God's blessing of each new day and The Nelson family who had a fundraiser last week and raised \$85,000 to fight colon cancer in memory of Bob Nelson.

**PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK:** Bill Brereton and family, Pat Fisher and family, the Berry family, Kaye Darling, Hilda Holleger, Christopher, everyone injured in the NYC bombing, all injured in the stabbing incident at the Minnesota Mall, everyone associated with Code Purple, Chrissy Wilkins, Brad Winston, Sonny and Donna Meck, Calvin Baker, Lillie Brittingham, the family of George Carey, the youth and team taking part in the Chrysalis weekend, Jim Greenly, Colleen Dunham, April McIntyre, Shannon and family, Samantha and Ramie Ziesel.

**Recently hospitalized:** Gary Seal, Charles Clendaniel, Sam Bostick and Paul Sherwood.

**Rejoice with:** Kyle and Megan Rothermel and everyone who attended the 88.7 family reunion.

### WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

#### ♪Handbells

Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

#### ♪MomentUM Praise Team

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
♪ **Misphillion Children's Chorus**  
Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m., Music Room

♪ **Praise Team**  
Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♪ **Sanctuary Choir**  
Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m., Music Room

♪ **AveNotes**  
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

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.

## **SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES**

**GRIEF SHARE:** Regardless of the circumstances, grief recovery is a difficult and painful process. If you are hurting from the loss of a loved one, please prayerfully consider attending GriefShare—a Christ-centered, biblically based support group for people grieving the loss of a loved one. This 13-week cycle continues on **Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 6:30–8:30 p.m., in the Grier Room. Please call the church office for additional information or to register.

**MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** will resume its study of God's Word on **September 26<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. with *The Patriarchs – Encountering the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob*, by Beth Moore. We welcome and encourage anyone interested to join our group. Please call Cheryl Pusey (302) 381-2474 or the church office.

**TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY:** We will continue our 6-week study "Anointed, Transformed, Redeemed" with presenters Priscilla Shirer, Kay Arthur and Beth Moore. 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.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:** On **September 28<sup>th</sup>** we will begin a 5-week study "**A Call to Action.**" Pastor Tom will lead this study in the home of Poncho and Lisa Johnson. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. with the bible study at 7:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:** A class on Christianity and World Religions will begin on Tuesday, **October 4<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the Holzmueller Room and will last for 6-weeks. We will be using the book **Christianity and World Religions** by Rev. Adam Hamilton. If you are interested in attending this class, please contact Rev. John Van Tine at 422-4282.

**WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP** will meet Wednesday, **October 5<sup>th</sup>** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room. Come join us. Contact Janice Abbott at (302) 422-1863.



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

**BOOK CLUB:** We will be meeting on **October 16<sup>th</sup>** at 12:15 p.m. in the Grier Room. Bring your lunch. We will continue to read "Finding My Way Home" by Henri Nouwen. All are welcome.

**UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)** are proud to serve the first Pancake Breakfast of the year on **October 9, 2016**. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee and tea will be **served immediately after all three services. A free-will offering will be accepted.** Funds from this meal will help provide a Boy Scout college scholarship to a high school graduate from Troop #186. Other mission projects will also be funded. Join us for a most excellent breakfast and fellowship.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)** are ready to gather in small group Circle meetings and at large quarterly Unit meetings for the fall of 2016. If you are part of one of the Circles that meet on the third Tuesday each month in the morning, afternoon or evening, that is wonderful. If you would like to be part of a UMW Circle, please just come out to one of the meetings. We meet at 9:45 a.m. (Sarah), 1:30 p.m. (Mary/Martha) and 7:00 p.m. (Esther). Check the weekly calendar to find the Circle that best fits your needs. UMW is about mission and working to enhance the lives of women and children, in particular. UMW serves, educates, loves God and grows in relationship to Christ. Too busy for a meeting, then consider the electronic circle (e-circle). E-Circle members are informed about meetings, service projects and have an opportunity to be a part of activities when you are able. UMW will be working with the whole church to expand our commitment to our missionaries, Donna and Jonathan Baker in the Congo. We have a new exciting project to participate in. Come join us. If you have questions, contact the church office.

## **OUTREACH**

**THE MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY:** The Milford Community Pantry is so thankful for the folks at Avenue who support us with gifts of food, gifts of time and gifts of money. The need has grown over the years and currently we feed over 100 families every month. We are okay *right now with our volunteer help but I will put the call out if that changes.*

Let's make September CEREAL month. If we serve 105 families that means we use at least 105 boxes of cereal! You were so helpful last time we asked so this is our wish for the next two months.

**AVENUE PRESCHOOL** has a limited number of openings for the 2016-17 school year. To be eligible, a child must be at least 36-months old on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>. We are a Star Level 5, Delaware Stars rated program offering a high quality early education experience. For more information contact [office@avenuepreschool.org](mailto:office@avenuepreschool.org) or (302) 422-8111. Be sure to visit our Facebook page and website at: [www.avenuepreschool.org](http://www.avenuepreschool.org).

**MATTHEW PROJECT** is in need of a bed and television. If you can donate either one, please call Joanne at (302) 422-6152.

## COMMUNITY

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: *Community Questionnaire***

The City of Milford is in the process of updating the City's Comprehensive Plan that will guide growth and development in Milford for the next ten years. Please share your thoughts and opinions with us by completing the community survey before September 30, 2016. The link to the survey can be found at the City's website: [www.cityofmilford.com](http://www.cityofmilford.com) or <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MilfordCompPlan>

In addition to the online survey, paper copies are available at City Hall, 201 S. Walnut Street, and the City's Customer Service Center, 119 S. Walnut Street. Results from the questionnaire will be used to guide discussions during the Comprehensive Plan update process and will be shared with the Planning Commission and general public during upcoming meetings. Feel free to contact Rob Pierce in the Planning & Zoning Department if you have any questions at (302) 424-3712 ext. 311

**CHRISTIAN MART:** The Christian Mart (formerly the Mustard Seed) would like to invite you to stop in to browse through the new store. More merchandise comes weekly, so come check us out. They are now accepting applications for a few part-time employees. If you are interested please stop in for more information. Located in Airport Plaza on DuPont Highway in Milford. (302) 422-8808

**STOCKINGS FOR SOLDIERS: *Avenue Church is partnering with Volunteer Delaware 50+*** September 11<sup>th</sup> has been designated as a National Day of Service. Sussex Volunteer Delaware 50+ is partnering with Stocking for Soldiers as a project for 9/11. We are collecting requested items to fill the "stockings", which are personalized for soldiers. We are partnering with other organizations who have agreed to collect. Then we will deliver the collected items to Stockings for Soldiers. Last year they sent 10,000 stockings filled with goodies. The Official collection dates will be from Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> thru Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. (A list of items the table in the Fellowship Foyer)

Thank you for your participation in collecting donated items for The Stocking for Soldiers Program. What a wonderful way for us to give back to those that are sacrificing their lives for us! We sincerely appreciate your dedication to this, and look forward to seeing how many items we can collect. Interested in making stockings, please contact Linda Rogers at (302) 381-2571 or at work (302) 515-3020.

### **LAST WEEK AT AVENUE**

Attendance:	2015	2016
8:00	56	82
9:30	175	161
Sunday School	79	75
11:00	66	73
<b>Total</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>391</b>

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY 9/25

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
5:00 p.m. Fusion, Wesley Room

### MONDAY 9/26

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
6:00 p.m. Men's Emmaus Meeting,  
Carpenter Room  
6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Grier Room  
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. First State Harmonizers,  
Music Room  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study,  
Holzmueller Room  
8:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

### TUESDAY 9/27

- 10:00 a.m. Archives Comm. Meeting,  
Archives Room  
10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study, Grier Room  
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting,  
Conference Room  
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 Chorus,  
Music Room  
7:00 p.m. Pack 186 Meeting, Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,  
Room 206  
7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,  
Sanctuary

### WEDNESDAY 9/28

- 10:30 a.m. Writing Group, Grier Room  
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, Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. New Service Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### THURSDAY 9/29

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
2:30 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,  
Room 202  
6:30 p.m. GriefShare, Grier Room  
6:30 p.m. New Worship Service,  
Fellowship Hall

### FRIDAY 9/30

- 8:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room  
11:00 a.m. Wrap Around DE, Holzmueller Room

### SATURDAY 10/1

- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

### SUNDAY 10/2

- 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  
5:00 p.m. Fusion, Wesley Room

**“A Dynamic Faith Community Growing in Hope, Love**