



AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

I discovered something new during my walks around Milford. I learned that I like flowers. That may seem like an odd statement because I absolutely love having fresh cut flowers in my home and office. I sincerely appreciate when someone gives them to me but I also buy them for myself when I need a special treat.

The change in my attitude is that my journeys give me the opportunity to see what people have planted in their gardens and the various ways that the colors, size of the blooms and layout of the plants work together to create masterpieces that are as individual and unique as the people who planted them. The flowers have been “knit together” in such a way that the final visual of the garden is exceptional, unique and very different from any other garden.

Scripture tells us that God made us all as distinctive and beautiful as each of those gardens that I see on my walks. Psalm 139: 13-14 says, “You alone created my inner being. You knitted me together inside my mother. I will give thanks to you because I have been so amazingly and miraculously made. Your works are miraculous, and my soul is fully aware of this.”

The Lord sees each of us as lovely and irreplaceable as those gardens are. We are full of beautiful and amazing characteristics and traits. When I find delight in those gardens, and realize that God finds similar delight in us, my day begins just a little bit lighter and brighter. God made us all special and now it is up to us to go into the world and delight others with who we are.

And to God be the glory and honor forever.

Pastor Henry





From the desk of our Bishop



Violence is such huge part of our world right now that one can rarely listen to the news on radio or TV without learning of a new incident of horrific violence. We are still reeling from the recent terrorist bombings and mass stabbings in England, and attacks on other innocent people in our own country.

Gun violence is particularly prevalent in our country. I believe it is important for our churches to teach about this epidemic and promote healthy ways of preventing senseless harm.

The 2016 United Methodist Book of Resolutions encourages our churches to make

“preventing gun violence a regular part of our conversations and prayer times.” It goes on to say, “Gun violence must be worshipfully and theologically reflected on, and we encourage UM churches to frame conversations theologically by utilizing resources such as [*Kingdom Dreams, Violent Realities: Reflections on Gun Violence from Micah 4:1-4*](#), produced by the General Board of Church and Society.”

(The ‘Gun Violence Prevention’ page on umcjustic.org is another helpful resource: www.umcjustice.org/what-we-care-about/peace-with-justice/gun-violence-prevention)

It also encourages us to “partner with local law enforcement agencies and community groups to



identify gun retailers that engage in retail practices designed to circumvent laws on gun sales and ownership, encourage full legal compliance, and to work with groups like 'Heeding God's Call' that organize faith-based campaigns to encourage gun retailers to gain full legal compliance with appropriate standards and laws." (2016 Book of Resolutions, page 394)

As a church we can also become politically active by promoting local and national level laws that prevent or reduce gun violence in some of the following ways:

- universal background checks on all gun purchases;
- ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty;
- prohibiting from purchasing guns all individuals under temporary restraining orders due to threat of violence;
- banning large-capacity ammunition magazines and weapons designed to fire multiple rounds each time the trigger is pulled; and
- and promoting new technologies to aid law enforcement agencies to trace crime guns and promote public safety. (2016 Book of Resolutions, page 395).

Finally, my word to you today is to consider anger. The basis for much of the violence we see in this world today is anger. Jesus speaks of anger against one's neighbor in a dramatic way in the "Sermon on Mount."

He said, "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and



whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool' will be liable to the hell of fire." (Matthew 5:21-22)

These are strong words based on much wisdom. Anger gives birth to murder and violence. Churches are also a place where we can teach faith-filled ways of dealing with

anger through conversation, mediation, forgiveness and restorative justice.

Every one of us can do something to curb the violence in our world. Ask God to lay on your heart what you can be doing to promote peace and end this scourge of murder and mayhem in our world. Use the month of June, which is "Gun Violence Prevention Month," to make some concrete plans. We are to be the salt and light of the world!



Peggy A. Johnson

Upcoming Meetings

- ♦ **Vacation Bible School**—June 18th—June 22nd.
- ♦ **Youth Week**—June 18th—June 22nd.
- ♦ **Yard Sale Meeting** —June 20th at 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.





We need Summer Go Bags to hand out to the homeless in the community. You, your family, or your organization can put items into individual large (or extra large) zip lock bags for us to distribute to those in need.

Great Summer Items for Go Bags:

Dental care items, deodorant, bug spray, sunscreen, mini lint rollers for tick removal from clothing, water bottles, band aids, mini container of peanut butter, pop top can of soup or other protein like Vienna sausages, soft granola bars and/or fruit cup, a sleeve of saltine crackers, napkins, plastic spoons, and a note of encouragement with scripture.

If you, your family, or your organization would like to donate a meal to feed 20 men one night each month during our Code Purple season (Mid November through Mid March), please contact our coordinator, Joyce Bonnoni, at Jbonnonicp@gmail.com We also need open-hearted volunteers to share the love of Christ as intake and overnight volunteers through the winter months. Please pray about being the hands and feet of Christ to the most needy in our community. You will be blessed by the experience!

Contact Joyce Bonnoni for more information!

MILFORD COMMUNITY BAND

1990



2017

27th Anniversary Concert
3:00 PM – Sunday June 18
Milford Senior Center
No admission fee – just donations.

We will see you there.

Cub Scout Pack 186 Fundraiser



This is the 1st fundraiser of this type the pack has ever done. Please come out and support us with an evening of fun and enjoyment :-)

WHEN: July 17, 2017
WHERE: Avenue United Methodist Church—Fellowship Hall
20 N. Church St
Milford
TIME: Painting will start at 6:30
PRICE: \$40/pp

Please send names of attendees via an email to:
pack186@comcast.net

***Pre-pay by cash, check (written to Pack 186) or credit card.

Mail check to: Avenue United Methodist Church
attn: Carrie Huot
20 N. Church St
Milford, DE 19963

Credit Cards via: cubscoutpack186.ecwid.com

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 Milford Plant, Flower and Garden Shop at (302) 422-4961. Flowers are placed in the altar vases up by the cross.

PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK: Jason Smith, Rebecca Dutz, Melanie Robinson, family and friends of Ronnie Messick, Haily, the victims of the London attacks, the victims of the Iranian bombings, Judy, Betty, Bonnie, Keith and family, Arlene Seitz, Ashley Wyatt, Theresa, John Siegrist and family, Dave and Sharon Dawson, April McIntyre, Colleen Dunham, Howard Haverkamp, Peggy Hughes, Kirsten Pierce, Bill Salvin and team, Christopher, Brandon and Katie, family and friends of Wesley Scott, Paul, Christy Stevenson's parents, Emily and Kyle, Madiosn, Jake, Joe, everyone on the Alaska Mission trip and their families, Christopher's family, elected leaders at all levels of government, Mitchell, the residents and officials of Delaware, David, Johnny, Don Butler, Edward, Elfi Pann, Francis, Ramie, Dottie and Jerry Jackson.

Rejoice with: The six children of Compassion International who have sponsors, Yvonne Young, Ginny, the Milford High School softball team.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: The family and friends of Al Lauckner, The family and friends of Cecelia Craig, Prayers for upcoming eye surgery and prolonged vision, Jason Smith and Rebecca Dutz, Melanie Robinson, Hailey, Judy, Betty, Bonnie, Theresa, John Siegrist and family, Dave and Sharon Dawson, April McIntyre, Colleen Dunham, Howard Haverkamp, Peggy Hughes, Kirsten Pierce, Christopher, Katie and Brandon, Shirley in Arizona, Emily and Kyle, Madison, Jake, Joe, Johnny, Joanne McKay, Don Butler, Edward, Elfi Pann, Francis, Ramie Ziesel, Dottie and Jerry Jackson, Steve Wiseman and his family, Lacey, Pat Lade and Barbara Dietrich.

Rejoice with: The Alaska Mission team, safely in Alaska, Savannah Marney on the birth of her daughter Vanessa and our awesome pastors and praise team

WE EXTEND SYMPATHY TO:

The family and friends of Alan Lauckner who passed away on June 6, 2017. Al joined Avenue on March 12, 2006.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Ronald Payne was recently recognized by the Boy Scouts of America for being involved with Boy Scouts for **65 years**. Ronald is currently a leader with Boy Scout Troop 186.

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

♪Handbells

Resume on Monday, September 11th at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

♪MomentUM Praise Team

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♪Mispillion Children's Chorus

Resume on Tuesday, September 5th at 6:15 p.m., Music Room

♪Praise Team

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♪Sanctuary Choir

Resume on Wednesday, September 6th at 3:00 p.m., Music Room

♪AveNotes

Resume on Wednesday, September 6th 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.

UPCOMING

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR VBS: Please bring in paper towel and toilet paper tubes for craft project for VBS. Also, we need clear empty 2 litter bottles, tissue boxes and old ties.

2017 YARD SALE will be **August 3rd—5th**. Donations will be accepted Monday, July 24th—Monday, July 31st from 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Any questions, please call Peggy Hughes at (302) 424-3970 or (410) 212-7391. We will be having a **Yard Sale Meeting on June 20th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.**

UMW MISSION U: If you love to learn and study, consider attending UMW Mission u. Mission u is being held on Friday and Saturday, **July 14th and 15th**. The studies are: Spiritual Growth: *Living as a Covenant Community* and Geographical Study is *Missionary Conferences of the UMC in the US*. The Covenant Community book is great - explaining covenants in the Bible and some connections to Climate Justice. I know that Missionary study will be good Mission u is being held in Dover at the Holiday Inn. There are brochures and registration forms on Fellowship Foyer table. Please consider going. It is kind of pricey with meals but I heard the food was excellent. You do not have to buy meals. Please let Beth Parker know if you are interested or just register yourself. **Deadline is June 23rd.**

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: We will continue our study -"10 Questions Christians Ask" by David Jeremiah. Please join us at any time. Contact 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 on **June 20th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Grier Room.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m. in the Grier Room. During the month of June we will be studying the Judges. The Book of Judges continues the history of Israel after

Joshua's death. God raised up a series of national leaders called judges. Empowered by God, judges delivered the people from their enemies. The judges we will be studying in June are: Deborah and Barak; Gideon; Jephthah; and Samson. Please come any Sunday that you can.

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

WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP will resume on **September 6th** at 2:00 p.m. in the **Heritage Room**. Come join us. Contact Janice Abbott at (302) 422-1863.

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: office@avenuepreschool.org. Be sure to visit our Facebook page and website at: www.avenuepreschool.org.

AVENUE PRESCHOOL JOB OPPORTUNITY:

- Part-time teacher assistant
- 20 hours per week
- Interviews will be schedule
- **Deadline is June 20, 2017**

Core Requirements: Minimum age is 18 years old, Must meet requirements for an Early Childhood Teacher Assistant per the Office of Childcare Licensing regulation # 27, experience in and or knowledge about preschool education settings, strong impersonal and communication skills and experience with and/or knowledge about Delaware Starts standards required.

Application details: submit a detailed resume with cover letter to office@avenuepreschool.org or mail to: Avenue Preschool, 20 N. Church Street, Milford, DE 19963 or call (302) 422-8775.

The Milford Community Pantry had a slow start to the year with fewer families than last year . That trend seems to be changing and we are back to a more active stream of families so the backlog of food is now almost gone. We need cereal, we prefer the low to no sugar varieties since we are trying to train families in good food choices.

We also need someone with a pick up and daytime availability. We go to the Food Bank **ONE DAY A WEEK at the most**. We have some drivers with SUVs but there are times when we need a larger cargo area. Is the Lord nudging you to use your time and your pick up???? Call Tita Lewis 664-1321 or Diane Dolan 242-5125.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 6/18

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Summer Adult Bible Study,
 Grier Room
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 5:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 5:00 p.m. Youth Week, Wesley Room

MONDAY 6/19

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 5:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 5:00 p.m. Youth Week, Wesley Room
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 6/20

10:00 a.m. Sisters Bible Study, Grier Room
 12:30 p.m. Hospital Auxiliary Meeting,
 Grier Room
 1:30 p.m. Yard Sale Meeting,
 Fellowship Hall
 4:00 p.m. Preschool—CPR Class,
 Heritage Room
 5:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 5:00 p.m. Youth Week, Wesley Room
 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
 Room 206

WEDNESDAY 6/21

10:30 a.m. Diabetes Prevention Program,
 Heritage Room
 1:30 p.m. Knitting Group, Grier Room
 5:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 5:00 p.m. Youth Week, Wesley Room

THURSDAY 6/22

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 2:30 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
 Room 202
 5:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 5:00 p.m. Youth Week, Wesley Room
 6:00 p.m. Dover District Board Meeting,
 Holz. Room

FRIDAY 6/23

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

SATURDAY 6/24

6:30 p.m. Avenue Emmaus Group
 Gathering, Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 6/25

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Summer Adult Bible Study,
 Grier Room
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2016	2017
8:00	67	63
9:30	168	188
Sunday School		41
11:00	68	64
FUSION	0	0
Total	303	356

**“A Dynamic Faith Community Growing in
 Hope, Love and Service”**