



# *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, July 5, 2017*

*From the desk of our Pastors . . .*

Some of you may remember that I was trying to do some consulting over the past nine months. There has not been much for me to do recently and while I hope that picks up in the next 90 days so Bill has a great business base to come home to, it has been nice to be home.

Even though business is slow there is still a meeting every month where those of us involved with the effort get together, via computer, and talk about what is going on. We use a program called Zoom and it's a lot like Skype except that instead of looking at each other, we are able to see the powerpoints and other presentations that are being reviewed. This allows us to bring people from around the country together, hear each other talk, but see the actual data.

The only problem is that the program allows for pop-up ads to border the data. For those of you who have not experienced this, think of a television set where you are watching a program and all around the edges are commercials that cycle through on a continual basis but the advertisements are all based on what you have personally bought in the past. The pop-up ads on a computer are based on what the user has searched for in the past. In my case for example, I get a lot of ads for tennis racquets and kitchen gadgets.

For our last Zoom meeting, the organizer was a lovely man from Wyoming who has a wonderful wife and five daughters. He is outnumbered to say the

least. Because he was the leader, his computer was the one that we were basically watching. I can only imagine how embarrassed he must have been when the ads that popped around his presentation were all about women's underwear. As hard as he tried, he could not figure out how to keep those ads from appearing.

For most of the meeting everyone just ignored it but on the third rotation of the ads we just could not pretend we didn't see it. The laughter started and the ice was broken. The jokes were funny but respectful and the leader laughed at himself as well.

Proverbs 17:22 says "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." While that meeting could have been very uncomfortable, it was exactly what we needed because the revenue numbers were not looking good. The data could have been crushing but we came out of the meeting feeling like a team and reinvigorated to work harder all because of some underwear ads we never would have expected to see. God really does work in some interesting ways at times. I think the Lord sent the comic relief we needed.

And as always, to God be the glory and honor forever.



- ♦ **Leadership Team & SPRC Meetings**—cancelled for July
- ♦ **Finance Committee Meeting**—July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., Grier Room
- ♦ **Trustees Meeting**—July 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., Grier Room



*From the desk of our Bishop .....*

## Transitions

This is the week in most annual conferences in the United States known as “transition week.” Pastors who are moving to another assignment typically begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> and there is a period of welcome and adjustment to a new environment, a new group of people, a new place to live and all the million things that go into a move. Many pastors have spouses and children who transition with them, so it is not just the pastor who has many adjustments to make. Churches too have things to get used to as they welcome a new pastor and there is a mixture of bitter-sweet “good-bye” and “hello” in the hearts of church members.

I ask that you do the following things listed below. (These suggestions are based on concerns that come up every year during transition week.)

1. Pray for those in transition: pastors, families and churches.
2. Churches need to welcome their new pastors and/or family with as much hospitality and love as they can muster.
3. Pastors need to leave their churches when they leave their churches and not continue to have pastoral ties with families in ways that interfere with the ministry of the new pastor. At least a one-year window of absence from all contact is requested, unless one is invited back by the new pastor for some reason.
4. Parsonages need to be left clean and repaired.
5. Pastors should attempt to learn about the new church before changing the worship style and things that people are used to doing. There is plenty of time to make changes once people get to know the pastor and everyone understands each other.
6. Contact the district superintendent if there are any concerns about salaries or promises made at the pastoral take-in. They are there to help.

Remember to pray for our retired pastors who may not be assuming a pastoral assignment in retirement. They starting a new journey of life and need our support as well.

The itinerant system of moving pastors is not perfect but it has many advantages. The gifts of pastors vary greatly and as there are pastoral changes the church gets to have a variety of expressions of worship and styles of ministry that brings health and strength to our congregations. The most important thing is to keep the goal of preaching the Gospel and making disciples as the driving passion of the church and God will lead both pastor and church into constantly new opportunities for spiritual growth and outreach.



*Peggy A. Johnson*

# ***2017 Yard Sale at Avenue United Methodist Church***

Donations for Yard Sale will be accepted  
Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>—Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>  
(8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.)

Large item pick up by appointment only!  
Larry (302) 745-4331 Sonny (302) 690-4953

Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.  
**“Early Bird Special” (\$1 admission this day only)**

Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

All proceeds go to missions of the church

*Avenue United Methodist Church  
20 N. Church Street  
Milford, DE 19963  
(302) 422-8111*





**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](mailto: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!**



# Sweet Summertime

## FUSION SUMMER TOUR 2017



### JUNE

SUMMER SEND-OFF	11TH	5PM
YOUTH WEEK BEGINS	18TH	6PM
BEACH BIBLE STUDY	20TH	10AM
YOUTH WEEK ENDS	22ND	6PM

### JULY

MIDDLE SCHOOL IGNITE		
CAMP DEPARTURE	10TH	3PM
BUBBA DOWLING STRONG MAN SHOW	13TH	8PM
MIDDLE SCHOOL IGNITE		
CAMP RETURN	15TH	1PM
HIGH SCHOOL IGNITE		
CAMP DEPARTURE	17TH	3PM
JARED HALL ILLUSIONIST SHOW	20TH	8PM
HIGH SCHOOL IGNITE		
CAMP RETURN	22ND	1PM
YOUTH SUNDAY	23RD	8AM
STATE FAIR TRIP	25TH	10AM

### AUGUST

BEACH BIBLE STUDY	1ST	10AM
BEACH BIBLE STUDY	8TH	10AM
BEACH BIBLE STUDY	15TH	10AM
PAINT BALL DAY	16TH	11AM
BEACH BIBLE STUDY	22ND	10AM
FALL KICK OFF	SEPTEMBER 10TH	5PM

20 NORTH CHURCH STREET, MILFORD, DE · AVENUEUMC.COM  
CALL CLIFF @ 302.258.5683

# 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](mailto: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](http://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:** The family and friends of Sean Hudson, the Milford Police Department, the family and friends of David LeGates, Jean's grandsons, Kirsten Pearce, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Tyler Trego, Colleen Dunham, April McIntyre, Joanne McKay, Betty Ziesel, Bill Salvin and Julie Eppers, Christopher, the Pasmore family, Howard Haverkamp, Lacy, Dottie and Jerry Jackson, Bill Gaskill and family, John Siegrist and family, Shirley Rosselle, Michaela, Cheryl, and Kathy's daughter.

**Rejoice with:** Alan Pearce, Eric Porter, the Gideons, and the Alaska Mission Team.

**PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK:** Cheryl C., Kathy's daughter, Linda's husband, Melanie Robinson, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Pat Lane, Bobby Walls, April McIntyre, Bill and Jill Gustin, Jacob Hudson, Boy Scout Troop 186 and Troop 116, Paul Russel, our military, God's guidance, Greg Brennan, Michelle Barto Winn, Colleen Dunham, Bill Salvin, Christopher, Betty Ziesel, Howard Haverkamp, Lacy, Bill Gaskill and family, John Siegrist and family.

**Rejoice with:** Lillie Brittingham and all blessed by God.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**Robert and Marie Bradley** who will celebrate their 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary on **July 11<sup>th</sup>**.

### WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

#### ♫Handbells

Resume on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

#### ♫MomentUM Praise Team

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

#### ♫Mispillion Children's Chorus

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

#### ♫Praise Team

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

#### ♫Sanctuary Choir

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

#### ♫AveNotes

Resume on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 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**

**2017 YARD SALE** will be **August 3<sup>rd</sup>—5<sup>th</sup>**. Donations will be accepted Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>—Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Any questions, please call Peggy Hughes at (302) 424-3970 or (410) 212-7391.

**LIFETOUCH PICTURES HAVE ARRIVED:** If you ordered the “complimentary” 8x10 picture most of them have arrived at the church office. Please contact Kelly for pick up.

## **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 will meet on **July 11<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. in the Grier Room.

**SUMMER ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** The Summer Adult Bible Study will be studying the calling of prophets in the month of July. These prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Amos. All are welcome to join us in the Grier Room at 9:30 a.m.

**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 **July 10<sup>th</sup>** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room

**WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP** will resume on **September 6<sup>th</sup>** 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 31<sup>st</sup>. You can contact the preschool office at (302) 422-8775 for information or send an email to: [office@avenuepreschool.org](mailto:office@avenuepreschool.org). Be sure to visit our Facebook page and website at: [www.avenuepreschool.org](http://www.avenuepreschool.org).

**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.

To my friends at Avenue,

I'm sending a sincere thanks for the many prayers and cards that were sent my way during my recent bout with, and recovery from, a serious health issue. God and good friends pulled me through.

Blessing to all,

*Jo Wood*

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY 7/9

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

### MONDAY 7/10

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
 4:00 p.m. Alzheimers Support Group,  
 Grier Room  
 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,  
 Fellowship Hall  
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

### TUESDAY 7/11

10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study, Grier Room  
 6:00 p.m. Brownie Troop, Nursery  
 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room  
 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,  
 Room 206  
 7:00 p.m. Finance Comm. Meeting,  
 Grier Room  
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,  
 Sanctuary

### WEDNESDAY 7/12

10:30 a.m. Diabetes Prevention Program,  
 Heritage Room  
 1:30 p.m. Knitting Group, Grier Room  
 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,  
 Room 202

### THURSDAY 7/13

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
 2:30 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,  
 Room 202  
 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Leaders Meeting,  
 Grier Room  
 7:00 p.m. Code Purple Meeting,  
 Heritage Room

### FRIDAY 7/14

8:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

### SATURDAY 7/15

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

### SUNDAY 7/16

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, Baptism

### LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2016	2017
8:00	65	50
9:30	191	169
Sunday School	36	17
11:00	54	57
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>293</b>

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