



The Midweek

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

If you were in church on Sunday, July 9th you know that I was not. I was away for the weekend in University Park, PA...home to the Pennsylvania State University's main campus and my alma mater. I was there with a group of fellow alums, including one friend who had not been back to the area in more than 30 years. Needless to say, a lot had changed starting with the fact that we were attending the first concert ever held in the football stadium.

One of the biggest changes was at the Penn State Creamery. Penn State is famous for ice cream and its training program that taught Ben and Jerry had to make the dairy delight. (Yes, I do mean that Ben and Jerry.) When I was at PSU, the Creamery was in a tiny building and was cramped and tight and the lines meandered out the door. The new facility is huge, with wide aisles and multiple places to order but the lines are still out the door.

It was fascinating to watch people of all ages enjoying the ice cream tradition but listening to them discuss one particular flavor was enlightening. It was common to hear orders for the "cone of death" being passed down the line to the scoopers but it took some effort to figure out what they were talking about.

One family with three generations had an interesting take on it. The oldest folks were convinced it meant the ice cream being ordered was full of fat, cholesterol and a week's worth of calories. The middle generation thought it meant a double scoop – twice the normal amount of a regular order. It was the kids that figured out that a "cone of death" was an order of "death by chocolate."

Each generation heard the same thing but based on experience and life concerns they focused on it in a different way. Isn't that the way we tend to look at so many things in the world? Every generation has their different kinds of societal norms, values, political opinions, fashion, music and the list goes on and on. Certainly, there are always exceptions and I am not looking to stereotype but the world has changed and the generations have changed with it.

Ketchup is another interesting example. Many baby boomers grew up picking their ketchup by flavor and brand name. Research tells us that today's young buyers are more concerned about organic ingredients and sustainability of the growers than even taste or tradition. It's why companies like Brandless are growing quickly.

God however, has never changed throughout time or generations. The Lord is the same God that we read about in Genesis and continues to reign today. Hebrews 13:8 tells us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

No matter how much things have changed in our lives, the world or from generation-to-generation we are reminded that "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." (Revelation 1:8)

Change can be difficult and we may not always agree with or have the same outlook on life that others do but it is a blessing, a comfort and peace to know that God is a constant in our lives no matter our past, present or future.

And to God be the glory FOREVER AND EVER.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Henry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Avenue Church Updates

By this time you all are pretty used to hearing from Pastor Wendy in the Mid-week, but occasionally I get the opportunity to share a little bit with you about what's going on here at church. We are one busy congregation and there is so much going on that's really hard to keep track. I know that I struggle at times and I'm the pastor, so here goes.

Financially, we continue to outpace last year in giving with unrestricted donations up by roughly 2%. In addition, we have raised over \$10,000 in special offerings for the Congo Mission Partnership, Ralph Spain Camperships to Camp Pecometh, Carol Argo's missionary trip to Cambodia, the Gideons, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and many others. We are a generous congregation and we want to see the mission of Jesus Christ lived out in our world. It's amazing.

We are also seeking to be good stewards of the resource that you have entrusted to me and the other leaders of Avenue Church. We are continually looking for savings to help stretch our dollars and focus them on mission and ministry. So far this year, we have completed an insulation project on the HVAC system to help us reduce energy cost and prevent condensation and corrosion in the ceiling of the main hallway on the first floor. We have replaced the copier in the office with one that is a little slower but much cheaper. The savings on leasing fees alone are almost \$800 per month—adding up to a total reduction of over 50% off of our copier expenses.

Youth Sunday demonstrated that we have a youth group that is passionate about their faith and willing to share it with others. Over 25 students experienced Ignite Camp and were transformed by the experience, and Cliff and his dedicated staff of volunteers continue to look for new ways to engage and reach the youth of Milford.

The Yard Sale is really gearing up with the goal of earning even more money this year to aid our missions work in Milford and around the globe. What a great time of fellowship and service!

Our dedicated and faithful trustees are looking for more ways to make our building more beautiful, safer, and more efficient. From refurbished windows and doors, to additional security cameras, and LED lighting, Avenue is on the forefront of congregations in the Annual Conference in care of our facilities.

Worship continues to be a place where we see God at work and moving. I was deeply moved by the testimony of Yvonne Nelson, Tom and Henrietta Chilton, and Nicole Wilkins. Each memory they shared and each story they told highlighted the presence of God moving in each of their lives. What better witness to the amazing love of Christ then to see it lived out in others' lives?

I wish that I could share all of the great stories that are coming out of Avenue each and every day, and I hope go get the chance to at some point. Meanwhile, I am deeply humbled to being leading such an amazing congregation and thank God every day that I am able to walk the journey of faith with you. As we get ready to begin another year of ministry together I pray that God blesses us mightily in the days to come.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Tom". The word "Pastor" is written in a cursive script, and "Tom" is written in a simpler, more legible script to its right.

Friends,

The online giving option is now active and you can check it out here.

<https://avenueumc.com/volunteer-give/give-to-aumc/>

Should be a good addition to our bottom line.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Tom". The word "Pastor" is written in a cursive style, and "Tom" is written in a simpler, more legible cursive.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ♦ **SPRC Meeting**—August 17th at 7:00 p.m., Holzmueller Room
- ♦ **Trustees Meeting**—August 21st at 7:00 p.m., Grier Room
- ♦ **Church Council Meeting**—August 23rd at 7:00 p.m., Grier Room

2017 Yard Sale at Avenue United Methodist Church

Donations for Yard Sale will be accepted
Monday, July 24th—Monday, July 31st
(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 3rd 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
“Early Bird Special” (\$1 admission this day only)

Friday, August 4th 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 5th 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 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

Grotto Pizza® Community PIZZA NIGHT

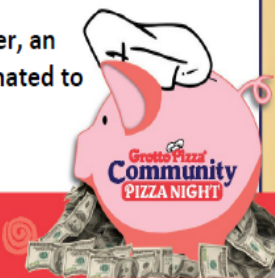


Vouchers cannot be handed out on premises. Disregard to this policy will result in termination of the event.

Please Join Us for a Fundraising Event!

Cub Scout Pack 186
Milford– Silicato Way
August 16, 2017 | 4 to 9pm

When this voucher is presented at time of order, an amount equal to 20% of your total bill will be donated to Cub Scout Pack 186.



This offer valid for dine-in and takeout only | GrottoPizza.com |  

Living Proof Simulcast 2017 with BETH MOORE



Jesus Rocks!

REGISTRATION FORM

September 16, 2017

Union United Methodist Church
2 North Laws Street, Bridgeville, Delaware

9:30 AM to 4:15 PM (*doors open at 9:00am*)



Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Home Church _____

Early Bird Registration - \$25 (*must be received by August 16th*)

Regular Registration - \$30 (*August 17th-September 12th*)

SPACE IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 125 PAID REGISTRATIONS

- Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided
- Ladies age 14 and over (*Childcare is not available*)

Make check payable to: UUMC (On the memo line: *Simulcast*)

Mail or return to: Union United Methodist Church, 2 North Laws St., Bridgeville, DE 19933

For additional information, contact the church office at: 302-337-7409 or uumchurch@comcast.net.



For Office Use Only:

Date Received: _____ Amount Paid: _____

Cash: _____ Check #: _____

Guests: _____

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: William Charles Wyatt Sr., Doris Warren, Steve Warren, Kim and family, Jean Hutchman, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Pat Lane, Bobby Walls, April McIntyre, Bill and Jill Gustin, Neil Parker, Boy Scout Troop 186, Judy Lerner, Carol Saint and family, Brittany, cancer patients, Carol Argo, Cindy Fritz, Cathy Marshall, Mike Barlow, Charlie Harding, Missy, Howard Haverkamp, Christopher, and Bill Salvin.

Rejoice with: The High School Ignite Campers, Jake Macklin, Karen Williams, Debbie Campbell and family, Keith Bauer, and Pastor Tom.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Bonnie Carmine, Carol Evans, the Peters family, Joan Hunter, Colleen Dunham, Aunt Diana, Joyce Bonnoni's dad, Dick, Alexis, our nation and elected leaders, John McCain and his family, all victims of human trafficking, Allison, Bill Salvin, Christopher, Howard Haverkamp, Missy, Charlie Harding, Judy Lerner, Neil Parker, April McIntyre, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Jean Hutchman, the family of Stephen Hornstein.

Rejoice with: Bethany, Pastor Tom, Avenue Church, Lloyd and Nancy Webb.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

Mary Tatman will celebrate her **92nd** birthday on **August 5th**.

Mildred Jensen will celebrate her **95th** birthday on **August 7th**.

Congratulations to:

Russell and Beverly French who will celebrate their **52nd** anniversary on **August 7th**.

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

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.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY: This 9 week LIFE CHANGING CLASS will begin **Tuesday, August 8th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Grier Room**. Dave Ramsey will be giving us a total money makeover via DVD. He will teach and train us to manage our resources in a godly manner. Following the video, a volunteer will host a small group discussion. This is where true accountability and behavior changes occur. The group takes the “baby steps” needed to walk them to financial peace. If you have any questions, please contact Ken or Melissa Wilcox at (302) 424-4209 or kmbsw@netzero.net. (Flyers and more information is available on the foyer table)

LIFETOUCH PICTURES HAVE ARRIVED: If you ordered only 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 **August 8th** 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 Carpenter Room at 9:30 a.m.

ALZHEIMER’S SUPPORT GROUP: The Alzheimer’s Caregiver’s Support Group will meet the **2nd Monday of each month**. The next meeting will be **August 14th** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room

WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP will resume on **September 6th** at 11:00 a.m. in the **Grier Room**. Come join us. Contact Janice Abbott at (302) 422-1863.

UMW: The United Methodist Women send a big thank you to everyone who participated in bringing in eyeglass cases for our Congo neighbors who have sight needs. So many beautiful cloth cases sewn by hand and many purchased. We even had some from the Peacemakers quilt guild and others who received a letter from us. Donna and Jonathan Baker were on a tight schedule but they came to Avenue with their darling granddaughter to pick them up and take them back to the Congo. This is an ongoing need and I just found out that the Lions Club will be bringing in a bag of soft cases to us each month and the Bakers will pick them up. We do need any suitcases on wheels because they always need something to take them home in. Again, a big thanks to all those who contributed. Follow all that the Bakers do to help those in need on Avenues website.

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-NEW OFFER: Children who will turn 3 before December 31, 2017 are now able to register for our beginners program. They will be in our 2 day program that is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Children must be potty trained before the first day of school. Children in our preschool program are actively involved in a curriculum that stresses the social, emotional, physical and academic aspects of their development. If you have any questions or would like to enroll you child please contact Paula Yeich at (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.

CUB SCOUT PACK 186 is having a fundraiser on **Wednesday, August 16th** at Grotto Pizza in Milford between 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The restaurant will donate 20% of each check (dine in or carryout) to Pack 186. Vouchers must be presented and are available in the Fellowship Foyer or from any Cub Scout.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 7/30

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Summer Adult Bible Study,
Carpenter Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 1:00 p.m. Troop 186 Leaders Meeting,
Heritage Room

MONDAY 7/31

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Pack 186 Leaders Planning
Meeting, Heritage Room
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 8/1

- 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,
Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY 8/2

- 10:30 a.m. Diabetes Prevention Program,
Heritage Room
- 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
Room 202
- 6:30 p.m. Pride of Delmarva,
Wesley Room

THURSDAY 8/3 ~ YARD SALE

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Reunion Group,
Conference Room
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room

FRIDAY 8/4 ~ YARD SALE

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

SATURDAY 8/5 ~ YARD SALE

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

SUNDAY 8/6 ~ Communion

- 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	62	63
9:30	175	136
Sunday School	33	22
11:00	58	78
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	328	299