

AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

Hurricane Harvey was devastating. As I write this, Hurricane Irma is just days away from slamming into Florida as a possible category 4. These are not the only two water-related events that have affected populated areas over the past two weeks. There was a hurricane on the baja peninsula in Mexico and monsoons in Pakistan and China that cost thousands of people their lives. Here in Milford, there is the possibility of flooding whenever we get large amounts of rain and more than a few of us at Avenue Church deal with basements of water whenever that happens.

The joke I often hear when I ask people how they are doing in storms with major precipitation is that they are “building the ark in the backyard.” The images that we see in the media are beyond our imagination. Considering the destruction that we do see, it’s hard to comprehend how much bigger and worse the flood during Noah’s life was.

Harvey lasted for four days but the flood that God sent was 10 times that long. As we read in Genesis 7: 17-21, “The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh

died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings.”

But God is good and as it says in Genesis 9:13 the Creator than said, “I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”

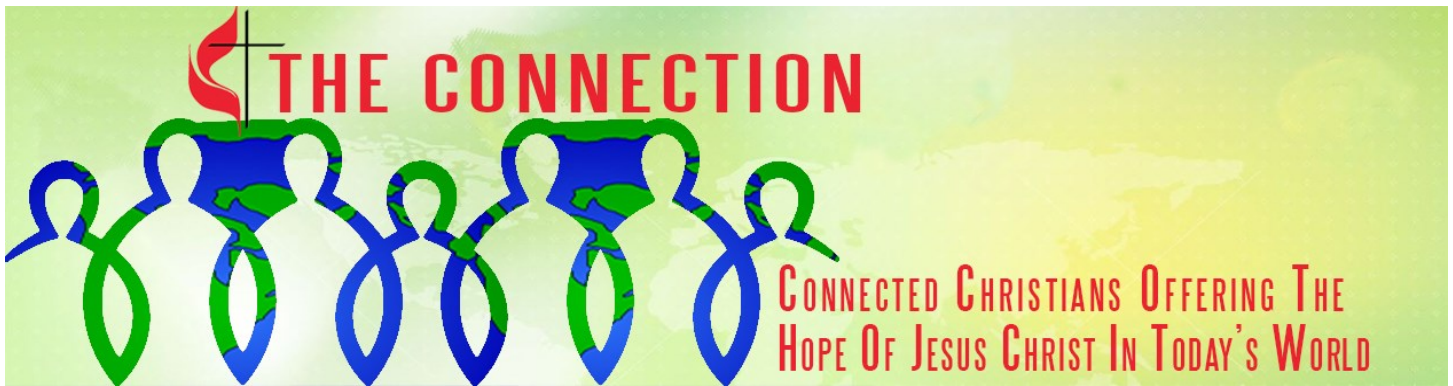
Let us continue to pray for the victims of Harvey and everyone who will be impacted by Irma and the other potential storms worldwide that are in the future. For people who have lost family and friends and who have massive clean-up and rebuilding in their future, it may feel like the end of the world as they know it. Let’s lift them before the Lord that they feel God’s peace, love and grace as they begin to move forward again in their lives.

To God be the glory forever and ever.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- * Finance Comm. Meeting—**Sept. 12th** at 7:00 p.m. in Heritage Room
- * Trustees Meeting—**Sept. 18th** at 7:00 p.m. in Grier Room
- * SPRC Meeting—**Sept. 21st** at 7:00 p.m. in Holzmueeller Room
- * Church/Charge Conference—**Sept. 22nd** at 6:30 p.m. in Sanctuary



From the desk of the Bishop.....

Labor Day: To praise and protect workers

According to the United States Department of Labor, Labor Day, the first Monday in September, “is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and wellbeing of our country.”

Numerous municipalities and states began observing Labor Day as early as 1885; but it did not become an official national-wide observance passed by Congress until 1894. In the early days there were street parades and recreation for workers and their families. There were speeches by prominent leaders and addresses by union leaders.

In 1909 the American Federation of Labor convention declared that the Sunday before Labor Day would be called “Labor Sunday,” and the spiritual aspects of the labor movement would be observed. So, there is a spiritual side but also a social justice side to the labor movement.

Collective bargaining and workers’ rights have long been a part of the spiritual DNA of the people called Methodists. Our Social Principles state:

“We support the right of all public and private employees and employers to organize for collective bargaining into unions and other groups of their own choosing. Further, we support the right of both parties to protection in so doing and their responsibility to bargain in good faith within the framework of the public interest.

**WORKERS’
RIGHTS
ARE
HUMAN
RIGHTS**

In order that the rights of all members of the society may be maintained and promoted, we support innovative bargaining procedures that include representatives of the public interest in negotiation and settlement of labor-management contracts, including some that may lead to forms of judicial resolution of issues. We reject the use of violence by either party during collective bargaining or any Labor /management disagreement. We likewise reject the permanent replacement of a worker who engages in a lawful strike.”

(Paragraph 163. IV.B of the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline)

I am proud that the history of Methodism has long encouraged collective bargaining and worker's rights. My own grandmother, born in 1885, was a victim of child labor practices. She had to quit school at the age of 8 and work in a cotton mill in Savage, Maryland, for pennies a day. Our social justice interest in protecting workers had something to do with the change in these child labor laws.

In the history of Eastern PA there was a tragic labor dispute in the Lattimer Mines near Hazelton, PA on September 10, 1897. The history of the [Lattimer Massacre](#) recounts a coal miner's strike in which 19 unarmed miners—mostly of Polish, Slovakian, Lithuanian and German backgrounds—were shot and killed by a county sheriff's posse.



These miners were subject to harsh conditions in the mines and low pay. It was estimated that 32,000 miners had lost their lives in the late 19th century in these coal mines. By the fall of 1897 some companies were forcing their workers to lease their homes from the mailing company and to see only company doctors when injured.

The September 10 workers strike advocated for better working conditions and pay. After the massacre, the United Mine Workers had a large upsurge of members, and the union became powerful enough to win increases in wages and many safety improvements for the workers. Methodists applauded the labor union movement in that day.

Still today, we need to speak out when workers are not getting a living wage and when companies thrive on the backs of their workers who do not benefit fairly from profits. Safe working conditions, respect, time off and fair wages are important to everyone's advantage.

As we celebrate the American worker this weekend, through Labor Day, September 4, we need to celebrate the God-given joy of meaningful work and know that all people—workers, management and society—benefit when human rights are guarded and economic justice is promoted.



Peggy A. Johnson

The First State Harmonizers Presents an "A Cappella Extravaganza V!"



The *First State Harmonizers*, again, welcomes the *PRIDE of DelMarVa*, a 30-man chorus made up of some of the best barbershop harmony singers in the Delmarva Peninsula. This a cappella presentation also includes the Ocean Bay Sweet Adaline chorus plus talented quartets who will entertain you with their own performances!

The *First State Harmonizers*, directed by Sharon Ehrisman will start the afternoon's show performing some of the chorus's most requested songs and debut a number of new songs they've added to their repertoire.

After Intermission, during which several door prizes will be awarded, the *Pride of DelMarVa*, directed by Glenn Phillips, will take the stage. We are very excited to present this exciting chorus to our followers! **DON'T MISS THIS SHOW!**

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017 - 2:00 p.m. - Milford Senior Center

111 Park Avenue, Milford, DE

(over-flow parking next door at Arena's Restaurant)

General Admission: \$ 13.00!

**For Show Tickets: Call - (302)422-8620 or (302) 382-1961
Or order online at: www.firststateharmonizers.com**

This organization is supported, in part, by a grant from the [Delaware Division of the Arts](#), a state agency, in partnership with the [National Endowment for the Arts](#). The Division promotes Delaware arts events on DelawareScene.com.

Delaware Division of the **Arts**

AVENUE CHURCH FALL KICKOFF PICNIC ON SEPTEMBER 10th Event Open to the Community

Avenue Church invites and welcomes the community to join its members and staff for the **2017 Fall Kickoff**. This annual event includes a church picnic, portable laser tag course, live music and games. **It is free to everyone.**

The event will take place rain or shine on the front lawn of the church beginning at 5:00 pm. Sponsored by the Fusion Student Ministry, the Fall Kickoff is the first activity of the new school year for the youth of the church. Members of the church and community, along with visitors to the program are invited to come out to support the students as they continue along their spiritual journey of discovery.

For more information about the Fall Kickoff and/or the Fusion Student Ministry, contact Cliff McCall, Youth Pastor at Avenue Church. (302) 422-8111.



THIS SEPTEMBER AT AVENUE
The Mispillion Children's Chorus

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

SEPTEMBER 5th
Tuesday evenings 6:15-7:15 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 PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

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



QUESTIONS

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: 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: All those affected by Hurricane Harvey, Those unloved in the K9 Mission Rescue in Texas, Family in Victoria, Texas, Bonnie Walls, Lisa Griffin, Steve Sipple, The Gottschalk family, For Linda and Allen Hannah and family, Ella, Michelle and family, Edie Gehlert, Family of Ennis and Ditto, Family of Wayne Sullivan, Bill and Jill Gustin, For the family and friends of the sailors killed on the U.S.S. McCain, For our nation, elected leaders and all citizens to find ways to move forward as one nation under God, Selling of a house and finding a new home because of relocation, For the family of Maggie Crouch, Vaughn Crouch, Howard Haverkamp, Christopher, Lorraine Donovan, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Laura, Karen, Jane Dove, April McIntyre, Colleen Dunham, Charlie Harding, Bill Gaskill and family, Bill Salvin and family, For the 26 pastors and laity preparing to travel with the Dover District on the spiritual pilgrimage to Korea in September, For the additional service men and women being sent to Afghanistan, Elizabeth All of our students, teachers, administrators, and parents, All of our Scouts as they begin a new Scout year, Someone struggling with the need for a job, Cheryl and Mrs. Bowe.

Rejoice with: With everyone grateful for all of God's blessings, Larry Brittingham, Lillie Brittingham, Kevin Bowers who is retiring from ministry at First Presbyterian Church here in Milford.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: All those affected by Hurricane Harvey, All those who are in the path of Hurricane Irma, Missy B., Family members test results, All travelers during this busy time of year, Manny and his family, Bill and Jull Gustin, Michael, Patsy Sullivan, Veterans who think that suicide is the only way out, For our nation, elected leaders and all citizens to find ways to move forward as one nation under God, Howard Haverkamp, Sandy Elliott, Jay Lock, Bill Medhurst, The family of Susan Willis Havell, Cheryl, Marilyn Bowe, David Johnson, Judy B., Christopher, Lorraine Donovan, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Kirsten Pearce, Jane Dove, April McIntyre, Colleen Dunham, Charlie Harding, Bill Gaskill and family, Bill Salvin and family, For the 26 pastors and laity preparing to travel with the Dover District on the spiritual pilgrimage to Korea in September, For the additional service men and women being sent to Afghanistan, Elizabeth, All of our students, teachers, administrators, bus drivers, and parents, All on our roads to slow down as school begins, All of our Scouts as they begin a new Scout year and The family of Dennis Hazzard.

Rejoice with: Praise God for Brayden Hearn, the proud son of Lindsay Hearn and Clay Rosenbrook, Praise God for all of God's gifts, Rejoice with Avenue Preschool staff and students

as they officially begin the school's 50th year on September 11th and Thank God for Donna Hill and her husband.

SYMPATHY TO:

The family and friends of **Dennis Hazzard** who passed away on **September 3, 2017**.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Ferd Nelson who will celebrate his **96th** birthday on **September 6th**.

Lida Wells who will celebrate her **94th** birthday on **September 8th**.

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

Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m., Music Room

♪Praise Team

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♪Sanctuary Choir

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

♪AveNotes

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

FLU VACCINES AT AUMC: On Sunday, **October 22nd** from **9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m** in Fellowship Hall. All you need to do is bring your pharmacy benefit insurance card, Medicare, Medicaid or VA card. **No co-pay**. If you have any questions, please call Walgreens at (302) 424-6300, option 2 and the option 3.

AUTUMN HARVEST SALE: The United Methodist Women Autumn Harvest Sale is coming soon. You can expect to see handmade and home-made items from craft items to wreaths to knitted and hand sew items and cheese. Baked goods are welcome too. It is not too late to start making crafts or handmade garments to donate. Small plants, paintings, boutique type things and jewelry all are welcome. Please contact the church office, Peggy Hughes or Linda Keller to donate. Mark your calendar to come pick up some wonderful Christmas gifts at this year's Autumn Harvest Sale in Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, November 2nd, Friday, November 3rd and Saturday, November 4th**.

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 **September 12th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Grier Room. **Sister Bible Study will begin the study of MOSES—In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet starting September 19th.**

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY: This 9 week LIFE CHANGING CLASS will continue on **Tuesday, September 12th 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.

SUNSHINE ADULT BIBLE STUDY: The Sunshine Bible Class, our only Adult Sunday School class, will begin meeting **September 10th** in the Grier Room at 9:30 AM. Our studies for September are Signs of God's Covenants. These signs are September 10th, "Circumcision;" September 17th, "Sabbath Observance;" and September 24th, "Spirit-Filled Heart." Come and join the Class in these exciting studies.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: The Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group will meet the **2nd Monday of each month.** The next meeting will be **September 11th** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room

WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP our next meeting on **October 4th** at 11:00 a.m. in the **Grier Room.** Come join us. Contact Janice Abbott at (302) 422-1863.

OUTREACH

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: On the first Tuesday of each month at 1p.m. you will see a Food Bank truck in our parking lot. This is a Food Bank initiative; our only involvement is to give them permission to use our parking lot. This is the monthly Senior Feeding Program. If you are interested or know of someone who could benefit from this program contact the Food Bank or call 211.

As far as the inventory of the Milford Community Pantry; we are low on **toilet tissue** again... all donations are appreciated.

AVENUE PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR. Registration is ongoing for a limited number of spots for the 2017-18 school year, which is the preschool's **50th** year providing early education services in the community. To be eligible, a child must be at least 36-months old on or before August 31st, unless entering our new "Young Beginners" program--see next section for those details. Registration must be done in person. Contact the Preschool Director, Paula Yeich, and 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 after August 31st but 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. For further information please see the contact details in the Avenue Preschool section above.

CODE PURPLE: With the Fall chill in the air, we can't help but be reminded that Code Purple will be back in full swing before we know it. We need to begin filling the calendar with meal sign ups now, so that there will be less to worry about when the season begins. Joyce Bonnoni is seeking assistance from the community by reaching out to other churches, business, organizations, and local families. Please consider joining with coworkers, other families, or having an organization that your family is involved in sign up to prepare a meal once, or once each month during our open season, November through March. Meals can be prepared and brought hot to serve, prepared and frozen, or purchased, but should feed 20-25 people.

We are also needing a meal coordinator, and a donation coordinator at this time. If you are interested in sponsoring a meal or filling one of the coordinator positions, please contact Joyce Bonnoni at jbonnonicp@gmail.com or 302-242-8968.

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2016	2017
8:00	53	57
9:30	210	177
Sunday School	51	37
11:00	67	57
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	381	328

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 9/10

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. Fall Kickoff

MONDAY 9/11

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 4:00 p.m. Alzheimers Support Group,
 Grier Room
 6:30 p.m. Board of Laity—Dover, Grier Room
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
 6:30 p.m. Wolf Den Meeting, Holz. Room
 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
 Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 9/12

10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study,
 Grier Room
 2:00 p.m. 4H, Wesley Room
 6:00 p.m. Brownie Troop, Nursery
 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
 6:15 p.m. Mispillion Children's Chorus,
 Music Room
 6:30 p.m. Webelos Den, Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
 Room 206
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,
 Sanctuary
 7:00 p.m. Financial Peace University,
 Grier Room
 7:00 p.m. Finance Comm. Meeting,
 Hertiage Room

WEDNESDAY 9/13

10:30 a.m. Diabetes Prevention Program,
 Heritage Room
 11:00 a.m. Writing Group, Grier Room
 1:30 p.m. Knitting Group, Grier Room
 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
 Room 202
 6:00 p.m. AveNotes, Sanctuary
 6:30 p.m. Arrow of Light Den Meeting,
 Wesley Room
 6:30 p.m. Pride of Delmarva,
 Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY 9/14

8:30 a.m. Men's Reunion Group,
 Conference Room
 9:00 a.m. DCOM, Heritage & Holz. Room
 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

FRIDAY 9/15

8:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SATURDAY 9/16

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 9/17

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room and
 Fellowship Hall