



The Midweek

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

Heidi did such a great job with the midweek least week that I have to go with her again. So please enjoy this devotion from my dear friend Pastor Heidi. She is originally from Hawaii so she knows what she is talking about...

One of the beauties of the English language is that we add words from many cultures to better explain the world around us. The first word that I really explored was love, and in particular, the Greek, agape: the kind of love that is central to Christianity. John 3:16 (KJV) describes this love when he writes: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." C.S. Lewis (The Four Loves) identified agape as humanity's highest level of love: a self-less love passionately committed to the well-being of the other. I believed then, as I do now, that agape explains how we are fully connected to God and each other through the Holy Spirit.

The psalmist sang, "The Lord is good; his steadfast love endures

forever, and his faithfulness to all generations" Psalm 100:5 (NRSV). In *The Secret Providence of God*, John Calvin wrote, "Indeed faith, which is the fruit of free election, is the key that opens the entrance to prayer." Through our great comforter and advocate, the Holy Spirit, we faithfully and earnestly pray, and know that Christ faithfully will grant mercy to anyone who asks for it.

Another word that I have studied throughout the years is the Hawaiian, aloha. Many of my earliest memories are of visiting relatives in Hawaii where I first learned that aloha means good-bye and hello. How can that be? As the years passed, I began to understand what some call the aloha way: peace, compassion, mercy, and an active, enduring love that transcends the immediate challenges of sunset, change, poor health, and the loss of a good-bye, and carries us forward to the time, whenever that may be, when the sun rises, we accept changes, begin to recover, and are reunited in the hello of a new day. Some also say that aloha describes the breath or essence of life. There is a faithfulness in this word where the good-byes and hellos are connected.

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



From the desk of our Conference Director.....

Side Effects of Gratitude

In September, Bo and I had the joy of traveling to South Korea on a Spiritual Pilgrimage with the Dover District. We rose every morning at 4:30 to attend a 5:00 a.m. prayer service every morning. The churches in Korea all offer these pre-dawn prayer services, with some churches offering multiple times to accommodate all of those in attendance. The church which hosted us, Bupyeong Methodist Church, had about 1000 people each morning in prayer. (If you want to taste the experience yourself, Whatcoat UMC in Camden, Delaware will begin a 40-day prayer service, called “Spirit Rising,” at 5:00 a.m. beginning on October 18.) Although the time catches everyone off-guard, I experienced a reorienting of my life schedule to attend to this corporate prayer, in addition to my own prayer time and running time before the day began.

I found myself surprised by one outgrowth of the prayer focus: gratitude. The pastors and many people repeatedly thanked us, for two reasons. They thanked the U.S. for planting the seeds of the gospel in Korea. In 1885, Methodist and Presbyterian missionaries arrived in Korea to share the good news of Jesus. Now, over one-third of the country identifies as Christian. They also thanked us for coming to their aid during the Korean Conflict. Although they mourn lost family ties with family members who remained in the north, and they still view themselves as one country, divided, they express gratitude for the freedom they have in South Korea. And they hope for peace and reunification with their family in the north.

Reflecting on their abundant gratitude, I noticed two “side effects.” First, I believe their gratitude feeds their incredible gift for hospitality. For the whole week-long pilgrimage, we only paid our transportation. The church housed us in a wing designed with hotel-style rooms and kitchen facilities. They fed us every single meal, sometimes cooking for us, and other times taking us to restaurants to eat. And, of course, they gave us gifts. Without gratitude, this type of abundant hospitality proves

impossible.

The second “side effect” of their gratitude displayed itself in their lack of fear about the future. Many people here in the states feared for us to travel to South Korea as tensions between North Korea and the U.S. grew. However, the people we encountered did not live in that state of fear. Again, I believe that when we practice gratitude, we live in the present moment, open to receive whatever gift God has in mind for us for that day. We do not fear the future, because we know (and express thanks) that God has carried us thus far by faith. And, if God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, then God will continue to be faithful to complete the work he started.

I’m sure you can see the application of these side effects for us. For many people, the tragic shooting in Las Vegas has deepened their fear. For others, the natural disasters of the devastation in Puerto Rico and Texas, as well as wildfires in the west overwhelm our desires to help. And, for others still, the injustices of systemic racism and the disagreements over the National Anthem leave people not trusting and feeling divided from our neighbors and our communities.

Yet, we have much for which to be grateful. In the month of September alone, we, the people of the Peninsula-Delaware churches, **donated over \$220,000 for hurricane relief!** We assembled **338 cleaning buckets** and **500 hygiene kits**, in addition to 30 boxes of supplies! You continue to give generously to those in need.

Our gratitude gives way to generosity. Can we allow our gratitude to also cast out our fears? Can we appreciate all that God has done for us, in Jesus and through the Holy Spirit? Can we allow our expressions of thanks to chase away any remaining fear of neighbor or even fear of “enemies?” Abraham Lincoln once asked: “Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?” The love of Jesus can tear down the walls of hostility that threaten to divide us. And, we open ourselves to that power when we practice gratitude.

As we practice gratitude, and our fear subsides and our hospitality grows, we begin to see strangers as possible “angels” to entertain, and thus to receive and give blessings. Through these practices, we deepen our trust of God, strengthen our relationships with each other, and brave the risk of turning strangers (or even enemies) into friends. When we do this, we will truly fulfill our vision of **“Connected Christians offering the hope of Jesus Christ to today’s world!”**

Speaking of connections, **we invite you to learn from the MissionInsite creator/guru, Thomas Bandy.** He will be presenting a **workshop to clergy at Ebenezer in Newark, Delaware on November 15, from 2-4 p.m., and a workshop for laity or clergy/lay teams in the evening from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** Mark your calendars! He will

help us understand how to get the most information out of MissionInsite and how to utilize the information to shape ministries which will connect us to our communities.

We hope you will join us!!



Vicki

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith
Director of Connectional Ministries

The Love INC mission is to mobilize the local Church and transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.

Our vision is to see Christian churches united in purpose and fully engaged in actively living out their faith by lovingly serving people in need in their communities.

What is your body part?

Just as the human body cannot function properly unless the eyes, ears, and hands each do their part, so the Body of Christ—the Church—cannot function as God intended without each person doing his or her part.

We are all the Body of Christ and by working together through Love In the Name of Christ, we can each do our part to help people in need see and experience God's love.

Will you be an eye to see neighbors in need and connect them to Love INC? Or how about an ear to listen with compassion? Maybe gentle hands to serve? Our neighbors need arms to deliver food, elbows to do household repairs, knees for praying, and even foreheads to wrinkle thoughtfully in planning. Whatever your skills, gifts, or interests, you can help meet the needs of those who are struggling. You are part of His Body and His work. **YOU** are Love In the Name of Christ.

Yes, I would like to do my part to help people in need see and experience God's love! (Check all that apply)

Talents and skills I would like to share:

- ☐ Help with transportation to job interviews, work, food closets, medical apt., CODE PURPLE SHELTER, etc.
- ☐ Visitation or phone outreach to shut-ins
- ☐ Pray for the Love INC ministry and clients
- ☐ Be a mentor to a person in our community
- ☐ Transport furniture or help with the furniture ministry
- ☐ Help struggling neighbors with their budget (learn a budget technique called Faith and Finance)
- ☐ Volunteer at a CODE PURPLE w/ intake, overnight, fellowship, set/up cleanup or meal preparation
- ☐ Become a B.R.I.D.G.E.S. Community Navigator and help with the Addiction Epidemic
- ☐ Help with Holiday time projects such as Thanksgiving food boxes and Christmas gift programs for the children
- ☐ Other talent or skill:_____

**Love INC Clearinghouse volunteer opportunities:
(Needed Monday – Friday between 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)**

“ Conduct *telephone* interviews with people in need

Contact Information

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone (day)_____

Email or mail these Talent tithes back to our office [302-629-7050](tel:302-629-7050). Mail to P.O. Box 542
Seaford, DE 19973.

Code Purple Sussex County training week is right around the corner. The training sessions are meant to be general training that can be applied to any Code Purple Sussex County shelter, so choose a location and date that suits you best. The locations are as follows:

Thursday Oct. 19th – Laurel Church of the Nazarene, 100 Walnut Street Laurel, DE 19956
Friday Oct. 20th – Gateway Fellowship 8011 Cannon RD, Bridgeville, DE 19933

I am praying for highly motivated, passionate people to step into this ministry with us in order to stand in the gap for an ever increasing number of community members experiencing homelessness. All of us are called to be part of Kingdom work and if your spirit is feeling led to jump into this ministry, then you are needed. There are many roles to be filled, many directly working with our guests, others working behind the scenes. All roles, whether it's cooking meals, helping with intake, showing up for fellowship, staying overnight, being on the morning crew, helping with Saturday morning breakfasts, or assisting with donations...each individual part of the body of Christ is valuable and important to the working of the full body. I believe God has a Kingdom Dream Team forming in this ministry and I believe those who are called to get involved will come with a burning desire to please God and pour into the broken hearts that cross our threshold.

As the coordinator of the Milford shelter, God has taken me on such a journey of growth, both in faith and in understanding. I believe we should always be in a state of seeking what God is trying to teach us...so although I have learned much this past year...He has much more to grow in me. I stepped into this coordinator role fearful God chose the wrong girl...I could never be enough for what this ministry would require, I was not equipped, and he must have overestimated my abilities...BUT...He planted in me such a passion for helping people who felt invisible and lost in their circumstances or bogged down with despair from past mistakes...a "Holy Discontentment" as Bill Hybels calls it...pleasing God became more important than any of the lies the enemy was feeding my insecurities...but it wasn't until I realized that no great dream of love has ever been built on the fear of what might go wrong that pleasing God became a far easier priority than any other.

If fear is providing any hesitation to your getting involved with this ministry, please note...fear is not of God and this ministry is absolutely GOD'S. We are a ministry of FAITH...we believe nothing is impossible through Christ, and no one is beyond redemption. We believe God's word IS truth and that every one of us has a calling...a purpose...that God has placed on our lives...including on the lives of our guests. We don't "have to" BUT we "get to" serve God by shining the light of his redeeming and transformational love into the darkness in the lives of our guests. It is an honor. We can love them where they are at, mutually respecting each other within an environment that incorporates boundaries for safety, but LOVE and GRACE form the foundation.

To those of you who volunteered with us last season...YOU ARE A GIFT! You are cherished and your service to our guests is appreciated far more than any words can express. What God has been able to do through YOUR hard work and commitment last season truly does matter and it matters for all eternity. We had several guests that were

able to see a vision for their life that was different from what they had been living and the love YOU all poured into them, the truth of their potential and worth, resonated deeply and contributed to the change in their walk. As Marcus Lemonis said, "When you can unlock someone's heart and earn their trust, you can navigate through anything together."

Code Purple Sussex County is a relational ministry. Not all of our guests will be open to transformation, but every drop of love you share, every smile, every word of God's truth, every ounce of hope, every moment volunteered, every meal provided, every prayer said matters...for eternity.

I am excited to see the awesome power of God's transformational love at work again as we throw open our doors to friends old and new, growing a supportive family out of the darkness that invades so much of their lives. As volunteers, WE are as much a part of that family as the guests are. When you sit down with another human being and you hear their story...no matter what their story is...you can't help but fall in love with their humanity.

Let us remember the instructions from Hebrews 12:1-2
Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Please pray about the burning desire, the holy discontentment, the passion behind your calling to assist us. Pray about how you can bring your talents to the table and be part of God's Kingdom work through Code Purple. Pray about how you can help to make our Kingdom Dream Team the most fruitful, spirit led, life breathing, hope giving, transformation promoting band of servant hearts possible. **(And don't forget to mark the training dates on your calendar.)**

Blessings,

Joyce Bonnoni

The Mispillion Children's Chorus

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

**Tuesday evenings 6:15-7:15 p.m.
in the Music Room here at Avenue**

*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

Avenue United Methodist Church
20 N. Church Street | Milford, DE

presents

The Reminders

Friday, October 20, 2017

7:00 p.m.

All are Welcome



A freewill offering will be taken to help support this concert and the new concert series at Avenue Church.



“Made by Hand Showcase”

Fellowship Hall

Friday, November 3rd

10:30 a.m. thru 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5th

9:00 a.m. thru 12:30 p.m.

Drop-off Date:

Thursday, November 2nd

8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Proceeds benefit:

Avenue United Methodist Women Missions

A Day To Give Thanks

(Outdoor communion service)

Seating available

Communion will be served by Pastor Tom Pasmore, Avenue United Methodist Church.

Where: 10287 Memory Rd.

When: October 29, 2017

Time: 3:00 pm

PRAISE – WORSHIP - MUSIC

RSVP Welcome

flagstoneproduce@gmail.com

Donny Hopkins

302-349-5252 – 302-381-1083 (cell)



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: Kathy and Lynn Morris and daughters Jessy and Gwen, a niece, Linda Marvel, the family and friends of Beatrice, Bill and Jill Gustin, Manny, the boys Chrysalis weekend, Bill Gaskill and family, Carmean, Bill's father, Craig, Arthur and Mary Swank, the Wolf family, the Moffett family, the Hanna family, Mary Jane Willis, Brenna's family, Julia, Jack and family, Kalle's family and aunt, Janice Abbott, Katie and Brandon, Brittney and Gage, family and friends of Thelma Miller, the victims of the Las Vegas shooting, the victims of the California wildfires, victims of the London car incident, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Kirsten Pearce, Charlie Harding, Howard Haverkamp, Karen, Chris, Colton, Joanne McKay, Christopher, Colleen Dunham, April McIntyre, the people on the Korean peninsula, Neil Parker, the nation and its leaders.

Rejoice with: The awesome choir, Joe Lear, Mary Jo Lear, Bob Currie, Peggy and Larry Hughes, Gertrude Hendrick, Pastor Wendy and Michael Butterworth.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: The family and friends of Steve Billings, family and friends of Tom Fredrick, family and friends of Don Meyer, Larry Eisenhouer, Shirley Longmaker, Penny Rodmick, Kevin J., Kristina Perfetti and family, Jacob, the victims of the Las Vegas shootings, the victims of the California wildfires, those in Puerto Rico awaiting aid, Julia, Bill Gaskill and family, Bill's father, Bill and Jill Gustin, Manny, Neil Parker, Chris, Colton, Colleen Dunham, April McIntyre, Christopher, Ruth Foski, Howard Haverkamp, Kirsten Pearce, Charlie Harding, Dave and Sharon Dawson, Kevin, Matthew Wilkins.

Recently hospitalized: Janice Abbott.

Rejoice with: : Joe Lear, Bill Salvin, the family of Aubrie Marlana, the family of Issac Calvin, and the 14 new Chrysalis butterflies, all of God's children.

SYMPATHY TO:

The family and friends of **Steve Billings** who passed away on October 11, 2017. Steve joined Avenue on April 3, 1966.

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

Bob and Joyce Voshell who will celebrate their **59th** anniversary on **October 25th**.

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

♪Handbells

Mondays, 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

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.

UPCOMING

CONFIRMATION CLASS: The 2017-2018 confirmation class will begin on **October 22nd at 5:30 p.m.** in the Grier room. Confirmation is for students 8th grade or above who wish to deepen their faith and join the church as full members. Parents and students are both invited to this open session on October 22nd. Any questions please contact pastor tom or the church office. We look forward to seeing your student in the class.

THE REMINDERS CONCERT: The Reminders will be at Avenue Church on Friday, October 20th at 7:00 p.m. A free will offering will be taken to help support this concert and the new concert series at Avenue Church.

A HEALTHIER YOU CLASS: In this class you will learn a) weight loss through Christ, b) detoxification—cancer and c) spiritual fasting. Class will be taught by Bonnie Glenn on **October 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room.**

WEDNESDAY DISCIPLE CLASS meets at 7:00 p.m. in the HolzmueLLer Room starting **October 25th**. Over the next 34 weeks the class will be exploring the Bible. To register, please call Josh Willey at (302) 422-8952.

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.

OCTOBER 31ST SPECIAL EVENT: Avenue United Methodist Church has been invited to receive and host a once in a lifetime event, an exciting event. Our Bishop Peggy Johnson invited Bishop Daniel Lunge and Dr. Adolphe Yamba Yamba from the Central Congo, along with Jonathan and Donna Baker, of our missionary partnership, to share and speak to our congregation and friends. This is a great honor. Bishop Lunge is the newly elected Bishop of the Central Congo where all the projects are happening that Bakers support. They will be at Avenue in the late afternoon and will be served a dinner by UMW and UMM. They will present to us **from 7:00 – 9:00 pm that evening**. It will be an evening full of stories and blessings from these distinguished men of God, our Bishop and missionaries. Be sure to mark your calendar now and plan to attend this event on Tuesday, October 31st evening.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY: Do you like working with Flowers? Looking for help arranging flowers during services on **All Saints' Sunday, November 5th**. Contact Sandy Culotta at swculotta@gmail.com.

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 **Friday, November 3rd (10:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.) and Sunday, November 5th (after all 3 services)**

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES

UMW BOARD will meet on the **2nd Monday of each month**, The next meeting will be **November 13th**, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 207 upstairs. Please plan to attend this meeting to get all the latest information to take back to your Circle.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN Want You: The United Methodist Women (UMW) are gearing up to begin meeting and doing. Mission work takes place all year long and UMW meet once a month in Circles (small groups) to do hands on mission, Bible Study, book and magazine reviews and other programs to help each person grow in their relationship to God. We snack, we talk, we pray, we learn and enjoy the fellowship and company of other women growing in their faith. Circles usually meet the third Tuesday of the month at Avenue or in homes, next meetings would be **November 21st**. Sarah Circle meets at 9:45 am, Mary/Martha Circle at 1:30 p.m., **Esther Circle meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m** and electronically E-circle. Places, times and dates are listed in the Worship Folder and Midweek in advance of the meetings. Please check that to note changes. Please consider coming to a Circle meeting this fall. For more information, contact Beth Parker at bparke42@comcast.net or (302) 382-5581.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD / SHOEBOX MINISTRY IS HERE. If you or a group you are part of would like to pack a shoebox, please pick up information on How to Pack a Shoebox on the Fellowship Foyer table. We have some shoeboxes for you to use or you can use your own standard size one. Pack one nice small toy, such as a doll or stuffed animal or ball and add other small school supplies, hygiene items and toys. NO toothpaste or candy allowed anymore

and no liquids or lotions. Decide on a girl or boy, age group and enjoy packing. If you want to support this ministry but no time to shop or pack, then let Brenda Beissel do it for you. Brenda will pack a box for you and will be in Fellowship Foyer on Sunday, **October 22nd** to take your order. She buys items, pays for shipping and donates to Relay for Life. **Every single box must have \$9.00** enclosed (or paid online) to pay for shipping. If you are packing individually, the last day for bringing your shoebox to church is **Sunday, November 12th**.

UMW IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: The next UMW General Meeting is on **Sunday, November 12th**. We will welcome Craig Warrington who will speak on the needs of the Homeless Children and youth in the Milford school system. Come be informed and learn what you can do to help. A basket is located in Fellowship Foyer to place items that are needed for the kids. The “yellow” list is available to help you remember as you shop. You might want to pick up shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, school supplies like book bags, scissors, markers, highlighters and folder. Thank you in advance.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS’ BIBLE STUDY: We finish our study of MOSES—In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet on **October 24th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Grier Room. On **October 31st-November 14th**, we will study the 1st and 2nd of Peter which will be lead by Pastor Wendy. 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.

SUNSHINE ADULT BIBLE STUDY: The Sunshine Bible Class meets at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday in the Grier Room. For October the lessons center on "Called Into Covenant with God." October 22nd, "God's Covenant with David;" and October 29th, "God's Covenant with the Returned Exiles." Come and be part of the exciting discussions on these topics.

EXPLORING FAITH BOOK CLUB meets on the third Sunday of the Month at 12:15 p.m. in the Grier Room. Our next study is **November 19th**. We continue our study of the Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis. Screwtape is a member of the Devil’s organization and he is writing to his nephew Wormwood, who is a newbe in the Devil’s service. Screwtape and Wormwood have been assigned a man who is a new Christian. Their job is to keep him from taking his faith seriously. We shall be studying the first four letters in the book. Come and see what the Devil through his servants thinks about God and the Christian faith.

WIDOW/WIDOWERS/LOST AND FOUND GROUP our next meeting on **November 1st** at 11:00 a.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 **2nd Monday of each month**. The next meeting will be **November 13th** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room.

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 **cereal** 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.

STOCKINGS FOR SOLDIERS: *Avenue Church is partnering with Volunteer Delaware* **50+** September 11th 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 11th thru Wednesday, November 2nd. (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.

COMMUNITY

CUB SCOUT PACK 186 is having a fundraiser on **Thursday, October 26th** 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..

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2016	2017
8:00	50	73
9:30	152	119
Sunday School	90	64
11:00	86	65
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>46</u>
Total	431	367



CALENDAR

SUNDAY 10/22

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:00 a.m. Flu Shots, Fellowship Hall
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 4:00 p.m. McAleer School of Irish Dance,
 Fellowship Hall
 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Grier Room
 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room and
 Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 10/23

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
 6:30 p.m. Tiger Den Meeting, Nursery
 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
 Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 10/24

10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study, Grier Room
 6:00 p.m. Brownie Troop, Nursery
 6:00 p.m. Civil Air Patrol, Heritage Room
 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
 6:15 p.m. Mispillion Children's Chorus,
 Music Room
 6:30 p.m. Pack Meeting, Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
 Room 206
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,
 Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY 10/25

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
 7:00 p.m. Pride of Delmarva, Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. A Healthier You, Heritage Room
 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Holzmueller Room

THURSDAY 10/26

8:30 a.m. Men's Reunion Group,
 Conference Room
 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 2:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
 Room 202

FRIDAY 10/27

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

SATURDAY 10/28

9:00 a.m. Dover SLT Meeting, Sanctuary
 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 10/29

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 1:00 p.m. Troop Committee Meeting,
 Grier Room
 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room and
 Fellowship Hall