



AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

If you were in worship a few weeks ago, you would have heard me say that the Holy Spirit woke me up in the middle of the night and had me change my entire sermon. Some of you may have even heard me say that while I am going to be obedient to what I am told, I wish the Spirit would have told me over coffee, perhaps on a Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m.

I have been thinking about that a lot but then it hit me. Maybe the reason I don't have coffee with the Spirit is simply because I didn't invite the Lord to be with me for my morning caffeine hit. Literally, why don't I sit down at my table with my coffee and ask the Spirit to join me? I know God is with me all the time and never leaves my side but if I want the Spirit to be intentional, then I need to be focused as well. My devotional time is a fine start to meet the Triune God but there is never enough time to be with the Lord as much as I want so why not make the Spirit just another part of my day.

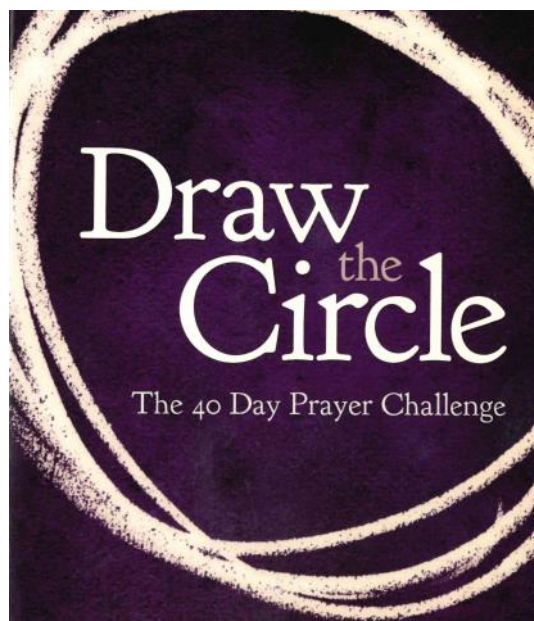
1 Corinthians 2:10 says, "These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God."

So, if you walk past my house on any given day and I seem to be talking to the air over two cups of coffee, you will know the Spirit and I are in deep conversation. And maybe, just maybe, I'll even have more restful nights.

To God be the glory forever and ever.



Pastor Henry



Lenten Bible Study

Sundays—6:00 p.m. in the Grier Room

Mondays—10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays—Poncho & Lisa Johnson's residence.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and study at 7:00 p.m.
(registration required)



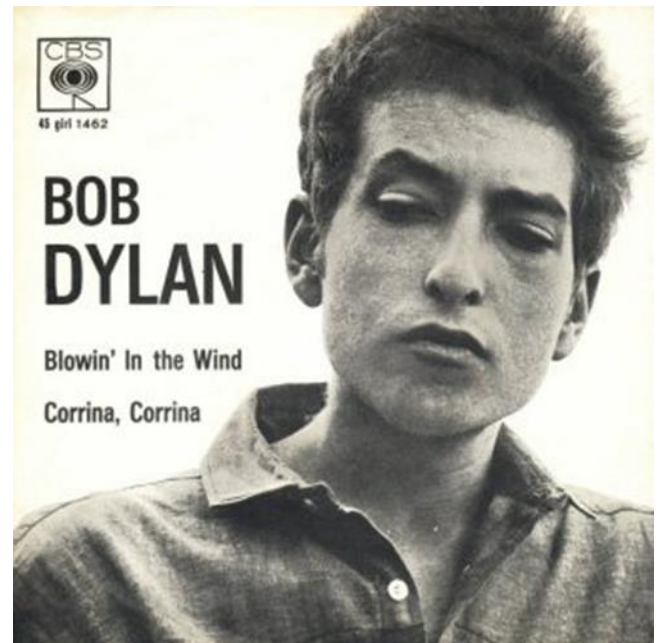
From the desk of our Bishop.....

'Blowin' in the Wind'

By Bishop Peggy Johnson

I remember buying a Peter, Paul and Mary album when I was in 7th grade. I sat in the basement with my friends that summer, and listened to every cut of this folk music record over and over again.

It was during the time of the Civil Rights movement and the Viet Nam War. Songs about justice and peace were in the air. No song on that album struck my young heart more than Bob Dylan's song "Blowin' in the Wind." It was asking all the right questions:



“How many times must the cannon balls fly before they’re forever banded?
“How many ears must one man have before he can hear people cry?”
“How many times must a man turn his head pretending he just doesn’t see?”
“How many deaths will it take till he knows that too many people have died?”

With each verse, the wistful refrain in three-part harmony replied: *“The answer, my friend is blowin’ in the wind, the answer is blowin’ in the wind.”*

What did that mean? I was never quite sure.

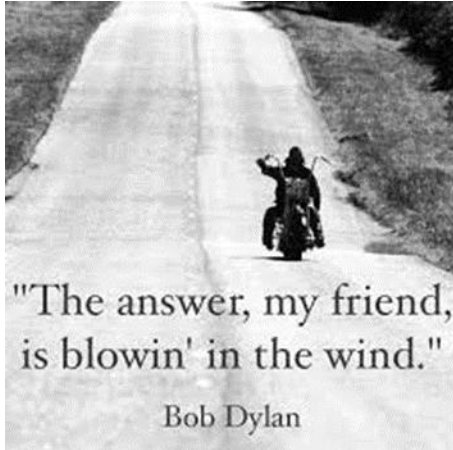
Maybe the answer was as obvious as the summer wind blowing through the trees in the backyard. Or maybe it was something more mysterious and unattainable. It seemed to me at the time that the grown-ups could be doing more about the troubles in the world with all its unrest, violence, war and inequality.

That was over 50 years ago, and this old world of ours continues to suffer from the same injustice and violence. Verses of this song still ring in my heart, as once again we hear about a troubled young man who charged into a high school with a semi-automatic weapon and took multiple lives in just minutes.



How many deaths will it take before we know that too many people have died in our country from these weapons of mass destruction that are so readily available? When is it time to do something about this? Will it take 50 more years to find the answer?

Ezekiel 12:1-2 gives a Biblical foundation to Dylan's lyrics: "Oh mortal, you dwell among a rebellious breed. They have eyes to see but see not; ears to hear, but hear not."



"The answer, my friend,
is blowin' in the wind."

Bob Dylan

It is my prayer that we will hear the voices and see the pain of the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and all those other victims of senseless gun violence. It is my prayer that we will take action now to make this world a safer place. That can mean writing letters to law makers, having conversations with people who have various perspectives, teaching non-violence and gentle ways of being in this world, attending rallies against gun violence, and most importantly, prayer.

Prayer is always blowin' in the wind, as God's people evoke the power of the Holy Spirit, the very breath of God, to do good in this world. I pray that more of us will catch that spirit, feel its power and be moved to action by it, inspired to see, to hear and to do the good works of peace and justice to which God calls each of us.

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF **DONALD BUXTON**, we proudly present...

Sunday, March 18, 2018 @ 3:00 p.m.

Dover Downs Rollins Center

Route 13, Dover

Spring Classical Concert

Featuring

Beethoven's Violin Concerto

Performed by **Stefan Xhori**

Shostakovich's Overture Festivo

Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite &

Sibelius's Finlandia



Prices are:

Adults - \$20

Seniors/Students/Military/

First Responders - \$15

Young people under 18 free with a paying adult

Tickets can now be purchased online at

www.doversymphony.org



Or Call 302-270-1903

Dover
Symphony
Orchestra



Delaware
Division of the
arts



This program is supported, in part, by a grant from the [Delaware Division of the Arts](http://www.DelawareScenes.com), a state agency,

in partnership with the [National Endowment for the Arts](http://www.NationalEndowmentfortheArts.gov).

The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScenes.com.

THE AUXILIARY OF MILFORD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL PRESENTS

ARTISANS & ANTIQUES



PREVIEW WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION

Friday, March 23 from 5-8 p.m.

Milford Century Club Building

Tickets are \$30 each

Purchase in advance by calling Cynthia Jones at 302-270-1842.

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GENERAL PUBLIC ADMISSION

Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Milford Century Club Building

Tickets are \$2 each at the door

Some of the items to be offered, include antiques, painted slates and glasses, hand painted note cards and prints, paper art, felted creations, fine knitted accessories, hand crafted jewelry, and homemade chocolates and more.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT BAYHEALTH

BAYHEALTH.ORG



COASTAL & CONCERTS
WORLD-CLASS CLASSICAL MUSIC

Musical Perspectives

Maestro Roman Pawlowski & friends
present

THE WORLD OF PERCUSSION MUSIC



3:00 pm Saturday April 7, 2018

Avenue Church, 20 N. Church St., Milford, DE

FREE admission. Call 1-888-212-6458 or

executivedirector@coastalconcerts.org for information.

Reception follows the presentation.

Avenue United Methodist Church

Lenten Organ Recitals

February 15, 2018 – 12:05-12:35 PM

Kevin B. Chamberlain,

Avenue United Methodist Church, Milford

February 22, 2018 – 12:05-12:35 PM

Taylor Harvey,

Salisbury, Maryland

March 1, 2018 – 12:05-12:35 PM

Herb Parks,

Christ Episcopal Church, Milford

March 8, 2018 – 12:05-12:35 PM

T. J. Thomas,

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lewes

March 15, 2018 – 12:05-12:35 PM

Ned Perwo,

Newark United Methodist Church, Newark

March 22, 2018 – 12:05-12:35 PM

Kevin B. Chamberlain,

Avenue United Methodist Church, Milford

All recitals are held at Avenue Church.

A luncheon of homemade soup and bread will be served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the recitals.

All are invited.

Lenten Organ Recitals are part of the Concert Series of Avenue Church.

Easter Flower Order Form

The Sanctuary is never prettier than it is when the spring flowers arrive for Easter. Placing Lilies and Tulips in the church in memory or honor of loved ones is a beautiful and cherished tradition.

This year we will again only be ordering 6" pots of Lilies and Tulips at \$7.50 each. The Altar Guild has requested that we only order 100 pots of flowers and the Tulips will be PINK. All additional funds will go to the Parish Purse.

Sponsor's
Name _____

Memory
of _____

Honor
of _____

The cost of the Lily's and Tulips are \$7.50 each

Lily _____



Tulip _____



Please use a **separate order form,** for each name in memory of or honored

Please Print Clearly

Names of sponsors and those remembered and honored
will be in the Easter Sunday Bulletin

Please make checks payable to Avenue United Methodist Church

Orders must be in no later than March 23rd

We are sorry but NO orders will be accepted after March 23rd
as the flower order will be called in.

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: Dottie and Jerry Jackson, the family and friends of Alan, the family and friends of David Arbaugh, the family and friends of Jo Wood, Toby Tucker, George Tidwell, Don Fisher, Phyllis French, Steve Sylvester, Brian Reph, Preston Dyer, Lida Wells, Kirsten Pearce, Craig, the family and friends of John Hall, Vicki Shultes' dad, Barbara Horsman, Bonnie Carmine, Charlie Fleetwood, Colleen Dunham, John Feraeu, Leone Lenart, all who don't know Jesus, Katie Vaughan, all struggling with relationships, Ramona, Bill and Jill Gustin, Howard Sipple, Linda Breedlove, Christopher, Peggy Hughes, Ray, Terry and family, Jennifer, Chris and family, Rick, Kelly and family, the Hughes family, everyone seeking employment, everyone affected by the horrible weather across the country, all Christians having trouble loving their neighbors and enemies, that the sick and troubled people of the world come to know Jesus, Richard and Carmella Bergez.

Rejoice with: Beth Judy, Pastor Wendy, everyone who has had prayers answered, all the students who participated in the Odyssey of the Mind competition.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Dottie and Jerry Jackson in the passing of their son, Jerry Jr., The family and friends of David Arbaugh, The family and friends of Joshua Meding, The family and friends of Sharon Bailey, Toby Tucker, Don Fisher, Pat and the rest of the Fisher family, Phyllis French, Brian Reph, Preston Dyer, Kirsten Pearce, Craig, Vicki Shultes' dad, Barbara Horsman, Bonnie Carmine, Charlie Fleetwood, Colleen Dunham, Bill and Jill Gustin, Howard Sipple, Linda Breedlove, Christopher, Peggy Hughes, Ray, Terry and family, Jennifer, Chris and family, Rick, Kelly and family, The Hughes family, Richard and Carmella Bergez, Joe Irish, Beverly Stokes, Joanne Clark, John Horsman, Mary Charnik, Julia Bock and family, Laura (Julia's mom), Randy (Julia's dad), Ed (Julia's brother), Joyce Bononni and her dad, and Emily .

Rejoice with: Al & Linda Hanna celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary yesterday, our awesome choir and Gary & Marti Seal who celebrated their 51st anniversary on March 11th.

CONGRATULATION TO:

Don and Pat Fisher who will celebrate their 51st anniversary on **March 18th**.

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

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT AVENUE:

March 25th, Palm Sunday Services

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

March 29th, Holy Thursday Service with communion 7:00 p.m.

March 30th Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES:

7:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service. Join us outside to worship the Risen Savior.

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Service with brass accompaniment, choir and organ

9:30 a.m. - Contemporary Service with the Praise Band

11:00 a.m. - Traditional Service with brass accompaniment, choir and organ

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES are held each Wednesday at noon followed by a soup luncheon at various churches.

The schedule is:

March 21st, Avenue UM Church

MILFORD INTERDENOMINATIONAL LENTEN SERVICES are held each Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. at various churches. The schedule is:

March 14th, Word of Life

March 21st, New Beginnings

March 28th, Faith, Hope & Love

March 29th, Mt. Enon

LENTEN ORGAN RECITALS

All recitals are held at Avenue Church each Thursday from 12:05-12:35 p.m. during Lent. A soup luncheon held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following all recitals. All are welcome.

The Schedule is:

March 15th, Ned Perwo

March 22nd, Kevin B. Chamberlain

AMBASSADOR CLUB: What inspires you? What stops you? These are the questions raised at Avenue's Ambassador Club round table discussion. Come tell us how you think things ought to be on Saturday's 4 pm, Grier Room. For all serious and free thinkers, ages 18 - 28.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: The Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group will meet the **2nd Monday of each month.** The next meeting will be **April 9th** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: will have a one-day session on "Draw the Circle" **March 20th.** We will take two weeks off for Easter- **March 27th and April 3rd.** Starting on **April 10th** we will begin a 5 week study: "He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado. The study books are available in the office. Any questions 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 in the **Grier Room at 10:00 a.m.**

WEDNESDAY DISCIPLE CLASS meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Holzmuller Room. On **March 14th** we will continue exploring the Bible. To register, please call Josh Willey at (302) 422-8952.

EXPLORING FAITH BOOK will begin a new study on Sunday, **March 18, 2018** at 12:15 p.m. in the Grier Room. Our new study will be the book "If Experience is Such a Good Teacher, Why Do I Keep Repeating the Course?" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Please join us.

SUNSHINE BIBLE STUDY: The Sunshine Bible Class will be studying "Acknowledging God" during the month of March. March 18th, "The People Gave Thanks to God" based on 2 Chronicles 7:1-9; and March 25th, "Keep My Statues and Ordinances" based on 2 Chronicles 7:12-22. The Sunshine Bible Class meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Grier Room. All adults are welcome.

KNITTING GROUP: We are currently having a reprieve in the weather, but it will change. The Code Purple and the homeless families in our community need scarves to ward off the chill. Some of Avenue's knitters have donated yarn and started several scarves using very basic garter stitch, but knitters are needed to finish each one. Will you volunteer to complete one? The "kits" will be in the Church office for pick up and return the finished product.

OUTREACH

AVENUE PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR. Registration is ongoing for a limited number of spots for the 2018-19 school year, which is the preschool's **51st** 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. **SPACE IS LIMITED.**

AVENUE PRESCHOOL NEW-OFFER: Children who will turn 3 after August 31st but before December 31, 2018 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.

COMMUNITY

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: We are in need of **cereal** (not pre-sweetened please). Thank You!

MATTHEW PROJECT is in need of a dresser. Please call Joanne Burbage at (302) 422-6152. Thanks!

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2017	2018
8:00	75	57
9:30	177	137
Sunday School	61	49
11:00	62	62
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>38</u>
Total	409	343

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 3/18

- 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
- 12:15 p.m. Exploring Faith Book Club,
Grier Room
- 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Grier Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and
Wesley Room
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study, Grier Room

MONDAY 3/19

- 10:00 a.m. Lenten Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Music Room
- 6:30 p.m. Wolf Den Meeting,
Holzmueller Room
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Grier Room

TUESDAY 3/20

- 9:45 a.m. Sarah Circle Meeting, Music Room
- 10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study, Grier Room
- 1:00 p.m. 4H, Wesley Room
- 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Mispillion Children's Chorus,
Music Room
- 6:30 p.m.. Webelos Den, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Board of Laity—Dover District,
Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,
Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY 3/21

- 12:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 12:30 p.m. Lenten Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
- 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, Music Room
- 6:00 p.m. Civil Air Patrol, Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Pride of Delmarva, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Holzmueller Room

THURSDAY 3/22

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Reunion Group,
Conference Room
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 12:05 p.m. Lenten Recital, Sanctuary
- 12:35 p.m. Lenten Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
- 2:30 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
Room 202
- 6:30 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service, Sanctuary

FRIDAY 3/23

- 4:00 p.m. Odyssey of the Mind,
Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SATURDAY 3/24

- 12:00 p.m. Nelson Party, Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Ambassador Club, Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 3/25 ~ Palm Sunday

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall
and Wesley Room
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study, Grier Room