



The Midweek

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

Since we have been focused on the Holy Spirit over the past three weeks in worship, I wanted to send this article that my friend Pastor Heidi wrote in 2015. It may be a few years old but the message is evergreen.

To God be the glory forever and ever.

What an awesome gift is the Holy Spirit! We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit (Apostle's Creed), and that "they will call him Immanuel (which means "God with us")" Matthew 1:23 (NIV).

Pentecost reminded us that Jesus, whose human life was bound to a time and place, went to be with God, the Father, and sent from the Father, the boundless Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth: our Comforter, Counselor, and Advocate. If we listen, the Holy Spirit will guide us, patiently, unendingly, to the truth in the far reaches of the outer and inner universes that we come to understand.

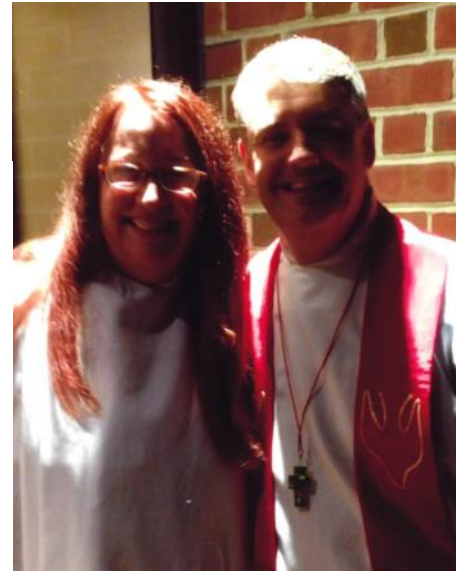
It seems that we have just begun to understand a few bits of this truth out of the vast, overarching heaven of the love of God to us in Christ - and one way to better understand, comes from giving - through acts of kindness including prayer. James writes that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1:17 NRSV).

Each day, I am grateful for all the proofs of God's gifts and acts of love and kindness that I see, and am joyful meeting the special people who cross my path. As I pray, I feel the Holy Spirit enfolding those on the prayer list, and am assured that "Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love" (2 John 1:3 NIV).

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- **VBS Meeting**—June 7th at 6:30 p.m. in Grier Room
- **VBS Meetings**—June 11th and June 13th at 6:00 p.m in Grier Room
- **Safety Meeting**—June 13th at 7:00 p.m. in Heritage Room
- **Trustees Meeting**—June 25th at 7:00 p.m. in Grier Room



Annual Conference 2018

The 2018 Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference has come and gone but we saw the Spirit move in amazing ways. Members from all of the United Methodist churches in Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland gathered at the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore campus in Princess Anne, Maryland to continue the work of the church in our corner of the world.

On Thursday the conference opened in worship where all the members shared communion around their tables. The preacher of the day was Rev. Russell Ewell who is a blind member of the Missouri Annual Conference and pastor of The Village Church of St. Louis. He spoke on inclusion and the importance of that to Jesus' mission of calling everyone to faith. In the afternoon, the clergy executive session approved 3 candidates for ordination, including Rev. Jake Macklin, Helen Holleger's great nephew, and 6 candidates for commissioning, including our very own Rev. Wendy Owen. During the opening business session, Pastor Tom presented the Conference's statistical report with Rev. Tracy Mooney. The final session of the day focused on the work of the Commission on a Way Forward and the specially called General Conference in St. Louis in February, 2019. Rev. David Bennett and several other clergy presented a case for retaining the current language on human sexuality in the Book of Discipline, and Rev. Victoria Starnes presented a case for choosing alternate language. The members of the conference then had conversation around the table about their thoughts and hopes for the General Conference. At the end of the night Pastor Tom presented Resolution R-8 to set the minimum salaries for full-time pastors serving churches in the Conference. This is a part of his role as Chairperson of the Commission on Equitable Compensation. The resolution was amended but passed with the amendment.

The morning meeting on Friday was a teaching session led by Rev. Junius Dotson, the General Secretary of Discipleship Ministries. The session focused on creating an intentional discipleship pathway in local churches. In the afternoon, there was more business conducted by the Annual Conference which included passing the 2019 Annual Conference budget. After a moving monitoring report by Rev. Jenifer Kerby, the conference reiterated its support for

two efforts in the local churches of our area. The first was to openly discuss the work that the Commission on a Way Forward has done. Avenue will be having group discussions and study, led by Pastor Tom, in the fall to look more deeply at the issue of human sexuality. The second is to spend some time in worship focusing on the sin of racism in our community and culture. Pastor Tom and Pastor Wendy will be preaching on this topic after the start of the new year. Then after dinner came the Ordination Service where we prayed for all of the newest members of our conference, including Pastor Jake and Pastor Wendy!

Finally, Saturday's session arrived. The morning session focused on concluding any remaining business of the Annual Conference, including the presentation of Resolution R-9 by Pastor Tom. Representing the Advocacy Resource Team, Pastor Tom urged unity in the face of any decisions coming out of the 2019 General Conference, regardless of the results. After much discussion the resolution was amended from the floor to urge unity by keeping the current Disciplinary language. The amendment passed and then the amended resolution passed. The Conference was closed with a service of remembrance to recognize clergy families that lost loved ones during the course of the year. The preacher, Rev. Tom Carter, helped us see God's grace through the pain of loss by going verse by verse through Psalm 23.





Be part of a
GREETER TEAM!!

Sign up sheet on the table
in the Foyer

Help us welcome visitors and guests

A person is seen from behind, with their arms raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are standing against a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with the sun low on the horizon and clouds illuminated in shades of orange, yellow, and green. The person is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt.

Barratt's Chapel

THURSDAY'S 7-8 PM

Summer Series

JUNE 7 — BISHOP PEGGY A. JOHNSON
JUNE 14 — REV. JAMES WHITTAKER, WAUGH CHAPEL
JUNE 21 — REV. EARLE BAKER, BETHEL UMC
JUNE 28 — REV. ED KUHLLING, GRACE UMC
JULY 12 — SINGING AND PRAYING BAND OF MARYLAND & DELAWARE
JULY 19 — PASTOR JANICE HERMAN, FRIENDSHIP UMC
JULY 26 — REV. KARIN TUNNEL, ST. PAUL'S UMC

REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW THE SERVICE

FROM BROADWAY TO HOLLYWOOD

MILFORD COMMUNITY BAND

Under the direction of Mr. Philip Steinhoff

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018 • 3:00 PM

Milford Senior Center

111 Park Ave, Milford, DE 19953

FREE CONCERT *Donations Always Welcome*

Celebrate spring with the Milford Community Band as they perform hits from Hollywood to Broadway. Hear top hit songs from Andrew Lloyd Webber, John Williams, The Wizard of Oz, South Pacific and others, along with a special tribute celebrating Leonard Bernstein's 100th birthday.

A WONDERFUL TREAT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!



MILFORD COMMUNITY BAND

The Premier Music Organization
Serving Kent & Sussex Counties
www.milfordcommunityband.org

(302) 398-9394





**The Home of the Brave
Foundation, Inc.**
6632 Sharps Road
Milford, DE 19963
(302) 424-1681
www.homeofthebravefdn.org

Jessica Finan, Executive Director

*The Home of the Brave Foundation was established to furnish food, shelter and
counseling
to veterans of the Armed Forces of the USA without regard to sex, race, color, or creed.*
EIN 51-0338521

May 17, 2018

Avenue Methodist Church
Knitters/Crocheters
20 North Union Street
Milford, Delaware 19963

Dear Members,

This letter is to show our appreciation for your donation of the 3 hand knitted afghans and 2 lap robes. No goods or services were received on the part of this donation. Home of the Brave relies greatly on supporters such as you, to continue to provide services to the homeless veterans in our community. Our goal is to provide case management for each veteran to transition to their next step within 6-9 months after coming to live at Home of the Brave. Providing this transformation assistance to our nation's veterans is truly a lifesaving gift. Thank you so much for your commitment to our nation's veterans.

With deep appreciation,



Jessica Finan,
Executive Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOSPITAL VISITS: Please help the pastors by calling the church office at (302) 422-8111 when someone from the church is hospitalized.

ELECTRONIC GIVING is being offered at Avenue Church. An *Information Sheet with Authorization Agreement* is available on the table in Fellowship Foyer. Simply fill out the authorization agreement and return it to the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you want to reserve a Sunday please call the church office then call Milford Plant, Flower and Garden Shop at (302) 422-4961. Flowers are placed in the altar vases up by the cross.

PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK: The family and friends of Bonnie Walls, The victims of the school shooting in Sante Fe, Texas, Everyone impacted by the volcano activity in Hawaii, Jennifer Miller, Don, Pat and the entire Fisher family, Brian Reph, Tommy and Devon Lawhorn, Christopher, Holly Maloney, Kirsten Pearce, The Hughes family and children, Cole and family, Craig, Bobby Walls, Jean Layton, Anita Layfield, Bill and Jill Gustin, Jacob Hudson, Family and friends who have lost a loved one in the military, Carolyn Evans, Family members with serious health problems, Katie May, Keith, Mary Kate, Anne, Emily, Katie H, Linda Breedlove, Susan Newark, Leslee, Alan Jester, Louisa Combs, Ruth Callaway, Georgia Owen, Carlton Goodhand, Louis Blanc, Yury Nadolny and the \$3000 PayPal Thief.

Rejoice with: For all celebrating wedding anniversaries and birthdays this month, Sarah Craig, Those who received unexpected blessings and David and Linda Sockrider who will celebrate their 49th anniversary on June 1st.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: The family and friends of Bob Mercer, the family and friends of Bonnie Walls, the victims of the volcano in Guatemala, those affected by the volcano in Hawaii, Tom Smith, Larry Fortner, Jennifer Miller, Dot Sophos, the Fisher family, Brian Reph, Craig, Lanny Price, Tommy and Devon Lawhorn, Elaine Willey, Christopher, Nick, Kirsten Pearce, the Hughes family, Sandy Wooliford, Jean Layton, Bill and Jill Gustin, Grace Irish, Mary Kate, Anne, Emily, Katie H., Linda Breedlove, Leslee, Alan Jester, Louisa Combs, Ruth Callaway, Georgia Owen, John Siegrist and family, peace in Israel, safety for all traveling in Israel, Peter Muise and family.

Rejoice with: Pastor Wendy, all those who were commissioned and ordained at annual conference, Jay Roosa, Walt Peters, the O'Neill/Lear family on the birth of Quinn, Cole Bubba Neibert.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Dee Konesey who will celebrate her 104th birthday on **June 13th**.

ANNIVERSARY GREETING TO:

Gene and Alva Hemshrot who will celebrate their 62nd anniversary on **June 9th**.

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

♫Handbells

Resume on Monday, Sept. 10th at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

♫MomentUM Praise Team

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♫Mispillion Children's Chorus

Resume on Tuesday, September 4th at 6:15 p.m., Music Room

♫Praise Team

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♫Sanctuary Choir

Resume on Wednesday, September 5th at 3:00 p.m., Music Room

♫AveNotes

Resume on Wednesday, September 5th, 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

2018 VBS: Shipwrecked VBS (Vacation Bible School), kids discover how Jesus rescues us through life's storms. We would love children preschool age to 6th grade to come see how Jesus can change lives. Youth Week will be held at the same time for any 6th grade through high school students (6th graders get to choose which they want to be a part of).

Mark your calendars as Shipwrecked VBS starts on Sunday June 17th- Thursday June 21st. Dinner is at 5pm for your family (adult required to stay with child until 5:45), VBS starts at 5:50pm and ends promptly at 8pm each evening.

New this year, you can register on-line. Use the link below or pick up a form at church to fill out. If you have any questions, contact the church office (302) 422-8111 or Sarah Pasmore at (302) 841-3143.

[Shipwrecked: Rescued By Jesus](#)

VBS Meeting: On **Thursday, June 7th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Grier Room. Any questions, please call Sarah Pasmore at (302) 841-3143.

HELP WANTED! AVENUE GREETER TEAM: You've probably noticed over the past few months, there's a friendly greeter to welcome you to church. The Avenue Greeter team needs your help. We're inviting you to join and help serve in this ministry. No experience needed, just a friendly smile and some of your time (a few Sunday mornings throughout the year). If you're interested, we invite you to speak with any of our greeters to better understand our mission. Register today, there's a signup sheet on the lobby table.

2018 YARD SALE: The Yard Sale is coming soon! Be sure to save your treasures! We will be serving neighbors and folks recommended to us. **New hours for workers July 23rd – July**

30th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. weekdays. No weekends except for Sunday, July 22nd after 11:00 a.m. church service to setup. *Only” Clean—Like New Shoes will be accepted this year. ☺

SUNDAY WORSHIP AND SAFETY

Our greeter teams wanted to remind everyone that on Sunday mornings during worship all the doors, except for the main entrance facing the Milford Women's Club, will be locked from 10 minutes after the service starts until 10 minutes before the service ends. This is being done for all of our safety, and to limit ingress from anyone wishing to cause our parishioners harm. If you have any questions about this policy or want more information, please contact the trustees, the safety team, or the church office. We will try to get you an answer as quickly as we can.

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 **June 11th** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS’ BIBLE STUDY: We will be meeting on **June 19th** in the **Heritage Room at 10:00 a.m.** 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.

KNIT/CROCHET GROUP: All the scarf kits have been picked up. As the scarves are finished, please turn them into the office for placement where needed. The current project is making 6”x 9” rectangles, either crocheted or knitted, using worsted yarn, to be used in lap robes for the Veterans Home. Any questions, please call Mary Lou Sheaffer or Carolyn Humes.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS will meet each Sunday during the summer at 9:30 a.m. in the Grier Room. The summer lessons will focus on justice as presented in the New Testament. June's lessons will be "God is Just and Merciful." On June 10th, "Parables of God's Just Kingdom" based on Matthew 13:24-33; June 17th, "Jesus Teaches About Justice" based on Matthew 15:1-9; and June 24th, "Reaping God's Justice" based on Luke 16:19-31. Plan to attend as many of these lessons as you can.

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. 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.**

COMMUNITY

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: Let’s make the 3rd Sunday of this month boxed macaroni and cheese for Food Pantry Sunday.


LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2017	2018
8:00	72	51
9:30	181	186
Sunday School	47	32
11:00	69	57
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	369	326

FATHER'S DAY is just around the corner and we are accepting donations for carnations in loving memory or honor our fathers. Envelopes are in the pews. Carnations are \$5.00 per stem and proceeds will benefit the Parish Purse. All orders need to be placed no later than **June 12th** so they can be added to the bulletin for Father's Day. If you have any questions call Elaine Willey at (302) 422-8952.

Join us at **THE PALACE!**

PIZZA



PALACE


for A Fund-Raising Event
for Auxiliary of Milford Memorial



Have **LUNCH** or **DINNER**
On the 2nd Monday of each month


When this voucher is presented at time of order, an amount
equal to 15% of your total bill will be donated to:

MMH Auxiliary



Thank you for supporting the
Auxiliary of Milford Memorial

The Palace
556 S. Dupont Blvd.
Milford, DE 19963
302-441-2070
www.MilfordPalace.com



CALENDAR

SUNDAY 6/10

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,
Grier Room
- 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

MONDAY 6/11

- 9:00 a.m. Milford Garden Club,
Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Hospital Aux. Meeting,
Grier Room
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 4:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group,
Grier Room
- 6:00 p.m. VBS Meeting, Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 6/12

- 8:00 a.m. Milford Garden Club,
Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 p.m. 4H, Wesley Room
- 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,
Wesley Room

WEDNESDAY 6/13

- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Group, Grier Room
- 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
Room 202
- 6:00 p.m. VBS Meeting, Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Pride of Delmarva,
Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Safety Meeting, Heritage Room

THURSDAY 6/14

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Reunion Group,
Conference Room
- 9:00 a.m. DCOM, Heritage Room and
Holzmueeller Room
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,
Room 202

FRIDAY 6/15

- 12:00 p.m. Mental Health Assoc. in DE,
Heritage Room
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SATURDAY 6/16

- 10:00 a.m. VBS Meeting & Setup,
Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 6/17

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,
Grier Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 5:00 p.m. VBS