



# *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, August 1, 2018*

*From the desk of our Pastors . . .*

I was planning a different Midweek for today and then I read what my friend from Kansas Pastor Heidi wrote. Her writing moved me and I knew I had to share it with you. For to Him belongs the glory and honor forever and ever.

Praying seems to me to be one of God's most precious gifts to us. What do I mean? Jesus tells us to pray, and teaches us to start our prayers with "Abba," the informal, family word for father. Prayer becomes an open invitation to communicate intimately with our most trustworthy, most faithful, all-knowing God. We do not need an appointment; the words do not need to be beautiful or in any particular language. Further, it seems to me that even a baby's first cries are like prayers.

Some people are so good at expressing their prayerful hopes and thoughts. For my part, I make praying a practice each day, but often get distracted, and am not so sure how much sense my prayers really make. I have to trust that God hears my hopes, confessions, thanks, and requests, even to be a "joyful instrument of your will."

Thinking about the passages in Matthew and Luke when Jesus in Gethsemane tells the disciples to "Watch and pray" (Matthew 26:41 RSV) while he goes on further and prays, both Matthew and Luke report that the disciples could not stay awake. This falling asleep of the disciples does not let us off the hook, but it does let us know that praying can be a difficult command to follow, and that, like the disciples, we do not have Jesus' foresight regarding God's will, so may be taken unawares as our paths unfold.

What should we do? I have heard people say, "Well, He knows everything anyway, so why bother." That seems dismissive; and keeps God apart; and somehow beneath us. Even the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, and Jesus kindly offered the Lord's

Prayer. Countless people have written about praying since then. Given Jesus' example to start our prayers with "Abba," it seems that we should open our hearts and have an honest talk with God.

When Jesus prayed in Gethsemane, what did he pray? "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done" (Luke 22:42 NRSV), and an angel appeared and gave him strength. In this short prayer for God's will to be done, there is the essence of our entire relationship with God: acceptance of God; comfort in knowing him; and trust in his path for us. Once after a dear friend told me about challenges that she faced, I told her that I would pray for her. She replied, "I don't want you to pray for me. I need to know that I did this on my own." I said, "OK," but prayed for her even more.

When my parents passed away, another dear, but agnostic, friend said, "Perhaps your faith will comfort you." She was trying her best to help, so I replied in all truthfulness, "Yes, indeed it will." I prayed for her, also.

Let us greet each day with joy, accepting what God has in store for us!

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

*from the producers of Celtic to Classical*

# Baroque to Bluegrass



**Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

**Avenue United Methodist Church  
20 N. Church Street ~ Milford, Delaware**

For more information call (302) 422-8111  
[www.celtictoclassical.com](http://www.celtictoclassical.com)

**No Admission Fee.  
A free-will offering will be taken  
to help support the musicians.**



# VISTA

50 years

Volunteers In Service To America

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

### AmeriCorps Volunteer in Service to America Grant

Volunteers will assess the needs of individuals who are blind, deaf, and otherwise disabled and record progress on the access of services available. Volunteers will also work to prevent and remove barriers to transportation and general mobility, employment, education, and personal growth to address current and future poverty alleviation for this vulnerable population.

Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 

**Student and Adult  
volunteers are  
welcome!**

**A Chance to impact  
and learn about a  
diverse community!**

**Volunteers needed  
Monday through  
Friday!**

**Learn about  
removing barriers to  
greater success in  
your community!**

#### **DELAWARE DIVISION FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

1901 North DuPont Highway  
New Castle, DE 19720

Grace Hoffman: 302-255-9975

Araba Hagan: 302-255-9841





Delaware Health and Social Services, Division for the Visually Impaired, in collaboration with the Delaware School for the Deaf, are seeking Volunteers to serve the transition and the disabled student and adult populations to address barriers to training, education, and employment with the goal of alleviating poverty. We need your skills, experiences, and expertise to make this a success beginning this summer and beyond!! Please consider joining us for this exciting volunteer opportunity! With your knowledge, you can help the disabled population in areas such as access to services within the Department of Labor, Department of Education, and non-profit entities in areas such as job coaching, employment skills, training, education, and mobility venues to name a few.

Our goal is to break down the barriers facing the disabled student and adult populations to alleviate both current and future poverty levels. Addressing these issues are VITAL to combatting poverty in our state. This is a unique opportunity for those who want to give back and make a positive difference in and impact on someone else's life by joining and becoming a part of the solution.

Please contact us for more information and any questions at:

Delaware Division for the Visually Impaired  
1901 North DuPont Highway  
New Castle, DE 19720  
Grace Hoffman: [Grace.Hoffman@state.de.us](mailto:Grace.Hoffman@state.de.us)/302-255-9975  
Araba Hagan: [Araba.Hagan@state.de.us](mailto:Araba.Hagan@state.de.us)/302-255-9841







*Be part of a*  
***GREETER TEAM!!***

Sign up sheet on the table  
in the Foyer

**Help us welcome visitors and guests**

***2018 Yard Sale at  
Avenue United Methodist Church***

Thursday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.  
**“Early Bird Special” (\$1 admission this day only)**

Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Lancaster Amish cheese available in 1 lb blocks.

All proceeds go to missions of the church  
both locally and country wide

*Avenue United Methodist Church  
20 N. Church Street  
Milford, DE 19963  
(302) 422-8111*



## 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:** Jon Zaimes, the family and friends of Don Kwiatkowski, the family and friends of Barbara Horsman , Judy, Dave Rumery, John Siegrist, Dawn Stone, Judy, the family and friends of Tommy Clarke, Ainsley and Katie, Marian Hood, Craig, Dan H., Katie May, Jean Hutcheman, family of Bill Prettyman and Harbesan Dela, Christopher, Dawn Willis, everyone affected by natural disasters, Fay Farissier, Brenda Beissel, Colleen Dunham, Charlie Fleetwood, Bill and Jill Gustin, Linda Breedlove, Julia, Jean Layton, Ruth Callaway, for all who were betrayed, Jack and Ellen Heinbach, for the 17 victims and their families of the Duck Boat disaster in Missouri, all those who are traveling including the Pasmore boys, and Betty Ziesel.

**Recently hospitalized:** Dean Johnson, and Frank Bilger.

**Rejoice with:** Everyone who has answered prayers, Boy Scout Troop 186, and rain.

**PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK:** The family and friends of Barbara Horsman, family and friends of 10-month-old Ben Macklin, family and friends of Allen Wilkins, Marvin and Pearl, Russell French, Betty Ziesel, Jean Layton, everyone involved with the yard sale, Ruth Callaway, Katie and Ainsley, Judy, Dave, Marian Hood, the family and friends of Katie May, Jill and Bill Gustin, Diane Gelhart, Linda Breedlove, Lyda Wells, Jean Hutchman, Faye, Charlie Fleetwood, Colleen Dunham, John and Helen Heinbach, Dawn Willis and family, the upcoming Chrysalis weekend and the teams and caterpillars, Carla Tingle, Walt Bosman, Bill and Carrie McCartney, Houston Emory, Alan Jester, and Bobby Walls.

**Recently hospitalized:** Frank Bilger, and Dean Johnson.

**Rejoice with:** Penny Gillespie, Courtney Gaskill, everyone returning from travel and vacations.

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

**Mildred Jensen** who will celebrate her **96<sup>th</sup>** birthday on **August 7<sup>th</sup>**.

**ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:**

**Russell and Beverly French** who will celebrate their **53<sup>rd</sup>** anniversary on **August 7<sup>th</sup>**.



**Walt and Ruth Peters** who will celebrate their **61<sup>st</sup>** anniversary on **August 10<sup>th</sup>**.

## **WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:**

### **♫Handbells**

Resume on Monday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫MomentUM Praise Team**

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫Misphillion Children's Chorus**

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

### **♫Praise Team**

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫Sanctuary Choir**

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

### **♫AveNotes**

Resume on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 YARD SALE:** Our Annual Yard Sale will be August 2<sup>nd</sup> (2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) \$1 admission this day only, August 3<sup>rd</sup> (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) and August 4<sup>th</sup> (8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) SPREAD the word to friends and neighbors .

**UMW EVENT:** Peninsula Delaware Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat. “Embracing Wholeness” An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living. Join us Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m at Wesley UMC. Forms are located on the foyer table.

**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.

**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 **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month**. The next meeting will be **August 13<sup>th</sup>** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room.

**TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY:** We will be meeting on **August 7<sup>th</sup>** in the **Grier 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:** The Adult Summer Sunday Class continues to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Grier Room. Our studies on Justice in the New Testament will center on "Paul Teaches About New Life in Christ." August 5<sup>th</sup>, the lesson is "God's Justice" based on Romans 2:1-12; August 12<sup>th</sup>, "Global Economic Justice" based on 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; August 19<sup>th</sup>, "Loving and Just Behavior" based on Romans 12:9-21; and August 26<sup>th</sup>, "Practicing Justice" based on Colossians 3:5-17. All are welcome and feel free to come on any Sunday that suits your schedule.

## **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 **51<sup>st</sup>** year providing early education services in the community. To be eligible, a child must be at least 36-months old on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>. 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](mailto:office@avenuepreschool.org). Be sure to visit our Facebook page and website at: [www.avenuepreschool.org](http://www.avenuepreschool.org). **SPACE IS LIMITED.**

## **COMMUNITY**

**MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY:** The Milford Community Pantry is beginning a new outreach to young families. We will be offering diapers. This is a ministry that was done by the Multi-Cultural church but since they have moved it is no longer available. We are seeking your support, your comments and your help. The Diaper Closet will be open the first Wednesday morning of each month beginning in September. (Families will need a referral from church or social services.) We will need volunteers and diapers. If you are able to provide either, please contact Tita Lewis or Diane Dolan.

**Also, we are in need of cereal (not pre-sweetened please). Thank You.**

# CALENDAR

## SUNDAY 8/5 ~ Communion

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  
 1:00 p.m. Discipleship Pathway,  
 Grier Room

## MONDAY 8/6

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
 7:00 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> State Harmonizers,  
 Fellowship Hall  
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

## TUESDAY 8/7

10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study, Grier 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 8/8

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

## THURSDAY 8/9

8:30 a.m. Men's Reunion Group,  
 Conference Room  
 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
 2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion,  
 Room 202  
 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Committee Meeting,  
 Grier Room

## FRIDAY 8/10

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room  
 7:30 p.m. Concert—Celtic to Classical  
 (Sheridan-Seyfried), Sanctuary

## SATURDAY 8/11

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

## SUNDAY 8/12

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 Summer Choir,  
 Music Room  
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

## LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2017	2018
8:00	58	60
9:30	129	178
Sunday School		7
11:00	50	35
<u>FUSION</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>280</b>