



The Midweek

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

I love the stories of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. The characters created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle are some of my favorite fictional people and I have seen almost every version of the movies and television shows that depict their adventures. My current favorite is the BBC version that stars Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman.

I am a fan of Doyle's because we share a birthdate (102 years apart) and I would love to write novels that are as popular as his. That having been said, I must confess that until recently I had not actually read any of his books. I simply watched the movies and got enthralled every time one of the actors playing Sherlock would proclaim "the game is afoot."

But then I read one of his books and realized how much I had been missing. What was written was more creative, expressive and engrossing than any film version of his stories. I am truly sorry it took so long to enjoy the written word.

This led me to think of all the people that only know the Bible through the movies or other video explanations of the Word. Growing up in the Roman Catholic Church, I was expected to rely on what the Priests told me about the Bible and was not to read it for myself. (This will probably not come as a shocker, but I absolutely read it for myself starting at a very young age.) I

know lots of people who have not read it however.

Scripture tells us that “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (John 1:1) To know God is to know the Word. To get to know God better means getting to know the Word better. As disciples of God, we need to be reading and studying the Bible with the understanding that it is a living Word of God. “For the Word of God is alive and active.” (Hebrews 4:12)

After I get back from my honeymoon I’ll be starting a new small group study about the Bible in context. While the Word is steadfast, the times have certainly changed since it was written. I often wonder what Jesus would have said about Twitter for example. Keep your eye out in the Midweek and the Worship Bulletin for information on dates and times.

And always and forever, the power, glory and honor belong to God.

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

from the producers of Celtic to Classical

Baroque to Bluegrass



Friday, August 10th 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

**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/302-255-9975
Araba Hagan: 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

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 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, Lida 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 Gilesie, Courtney Gaskill, everyone returning from travel and vacations.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Dave Reynold's mom, Wayne, Rebecca Hornsby, Craig, Jean Ritter, Dan Hagopian, Charlie Fleetwood, family and friends of Pete Geldof, Brenda Bosman and family, Kim, the Campas family, Marian Hood, baby Amaya and family, Linda Cantrill, Linda's children, Wright Parker, Ginger, the Hughes family, Russell French, Betty Ziesel, Ruth Callaway, Jean Hutchman, Lida Wells, Jill and Bill Gustin, Linda Breedlove, Dawn Willis and family, the upcoming Chrysalis weekend and the volunteers and caterpillars, Kirsten Pearce and Frank Calio.

Recently hospitalized: Wright Parker and Anita Layfield.

Rejoice with: Judy, everyone who worked and volunteered with the yard sale.

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

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

Larry and Joan Wadman who will celebrate their **68th** anniversary on **August 12th**.

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

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

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: We will be meeting on **August 21st** 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 12th, "Global Economic Justice" based on 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; August 19th, "Loving and Just Behavior" based on Romans 12:9-21; and August 26th, "Practicing Justice" based on Colossians 3:5-17. All are welcome and feel free to come on any Sunday that suits your schedule.

UMW YARD SALE THANK YOU!

(Pastor Wendy's write up from last year is in italics)

*The yard sale is over for another year and once again it was a **major** success. **Thank you** and congratulations to everyone who was involved in making it happen. It takes huge amounts of time and energy for things to work. Lots of fun!!!*

One of the things that I love best is to sit in my office and just listen to the conversations and other dialogue that is occurring, especially during the set-up. For example, I overheard someone say, "Let me mark that paid or the Methodist police will get you. My personal favorite from this year however was, "That is between you and God...and Peggy." I could go on and on but suffice it to say that it was very entertaining.

What is more satisfying however is to hear the banter and genuine affection that is being shared among the volunteers. Not that everyone always agrees or even gets along every minute but the common goal keeps everyone moving forward like a family. God loves to see His children working together as a team for the good of the church.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 tells us that, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help."

Echoing Pastor Tom's words on Sunday, a **HUGE thank you** to the many, many folks who made the 2018 Yard Sale possible. Starting with our amazing, chairperson, **Peggy Hughes** the sale was an overwhelming success. The 2018 Yard Sale, as usual, was a **whole church team effort**, from the fabulous support of the men who were irreplaceable with all their loading, unloading, heavy lifting, carrying, and friendly greetings, to the **Avenue staff** who endured extra work and extra people throughout the two weeks of set up and sale. Thank you to those in each area/room who gave of their time and physical Labor day after day to transform an area into an individual shop. Thanks to every person who donated an item, helped sort, price, organize and thanks to those who purchased items. The **Hot Dog Sale** – chaired by Joanne Burbage was appreciated by customers and workers alike as was the fabulous **Bake Sale** – organized by Bonnie Carmine. What wonderful bakers we have at Avenue and the goodies just kept coming in day after day. Oh, I forgot the cheese people too - the cheese always brings a

profit. Thanks to the Sunday morning bake sale volunteers, money counters, cashiers each day, volunteers who take things to SPCA and Joanne's organizing of items to help many in need. We gave items to **Code Purple, to Peoples Place, Matthew Project** and to others who are less fortunate at this time in their lives. The Yard Sale reached out to the community and shared a friendly face to those who shopped and provided many with an opportunity to buy items at a very, very affordable cost. The Yard Sale is **outreach, evangelism, community and fellowship**. It is exhausting and challenging and many backs had to be pampered for the next couple days but so, so worth it. Thank you to everyone. All funds raised, approximately **\$9,400**, go to a variety of mission projects. To paraphrase Micah 6:8, many had a chance to love with kindness, do justice and walk humbly and joyfully with God, for two blessed weeks.

There were dozens of individuals who worked on the yard sale but together they are the body of Christ. It's amazing how the Lord used their efforts to advance God's kingdom by not only raising money for missions but also by providing products to people who needed what was being sold.

*In the words of Charles Thomas Studd, "Only one life, 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last." To everyone who works on the yard sale, and the myriad of other ministries and missions in this church please know that what you do for the sake of Avenue UMC and the communities we serve, **YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE**.*

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Remember, God is in control!

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: 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 8/12

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

MONDAY 8/13

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 4:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group,
 Grier Room
 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
 Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 8/14

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
 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee & Leadership
 Team Meetings, Grier Room

WEDNESDAY 8/15

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 8/16

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
 7:00 p.m. SPRC, Holzmüller Room

FRIDAY 8/17

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

SATURDAY 8/18

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 8/19

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

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2017	2018
8:00	50	58
9:30	131	169
Sunday School	31	26
11:00	55	61
FUSION	0	0
Total	267	314