



The Midweek

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

My friend, Pastor Heidi, did it again in her eloquent and lovely prose. Without having any idea what we at Avenue have been talking about over the past few weeks, she has listened to the Spirit and sent this as her monthly meditation. I share it with you for the beauty, honesty and truth it instills.

The phrase, “We are here, but lightly,” has been circling around in my mind more insistently recently. As children we meet many people, but how many do we remember? If we change schools, how long do we remember classmates, or they, us? It seems that we can feel truly blessed, if we can count one faithful friend in our lives; exponentially blessed, if there are more.

Does Fall makes you think about change? The days shorten; the leaves turn; the temperature cools; the birds start to migrate. Even in climates closer to the Equator, there are subtle differences in the seasons. Some changes, we welcome; other changes are so difficult. “To everything there is a season: and a time for every matter under heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NRSV). The familiar verses that follow acknowledge time for birth and death, sorrow and laughter, love and hate, war and peace. All according to God’s plan and will. God “has made everything suitable for its time” (Ecclesiastes 3:11 NRSV).

Change is constant; and all these things will happen in their due course. We can embrace the joyful events, and embrace and learn from the challenging events; we can avoid the big things by keeping busy with the little things and feel overwhelmed, or ignore events and drown in the quicksand of all the busy-ness around us. It is telling that in the midst of Lamentations’ great sorrows, the writer expresses his reason for hope: “The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning,

great is your faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:22-23 NRSV). What makes the difference in these contrasting things is our attitude toward them: we can choose how we approach change. People of faith can hope.

By praying, “Thy will be done,” Jesus teaches us to embrace the changes in God’s loving, if mysterious, plan. In the midst of this immense divine plan, we are here, but lightly; and, we can choose to actively participate or not; embrace change or not; step into the unknown, or stay on the known path. Barbara J. Winter wrote: “When you step into the unknown, faith is knowing there will be something to stand on or you will be taught how to fly” (*Hope Health newsletter*). *As Christians, through faith, hope and love, we can choose to transform our brief portion of experiences for good.*

Lest we forget, it is our faithful God who seeks us. When we seek God, we begin to understand among other things:

- We each are loved for who we are;
- We each matter;
- We each have a unique role in God’s divine plan;
- We each will impact countless others and the world in ways we may never know.

And to God be the glory forever and ever.

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

September Meeting Reminders

- * **Yard Sale Follow up Meeting**, September 5th at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
- * **Finance Committee Meeting**, September 11th at 7:00 pm in Grier Room
- * **UMW Board Meeting**, September 12th at 12:30 pm in Room 207
- * **Trustees Meeting**, September 17th at 7:00 pm in Grier Room
- * **SPRC Meeting**, September 20th at 7:00 pm in Holzmueller Room



Fall Kick-Off

September 9th from 5-7pm

*Join us for an afternoon of
food, inflatables, music, and
fun!*

*The event will be held on the
front lawn of the church*

20 N. Church St, Milford, DE



Fall Kick-Off

*Sept. 9th
5-7pm*

*If you're able, we'd
love for you to bring
a covered side dish
to share!*

The Mispillion Children's Chorus

Open to All students AGES 6-12

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 4th

Two Rehearsal locations and times:
Select the one that works best for your child's schedule.

The Milford Boys & Girls Club
Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Avenue United Methodist Church
Tuesday from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

NO AUDITIONS!

NO FEES!

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!



*No member affiliation necessary with
either B&G Club or with Avenue United
Methodist Church.*

A commitment from parents/guardians that
students attend regularly and participate in
the choral performances.

QUESTIONS:

themispillionchildrencorus@gmail.com

Sharon Starling (302) 422-2785

Kevin B. Chamberlain (302) 422-8111

A Study of the Book

“7: Staging Your Own Mutiny Against Excess”

This study is different from others that Avenue Church has undertaken. How? Because it will meet only once a month but will be seven months in duration. Hmmm...read on to learn more.

This book and workbook focus on seven areas of our lives and helps us give up our excesses in each area: Stress, media, possessions, food, waste, spending and clothes. It is a perfect study for both families and individuals. It is a real eye-opener for kids.

Each month, in whatever order you and/or your family chose, you will look at one category and decide how to “untangle the clutter in your life and discover how temporarily disengaging from excess can allow God’s heart to break through your stuff and open your eyes to the things that really matter.” The book and workbook will give you ideas and suggestions on what can be done in our lives to fight back against overindulgence, materialism, and greed. What a perfect way to get our hearts ready for Christmas and move into Lent. Introductions to the study will be held on:

September 16, 2018 1:00 PM
September 18, 2018 7:00 PM
September 20, 2018 11:00 AM

YOU ONLY NEED TO ATTEND ONE. If you can’t attend any of these and want to participate, call Wendy and she will sit down and go over the study at your convenience.

Pastor Wendy will be leading this study and is available to answer questions. As you ponder whether you will be interested in doing this study, here are some sample questions for two of the categories to consider.

Food:

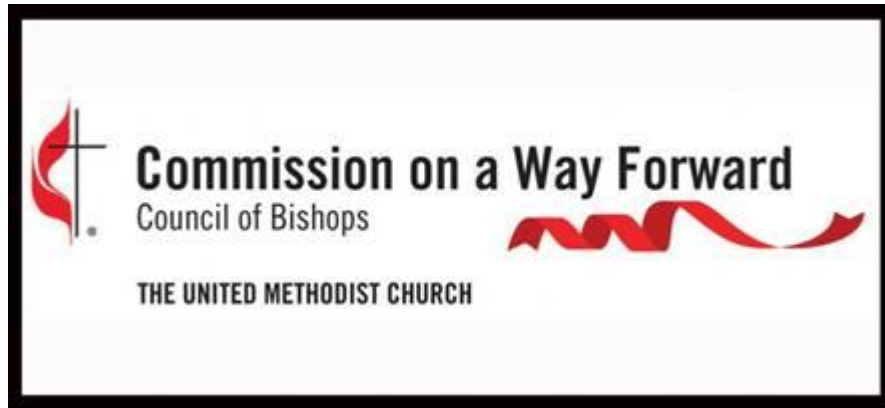
- Does your lifestyle influence your food choices or do your food choices influence your lifestyle? Why?
- How could food become an idol in our lives that distracts us from God’s kingdom?
- What are some of the practical ways you can live out the words of Jesus found in Matthew 25: 35-40.

Clothing:

- Why do you think we spend so much time consumed with our clothes? (What do your children say about this one?)
- How might your clothes reflect your heart?
- Read Matthew 6: 28-30. How can Jesus’ words encourage you when it comes to your closet?

Each category has similar questions. This is not just a study of thought. There are meaningful actions to undertake as both individuals and families. So come find out about it!

Bishop's District Day - Dover District



Topic: "The Way Forward"

Conversations about the February special session of General Conference that will deal with the issue of homosexuality and the UMC.

Who is invited? Lay and Clergy together!

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

**Union UMC
2 N. Laws Street
Bridgeville, DE 19933**



SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

no rain date BUT hurricane/nor'easter date

Saturday, September 29, 2018

MILTON GARDEN CLUB

Tickets: Pre-Tour \$10

Day of Tour \$15

Explore 7 hidden gardens on Union Street. Artists in the gardens plus vendors selling garden related items, refreshments for sale, plant sale and more. Pre-tour tickets available at Peppers Nursery, Salon Milton, Milton Historical Society, Hillside Florist in Milton and Lewes Printing in Lewes.

**Milton
GARDEN CLUB**

**P. O. Box 203
Milton, Delaware 19968**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

**MILTON GARDEN CLUB
FALL GARDEN TOUR**

10 am - 3 pm

*FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR
OR FOR TICKETS CALL:
302-684-3804*

**www.themiltongardenclub.org
www.facebook.com/themiltongardenclubinc**

Grotto Pizza® Community PIZZA NIGHT



Vouchers cannot be handed out on premises. Disregard to this policy will result in termination of the event.

Please Join Us for a Fundraising Event!

Cub Scout Pack 186
Milford- Silicato Way
September 26, 2018 | 4 to 9pm

When this voucher is presented at time of order, an amount equal to 20% of your total bill will be donated to Cub Scout Pack 186.



This offer valid for dine-in and takeout only | GrottoPizza.com | [f](#) [t](#)

Join us at **THE 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



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 of Leslee who passed into life eternal yesterday, Dylan Lloyd, Charlie Fleetwood, Dave and Bev Reynold, Ruth Callaway, Jean Hutchman, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, Jill and Bill Gustin, Children and families of Peggy and Larry Hughes, Craig, Jean Layton, Russ French, Brenda Beissel, Shelby Swain, Katie, Dawn Willis and family, Colleen Dunham and for her husband Barry, Cindy Horsman's mother, Joan, Peggy Jones, Chris, Charlie Harding, Allister Quinn, Sage, Judy Frank, Haleigh Baker, All those who are starting school, teachers and students, For our Sunday School, may God bless it, Adi Nelson, Kim, Jack Wheeler, Baby Georgia Bowen, Betty Graham, Taylor Bush, Linda Hanna, Missy, Don, Dot, The family and friends of John McCain, Christ Church, a United Methodist Congregation in Fairfax, VA, the family of Maude Smith and Jeanie Zaines.

Recently hospitalized: Brenda Beissel, Jerry Jackson and Craig Hanna.

Rejoice with: Those voices singing behind Karen Williams yesterday in worship, All those leaving for college and graduate school, The Chrysalis Girls weekend which is full, and continued prayers for the caterpillars, team and upcoming boys weekend.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Family and friends of Rae Short, Ann Wilson, Alieen, Mary Bergez and family, Coleman, Mary Kate, Brenda Beissel, Charlie Fleetwood, Dylan Lloyd, Jeanie Zaines, Ruth Callaway, Jean Hutchman, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, Jill and Bill Gustin, the family and children of Larry and Peggy Hughes, Shelby Swain, Dawn Willis and family, Peggy Jones, Chris, Charlie Harding, and Linda Hanna.

Rejoice with: The Fox family, Sage, Ferd Nelson, Ainsley and family.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

Ferd Nelson who will celebrate his **97th** birthday on **September 6th**.

Lida Wells who will celebrate her **95th** birthday on **September 8th**

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

Jerry and Margie Tucker will celebrate their **50th** anniversary on **September 14th**.

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 YARD SALE MEETING: Today at 1:00 p.m. we will have a follow up meeting in Fellowship Hall.

UMW BOARD will meet on Tuesday, **September 12th**, at 12:30 pm 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 (UMW)** are ready to gather in small group Circle meetings and at large quarterly Unit meetings for the fall of 2018. Circles meet on the third Tuesday (Sarah and Mary/Martha) or second Wednesday (Esther) each month. If you would like to be part of a UMW Circle, please just come out to one of the meetings. We meet at 9:45 a.m. (Sarah), 1:30 p.m. (Mary/Martha) and 7:00 p.m. (Esther). More details to follow.

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 **September 10th** at 4:00 p.m. in the Grier Room.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS’ BIBLE STUDY: On **September 11th** we will be starting a new study: Short Stories by Jesus 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 Sunshine Bible Class will continue to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Grier Room.. The September lessons will deal with "God's World and God's People." September 9th, "God Created Plants and Animals" based on Genesis 1:14-25; September 16th, "God Created People" based on Genesis 1:26-31; 2:4-7; September 23rd, "God Created the Family" based on Genesis 2:18-24; 4:1-2; and September 30th, "God Creates; Humans Sin" based on Genesis 3:8-17, 20-24. Please come.

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.

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2017	2018
8:00	57	59
9:30	177	166
Sunday School	37	19
11:00	57	50
FUSION	0	0
Total	328	298

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 9/9 ~ Fall Kickoff

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Class, Grier Room
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 3:30 p.m. Second Street Players Practice,
 Fellowship Hall
 5:00 p.m. Fall Kickoff, Outside

MONDAY 9/10

8:30 a.m. Meet the Teacher—Preschool,
 Fellowship Hall & Grier Room
 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
 4:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group,
 Grier Room
 6:30 p.m. Bear Den Meeting,
 Holzmuehler Room
 6:30 p.m. Wolf Den Meeting, Nursery
 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
 Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room

TUESDAY 9/11

10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study, Grier Room
 6:00 p.m. Improv Group, Heritage Room
 6:00 p.m. Lion's Den Meeting, Sanctuary
 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
 6:15 a.m. Misphillion Children's Chorus,
 Music Room
 6:30 p.m. Arrow of Light Den,
 Holzmuehler Room
 6:30 p.m. Second Street Players Practice,
 Fellowship Hall
 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 Meeting,
 Grier Room

WEDNESDAY 9/12

12:30 p.m. UMW Board Meeting, Room 207
 1:30 p.m. Knitting Group, Grier Room
 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion
 6:00 p.m. AveNotes, Sanctuary
 6:30 p.m. Pride of Delmarva,
 Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY 9/13

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
 6:30 p.m. Second Street Players Practice,
 Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Dover District Board of Laity,
 Grier Room

FRIDAY 9/14

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SATURDAY 9/15

9:00 a.m. Pride of Delmarva, Fellowship Hall
 10:00 a.m. CCYM, Music Room
 10:30 a.m. Holy Land Pilgrimage (pre trip
 gathering), Grier Room
 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 9/16

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Class,
 Grier Room
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
 12:15 p.m. Exploring Faith Book Club,
 Grier Room
 3:30 p.m. Second Street Players Practice,
 Fellowship Hall
 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and
 Wesley Room