



The Midweek

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

I told Pastor Tom it was all his fault. If you were in Church when Tom preached on Jesus as king, you know that he showed a variety of kings as we worked to understand what our idea of a true king looked like. One of his examples was “Burger King” and from the first time it appeared in the 8:00 service, I knew what I was having for lunch.

The problem is that I really should not have had that Whooper Extra Value meal with onion rings and coke. I just became so hungry for it that by the time I got out of 11:00 worship, having seen it three times, I was already mentally in the drive through. I could not resist the temptation.

To be fair, it’s not really Tom’s fault. Yes, he put the idea in my head, but he did not drive me to the restaurant, order it, and then make me eat it. I did that all by myself. The only person who is responsible for me giving into temptation is me.

Scripture tells us that we are to resist temptation and when we try, we have help from God. 1 Corinthians 10:13 says, “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”

I caved to the Whooper. My way out could have been to eat the salad I had brought. God had already given me a better option when I packed my lunch that morning and I should have listened. I could have had a much healthier lunch and honestly, I felt so bad after I ate it that it quickly became apparent that it was not worth the calories, carbs, sodium, sugar and other “junk” that was part of that meal.

So, I apologize to Tom. Because of our freewill, nobody has any control over what temptations we give into – except ourselves. We can't blame anyone but ourselves. But when we turn to Jesus and ask for His help to resist, we can be assured of His divine power to help us get past our temptations. It is His power and glory forever and ever that is our source of strength.

Pastor Henry



Take My Hand Ministry, Inc.
presents
A tasting of Christmas Brunch

Sunday, December 9th
9:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Sunset Cove
3 Haven Lake Avenue | Milford, DE 19963
(302) 422-1086

Everyone is invited to this special Brunch that will benefit the Milford Police Department's Christmas Toy Drive. The Brunch is a "Free Blessing to You." Please help us be a blessing to the children & youth of the Milford Area by bringing a wrapped and tagged (gender & age) Christmas Gift for a girl/boy valued at \$20 plus; or a \$20 plus gift card to Wal-Mart.

Join us in celebrating the true Spirit of Christmas with fabulous foods, fellowship, live music, a Visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus (10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.) and the special gift of loving our neighbors the way our Savior Loves us.

Please, call us with the number of guests that will be attending in your party.

Merry Christmas to All!!!



SOUNDS *of* CHRISTMAS *featuring*

The Mispillion Children's Chorus

Sharon Starling, *director*

Kevin B. Chamberlain, *accompanist*

with

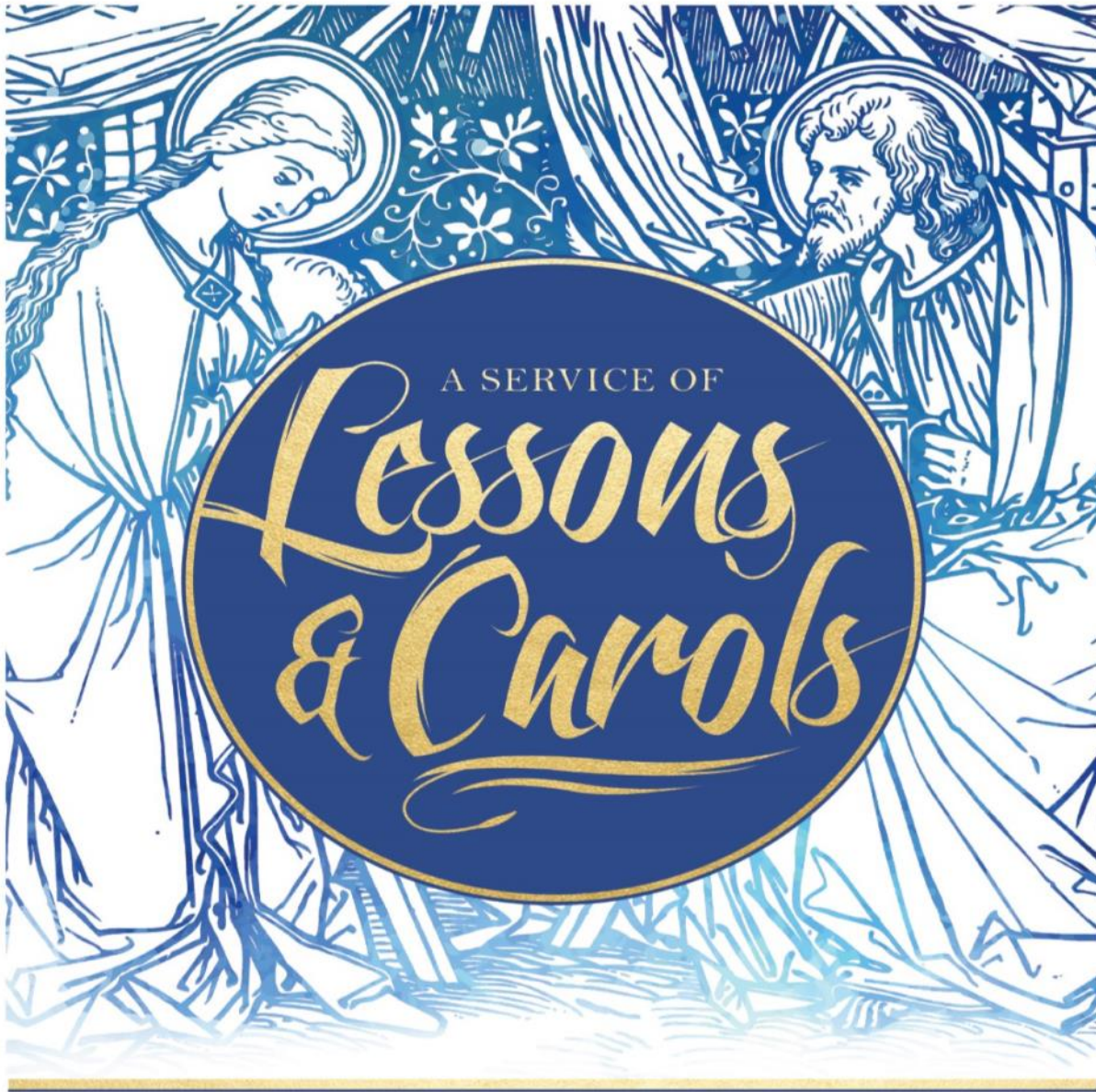
The First State Harmonizers

Christmas Carol Sing-a-long

December 7, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Avenue United Methodist Church
20 N. Church Street
Milford, Delaware 19963
302-422-8111

AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



FEATURING THE FESTIVAL CHOIR AND ORGAN
MONDAY DECEMBER 24TH AT 10:30AM

20 N. CHURCH STREET | CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED
PLEASE JOIN US | FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Second Street Players

at the Riverfront Theater

2 S. Walnut Street, Milford, DE 19963



Produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

adapted by Mountain Community Theater
from the novel by Valentine Davies

Based upon the Twentieth Century Fox
motion picture "Miracle on 34th Street"

Steven Haber
Director

Melissa Brenner
Assistant Director

**Free Gift for Kids
from Santa's Elves!**
(while supplies last.)

This is a tale that we want to believe in, that creates a world we seem to desperately desire, where love, decency, and generosity of spirit are their own rewards; what we really want Christmas to be all about.

Tickets: \$17

Nov. 23, 24, 25;

Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2, 2018

Curtain at 7 pm on Fridays and
Saturdays, 2 pm on Sundays

A one dollar discount is
offered for seniors, students,
and military for Sunday matinees.

Reserve your seats by calling
(800) 838-3006

or click on the show info at
www.secondstreetplayers.com



Second Street Players is supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.
The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScene.com



Southern Delaware Chorale

*Dr. Colin Armstrong,
Artistic Director & Conductor*

Mid-Atlantic Symphony

Present

George Frederick Handel's

Messiah

Sunday, December 2, 2018, 3 PM

Cape Henlopen High School

1250 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE

Ticket prices: Adult \$25, Student (with ID) \$10

Tickets are available at Browseabout Books in Rehoboth Beach, at Puzzles in Lewes, from any member of the Chorale, and from southerndelawarechorale.org



This organization is supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on <http://DelawareScene.com>.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

The Sanctuary is never prettier than it is when the poinsettias arrive for December. Placing poinsettias 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 poinsettias at \$6.00 each. The Altar Guild has requested that we only order 75 pots of flowers and in RED only. All additional funds will go to the Parish Purse.

Sponsor's Name _____

Memory of _____

Honor of _____

The cost for each Poinsettia is: 6" pot \$6.00 _____

The Altar Guild has requested that we order only **RED** Poinsettias this year.

Please Print Clearly

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

Names of sponsors and those remembered and honored will be in the Worship Folder on December 16th and December 23rd.

Please make checks payable to Avenue United Methodist Church

Orders MUST be in no later than Wednesday, December 12th





2019

YOUTH RALLY

Protector

ISAIAH 43:2

 **YOUNG PEOPLE'S
MINISTRIES**

JANUARY 4-6

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

ROLAND E. POWELL CONVENTION CENTER

The poster features a large white cross in the center. To the left of the cross is a blue flame-like graphic, and to the right is an orange flame-like graphic. A path of white lines leads from the bottom towards the cross, with small silhouettes of people at the end of the path.

Brochures are on the foyer table.



IMPROV THEATRE

Tuesdays 6-8PM

*Ages
13-99*

**AVENUE CHURCH,
HERITAGE ROOM**

20 N Church St, Milford, DE 19963

*For More Info Contact Seth
seth.wilcox37@yahoo.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: Marty Brereton, Tony Wing, Kathleen Friedline, Charlie Harding, Alan Jester, Craig, everyone dealing with memory issues and their caregivers and families, the Freeman family, Lois Hopkins, all those with financial and employment issues, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, for good health and prosperity, Alma Brittingham, everyone dealing with depression, Gertrude Hendrick, Jean Hutchman, Ferd Nelson, Christopher, Bonnie Hudson and her sister, all the victims of the California wildfires, the victims and their families of the first winter storm, everyone traveling for Thanksgiving, Charlie Fleetwood, the Hughes children, Vicki Schultes and family, Joanne Tschantre Hyatt, victims of gun violence, successful surgery on a neck cyst, Kirsten Pearce, and someone with a boo boo.

Recently hospitalized: Harold Santy.

Rejoice with: Sharon and Alvin Jarrell, Amalyn Buddenbohn, the Powers and Howard families, Brittany Gunderson, all those whose prayers have been answered.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Marty Brereton and her son Tony Wing, Kathleen Friedline, Phil, Charlie Harding, Alan Jester, Craig, Everyone dealing with memory, dementia, alzheimers and other cognitive issues, and for their caregivers and families, Lois Hopkins, Harold Santy, Christine Santy, All those with financial and employment issues, Matt Topolski, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, Gertrude Hendrick, Jean Hutchman, Ferd Nelson, Christopher, Bonnie Hudson, All the victims of the California fires, Carole, David and Stephanie Johnson, All those who are driving, flying and otherwise traveling for the holidays, Charlie Fleetwood, The Hughes children, Vicki Schultes and family, Joanne Tschantre Hyatt, Victims of gun violence, Chloe Donigan, Kirsten Pearce and Carole Brennan.

Rejoice with: Jen Nelson whose father has moved into the VA home this week, Bill Gustin All whose prayers are answered, and God's blessings poured out upon us.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

Carol Terry is turning **80** years old on **November 30th**. Let's see if we can send her 80 cards. Her address is: 101 Babb Dr, Apt 3403, Dover, DE 19901.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Jack and Mary Lou Sheaffer who will celebrate their **54th** anniversary on **December 5th** .

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

♪Handbells

Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

♪MomentUM Praise Team

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♪Misphillion 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

A WORD ABOUT THE NEW BLUE PARAMENTS

Why blue?

These beautiful paraments are blue, a color increasingly used for Advent in Protestant churches. Blue is the color of royalty to welcome the coming of a King. Blue symbolizes the night sky where the star appeared to announce the birth of Jesus. Blue can also signify the waters of Genesis 1 and the beginning of a new creation.

What do the symbols represent?

The symbol embroidered in the center of the altar parament is the Chi Rho (X P). It is composed of the first two letters in the Greek word Christos. The Greek letters, Alpha (first) and Omega (last) which flank the Chi Rho, symbolize Jesus as the Christ who has come and will come again, as well as the continuity of God's presence in human history.

(Adapted from The meaning of Church Colors by Dennis Bratcher)

CHRISMON ORNAMENTS

Many years ago, Marge Steiner volunteered to create these needlepoint symbols for the tree in the Sanctuary. Several women worked on them using white, gold and silver threads, representing the liturgical colors of Christmas. What we have are many reminders of the symbols of our faith. How many can you spot on our tree?



Chi Rho (X P) are the first two letters of "Christ" in Greek.

A **Fish** represents the first letter in Greek of the titles of Jesus (Jesus, Christ, Son of God, Savior) which spell the Greek word for "fish", (icquV, ichthus).

The **Crown** symbolizes the fulfillment of the prophecy of the Savior's birth, and Jesus as the Son of God and Prince of Peace.

The **Star** represents the sign God placed in the heavens to guide the Three Wise Men to Jesus.

ADVENT WREATH

Lighting the Advent Wreath in worship is a cherished tradition at Avenue. We are recruiting 16 families to light the wreath this year. We use 'families' as a broad sense to include single parents, step families, multiple generations, and even traditional families. We are looking for volunteers for all three services on December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and four families for Christmas Eve (3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m.).

To volunteer to light the Advent Wreath, please contact Pastor Wendy at wendybutterworth@avenueumc.com and indicate which service you attend (8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., or 11:00 a.m.) and which Sunday or Christmas Eve service you are available. You will receive back from Pastor Wendy, simple instructions for lighting, as well as the reading that accompanies the lighting. Thank you.

Instead of a specific **Harvest Sale date**, UMW will be providing an ongoing display of handmade knitted and crocheted afghans and smaller items for sale. Many items took a great deal of time to make and have lovely detail. Think Christmas tree or gifts. All money made from these items will go to Mission projects at home and away. Please check out the display case and/or display table to see all that is available for Christmas gifts or something to spoil yourself. Please give funds to Kelly in the office or put in envelope in Health Ministries mail box (Peggy Hughes).

UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM) are proud to serve their second Pancake Breakfast of the year on **December 2, 2018**. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee and tea will be **served immediately after all three services**. **A free-will offering will be accepted.** Funds from this meal will help provide a Boy Scout college scholarship to a high school graduate from Troop #186. Other mission projects will also be funded. Join us for a most excellent breakfast and fellowship.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION: Everyone interested in becoming a member of Avenue Church is encouraged to attend the next New Members' Orientation on **Sunday, December 2nd** from **12:15p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** in the Grier Room. This opportunity is a chance to get to know the Pastors better and receive a helpful orientation concerning the heritage, values, mission, and vision of both The United Methodist Church and especially Avenue. New Members will be received at all services on January 13, 2019.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CIRCLES are meeting in December to Fellowship and celebrate the birth of Christ. **Sarah Circle** will be meeting at 12:00 noon at the home of Ginny Clendaniel on Tuesday, December 18th. Please bring a dish to share. **Mary/Martha Circle** will meet at Rudy's Restaurant in Harrington on Route 13 at noon, also on Tuesday, December 18th.

Spouses and friends are welcome. **Esther Circle** will be meeting on December 12th, Wednesday night at 6:00 pm, also at Rudy's Restaurant, Harrington. **E-Circle** members and other women are welcome to join us at any of these times of fun and fellowship.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GENERAL DECEMBER MEETING will be a Christmas Celebration and everyone is invited. Kevin Chamberlain, Minister of Music and our own AveNotes will be bringing us some Christmas music following the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service **on Sunday, December 16th**. We will meet in Fellowship Hall for sandwiches and other finger foods finished off with Christmas **Cookies**. So, bring a snack to share - veggies, cheese and crackers, chips, or whatever you would like and come join in the fellowship and fun. Remember to bring your **Chrismon tree gift** and something good to eat on the December 16th.

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

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: On **December 4th** we will continue our new study: **The Joy Stealers** by Rob Renfroe 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: A large amount of yarns were donated to the church today (Wednesday, Nov 14th) to be used for Prayer Shawls, as well as cold weather articles for homeless, Code Purple, school children and any other community needs. Knitters and crocheters, please come to the Grier Room any Wednesday afternoon (1:30 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.) to pick up yarn and patterns for any of these articles.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS: The Sunshine Bible Class meets in the Grier Room at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. December begins a new quarter and the lessons will be "God Commands Our Love, Respect and Obedience." The study for December 2nd is "Love and Devotion" based on Deuteronomy 6:1-9; December 9th, "Choose to Love and Serve God" based on Joshua 24:1-3, 13-15, 21-24; December 16th, "Love and Worship God" based on Psalm 103:1-17, 21-22; December 23rd, "Jesus: God's Loving Promise" based on Luke 1:26-31; 2:22 25-35; and December 30th, "Modeling God's Love" based on Matthew 25:31-46. All are welcome.

A new class will be starting in January on Sunday's at 8:30 a.m. for people who want to attend Sunday School and 9:30 a.m. worship service. The class will be led by Dan Nelson and Tom Chilton. They will be starting on a study of the book of Ephesians. If you have questions contact Dan Nelson at (302) 349-4842 or Tom Chilton at (302) 725-1333.

WEDNESDAY DISCIPLE CLASS will meet on **November 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Grier Room**. The class will be exploring the Bible. To register, please call Dave Reynolds at (302) 503-3933.

EXPLORING YOUR FAITH BOOK CLUB will meet **on Sunday, December 9th at 12:15 p.m.** in the Grier Room. We shall look at the birth narratives of Jesus Christ and see how they are similar and how they differ. Please join us for this fun look at a story we think we know well.

COMMUNITY

CHRISMON TREE GIFTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: On **Sunday, December 2nd**, tags with desired Christmas gifts will be placed on the Sanctuary Christmas tree. These tags will be available until Sunday December 9th. If you would like a Chrismon Tree tag before December 2nd, please call Joanne.

All gifts must be returned by Sunday December 16th. Please substitute or call Joanne 422-6152, rather than pass the necessary deadline. Please remember to adhere the tag to the present on the exterior of the bag or box of the gift. About 70 families are helped each Christmas by your generosity.

THANKSGIVING TURKEY THANK YOU: We would like to thank everyone who donated money for Thanksgiving turkeys. Avenue gave out 62 turkeys this year. Also we want to thank the United Methodist Men who picked up the turkeys and handed them out. Again this year, we had a very generous donation from Baltimore Air Coil who purchased 12 turkeys.

CODE PURPLE: Thank you for all the monetary and physical donations. Right now we are very well stocked up. Since we don't know how much room we will have in the Wesley Room, we are going to put the physical donations on hold for now. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tom or Dan Nelson. **Thank You!**

LAST WEEK AT AVENUE

Attendance:	2017	2018
8:00	36	58
9:30	158	170
Sunday School	44	91
11:00	63	82
FUSION	0	0
Total	301	401

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 12/2 ~ Communion

Pancake Breakfast

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,
Grier Room
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 12:15 p.m. New Member Orientation,
Grier Room
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 272,
Heritage Room
- 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Grier Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and
Wesley Room

MONDAY 12/3

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 3:00 p.m. UMW Board Meeting, Room 207
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. Bear Den Meeting, Heritage Room
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206

TUESDAY 12/4

- 9:30 a.m. Archives Meeting, Archives Room
- 10:00 a.m. Sisters' Bible Study, Grier Room
- 1:00 p.m. Pack 186—Poinsettias,
Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Mispillion Children's Chorus,
Music Room
- 6:00 p.m. Improv Group, Heritage Room
- 6:00 p.m. Lion's Den Meeting,
Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Arrow of Light Meeting, Room 207
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal,
Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Leadership Team Meeting,
Carpenter Room

WEDNESDAY 12/5

- 1:30 p.m. Knitting /Crocheting 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
- 6:30 p.m. Tiger Den Meeting, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Grier Room

THURSDAY 12/6

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Emmaus Group
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion
- 4:00 p.m. Music Ministry Recitals, Sanctuary
and Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Webelos Den, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 2, Grier Room

FRIDAY 12/7

- 7:00 p.m. Community Christmas Concert,
Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SATURDAY 12/8

- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 12/9

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