



AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

From the desk of our Pastors . . .

I got nothing done on January 1. I didn't get my thank you notes written during the Penn State game as I had planned, but then again I didn't see Penn State crush Kentucky like I had expected. I didn't sleep in as late as I had hoped but that was because I went to bed much earlier than I had scheduled the night before. The parties of crazy New Year eves are long over. Instead of catching up and starting 2019 with a clean to-do list, I was even farther behind than when I ended 2018.

“When humankind plans, God laughs” is an old Yiddish adage. In other words, no matter how much we plan, life is uncertain. Over and over I have seen that to be the truth.

The only plan that is certain in our lives is God's plan for our lives. Proverbs 19:21 tells us that “many are the plans in a person's heart but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.” But how do we know what God's purpose is for our lives? How do we know what it is that God wants us to do? After all, if Jesus was willing to die for us, the least we can do is live for Him.

There is a difference between God being Lord and God being a life coach. We too often wish that He would give us a step-by-step guide, so we knew exactly what is His will. Think how much easier it would be if we knew exactly what God's plans are!

And yet we do know that God has a wonderful plan for all our lives. For the believer, that plan is salvation. While we deserve eternal punishment, God satisfied that payment through his Son. God's incredible plan for our lives is that we continually surrender our evil desires and conform more to his image and the example He gave us for living. God's plan is that we come back into relationship with Him through our faith and His grace, and fight sin through His power.

So, as we start 2019, we can go with the confidence that God is in control and His plan is perfect for us. Let us pray that we align with His will and yield to His plans. In that way, the glory will belong to God forever and ever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Henry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'H'.

OPIOID CRISIS PRESENTATION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.
AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SANCTUARY

1. What is an opioid, where do they come from, what drugs are in the class of opioids and why does it matter.

2. Where in the brain does addiction take place. Why does this matter. How opioids affect us on a cellular level. Why does this matter?

3. So what can a Church, Christian, Human do?

WE can't stop drugs from crossing the border.

WE can look at the carnage created by this epidemic [family members, active addicts, those trying to rehab, children of addicts] and pick a place to respond.

Our presenter is Reverend Barry Steiner Ball. He is a graduate of the Citadel with a B.A. in psychology. He then received a Master of Divinity from Duke University. He was then offered a position with the Maryland Natural Resources Police (game warden and marine police) working Talbot and Caroline County. He served as chaplain for NRP when needed.

Barry started a doctoral program at Wesley Seminary in Washington D.C. He was offered a position on a Drug Enforcement Task Force in Hagerstown MD. In this position he worked large cases in western MD. During this assignment Barry was exposed to the plight of Drug Endangered Children and changed his doctoral project to begin working with local Methodist Churches helping them discover how they can support these children.

Barry completed his doctoral degree in 2017, retired from the NRP and is working full time with local churches in helping them find their ministry response to the opioid epidemic.

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: Adi Nelson, Joan Eisenbrey, the family and friends of Stephen Welch Sr., Ferd Nelson, Lida Wells, Charlene Sandifer, Linda Breedlove, Carole Brennan, Ann Andrews, all those traveling over New Years, for a safe and sober holiday, Christopher, Kirsten Pearce, Alma Brittingham, Brenda Beissel, Jean Hutchman, Charlie Fleetwood, Kathleen Friedline, Charlie Harding, everyone with job and financial issues, everyone with relationship or marital problems, Lynn Powers, all those battling addictions, first responders and military members who were not able to be with the family over the holidays, Craig, Leone Lenart, Bill and Jill Gustin, everyone adversely impacted by the government shutdown, the Sussex Tech band, the youth and adults attending youth rally, all to have a blessed and safe 2019.

Rejoice with: Mary Jo Lear, all those whose prayers have been answered, Piper McIntosh, Olivia McIntosh, and the Wall family.

Praise God for: Our wonderful choir.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: The Riley and Wells families, Adi Nelson, Russ French, Bev French, Joan Eisenbrey, the family and friends of Grant Curtis, Ferd Nelson, Lida Wells, Craig, for all those addicted to drugs and alcohol, Charlene Sandifer, Linda Breedlove, Carole Brennan, Ann Andrews, Christopher, Kirsten Pearce, Alma Brittingham, Brenda Beissel, Jean Hutchman, Charlie Fleetwood, Kathleen Friedline, Charlie Harding, everyone with job and financial issues, all those impacted by the government shutdown, everyone with relationship and marital issues, Lynn Powers, all battling addictions, Craig, Leone Lenart, Bill and Jill Gustin, Donna Tyne, Carrie McCartney and son, Bill McCartney and Mildred Jensen.

Recently hospitalized: Jay Adams

Rejoice with: Everyone who attended youth rally, Mary Jo Lear, and all those whose prayers have been answered.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Richard and Sharon Brown who will celebrate their **55th** anniversary on **January 18th**.

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

♫ **Handbells**

Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

♫ **MomentUM Praise Team**

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

♫ **Mispiration 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

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CIRCLE MEETINGS are gearing up for 2019. New members welcome to join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 for Esther Circle. (**No Esther Circle meeting for January**). Locations will be announced in midweek the week before for Esther and Sarah Circles. Sarah Circle meets the third Tuesday each month at 9:45 am and Mary Martha Circle also meets on the third Tuesday at 1:30 pm at Avenue. A book report will be given each meeting this January – April by our own Helen Holleger. YOU won't want to miss these informative and fun reports. UMW Reading program books and Response magazines are available to borrow on UMW shelf in Foyer library. If you prefer an electronic circle so you can stay aware of the UMW events happening, contact Beth Parker at bparke42@comcast.net. What about a Reading Program Circle? Everyone reads the same book each month and comes together to discuss and share?

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES

SCRIPTURE AND THE WESLEYAN WAY: Rev. John Van Tine will be teaching a class on Tuesday nights based on Bishop Scott Jones book Scripture and the Wesleyan Way. This eight week course will deal with topics like "What Is the Bible's Message?"; "Am I a Real Christian?"; "How Can I Connect with God?" plus others. The class will meet **January 15th** from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Grier Room. Plan to attend this exciting class that looks at what Scripture says, John Wesley's comments on it, and how we can be better followers of Jesus Christ.

CHRISTIAN BELIEVER CLASS: Our next class is on **January 13th** at 2:00 p.m. in the Holzmuller Room. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Willey at (302) 422-8952.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: On **January 15th** we will continue our study: A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place by Beth Moore 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 meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Grier Room. Our study for January is "Loving God by Trusting Christ." January 13th lesson is "Submit to God in Love" based on James 4:1-10; January 20th lesson is "Submit to God in Christ" based on Philippians 1:12-21; and January 27th lesson is "Devote All to Christ" based on Philippians 2:1-11. All are welcome.

A new class will be **starting on Sunday, January 20th at 8:00 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 **January 9th 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, January 20th** at 12:15 p.m. in the Grier Room. We shall continue our study of Adam Hamilton's Book Unafraid, studying section three, Chapters 9-12. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: The Diaper Pantry will be opened WEEKLY on Wednesday morning from 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. starting in January. We need 8 people to commit to one day a month and we will have it covered. Would you like to see young mothers smile?? See how happy they are that people care?? Contact Tita or Diane so we can establish a calendar. We need 2 people each week.

Milford Community Pantry needs cereal. Thank You!

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:	2018	2019
8:00	31	61
9:30	135	200
Sunday School	42	55
11:00	37	52
FUSION	49	0
Total	294	368

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!

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Milford– Silicato Way January 23, 2019 | 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 Avenue United Methodist Church FCA.



This offer valid for dine-in and takeout only | GrottoPizza.com |  

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 January 30, 2019 | 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 |  

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 1/13 ~ Baptism Sunday

- 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
- 1:00 p.m. Study 7 Meeting, Grier Room
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Believer's Class,
Holz. Room
- 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Grier Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room &
Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 1/14

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Wolf Den Meeting, Nursery
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers,
Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room

TUESDAY 1/15

- 10:00 a.m. Sisters' Bible Study, Grier Room
- 1:30 p.m. Mary/Martha Circles Meeting,
Grier Room
- 5:00 p.m. Mispillion Children's Chorus,
Music Room
- 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
- 6:00 p.m. Improv Group, Heritage Room
- 6:30 p.m. Pack Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Central DE Chess Club, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Leadership Team/Finance Comm.
Meeting, Holz. Room
- 7:00 p.m. Scripture and the Wesleyan Way,
Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Carpenter Room

WEDNESDAY 1/16

- 1:30 p.m. Knitting/Crocheting Group,
Grier Room
- 2:00 p.m. Study 7 Meeting, Carpenter Room
- 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
- 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Group
- 6:00 p.m. AveNotes, Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. FCA Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Tiger Den Meeting, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. Investment Comm. Meeting,
Holz. Room
- 7:00 p.m. Theological Reflections,
Carpenter Room

THURSDAY 1/17

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Emmaus Reunion
Group
- 10:00 a.m. Revival Prayer Days,
Heritage Room
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Group
- 6:30 p.m. Webelos Den, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Study 7 Meeting, Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 2, Heritage Room

FRIDAY 1/18

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

SATURDAY 1/19

- 8:00 a.m. Pinewood Derby, Wesley Room
& Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 1/20 ~ Laity Sunday

- 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
- 12:30 p.m. Exploring Faith Book Club,
Grier Room
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Believer's Class,
Holz. Room
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 272 Meeting,
Heritage Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room &
Fellowship Hall