



# *The Midweek*

***Tuesday, April 16, 2019***

*From the desk of our Pastors . . .*

Easter is just a few days away. The holiest of all the Christian holidays, the days of Holy Week are not only for recollection, preparation and reconciliation, they are also times of joy and sadness. I would like to share the words that my dear friend Pastor Heidi wrote this month about the glory of the resurrection. For to God belongs the glory forever and ever.

“Alleluia! Christ is Risen!” “He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!” This Easter greeting is such a joyous exclamation of our faith. I remember singing “Alleluia” in the Cherub Choir. Of course, at five years old, I thought it was great that this song only had one word! As I grew older, the meaning of this one word continues to deepen and expand.

Like the Alleluia song, our Easter greeting goes deeper, it can take us back to the women who followed Jesus from Galilee and their arrival at the tomb on Easter morning. From their grief-stricken eyes, they saw the stone rolled away, the empty tomb, and two men radiantly dressed. Luke tells us, “While they were perplexed about this,...terrified and bowed their faces to the ground,...the men said to them, ‘Why do you look for the living among the dead. He is not here, but has risen’” (Luke 24:4-5).

The Gospels tell us how the disciples and others in the group responded to hearing the news of Christ’s rising up to defeat death: perplexed, frightened, amazed, slow to believe, forgetful, unrecognized, and joyful to name a few reactions. I wonder if this time of recognition is also a great moment of stillness, like the psalmist reminds us of when he sings “Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10 NRSV). When we are faced with natural disasters, when the world around us feels uncertain, and when God’s power and glory are terrifying, we can choose courageously to place our trust and faith in God. Amid the tumult and challenges of our lives, we, too, can pause and find the quiet voice of God above the noise.

The greeting, “Christ is Risen,” is not a quote from the Bible, but it summarizes so well our reason for joy. It seems to me that the power of the exclamation is not in the action of rising, but in the present tense of the verb, “To be.” When “God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’” ...[And further said]...” Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you’” (Exodus 3:14 NRSV), we begin to understand that God is with us in every “now” moment throughout the entire expanse of our being: the “now” moments of the past, the present and the future, reveal the presence and actions of “I AM.” For the women at the empty tomb, “He has risen,” is transposed in our time as, “Christ is Risen,” using the present tense of the

verb to remind us of our Living Savior with us even now.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus explains, “I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life” (John 8:12 NRSV). As we accept “Christ is Risen,” we can take the next steps. We can accept also that God is love. “This is love: not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins” (1 John 4:10 NIV). Perhaps, this acceptance of God’s love for us is also a part of that great moment of stillness. When we consider God is love, we can stop and accept God’s great gift to us at the empty tomb. We can let God’s love permeate our beings, and allow us to love one another.

Pastor *Henry*





*From the desk of the* Director of Connectional Ministries ....

## Seeing with Clarity

By Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

My husband, Bo, tells a great story about when he played football in high school. At one game late in the season, his team lagged by one point, 16-17. They had possession of the ball with a minute to go. Bo expected the coach to call in a special team to kick a field goal.

Instead, the coach told them to fall on the ball. His team complied. Bo thought to himself, “Oh, the coach really wants to put some pressure on us.” For the second down, the coach called the same play—fall on the ball. Bo thought, “Okay, maybe we are running down the clock. But, now he will call in the kicker.” When the coach instructed them to fall on the ball for the third down, Bo reminded himself that the coach had years of experience and knew what he was doing. And, on the fourth down, when the coach told them to fall on the ball again, Bo finally thought, “This is bigger than a game. Coach has something else in mind.”

When the clock ran down, his teammates began to celebrate. Confused, Bo walked toward the scoreboard. He had not worn his glasses that night and he saw, with joyful dismay, that his team had won, 18-17! He also thanked God that he had not argued and had trusted the coach.

I love that story. It demonstrates a deep trust in the coach to have the best interests of the team at heart. It shows how following the coach’s plan pays off, even when you do not understand. And, it reminds us that sometimes others see more clearly than we do.

We, in The United Methodist Church, find ourselves in much the same position as Bo did. We cannot see how the current plan will provide a way to win (in this case, to win disciples for Jesus). We feel confused about the plays being called. We might even feel like we know the answer (call in the kicker) but feel dismayed that our way is not being followed. Instead of trusting the Coach, we find ourselves arguing in the huddle.

Yet, Jesus calls us to a more excellent, if paradoxical, way. Jesus invites us to deny ourselves, to lose our lives, in order to gain them. In other words, to let go. During Lent, many people practice “giving something up” or fasting, which teaches us to let go. To let go of the appetites that control us. To let go of the need to be right. To let go of the need to know everything. To let go of grudges or resentments. To let go of telling God the answer and instead trusting Jesus to lead. To let go of our egos in order to follow Jesus. This letting go requires a deep trust which arises out of a relationship with One whose faithful love never fails. This trust says, “I may not understand your game plan, but I know that you have already won the victory in Jesus.”

As we approach Palm/Passion Sunday and walk the final week with Jesus toward the cross, we can practice this letting go in deep trust as a way of experiencing the passion with Jesus. Can you imagine the deep trust he must have had to let go of his very life and trust God would bring him out alive on the other side of the grave? What might God be calling you to let go of in order to deepen your trust in the divine plan? Who might God be calling you to serve in order to experience the humility Jesus demonstrated by washing his disciples' feet? Who is the "Judas" you feel might have betrayed you, but who God is calling you to invite to the table anyway? Where might we be blind to the ways God has already won for us the victory through Jesus? How might God be coaching you towards new life?

And, how might we walk this journey with each other? How might God want to use us to deepen the trust of another? What action might God be calling our churches to take to demonstrate that we can be trusted? How can we live in such a way that people learn to trust each other more, to trust our churches more, and to trust God more? As we work together, may we find ourselves in a holy huddle, encouraging one another to trust the coach, and following the plays that the coach calls. And, may this allow us to experience being "Connected Christians offering the hope of Jesus Christ to today's world."

## Why The Fire Matters

by [jimharnish](#)

### **Moments Words Don't Reach**

The most emotionally powerful song in “Hamilton” comes after the death of Alexander Hamilton's son, Phillip. Angelica sings what any parent who has buried a child knows.

*There are moments that the words don't reach.  
There is suffering too terrible to name.*

Yesterday was another of those terrible moments as a largely unbelieving world watched Notre Dame go up in flames.



News commentators struggled to find words to capture both the extent of the destruction and why it matters. The fact that it happened during Holy Week -- a fact that would have otherwise gone unnoticed in a secular culture -- instantly became international news. Faithful Christians who tend to dismiss the importance of church buildings by singing, "the church is not a building/the church is not the steeple/the church is not a resting place/the church is the people" paused and perhaps shed a tear as the spire fell.



## Why Cathedrals Matter

Thinking about Notre Dame and church buildings like it, I was drawn back to Phillip Larkin's poem, *Church Going*. (You can hear the poet read it [here](#).) Larkin describes a totally secular, unbelieving man who stops by one of the many empty, aging Anglican churches that are scattered across the English countryside. After walking around and noticing all the accouterments of worship, he wonders,

When churches fall completely out of use  
What we shall turn them into, if we shall keep  
A few cathedrals chronically on show...

In the end, he comes to this conclusion:

A serious house on serious earth it is,  
In whose blent air all our compulsions meet,  
Are recognized, and robed as destinies.  
And that much never can be obsolete,  
Since someone will forever be surprising  
A hunger in himself to be more serious,  
And gravitating with it to this ground,  
Which, he once heard, was proper to grow wise in,  
If only that so many dead lie round.

One news commentator asked if we are paying so much attention to what we have in the present that we have lost sight of our past. Another wondered if the fire might remind an increasing secular European culture of its Christian history. Another said that the fire drew the world together in a common sense of loss and grief, something that reached beneath the conflicts that divide us.

The experience of watching Notre Dame burn is at least a reminder that places matter. Physical places become sacred spaces because they are the places where we find God -- or more accurately, places where God finds us. Cathedrals like Notre Dame were built to be a visual teaching tool in a largely illiterate culture. They proclaim the gospel without words. Historian Jon Meacham described the cathedral as a "physical manifestation of an unseen reality." He said that one of the most important words in scripture is "remember" and that he shows up at mass whether he feels like it or not in order to remember and experience again the meaning of the death and resurrection of Christ.



Perhaps the image of the Notre Dame cross glowing amid the smoke and ashes will draw us back to the sacred places where we remember and experience the presence of the One who said,

*"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit...And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." (John 12:24-32)*

Grace and peace,

Jim

## 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:** Family and friends of Lynn Morris, Linda Keifer, Family and friends of Ron Scott, Family and friends of Rosa Estella, Family and friends of Michael Farrell, Kay McFadden, Sharon Rothermel-Jarrell, Keith, Carmella Bergez, Brenda Mariner, John Shoemaker, Lorretta Wooten, Alan Parker, Merry, Ellen Adams, Brenda Beissel, Jamie, Janet Dill, The Fisher family, Janice Rudy, John Hunt, McKenzie Betts, Tom Glenn, Bonnie Glenn, Elle Sheaffer, All those dealing with cancer, Sherry, Alan Jester, Chase Albright, Joan Eisenbrey, Jen Nelson, JR, A young mother, Jay, Carolyn, Kenneth "Snookie" Collins, Ferd Nelson, Dot Sophos, Brandon, Lida Wells, Jenna, Charlene Sandifer, Craig, Matt Dougherty, Sammy, Alvin's brother-in-law, Luisa Combs, Jennifer, Bill Gaskill, Linda Breedlove, Carlton Goodhand, Christopher, Alan Jester, The 8:00 Bible study continues, Nancy Petrilla, Kirsten Pearce, Wright Parker, Alma Brittingham, Jean Hutchman, Cheryl Horst, Charlie Fleetwood, Charlie Harding, Mary, Bill and Jill Gustin, The Hughes family, Brenna and Samantha Caiola.

**Rejoice with:** All whose prayers have been answered, Marlin Jarrell, Braxden Landry Hughes, Cheyenne Elizabeth Bergez, and Vaughn and Tracy Webb.

**Praise for:** God's unending love.

**PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK:** The family and friends of Harold Short, the family and friends of Nancy Petrilla, all those who have lost loved ones recently, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, Ferd Nelson, Jean Hutchman, Sharon Jarrell, Sharon Morgan, Kay McFadden, Keith, Carmela Bergez, Brenda Mariner, Bill Gaskill, John Shoemaker, Brenda Beissel, Janet Dill, the Fisher family, Elle Sheaffer, all those dealing with cancer, Sherry, Alan Jester, Chase Albright, Joan Eisenbrey, Jen Nelson, Dot Sophos, Carlton Goodhand, Christopher, Craig, John Hunt, Janice, Kirsten Pearce, Samantha Caiola, Elwood Leary, Alma Brittingham, Cayden Holt, the Hughes family, all those traveling this Easter season and Joan Wadman.

**Rejoice with:** The Bergez family, the Hughes family, Ruth Peters, and Vaughn and Tracy Webb.

**Praise for:** The amazing music program at 8 and 11 and the kids who sang in Swahili from the Mispillion Children's Choir.



## **WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:**

### **♫Handbells**

Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Music Room

### **♫MomentUM Praise Team**

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫Mispillion 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.

## **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

**Anita Van Horn** will celebrate her **96<sup>th</sup>** birthday on **April 20<sup>th</sup>**.

## **ANNIVERSARY GREETING TO:**

**Bill and Joan Dudley** will celebrate their **68<sup>th</sup>** anniversary on **April 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**Parker and Maxine Turner** will celebrate their **56<sup>th</sup>** anniversary on **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## **UPCOMING**

**MILFORD INTERDENOMINATIONAL LENTEN SERVICES** are held each Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. at various churches. The schedule is:

April 17<sup>th</sup>, Upper Room

April 18<sup>th</sup>, Mt. Enon

**JELLY BEAN JARS:** The Jelly Bean Jars are back for children and adults. The yellow sign-up sheet is for children up to 12 years old and the green sheet is for those 13 and up. The one who guesses the closest wins the jar of Jelly Beans. The winner will be announced on Easter Sunday. Good luck to everyone.

**EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST** will be served after all Easter Services. May God bless you and yours on this very holy day.

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT AVENUE:**

April 18<sup>th</sup>, Holy Thursday Service with communion 7:00 p.m.

April 19<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Avenue offers a number of scholarships each spring. Graduating Seniors can get applications from the church office by emailing Kelly Hudson at [churchoffice@avenueumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com) or they can be downloaded from the webpage. Then complete the applications on your computer and return them to Mrs. Hudson. Handwritten applications will not be accepted. **Please keep these two dates in mind:**

- ♦ **April 26<sup>th</sup>**, 3:00 p.m. deadline to return all Avenue Scholarship applications to the office.
- ♦ **May 12<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 a.m. is when scholarships will be awarded, along with gifts and recognition for all the Class of 2019. **Please plan to join us.**

## **SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES**

**CHRISTIAN BELIEVER CLASS:** Our next class is on **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00 p.m. in the Holzmueller Room. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Willey at (302) 422-8952.

**TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY:** On **April 30<sup>th</sup>** we will continue our study: "Because of This I Rejoice" by Max O' Vincent. This is a Lenten study of Philippians. We will meet 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:** Christ Episcopal Church in Milford has asked us to join with them in making Seaman's Scarves for "Christmas at Sea" <https://seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea>. Please join with us, in this endeavor. Stop in the Grier Room any Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., to knit or crochet with us and/or pick up yarn for both this project and our Prayer Shawls. Call Carolyn Humes 422 8620 or e-mail [carhum@verizon.net](mailto:carhum@verizon.net).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS:** The Sunshine Bible Class for adults meets at 9:30AM on Sunday mornings in the Grier Room. Our study for April is "Call to Ministry." The lesson for April 21<sup>st</sup>, "Called to Proclaim the Resurrection" based on Matthew 28:1-15; and April 28<sup>th</sup>, "Call and Commissioning" based on Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:6-8. Please plan to attend these exciting lessons.

A new class **started on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.** for people who want to attend Sunday School and 9:30 a.m. worship service. The class is being led by Dan Nelson and Tom Chilton. They started 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 **April 17<sup>th</sup> 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, May 19<sup>th</sup>** in the Grier Room at 12:15 p.m. What we will study for just that day is to be determined. We will start a new book “When Did God become Christian?” by David Kalas in the Fall.

## **COMMUNITY**

**MATTHEW PROJECT:** In lieu of the Matthew Project during the remainder of April and May, please consider donations of furniture, household items, clothing, etc. for the Mission Fund Raising Church Yard Sale. Call Larry and Peggy Hughes at (302) 424-3970 or (410) 212-7391. The Church Yard Sale helps many families and missions in multiple ways. A list of “Missions who pick up household or accept donations” is also available from the church office.

**MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY:** The Diaper Pantry is opened WEEKLY on Wednesday morning from **10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.** 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.

### **Thank you to**

- Milford Lions Club
- Chuck Culotta for the use of your trailer for the donated food
- Everyone who donated to the Food Drive
- Everyone who came to help us sort and box the donations

There were 2,309 items that had to be sorted, counted and put away.

There was over \$150. donated as well.

There were a lot of folks who made this Food Drive successful and we want to thank them all.

**Milford Community Pantry**

# P R E P A R E     Y E

There's a mystery to life I've always wanted to know:

When the right time comes, how will the salvation process go?

Will sprinkling be involved, or could this be done by rain?

Will there be lists to sign, so coverage is specific by name?

Surely there will be questions and afternoons of clashes

Tattered lives must be filled before we apply the patches

The Restoration Method of Humankind should avoid denomination

Success will depend on your full and determined creative participation

You may be just a number, but get ready to do more

You may be the only one who can politically take the floor

Rubbing ideas together is welcome and will really help a lot

That's how God keeps us happy and our thinking caps on hot

The key is we must sharpen our good traits and courageously lead

Otherwise new understandings will just get lost in the weeds

Humility and open minds are important to absorb

Insights and holy revelations all around the board

The Great Awakening is upon us - I can feel it in my bones

So take my hand and let's make this place a Heavenly Welcome Zone

V A L    R A N D O L P H

April 2019

## Easter Flower Order Form

The Sanctuary is never prettier than it is when the spring flowers arrive for Easter. Placing Lilies and Tulips 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 Lilies (12) and Tulips (88) at \$8.00 each. The Altar Guild has requested that we only order 100 pots of flowers and the Tulips will be PINK and WHITE. All additional funds will go to the Parish Purse.

Sponsor's  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Memory  
of \_\_\_\_\_

Honor  
of \_\_\_\_\_

**The cost of the Lily's and Tulips are \$8.00 each**

Lily \_\_\_\_\_



Tulip \_\_\_\_\_



Please use a **separate order form**

For each name in memory of or honored

**Please Print Clearly**

Names of sponsors and those remembered and honored will be in the Easter Sunday Bulletin  
Please make checks payable to Avenue United Methodist Church

**Orders must be in no later than  
April 17<sup>th</sup>**

**We are sorry but NO orders will be accepted after  
April 17<sup>th</sup> as the flower order will be called in.**



# Easter

April 21, 2019

## Join us for Worship

**6:30** *outdoor worship*  
with youth praise band

**8:00** *worship*  
with brass, choir and organ

**9:30** *worship*  
with praise band

**11:00** *worship*  
with brass, choir and organ





# For the Beauty of the Earth

Dr. Colin Armstrong, Artistic Director & Conductor



Sunday, May 5, 3pm  
Epworth United Methodist Church  
Tickets \$25/adult, \$10/student



This event is supported in part by the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The division promotes Delaware arts at: [www.DelawareScene.com](http://www.DelawareScene.com)

For tickets: [southerndelawarechorale.org](http://southerndelawarechorale.org)



March 11, 2019

Dear High School Senior,

Congratulations on making it to the end of your senior year! As you come to the home stretch of your high school education, the Avenue Church family celebrates all your accomplishments as you approach this important milestone.

As you probably know Avenue awards several scholarships each year. **If you are receiving this letter you are eligible to apply.** The enclosed letter describes the scholarships we award, as well as the specific qualifications for each one. **You may apply for as many scholarships as you qualify for.**

This year, we are **not** mailing the scholarship applications. Please e-mail Mrs. Kelly Hudson, Church Secretary, at [churchoffice@avenueumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com) and let her know which applications you want. They can also be downloaded from the webpage. Then complete the applications on your computer and return them to Mrs. Hudson. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.

**Please keep these two important dates in mind:**

- ♦ **April 26<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00 p.m. is the deadline to return your applications to the Church Office.
- ♦ **May 12<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30 a.m. is when scholarships will be awarded, along with gifts and recognitions for all the Class of 2019. **Please plan to join us.**

Again, congratulations on all your achievements! We are very proud of you! If there is anything else we can do for you, or if you need letters of reference, please let any of the Pastors know. Please take a moment to let us know your plans for next year. We would like to stay in touch.

Wishing you God's peace,

Tom Pasmore  
Pastor

Friends,

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) has been working diligently to fill the role created by Pastor Cliff's departure. We have been very fortunate to have a talented individual in Pastor Cliff who is able to fill both of the Pastor of Student Ministries and Praise Team Leader roles simultaneously. This may not be the case moving forward. To maximize the opportunity to find the right people for each these, we have elected to break the current role into the two jobs that you see listed in the next few pages. If you know of someone that you think would be a good fit for either job, please pass this information on to them and encourage them to apply. Resumes and cover letters can be sent to the SPRC care of the church office. If you have any questions, Greg Abbott, chair of SPRC, or I would be happy to answer them. Please pray for Avenue Church as we continue to transition, and God bless us all.

Peace,  
Pastor Tom

**Position:** Pastor of Student Ministries

Avenue United Methodist Church in Milford Delaware serves a dynamic congregation of 375 each week. Avenue has an incredible opportunity for a passionate, spirit filled Pastor of Student Ministries to provide Christ-centered, Biblically-based, loving environment for the Student Ministries Program(s). The current student ministry program is thriving and we're looking for the right leader to expand it even further.

Avenue Church is located minutes from the beautiful Delaware beaches in central Delaware.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Spiritually mature Christian with an active faith life and genuine passion for being a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- College graduate preferred and/or equivalent work experience in youth ministry.
- Knowledge of this generation's culture and ability to utilize this understanding in ministry.
- Must be physically able to participate in youth activities.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Must successfully complete a criminal background check.

The full job description is available on the Avenue United Methodist Church website: <https://avenueumc.com/>

Hours per week: 30

Compensation Package: \$30,000 annually

- Housing available upon request.

Submit cover letter and resume to:

[churchoffice@avenueumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com) OR vial mail

Avenue United Methodist Church

20 North Church Street

Milford, DE 19963

Attn: Greg J. Abbott, SPRC Chair

Accepting applications until the position is filled.

## AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Job Title:** Pastor of Student Ministries

**Reports to:** Sr. Pastor (Primary)

SPRC (Secondary)

**Supervisory Responsibilities:**

Direct: None

Indirect: Volunteer leaders for student ministries

**Status:** Part-time (approximately 30 hours/week)

**Job Summary:** The Pastor of Student Ministries will provide an energetic, Christ-centered, Biblically-based, loving environment for the Student Ministries Program(s) for Avenue United Methodist Church.

**Essential Functions:**

- Develop, implement and effectively administer student ministries activities (Fusion), events and worship for students in grades 6 thru 12.
- Develop and equip leadership team who faithfully can point students to Jesus through relationships, studies and groups.
- Create and inviting ministry culture where students are known, cared for and invited into a relationship with Jesus.
- Develop, implement and effectively administer small group Bible studies.
- Develop, implement and effectively administer the attendance and active participation of Avenue's student ministries at the Peninsula Conference Annual Youth Rally, summer camp events, and mission trips.
- Assist the Senior and/or Associate Pastors in the administration of the Confirmation Class for Avenue UMC and provide on-going support for the confirmands.

**Core Competencies:**

- Be available. Create an inviting culture where students want to bring their friends to worship and build community.
- Invest in relationships with students in the community, and go where they are through outreach activities.
- Be well organized and an effective strategic planner.
- Be able to provide lessons that are Biblically based and relevant to today's youth.
- Build relationships with students, student ministry volunteers, and parents in an effort to help students grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Recruit, train, coordinate, and supervise all hands-on adult volunteers involved with the student ministry.
- Prepare for and lead the weekly Fusion ministry and help it grow in participation, enthusiasm, and excellence.
- Help the students engage with the larger church through worship, fellowship, and service opportunities.
- Champion the need for and connection to [small groups](#).

**Other Responsibilities:**

- Participate with the entire ministry team in promoting the vision and mission of Avenue UMC.
- Network in the community and with other churches to build partnerships in youth ministry.
- Join the Avenue UMC preaching team when requested to do so by the Senior Pastor.
- Develop, implement and effectively administer a budget for the Student Ministries Programs.
- Create sharp, contemporary, attention-getting graphics and videos.
- Perpetuate an engaging, positive online presence for Avenue UMC youth ministry (website, Facebook, Instagram, etc.).
- Develop relationships with area schools and officials to develop ministry opportunities (i.e. Fellowship of Christian Athletes).
- Performs other duties as assigned by the Senior Pastor.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Spiritually mature Christian with an active faith life and genuine passion for being a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- College graduate preferred and/or equivalent work experience in youth ministry.
- Knowledge of this generation's culture and ability to utilize this understanding in ministry.
- Must be physically able to participate in youth activities.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Must successfully complete a criminal background check.



**Position:** Praise Team and Worship Leader

Avenue United Methodist Church in Milford Delaware serves a dynamic congregation at three services (two traditional and one contemporary). Avenue has an incredible opportunity for a spiritual leader to serve as Praise Team and Worship Leader for the contemporary service which welcomes 200 people weekly.

The position will provide musical leadership that is Christ centered and Biblically based, with the highest priority on the spiritual growth of all participants.

Avenue Church is located minutes from the beautiful Delaware beaches in central Delaware.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- The Worship Leader must have and demonstrate a personal relationship with Jesus. Christ, have a desire for ongoing spiritual maturity, and exemplify moral behavior.
- One year of experience leading or performing with contemporary worship team preferred.
- Experienced guitar or keyboard player and vocally proficient in modern worship style of music
- Knowledge of modern worship music such as Chris Tomlin, Bethel Worship, Jesus Culture, Hillsong United, Crowder, Matt Redman, etc.
- Skilled in choral, vocal, and instrumental direction.
- Have knowledge to set up, test, as well as be responsible for, microphones, speakers, amplifiers, and other sound and visual equipment.
- Must possess highly effective written, verbal and public-speaking skills.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Must successfully complete a criminal background check.

The full job description is available on the Avenue United Methodist Church website: <https://avenueumc.com/>

Hours per week: 10

Compensation Package: \$10,000 annually

**Submit cover letter and resume to:**

[churchoffice@avenueumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com) OR vial mail

Avenue United Methodist Church  
20 North Church Street  
Milford, DE 19963  
Attn: Greg J. Abbott, SPRC Chair

Accepting applications until the position is filled.

## **AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Job Title:** Praise Team and Worship Leader

**Reports to:** Senior Pastor (Primary)

SPRC (Secondary)

**Supervisory Responsibilities:**

Direct: None

Indirect: Praise Band volunteers

**Status:** Part-time (approximately 10 hours/week)

**Job Summary:** The Praise Team and Worship Leader will provide musical leadership for the Contemporary Worship Service(s) for Avenue United Methodist Church that is Christ centered and Biblically based, with the highest priority on the spiritual growth of all participants.

**Essential Functions:**

- Provide spiritual leadership to all participants of the Praise Team.
- Possess superior music skills to provide vocal and instrumental leadership for the Contemporary Worship Service(s).
- Recruit and retain Praise Team musicians and vocalist in sufficient numbers to provide enthusiastic leadership during the Contemporary Worship Service.
- Coordinate musical selections with the Senior and/or Associate Pastor to insure the music selections support the sermon and worship service theme.
- Lead the Praise Team in weekly rehearsals.
- Obtain substitute leader for worship services as needed
- Work cooperatively with other music ministries in the church to complement each other.
- Prepare for and hold rehearsals in conjunction with the Worship Team.

**Core Competencies:**

- Is a self-starter with a positive enthusiastic presence, a team player.
- Has demonstrated excellence as a Worship Leader of praise and worship in past positions.
- Demonstrates organization in all administrative aspects of the position to ensure timely preparation and orderly rehearsals and worship services.
- Is an effective evaluator of the musical skills and talents of adult/student volunteers.
- Maintains a variety of modern worship music and materials, incorporating traditional hymns into contemporary worship format as appropriate.
- Is able to relate well to others and build relationships with the staff and the congregation
- Is proficient in music and multi-media presentations. Embraces the use of technology in worship and skilled in the use of sound, lighting, computers, Projection software and video projection.
- Understands the depth and challenge required to blend the vocalists, microphones, speakers, and all other aspects to deliver a balanced sound experience.

**Other Responsibilities:**

- Participate with the entire ministry team in promoting the vision and mission of Avenue UMC.
- Assist with the worship responsibilities as needed with the Traditional Worship Services.
- Network in the community and with other churches to build support for the ministry.
- Provide for the care and maintenance of church-owned Praise Team instruments/materials.

- Develop, implement and effectively administer a budget for the Praise Team.
- Incorporate special worship services (such as Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Fellowship of Christian Athlete events) as needed.
- Provide musical leadership for the youth praise team “Momentum”.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Senior Pastor.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- The Worship Leader must have and demonstrate a personal relationship with Jesus. Christ, have a desire for ongoing spiritual maturity, and exemplify moral behavior.
- One year of experience leading or performing with contemporary worship team preferred.
- Experienced guitar or keyboard player and vocally proficient in modern worship style of music
- Knowledge of modern worship music such as Chris Tomlin, Bethel Worship, Jesus Culture, Hillsong United, Crowder, Matt Redman, etc.
- Skilled in choral, vocal, and instrumental direction.
- Have knowledge to set up, test, as well as be responsible for, microphones, speakers, amplifiers, and other sound and visual equipment.
- Must possess highly effective written, verbal and public-speaking skills.
- Must have a valid driver’s license.
- Must successfully complete a criminal background check.

I have read and received a copy of this job description. I understand it to be the most current version and replaces any and all previous said job descriptions.

# CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY 4/21 ~ Easter**

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service, Outside
- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 8:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,  
Grier Room
- 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

## **MONDAY 4/22**

### **Church Office Closed**

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

## **TUESDAY 4/23**

- 5:00 p.m. Misphillion Children's Chorus,  
Music Room
- 6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room
- 6:00 p.m. Improv Group, Heritage Room
- 7:00 p.m. Central DE Chess Club,  
Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Usher Training Meeting,  
Grier Room

## **WEDNESDAY 4/24**

- 1:30 p.m. Knitting/Crocheting Group,  
Grier Room
- 5:00 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion
- 6:45 p.m. Pride of Delmarva, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Grier Room

## **THURSDAY 4/25**

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Emmaus Reunion Group
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Group
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 2, Holzmueller Room

## **FRIDAY 4/26**

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

## **SATURDAY 4/27**

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

## **SUNDAY 4/28**

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 8:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,  
Grier Room
- 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
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room &  
Fellowship Hall