



## *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, June 19, 2019*

*From the desk of our Pastors . . .*

Since I wrote about the 10 Commandments last week, I thought I would continue that theme in this edition of the Midweek. Namely, the Commandment we read in Exodus 20: 8 -9 that says, “Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work -- you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.”

If you were in church on Sunday, June 9 you may have noticed I was not there. That is because I was moving my son into his new apartment in downtown Philly and Sundays is the only day for people to move in and out. Clearly the apartment management team had not gotten the memo about this verse of scripture. Neither had the moving company, the manager of the storage facility, the scores of people in Wawa dressed for fun-in-the-sun, the kids and parents heading to baseball and soccer games, and the caravan of folks driving horse trailers to a jumping show that morning, among others.

It felt like there was an entire culture of people I knew nothing about as I am usually happily in church on Sunday morning. But the sheer number of people on the roads, in the shops, and dining out made it obvious more people were not attending church than were in worship. There are two churches in the new neighborhood that Chris lives in and as we were unpacking cars, I stuck my head in and saw they were basically empty in the middle of a mass (at the Catholic Church) and a worship service (at the Episcopal Church).

Something tells me that everyone who was out and about was not an anomaly like my situation was. All this leads me back to that age-old question I have no good answer for. Why don't people make worshipping the Lord a priority?

The Disciple Pathway Committee is debating that very same question at this

time. Not that disciple building is the same as putting people in pews, but it helps get people closer to God to have them in worship and receiving the word. Disciple building is not a synonym for increasing attendance and God can make disciples of anyone where they are, but the foundation has to be laid by those of us who know Jesus and want to bring the good news of salvation to the rest of the world.

So this week, if you have spouses, children, grandchildren, cousins, friends or anyone in your life who has another priority on Sunday morning (I'm not talking about those who are ill or can't physically sit in church), reach out and find a way to get them into church. And if you feel like skipping service, please don't.

Since Jesus rose from the dead for our behalf, the least we can all do is get out of bed for His. And we need to get to church so that we can worship our Lord and Savior. In that way we bring Him the honor and glory forever and ever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Henry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "H" and a long, sweeping underline.

# KNOCKING ON HEAVEN'S DOOR

## The Bible 102 – Part 2, Memorizing Scripture (The Third of a Study Series of Basic Christian Topics)

**“I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture...No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change. Your mind will become alert and observant. Your confidence and assurance will be enhanced. Your faith will be solidified.” Chuck Swindoll**

### **What's in it for me?**

*As a disciple, your goal is not merely to get into the Word, but to get the Word into you. Paul says “let the word of Christ dwell in you richly” (Colossians 3:16). Memorizing Scripture saturates your life with God's Word. It permeates our entire person, everything we say and do. Our sinful minds are cleansed as the water of God's Word flows through them, flushing out the corrupt thoughts of our old nature, and replacing them with the pure, undefiled ways of God (John 15:3; Ephesians 5:26). As a result, our lives are transformed.*

**In most churches, memorizing Scripture is reserved for children. Once a child reaches maturity and enters church services, memorization is usually abandoned. It is difficult to persuade most church members to read the Bible let alone memorize portions of it.**

### **Storing Up Treasure**

When we get to heaven, God is not going to be impressed with how many sports statistics we know by heart, how many television shows we can recall, or how many words of popular songs we can recite. But He will be overjoyed with our efforts to commit His life-changing Word to memory. When we hide His Word in our hearts, we are saying to God, “Your Word is important to me.”

Therefore, you will experience its powerful effects in your life after memorizing several Scriptures. Memorizing anything is not easy, which is why so many believers know so few Scriptures.

There have been many plans for committing Scripture to memory. While each is effective in its own right, a simple system has proven to be effective. All you need is a pack of index cards and a committed desire to memorize God's Word. It's easy! Here's how:

- Write the reference of the verse on one side of an index card and the text of the verse on the other. When you begin reading the New Testament, start writing down verses that jump out with meaning to you.
- Keep your Scripture cards near your chair for easy access.
- Whenever you have a few minutes, pull out your pack of Scripture cards and review them. Read the reference first, followed by the verse. Repetition! Repetition! Repetition!
- When you are comfortable with the text, look only at the reference side of the card in order to test your recall.
- After you have mastered several verses, begin to study more. Review all of the verses you have learned at least once a week.

Recently, a person in a church meeting said, "I am just too old to memorize Scripture." The response was, "I would rather you spend one year working on one verse than to stand before Christ with none of His Word memorized."

Did you ever think that memorizing passages might bring you comfort in an emergency? One scenario could be if you had some sort of accident and no help came right away. Reciting a favorite verse committed to memory would be calming and a reminder that you are not alone. A second scenario could be assisting when someone else is possibly critically hurt. Reciting Psalm 23, *The Lord is my Shepherd* could possibly be the last thing that person hears. Think about the comfort you brought that person.

**The average Christian can quote few verses. Sadly, many can recite only John 3:16. *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* Or the shortest verse in the Bible, "Jesus wept" (John 11:35).**

Even more sadly, Jesus could weep today because many of His so called disciples have committed little, if any, of His Word to memory. Pause now to purpose that this will not be true of you, and to pray that God will help you to make the discipline of Scripture memory a priority in your life.

Ready to Start Knocking?

Based on the book *"Growing Up, How to Be a Disciple Who Makes Disciples"* by Robby Gallaty  
Avenue's Discipleship Committee

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HOSPITAL VISITS:** Please help the pastors by calling the church office at (302) 422-8111 when someone from the church is hospitalized.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** is being offered at Avenue Church. An *Information Sheet with Authorization Agreement* is available on the table in Fellowship Foyer. Simply fill out the authorization agreement and return it to the church office.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** If you want to reserve a Sunday please call the church office then call Milford Plant, Flower and Garden Shop at (302) 422-4961. Flowers are placed in the altar vases up by the cross.

**PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK:** The family and friends of John Mulder, The family and friends of Ryan Bundschuh, The family and friends of Charlie Harding, Dan Smith, Brayden Rosebrook, Lewis Sacks, Kim McClure, Dawn Willis, Alex Olivera's son, Amanda, Safety for the children over summer vacation, Sally and Howard Todd, Emily Zammetti, Vaughn Webb, Two who moved to Atlanta, Jeanie Zaimes, Gilbert Emory, Jill Rauch, Alan Jester, Charlie Fleetwood, Craig, Vicki, Brandon, The Schultes family, Merry, Walt and Ruth Peters, Doris Rickert, Ellan Orkin, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, Ferd Nelson, Jean Hutchman, Johnny Meehan, Kay McFadden, Brenda Beissel, The Fisher family, Elle Sheaffer, Carlton Goodhand, Dot Sophos, Alma Brittingham, Janice Brittingham, Cynthia, Will, Matt, and Steve, Karen Hoch, John Seigrist, Joe, Susan, Jerry, Rich, Marc, Sally, Joan Eisenbrey, Pat Rust, Michele Barto Winn, Dee Ann Mason, Elwood Leary, Pat Dunne, Beth Judy, Lisa Shaw, Glen Stevenson, Kirsten Pearce and John Spillane.

**Praise God for:** The end of the school year.

**PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK:** The family and friends of Charlie Harding, the family and friends of Louis Wooten, the family and friends of Jill Rauch, Anne Spicer, Dan Smith, Brayden Rosebrook, Lewis Sacks, Kim McClure, Alex Olivera's son, Amanda, safety for the children over summer vacation, Sally and Howard Todd, Gilbert Emory, Donna's daughter, Jonathan Whaley, Sandy Woloford, Diane Gehlert's niece, Jenn, Beverly Harrison, Roy, Alan Jester, Charlie Fleetwood, Craig, Vicki, Brandon, everyone getting ready for VBS, the Schultes family, Merry, Gerald Zeveney, Andrea, Sandra Ciappard, Walt and Ruth Peters, Dean, a couple currently in Atlanta looking for jobs, Doris Rickert, Ellan Orkin, Lida Wells, Linda Breedlove, Ferd Nelson, Jean Hutchman, Johnny Meehan, Kay McFadden, Brenda Beissel, the Fisher Family, Mr. Fishe, Elle Sheaffer, Carlton Goodhand, Dot Sophos, Alma Brittingham, Janice Brittingham, Cynthia, George Reph, Will, Matt, Steve, the Pasmore family, all pastors being sent to new churches/charges and the congregations receiving them, Karen Hoch, John Siegrist, Joe, Susan, Jerry, Rich, Marc, Sally, Joan Eisenbrey, Pat Rust, Michele Barto Winn, Dee Ann Mason, Elwood Leary, Pat Dunne, Beth Judy, Lisa Shaw, Glen Stevenson, Kirsten Pearce, John Spillane, all in Milford Hospital and Gerald Burbage.

**Praise God for:** Katie and Oliver, the Kairos Prison Ministry, all fathers especially our Father in heaven.

## **WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:**

### **♫Handbells**

Resume on Monday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫MomentUM Praise Team**

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫Mispillion Children's Chorus**

Resume on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15 p.m., Music Room

### **♫Praise Team**

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **♫Sanctuary Choir**

Resume on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m., Music Room

### **♫AveNotes**

Resume on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## **ANNIVERSARY GREETING TO:**

**Rob and Pat Craig** will celebrate their **51<sup>st</sup>** anniversary on **June 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

**Dave and Judy Passwaters** will celebrate their **61<sup>st</sup>** anniversary on **June 28<sup>th</sup>**

## **UPCOMING**

**MEMORY BOOK PASTOR TOM AND FAMILY** — A memory book will be available to sign on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

**2019 VBS: Mark your calendars as Roar! Life is Wild, God is good starts on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> - Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup>. Dinner is at 5pm for your family (adult required to stay with child until 5:45), VBS starts at 5:50pm and ends promptly at 8pm each evening.**

You can register on-line. Use the link below or pick up a form at church to fill out. If you have any questions, contact the church office (302) 422-8111 or Sarah Pasmore at (302) 841-3143. Roar! Life is wild, God is good (<https://vbspro.events/p/events/avenuevbs2019>)

**VBS:** Needs gallon size storage bags for each student/every night. If you would like to donate, please drop them by the church office. Thank You!

**2019 YARD SALE** - It's coming!! The Yard Sale is coming August 1, 2, + 3! Start saving CLEAN saleable items including gently used shoes. NO books!! NO TVs or any computer items including cords. Bring donations to church weekdays 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday 7/22 thru Monday 7/29. Tuesday 7/30 we will accept items until 2:00 p.m. only - NO exceptions this year! Please think about helping set up and/or on sale days for whatever time you can.

## **WHY RED?**

As we celebrated high holy days of Easter, we enjoyed the beautiful white paraments which symbolize purity, holiness and virtue. Now we move into the season of Pentecost, and change the color of the paraments to red: the color of fire, red symbolizes the presence of God.

The symbols on these beautiful new altar paraments are the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit entwined with the trefoil, a symbol of the Holy Trinity. The Patonce Crosses on each side of center symbols, have expanded ends with three petals on each arm. The three petals represent the Trinity, and the total of twelve petals represent the Apostles.

The center symbol on the pulpit parament, I H S, are the first three letters of the Greek spelling of the Holy Name of Jesus. The symbol on the lectern parament are the descending dove and the Holy Trinity. The symbol on both the bookmarks are Patonce crosses.

## **SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES**

**TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY:** On **June 25<sup>th</sup>**, we will continue our study of Peter by Adam Hamilton. We will meet in the **Heritage 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).

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS:** Summer Sunday for adults led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired plus others meets at 9:30AM on Sunday mornings in the Grier Room. The study for June is "A Fulfilled Covenant." The lesson for June 23<sup>rd</sup> lesson is "Hearts United in Love" based on Colossians 2:1-15. Plan to come as often as you can.

## **COMMUNITY**

**MATTHEW PROJECT:** We are in need of a TV and a baby stroller. Thank you.

**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.

**We are in need of diapers (newborn and size 4), canned tomatoes and cereal.**





**Vacation Bible School**

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>—27<sup>th</sup>**

**5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**





# Bon Voyage!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A  
POOL PARTY & PICNIC HONORING

*The Pasmore Family*

SUNDAY, JUNE 30TH AT 2:00 PM  
SUNSET COVE

3 HAVEN LAKE AVE | MILFORD

ALL FOOD IS BEING PROVIDED

PLEASE RSVP TO CHURCH OFFICE  
(302) 422-8111

# MISSION u 2019

July 18-20, 2019

Pecometh, The Riverview Retreat Center

401 Jack Elliot Way, Centreville, MD. 21617

The Mission Studies for 2019

**Spiritual Growth Study:** *Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship*

Study leader: Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

**Special Study and publication:** *United Methodist Women In Mission: 150 Years and Beyond*

Study Leader: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Registration Forms available on Foyer table

Deadline is June 30, 2019

Price ranges from one day commuter \$75.00 to  
Single room for three days at \$425.00.

See Registration form.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

FAITH – HOPE- LOVE IN ACTION

# CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY 6/23**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Baptism  
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,  
Heritage Room  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
5:50 p.m. VBS

## **MONDAY 6/24**

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
5:50 p.m. VBS  
7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206  
7:00 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> State Harmonizers,  
Fellowship Hall

## **TUESDAY 6/25**

10:00 a.m. Sister's Bible Study,  
Heritage Room  
1:00 p.m. Yard Sale Meeting,  
Fellowship Hall  
5:30 p.m. Preschool CPR Class,  
Heritage Room  
5:50 p.m. VBS  
6:00 p.m. MomentUM, Wesley Room  
7:00 p.m. Central DE Chess Club,  
Room 206  
7:00 p.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary

## **WEDNESDAY 6/26**

9:30 a.m. Hosp. Aux. Planning Session  
Heritage Room  
1:30 p.m. Knitting/Crocheting Group,  
Grier Room  
5:50 p.m. VBS

## **THURSDAY 6/27**

8:30 a.m. Men's Emmaus Reunion Group  
11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room  
2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Group  
5:50 p.m. VBS  
6:00 p.m. Improv Group, Heritage Room

## **FRIDAY 6/28**

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

## **SATURDAY 6/29**

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

## **SUNDAY 6/30**

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Baptism  
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class,  
Grier Room  
10:30 a.m. Bergez Baptism Party,  
Fellowship Hall  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship