

The Midweek

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 From the desk of our Pastors . . .

One of the things I like about the Christmas season is that there are some really good movies that get released into the theater. If you have not yet seen "Harriet" I highly recommend it. This is the story of the Underground Railroad and considering the area of the country we live in and our geographic claim to history on this matter, it's a local interest story as well as an amazing feature about an incredible woman who relied on her faith and trust in God to get slaves out of the south.

I am also looking forward to the Tom Hanks movie about Mr. Rogers. The trailer says "It only takes one person to inspire a world of kindness. And everyone needs a little kindness."

I went to college with his nephew, Dan Rogers, and Dan always said that his uncle was exactly as you saw him on the show. Mr. Rogers really was the kind, caring, thoughtful, gracious man that came out on television. I hope the movie does the man justice and his life is not manipulated for the sake of making a movie.

In this season of love and caring, it is my prayer that this movie will inspire additional kindness in the world. Ephesians 4: 31-32 tells us to "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ, forgave you." Jesus was kind to all who followed Him. As our savior, who gave His life for our sake, there is no greater gift of kindness and compassion than to care for His brothers and sisters in this world. So this Christmas season, let us follow the example of Jesus and perhaps be inspired by Mr. Rogers to show more kindness in the world. And in this way we will bring honor and glory to God forever and ever.

Pastor he



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 Not Too Shabby at (302) 200-0752. Flowers are placed in the altar vases up by the cross.

PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK: Karen Hoch, Bob, Julie, Megan Miller, Craig, pray for the Evan's family, Lee Ann, Bella, My Sister, Donald Trump, Ben, Janice Abbott, Marty and Bill Brereton, Nenda Davis, Leonard Ziesel, and Donna Todd.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: The family and friends of Kirsten Pearce, Jean Layton, Chris, Luisa and Billy Combs, Hadley O'Day, Amanda and Brad, Jenny Hughes Miller, Charlie Fleetwood, Betty and Ramie Ziesel, Laurel Pastor, Kelly Beissel, Janice Abbott, Elle Sheaffer, Ginny Van Tine, Dache Carmine, Lydia Ann Carmine, Bill and Marty Brereton, Phyllis French, Lorraine Reph, Noah Reph, Linda Breedlove, Beverly Harrison, everyone with financial issues, all those seeking a job, everyone with relationship concerns, Merry, Jasper, Kathy, Tommy Zott, Natalie, a dad who needs a skid loader, Davonte Taylor, Craig, DeeAnn, all fighting addiction, parents of children with addiction, Marti Seal, Karen and Michael Tull and family, the family of Austin Martin, Galina Navitskaya and son, Bella, all those who are suffering, and all the men and women in uniform.

Praise God for: His love and mercy.

WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:

\mathcal{F} Handbells Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary **\mathcal{J} MomentUM Praise Team** Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary **\mathcal{J} Mispillion Children's Chorus** Tuesdays, at 6:15 p.m., Music Room **\mathcal{J} Praise Team** Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary **\mathcal{J} Sanctuary Choir** Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m., Music Room **\mathcal{J} 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

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

This past Sunday we announced the partnership with Push Pay to offer online giving from your phone, your laptop, or from our website. This tool creates another avenue for you to worship God and to support the ministries of Avenue Church through your giving. You can give using your Debit Card, Credit Card, or through an ACH transfer. You can give a onetime gift or set up recurring gifts just as you may do with online bill pay. Giving is easy and takes about thirty seconds to set up, and it is secure. Here is how it works:

From Your Cell Phone- Text "avenueumc" to 77977. You will receive a message with a link. Click on the link which will take you to our online giving page.

From Your Computer- In your browser, go to <u>http://www.pushpay.com/pay/avenueumc</u> This link will take you to our giving page from where you can make your gift.

From Our Website- Go to <u>www.avenueumc.com</u> and click on the red "Giving" button in the top-right corner of the homepage. That button will take you to our giving page.

Our leadership is excited about this tool and encourage you to use it as you giving purposefully and joyfully as an act of worship each week! If you have questions about the platform or the process, please contact Pastor Steve or Harriet Davies.

FAMILY ADVENT MEAL- Everyone is invited to join us on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for an Avenue Family Meal. Spend the meal getting to know the rest of the Avenue Family. After the meal, we will learn more about the season of Advent and why it is important in the life of the church and in our personal lives. Meat, Dessert, Drinks, and paperware will be provided, we ask that you bring a dish to share. See you on December 4th!

CONFIRMATION BEGINS DECEMBER 8TH—Our first Confirmation Class will take place on Sunday, December 8th at 4:00 p.m. in The Wesley Room. Confirmation is for students in 7th grade and up who are interested in learning more about what it means to be a Christian and how to live out their faith. Please contact Pastor Steve at <u>srlamotte@avenueumc.com</u> if your teen is planning on attending.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: On **December 3rd**, we will continue our study "A Nation in Crisis—Study Book of Joshua by David Jeremiah. 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.

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDIES: Josh Willey and Dave Reynolds will be teaching this 36 week journey through the Bible. You'll learn the narrative arc of the Bible as well as key themes, terms, and how the Bible applies to your life. Next class will meet **November25**th (Disciple 1) and **November 20**th (Disciple 3)

THE EPIC OF RUTH STUDY will meet on Wednesday evenings. Our next class will be **November 20**th at 7:00 p.m. with Pastor Steve. We will look at the three main characters of

the story of Ruth and see ourselves in those characters, and see how they point us to Christ. Contact Pastor Steve at <u>srlamotte@avenueumc.com</u> for more information.

KNIT/CROCHET GROUP: As Thanksgiving approaches, the basket in the foyer is filling with knitted and crocheted hats and scarves for Milford's students. Everyone is welcomed to add to the supply, whether you have made them or purchased. All will be given to the school during Thanksgiving week.

SUNSHINE BIBLE CLASS FOR ADULTS: The Sunshine Bible Class for adults meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Grier Room. Our study for November is "Objects of Worship." The lesson for November 24th lesson is "The Worship Impulse" based on Acts 17:16-34. This class is taught by Rev. John Van Tine, Retired. Please plan to attend these exciting lessons.

EXPLORING YOUR FAITH BOOK CLUB: Exploring Your Faith Book Club will meet on Sunday December 8 in the Grier Room at 12:15. We will continue our study based on the book "When Did God become Christian?" by David Kalas Chapters 10-12. Please bring any suggestions you may have for our next study. This study is led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired. This group meets on the third Sunday of the month. All are welcome.

A THANKSGIVING TURKEY—THANK YOU: Thank you for your very generous support for turkeys for families. This will assure all the families on the list will have turkeys and you will have given extra for Christmas assistance. See Romans: Chapter 12 – Mark of the true Christian "the giver, generosity..."

CHRISMON: As we begin the advent season, celebrating the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to share gifts with children and some adults of our community, as though we were giving them to Jesus. Avenue's sanctuary Christmas tree will be glowing, adorned with handmade Christmas tags, with the name of a child, adult, or a mission and a desired gift on Sunday 12/1/19 and 12/8/19.

Identifying tags must be taped back onto the wrapped gift and returned no later than Sunday, 12/15/19. Volunteers will be needed to sort gifts in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, 12/15/19. Gifts will be picked up or delivered Monday, 12/16/19. "...the star, which they saw in the east went before them, until it came and stood over where the young child was... and when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshiped him and when they had opened their treasures, they presented to him gifts: gold and frankincense and myrth". Matthew 2:9,11.

Volunteers are needed on **Sunday November 24th at 10:45 a.m**. to string ornament tags in Fellowship Hall. We will also need volunteers on Sunday, December 15th at 12:00 p.m. to sort Chrismon tree packages by family numbers, so families can receive on Monday, December 16th.

HEALTH MINISTRY: "Please fill out the Health Ministry survey and put your completed survey in the Health Ministry box in the foyer". Thank You!

COMMUNITY

MENTORING HELP NEEDED: We are aware of a need at Benjamin Banneker Elementary

School for mentors. Mentoring has been shown to make an impact in the life of the student. The commitment to mentoring can take the shape of your schedule, making it easy to get involved. If you are interested in learning more about mentoring, contact Pastor Steve at <u>srlamotte@gmail.com</u>.

CODE PURPLE: We are close to the beginning of the cold weather season. Code Purple is a ministry housed here at Avenue that provides overnight shelter for homeless men in our community. We are in need of volunteers to assist with Code Purple. If you are interested in learning more about Code Purple and the opportunities to serve, contact Dan Nelson at bubbazanettiz1000@msn.com.

INTERESTED IN OUTREACH? We are looking to gather some folks who are interested in reaching out into the community to share God's love and to connect with our neighbors. If you are interested in being part of this team, please contact Pastor Steve at <u>srlamotte@avenueumc.com</u>.

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: The Milford Community Pantry sends out a BIG thanks to the Milford Lions for a very successful Food Drive. They collected over **2,200** food items and a bit over \$200 in cash for the Pantry. This is always such a blessing and we appreciate the Lions, all the people who came to help us sort and box the items on a Saturday. Surely the presence of the Lord was in the collecting and sorting!!

If you are wondering what else we may need I suggest toilet paper. Thanks to all of you at Avenue who support us through prayers and donations. Also, I want you to know that Mountaire is donating chicken to us now and they deliver! (We previously purchased it from the Food Bank.) Mountaire is a good example of Christian support.

The Diaper Pantry is now open every day and will be done at the Food Pantry during the hours of 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SOUTHERN DELAWARE CHORALE: Tickets are now available for "Carols & Lullabies on **December 8**th at 3:00 p.m. at Epworth United Methodist Church. Adults \$25/students \$10. Season tickets for 3 concerts—December 8, 2019, February 23 and May 3, 2020 are available for \$65. More info go online www.southerdelawarechorale.org.

Health Ministry

November is Healthy Eating Month and Sweet Potato Awareness Month.



https://twitter.com/hashtag/sweetpotatoawarenessmonth?src=hash

MSG interpretation: 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 "These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times. The lavish celebration prepared for us. 18 There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever."

KJV: 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. For out light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory".

December

Avenue Methodist Health Ministry will have a Memory tree called **"Memories"** set up in the foyer. You are welcomed to bring an ornament to place on the tree in memory of your loved one for the Christmas season. We would love to share in the memory of your loved one.

Please keep the ornament within 3 inches in length and width.



The Milford Community Band Southern Delaware's Premier Music Organization

2019 Christmas Concert Schedule

Saturday, December 7 ~ 3:00 PM First Baptist Church⁺ - 301 Walker Road, Dover

Sunday, December 15 ~ 3:00 PM Milford High School Auditorium - 1019 N. Walnut Street, Milford +

FREE ADMITTANCE ~ DONATIONS WELCOME

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

302-398-9394 www.milfordcommunityband.org



Carols & Lullabies



Dr. Colin Armstrong Artistic Director & Conductor

Sunday, December 8, 3pm Epworth United Methodist Church Tickets \$25

For tickets: southerndelawarechorale.org

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



CALENDAR

SUNDAY 11/24

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School Class,
	Grier Room
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
9:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
10:45 a.m.	Chrismon Tags, Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship
2:00 p.m.	Christian Believers Class,
	Holz. Room
2:00 p.m.	Concert: AGO Southern DE,
	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	FUSION, Wesley Room &
	Fellowship Hall

MONDAY 11/25

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Music Room
- 6:30 p.m. Bearr Den, Nursery
- 6:45 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Holz. Room

TUESDAY 11/26

5:00 p.m.	Mispillion Children's Chorus,
	Music Room
6:00 p.m.	MomentUM, Wesley Room

- 6:30 p.m. Pack Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Central DE Chess Club, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY 11/27

1:30 p.m.	Knitting/Crocheting Group
3:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir
5:00 p.m.	Women's Emmaus Reunion Group
6:00 p.m.	AveNotes, Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	The Epic of Ruth Study,
_	Grier Room
7:00 p.m.	Disciple 3 Class, Holz. Room

<u>THURSDAY</u> 11/28 ~ Thanksgiving Church Office Closed

11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room

FRIDAY 11/29

Church Office Closed 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SATURDAY 11/30

7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 12/1 ~ Communion

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School Class,
	Grier Room
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- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Believers Class, Holz. Room
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 272 Meeting, Heritage Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Wesley Room & Fellowship Hall