



# *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, January 22, 2020*

I recently had the opportunity to see the Broadway play “Hamilton” which is the musical show about the life and times of our first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton. It has taken the musical theater world by storm and now that I have seen it, I can understand why. It’s definitely different than what I consider “traditional Broadway.”

My favorite song in the entire production is called “A World Turned Upside Down” and it begins by announcing that the scene will be about the “Battle of Yorktown, 1781.” (You can watch it on YouTube if you want to see what I am talking about.)

The whole story is about how the world was shocked when a “young, hungry and scrappy” United States won the War of Independence against Great Britain, which at the time was a global superpower. With the help and support of France, the world political stage was forever changed.

But that series of events pales in comparison to how “the world turned upside down” when Jesus was born and commenced with His ministry. His followers were also accused of doing the same. “When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities shouting, ‘These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also.’” (Acts 17:6, NRSV)

With everything going on in our denomination, it may feel as if our church world is being turned upside down. Over the past few weeks, I have had scores of people calling or stopping by my office to chat about what the potential outcome of the protocol could be. Please know you are always welcome to stop by and speak with me or Steve, but honestly we don’t know.

Within 72 hours of the announcement, there were both traditional and progressive movements, conferences and groups threatening to pull out while others were considering how they might join. Literally only God knows what is to come.

But that is where we can find our comfort because God does know and its in His hands. While our world may seem upside down and inside out, God is in control, as He always has been and always will be. Compared to when Jesus came into the world, this issue is more of a road bump than a true upending of the world. God brought us to an incredible place because of Jesus. He will do the same as we deal with the future of the UMC.

And to God be the glory forever and ever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Henry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



## Give Online from Your Phone

1. Text "avenueumc" to 77977
2. Click on the Link you receive as a text
3. Make a Gift through Debt/Credit Card or ACH Transfer
4. Type in Confirmation Code (can opt-out of this step in future)
5. Considering make your gift recurring

Go to [www.pushpay.com/pay/avenueumc](http://www.pushpay.com/pay/avenueumc) to give through your computer.

### Upcoming Meetings

- ♦ UMW General Meeting, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
- ♦ Church Council Meeting, January 29th at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**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 one-time 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 <http://www.pushpay.com/pay/avenueumc> This link will take you to our giving page from where you can make your gift.

**From Our Website-** Go to [www.avenueumc.com](http://www.avenueumc.com) 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.

**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.

**END OF THE YEAR STATEMENTS** will be available for pickup **Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** on the Fellowship Foyer table.

**PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK:** The Harrington family, Jan Perkins, Louis LeBlanc, Olive Wuenstsel, Ginny Clendaniel, Jannie Martin, Bev, our denomination, Joe Zammetti and family, Pat Strickland, Dave Sockrider, Linda Breedlove, Jennifer Miller, Muriel Miller, Kim Attix, Janice Abbott, Bill Gaskill and family, Jim, David S., Pam, Jessica, Alex, Jennifer, Brittany Poore, Alan Jester, DeeAnn, Bella Sammy, Frank Martire, Jean Layton, all victims of gun violence, Sean and Megan, the victims and wildlife impacted by the Australian wildfires, Yvonne Nelson, Chris, Joy Benham, David Achut, Craig, everyone seeking a job or promotion, all those with financial issues, Charlie Fleetwood, Esther LaMotte, the nation and its leaders, the situation in Iran, peace, the victims of the Ukrainian plane crash, a marriage in crisis, Bradley and Amanda, and everyone traveling.

**Rejoice with:** All those who know Jesus as savior.

**Praise God for:** Loving us all the time and answered prayers.

**PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK:** The Harrington family, the Henze family, Jan Perkins, K.C. Carter, Olive Wuenstsel, Ginny Clendaniel, Jannie Martin, the UMC denomination, Dave Sockrider, Linda Breedlove, Carmen, Manuel, Natasha, Gary Coulbourne, the Miller family and Amy, Kim Attix, Jean Layton, Janice Abbott, David S., Cheryl C., Bill Gaskill and

family, Jim, Barbara Sidel, Court Massey, Abby's brother and family, Alan Jester, DeeAnn, Bella, Sammy, Frank Martire, Jean Layfield, all victims of gun violence, Sean and Megan, the victims of the Australia wildfires including all the wildlife, Chris, Craig, Tyler Wells, everyone seeking a job or promotion, all those with financial issues, Charlie Fleetwood, this nation and its leaders, peace, a marriage in crisis, everyone traveling, the family of Bill Johnson including Joan, Karen, Mike, Lynne Van Tine, and Ginny, John and Peter Van Tine.

**Rejoice with:** All who know Jesus as savior.

**Praise God for:** Loving us all the time, answered prayers.

#### **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:**

**Larry Wadman** who will celebrate his **92<sup>nd</sup>** birthday on **January 26<sup>th</sup>**.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**Gilbert and Joan Emory** who will celebrate their **67<sup>th</sup>** wedding anniversary on **January 31<sup>st</sup>**.

#### **WEEKLY MUSIC REHEARSALS:**

##### **♪Handbells**

Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

##### **♪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.

#### **UPCOMING**

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** will begin on **Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.** in the Grier Room. Confirmation is for students in grades 7-12 with the aim of teaching the faith to claim it for themselves. Contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com with questions and to RSVP your son/daughter's participation.

This **Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** following the 11:00 worship service a speaker from Brandywine Counseling and Community Services will be coming to share what is going on at the Brandywine Center. Sponsored by the UMW, the covered dish lunch is open to all - men,

women, children and youth. Please bring a covered dish and meet in Fellowship Hall to enjoy food and fellowship and be informed about our new counseling center here in Milford.

We will also be collecting items for the center to share with their clients. **They really need blankets, socks, winter hats, scarfs, and other cold weather items. Please put in the UMW Donation Box in Fellowship Foyer. Thanks and see you there.**

**CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE READING:** In the month of February, we will be reading through the Gospel of Matthew as a community. With 29 days in the month and 28 chapters in Matthew, we'll read one chapter a day. For further interaction, there will be a Facebook post each day where you can leave your thoughts, share your insights, and interact with other members of the community. Join us as we commit to spending time in God's Word!

**GENERAL CONFERENCE 2020** will be held on May 5-15 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. General Conference is a gathering of United Methodist delegates from around the world. It is the only body that can write the doctrine and polity of the church. They will be discussing and voting on all matters regarding the church and our future. As General Conference draws closer, let us pray for the 800+ delegates who will gather in Minnesota and for the leaders of our church.

## **SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES/MINISTRIES**

**EXPERIENCING GOD:** Donny Hopkins will be teaching a class on Experiencing God (13 week course). Our next class will be on **Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in the Grier Room. For more information please contact Donny Hopkins at (302) 381-1083.

**TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY:** On **January 28<sup>th</sup>**, 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:** Next class will meet **January 27<sup>th</sup>** (Disciple 1) and **January 22<sup>nd</sup>** (Disciple 3).

**SUNSHINE BIBLE CLASS FOR ADULTS:** Sunshine Bible Class for adults meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Grier Room. Our study for January is "Covenant." The lesson for January 26<sup>th</sup> lesson is "God's Covenant with Us" based on Jeremiah 31:27-37. This class is taught by Rev. John Van Tine, Retired. Please plan to attend these exciting lessons.

**EXPLORING FAITH BOOK CLUB:** Exploring Your Faith Book Club will meet on **Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>** in the Grier Room at 12:15. We will continue our study "The Dream of God?" by Verna Dozier, Chapter 2. This study is led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired. This group meets on the third Sunday of the month. All are welcome.

**HEALTH MINISTRY:** On **Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30-9:00 a.m. in the Grier Room, Mary Lou Sheaffer will be teaching chair Yoga. Please try to attend and wear comfortable clothes. **NO CLASS ON JANUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>.**

## **COMMUNITY**

**MENTORING HELP NEEDED AND MEETING:** 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, please come to the mentoring meeting on **Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.** in the Jo Wood Lounge. Please attend or contact Beth Parker at [bparke42@comcast.net](mailto:bparke42@comcast.net).

**CODE PURPLE:** 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](mailto:bubbazanettiz1000@msn.com).

**If someone wants to donate socks, gloves, gently used or new jackets and jeans to Code Purple. These items can be taken to the Brandywine day center located in the old Halpern Eye Care location behind the McDonalds. If you take in donations, please ask for Patricia or Cat. Tom Chilton met with them regarding these donations.**

**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 [srlamotte@avenueumc.com](mailto:srlamotte@avenueumc.com).

**MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY:** I would like to thank all of you who give to the Pantry in some way. Avenue members are ready to help those in need! We have been able to help many families thanks to your generous spirit. I want you all to know your support makes a difference. Some of you give through your envelope giving and the Pantry receives those donations in a lump sum each month. Harriet keeps track of that for you but I want to be sure you know we appreciate those gifts even though you don't receive a thank you note. We will continue with the Diaper Closet daily .... That seems to be working. RIGHT NOW, we are good for toilet paper. Thank you and Happy New Year from all of us at The Milford Community Pantry.

You can give to the Pantry through Smile.Amazon; the site will ask you for your charity and you can enter milford community pantry. Be sure to look carefully and select the milford,de site.





Health Ministry

## **MAKE TIME FOR MOVEMENT**



**MORNING**  
Try setting your alarm 30 minutes earlier 2 to 3 times a week. Mornings can be a great time to get a walk in, do some strengthening yoga, or get your metabolism moving with some cardio.



**Abundant Health**  
Global Ministries  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**NOON**  
Take advantage of your lunch break and get moving! Try a nearby gym, or grab a colleague and go for a walk. Plus you feel energized to face the rest of the afternoon.

**Abundant Health**  
Global Ministries  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**AFTERNOON**  
Taking the kids to sports practice? Use the time to get some exercise! Instead of sitting on the sidelines, walk some laps or go for a jog as you wait.



**EVENING**  
When you get home for the evening, go for a walk with the dog or some more intense cardio with a video at home. Evenings are also good times to visit the local gym before or after dinner.

**REMEMBER: EVEN A LITTLE  
BIT IS BETTER THAN NONE!**

Aim to get at least ten minutes of exercise at a time. As you get better and it becomes part of your routine, gradually add more time or challenges until you are getting 2.5 hours a week.

**IT'S NOT ABOUT HAVING TIME, IT'S ABOUT MAKING TIME.**



**Romans 12:1**

**"I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."**





**Health Ministry Committee Meeting**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month 6:30-8 PM in the Heritage Room**  
**Next meeting is February 10<sup>th</sup>**

Remember: Saturday February 15<sup>th</sup>, in Fellowship Hall  
CPR, AED First Aid Training starting at 8:45 AM  
For those that signed up and paid the \$25.00!!

# CATALYST



**Catalyst is a  
gathering time to  
discuss Scripture,  
Pray, and to  
Fellowship**

**This is for 6-12 Grade.  
11:00 AM to 12 PM**

# CALENDAR

## **SUNDAY 1/26**

- 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
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsals, Music Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 12:00 p.m. UMW General Meeting/Covered Dish, Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Music School Recitals, Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Believers Class, Holz. Room
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Grier Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and Wesley Room

## **MONDAY 1/27**

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Bear Den, Nursery
- 6:30 p.m. Experiencing God, Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Music Room
- 7:00 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> State Harmonizers, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Class, Holz. Room

## **TUESDAY 1/28**

- 10:00 a.m. Sisters' Bible Study, Grier Room
- 1:00 p.m. Yard Sale Meeting Committee, Grier Room
- 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 Delaware Chess Club, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal, Wesley Room

## **WEDNESDAY 1/29**

- 1:00 p.m. Mentoring Comm. Meeting, Jo Wood Lounge
- 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.. Church Council Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 3 Class, Holz. Room

## **THURSDAY 1/30**

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Emmaus Group
- 8:30 a.m. Chair Yoga, Grier Room
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 2:15 p.m. Women's Emmaus Reunion

## **FRIDAY 1/31**

- 6:30 p.m. Pinewood Derby Setup, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

## **SATURDAY 2/1**

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

## **SUNDAY 2/2**

- 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
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsals, Music Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Believers Class, Holz. Room
- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scouts Troop 272 Meeting, Heritage Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and Wesley Room