



The Midweek

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

For those of you wondering why I was not in the pictures of the hatchet throwing with the Church leadership team last Friday night, I can set your mind at ease. Yes, I am still a member of the team but I was at home waiting for my new washing machine. As much as I would have loved to have been with everyone who enjoyed the experience, I really needed to be able to wash my clothes. After a month of visits to the laundromat, I was more than ready for the new equipment to be delivered.

The good news is that I am going on vacation starting this Friday so although I didn't get to enjoy the fun last Friday, I have some great plans for time off. And I will be able to do it with clean clothes. (Although when I get back I think I need to get the dishwasher fixed.)

It's important to take time and re-create. Mark 6:31 tells how Jesus stepped away from the crowds to rest and renew himself for it says, "And He said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while.'"

For some reason in this culture, we feel that the busier we are, the more important we appear to others. Busyness becomes a type of idolatry. But God himself rested and commanded we do the same. Being rested makes a huge difference in our ability to get our work done. I am looking forward to the renewal and re-creating.


If you need anything while I am gone, please contact Pastor Steve or the office. I will be praying for you all and look forward to seeing you when I get home.

And to God be the glory forever and ever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pastor Steve", is centered within a light blue rectangular box.

Upcoming Meetings

- ♦ **Church Council Meeting**, January 29th
6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
- ♦ **UMW Board Meeting**, February 3rd
3:30 p.m. in the Grier Room
- ♦ **Leadership Team Meeting**, February 11th
6:30 p.m. in the Grier Room
- ♦ **Trustees Meeting**, February 18th
6:30 p.m. in Grier Room



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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 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 are available for pickup. They are on the Fellowship Foyer table.

PRAYER CONCERNS PAST 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.

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: Jan Perkins, Andrea Prettyman, Jack and Zelda McDuff, K.C. Carter, Jeanie Zaimas, everyone in Puerto Rico, Brian, Betty Gilette, Ginny Clendaniel, Jannie Martin, our denomination, Dave Sockrider, the family and friends of Ming Lau, Linda Breedlove, Amy Arnold, the Miller family, Amy, Jean Layton, Janice Abbott, David S., Cheryl

C., the family and friends of Bill Johnson, Bill Gaskill and family, Jim, Barbara Sidel, Alan Jester, DeeAnn, Bella, Sammy, Frank Martire, all victims of gun violence, the families and friends of Kobe Bryant and those who died with him, Chris, Craig, everyone seeking a job or promotion, all those with financial problems, Charlie Fleetwood, Barbara Fleetwood, this nation and its leaders, peace, a marriage in crisis, and everyone traveling.

Rejoice with: All who know Jesus as Savior and all who have answered prayers .

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

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

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

THE WESLEYAN WAY BIBLE STUDY: Rev. John Van Tine, Retired will be teaching a class on Wednesday nights from 7:00—8:00 p.m. beginning February 5th through April 8th in the Grier Room. The class is the “The Wesleyan Way” by Scott Jones. This class will enable us to make following Jesus a way of life. Plan to attend these classes that will deepen your faith.

LENTEN STUDY ON THE BEATITUDES will be led by Pastor Steve on Thursday's beginning **February 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the Grier Room.** We will be looking at each of the Beatitudes and reading the book *Words from the Hill* by Stu Garrard. If you are interested in signing up for the study, please do so on the sign-up sheet on the round table in the Fellowship Foyer, or by emailing Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Our next class will be on **Sunday, February 16th 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.

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, February 3rd 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 **February 4th**, 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 **February 3rd** (Disciple 1) and **January 29th** (Disciple 3).

SUNSHINE BIBLE CLASS FOR ADULTS: The Sunshine Bible Class for adults meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Grier Room. Our study for February is "Holiness." The lesson for February 2nd is "Holy Place" based on Exodus 3:1-12; February 9th lesson is "Holy Presence" based on Exodus 40:1-28; February 16th lesson is "Holy People" based on Psalm 24:1-6; and February 23rd lesson is "Holy Purpose" based on Isaiah 61:1-11. 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 16th** 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 30th** 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.

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 29th at 1:30 p.m.** in the Jo Wood Lounge. Please

attend or contact Beth Parker at 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.

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.

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.

We need cereal and Sizes 4 & 6 diapers also.



Health Ministry

BE ACTIVE
Let's start with ten minutes of exercise



Abundant Health
Global Ministries
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**MIND
BODY
SPIRIT.**

Abundant Health for All: A global connection of United Methodists striving for mental, physical and spiritual well-being.

Improving health depends on increasing positive behaviors and reducing or eliminating negative behaviors. Below is a questionnaire to help gauge where you are on your health journey. As always, if you have questions or concerns, consult a qualified health professional.

If the majority of your responses fall into:

	Question	USUALLY	SOMETIMES	RARELY
1.	I exercise for 2 hours and 30 minutes (150 minutes) or more every week.			
2.	I am able to physically accomplish my daily tasks without significant effort.			
3.	I eat five servings of fruits/ vegetables daily.			
4.	I maintain a healthy weight within the recommendations specified by a health care professional.			
5.	I have not felt so sad, discouraged, or hopeless or have so many problems that I have wondered if anything was worthwhile in the past month			
6.	I feel happy or content, hopeful, and expect things will get better during difficult times.			
7.	I avoid the use of tobacco products (cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, and pipes) or other habit forming drugs			
8.	I abstain from alcohol (beer, liquor, wine).			
9.	I take time to have meaningful interactions with family and friends			
10.	I spend a portion of every day in personal reflection or prayer			
	Totals:			

Usually: Congratulations! You're developing and maintaining a healthy lifestyle in this area!

Sometimes: You often make the right choices but watch out for occasional slips leading to bad patterns.

Rarely: Consider consulting a health professional to help you move to healthy behaviors for these areas. We want you to be the best you can be!



Health Ministry

Health Ministry Committee Meeting

2nd Monday of the Month 6:30-8 PM in the Heritage Room

Next meeting is February 10th CPR, AED, FIRST AID

Saturday, February 15th CPR, AED, First Aid (Training for those that Signed up). Class starts at 8:45 AM in Fellowship Hall. If you did not Sign up and need this training, please contact Cindy Horsman.

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 2/2 ~ Communion

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Baptism
- 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

MONDAY 2/3

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Wesley Room
- 3:30 p.m. UMW Board Meeting, Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Tiger Den, Heritage Room
- 6:30 p.m. Webelos Den
- 6:30 p.m. Experiencing God, Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, Music 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 2/4

- 9:30 a.m. Archives Meeting
- 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. Lion's Den
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal, Wesley Room

WEDNESDAY 2/5

- 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. Wolf Den, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Voices of Delmarva, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 3 Class, Holz. Room

THURSDAY 2/6

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. Arrow of Light Den, Wesley Room

FRIDAY 2/7

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

SATURDAY 2/8

- 8:00 a.m. Dover District Leadership Training
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Wesley Room

SUNDAY 2/9 ~ Scout 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
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsals, Music Room
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 2:00 p.m. Christian Believers Class, Holz. Room
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and Wesley Room