



AVENUE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

More accidents happen on Mt. Everest when climbers are coming down the mountain than when they are going up. The mountaineers descending are exhausted and possibly distracted as they either focus on where they have been (the summit) or where they have not been (the summit). Either way they can easily fall into the trap of thinking the challenge is over and they let their guard down.

It's all too often the way we find ourselves with prayer. We are on our knees lamenting to God and praying with all our hearts when things are going wrong. That is when we plead for God to step in and help us. However, when we feel as if life is going great, we stop praying and let our proverbial guard down. We may even have the audacity to think our good life is the result of something we have done, rather than give praise to God for his blessings.

Romans 12:12 says, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, and be constant in prayer." Those are critical words: constant in prayer. God wants to hear from us just as much in the good times and when we have joy as He does when we face trials and concerns.

Small indicators are beginning to show that the virus is working its way through society with a potential decline in our future. It is still a way off. But when that happens, not only will we have to resist the urge to race right back to our "past lives" but we will also have to avoid the temptation to stop praying.

Constant in prayer. Let that be our guidance when it comes to talking with God. And always give God the honor and glory.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP ON SUNDAY: Join us on **Sunday at 10:00 a.m.** on Facebook Live as we gather to worship and pray together. If you cannot watch at 10:00 a.m., the video will remain up on our Facebook page. Join us at www.facebook.com/avenueumc

You can also share the live stream on your page, inviting others to worship with us.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT: We want to thank everyone who has continued to give as an act of worship and support over the last several weeks. We know that many of our financial futures are up-in-the-air as jobs are shut-down and routines are disrupted. Your support means that Avenue Church can continue to serve the Milford community through this crisis. If you are able, you can send your gift through the mail to our church office (20 N. Church St. Milford, DE 19963) or by giving online at www.avenueumc.com/give, or by texting 'avenueumc' to 77977. Thank you, again, for your continued support.

PASTORAL CARE: If you know someone who is in need of prayer or a phone call, please call the church office at 422-8111 or contact one of the pastors directly. We are doing limited face-to-face pastoral care visits during this time, but want to make contact any way we can.

PRAYER CONCERNS PAST WEEK: All those infected by the coronavirus and the medical professionals seeking to contain and heal it, Pat Hudson and family, Jennifer Miller, Chris Miller, Larry Hughes, Joe, Donna and Keith Coverdale, Kelly, Donna Hill, Katie Meadows, Julie Dally, Dottie and Jerry Jackson, Ellie Lauckner, Jean Layton, Barb Decker, Jan Perkins, Bill and Marty Brereton, Ed Bailey, Joe and Mary Jo Lear, Craig, Sammy, Bella, Linda Breedlove, Charlie and Barbara Fleetwood, Esther LaMotte, Chris, Laurel Pastor, Tori Nelson, Betty and Ramie Ziesel, Dean Johnson, Jack and Zelda McDuff, Janice Abbott, Luisa and Billy Combs, Joan Wadman, our nation and its leaders, everyone dealing with financial issues, all who are feeling lonely and isolated as a result of the virus.

Rejoice with: Marcee Beilstein, and everyone who has been blessed by God .

PRAYER CONCERNS CURRENT WEEK: For those infected by Covid 19 and the medical teams who are seeking to contain and heal it, the family and friends of Kathy Crystle, the family and friends of David McCarty, Jennifer Miller and her husband Chris, Larry Hughes, Joe, Darren Beilstein, Donna and Keith Coverdale, Donna Hill, Katie Meadows, Julie Dally, Dottie and Jerry Jackson, Ellie Lauckner, Barb Decker, Jan Perkins, Bill and Marty Brereton, Ed Bailey, Ken, Joe and Mary Jo Lear, Craig, Sammy, Bella, Linda Breedlove, Charlie and Barbara Fleetwood, Esther LaMotte, Chris, Laurel Pastor, Tori Nelson, Betty and Ramie Ziesel, Dean Johnson, Jack and Zelda McDuff, Luisa and Billy Combs, Joan Wadman, our nation and its leaders, everyone dealing with financial issues, all those who are feeling isolated and alone.

Rejoice with: Everyone who has been blessed by God.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Bill and Joan Dudley who will celebrate their **69th** anniversary on **April 20th**.

Parker and Maxine Turner who will celebrate their **57th** anniversary on **April 28th**.

UPPER ROOM DELIVERY: The Upper Room Daily Devotional is part of the spiritual formation for many at Avenue. The current issue is almost complete and a new issue will be arriving soon. Picking up an Upper Room is not as simple as it once was, we want to ensure that those who want one can have one. If you would like to receive an Upper Room delivered to your house (with safety precautions taken), then please call the church office at 302-422-8111 or email churchoffice@aveuenumc.com so we can add you to a delivery list. If you are willing to help deliver Upper Rooms in your area, please contact the office as well so we can organize deliveries when the new issue arrives.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT HOME: Since we are unable to meet for Sunday School each week, we are providing a home Sunday School lesson for you to do with your children (or grandchildren!). You can click on the link below for a video lesson. Then use the pages at the end of the MidWeek to lead your children through the lesson. This week's lesson is on Doubting Thomas and the questions we have about God and faith.

1. [Watch the lesson here](#)
2. Read the Parent Page with Kids
3. Have children fill out their questions
4. Do the coloring page.
5. Pray together

We will send out another lesson each week for you to disciple your children at home. Thanks to Sparkhouse for making this curriculum available.

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 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 26th**, 3:00 p.m. deadline to return all Avenue Scholarship applications to the office.
- ♦ **May 12th**, 9:30 a.m. is when scholarships will be awarded, along with gifts and recognition for all the Class of 2020. **Please plan to join us.**

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES DURING CORONA OUTBREAK: There are several opportunities to share the light of Christ during the next several weeks of our new reality.

- Volunteer to help prepare meals at Banneker Elementary School. Contact the church office at 422-8111.
- Donate Money to the schools or two one of the restaurants who are providing meals. They providing out of their bottom line and this is an opportunity to rally around them.
- Check-in on your neighbors who may be lonely, shut-in, or at-risk. Be safe about it, but don't give up on the community.
- Do a grocery run for someone who may have trouble getting out.

GENERAL CONFERENCE POSTPONED - With the spread of the Coronavirus worldwide, The 2020 General Conference, scheduled for May 5th-15th in Minneapolis, MN, has been postponed until 2021. General Conference is attended by over 800 delegates and Bishops from four continents. This decision comes at a time where our denomination was facing questions about a possible split as well as other major decisions around budget reductions and new elected leaders. The body of the General Conference is the only body that can set church doctrine and polity. The Discipline (our church doctrine and polity) set at the called Special General Conference of 2019 is the current church law within The United Methodist Church.

As of this time, there are no new dates for General Conference 2021. As part of The United Methodist Church, we continue to pray for our Bishops, leaders, and delegates who guide our denomination and churches.



March 9, 2020

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 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 24th** at 3:00 p.m. is the deadline to return your applications to the Church Office.
- **May 10th** at 9:30 a.m. is when scholarships will be awarded, along with gifts and recognitions for all the Class of 2020. **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,

Steve LaMotte
Pastor



THE 2020 PAUL RIMMER MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

The Rimmer Scholarship was established at Avenue Church in memory of Paul Rimmer who was an outstanding church musician. This scholarship is designed to assist students in grades 7-11 with musical training. One scholarship is awarded yearly, on Sunday, May 10th at the 8:00 a.m. worship service.

The scholarship is awarded to a student who is:

- 1) currently in 7th – 11th grade,
- 2) currently or has recently been involved in the Music Ministries of Avenue Church,
- 3) willing to use his or her musical talents in the ministry of Avenue Church.

The Scholarship is \$500 which will be paid to a music teacher or music school on your behalf.

Applications are available in the church office. Please return completed applications to the church office by **Friday, May 1, 2020**. Please contact Kevin Chamberlain for more information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K.B.C.", located below the text of the announcement.

Kevin B. Chamberlain
Minister of Music and Organist
Avenue United Methodist Church
20 N. Church Street
Milford, DE 19963
(302) 422-8111 (church office)
(302) 236-1276 (cell)
kbchamberlain@avenueumc.com

2020 Paul Rimmer Music Scholarship Application

Name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please type all answers.

Write a brief statement why you wish to further your musical training.

In a few sentences tell us about your past and present involvement in the Music Ministries of Avenue Church.

In a few sentences tell us how you would use the Paul Rimmer Music Scholarship, and how that would assist you as part of Avenue Church's Music Ministry.

Please enclose a letter from a music teacher describing your current musical proficiency, and your potential for growth.

Please return completed application to Avenue Church by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020.

Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19

How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

CDC on Homemade Cloth Face Coverings

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

Should cloth face coverings be washed or otherwise cleaned regularly? How regularly?

Yes. They should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use.

How does one safely sterilize/clean a cloth face covering?

A washing machine should suffice in properly washing a cloth face covering.

How does one safely remove a used cloth face covering?

Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their cloth face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.



03/26/2020 10/04/2020 10/27/20

cdc.gov/coronavirus

Sewn Cloth Face Covering

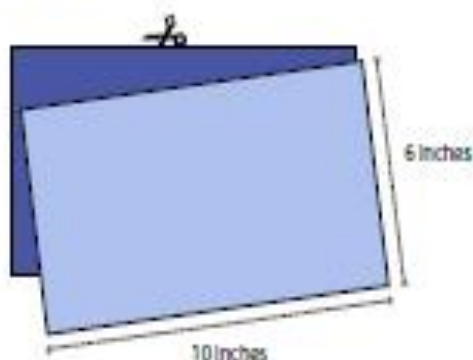
Materials

- Two 10"x6" rectangles of cotton fabric
- Two 6" pieces of elastic (or rubber bands, string, cloth strips, or hair ties)
- Needle and thread (or bobby pin)
- Scissors
- Sewing machine

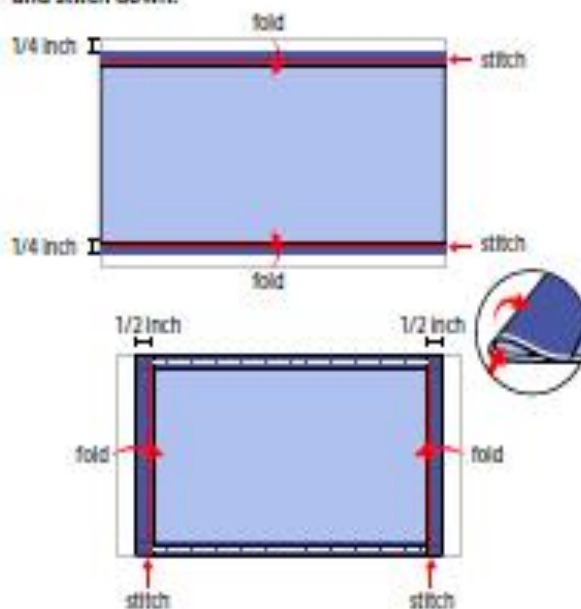


Tutorial

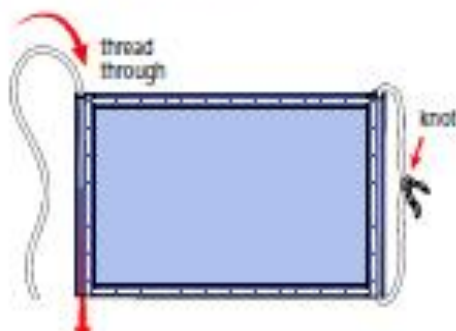
1. Cut out two 10-by-6-inch rectangles of cotton fabric. Use tightly woven cotton, such as quilting fabric or cotton sheets. T-shirt fabric will work in a pinch. Stack the two rectangles; you will sew the cloth face covering as if it was a single piece of fabric.



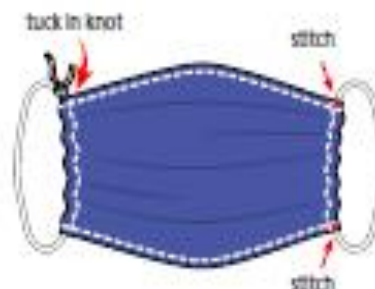
2. Fold over the long sides $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and hem. Then fold the double layer of fabric over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch along the short sides and stitch down.



3. Run a 6-inch length of $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch wide elastic through the wider hem on each side of the cloth face covering. These will be the ear loops. Use a large needle or a bobby pin to thread it through. Tie the ends tight. Don't have elastic? Use hair ties or elastic head bands. If you only have string, you can make the ties longer and tie the cloth face covering behind your head.



4. Gently pull on the elastic so that the knots are tucked inside the hem. Gather the sides of the cloth face covering on the elastic and adjust so the cloth face covering fits your face. Then securely stitch the elastic in place to keep it from slipping.

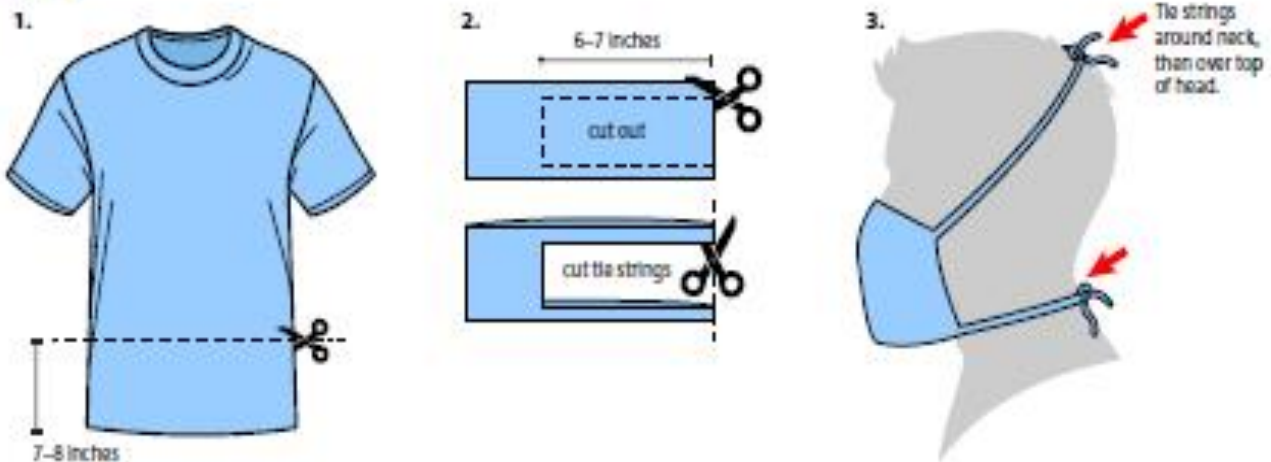


Quick Cut T-shirt Cloth Face Covering (no sew method)

Materials

- T-shirt
- Scissors

Tutorial

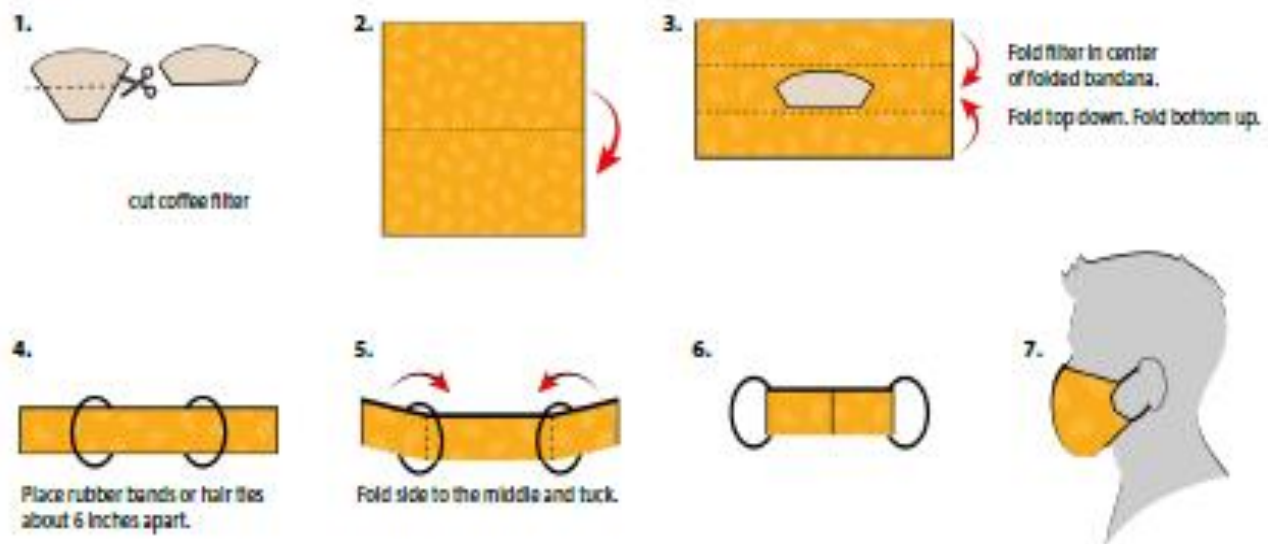


Bandana Cloth Face Covering (no sew method)

Materials

- Bandana (or square cotton cloth approximately 20"x20")
- Coffee filter
- Rubber bands (or hair ties)
- Scissors (if you are cutting your own cloth)

Tutorial



I wonder...

- If Thomas really touched Jesus.
- If the other disciples had doubts.
- What it was like to see Jesus again.



Dad's Coming Home!

"Tim, hurry up! Elena wants to get to there in time to hang the sign she made!"

Tim came down the stairs slowly. He couldn't exactly figure out why, but he was in a rotten mood. Supposedly his dad was coming home today. Tim and Elena hadn't seen him in more than a year—392 days, to be exact. He'd left for Afghanistan before summer started last year. Tim had only been nine.

How would we feel, thought Tim, if this was all a joke and we got there and Dad wasn't really on the bus? He knew the call had come late last night that his dad's plane had landed at the base three states away, but he still couldn't quite believe his dad was going to be home. Elena seemed to have no trouble—she was about to burst. Mom made her make a big sign just to keep her from bouncing off the walls all morning.

When they got to the bus terminal there was hardly room for the sign. Tons of people were there and everyone had a sign and everyone was as excited as Elena. When the bus began to unload, a lot of people wearing fatigues like his dad had been wearing when he left. Elena was bouncing up and down and then she yelled, "There he is! Daddy!" Dad ran and scooped her up and squished her in his hug with Mom. Tim stood off a few feet watching. It still didn't seem quite real. It looked like Dad, except he looked a little different, too. Then Dad was beside him. "Hey, bud," he said as he scooped Tim up, too. Tim was pretty big, but his dad was awfully strong and once he felt his arms he knew right away that it was real. "Dad! You're back!"

Doubting Thomas



Jesus' disciples have moments of faith and moments of doubt.

John 20:19-31

Questions for Jesus

What questions do you have for Jesus?
Write or draw them in the talk bubbles.

Bible Bit

Jesus' disciples made a secret fish sign with two curved lines to let people know they were followers of Jesus.

Bible Bit

It was dangerous to be a follower of Jesus when he was alive, and for some people today, it still is dangerous.

Memory Verse

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" John 20:21

Doubting Thomas



Thomas was the only disciple not there that night. When he got back, the others excitedly told him about Jesus' visit.

Doubting Thomas



Thomas' eyes popped. "My Lord and my God!" he exclaimed.