



The Midweek

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

How should Christians approach an election, whether it is in the church, our state, or our nation? It's a great question to ask and one that the Bible does not address specifically. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, address voting in a letter written on October 6, 1777. He wrote,

"I met with those in our society who had votes in the ensuing election and advised them,

- 1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy.*
- 2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against: And*
- 3. To take care that their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side."*

You could boil down Wesley's advice to this: Don't sell your vote. Don't speak evil of your opponents. Be generous towards those who disagree with you.

This is a great application of Jesus' teaching to "love your enemies" (Matthew 5:44). It is easy to love those who look, think, believe and speak the same way as we do. We are growing in our faith as Jesus' apprentices when we are able to love those who are different from us. This does not remove the ability to hold conversations or spirited debates, but Wesley reminds us of how we are to live with those who believe differently than us.

I am alarmed at how polarized our society has become. We have lost the ability

to love those we disagree with. The Church must lead the way. The Church is a practice lab for us to love our brothers and sisters in Christ who think and believe differently than us. If we cannot do that within the Church, how can we do that in the world?

As November 3rd draws closer, let us commit to embodying Wesley's advice: Don't see your vote. Don't speak evil of your opponents. Be generous towards those who disagree with you. Let us reflect the light and love of Christ in the Church, in our homes, and in our community.

Grace and Peace,



Service Opportunities at Avenue Virtual Café

Avenue is actively opening our doors for students who need a safe and reliable place for virtual learning. We are open on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:00-3:00 p.m. If you are interested in signing up for a three and a half hour shift, follow the link below to sign up to help. You must complete a background check (or have one on file in the last three years) in order to serve in this ministry. Contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com or at 422-8111 for more information.

To sign up to serve, go to: <https://calendly.com/avenuevcafe/vsessions>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP ON SUNDAY: Worship is held each Sunday in-person or online at 9:00 a.m. (Traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (Contemporary). Through the warmer months, we are holding an outdoor evening worship service at 6:00 p.m. We are streaming the morning worship services on our Facebook (facebook.com/avenueumc) and Youtube (youtube.com/c/avenueunitedmethodistchurch) pages.

EVENING WORSHIP : The Outdoor Evening Worship Service is moving to **6:00 p.m.** Bring your chair and blanket and join us on the lawn for a great evening of worship led by our Praise Team.

GIVING AT AVENUE is possible through multiple ways.

- You can give your offering in-person
- You can snail mail your gift to: 20 N. Church St. Milford, DE 19963
- You can give online through the red “give” button on our homepage
- You can text “avenueumc” to 77977 and follow the prompts
- You can download and use our “Avenue Church DE” App on your smart phone

GIVING STATEMENTS for January 1-September 30, 2020 have been emailed to all members/friends who have emails registered with Avenue Church. If you do not have email and would like a print out of your giving statement, please call Kelly at the church office to request one.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The Church Office will be open **Monday through Friday** from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We do ask that you consider using a phone call or email if you are able to accomplish your business before coming into the office.

PASTORAL CARE: If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, please call the church office at 422-8111 or contact a staff person directly. You can also email prayer@avenueumc.com to have your name added to the prayer chain. We are doing limited face-to-face visits during this time, but would be happy to make contact any way that we can.

MILFORD COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY: The Milford Community Pantry continues to operate on Tuesday’s and Friday’s from 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. We seen an average of 4-6 families each day. We are also seeing families in need of diapers from our Diaper Closet. If you need food at another time please call Tita Lewis at (302) 236-6616.

Our current needs are cereal (without sugar coating), saltines and chunky soup. For the Diaper Closet we need wipes and sizes 4 and 5 diapers. We have a good supply of newborn and size one. Thank you so much for your ongoing support, Tita and Diane.

HELP WANTED! AVENUE GREETER TEAM: The Avenue Greeter team needs your help. We’re inviting you to join and help serve in this ministry. No experience needed, just a friendly smile and some of your time (a few Sunday mornings throughout the year). If you’re interested, please call John Horsman at (302) 222-6642.

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING: There will be a Young Adult Gathering on **Sunday, October 18th** at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will have lunch together and be discussing how to develop habits to grow in our faith. If you are 19-35ish, come on out and join us! Please RSVP

by emailing Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com

PRAYER GATHERING FOR OUR NATION: Avenue will be gathering for a time of prayer on **Wednesday, October 28th at 6:30 p.m.** for a time of prayer for our nation as we prepare for the 2020 election. Our time together will be filled with worship, corporate prayer and repentance, as well as times of guided prayer. Please RSVP for the Prayer Gathering by emailing Kelly at churchoffice@avenueumc.com

ALL-SAINTS DAY IS NOVEMBER 1ST: During our worship gatherings on **Sunday, November 1st** we will be holding a time of remembrance for the saints who have gone on to glory over the course of the previous year. Please make plans to join us for this special time of worship.

OUTDOOR SERVICE IS MOVING INDOORS: On **Sunday, November 1st**, the Outdoor Evening Service will be moving in to the Sanctuary for worship at 6:00 p.m. Participants will need to wear masks and practice social distancing while inside the building. Our outdoor “experiment” was a lot of fun this summer and is likely to return when the weather is nicer and the daylight longer in 2021.

DISCIPLESHP OPPORTUNITIES

UMW BOARD MEETING: On **Wednesday, November 4th** we will meet in the Century Club at **3:30 p.m.**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD OR SHOEBOX MINISTRY has a special place in the heart for many. Due to the pandemic, there are 2 options this year.

You can order a shoebox to be made for you by paying \$25.00 to Brenda Biesel. She has items that she has purchased at good prices throughout the year to make a great box for you. The price includes shipping. You can call her at (302) 270-1764 to see if she is able to make a box for you.

Second choice is to do it yourself which includes delivering shoebox to one of the distribution places and including shipping charges. There are some empty boxes and a brochure in the foyer closet. Pick up a box and brochure and enjoy. Shipping cost is \$9.00 to be included in the box. Boxes can be dropped off between November 16th and 23rd. Last year the Boys and Girls Club in Milford was a drop off place and Calvary Church on Route 10 in Dover. These and other places will be confirmed later.

TUESDAY MORNING SISTERS' BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday Morning Sisters' Bible Study will be meeting at **10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**. We will continue our study of Jonah with Priscilla Shirer on **October 20th**.

INTERESTED IN LEADING A SMALL GROUP STUDY: One thing many of have missed during the COVID-19 outbreak is the opportunity to be in relationship with others. Small Group ministry can provide the opportunity for growth in our walk with God as well as growing our relationship with others. If you have an interested in leading a online or in-person small group (we'll train), please contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS: The Sunshine Bible Class for adults led by Rev. John Van

Tine, retired is meeting under the shade tree on the New Century Property next to the Church at 10:15AM. Our study for October is "Remember Who You Are." The lesson for October 18th lesson is "Food for Our Souls" based on Nehemiah 8:1-12; and the lesson for October 25th is "One With Christ and One Another" based on Luke 22:14-20. Feel free to join us under the tree for these exciting lessons. Please bring your own chair.

PRAYER TEAM: We are overhauling our prayer team and creating opportunities for Prayer Gatherings as we cover our church, community, and world in prayer. This will include weekly times of prayer. Down the road, we would like to have a prayer team active at each worship service. If you feel God nudging you to go deeper in prayer as we seek revival in our community, contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com.



Flu vaccine at Avenue Church!!
This is not the COVID-19 vaccine

Flu vaccine drive by station will be at the church on October 18, 2020 8:30 a.m.-12:00p.m. Forms requiring your information and insurance information will be available online and at the church. All paperwork must be completed ahead of time!! We have the pharmacist for 3.5 hours only. If you have any questions, please let me know.

You must bring the completed paperwork in order to get the flu vaccine. Forms are available in the church office.

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

- **Charlie & Barbara Fleetwood** will be celebrating their **51st** anniversary on **October 18th**.
- **Bob & Joyce Voshell** will be celebrating their **62nd** anniversary on **October 25th**.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- **Chip & Gabby McKinney** for the birth of their daughter, Juliana who was born on October 9, 2020. Juliana is the granddaughter of Chuck and Sandy Culotta.
- **Stevie Jane Reynolds** who baptized Sunday, October 11th. Stevie was born on November 26, 2019 and is the daughter of Brad and Ashley Reynolds.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Those affected by the COVID-19, Medical Staff, and those working on a vaccine
- Our local, national, and world leaders
- Our District Superintendent (Rev. Dr. Kyung-Hee Sa), Bishop Peggy Johnson, and The United Methodist Church
- The Pastors, Staff, and Leadership of Avenue United Methodist Church

PRAYER REQUEST:

Susan Allen
Amberley Arter
Ed Bailey
Frank Beebe
Bobby Bergez and family
Bill & Marty Brereton
Bob Cage
Brittany and Baby Naomi
Jennifer Clarke
Pat Clearly
Jack & Denny Collins
Luisa & Billy Combs
Donna and Keith Coverdale
Julie Dally
Josiah Davis
Joanna Denney-Turner
Ken Fechter
Charlie & Barbara
Fleetwood
Dylan Fox
Kathleen Friedline
Charles Glenn
Ellen Coulbourne Hall
Al Hanna

Craig Hanna
Dave Harris
Pat Hudson
Doris Isele
Karl Isele
Dottie & Jerry Jackson
Alvin Jarrell
Dean Johnson
Kourtney
Doris Koon
Rhoda & Greg Kurz
Ellie Lauckner
Jean Layton
Johnny
Mary Jo Lear
Lauren Lee
Nancy Lee
Brittany Poore Little
Lyn
Jack & Zelda McDuff
Ricki McGuire
Frank Mentusky
Orville Mills
Jason Neall

Mary Ellin Parsons
Laurel Pastor
Jan Perkins
Melissa Poore
Bob Randolph
Millie Remick
Roy Rigby
Lorna Rosella Rulona
Phil Saint
Char Sandifer
Richard Sapp
Leo Shew
Roland Simms
Racheal Simesak
Gary Simpson
John Smallwood and family
Ann Sutcliff
Teresa
Joan Wadman
Ginny Van Tine
Betty Ziesel

Fusion Fall Schedule

October 4th- Fusion 3 PM-5 PM

October 9th- Movie Night 6:30 PM

The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe- PG

October 11th - No Fusion

October 18th - Fusion 3 PM-5 PM

October 25th - Fusion 3 PM-5 PM

October 31st 12 PM-3 PM Paintball

@ Precision Paintball Georgetown, DE

November 1st - No Fusion



@FusionatAvenue



@fusionatavenue



@FusionatAvenue



Remind App: Text @fusavenue to 81010



Witness to Our Faith

Each week in the Avenue Midweek, members and friends of Avenue UMC will be sharing their own personal witness of faith. This column will be coordinated by Janice Abbott who will be seeking volunteers and writers who are willing to share their stories. Each article is due one week in advance and should be sent to Kelly at the Church office so there will be time to add it to the newsletter. It will appear the following week. It will be inspirational to read each week how God has blessed each person/family today and through the years. If you would like to contact Janice to volunteer, please call her at (302) 943-7278.

From: Connie Fox

I remember going to Avenue as a little girl with my grandmother Willis, we would go to Sunday School and then on the church service. I remember kneeling on the floor and writing on a piece of paper during the service. Once I was in school than I stayed in the nursery and helped. When in middle school, we had a teach by the name of Mr. Dallas Hitchens that taught us all about the Bible and started us on our journey of faith. I learned a lot from Mr. Hitchens and to this day still remember all the important things he taught us. As middle schooler we all joined the church (that was 65 years ago). My faith has grown stronger over the years and I try to live the way God has taught us through the Bible. My favored passage in the Bible is John 3: 16 *God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that everyone who has faith in him may not die but have eternal life.* The other passage is *due unto others what another does to you.*

Like Abraham when I was married, I left my family and started a new family. My faith grew stronger with each child we brought into the world. As they grew up, I watched them grow in their faith. There were a lot of times I am immensely proud of them and knew God had given them to me to be proud of. Now I have 6 grandsons, 2 step-grandsons, and 2 great granddaughters and 1 step grandson to be proud of. When Duane was in his last days here on earth, I felt God comforting me. Then in the end peace was felt that he was now in God's hands and out of pain.

Through my faith I try to work not by word but by what I try to do for others and what I try to do for the church.



Similarities:

Both COVID-19 and flu can have varying degrees of signs and symptoms, ranging from no symptoms (asymptomatic) to severe symptoms. Common symptoms that COVID-19 and flu share include:

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/flu-vs-covid19.htm>

Flu Symptoms

Influenza (flu) can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Flu is different from a cold. Flu usually comes on suddenly. People who have flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- cough
- sore throat
- runny or stuffy nose
- muscle or body aches
- headaches
- fatigue (tiredness)
- some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea .


This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19 <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>



IS IT A COLD OR FLU?

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU
Symptom onset	Gradual	Abrupt
Fever	Rare	Usual
Aches	Slight	Usual
Chills	Uncommon	Fairly common
Fatigue, weakness	Sometimes	Usual
Sneezing	Common	Sometimes
Chest discomfort, cough	Mild to moderate	Common
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Headache	Rare	Common

#FIGHT FLU



“Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will up hold you with my victorious Right hand.”

Isiah 41:10