



AVENUE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, April 21, 2021*

A new Gallup research article has caused a buzz on the internet for church leaders. The percentage of Americans who identify as a member of a church, synagogue, or mosque has fallen below 50% for the first time in the 80 years that Gallup has been tracking such trends. This isn't a surprise for anyone who has watched the research as those identifying with a faith has decreased, while the "nones" have increased. Like many other stories you find on the internet, there has been a lot of saber-rattling about these statistics. Like many statistics, the talking heads don't often get into the nuances of the numbers. Since reading the article, I've been thinking about what this means for Avenue, especially in light of COVID.

The answer that I've been wrestling with is this: **We cannot go about during "church" the same and expect different results than we are getting.** We must find fresh ways to communicate and pass along the timeless Good News of God through Jesus Christ. To put it Biblically, we cannot place new wine in old wineskins (Matthew 9:14-17). New wine requires new wineskins.

W. Edwards Denning writes:

*"Every system is perfectly designed to get the results that it does."*

If our systems in our church are producing diminishing results then we must change the systems, processes, and ways we go about living as the Church. We cannot sit on our hands thinking that people are going to just show up in our sanctuary just because we are here. The Bible does not teach a **"come and see"**

method of living as the Church. We are called to “**Go and Tell**” (Matthew 28:18).


There is a great opportunity in the statistics- There is a lot of room for new and creative ministries! There is a need to create new ways of sharing the timeless truths of the Gospel. I want to invite you to be prayerful about the system we have in place at Avenue and whether or not we are happy with the results (people coming to faith, growth in discipleship, etc.). Ask God to reveal new opportunities for Avenue Church to be the hands and feet of Christ in the community and world in order to live out The Great Commission!

Let's Go!

*Pastor Steve*

To Read More: <https://news.gallup.com/poll/341963/church-membership-falls-below-majority-first-time.aspx>

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**This Sunday!**  
**Fusion 6PM to 8pm**  
**Nerf Battle**  
**TrueYou:**  
**The Rescued You**

## 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). We are streaming the morning worship services on our Facebook ([facebook.com/avenueumc](https://facebook.com/avenueumc)) and Youtube ([youtube.com/c/avenueunitedmethodistchurch](https://youtube.com/c/avenueunitedmethodistchurch)) pages.

**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

**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](mailto: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.

**VACCINATIONS AND WORSHIP:** We are so excited and hopeful to hear about members of the Avenue family getting vaccinated. While you may be fully vaccinated, it is still the requirement of Avenue Church (and the State) to wear a mask when you are in the building and attending worship. While we long for the day where we do not have to wear a mask and where we can hug one another, we are not yet there. Please continue to do your part to love your neighbor by wearing your mask and practicing social distancing. Thank you!

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Avenue offers a number of scholarships each spring. Graduating Seniors can get applications from our website ([www.avenueumc.com/scholarships](http://www.avenueumc.com/scholarships)). Then complete the applications on your computer and return them to Mrs. Hudson at [churchoffice@avenueumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com). Handwritten applications will not be accepted. **Please keep these two dates in mind:**

- ♦ **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**, 3:00 p.m. deadline to return all Avenue Scholarship applications to the office.
- ♦ **May 9<sup>th</sup>**, 10:30 a.m. is when scholarships will be awarded, along with gifts and recognition for all the Class of 2021. **Please plan to join us.**

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR WORSHIP RESERVATION:** As we continue to adapt our worship services to meet the State guidelines and best practices in the midst of a pandemic, **we are asking each person/family planning on attending worship to make a reservation.**

**On Thursday afternoon we will be sending out an email with the reservation link.**

By following the link, you can make a reservation for service you plan on attending (9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.) and you will be able to choose to sit in the sanctuary or in overflow seating in Fellowship Hall. You can access the link at: <https://avenueumc.thersvpapp.com>

If you do not make a reservation, it is possible you will be seated in Fellowship Hall if the sanctuary has reached capacity. You will need to do this every Sunday you plan on attending worship. Please call the church office at 422-8111 if you cannot make the reservation online.

**SUMMER KICS LAUNCHES SUNDAY:** Spring Break has ended and the weather is getting warmer, which has us all thinking about summer! Since we've missed Sunday School for the past twelve months, we are ready to launch SUMMER KICS a few weeks early.

Summer KICS will take place during the 10:30 a.m. worship service for kids ages 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade (Kids 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up can remain in the sanctuary and worship as a family). KICS Kids will be released to Fellowship Hall prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson and activities. They can be picked up in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

Kids will be socially distanced and must wear a mask while in KICS. Activities will be appropriate for the time and there will be at least two adults helping with KICS. If you have questions about SUMMER KICS, please email our Sunday School Superintendent, Patty Shockley at [pws210@comcast.net](mailto:pws210@comcast.net). **Next class is on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SERVE ON SUNDAYS?** As we continue to move towards a more open worship experience on Sunday morning, there will be additional opportunities to serve. We are seeking people who have passions and interest in serving in several areas to help continue to make Sunday Worship the best experience possible. Below are a few places we are creating or reshaping. If you are interested in serving in an area, please email Pastor Steve at [srlamotte@avenueumc.com](mailto:srlamotte@avenueumc.com).

- **Greeters:** Are the first line of contact for guest. Must be upbeat, helpful, and willing to make a great first impression.
- **Ushers:** Work inside the sanctuary to help guest find a seat, dismiss worshippers after service, help with a head count, and make worship a great experience by serving others. When appropriate, ushers will also assist with offering.
- **Nursery Team:** We are looking for adults of all ages to be on a list of back-ups to help our nursery staff when there is a vacation or illness. This ensures that our nursery stays open to serve families at both services.
- **Connection Center/Guest Services:** This is a new ministry area that will help connect new attenders to the life of the church. In this ministry, you will receive connect cards, answer questions about worship and the church, and help people get connected to ministries and opportunities for Spiritual Growth. To serve in this ministry, hospitality and a desire to connect is a must!

**MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY:** There is an easy way to help **Milford Community Pantry** if you are an Amazon shopper. Instead of ordering through Amazon.com go to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com). The first time you will need to designate the charity you wish to support; after that your charity is established and Amazon knows who you support. In the search enter Milford Community Pantry, Milford, Delaware. It is easy and there is a full explanation on their page of how they support communities throughout the world. Just by shopping as you ordinarily do a portion of each dollar you spend goes to The Pantry. Amazon send us a check for our portion. If you have any questions please call Tita Lewis at (302) 664-1321.

**OFFICE OPEN-DOORS CLOSING:** With the increase in cases of COVID-19 in our area and in an effort to limit traffic in the church, we will be keeping the main entrance doors locked during

the week even while the office remains open for the short-term. There is an intercom available at the main entrance should you need to get inside the church. We encourage everyone to utilize email and phone calls, when possible, to limit the need to come to church. We thank everyone for helping to keep our staff and volunteers safe during this time. **Church Office Hours are Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.**

**AIRMAN OUTREACH - You may or may not know that a lot of the young men and women stationed at Dover Air Force Base are away from home for the first time. They may be lonely, scared, and isolated. Airman Outreach is an opportunity to build relationships with these young men and women, give them a family away from home, and provide a sense of community and belonging. Some ways this can be done are to invite them to a family function, teach them a skill (cooking, working on cars, etc.), and find a common hobby. The idea is to meet with them, communicate with them, and let them know we are there for them. If you are interested in this new ministry or would like more information, please contact Karen Williams via email at [mkwill95@comcast.net](mailto:mkwill95@comcast.net) with "Airman Outreach" in the subject line. You can also text or call her at 302-393-6467.**

**2021 GRADUATES:** If you have a family member that is graduating (high school/college), please send an email to Kelly at [churchoffice@avenueumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com) with the information and a picture. We will be listing the 2021 graduates in June.

## **DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS:** The Sunshine Bible Class for adults led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired is meeting in the Wesley Room at 10:15 a.m. Our study for April is “New in Christ.” The lesson for April 25<sup>th</sup> lesson is “Vessels for the Lord” based on 2 Corinthians 4:7-20. Feel free to join us in the Wesley Room for these exciting lessons.

**SISTERS BIBLE STUDY IS BACK—** We’ll be “Chasing Vines” with Beth Moore for 6 weeks beginning **May 11<sup>th</sup>** at 10am in Fellowship Hall. Any questions, please call Brenda Powers at (302) 422-8821.

## *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: Kaye Majoch*

Faith of our fathers ... and mothers...

Belonging to Avenue Church has always been a part of my life. When my parents moved to Milford in the 1946, they joined Avenue at the invitation of Norman and Mary Grove. I am eternally grateful to both my parents and the Grove family for that. I was baptized by Dr. Frank Herson in the parsonage which stood at the corner of Church Avenue and NW Front Street. One of my earliest memories is of strawberry festivals which were held on the lawn of the parsonage in late May. Another is of a five year old me in Sunday school insisting a certain small wooden chair of mine and that no one else should dare sit in it. (Perhaps that foretold my desire to sit in the same pew each Sunday where my late parents always sat.) To my Sunday school teachers—Mrs. Florence Travers, Mrs. Alma Rust, Mr. Dallas Hitchens , and all the rest, I give posthumous respect and gratitude for their devotion to my Christian development and that of many other. Sunday school brings back wonderful memories of loving hymns, Bible verses, friendships that have endured to this day. Whenever we traveled, my sister and I would attend Sunday school in the local church—this helped in the acquisition of many years of Sunday school pins. Methodist Youth Fellowship was an important part of church life, as was attending Camp Pecometh as a young teen where I first accepted Christ. All these steps laid the foundation for a life of faith.

My parents set an excellent example. I remember my mother praying on her knees each night, my father reading the Upper Room almost to his dying day. They rarely talked openly about their faith, but I knew it was there from the way they lived and the way they treated others. There was an underlying blessed assurance that they knew of God's love and grace.

I have an early memory of visiting my grandmother's home in Mt. Airy, Maryland. She was a member of Calvary United Methodist Church there and I know must have encouraged my father in his faith. Looking out the window of her small kitchen, one could see Sugarloaf Mountain in the distance—"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills ....." I credit this with my early love of hills and mountains and the inspiration and comfort I am blessed to receive from nature's beauty. I feel hard-wired with an appreciation of God's handiwork as evidenced in the intricacies and interconnections of nature. I always pray when I take a walk, giving thanks for my ability to walk, for having a safe place to walk, and for the beauty of a tree, a bird, a beautiful sky. Be still and know that I am God.

With God's grace, my faith has sustained me throughout my life-reading some letters I wrote over fifty years ago to a dear friend (another blessing in my life), I revisited the words of faith and encouragement I had written as a young woman. They are even more powerful today. I have to mention the late Jannie Martin as a model of faith and endurance. We worked together for years at Milford High School and she led a small group at Avenue that I joined years ago. Despite lengthy health issues, she grew in her faith, leading Bible studies at her nursing home, strengthening others with her love. Another of great faith who is an example of an angel on Earth is my friend Gwen Fountain, a former coworker. Always ready with a prayer and helping hand, it is a blessing to know her. Throughout the pandemic and the changes it has wrought in us all, I am grateful for the strength I receive from my faith. And so I thank my parents, my church, and the Lord for all that I have and am. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus my Lord.

Kaye Majoch

**ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:**

- **Parker and Maxine Turner** who will celebrate their **58<sup>th</sup>** anniversary on **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**SYMPATHY TO:**

- The family and friends of Mary Jo Lear who passed away on April 14, 2021.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

- Those affected by the COVID-19, Medical Staff, and distributing the 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:**

George Babel  
Bob Cage  
Brittany and Baby Naomi  
Jennifer Clarke  
Bob Colbourne  
Jack & Denny Collins  
Luisa & Billy Combs  
Violet Condif  
Lauren Connell  
Linda Cottrill  
Craig  
Julie Dally  
Joanna Denney-Turner  
William Ernst  
Carolyn Evans  
Charlie & Barbara  
Fleetwood  
Jayne Frank  
Gail and Jeffrey  
Bonnie Glenn  
Matt Hall  
Dave Harris  
Beverly Harrison  
Steve Hofer  
Karl Isele  
Ron Ivory  
Jerry & Dottie Jackson  
Alvin Jarrell  
Dean Johnson  
Linda Kemp  
Kay Kness

Doris Koon  
Rhoda & Greg Kurz  
Jean Layton  
Lauren Lee  
Nancy Lee  
Brittany Poore Little  
Jack & Zelda McDuff  
Ricki McGuire  
Jennifer McNamara  
Frank Mentusky  
Orville Mills  
Kathryn Avery Mitchell  
Tiffany Mitchell  
Stan Moody  
Virginia Moser  
Jason Neall  
Ariel Ownes  
Alan Parker  
Mary Ellin Parsons  
Laurel Pastor  
Jan Perkins  
Millie Remick  
Roy Rigby  
Dick Roberts  
Lorna Rosella Rulona  
Phil Saint  
Richard Sapp  
Alice Sellers  
Roland Simms  
Racheal Simesak  
Gary Simpson

Linda Singleton  
Samuel Smith  
Julianna Starling  
Kathy Sullivan  
Joan Tolbert  
Gene Topolski  
Joe Valentine  
Joan Wadman  
Mary Lou Walters  
TJ Webb  
Betty Ziesel





*“But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.’”*

*Matthew 19:14*

## ADHD

### Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Fact Sheet

Learn about ADHD and what to do if you have concerns.

#### What is ADHD?

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is one of the most common neurobehavioral disorders of childhood. It is sometimes referred to as Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). It is usually first diagnosed in childhood and often lasts into adulthood. Children with ADHD may have trouble paying attention, controlling impulsive behaviors (may act without thinking about what the result will be), or be overly active.



#### What are some of the signs of ADHD?

Many children have trouble focusing and behaving at one time or another. However, children with ADHD do not just grow out of these behaviors. The symptoms continue and can cause difficulty at school, at home, or with friends.

A child with ADHD might:

- daydream a lot
- forget or lose things
- squirm or fidget
- talk too much
- make careless mistakes or take unnecessary risks
- have a hard time resisting temptation
- have trouble taking turns
- have difficulty getting along with others

Deciding if a child has ADHD is a several step process. There is no single test to diagnose ADHD, and many other disorders, like anxiety, depression, sleep problems, and certain types of learning disabilities, can have similar symptoms. One step of the process involves having a medical exam, including hearing and vision tests, to rule out other problems with symptoms like ADHD. Another part of the process may include a checklist for rating ADHD symptoms and taking a history of the child from parents, teachers, and sometimes, the child.

#### What can I do if I think my child may have ADHD?

Talk with your child’s doctor or nurse. If you or your doctor has concerns about ADHD, you can take your child to a specialist such as a child psychologist or developmental pediatrician, or you can contact your local early intervention agency (for children under 3) or public school (for children 3 and older). In order to make sure your child reaches his or her full potential, it is very important to get help for ADHD as early as possible. You can contact the Center for Parent Information and Resources <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/find-your-center/> to find a Parent Center near you.

CDC sponsors the National Resource Center, a program of CHADD – Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder. The National Resource Center operates a call center with trained staff to answer questions about ADHD. The number is 1-800-233-4050. Their website has links to information for people with ADHD and their families <http://www.help4adhd.org/NRC.aspx>.

**Additional Information:** <http://www.cdc.gov/adhd> 1-800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities