



The Midweek

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Waffle House Church

I love the convenience and the food at Waffle House. The hash browns are my favorite. I like getting my hash browns "scattered, smothered, and covered." If you're not a Waffle House aficionado, I will explain. "Scattered" is the potato covering your plate, "smothered" with onions, and "covered" in cheese. If a customer wants a heart attack, you can get your hash brown "all the way:" all the previous toppings plus smoked ham, diced tomatoes, jalapeno peppers, grilled mushrooms, chili, and sausage gravy. I'm getting hungry already!

Waffle House hash browns may be a great example of how Christians are to live. We are to be "gathered, covered, and scattered." For centuries, Christians have gathered to worship God and to encourage one another in fellowship. On the first day of the week, Resurrection Day, we come together to proclaim the truth that Jesus is the Son of God, has risen from the dead, and the hope that we, too, will experience resurrection. In the Cross of Christ, the blood of Jesus covers us. We are not covered, but Jesus' death covers and forgives our sins and makes us a new creation. Being covered means we no longer belong to the world but Jesus. Finally, our ministry and mission scatter us out from the church. We are dispersed to our neighbors, co-workers, and family to share the Good News about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. God calls each of us into ministry to our neighbors and the world.

This Sunday, we will gather together for our Fall Kick-Off at 10:00 a.m. It will be a time of worship and celebration for our entire church family. It has been two

years since we have been able to gather like this. We will worship God who covers our sin through Jesus' work on the cross. We will be scattered from the Church to Milford, Lincoln, Ellendale, Harrington, Houston, Frederica, Camden-Wyoming, and many other places in our community to live as the hands and feet of Christ. I hope you will make plans to join us as we begin this new season of ministry at Avenue.

Pastor Steve

A promotional poster for Avenue Church's Fall Kick-Off event. The background is light blue with a border of autumn leaves in shades of red, orange, and yellow. At the top, the word "AVENUE" is written in large, bold, dark brown capital letters. Below it, "FALL KICK-OFF" is written in large, bold, red capital letters with a lightning bolt graphic through the "K"s. Underneath that, "KICKING OFF THE FALL SEASON" is written in smaller, bold, dark blue capital letters. The event details "SUNDAY, SEPT. 19, 2021 | WORSHIP 10 AM" and "AVENUE CHURCH (20 N. CHURCH ST. - MILFORD, DE)" are written in bold, dark brown capital letters. Below the text, there are four circular icons in orange: a person with arms raised (labeled "INSPIRING WORSHIP"), a book with a cross (labeled "UPLIFTING MESSAGE"), a football (labeled "GAMES & ACTIVITIES"), and a food truck (labeled "FOOD TRUCKS"). At the bottom center is a large, detailed illustration of a brown football with black laces. In the bottom left corner, there are social media links: "avenueumc.com", "f @avenueumc", and "i @avenuechurchde". In the bottom right corner, there is a circular logo with a stylized "A" inside.

Mask Are Recommended, But Not [Yet] Required

As our attendance numbers continue to increase and we head into the Fall, it is a good time to remind everyone of Avenue's COVID protocols. We want to remain vigilant and continue to create space that is safe and welcoming. Other than two Sundays, Avenue has been able to remain open for worship since July 2020. To continue, we need everyone to show care and concern for one another by putting others ahead of our own preferences.

We continue to ask that unvaccinated persons wear masks while in the building. This is one of the best way (along with social distancing) to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Children, over the age of 2, who have not been vaccinated should also wear a mask while in worship.

An important part of our church family is the ability to hug, shake hands, and experiences positive physical touch. There is something healing about a hug. As we've learned in the last 16 months is that there is also a risk to physical touch. Please continue to practice social distancing as best as possible. The CDC recommends 3 feet of distance between households and people. Avenue continues to provide hand sanitizer throughout the building to help reduce the spread of germs.

We love seeing each of you on Sunday mornings. Let us continue to do our part to make it possible for us to come together in-person for worship. Let us not grow weary of doing good and caring for our neighbors around us.

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) and Youtube (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 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 by contacting Dan Holt, our *Pastor of Congregational Care*. You can email Pastor Dan directly at dholt@avenueumc.com.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The Church Office is open Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We asked that you use the main entrance to access the office during business hours. All guest will need to buzz in on the intercom to be let in.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: We are so excited to have Sunday School up and running for the Fall as we help our children grow as disciples of Jesus. We will be using a similar model to SUMMER KICS where all students will meet and learn together. As the class grows, we will create additional classes based on age. To be consistent with our policies, unvaccinated children (and adults) should wear a mask while in the building and in Sunday School.

To help us with numbers (and determine if we need additional classes) please register by emailing Patty Shockley at sundayschool@avenueumc.com. You can also register at <https://bit.ly/3BNpaYQ>.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for teachers/teacher assistants/youth helpers for Sunday School this year. All teaching materials and supplies are provided each week, all you will need is to bring your enthusiasm and desire to make a positive impact in the lives of the children at Avenue UMC. Sunday School is held during the 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service and you can choose what week(s) you are available to help. We hope to have enough volunteers to ensure we have a pool of teachers/teacher assistants/youth helpers to serve on a rotating basis. If you feel led to help with the children's ministry, please contact us at: sundayschool@avenueumc.com. “*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it*” (Prov. 22:6)

MILFORD LIONS CLUB: Milford Lions Club is collecting used eyeglasses. There is a donation box in the coat closet.

MEAL TRAIN AT AVENUE: Health Ministries is looking for folks in the Avenue family who like to cook and would like to prepare meals for those who are sick, who have had loved ones pass, or who have had new babies as a way to care for one another. If you would like to receive emails when we need meals, you can email Sharon at sharonclendaniel@msn.com or call at (302) 390-6368.

AVENUE PRESCHOOL: Avenue Preschool has an opening for a teacher in the beginners program. You must be certified in early childhood education to apply. The hours are Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. with summers off. Please email your resume to office@avenuepreschool.org.

JOIN OUR RIVERWALK OUTREACH TEAM: Milford's Riverwalk is on for **September 18th** and Avenue will be there. We are looking for a team of people to help plan our booth and be present to reach out to the community. Our goal is to meet our neighbors and share information about Avenue with them. If you would like to be involved, please contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com

PRESENTATION OF THIRD GRADE BIBLES (3RD AND 4TH GRADERS): Avenue will be presenting Bibles to our 3rd Graders on **Sunday, September 19th at the 10:00 a.m.** at the Fall Kick-Off worship service. We realize that, because of COVID, we were unable to present Bibles to last year's 3rd Graders. If you have a 3rd or 4th Grader who would like to receive a Bible, please contact the church office with their name, grade, and what school they are attending by emailing Kelly at churchoffice@avenueumc.com

HELP FOR HAITI: If you're like us, you've been praying for the nation of Haiti since Saturday's devastating earthquake. There is the opportunity to give to UMCOR in order to support the relief efforts underway there. UMCOR stands for The United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR is a long-standing agency providing excellent relief work and financial accountability. Local churches provide all the administrative costs of the organization, meaning 100% of your designated giving goes to where it is sent. UMCOR is often one of the first on the ground after a disaster and one of the last organizations to leave.

There are several ways that you can donate to UMCOR. You can go on our website and use our online giving option. Choose the "UMCOR-HAITI" fund in order to donate. You can also give to Avenue through a check with "UMCOR- HAITI" in the memo. Avenue will collect the funds and make the donation to UMCOR. You can also go to www.umcmission.org and give directly to UMCOR and the relief effort in Haiti.

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: The Milford Community Pantry has begun an evening schedule to accommodate working families who need help but cannot get here during our daytime hours. Beginning in September, we will be open **every** Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. If you know of a family that could benefit from this please tell them about our help.

Starting in October we will be changing our hours and our days. We will open at **11:00 a.m. close at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday and THURSDAYS**. We have not been busy on Fridays so we will see if the Thursday works for more folks than Friday. We are so appreciative of the help we get from everyone at Avenue; help with food, money and volunteer hours. We would be in trouble without the support we get from God and the Avenue congregation. Thank You!

HOLIDAY FAIR PLANNING MEETING: We will be having a Holiday Fair Planning meeting on **September 21st from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. We are looking for volunteers to help with the Holiday Fair on October 22nd and 23rd. We will be selling those items such as seasonal, crystal, fine china, boutique items, arts and crafts, pictures and gently used toys, etc. not able to be sold during the summer yard sale because of space. Also, we will be having a bake sale during the event so start thinking about what you might be able to provide.

We need volunteers during the collection and set-up days or during the sale days. Even if you can only work one or two hours we can use all of the help possible. For additional information or if you are not able to attend the meeting, but want to volunteer contact:

Sandy Culotta – swculotta@gmail.com or 302.258.5787

Judy Struck - judystruck@comcast.net or 609.319.8082

SARAH CIRCLE MEETING: Sarah Circle will meet on **Wednesday, September 22nd at 10:00 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall. All women in church are welcome to come.

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNSHINE BIBLE CLASS: The Sunshine Bible Class for adults led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired, is meeting in the Grier Room at 10:15 a.m. Our study for September is “Outside In.” The lesson for September 19th lesson is “Opening the Door to Christ” based on Galatians 2:11-21; and September 26th lesson is “Citizens of God’s Household” based on Philippians 3:2-21; Ephesians 2:19-22. Plan to join us in the Grier Room for these exciting lessons.

SISTERS BIBLE STUDY: We will continue our study of Elijah with Priscilla Shirer on September 21st. Join us and bring a friend. Study begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Grier Room, so please be a few minutes early.



Thank you to everyone who made the yard sale a terrific success. The funds that were raised help to support the following United Methodist Women ministries:

ARC of Delaware

Brandywine Counseling

Camp New Hope

Camp Pecometh

Embrace

Home of Hope Women's Program

UMCOR for Ethiopian relief

Neighborhood House

KenCrest Group Homes

Christ Episcopal Church Seamen's Ministry

Shepherd's Office

"I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God which is within you" ~ 2 Timothy 1:6



Hands-on UMCOR Relief Hygiene Kits Project

In addition to providing funds to UMCOR, let's provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave homes due to flooding, tornados, hurricanes and more. UMCOR gives HYGIENE kits to many people and families inside and outside the United States. Two choices: 1.) make your own hygiene kit or 2.) bring some of the items needed. UMCOR understandably is very specific:

- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any items or they will no longer be considered new.
- Do not include any personal notes or additional materials in the kits.
- Contents of the kits or containers should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.

Items Needed:

- **One hand towel** (15x25-17x27 inches) **No** kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels.
- **One Washcloth.** **No** kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels.
- **One comb.** Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth. **No** pocket combs or picks. Rattails and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth.
- **One toenail or fingernail clipper.** **No** emery boards or metal nail files.
- **Bath size soap** (3 Oz. bar or larger. **No** Ivory or Jergens soap. Do not remove it from packaging.
- **One adult toothbrush.** Do not remove it from packaging. Personal advertising not acceptable.
- **10 adhesive bandages** (3/4 by 3 inches). Common household bandages acceptable.
- **One one-gallon size resealable bag.** All items are put in a bag.

Boxes will be available for you to deposit kits or items. Packing day to be announced. There is a **\$2.00 cost per kit** to cover the toothpaste UMCOR provides and shipping costs. **Collection ends October 10th.** This project is sponsored by the **United Methodist Women.**

Sleeping for babies

Sleep — or lack of it — is probably the most-discussed part of baby care. As new parents quickly learn, the quality and quantity of their baby's sleep affects the well-being of everyone in the household.

How Much Is Enough?

Sleep needs vary by age. Sleep is very important to kids' well-being. The link between a lack of sleep and a child's behavior isn't always obvious. Kids can become hyper, disagreeable, and have extreme changes in behavior. Here are some numbers based on age, with tips to help you get your child to sleep.

Babies (Up to 6 Months)

- Newborns' internal clocks aren't fully developed.
- They can sleep up to 18 hours a day, divided about equally between night and day.
- Newborns should be wakened for feeding if they sleep more than 4 hours until they have good weight
- After those first weeks, infants may sleep for as long as 4 or 5 hours at a time
- At 3 months, a baby averages about 14 hours of sleep total, with 8–9 hours at night two or three daytime naps.
- Keep routine nighttime changes and feedings as quick and quiet as possible.
- Don't provide any unnecessary stimulation. Encourage the idea that nighttime is for sleeping.
- It's not too early to establish a simple bedtime routine.
- Any soothing activities (bathing, reading, singing) done consistently and in the same order each night can be part of the routine.
- The goal is for babies to fall asleep by themselves and learn to soothe themselves and go back to sleep if they wake up in the middle of the night.

Babies 6–12 Months

- At 6 months, babies still need an average of 14 hours of sleep a day
- two to three daytime naps, lasting anywhere from 2 hours to 30 minutes each.
- Some babies, particularly those who are breastfed, may still wake at night.
- If your baby wakes in the middle of the night, but you don't think it's due to hunger, wait a few minutes before going to your baby.
- Those who don't settle should be comforted without being picked up (talk softly to your baby, rub the back), then left to settle down again-unless they are sick. Sick babies need to be picked up and cared for.
- If your baby doesn't seem sick and continues to cry, you can wait a little longer, then repeat the short crib-side visit.
- Between 6 and 12 months, separation anxiety, a normal part of development, comes into play. But the rules at night are the same through a baby's first birthday: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents>

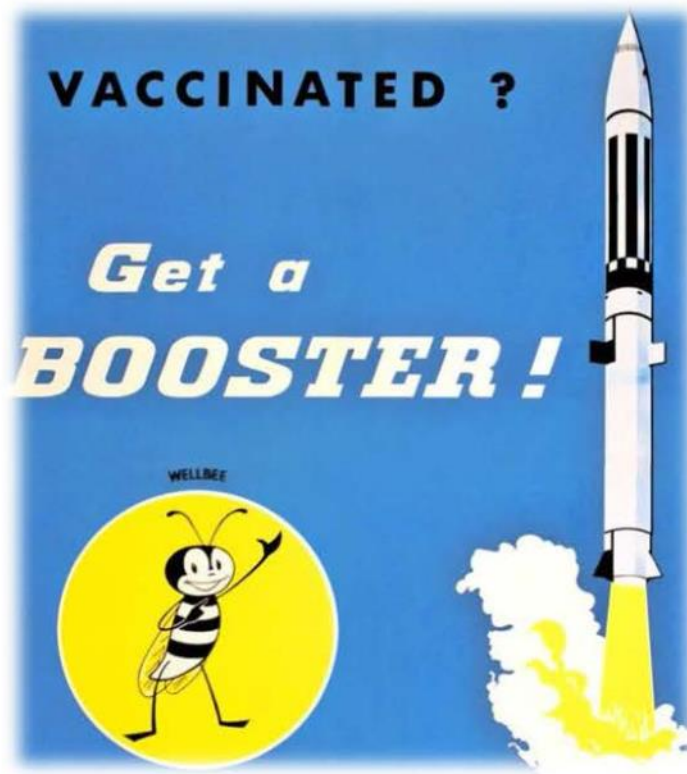


**“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body
and knit me together in my mother’s womb.”
Psalms 139:13**



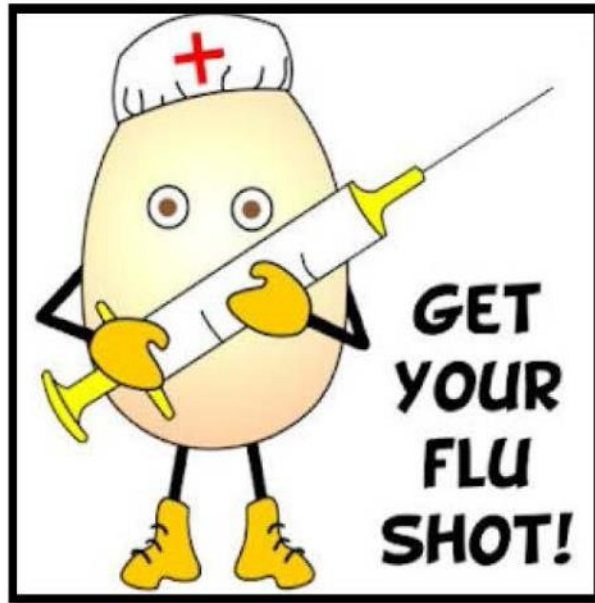
Health Ministry





If you are **immune comprised**, please contact your pharmacy for your **Moderna vaccine booster** or your **Pfizer vaccine booster today!** Below are listed a few of the pharmacies providing boosters.

- In Milford, Kent Pharmacy is providing the Moderna boosters for the immune compromised. 302-491-6886.
- Walgreens in Lewes and Middletown are also providing the Moderna boosters.
- Walgreens in Milford is providing the Pfizer booster for the immune compromised 302-424-6300.



Avenue United Methodist Church has agreed to host a flu vaccine clinic at the church on **Sunday, October 10, 2021** from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Walgreens will be providing flu vaccines both the regular dose, for individuals 4-64 years of age and high dose, for individuals 65 and over.

We need a **minimum of 25 people** to have the flu vaccines provided to us at no cost.

Please sign up with your name, address, phone number and age before October 1st. (forms are in the foyer) We need to have an accurate count to ensure the proper amount of dosages are available for each age group!

Thank you!



Join Scouting Night

Families looking for adventure?

Fall and Spring Camping, Pinewood Derby Race, Skits, Holiday Party,
Blue and Gold, Indoor Winter Camping, Knot Tying, Fire Building,
Totin Chip, Gaga Ball, Summer Camp, Halloween Parade

When: September 25, 2021 (4:00-7:00pm)

Where: Avenue United Methodist Church

Who: Boys and Girls (Kindergarten through 5th Grade)

Join us at the church to learn more about joining Pack 186.



AVENUE METHODIST HOLIDAY FAIR

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Friday, October 22nd from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.
(\$1 early bird fee)**

Saturday, October 23rd from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

China, Crystal, Framed Art,
Baked Goods, Seasonal and Home Décor,
Crafts, Jewelry,
Gently used & new Holiday
gift items.



ANNIVERSARY GREETING TO:

- **Jerry and Margie Tucker** who will celebrate their **53rd** anniversary on **September 14th**.
- **Ted and Arlene Seiz** who will celebrate their **56th** anniversary on **September 18th**.

SYMPATHIES TO:

- Jennifer Antonik on the death of her husband, Ben on Wednesday, September 1, 2021.
- The Attix Family on the death of Noah Attix who passed away on Saturday, September 4, 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. Joseph Archie), Bishop Peggy Johnson, and The United Methodist Church
- The Pastors, Staff, and Leadership of Avenue United Methodist Church
- Pray for Haiti as they recover from Saturday (8/21) earthquake.
- Pray for the people of Afghanistan.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Frank & Frances Beebe
Brenda Beissel
Dale Brandon
Bob Cage
Charlene Johnson Cannon
Lydia Castro
Adriel Castro and family
Alex Castro and family
Mary Charnick
Jack & Denny Collins
Luisa & Billy Combs
Lauren Connell
Susan Cooper
Craig
Rick Crump
Julie Dally
Joanna Denney-Turner
Michael Dougherty
William Ernst
Ken Fechter
Charlie & Barbara
Fleetwood
Jayne Frank
Gail & Jeffrey
Alina Guido
Matt Hall
Al Hanna

Dave Harris
Beverly Harrison
Cindy Horsman
Karl Isele
Ron Ivory
David Johnson
Dean Johnson
Justin
Linda Kemp
Doris Koon
Rhoda & Greg Kurz
Jean Layton
Jean Layton's Grandson
Nancy Lee
Brittany Poore Little
Jack & Zelda McDuff
Reagan McGovern
Sonny Meck
Tiffany Medlin
Megan
Susie Miller
Orville Mills
Kathryn Avery Mitchell
Tiffany Mitchell
Stan Moody
Susan Morgan
Jason Neall

Ariel Ownes
Laurel Pastor
Patty R
Millie Remick
Roy Rigby
Dick Roberts
Lorna Rosella Rulona
Phil Saint
Richard Sapp
Alice Sellers
Vicki Schultes
Roland Simms
Racheal Simesak
Gary Simpson
Linda Singleton
Samuel Smith
Jacqueline Stokes
Dave Stratton
Tamara
Joan Wadman
Lloyd Webb
TJ Webb
Betty Ziesel