



The Midweek

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Living Resurrection

It was in a small rural Presbyterian Church that I was baptized. Our family worshipped there until I was ten years old. That community was instrumental in helping form my earliest memories of church, worship, and God. When my grandparents passed away a few years ago, their funerals were held in the same church. When I went snooping around the church (Pastors do that), it brought back memories. The smell of the basement and Sunday School classroom was even the same.

I remember an Easter morning worship service there. The appearance of flowers filling the chancel, not to mention the smell. I can remember going up front for the Children's message. I remember singing hymns like *In the Garden* and *Up from the Grave*. The church held a pancake breakfast between the sunrise and the worship services: great memories and great people who helped to shape my faith.

As great memories that I have about Easter Sundays back home, Easter is more than warm fuzzy feelings of nostalgia. It is more than Easter bunnies, colored eggs, and chocolate. Celebrating Easter is more than wearing our Easter clothes and coming to church. We are called to live out the resurrection each day.

What does it mean to live the resurrection? Pastor and author Eugene Peterson writes,

“The bible is not a script for a funeral service, but it is the record of God always bringing life where we expected to find death. Everywhere it is the story of resurrection.”

At Easter, we recall that God is in the business of bringing life out of death. As followers of the resurrected Christ, we are called to speak to and point to the places where God is bringing life out of death. We are to live in the hope that God is making all things new. Death has been defeated. New life is possible.

As we begin our preparations for our Easter celebrations with candy, ham, sweet potatoes, new outfits, and plans to go to church, let us be sure to live resurrection each day. To speak words of life, act in ways that reveal love and grace, and point others to the hope we have in Jesus for resurrection.

Sow Much Love,

Pastor Steve

Stay or Go | Real Talk for United Methodist Exploring the Future

The United Methodist Church has been at an impasse in regards to our future. This impasse centers around our doctrines and teachings on human sexuality. The pandemic over the last two years has made it difficult to have a General Conference, which is the Church's decision-making body. General Conference was delayed in 2020, 2021, and in 2022. One of the major pieces of legislation on the table for the General Conference is a document towards an amicable separation within the United Methodist Church.

The Peninsula-Delaware and Baltimore-Washington Conferences are hosting a Zoom webinar on **Saturday, April 23rd** beginning at 9:00 a.m. to share information about where the United Methodist Church is, and where the church may be heading. There will be representatives from **UMNEXT** and **The Wesleyan Covenant Association**. Each group will share their hopes and visions for the future after separation.

You can submit questions to lowershore2021@gmail.com and topics for conversation will be shaped to answer as many questions as possible. The session will not address the process for disaffiliation or the history of how we arrived at this point. This session will be a time for UMNEXT and WCA to share their hopes and dreams for the future church.

You must pre-register for the session in order to receive the ZOOM link. You can pre-register by following this link: https://bwcumc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_onJr6Fj3QQuYDXH8-2iiMQ

Church Office
will be closed

Friday, April 15th
and Monday, April 18th



COMFORT AND CARE CARDS FOR APRIL

In the Gospel of Matthew Jesus says, “Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for you souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (NRSV)

When we look at the ministry of caring for our shut-ins and those who are unable to live their life in Christ in a way they would like, Jesus is asking His disciples to fill in the gap. In this time of Pandemic, it has been challenging. So we are starting a “Care Card Ministry” here at Avenue United Methodist Church. We will be giving you the names and addresses of three members of our congregation for everyone to send a “Thinking of You” card. I also encourage you to write a personal note on the inside of the card.

The names will be in the bulletin and also in the Mid-Week. If you have any questions let me know.

Blessings,

Dan Holt

Pastor of Congregational Care.

Ron Payne
c/o Genesis Healthcare
700 Marvel Road
Milford, DE 19963

Joan Wadman
c/o Genesis Healthcare
700 Marvel Road
Milford, DE
19963

Violet Condif
c/o Genesis Healthcare
700 Marvel Road
Milford, DE 19963

Holy Week @Avenue

April 10

Palm Sunday

Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

April 14

Holy Thursday

6:30 p.m.

April 15

Good Friday

6:30 p.m.

April 17

Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

avenueumc.com



AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Discipleship Pathway >>>

If you participated in any of our Growth Groups this season, please take some time to give us some feedback about your experience. We want to hear from you! As Avenue becomes a Disciplemaking community, we hope to provide new opportunities for you to Know > Grow > Go! Please click on this link to fill out the online feedback form: Good morning and BLESSINGS!

We are so glad you attended (even if just once) our Growth Group “Your Life in Christ”. As we continue to seek ways to grow and serve you better we value your feedback! Please take a minute to fill out this online Feedback form (just click here): https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfiUirw3InaA7qwIcfBZi8-oyf6aIaxtyhiz8MkSQ1528MMdQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Peace and Joy in Him,
Rev. Neyda
Albarrán



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 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.

YOUNG ADULT ROUNDTABLE: We will have our next Young Adult Gathering on **Sunday, May 1st** from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Wesley Room. If you are 18-35, come join us as we begin building the foundations of a strong Young Adult Ministry at Avenue Church. Please RSVP to Pastor Steve by emailing srlamotte@avenueumc.com.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATIONS: You can join the ministry team at Avenue Church on the 2nd Sunday of the month for *Coffee and Conversations* from 11:45 a.m.—12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. While this time is especially geared to new attendees, this is a time to meet and interact with Avenue’s ministry team. No reservation is needed. We look forward to seeing you on **May 8th**.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: Holy Week is the week that begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Easter. It is a time to remember Jesus’ life, death, and to celebrate the resurrection. There are many opportunities to gather during Holy Week.

April 14th Holy Thursday Service (6:30 p.m.)

April 15th Good Friday Service (6:30 p.m.)

April 17th Sunrise Service (6:30 a.m. under the tent)
Traditional Easter Worship (9:00 a.m.)
Contemporary Easter Worship (10:30 a.m.)

MOVING INSIDE -10:30 A.M. EASTER SERVICE: With the cooler temperatures in the forecast for Sunday, we have made the decision to move our 10:30 a.m. worship service indoors to the sanctuary. We feel this will provide the best opportunity for our community to celebrate the Resurrection. The Sunrise Service will be held outside, so dress accordingly!

SCHOLARSHIPS: Avenue offers several scholarships to graduating seniors. This year we have an electronic application that is available on our website www.avenueumc.com/scholarships. Scholarship applications are due on **April 25th**.

2022 GRADUATES: If you have a family member that is graduating (high school/college) and would like them in the bulletin and midweek, please send an email to Kelly at churchoffice@avenueumc.com with their information (college/future plans) and a picture by **May 11th**. We will be listing the 2022 graduates on May 15th, May 18th, May 22nd and May 25th.

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 call (302) 422-8111 or send an email to healthministry@avenueumc.com.

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: The Milford Community Pantry thanks all of you who support our outreach. Feeding the families who come to us really is a group effort. **Our current needs are cereal and bar soap.** Hygiene items aren't covered under food stamps so folks are so grateful to find they are included. Thanks for being a partner.

UMCOR ASSISTANCE IN UKRAINE: We have all been watching the news of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and wondering how we can help beyond prayer. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has ministries on the ground in Ukraine and Europe that are receiving funds to assist those displaced by the war. 100% of donations made to UMCOR go where they are directed, so you can be sure that your dollars are going to work. If you would like to donate to UMCOR, please make a check out to Avenue United Methodist Church with **“Advance #982450”** in the memo line. You can also give online by selecting “UMCOR-Ukraine” from the fund options. Thank you for your generosity.

AUMC YARD SALE IS COMING (AUGUST 4TH – 6TH): Please begin to collect your donations this spring. A planning meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 26th** in the Heritage Room at 6:30 p.m. Please consider volunteering. Contact for more information: Judy Struck - judystruck@comcast.net or Sandy Culotta - swculotta@gmail.com. Many hands make light work. Come join in the fun!!

UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM) are proud to serve their first Pancake Breakfast of the year on **April 24, 2022**. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee and tea will be **served immediately after both services. This year we will be offering take outs. A free-will offering will be accepted.** Funds from this meal will help provide a Boy Scout college scholarship to a high school graduate from Troop #186. Other mission projects will also be funded. Join us for a most excellent breakfast and fellowship.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: There will be a meeting of the Church Council on **Wednesday, April 20th at 6:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. This will be our meeting for the 1st quarter. All are welcome to attend, but you must be a member of Avenue Church to vote on any business.

NURSERY: We are excited to share that the church nursery will be open for children 0-3 years old each Sunday morning at both services. Our nursery coordinator and assistants have nursery experience and are compliant with our Safe Sanctuary program. Each week, kids will engage with music and activities that begin teaching them about God's love.

GROWTH GROUPS **KNOW . . . GROW . . . GO**

Growth groups are groups where we learn, grow, and do life together. They meet once a week and are a great way to get to know each other and be challenged to grow in our spiritual journey.

TUESDAYS

10:00 a.m. @ Church Sisters Bible Study. On **April 26th** we will be starting a new study “Word of Life” by Adam Hamilton.

WEDNESDAYS

6:30 p.m. @ Church Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert led by Dan Nelson. This group will discuss the author’s spiritual journey from atheism to a transformed life. We will meet in the Holzmueller Room.

SUNDAYS

10:15 a.m. @ Church Adult Sunday School led by John Van Tine. Studying the Bible together. Ongoing group. Our study for April is “The Mark You Make.” The lesson for April 17th lesson is “Stirring Up Emotions” based on Mark 16:1-8; and April 24th lesson is “Creation Meditation and Creator Worship” based on Psalm 104.

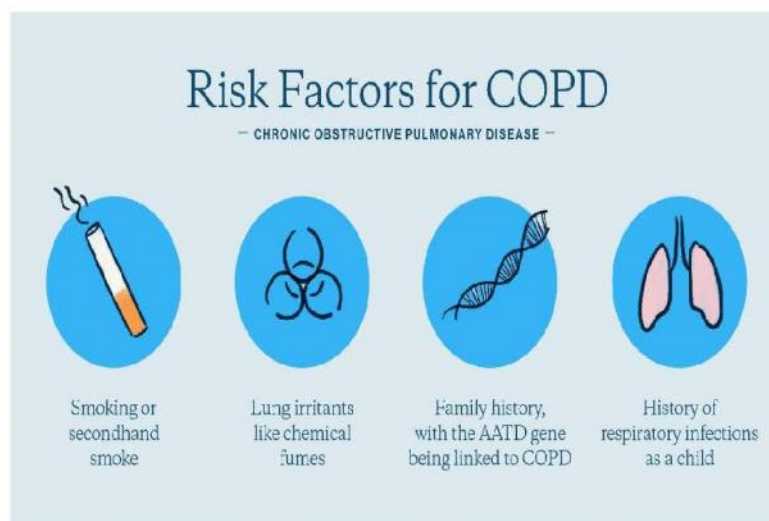
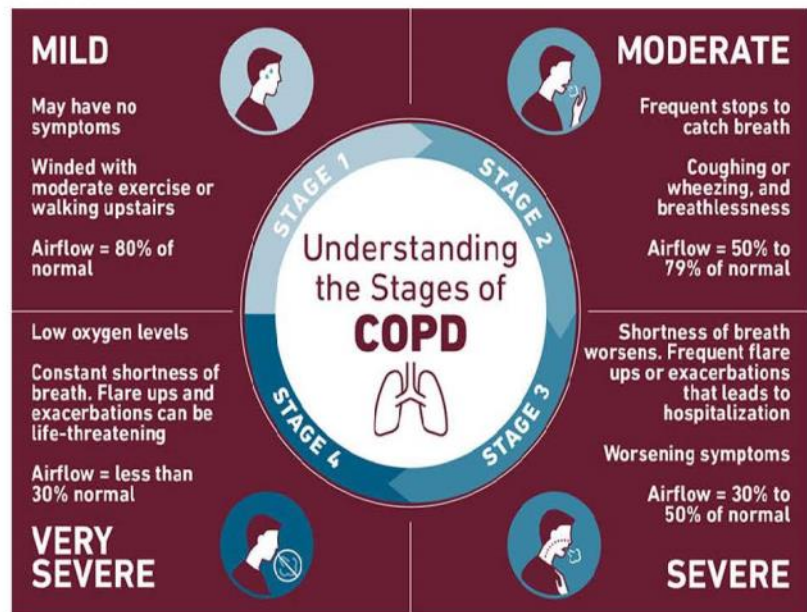
What Are COPD Symptoms and Risk Factors?

- Shortness of breath while doing everyday activities (dyspnea)
- Blueness of the lips or fingernail beds (cyanosis)
- Producing a lot of mucus (also called phlegm or sputum)
- Wheezing.
 - Cough: can be dry or with phlegm
 - Respiratory: frequent respiratory infections, shortness of breath, or wheezing
 - Whole body: fatigue or inability to exercise
 - Also common: chest pressure

What Are the Stages of COPD?

- Stage I (Early)
- Stage II (Moderate)
- Stage III (Severe)
- Stage IV (Very Severe)

<https://www.cedars-sinai.org/health-library/diseases-and-conditions/c/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-copd.html>



“The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”

Job 33:4

Avenue's Card Ministry

As part of staying connected with our church family, Health Ministry's sends greeting cards to those who are sick, shut in's or in nursing facilities. Anyone that is ill or having a difficult time is encouraged with a card from Avenue United Methodist Church with our love and support.

If you or anyone you know, would benefit from this program please contact healthministry@avenueumc.com or call the church office at (302) 422-8111.



I've heard friends talk about Zumba. What does it involve, and is it an effective workout?

Answer From Edward R. Laskowski, M.D. Mayo Clinic

Zumba is an aerobic activity that can count toward the amount of aerobic activity recommended for most healthy adults by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Aerobic exercise can reduce health risks, help maintain a healthy weight, strengthen your heart and boost your mood. If you enjoy Zumba, you are also more likely to do it regularly and experience its benefits as an aerobic exercise.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/fitness/expert-answers/zumba/faq-20057883>



Every Thursday from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Classes are being held at Avenue United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall

LaTasha Gibbs, Instructor

Cost- \$3.00 cash each class!!

Come and join us

What has the Health Ministry Team scheduled for you?

- ♦ Tai Chi Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall (For the quiet stretch exercise) Henrietta Chilton and Rachel Susen instructors. **We will be at Bicentennial Park, 220 NE Front Street, Milford, DE from May 3rd—October 27th.**
- ♦ Zumba Thursday at 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. for **\$3.00** a class (fast Pace exercise) La Tasha Gibbs, instructor
- ♦ May 5th from 12 p.m.—5 p.m. we will be sponsoring a Blood Drive with the Blood Bank of Delaware. Here is the direct site to sign up https://donate.bbd.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/8055



BAYHEALTH NEEDS YOU!

Bayhealth is conducting a community health assessment survey to determine what services are needed locally.

Please copy and paste the following link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FPFLFB5> into your web browser and complete a short survey by **April 30, 2022**.

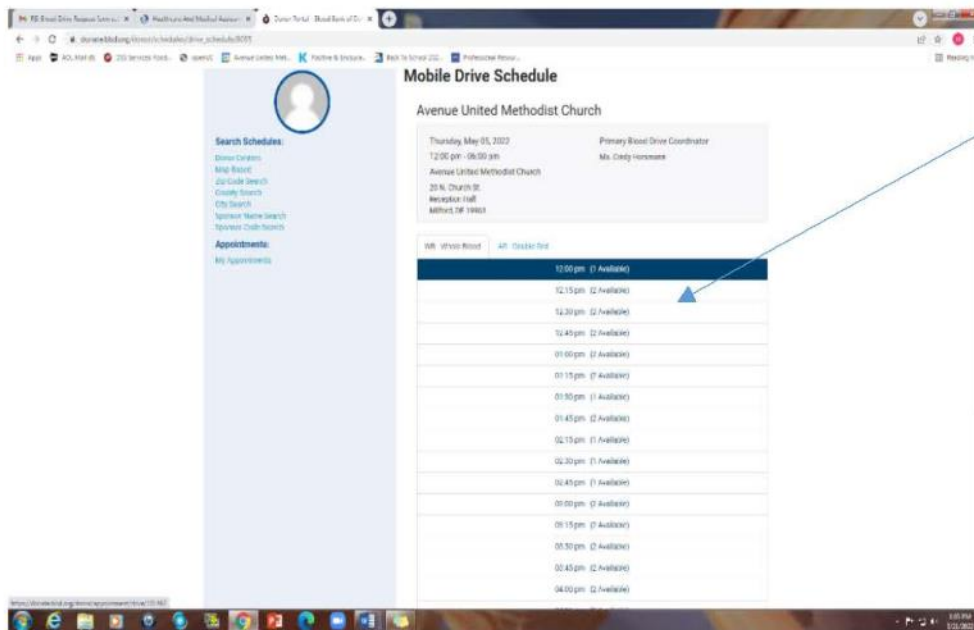
Once completed, Bayhealth will enter you into a drawing to win a \$100 gift card!!!

**Blood Bank Blood Donation
Avenue United Methodist Church
May 5, 2022 12-6 PM**

How Do I Sign Up?

Go to this web site

https://donate.bbd.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/8055



Mobile Drive Schedule
Avenue United Methodist Church

Thursday, May 05, 2022
12:00 pm - 06:00 pm
Avenue United Methodist Church
20 N. Church St.
Reception Hall
Methuen, MA 01844

Primary Blood Drive Coordinator
Ms. Cindy Horsman

WB Virus Road APR - Under Test

Time Slot	Availability
12:00 pm	(1 Available)
12:15 pm	(2 Available)
12:30 pm	(2 Available)
12:45 pm	(2 Available)
01:00 pm	(2 Available)
01:15 pm	(2 Available)
01:30 pm	(1 Available)
01:45 pm	(2 Available)
02:00 pm	(2 Available)
02:15 pm	(1 Available)
02:30 pm	(1 Available)
02:45 pm	(1 Available)
03:00 pm	(2 Available)
03:15 pm	(2 Available)
03:30 pm	(2 Available)
03:45 pm	(2 Available)
04:00 pm	(2 Available)

Select the time you want.

Fill out the information using your name and telephone number. Select confirm.

Now you are scheduled!!

You will receive an email confirming your appointment.

If you have any questions, please contact me, Cindy Horsman, RN Faith Community Nurse at 302-422-8111.

See you May 5th. Please bring your friends! We want to fill up all the slots!!

“Don’t forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.” ~ Hebrews 13:16

BIRTHDAY GREETING TO:

- **Millie Remick** who will celebrate her **89th** birthday on **April 16th**.

SYMPATHY TO:

- The family and friends of Jim Vreeland who passed away on March 22, 2022.
- The family and friends of Judy Goodrich who passed away on April 5, 2022. Judy is the sister of Pastor Dan Holt.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Those affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Our local, national and world leaders.
- Our District Superintendent (Rev. Joseph Archie), Bishop LaTrelle Easterling, and The United Methodist Church.
- Our Pastors, staff, and leadership of Avenue United Methodist Church.
- Pray for peace in Ukraine and other areas of conflict around the world.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Carol Badenoch
Brenda Beissel
Adam Berry
Dane Brittingham
Luisa & Billy Combs
Linda Contrill
Bill & Kristen Conway and family
Rick Crump
Charlie & Barbara Fleetwood
Bill Gaskill
Vayda Gaskill
Tom Glenn
Ben H.
Sam Hanna
Beverly Harrison
Jim
Jerry Jackson
David Johnson
Dean Johnson
Johnny
Chris K
Wayne Klaus

Courtney Laura
Jack & Zelda McDuff
Joanne McKay
Willow McKenzie
Brian McMullen
Patrick Murphy
Diane Parrilli
David and Judy Passwaters
Ron Payne
Trish R.
Millie Remick
Bill Smar
Sandy S.
Samuel Smith
Seth Spencer
Tom
Kathleen Tracy
Dianne Verkade
Joan Wadman
Dennis Yates
Jon Zaimes