



AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

I Believe in Miracles

I do. I can't help but sing that short phrase from the popular song (but leave it at that, because the rest does not apply). This Sunday we will be talking about miracles. As I am thinking about this topic, one of our Spring/Lent Small Groups came to mind. Gary Powers and Lloyd Webb led a group that was called *Christian Atheist*. That was not the complete title of the study, but we used it because the full title was pretty long. The study (authored by Pastor Craig Groeschel), was titled *Christian Atheist: Believing in God but living as if he didn't exist*. The title alone, is quite challenging. Do we believe in a God who can do anything? Do we, really?

When faced with impossible situations, do we live and act as if the almighty God is in control and can turn things around, if it is His will? Do we turn to Him? Do we turn to prayer? Do we live believing that He who was able to do supernatural things in the past is still able and willing to do them now?

Are we willing to believe and praise God when He does perform a miracle? Are we mature and full of faith to accept and praise Him when He doesn't? Are we so removed from the natural and supernatural that we don't even recognize the miracles all around us? How does this affect how we pray, praise, and live?

The Gospels are full of miracles; the book of Acts continues with many more. There were different responses to miracles *then* and there are many differing (even controversial) responses to them now.

What do we do with Jesus' words in Mark 16:17-18?

17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up snakes, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Is anything impossible for God?

Have you experienced miracles in your life? I'd love to hear about how God has worked in your life. Do you not believe in miracles? Feel free to email me and share at nalbarran@avenueumc.com.

See you Sunday,

Pastor Neyda

The family of Yvonne, Victoria, Adrianna Nelson, Stacey Craig and Luise Combs would like to thank everyone for their kindness of cards, meal train, telephone calls and visits during the loss of Billy P Combs (Father, Grandfather and husband). Your love and prayers and the food provided at the memorial reception by the ladies of the church and the lovely music provided at the service by members of my church family was so appreciated. Many thanks and God Bless you all. *Yvonne Nelson and Family*

New Logo Adopted by Church Council

A new logo was adopted by the Church Council on Wednesday, April 20th. It is an updated form of the logo that the staff had begun to use in the Fall, but pulled back for further discussion in order to get more input. Council looked at other possibilities that were originally considered by staff as well as the updated version below. The logo is essentially the same as in the Fall, but with the phrase “*a United Methodist Congregation*” underneath the words “*Avenue Church.*”



Logos are important when it comes to brand recognition and marketing. We all know the logos of companies like Nike, Starbucks, Chevy, Under Armor, etc. Church logos are becoming more ubiquitous on websites, T-shirts, hats, and bags as a way to create identity and a sense of belonging. Re-branding, the act of updating logos and images, takes place all the time. Recently, The United Methodist Women have re-branded with a new name, *United Women of Faith*, and a new logo.

The Cross and Flame logo has been used to identify our church as United Methodist. While that logo has done a good job of communicating that identity, it does not tell a view *which United Methodist Church. The Cross and Flame is a denominational logo, while our new offering is a church logo. The approval of the new logo says nothing about our denominational affiliation. We are proudly United Methodist and have a long history in the Methodist movement.*

Our logo has a couple of ideas represented in the icon. First, it is a stylized “A” to represent Avenue Church. Secondly, the icon takes on a stylized “@” symbol. We want the community to know that if you want to experience powerful worship, applicable sermons, and relationships through Growth Groups that you will find it “@” Avenue.

Over the next several weeks, you will see the logo deployed in various ways depending on the medium. Our primary forms is black and white as that is classic and appears best in a variety of mediums. We have the ability to utilize different

color schemes when necessary. It is our prayer that in the coming weeks, months, and years that people in the Milford community will know our logo by the ways in which they encounter God through our community at Avenue.

Adult Fusion Leaders Needed

As the school year winds down and we begin transitioning into summer, we are looking to add to our Adult Fusion Ministry Team. We are looking for adults who love Jesus (first) and who also love teenagers, and who can make a one-year commitment to serving on Sunday evenings and special events. While we often think of younger adults as the prime candidate, research shows that older adults can also be effective Student Ministry Leaders.

If you would like to learn more about Fusion and becoming a Fusion leader, please contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com.

COMFORT AND CARE CARDS FOR MAY

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.*

Ed Burwick
c/o Delaware Veterans Home
100 Delaware Veterans Blvd.
Milford, DE 19963

Don Fisher
c/o Delaware Veterans Home
100 Delaware Veterans Blvd.
Milford, DE 19963

Janet McGhee
(Cindy Horsman Mom)
c/o Polaris Health Care
20 W. Clarke Ave.
Milford, DE 19963

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.

FUNERAL RECEPTION GROUP: The Funeral Reception Group could use some more volunteers- Now that we have started offering funeral receptions again, post-COVID, we could use a few new volunteers. We would like to have 3-5 people who would like to be part of the kitchen crew (setting up and serving). Also, we could use 3-4 people who enjoy baking brownies, bars (lemon and otherwise) or cookies. And we would love to find 3-4 people who like to make sliders or other small sandwiches. If this ministry speaks to you, please email Harriet (harrietda@aol.com) or June (junemcnamara@verizon.net) and we will be happy to add you to our helper list and give you an occasional task.

GIVING STATEMENTS: Giving Statements for the first quarter of 2022 have been emailed to all those with email addresses. If you would like a printed copy of your statement for the first quarter please call Kelly at the church office.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS will be held on **Sunday, June 12th** from 12:00 p.m—1:15 p.m. in the Grier Room. This class is for those interested in learning more about Avenue Church, what it means to live as a Christian through the church, and to pursue becoming a member of Avenue. Please RSVP by emailing Kelly at churchoffice@avenueumc.com.

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 need is cereal.** Hygiene items aren't covered under food stamps so folks are so grateful to find they are included. Thanks for being a partner.

AUMC YARD SALE IS COMING (AUGUST 4th – 6th): Please begin to collect your donations this spring. A planning meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 28th** 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!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - VBS RETURNS JUNE 20th – 23rd: Vacation Bible School is set to return in June to Avenue Church. This year, we will be going “off-road” through colorful canyons and sunbaked trails to explore just how awesome God’s love is. Volunteer and participant registration will be coming in the next few weeks. Save the date and invite friends to participate!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are forming our team for VBS, which will take place on **June 20th – June 23rd** in the evenings at Avenue Church. Our primary need right now is for **Crew Leaders**. Crew Leaders are key in helping to form faith in our children by interacting with 5-7 kids each night. You will lead them to their stations, engage them in the questions and activities, and ensure that they have a great time! We need around 10 crew leaders. If you would like to be one, contact Andrea LaMotte at lamotte.andrea@gmail.com.

NOW HIRING NURSERY ASSISTANT: The Avenue Nursery is back up and running with a great team providing excellent care. We are looking for one more Nursery Assistant who can work 2 weeks a month in the nursery. This is a paid position. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com.

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 **May 17th** we will continue our study “Words of Life” by Adam Hamilton.

SUNDAYS

10:15 a.m. @ Church Adult Sunday School led by John Van Tine. Studying the Bible together. Ongoing group. Our study for May is “The Spiritual Practice of Creation Care.” The lesson for May 15th’s lesson is “In Awesome Wonder” based on Job 38:4-11; May 22nd lesson is “The Redemption of Creation” based on Joel 2:18-26 and Romans 8:19-22; and May 29th lesson is “Acts of Generosity” based on 2 Corinthians 9.

SIGN UP THIS SUNDAY

Summer Small Groups
begin May 25th
Every Wednesday
at 6:30pm



Young Guys' Group (Middle & High School)

Grupo Chicos Jóvenes (Intermedia y Superior)

Young Girls' Group (Middle & High School)

Grupo Chicas Jóvenes (Intermedia y Superior)

Young Moms' Group

Guys Group (men only)

Ladies' Group

Adults Group

Grupo en Español



FOR KIDS



AVENUE ARTS

(5-10 YR OLDS)

SINGING DRUMMING ARTS & CRAFTS

UNA ACTIVIDAD DE MÚSIC, ARTE Y MANUALIDADES PARA NIÑOS

WEDNESDAYS

LOS MIÉRCOLES

6:30 PM

SNACKS PROVIDED / MERIENDA PROVISTA



AVENUE CHURCH
20 N CHURCH ST MILFORD, DE

STARTS
COMIENZA **MAY 25**



Testicular Cancer

Testicular cancer affects men and boys of any age but 50% are diagnosed between 20-34 years old. There is no screening test for testicular cancer, but knowledge about risk factors, symptoms, and periodic self-examination of the testicles can lead to early detection when outcomes are best.

Most boys and men with testicular cancer don't have the known risk factors, but they include:

- An undescended testicle
- Family history of testicular cancer (father or brother)
- Klinefelter's syndrome, an inherited disease
- Carcinoma in situ of the testicle- sometimes detected during testicle biopsy done for infertility studies
- Having had testicular cancer before – 3-4 % increased risk for other testicle
- Caucasians have a 4-5 times greater risk than African American or Asian males
- Taller height

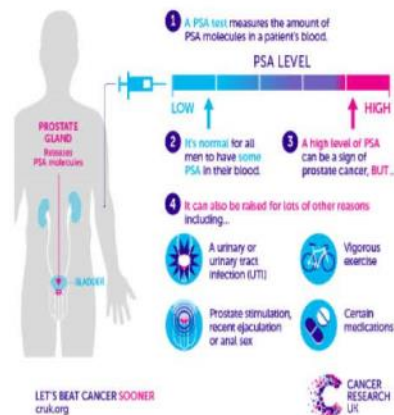
Symptoms include:

- Lump in the scrotum
- Some testicular cancers will cause breast tissue swelling, or symptoms of puberty
- Advanced cancer can cause low back or belly pain, shortness of breath/cough, headache or dizziness as the cancer will spread to other areas.

The best time to examine your testicles is during or after a bath or shower, when the skin of the scrotum is relaxed.

- Look and feel for any hard lumps or nodules (smooth rounded masses) or any change in the size, shape, or consistency of your testicles. <https://www.cancer.org>

THE PSA TEST AND WHY ITS RESULTS CAN BE CONFUSING



**“Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.”
Psalm 31:24**

ANNIVERSARY GREETING TO:

- **Bob & Joanne McKay** who will celebrate their **52nd** anniversary on **May 16th**.

CONGRATULATION TO:

- **Scott Webb and Johannah Williamson** on their marriage on April 23, 2022 in Lewes, Delaware.
- **Shannon and Zeph Geyer** on the birth of their son, Andy Collins Geyer on April 18, 2022.
- **Zachary and Kayla Cacicia** on the birth of their daughter, Madison Amelia Cacicia on May 3, 2022.

SYMPATHY TO:

- The family and friends of Charlie Fleetwood who passed away on May 2, 2022. Charlie joined Avenue on February 25, 2001.

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	Jack & Zelda McDuff	Joan Wadman
Dane Brittingham	Joanne McKay	Kathryn Webb
D. Brown	Willow McKenzie	Arnold Williams
Linda Contrill	Brian McMullen	Jon Zaimes
Rick Crump	Patrick Murphy	
Maxine Eash	Diane Parrilli	
Barbara Fleetwood	David and Judy Passwaters	
Tom Glenn	Ron Payne	
Twin Granddaughters	Trish R.	
Ben H.	Marshall Rea	
Beverly Harrison	Millie Remick	
Quinn Humes	George Reph Jr.	
Jim	Nick Riggie	
Jerry Jackson	Ron Semmont	
David Johnson	Bill Smar	
Dean Johnson	Sandy S.	
Johnny	Samuel Smith	
Chris K	Seth Spencer	
Wayne Klaus	Tom	
Courtney Laura	Kathleen Tracy	
Kirsten Lewis and family	Dianne Verkade	

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 5/15 ~ Scholarship Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class, Grier Room
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Haitian Church, Century Club

MONDAY 5/16

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Century Club
- 7:00 p.m. 1st State Harmonizers, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room

TUESDAY 5/17

- 10:00 a.m. Sisters' Bible Study, Grier Room
- 6:00 p.m. Lions Den, Room 207
- 6:30 p.m. Webelos Den, Wesley Room
- 6:30 p.m. Wolf Den, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club, Grier Room

WEDNESDAY 5/18

- 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
- 4:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
- 6:30 p.m. Tigers Den, Room 207

THURSDAY 5/19

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Century Club

FRIDAY 5/20

- 7:00 p.m. AA, Century Club

SATURDAY 5/21

- 9:00 a.m. Haitian Church, Century Club
- 7:00 p.m. AA, Century Club

SUNDAY 5/22

- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class, Grier Room
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship~ Baptism (Noah Helmick)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:30 a.m. Helmick Gathering, Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Pat Fisher– Recitals, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. FUSION, Fellowship Hall and Wesley Room
- 7:00 p.m. Haitian Church, Century Club