



## *The Midweek*

*Wednesday, May 18, 2022*

I am still reeling over the news of the massacre that took place at the Tops Grocery Store in Buffalo, NY over the weekend. An 18 year-old gunman traveled 200 miles to a predominantly Black neighborhood and fatally shot 10 people, most of whom were Black. There were reports that his weapon had a racial slur written across it, as well as penning a 180-page manifesto with racist rhetoric. This hate-filled act, along with others like it, are especially heinous.

In our Baptismal Vows, we promise to *“resist evil and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.”* This speaks to spiritual oppression as well as resisting and standing against other forms of oppression, such as racism. **As Christians, we must denounce all forms of racism and violence based on race. We must seek to eliminate the systems that enable racism to exist. We must stand with those who are oppressed and marginalized.** We are called to a ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:16-21) that brings people to God while restoring right relationships between people. As a predominantly White congregation, we must intentionally stand beside our brothers and sisters of color, listen and learn from their experiences, and actively work alongside them for a better future.

The Creation account in Genesis reminds us that all humans are created in the image of God. Every human has sacred value and worth. Paul tells us in Galatians 3:28 that,

*“There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”*

As beings created in the image of God, and through our faith in Christ, we are to see no difference in our neighbor whether across the street or around the world. We do, however, see distinctions. These distinctions can make our communities stronger as we learn from and grow with one another.

Avenue United Methodist Church has long been a leader within the Milford community. The time is now for the people of Avenue to be leaders in the work of reconciliation in our community. This is more than saying the right words, but living a lifestyle of reconciliation. Let us prayerfully seek ways that we can sit “knee-to-knee” to listen and learn from our neighbors in order that we might also stand “shoulder-to-shoulder” in the work that must be done.

Sow Much Love,

*Pastor Steve*

### **Sunday’s Gonna Be HOT!**

We don’t want to oversell the worship experience on Sunday, which we are praying will be powerful, but we want to warn you that the sanctuary is likely to be very warm Sunday morning. The HVAC is still in the process of being replaced, which means there is no air conditioning in the sanctuary. Temperatures are supposed to be in the 90’s on Saturday, which will heat up the building.

As you come to worship, please come dressed for a warmer indoor temperature. Bring a bottle of water to worship. If you have one of those old funeral home fans on a stick, bring it too! Do not let the warmer temperatures keep you away from a great morning of worship, fellowship, and lifting up the name of God together!

## 2022 GRADUATES



**Bradyon O'Brien** is graduating from Milford High School.



**Gabriel Fennemore** has been accepted into University of Delaware Honors College. He plans to study psychology and English and to continue his involvement in theater and improv.

**Lydia Noele Rimmer** graduated from Regent College on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Lydia is the granddaughter of Tom and Bonnie Glenn.



**Anneliese Hatfield** is graduating from Milford High School. She will be attending University of Delaware for Elementary Education.



**Lauren Hudson** is graduating from Milford Senior High School's Class of 2022. Her accomplishments are 4 years in the Milford Marching Band and this year she was section leader, Educator's Rising, National Honor Society, swim team, HOSA and FFA. Lauren has also volunteered at Prime Hook Refuge, Avenue's yard sale/holiday bazaar and at St. John's as assistant teacher for Sunday School. Lauren will attend Delaware Tech (University of Delaware Seed Program) in Georgetown in the fall. Lauren will be majoring in Elementary & Special Education and her 2<sup>nd</sup> major will be in music along with a minor in Business. Lauren is the daughter of Dale and Kelly Hudson.



**Taylor Humes** is graduating from Milford Senior High School. She has plans to pursue a job this summer while continuing to explore her educational opportunities.

**Jordan Elizabeth Lee** will be graduating from Sussex Technical High School. She is the daughter of Lara and Jimmy Lee, granddaughter of Mary Lou and Jack Sheaffer. Jordan will be attending University of South Carolina, majoring in Psychology.



**Donny Pasmore** has been a member of Avenue since 2017 when joined the church at his confirmation. He is graduating from Sussex Tech High School in June with a focus on HVAC. Donny has been a member of Troop 186 for 7 years earning the rank of Eagle Scout in 2021. He recently appeared in Sussex Tech's production of *Shrek* as the lead role, Shrek, and in an Asbury UMC production of *Godspell* where he played the combined role of John the Baptist/Judas. He can also be seen as a regular performing member of Asbury UMC's Praise Band at the "Come As You Are" (CAYR) contemporary service every Sunday at 8:45am. Next year he will be attending Salisbury University in Salisbury, MD and majoring in English. Donny is the son of Tom and Sarah Pasmore.



*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 your 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 Berwick  
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

## **COMFORT AND CARE CARDS FOR MAY**

## 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 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](mailto: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](mailto:harrietda@aol.com)) or June ([junemcnamara@verizon.net](mailto: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 12<sup>th</sup>** 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](mailto:churchoffice@avenueumc.com).

**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](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>):** Please begin to collect your donations this spring. A planning meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>** in the Heritage Room at 6:30 p.m. Please consider volunteering. Contact for more information: Judy Struck -

[judystruck@comcast.net](mailto:judystruck@comcast.net) or Sandy Culotta - [swculotta@gmail.com](mailto:swculotta@gmail.com). Many hands make light work. Come join in the fun!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS - VBS RETURNS JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>:** 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 20<sup>th</sup> – June 23<sup>rd</sup>** 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](mailto: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](mailto:srlamotte@avenueumc.com).

**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](mailto: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 24<sup>th</sup>** 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 22<sup>nd</sup> lesson is “The Redemption of Creation” based on Joel 2:18-26 and Romans 8:19-22; and May 29<sup>th</sup> 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**



## Prostate Cancer

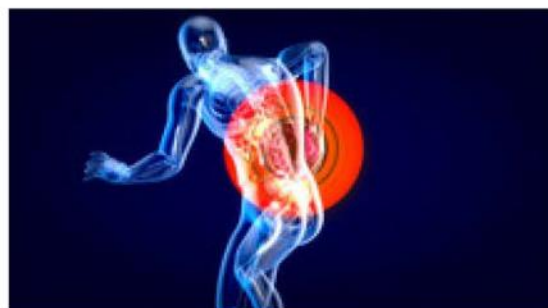
Prostate cancer is one of the most common types of cancer. Many prostate cancers grow slowly and are confined to the prostate gland, where they may not cause serious harm. However, while some types of prostate cancer grow slowly and may need minimal or even no treatment, other types are aggressive and can spread quickly

Signs and symptoms of prostate cancer include:

- None in early prostate cancer
- Difficulty initiating urinary stream
- Decreased force in the stream of urine
- Blood in the urine and/or semen

In advanced prostate cancer:

- Bone pain
- Low back pain or pain in the thighs
- Erectile dysfunction



Risk factors for prostate cancer are:

- **Age**- risk increases with age, most commonly after age 50.
- **Race**- African American's are at a significantly higher risk, and more likely to be aggressive or advanced, however, any man can be affected.
- **Family history**- having a blood relative, especially father or brother with prostate cancer or a family history of BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes, or a very strong history of breast cancer, risk for prostate cancer is increased.
- **Obesity**- increases risk.

### American Urological Association Guidelines for Prostate Cancer Screening

- For men aged 55 or younger
  - Average risk- no screening is recommended
  - Higher risk- (African American, family history of prostate, male and female breast cancer, ovarian, pancreatic in first-degree relatives, and that developed at younger ages)- individualize screening decision.
- For men ages 55 to 69- screening after shared decision making to include the risks and benefits of screening. This age group has greatest benefit of screening.
- For men age 70 and over or any man with a life expectancy of 10-15 years, PSA screening is not recommended. Men over 70+ who are in excellent health may benefit from prostate cancer screening.

To reduce the harms of screening, a routine screening interval of 2 years or more may be preferred over annual screening. This may preserve the majority of the benefits and reduce overdiagnosis and false positives of more frequent testing. Additionally, intervals for rescreening can be individualized by a baseline PSA level. . <https://www.cancer.org>

**”He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increases strength.”.” Isaiah 40:29.”**

**BIRTHDAY GREETING TO:**

- **Kathryn Webb** who will celebrate her **94<sup>th</sup>** birthday on **May 24<sup>th</sup>**.

**ANNIVERSARY GREETING TO:**

- **Sonny and Donna Meck** who will celebrate their **54<sup>th</sup>** anniversary on **May 23<sup>rd</sup>**.
- **Jeff and Bonnie Carmine** who will celebrate their **57<sup>th</sup>** anniversary on **May 29<sup>th</sup>**.

**CONGRATULATION TO:**

- **Amie and David Marvel** on the birth of their son, Noah on May 10, 2022. Noah is the grandson of Joe and Rita Wells.

**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  
Dane Brittingham  
D. Brown  
Debbie Campbell  
Mike and Judy Conflitti  
Linda Contrill  
Rob Craig  
Rick Crump  
Maxine Eash  
Barbara Fleetwood  
Tom Glenn  
Twin Granddaughters  
Nikki Gustafson  
Ben H.  
Beverly Harrison  
Quinn Humes  
Jim  
Jerry Jackson  
David Johnson  
Dean Johnson  
Johnny  
Chris K  
Wayne Klaus  
Courtney Laura

Kirsten Lewis and family  
Martha Marani  
Jack & Zelda McDuff  
Joanne McKay  
Willow McKenzie  
Brian McMullen  
Patrick Murphy  
Diane Parrilli  
David and Judy Passwaters  
Ron Payne  
Trish R.  
Marshall Rea  
Alyshia Redmond  
Millie Remick  
George Reph Jr.  
Nick Riggie  
Ron Semmont  
Bill Smar  
Sandy S.  
Samuel Smith  
Seth Spencer  
Tom  
Kathleen Tracy  
Dianne Verkade

Joan Wadman  
Kathryn Webb  
Arnold Williams  
Jon Zaimas

# CALENDAR

## **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

## **MONDAY 5/23**

- 9:00 a.m. APS Graduation, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. AA, Century Club
- 7:00 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> State Harmonizers,  
Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Wesley Room

## **TUESDAY 5/24**

- 10:00 a.m. APS Graduation, Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Sisters' Bible Study, Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Pack Meeting, Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,  
Grier Room

## **WEDNESDAY 5/25**

- 4:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Alpha Group Dinner,  
Fellowship Hall

## **THURSDAY 5/26**

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

## **FRIDAY 5/27**

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

## **SATURDAY 5/28**

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

## **SUNDAY 5/29**

- 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