



The Midweek

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

#priorities

Many times, on social media, we use the hashtag #priorities. It's a way of expressing (sarcastically) that we are choosing something over another (even if it is not really a true need). For example: I had an appointment but there was an ice cream shop on the way, so I had to stop #priorities. Many times, our #priorities are really just frivolous, unnecessary, and petty wants.

This week, as we close out our study of Jonah, we will see Jonah's continued anger over God's display of mercy over Nineveh. Jonah is being very dramatic and repeating he "would rather be dead". He was being a total "drama queen". He was whining like a spoiled brat. He was angry. Yet, God was patient.

Jonah was so upset, hot, and bothered! The weather wasn't helping either! So God provided shade... and then took it away. Guess what? Jonah became upset with the weather. It was so hot, he wanted to die (he literally said that).

The Lord has the last word and it is a question. As the book of Jonah concludes, we do not have a happy ending, resolution, or idea of what became of Jonah. We hear God expressing His priorities (in the form of

a question) and they are much different than Jonah's.
Jonah... it's not all about you.

This Sunday, we will talk about priorities. How our #priorities often get in the way of God's priorities.

God loves us. Yet, God's will and work go far beyond what we can see or understand. How can we align our priorities with His?

Let's consider how, this Sunday.

Pastor Neyda

2022 YARD SALE

The summer is moving along and that means the Yard Sale is coming quickly!! Here is a list of all the important dates that you need to help us get ready. Please let us know if you would like to help.

Judy Struck (609) 319- 8082 judystruck@comcast.net

Sandy Culotta (302) 258-5787 swculotta@gmail.com

YARD SALE DATES AND TIMES:

- ♦ Thursday, August 4th from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (**\$1 entrance fee**)
- ♦ Friday, August 5th from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- ♦ Saturday, August 6th from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

DONATION DATES AND TIMES:

- ♦ Thursday, July 28th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- ♦ Friday, July 29th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- ♦ Monday, August 1st from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- ♦ Tuesday, August 2nd from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



FURNITURE PICK UP:

Contact Larry Hughes (302) 745-4331 or Dave Reynolds (302) 503-3933. Times will vary and items must be either in the garage or outside.

Please pick up a list of what will and will not be accepted from the counter in the church foyer.

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 (302) 422-8111 or by contacting Dan Holt, our *Pastor of Congregational Care*. You can email Pastor Dan directly at dholt@avenueumc.com.

GIVING STATEMENTS—Second quarter giving statements were emailed **Monday, July 11th**, to all givers with email addresses. If you do not use email but would like a paper copy of your 2022 giving so far, please call Kelly (302-422-8111) and I will prepare it for you. *Harriet Davies, Finance Secretary*

MINISTRY RESTART—USHERS AND GREETERS: We believe in creating a warm, welcoming, and expectant worship environment where members and guests are excited to gather, to worship, and to grow as a community of faith. To assist with this, we are looking to restart *the ministry of ushers and greeters*.

Ushers and Greeters are servants who have the gift of hospitality and are able to remove barriers that keep people from encountering the presence of God during worship. Greeters operate outside the sanctuary to create a warm welcome, answer questions, and assist where needed. Ushers minister inside the sanctuary to receive the offering, assist with seating, and to provide assistance when needed. Both roles are vital to help worshippers get better connected to our Discipleship Pathway to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, and both roles will work with our Connections ministry to that end.

If you would like to serve as an Usher or Greeter, email Kelly at churchoffice@avenueumc.com.

RIVERWALK FREEDOM FESTIVAL OUTREACH: Milford’s *Riverwalk Freedom Festival* is scheduled for **Saturday, September 17th** in downtown Milford. Avenue will be present to meet with community members, share information about our church, pray with those who need it, and to have a great time! We are creating a team to envision our booth and to serve the day of the event. If you would like to be part of the outreach team, please contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com.

SPONSOR KICK-OFF SUNDAY: Avenue is planning a church-wide kick-off on **Sunday, September 18th**. Beginning at 10:00 a.m., we will gather for worship under the tent. After worship, we will have food and dessert trucks to enjoy an Avenue Family Meal together. There will be yard games and inflatables for the whole family. This is intended to be a time of

celebration and fellowship and a great opportunity to invite new families and friends to worship.

Our goal is to provide the day Kick-Off Sunday at no cost to our congregation and are looking for some sponsors who might want to help provide the event. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please email Pastor Steve at srlamotte@avenueumc.com or speak with him by calling the church office.

FALL KICK-OFF PLANNING HAS BEGUN: We will be holding our Fall Kick-Off on **Sunday, September 18th at 10:00 a.m.** under the tent. This will be an all-church worship time with a family meal afterwards. We are looking for those who want to make this an unforgettable day of worship and family fun for our entire Avenue Community. If you are interested in helping to plan this event, please contact Pastor Steve at srlamotte@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.

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: The Pantry can always use cereal and soup, canned fruit is also good. **Our big news is a transition of leadership. Tita and Diane are retiring and their replacements are in training.** Diana LeDonne is taking on the role of Coordinator. Nancy Czerwinski, a very active Milford Lion, will be handling the inventory. They will appreciate your continued support of the Milford Community Pantry. The Avenue congregation is so generous and helpful. Your help allows us to continue our efforts to reduce food insecurity.

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.

NEXT GEN - Introducing Christina Trager: The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is excited to introduce Christina Trager as our newest staff member. She will be the Next Generations Pastor serving our teenagers and young adults. This is a full-time position.

Christina comes from Mariner's Bethel United Methodist Church in Ocean View, Delaware where she has over a decade of youth ministry experience. Most recently, she served as their full-time Middle School Coordinator. Christina has a Master's of Arts in Youth Ministry with a certificate in Child and Youth Ministry and Advocacy from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. She has also served as a missionary in the States through the Global Board of Ministries.

Christina plans on starting her ministry at Avenue in mid-July. Please keep Christina in your

prayers and do all you can to make her welcomed at Avenue!

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP - FAVORITE WORSHIP SONGS: Avenue will be holding a “hymn sing” on Sunday, July 31st. It will be an opportunity to sing our favorite songs in each service. The 9:00 a.m. service will be given the chance to request their favorite hymn during worship. At 10:30 a.m., we are taking a different approach and requesting that you email Pastor Steve (srlamotte@avenueumc.com) your favorite praise song, chorus, or hymn. The Praise Team will be putting together the service from these requests. We look forward to worshipping with you on July 31st.

SERMON SERIES HELP NEEDED—ASKED/ANSWERED: In August, we will begin a new sermon series called ASKED/ANSWERED where you will have input on the sermon content. We want to know what questions you have about the Bible, God, Faith, and Theology. For four weeks, we will look at our questions and build a sermon that addresses one or more of the questions you have. It will be an opportunity to have a little more participation in worship.

Got questions? You can email your questions to Pastor Steve (srlamotte@avenueumc.com) with the phrase ASKED/ANSWERED in the subject line. Your questions need to be received prior to August 1st to put the series together.

FIRE SAFETY EVENT—NEED VOLUNTEERS — On **July 17th**, Health Ministry will be hosting a fire safety event outside the portico after church services. We will have a fire truck and handouts. The United Methodist Men will be cooking hot dogs. To make this a successful event we need some Methodist Men to help cook/service hot dogs. If interested, please call Rob Craig. Thanks!

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. We have a wonderful study of the 10 Commandments and will be taking July and August off. See you **September 13th**.

SUNDAYS

10:15 a.m. @ Church Summer Sunday School led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired plus others is meeting in the Grier Room at 10:15 a.m. The study for July is “The Work of the Church.” The lesson for July 17th lesson is “The Quest for Inclusive Fellowship” based on Acts 11:1-18; July 24th lesson is “The Jerusalem Council’s Mandate” based on Acts 15:1-21; and July 31st lesson is “Mission Without Walls” based on Acts 16:25-34. Please join us in the Grier Room for these exciting lessons.

When to seek emergency care for burns

Call 911 or seek immediate care for major burns, which:

- Are deep, involving all layers of the skin
- Cause the skin to be dry and leathery
- May appear charred or have patches of white, brown or black
- Are larger than 3 inches (about 8 centimeters) in diameter
- Cover the hands, feet, face, groin, buttocks or a major joint, or encircles an arm or leg
- Are accompanied by smoke inhalation
- Begin swelling very quickly
- Electrical burns, including those caused by lightning, and major chemical burns need emergency medical care.
- A minor burn might need emergency care if it affects the eyes, mouth, hands or genital areas. Babies and older adults might need emergency care for minor burns as well.



Treating major burns until emergency help arrives:

- Protect the burned person from further harm. If you can do so safely, make sure the person you're helping is not in contact with the source of the burn.
- For electrical burns, make sure the power source is off before you approach the burned person. Don't try to remove clothing stuck in the burn.
- Make certain that the person burned is breathing. If needed, begin rescue breathing if you know how.
- Remove jewelry, belts and other tight items, especially from the burned area and the neck. Burned areas swell quickly.
- Cover the burn. Loosely cover the area with gauze or a clean cloth.
- Raise the burned area. Lift the wound above heart level if possible.
- Watch for signs of shock. Signs and symptoms include cool, clammy skin, weak pulse and shallow breathing.

Treating minor burns

- Cool the burn. Hold the area under cool (not cold) running water for about 10 minutes. If the burn is on the face, apply a cool, wet cloth until the pain eases.
- For a mouth burn from hot food or drink, put a piece of ice in the mouth for a few minutes.
- Remove rings or other tight items from the burned area. Try to do this quickly and gently, before the area swells.
- Don't break blisters. Blisters help protect against infection. If a blister does break, gently clean the area with water and apply an antibiotic ointment.
- Apply lotion. After the burn is cooled, apply a lotion, such as one with aloe vera or cocoa butter. This helps prevent drying and provides relief.
- Bandage the burn. Cover the burn with a clean bandage. Wrap it loosely to avoid putting pressure on burned skin. Bandaging keeps air off the area, reduces pain and protects blistered skin.
- If needed, take a nonprescription pain reliever, such as ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin IB, others), naproxen sodium (Aleve) or acetaminophen (Tylenol, others).

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid-burns/basics/art-20056649#:~:text=Burns%20are%20tissue%20damage%20from,be%20treated%20with%20first%20aid.>



**“He heals the broken hearted, and binds up their wounds.”
Psalms 147:3**



United
Women
in Faith

The UMW/United Women in Faith will be collecting school supplies in participation with the Bayhealth Summer Community Service Project. The supplies will be donated to Caring Hearts Helping Hands which will provide them to the families that it supports. Last year the organization packed and distributed nearly 200 book bags with supplies.

If you would like to donate supplies, please place them in the receptacle in the church office by **Thursday, July 21st**.

We will be collecting the following supplies:

- 1" single subject spiral notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- Loose notebook paper (wide and college ruled)
- 1" three ring binders
- Three ring notebook dividers
- Highlighters
- Colored markers

Thank you for helping the children supported by Caring Hearts Caring Hands get off to a positive start in the coming school year.

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:

- **Rev. John & Ginny Van Tine** who will celebrate their **52nd** anniversary on **July 18th**.

SYMPATHY TO:

- The family and friends of Joanne McKay who passed away on July 3, 2022. Joanne joined Avenue Church on October 20, 2013.

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:

Marty Brereton
Alma Brittingham
Charlene Johnson Cannon
Roland Cohee
Mike and Judy Conflitti
Dana
Barbara Fleetwood
Dan Williams Gaskill Sr
Tom Glenn
Niki Gustafson
Sam Hanna
Beverly Harrison
Quinn Humes
Jerry Jackson
David Johnson
Dean Johnson
Kirsten Lewis and family
Diana Lubitz
Martha Marani
Jack & Zelda McDuff
Jean Murphy

Ron Payne
Alyshia Redmond
Chester Reid
Millie Remick
George Reph Jr.
Ron Semmont
Seth Spencer
Glen Stevenson
Lonel Touze
Joan Wadman
Dr. Charles “Chuck” Wagner
Milton Whitescarver

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY 7/13

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

THURSDAY 7/14

11:00 a.m. AA, Century Club
5:30 p.m. Zumba, Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY 7/15

7:00 p.m. AA, Century Club

SATURDAY 7/16

9:00 a.m. Alpha Weekend
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi, Wesley Room
9:00 a.m. Haitian Church, Century Club
7:00 p.m. AA, Century Club

SUNDAY 7/17

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
7:00 p.m. Haitian Church, Century Club

MONDAY 7/18

11:00 a.m. AA, Century Club
7:00 p.m. Harmonizers, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Sermon on the Mount,
Holzmueller Room

TUESDAY 7/19

5:30 p.m. Zumba, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
Grier Room
7:00 p.m. Milford Al-Anon Group,
Century Club

WEDNESDAY 7/20

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