



AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Midweek

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Called to Pastor

I've been recently reflecting on the role and ministry of a pastor. I want to specifically think about the *role* of pastor rather than the word pastor as a *title*. Over the years, there have been a lot of changes in the role of a pastor. In some settings, the pastor is the CEO of an organization, expected to be the executive leader of an organization. In smaller environments, a pastor may fill a chaplain's ministry, caring for people as they age. There are variations in between that are a mixture of expectations of the person, the congregation, and the denomination of who a pastor is.

The Apostle Paul gives us a glimpse of what roles are available in the church of Christ. In Ephesians 4:11-13, he writes,

*¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the **pastors** and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

The word pastor sticks out in Paul's description of the various roles necessary in the church of Christ. It is *literally translated as **shepherd***. A pastor is someone who shepherds others in the ways of God. The 23rd Psalm tells us that a shepherd leads the sheep by cool, refreshing water streams. The shepherd provides places of rest and renewal. When the sheep must pass through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, the shepherd is there guiding them. In the New Testament, Jesus is the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd knows his sheep, and his sheep knows his voice. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. In just a brief scan of scripture, a pastor is someone who leads, guides, provides for, knows the sheep, and is known by the sheep.

This shepherding understanding of a pastor is one reason Avenue has realigned our ministry team as a "pastoral team". Each member, in their way, is part of the shepherding process at Avenue. **Pastor Neyda** leads and guides us through discipleship opportunities, teaching us to follow Jesus more closely. **Pastor Dan** is our Pastor of Congregational Care. One of his primary functions is walking with people through challenging times- primarily through the Valley of the Shadow of Death. Our Next Generation Pastor, **Christina Trager**, is walking with our teens, their families, and our leaders to raise the next generation of Christ-followers and leaders. Recently, SPRC changed **Kevin Chamberlain's** title/role to *Pastor of Worship and Music*, recognizing that his ministry is guiding us to greater awareness and worship of God through worship and music. My primary function as Lead Pastor, as I understand it, is to shepherd and lead our other shepherds- those on staff and those serving the church in the pews.

Some of you are called to shepherding as well. We see it in our staff meetings when we talk about your care for others, your guidance, your prayer, and how you guide people into a flourishing life with Christ. You may not be called "pastor," but you are pastoring.

I am grateful to serve with an amazing team of pastors at Avenue Church. I am excited to see how our "pastors in the pews" will be used by God in the coming months as the Holy Spirit leads and empowers us for a new season of ministry!

Sow Much Love,

Pastor Steve

A NEW MIDWEEK COMING NEXT WEEK: Starting next week, The Midweek will arrive in your inbox in a new format. No longer will The Midweek be filled with pages from the bulletin, but it will be focused on an article from a staff member and a glimpse at upcoming events/ministries/opportunities that we want you to know about. We hope that it will be clean, attractive, and focused on what is most important as we seek to be *fully-devoted followers of Jesus Christ*.

As with any new venture, there are bound to be bumps along the way, but our goal is to have a product you will read and share with your friends. Be on the lookout for the new Midweek on the first Wednesday of September.

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.

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 OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY: Avenue will be participating in the Milford Riverwalk Freedom Festival on September 17th in downtown Milford. We will be setting up a booth to meet our neighbors, share with them about Avenue Church, and be available to pray with those who might need prayer.

We are looking for people who have the gift of evangelism and hospitality to assist throughout the day. There are opportunities for early morning booth set-up, late afternoon clean-up, and there will be blocks of time throughout the Riverwalk to serve. You can sign-up online by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/riverwalkDE>.

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 SUNDAY: Avenue will be holding our annual outdoor Fall Kick-Off Worship Service and Picnic on **Sunday, September 18th**. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. and will be followed by a church meal with food provided by local food vendors. There will be inflatable games, yard games, and great opportunities for fellowship with other members of the Avenue family. Be in prayer about inviting family and friends to join us. This event is designed as an easy entryway for friends who are not connected to a church to come and experience the Avenue community.

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 or **to sign up for a meal**, you can call (302) 422-8111 or send an email to healthministry@avenueumc.com.

ADULT FUSION LEADERS NEEDED: Fusion is our youth ministry serving those who are in 6th-12th grade. Our leaders are what makes Fusion happen and we need you! We are looking to add to our Adult Fusion Ministry Team and are looking for those who love Jesus, love teenagers, and love making a difference. Working with youth not only can change their lives, but it can change your life as well! If you would like to learn more about Fusion and becoming a Fusion leader, please contact Pastor Christina at ctrager@avenueumc.com.

MILFORD COMMUNITY PANTRY: The pantry is in need of diapers size 5 and 6. **Beginning in October on the 3rd Sunday we will again put a food cart in the sanctuary for pantry donations. Thank You!**

PANCAKE BREAKFAST ON SEPTEMBER 11th: The United Methodist Men will be serving up some hot pancakes, eggs, and sausage on **Sunday, September 11th** in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be available between services and after the 10:30 a.m. service. There is no fee for the breakfast, a love offering will be received. **Men: If you would like to help serve in the dining area, contact Jeff Carmine (jbcarmine@verizon.net).**

SUCCESSFUL YARD SALE THANKS! A big **thank you** to everyone who donated, bought items, carried things, helped set up by washing items, pricing, organizing and all who worked at the 2022 Yard Sale in August. It took a village, a team of men and women of Avenue who were a dedicated part of reaching out to the community, making sure items were affordable, being welcoming to all who attended (more than last year) and sharing leftover items with local mission organizations. The Yard Sale raised over \$6000. Money will be donated to local, national and international missions, selected by United Women in Faith/UMW. The leadership of the whole event by **Sandy Culotta and Judy Struck** was again outstanding with many overall positive comments from attendees and workers. To thank Judy and Sandy, a donation has been made in their names to Milford Advocacy to Homeless – a favorite charity of both. If you missed out on helping with this fabulous annual event, please consider helping with the second half of the Yard Sale called the **Holiday Fair** which will happen in October 2022.

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 will begin a new study on September 13th. DAVID - Seeking a Heart Like His by Beth Moore is an 11 week study which take us up to Advent. If you are interested please contact Brenda Powers or Ginny Van Tine.

SUNDAYS

10:15 a.m. @ Church 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 "Rescue." The lesson for September 4th is "Standing Up Against Oppression" based on Exodus 1:2-2:10; September 11th lesson is "Freedom Song" based on Exodus 15:1-18; September 18th lesson is "The Redeemer's Provision" based on Exodus 17:1-16; and September 25th lesson is "From Obedience to Freedom" based on Deuteronomy 30:15-20. Plan to join us in the Grier Room for these exciting lessons.



Avenue United Methodist

General Budget

<https://ppay.co/C1wbyRmqP-8>

Give to Avenue Church

Your faithful giving enables Avenue to
continue making fully devoted disciples
of Jesus Christ!

Scan the QR Code with your phone's Camera
App to give.

Comfort Cards

Brothers and Sisters in Christ I would like to have these two flooded with cards of Love and Inspirational. I know you are just the people who can do it.

Dorothy Yates (Dennis Yates's Mother)
Milford Place Assisted Living
Room 236
500 S. DuPont Blvd.
Milford, DE 19963

Jean Murphy
Milford Place Assisted Living
Room 125
500 S DuPont Blvd.
Milford, DE 19963

HEALTH MINISTRY

Blood Pressure Screening will be held in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, September 4th** between church services.

Blood pressure screening is not just for the elderly. Remember they lived to be elderly.

High blood pressure can start as early as age 16.

Do not wait for symptoms. Start checking your blood pressure early as the numbers slowly creep up. Find ways to prevent high blood pressure so you too can live to be elderly.

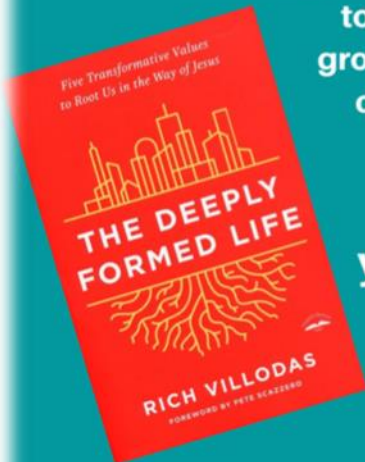


“...do you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.” ~ I Corinthians 6:19-20

Would you be interested in being a

Growth Group Leader?

We are looking for people wanting
to help others know God,
grow in their faith, make new
connections, and serve.



Please sign up in foyer or text
your name and "Growth Groups"
to (302) 240-4240

Our first leaders' gathering:

Wednesday, August 31 @ 6:30 pm
Grier Room

Discipleship
Pathway >>>

FALL KICKOFF

MINISTRY FAIR

This is your chance to

- Inform others about your ministry
- Invite others to serve with you

What you will need

- Informational material (printed)
- Reserve a spot (we will provide table)
- Someone to be at your table to answer questions
- Wear an Avenue Tshirt and a big smile

To reserve your spot email:
nalbarran@avenueumc.com

Coming This Fall:

- First Responders Sunday* | September 11th
- Kick-Off Sunday* | September 18th at 10 AM
- Blessing of the Animals* | October 1st at 10:30 AM
- World Communion Sunday* | October 2nd

AVENUEUMC.COM
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AVENUEUMC

 AVENUE CHURCH

FALL KICKOFF

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

10 AM WORSHIP



FOOD TRUCKS



ICE CREAM




LAWN GAMES



& FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY!

AVENUEUMC.COM
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AVENUEUMC

 AVENUE CHURCH

3rd Grade
**BIBLE
PRESENTATION**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 18
10:00 AM**



AVENUE CHURCH



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 24, 2022 (4:00-6:00pm)

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.

Pack



CUB SCOUT

HOLIDAY FAIR

Holiday Fair – Bake Sale Returns on Friday, October 21st & Saturday, October 22nd

Bonnie has graciously accepted the leadership for the Bake Sale, she and her team are looking forward to the wonderful donations for the sale. Please make sure you let Bonnie know what you would like to donate either through signing the Bake Sale books on Sundays or emailing Bonnie at jbcarmine@verizon.com.

Holiday Fair – Silent Auction: Are you wondering how you might support the Holiday Fair, here's a way in which you can help... we will be creating themed baskets full of goodies. We would gratefully accept donations of new items or gift cards that would support a theme. Some of the ideas we have are:

- **Baby:** diapers, wipes, onesies, rattle, stuffed toy, baby shampoo, nail scissors, etc.
- **Young Child:** small games, coloring book, colored pencils, crayons, drawing pad, books, stickers, Gift card for Red Bandana in downtown Milford
- **Teen:** Amazon/Walmart gift cards, pens, magazines, cards, snacks, etc.
- **Kitchen:** Hand towels, potholders, placemats, paper napkins, etc.
- **Cabin Fever:** snuggle throw, puzzle books (Crossword, Sudoku, Word finds), cards, adult coloring book & colored pencils, jigsaw puzzle, tea bags, coffee mug, hot cocoa, candy, etc.
- **Date Night:** restaurant gift certificate, movie tickets (Donation from Milford Movies), popcorn, sodas, boxed candies, etc.
- **Car Care:** car wash, car wax, window cleaner, microfiber cloths, tire shine, deodorizer, etc.
- **Pet:** dog/cat treats, brush, comb, toy, gift card to Fur Baby or Concord Pets, etc.
- **Cookie Tower:** tin of Christmas cookies to be stacked & wrapped with other tins.

Holiday Fair – Bazaar Workshop: We will be setting up one or two Christmas trees decorated with hand-crafted ornaments. All proceeds from the ornament sales will go toward helping the homeless population of Milford.

WE NEED YOU! If you enjoy working on handcrafts, plan on joining us at the Avenue Church in the Holzmuller Room on the second floor for our **BAZAAR WORKSHOP days**. All the materials to create ornaments will be provided, and instruction on "how to" paint, stitch, fold, glue, decorate, etc. will be given.

Mark your calendars for: **Tuesdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27 & Oct. 4 & 11 from 1 pm - 3 pm**

For Information: If you have any questions, concerns, or wish to donate to the Silent Auction or help with the ornaments, please contact:

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

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

Spiders belonging to prominent families like orb-weaver, cobweb., and wolf are known to inhabit the state of Delaware. Since it is located near the ocean, water-dwelling species like the fishing spider is known to thrive here. The state has two potentially dangerous spiders namely the brown recluse and black widow.

Most spiders in the US are harmless. Black widow and brown recluse spider bites are dangerous, and sometimes life-threatening requiring immediate attention.

What are the signs and symptoms of spiders bites that aren't poisonous?

Spider bites are actually rare occurrences, and most presumed people that have been bitten by spiders are likely due to another condition that mimics a spider bite. Bites from most (non-poisonous) spiders cause local redness, irritation, and pain that usually can be treated at home.

What are the symptoms and signs of black widow spider bites?

Black widow spider bite symptoms are immediate pain, burning, redness, and swelling. Other signs and symptoms of a black widow spider bite are a feeling of a pinprick, and sometimes double fang marks on the person where the spider bit. Often, a person does not know that a black widow spider has bitten them.

Spiders in Delaware

Highly Venomous



Brown Recluse



Northern Black Widow



Rabbit Hutch Spider



Southern Black Widow

Less Venomous



Dark Fishing Spider



Triangulate Cobweb Spider



American Nursery Web Spider



Furrow Orb-weaver



Red-spotted Ant Mimic Spider



Hentz Orb-weaver



Banded Garden Spider



Yellow Garden Spider

Spideridentifications



https://www.medicinenet.com/bad_bugs_pictures_slideshow/article.htm

What are the symptoms and signs of black recluse spider bites?

Symptoms of a brown recluse spider bite are a mild sting followed by severe pain and local redness that usually develops within eight hours or more after the bite. Some brown recluse spider bites may include a purple or blue area around the bite, which is surrounded by a whitish ring and a large outer ring in a bull's eye pattern. A fluid blister then forms at the spider bite site and then sloughs off revealing a deep ulcer that may turn black. Other signs and symptoms of a black widow or brown recluse spider bite may include abdominal or joint pain, fever, nausea, and headache.

If you think that, you or someone you know has been bitten by a black widow or brown recluse spider, call 911 or go to the nearest Urgent Care or Emergency Department for treatment.

https://www.medicinenet.com/spider_bites_black_widow_and_brown_recluse/article.htm



https://www.medicinenet.com/bad_bugs_pictures_slideshow/article.htm

What are the first signs and symptoms of spider bites that aren't not poisonous?

Bites from most (non-poisonous) spiders cause local redness, irritation, and pain that usually can be treated at home using an over-the-counter pain reliever along with application of cooling packs or a wet cloth to relieve swelling.

These local reactions usually resolve without treatment over a period of 7-10 days. Rarely, an individual can have an allergic reaction to a spider bite, even to a bite from a non-poisonous spider, but allergic reactions are more likely to be due to contact with a spider than from a spider bite.

https://www.medicinenet.com/spider_bites_black_widow_and_brown_recluse/article.htm

“Such are the paths of all who forget God; the hope of the godless shall perish. Their confidence is gossamer, (*a fine, filmy substance consisting of cobwebs spun by small spiders*) a spider’s house their trust. If one leans against its house it will not stand; if one lays hold of it, it will not endure.”

Job 8:13-15

HEALTH MINISTRY

Successful Components of Aging in Place Understanding • Planning • Paying



PACE
YOUR
LIFE

Join us to learn more about the trendy phrase, “Aging in Place.” We will define “aging in place”, “activities of daily living” and “comprehensive care.”

Our discussion will include how to pay for care needs as a person ages and will use support from Procino-Wells & Woodland, LLC to outline how legal strategies can play a role in planning for a person’s future care needs.

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CALL 302-865-3565.

SEPTEMBER 16 - 10:30 A.M.

AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 20 Church Street, Milford

Coffee and light refreshments will be served.



HEALTH MINISTRY



Avenue United Methodist church has agreed to host a flu vaccine clinic at the church on Sunday, October 23, 2022 from 9 am-12 pm.

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

Individuals with Medicare and or insurance will be at no cost. Individuals without insurance will have a cost for the vaccine.

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

Thank you!

“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou may prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospers.”

3 John 1:2



Sign up for the flu vaccine scheduled for **October 23, 2022** from
9 am-12 pm at Avenue United Methodist Church
Milford, DE.

Please leave your completed form in the Health Ministry box in
the church office **by October 1st** for Health Ministry. You can
also email your form to healthministry@avenueumc.com

Name _____

Insurance Yes or No

Address _____

Phone number _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____

When you come for the flu vaccine, you will need to fill out a
form that Rite Aid will be providing.

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Horsman MSN,
RN, Faith Community Nurse at Avenue United Methodist Church
at (302) 422-8111

**“That they may know that you alone, whose name is the
Lord, are the most High over all the earth.” ~ Psalm 83:18**

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:

Doug and Sharon Baker
Marty Brereton
Alma Brittingham
Lydia Castro
Mary Charnick
Roland Cohee
Janet E
Barbara Fleetwood
Dan Williams Gaskill Sr
Tom Glenn
Michael Hall
Sam Hanna
Beverly Harrison
Pat Hudson
Jerry Jackson
B. Johnson
David Johnson
Dean Johnson
Esther LaMotte
Lewis Family
Diana Lubitz
Carol Malkus
Martha Marani
Jack & Zelda McDuff
Christine McGee
Jean Murphy

Ron Payne
Jeannie Phelps
Marshall Rea
Alyshia Redmond
Chester Reid
Millie Remick
George Reph Jr.
Sandy S.
Ron Semmont
Matt Severe
Lonel Touze
Evelyn Townsend
Bill Turner
Joan Wadman
Dr. Charles "Chuck" Wagner
Milton Whitescarver

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY 8/31

- 4:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice, Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Leaders Meeting (Groups),
Grier Room

THURSDAY 9/1

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

FRIDAY 9/2

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

SATURDAY 9/3

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

SUNDAY 9/4 ~ Communion 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
- 7:00 p.m. Haitian Church, Century Club

MONDAY 9/5 ~ Church Office Closed

- 11:00 a.m. AA, Century Club
- 6:30 p.m. Arrow of Light, Century Club
- 6:30 p.m. Webelos, Room 207
- 7:00 p.m. Harmonizers, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY 9/6

- 1:00 p.m. Bazaar Worskshop, Holz. Room
- 5:00 p.m. Preschool—CPR, Heritage Room
- 5:30 p.m. Zumba, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Bears Den, Room 207
- 6:30 p.m. Tigers Den, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m. Central Delaware Chess Club,
Grier Room
- 7:00 p.m. Milford Al-Anon Group,
Century Club

WEDNESDAY 9/7

- 4:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice,
Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Parent Info Night—APS,
Fellowship Hall/Grier Room
- 6:30 p.m. Wolf Den, Room 206