Letter from the Pastor

Dear Avondalers,

Last month I had the privilege and pleasure of sharing in my first Communion with you at Avondale. Perhaps Communion has become a familiar experience for you at worship, but for me it was a significant moment.

The term communion means just that, communing (being in community) with God, with one an-

other, with ourselves. We may practice these events in our daily lives, but I expect most of us do so separately. We might take a moment for our daily devotion. We'll spend time visiting with an Avondaler or chatting with them casually on our way to another appointment. We might even take time to sit and do the internal work of self-reflection and awareness. Rarely however, do we ever do all three at one time.

When we participate in communion we are intentionally opening ourselves up to the presence of God. John Calvin, the reformer who helped shape our Presbyterian tradition, taught that Christ remains in heaven and that we commune with him in the Lord's Supper by being raised up to him rather than him descending to us. Calvin believed the elements of the Supper to be used by God as instruments in communicating the promises which they represent, a view called symbolic instrumentalism. Meaning that the elements of bread and wine are practical, providing nourishment for our

bodies and souls, while at the same time being a symbolic reminder that God is with us, always.

As significant as communion with Christ is, we also benefit by being in communion with one another

and ourselves. In what other element of our daily lives do we humbly come together as a group to share in a holy sacrament? In what other way do we open ourselves up to others and claim that we are broken people in need of God's grace? In what other way do we self-examine and embrace the understanding that we cannot participate in the Kingdom of God on our own? Only

when I am together with you do I ex-

perience the true depth of Christian

community found in Holy Communion.

Like Sunday super shared around a large table, when I walk up to the Lord's Table with my fellow church family members and the elder shares with me the bread and the cup, in that moment I feel welcomed and accepted as a part of a larger family of believers. From which I am given the internal confidence of knowing that I belong, and my existence (however so humble) has purpose with meaning. Because together we are a part of something so much bigger. Together we are a part of

The term
communion
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with ourselves.

continued...

...thank you for your faith in and support of God's work at Avondale.

Dedication Sunday

September 29



The Stewardship Team would like to thank you for your 2020 pledges, as well as for your commitment to completing your 2019 contributions!

If you haven't turned in your 2020 pledge, Dedication Sunday is September 29th. We look forward to celebrating stewardship at Avondale with refreshments after the service. See you then!

In this edition:

Letter from the Pastor October & November Birthdays & Anniversaries Joys & Concerns Avondale in Action Disciples in Action Financial Update Coming Soon Calendar INSERT: 75th Anniversary Homecoming

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of:Given by:Alice BalfeLinda HaighDavid PhillipsLinda Haigh

Dollie Sitton Rich and Lisa Worf

Dollie Sitton Linda Haigh
Martha Meunier Leslie Grogan
Martha Meunier PWA

In Memory of: Given by:

Martha Meunier Lynn and Randall Allen

Martha Meunier John B. Austin

Martha Meunier Larry and Joan Laughter

Mary Alice Bryson Barbara Witzel
Mary Alice Bryson ASAP and Bunco
Mary Alice Bryson Linda Haigh

Memorials & Honorariums online at avondalepresbychurch.org/donate.

continued... Letter from the Pastor

the body of Christ which we call ... the church. We are the church.

In October we will come together again to celebrate communion. However, in October we recognize that we are connected with the church all over the world by celebrating World Wide Communion. On that Sunday we commune not just with Avondalers, but with the faithful all over the World. So be sure to join us. That you too, may be connected with those that claim to follow Christ. As together we experience the healing grace of God's presence in our lives.

Grace & Peace, Jim
Rev. Jim Ewing, Senior Pastor

Finance Update





Automatic Funds

Contact Jacqueline Howells if you would like to be added to the weekly or monthly automated electronic funds transfer list to have your contributions withdrawn directly from your bank account in lieu of writing paper checks. Jacqueline@avondalepresbychurch.org

Contribution Envelopes

For 2020 contribution envelopes - if you would like to receive them, and did not receive them this year, (or received them and would prefer to give without envelopes next year), please let Jacqueline Howells know your preference! 704-333-6194 x13

Music Ministry

Fundraiser: We thank you for your support and participation in the Music Ministry fundraiser to purchase instruments for children. We were blessed with over \$1,800 in contributions! The new instruments were used in Vacation Bible School and will be used in Avondale Adventures too. www.avondalepresbychurch.org/children

Music Performances: Your voices are wanted to share in rejoicing of "75 Years of Music" on Saturday, October 12 at 4 PM. Also, please save Sunday, December 15 for our Children's Christmas Musical. Have you considered joining our Music Ministry? www.avondalepresbychurch.org/musicministry



Birthdays in October

L	Natalie	Thomas	

- 2 Emily Shannon
- **4** Jacy Chavaree Marsha Rose
- **6** Edwin Anderson Alevia Callaway
- **7** Tommy Gribble
- 8 Alice Cuviello Maureen Hunter
- **9** Tim Chambers Jerry Lawson
- 11 Rose Graham

- 11 Jeff Meier
- 12 Libby Thompson
- 13 Colin Thomson
- **16** Katherine Anderson Betsy Gustafson
 - Cate Vick
- **17** Drew Martin Jim McCarthy
- 18 Bob Rudisill
- **19** Timothy Vestal
- 21 Tova Gunter Fred Wilkerson

- 22 Natalie Bookout
- 25 Callie Magee
- **26** Tim Doherty
- 28 Shea Barron
- 29 Reid Caldwell
- **30** Kay Chelena
 - Cal Hamilton Lynn Mathis
 - Adrian Sutherland
- 31 Brylie Major

Wedding Anniversaries in October

- 3 Shawn and Regina Love 1998 John and Joy Callaway 2009
- 4 Sarah Kate Magee and Joe Pease 2014 Matt and Stefanie Mitchell 2008
- **5** Roger and Caroline White 1969
- 6 Dana and Beth Vorholt 2018
- 8 Nic and Rebeca Presson 2011

- **11** Kay DeArmon 1958
- 15 Margaret and Mark McGinn 2016
- 21 Ben and Tiz Benson 1995
- 22 Chris and Connor Hipps 1997
- 27 Rick Parler 1984 Bob and Cathy Watson 1984

Joys & Concerns

Members: Billie Coates; Laura Daniel; Sue Haag; Chuck Hendrix; Betty Marshall; Frances McNair; Ann, Millie & Dorothy Patterson; Libby Phillips; Lee Weigle; Caroline White; Tina Wilson.

Family and Friends: The Ash Family; Lee Ballard; Ed Boyd; Lillie Cowan; Cindy Eubank; Tom Grice; Nathan & Kim Jester; Darlene Johnson; Marcial Montiel; Laura Moore; Cliff Norris; Mike Page; Beverly Schaffield.

Baptism: Baptized July 28, 2019 in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, was Hudson Liam Vorholt, son of Beth and Dana Vorholt.

Birth: We welcome into the world and celebrate the birth of Evelyn Martin, born August 4, 2019, daughter of Drew and Mary Margaret Martin.

Church Triumphant: We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Molly Carver, who joined the church triumphant Sunday, September 22, 2019 (b. May 30, 1939). A service will be held at Avondale on Saturday, September 28 at 10 AM.

Staff News at Avondale:

Rev. Jim Ewing joined Avondale as our new pastor. Justin Higgins joined Bethlehem Center's teen program. Avondale Children's Center is hiring a new director. Find details in this edition.

Pictured top to bottom: Molly Carver, Evelyn Martin, and a still from the ABC video.





A few Avondale Videos

Vacation Bible School www.facebook.com/AvondalePresbyterian/ posts/2592962387383378 LINK

Avondale Music

www.avondalepresbychurch.org/musicministry LINK

ABC Ministry

www.facebook.com/watch/?v=699708620500905

LINK

Avondale Adventures https://youtu.be/PtVMn_o9t80 LINK



Birthdays in November

1	Anna Blake	8	Dawn Harlow	17	Tom Stout
	Hunter Presson		Beth Suydam	19	Andrew Hall
2	Charlie Shumate	9	Janet Harrison	20	Lamar Gunter
4	Vince Chelena	10	Wesley Hayes	21	Jim Ewing
	Eleanor Sloan	13	Mary Hall		Jennifer Vick
5	Matthew Hogston		Betty Myers	28	Sue Gibbs
6	Bill Halsey		Mahlon Thomas		Hadlea Presson
	Marge Hardegree	15	Connor Hipps	29	Viola Clontz
	Lisa Worf	16	Matt Comstock		Barbara Darling
8	Emma Ely		Stefanie Mitchell	30	Arthur Baum
			Tina Wilson		

Wedding Anniversaries in November

- 4 Carl and DeeDee McDonald 2000
- 15 Alice Fitchett and Chris Cuviello 2014
- 17 Tony and Donna McKenzie 1990
- 29 Viola Clontz 1944

Avondale in Action

Avondale's New Pastor

Dates for our history books... Avondale welcomed Rev. Jim Ewing as our new pastor in August 2019. The installation of our new pastor will complete the call process that has brought Jim to our congregation. Please plan to attend this service of worship as a show of support. This is also an opportunity to worship God, who faithfully guided our committee through the pastoral call process. We give thanks to our PNC for their long journey and celebrate and give thanks to God for the successful completion of this process.

Monday, August 5 - Jim begins working in the office

Sunday, August 11 - Welcome Reception for the Ewing Family

Saturday, August 17 - Jim was received into the Presbytery of Charlotte

at the stated Presbytery Meeting in Wadesboro

Sunday, August 18 – Jim lead his first Avondale worship service

TBC – Jim's installation at Avondale

Thank You from Congregational Life

Regarding our Welcome Reception for Jim, Carrie, Emma Grace and James Ewing on August 11, 2019 following worship in the Fellowship Hall:

"Well, it sure was a wonderful day of worship and welcome at Avondale yesterday!!! Thanks SO much to ALL of you for your help contacting friends to provide food (it was simply fantastic!) and for the beautiful way the Fellowship Hall was transformed! You are the most fun, creative, devoted friends!! It's a blessing to be fellowshipping with you!" - Lynn Wilkerson, Congregational Life Ministry

Avondale Sunday School

The Bible 101 Sunday School class, led by Lisa Worf, resumed on September 8 following a break and began their fall study. Our Sunday School class, Sabbath House, begins a discussion on September 29 at 11 AM of "Not Your White Jesus, Following a Radical Refugee Messiah" by Sheri Faye Rosendahl. Susan Brandau (pixedust@bellsouth.net) is the class contact. You are welcome to join any of our adult Sunday School classes.









Avondale in Action

Youth Group & Faithful Friends

In September, Avondale youth visited several "Faithful Friends", members who can't always attend church. Shea Chambers, Meg Stephens, Arthur Baum, and Betty Chambers each took four youth group members on visits. We visited Betty Marshall, Rachel Caudill, Eleanor Ramey, Connie Stout, Fran McCoy, Betty Boyd and JoAnn Sahlie. Everyone had a great visit and new friendships were made.

Vacation Bible School

We had a great VBS this summer! We had a full roster with 106 children – with 60 older children from Avondale and Bethlehem Center and 46 younger ones at the Avondale Children's Center. The theme for the older children was, "Who is My Neighbor? Learning to Love Like Jesus!" They spent the week learning who their neighbor is and what it means to serve those neighbors and spread the love of Jesus. It was a memorable experience and we are grateful to all the volunteers who helped make it possible. We shared a short video on Facebook of the kids writing cards to go in Operation Christmas Child boxes - the Mission Project of VBS.

New from our Mission Ministry Team

On August 7, Mission shared a phone message announcing two new ministries – a Work Trip to eastern North Carolina and Gleaning. To read more about these missions, visit our website or speak with Harry Greyard (harry@avondale.cc) about Gleaning and Cindy McKenzie (cindymckenzie715@gmail.com) about the trip.

Update from Avondale Children's Center

In August, the Avondale Children's Center (ACC) shared an update with the ACC families about the director leaving the center. Read the announcement <u>letter here</u>. Read and share the ACC Director job posting at https://tinyurl.com/JobACCDirector.

The ACC will have a busy October with their Fall Festival to be held October 18 and the ACC Trunk or Treat on October 24.

ABC Ministry - OST Teen Leadership New Hire!

Justin Higgins has a Bachelor's Degree in History and Political Science from North Carolina Central University and has joined the Bethlehem Center team from the CMS public school system as a Social Studies teacher for 7th grade. Justin enjoys helping students reach their "a-ha!" moments and realizing their full potential mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally. Justin's approach to education and mentoring is to make engagements intellectually stimulating and practical. We are excited to have him working with the Teen Leadership Cooperative (TLC).

Sacred Space Art Program

The Sacred Space Art program held an art exhibit displaying over 20 works from the program. The exhibit was held the same day as our Breakfast and "Blessing of the Backpacks". The fall-winter programs were announced. www.avondalepresbychurch.org/sacredspace

ASAP in Action

ASAP's recent mission project was making bags of school supplies for the teachers at Sedgefield Middle School. They delivered 65 bags to them the first week of school and had several bags filled with extra supplies. The teachers of Sedgefield were very appreciative. The collection of pull tabs from all types of cans to deliver to the Ronald McDonald House continues! Each four pounds we collect pays for a family to stay. Help us by collecting the tabs and give them to any ASAP member.















Avondale in Action

Member Directory Project

Guess what?! A new (and much desired) member information and pictorial directory is in the works. Pictures with LifeTouch began September 11 on campus. Every individual/family photographed will receive a free directory and 8x10 photo. A day was added to have your picture taken! Sign-up now for your photo on October 2. Sign-up online or call the Church Office. If spaces are filled, please contact Jessica Shanks at 704-333-6194 x10.

Did you know this about Avondale Bunco?

In 2010, Bunco began with eight players. We now have 26 on our roster. We give a \$5 donation to play. Every dollar goes to a mission project. During our nine years, we have donated over \$8,500 to all types of missions! We have supported our youth, VBS, Joyful Noise, any mission project of Avondale, Bright Blessings, Center of Hope, flood victims, and many, many more. We are a part of PWA, so we give to the Thank and Birthday Offerings too. Importantly, Bunco is a time for women of all ages to come together for fun, food, laughter and fellowship. Ladies and young ladies interested to come play a fun, easy game, call Brenda Coble (980-297-4997) for details.

Doing the CYPP!

If you are interested in serving the children and youth of Avondale and have not yet taken Child Youth Protection Certification or need to recertify, Patti Oswald will lead two opportunities to do this. September 29 and October 6 at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall. RSVP via website or Office.







Disciples in Action

Ways to Serve:

Homecoming Weekend
Kids Café
Mission Trip to Eastern NC
ABC Ministry
Women's Retreat Planning
Gleaning
Office Support
Music Ministry
Room In The Inn
Worship
Join a Ministry Team
Member Care



Nursery Volunteers

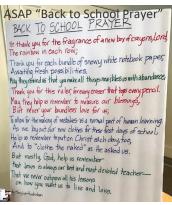
Our nursery is growing and we are looking for a few new volunteers to help during Worship and the Sunday School hour. If you are interested, please contact Dee Dee McDonald at 704-975-7085 or graynemma5@gmail.com.











Room In The Inn (RITI)

We are excited that Avondale will once again be welcoming our homeless neighbors to spend the night at our campus during the cold winter months through the Room In The Inn (RITI) program. We will be hosting our neighbors on Sunday evenings, beginning in December. This is a night that works well for our congregation, and is also one of the most difficult for RITI to find church partners. With the merger of the Urban Ministry Center and the Men's Shelter this year, and the continued problems relating to affordable housing in Charlotte, we expect the need this year to be greater than ever.

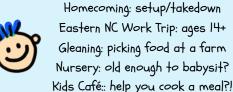
We will need people to:

- 1. **Pick-up neighbors** from Urban Ministry Center, or return them the next morning. This is very easy if you can drive the bus!
- 2. Serve as **overnight hosts**. This job is easier than you think! It mainly involves getting to know our guests, making sure they have everything they need, and helping with laundry. Neighbors leave our campus by 6:30 AM, leaving plenty of time to get to work on Monday!
- 3. Serve as **evening hosts**. Essentially the same as overnight hosts, except you don't spend the night.
- 4. **Prepare dinner**. This is a fun way to serve our neighbors, and a great option for kids to help out!
- 5. **Prepare bagged lunches**. We give each of our neighbors a bagged lunch when they leave us on Monday.
- 6. **Prepare breakfast**. We give our neighbors a good hot breakfast on Monday morning as well.
- 7. **Set-up Fellowship Hall**, or **break down Fellowship Hall** the next day. This is easy, and another great way for kids to get involved!
- 8. **Wash linens**. Also extremely easy--all the linens are collected for you already, you just need to wash them!

We ask that every member of the congregation prayerfully consider how they can be involved with Room In The Inn this year. The words of Matthew 25: 34-40 are apt:

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, [g] you did it to me.'

Kids in Action!



Room In The Inn: prepare food, setup/takedown

Kids in Action!



AVONDALE CALENDAR

Sept 27 - Kids Café & Birthday Blessings begins (two Fridays a month)

Sept 27 - Basketball "Playbook for Life"

Ministry - registration opens

Sept 29 - Dedication Sunday

Sept 29 - CYPP Training

Sept 30 - Sacred Space Art - The Art of Collage Books begins

Oct 1 - Taizé Prayer Service

Oct 2 - Picture Day added for the

Member Directory

Oct 4 - Bunco

Oct 5 - Sacred Space Art - Card-Making

Oct 6 - CYPP Training

Oct 6 - World Wide Communion

Oct 12-13 - Avondale's 75th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend

Oct 12 - "75 Years of Music" at 4 PM

Oct 12 - Youth Plant Sale order pick-up

Oct 13 - Worship and Homecoming Luncheon at 11 AM

Oct 18 - ACC Fall Festival

Oct 24 - ACC Trunk or Treat

Oct 25-28 - Work Camp Mission Trip

Oct 28 - ASAP meeting - voices of Elizabeth Bridges and friend

Nov 1 - Bunco

Nov 2 - Sacred Space Art - Acrylic

Painting begins

Nov 3 - PWA Tea

Nov 5 - Taizé Prayer Service

Nov 18 - Sacred Space Art - "Sugar My

Fancy" Cake Decorating begins

Nov 28 - A Thanksgiving Breakfast

Dec 1-24 - Advent

Dec 7 - Christmas Market & Village

Dec 12 - ASAP & Friends trip to "A Flat Rock Playhouse Christmas"

Dec 15 - Avondale Adventures -

Performance

Dec 18 - ASAP meeting - Christmas songs with John Tosco

Winter 2019 - Room In The Inn (RITI) begins

March 13-15, 2020 - Avondale Women's Retreat



AVONDALE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY



"75 Years of Music" & Refreshments Sat., October 12 4 PM in the Sanctuary

We are celebrating "75 Years of Music" with Avondale favorites and all musical gifts represented - and you too! Kind of like the "Festival Sundays" of our past, all our musical entities will be represented - choir, handbells, band... hear loved anthems and sing along to favorite hymns. Be here for this BIG celebration of music. Refreshments will follow. This event is kid friendly! Enjoy hotdogs, caramel apples, s'mores, and Cheer Wine punch. Also enjoy walking the campus Open House to see the many historical displays remembering and celebrating our 75 years. Friends and family welcomed.



Worship & Homecoming Luncheon Sun., October 13 11 AM in FLC & Fellowship Hall

We will have Worship at 11 AM on this day and immediately following will be our Homecoming Luncheon*. Everyone bring a covered dish to share. Brisket, chicken, and Homecoming cake(s) will be provided. If you bring an Avondale Cookbook dish, please bring a card to display alongside it with details. Our Open House historical displays will be shared again on this special day. Take time to stroll the campus to enjoy the displays celebrating and remembering Avondale ministries over the years. *Please RSVP for the Luncheon on our website or call the Office at 704-333-6194.

avondalepresbychurch.org/75thcelebrations



#Flashback 1974 From Our Goth Anniversary...

In 1974, at our 60th anniversary, the adult Sunday School classes took on a project to create banners for each decade of Avondale's history. They were to show the history going on in the

world, as well as Avondale. The banners created then have been hung again to celebrate our 75th anniversary. Find these impressive works of art in our Family Life Center. The Bible 101 class is creating a new banner, 2005 to 2014, that will debut at Homecoming!

HOMECOMING

Homecoming Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help with the Anniversary Luncheon on October 13. Please let Suzi Thornberry know if you can help with the following tasks

- Saturday Morning: set-up tables & tents, prep for Sunday & decorate
- Sunday prior to worship: finish table set-up outdoors, prep beverages, accept side dishes
- During the luncheon: serve main dishes & oversee side dishes & beverages/ice
- After luncheon: Clean-up, wash dishes & breakdown tables & chairs

Thank you for any and all help you can offer. Suzi Thornberry: sthornberry0429@att.net call or text 704-516-2945

WEDDINGS

Weddings at Avondale?

We are seeking memorabilia for our Homecoming! If any Avondalers have any wedding memorabilia from their wedding at Avondale, will you please contact Joy Callaway? Her number is 704-533-2966. We are putting together a weddings display for Homecoming and are looking for dresses, pictures, etc.!

CHRISTMAS

HoHoHo...Merry Christmas!

Our very first Christmas Market will be on December 7...just over 2 months away! Are you getting creative?? We have approximately 15-20 artisans/crafters/ bakers/ creative folks participating so far. We plan to have an area decorated for children to visit Santa and some children activities too! Marketplace! Contact: Lynn Wilkerson call or text 704-965-5757 lbwilkerson@att.net



Avondale Presbyterian Church 2821 Park Road Charlotte, NC 28209

Newsletter Publishing Schedule

Avondale Avenues is published every other month on the last Tuesday of the month. Content deadline for the next newsletter is a week prior to publication. Send submissions to caroline@avondalepresbychurch.org.



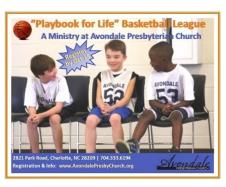
Avondale Adventures Wednesdays 25 PM Sept. 25 to Dec. 4, 2019

Wednesdays:

December 11

5 – 5:30 PM Preschool program 5:30 – 6 PM Dinner for all 6 – 7:30 PM Elementary program At the end of Avondale Adventures, the children put on a musical performance! Save the date for: Performance Rehearsal -

Performance - December 15 www.avondalepresbychurch-.org/avondaleadventures



Basketball League Registration Open through Oct. 14

Registration opens this week for our "Playbook for Life" basketball ministry league. Open to all - boys and girls 18 and under. The mission is to provide an opportunity for youth to participate in a Christ-centered team sports program. Ziggy Barjona is our coordinator. Find more details online or at the Church Office.

www.avondalepresbychurch-.org/basketballministry



Avondale Homecoming! Celebrating 75 Years October 12-13

Our big Homecoming Weekend to celebrate our 75th Anniversary is coming soon! On Saturday, we will have music performances celebrating "75 Years of Music", followed by refreshment and historical displays throughout campus. The celebration continues on Sunday with Worship at 11 AM following by our Homecoming Luncheon. Historical displays will still be available to enjoy. Find more details in this edition or go to www.avondalepresbychurch..org/75thcelebrations.

www.avondalepresbychurch.org