



# AVERY CHURCH

1100 Gabby Ave.

Washington, PA 15301

Church Office: 724-225-0632

averyumc@comcast.net

AveryUnitedMethodistChurch.org

Bill Lawler, Pastor

724-470-6424

bkcllawl@yahoo.com

# June 2023

## Worship

June 4 Trinity Sunday  
*How?*  
2 Corinthians 13:11-12;  
Matthew 28:16-20  
Holy Communion

June 11 2nd Sunday after Pentecost  
*God of the Oppressed*  
Romans 4:13-25;  
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 18 3rd Sunday after Pentecost  
*Messy People Joining Hands*  
Romans 5:1-8;  
Matthew 9:35-10:8

June 25 4th Sunday after Pentecost  
*How Many Hairs*  
*Do You Have?*  
Romans 6:1-11;  
Matthew 10:24-39

## Help us welcome Debbie Crouse to our Staff at Avery!



Debbie will be joining us on June 5, 2023, as Children's Ministry Director. Some of Debbie's responsibilities will be to develop a vision for children's ministry, planning of outreach events, recruitment, training, and scheduling of volunteers for children's ministry. Debbie is a daughter of Floyd & Soni Marasco, a graduate of McGuffey High School and currently works as a first grade teacher at Claysville Elementary. She has experience in Children's Ministry as the Children's Bell Choir Director at Alliance Church, as well as the director for *God's Kids Puppet Team*. We're excited to see Debbie apply her experience and education to help grow our church!

*Dear Avery Community, I am very excited to begin this journey with you as the Director of Children's Ministries. I have been an elementary school teacher for 24 years and have inspired and taught children using the gifts God has given me. I am looking forward to bringing these gifts to Avery. In my opinion, seeing children praise God through singing, playing bells, planting a garden or participating in a Christmas play is one of the greatest things a church community can provide. I am committed to seeing children do these exact activities at Avery Church!*

*With Love,  
Debbie Crouse*

## Birthdays

- 6/3 Michael Semple
- 6/4 Ada Brumley
- 6/6 Tucker Rawlins
- 6/7 Marilyn Hill
- 6/10 Buddy Batson
- 6/10 Lehman Lawler
- 6/11 Blaine Stump
- 6/13 Abby Garda
- 6/16 Bob Areford
- 6/16 Jason Moninger
- 6/17 Bill Lawler
- 6/20 Arlene Millick
- 6/21 Floyd Marasco
- 6/25 Denise Davis
- 6/28 Ron Davis
- 6/30 JR Pond

## Anniversaries

- 6/2 Bob & Cindy Miller
- 6/6 Richard & Linda Pakisz
- 6/16 Jan & Lindsey Miller
- 6/18 Joe and Phyllis Kern

## Potluck Fellowship Lunch

Mark your calendars and join us for a potluck lunch after worship on June 11!

- ☺ Bring a favorite dish to share.
- ☺ Rolls and beverages provided.

## Graduate Recognition: June 4

- Emma Crouse
- Rayne Elling
- Rylee Elling
- Summer Frye



## Vacation Bible School June 19-23, 9am-12pm

First United Methodist Church  
29 North College St./Washington

Contact Jill Motzer  
724-255-5474 / jmotzer@verizon.net

## Trustee Report

Gathered/stored various church history materials to choir room; ongoing upkeep.

Minor repair to men's room plumbing.

Placed Easter cross on metal plate base and adjusted spot light to illuminate.

Coordinated volunteers to plan, organize and implement the April Rummage Sale. It was a BIG success! We raised \$2606. Thanks to the MANY people who were valuable help!

*“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.”* - Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIV

Well, summer is upon us. Kids are out of school. Many people are planning vacations and as temperatures climb, we set our air conditioning a bit cooler and heed the cautions to drink plenty of water. We may move a bit slower in the heat and may tackle physical chores a bit earlier in the day. This also means that a lot of people struggle to keep a routine and may fall out of the good habits they've kept up for the year so far.

As I look back at past summers, I see a trail of beautiful and bittersweet memories. There have been summers that overflowed with joy and summers filled with deep sadness and pain. The common thread is that every summer was unique and had its own tale to tell.

Just as every *natural* summer has a story, so does every *spiritual* summer. We will each walk through the spiritual seasons many times. Autumn is a time of change. Winter is a time of barrenness and preparation. Spring is a time of rebirth. And summer is a time for bearing fruit and embracing the abundant life that surrounds us.

The key to embracing our spiritual summer, no matter what time of year it is in the natural, is to remember to seize the joy of the season. This is a time to feel the heavenly warmth on our face and revel in the beauty that surrounds us. Relax, have fun, celebrate, and abide in gratitude for the blessings that surround you. Fall and winter will come, but don't let thoughts of the unknown rob you of the joy of the moment.

Summer is a season known for cultivating and bearing good fruit. Oh goodness, there is just nothing like a sweet, sun-ripened, summer strawberry. It is like a taste of heaven on earth! Our spiritual fruit of love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control must also be cultivated and ripened so it can taste even sweeter than the best summer strawberry. There is one sure way to do this, and that is to remember *who* our spiritual gardener is and to remain in him always.

The challenge is to seize the joy of the season. Embrace the summer and all of its goodness. Start each day with a prayer of gratitude to our Father, and then go and enjoy the sunshine! Go to the beach, savor an ice cream cone, run through a sprinkler, tend to your garden—whatever brings you summer joy. If you want to take this challenge even further, see how you can incorporate the fruits of the spirit into your summer activities. Maybe share the joy and invite friends over for the afternoon. Practice patience with your children as they call your name for the millionth time. Exhibit self-control when you are offered your tenth smore. Offer peace when there is fighting over the last slice of watermelon. Show yourself an extra dose of kindness when you slip on your bathing suit after eating those nine smores, knowing priceless memories are being made.

Dear friends, we can do this. Be courageous, and let's be brave enough to defend our joy with an ice cream cone in one hand and God's Word in the other!

*Lord, thank you for the gift of summer. Thank you for ice cream cones, backyard barbecues, and sun-drenched memories. May we seize each moment of joy and remember that you are the true cultivator of our harvest and author of our stories. Amen.*

Blessings,  
Pastor Bill

## Heartsaver Training

The course has been scheduled for Wednesday June 14, 6-8 pm. The \$35 fee may be paid on the evening of the class with cash or check payable to nurse instructor “Patrick Giecek”.

## Calendar

<u>Sun. June 4</u> 10:30 am	<u>Trinity Sunday</u> Worship Holy Communion Graduate Recognition
<u>Tue. June 6</u> 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Small Group Clergy Gathering
<u>Wed. June 7</u> Tentative	Building Rental
<u>Sun. June 11</u> 10:30 am 11:30 am	<u>2nd Sun. after Pentecost</u> Worship Potluck Lunch
<u>Mon. June 12</u> 6:30 pm	Church Council
<u>Tue. June 13</u> 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Small Group Clergy Gathering
<u>Wed. June 14</u> 6 - 8pm	Heartsaver Training
~ <u>June 15 thru 17: Annual Conference</u> ~	
<u>Sun. June 18</u> 10:30 am	<u>3rd Sun. after Pentecost</u> Worship <i>Father's Day</i>
<u>Mon. June 19</u>	<i>Juneteenth</i>
<u>Tue. June 20</u> 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Small Group Clergy Gathering
<u>Sun. June 25</u> 10:30 am	<u>4th Sun. after Pentecost</u> Worship
<u>Tue. June 27</u> 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Small Group Clergy Gathering
<u>Wed. June 28</u>	<i>John Wesley's Birthday</i>

## Avery in Action

These funds are designated to a specific cause each quarter.

Second Quarter:

*Trinity West Lunch Angels*

2nd Quarter contributions will be used to pay off students' cafeteria fees which are past due, and to pay it forward for struggling Trinity West families.