

Letter from the Pastor

*"God moving and creating something new in our midst...
next steps in building bridges with our neighbors"*

Dear Avondalers,

In a changing world, you and I may wonder what remains constant? Those new to worshipping at Avondale have little knowledge or understanding of a heritage and history embedded in this faith community since 1944. Our DNA and core values define who we are. We are a faith community where people matter, family is first, we welcome questions of faith and it is our desire to respond to local and global needs. Turn the wheel on a kaleidoscope a thousand times and these values will remain who we are.

I have been deeply encouraged, within the midst of ongoing change, to see the value of God moving and creating something new in our midst. Whatever the direction, there is noble work yet to be done. Whatever our age, or our own assessment of our ability/inability to do anything, your response as a congregation is encouraging. Your pledges for 2017 are coming into the office. They are neces-

sary for ministry to occur. In the light of significant worship changes, worship attendance is strong and we are worshipping God to the best of our God-given talents. Members are asking 'What next?' as you anxiously await details and greater clarity to new mission and ministry.



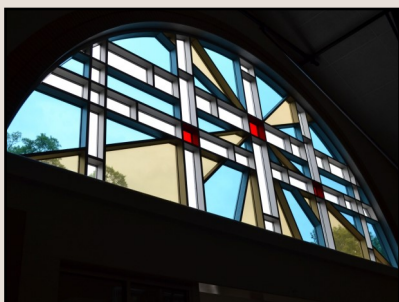
*...respond to
local and global
needs....*

At the most recent meeting of the College of Elders, we shared the directives from the Session to the Implementation Team. This team is now meeting regularly - so also is the Prayer Team - taking the ideas from the Dream Team and defining

a missional focus to the Bethlehem Center, Southside homes and Brookhill Village.

Make it a high priority to attend the Called Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, November 20 at 11:00 AM to hear a report and details on next steps in building bridges with our

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Growing in Stewardship

Stewardship in Finance and Mission 2017 Pledge to Avondale

As a congregation we are called to embrace opportunities of service that are a witness to Jesus Christ beyond our walls. As a congregation we are called to gather as God's people to glorify God at Table, font, and in daily life.

Avondale's 2017 proposed budget and program is shared online at <http://tinyurl.com/APC2017Pledge>. Your personal copy of this document - that you picked-up at Worship Service or was mailed to you - has a Pledge Card enclosed. Thank you to all who presented their 2017 Pledge Card during the Dedication Sunday Service or have turned into the church office. If you were unable to attend, please mail or drop off your 2017 Pledge Card to the church office this week. Additional Pledge Cards available online here <http://tinyurl.com/APC2017PledgeForms>.

During October, we are all afforded an opportunity to make an Annual Pledge to support the work of Avondale, and more importantly help grow the kingdom. Please send your 2017 Pledge Card to Avondale's church office if you haven't done so already.

Please consider making Avondale your top giving priority.

Letter from Pastor cont.

neighbors. Many of you ask "What next and how can I become involved?" This meeting will share the information for which you have been waiting. Pray that when leadership shares the next definitive steps, you are spiritually open to grow and ready to participate.



Daylight Saving Time

ends on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 2 AM. Turn your clocks back one hour to 1 AM. Many people change their clocks Saturday night, before they go to bed so the time is correct upon waking Sunday! DST is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

"What next?"

"How can I get involved?"

The months past have been nothing less than Avondale being schooled in applying the Gospel to daily life. All of us, including leadership, have been challenged and often our personal preferences have been set aside to ask what is best for the larger Kingdom of God. I believe deeply that what we learn and

how we grow will be lessons on God and learnings in theology for future generations.

These things remain...we shall apply the grace of Almighty God in a manner that love and service will become visible. While often uncertain of the next specific step (still being defined), I am confident that God has blessed us to be a blessing to others.

Yours in Christ, *John B. Earl*

Join in for these important gatherings!

Sunday, November 6

Congregational Meal at 12 Noon

"Rejoice! God Loves A Cheerful Giver Lunch"

A meal of fellowship, fun, and faith. Members will celebrate giving to others and welcome the opportunity to respond to what God is calling us to become.

Sunday, November 20

Congregational Meeting at 11 AM

All Congregational Called to Hear Next Steps in Building Bridges

This meeting will share the information for which you have been waiting - "What next?" "How can I get involved?" Come hear our vision for moving forward and a detailed report on next steps in building bridges with our neighbors.

Financial Update (9 months ending September 30)

	YTD 2015 Actual	YTD 2016 Budget	YTD 2016 Actual
Pledges/Contributions	\$382,038	\$349,321	\$345,932
All Other Income	44,528	47,456	41,985
TOTAL REVENUE	\$426,566	\$396,777	\$387,917
Administrative Expenses*	\$453,432	\$416,451	\$398,979
Ministry Related Expenses	78,356	83,601	\$64,159
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$531,788	\$500,052	\$463,138
OPERATING LOSS	(\$105,522)	(\$103,276)	(\$75,221)
*Administrative Expenses are Personnel, Property, Office, and Technology & Communication.			
FUND BALANCES	September 30, 2015		September 30, 2016
Endowment*	\$506,690		\$739,668
Facilities Fund	\$40,032		\$53,048
Columbarium Fund	\$34,327		\$52,717

* Includes \$59,285 in restricted accounts @ September 30, 2016.

Avondale News

2017 Stewardship Pledge Update

The Ministry Team expresses gratitude for your participation in Dedication Sunday on October 16. As of Monday, October 23, 105 pledges totaling \$379,795 have been received. We are 61% towards our goal of a balanced budget. Additional pledge cards are available at Worship, in the office, and at <http://tinyurl.com/APC2017PledgeForms>.

Unity Service on Wednesday, November 9

A Unity Service for Our Nation will be held on the day following our local and national elections. Come to Avondale on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 12 PM for a 30-40 minute worship and prayer service. All welcome.

4th Annual Bake Sale

December 10 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sale will be in our FLC Café. Open to all.

Come one, come all and find fresh baked, delicious goodies! This is the fourth annual Bake Sale produced and hosted by The Presbyterian Women of Avondale.

Youth Holiday Greenery Sale Going on Now!

The holidays are right around the corner and we will be decking the halls once again. The youth are selling holiday greenery and poinsettias. The products are high quality, lush and will make a beautiful addition to your holiday décor. Please place your order by November 6 for Greenery orders and by November 13 for Poinsettia orders. Order pick-ups will be Saturday and Sunday, December 3-4.

A link to the [order forms](#) on our Avondale website is: www.avondalepresbychurch.org. We will also have a display table setup on Sundays prior to and following worship. We invite members to place an order then. This sale is open to the public and your friends, neighbors and family are invited to place an order.

Youth Fall Mission Day

Sunday, October 30 Lunch at 11:00 AM

Leave for a Day of Service Work at 12:00 PM

The 'mission team' within Youth have decided that the fall mission opportunity will be visiting shut-in members and helping with any needs they may have in their yard. We plan to do this on Sunday, October 30. We will be breaking into small groups of 3-4 youth for these member visits. RSVP your participation to [Jessica Shanks](#). Adult volunteers are needed also.

2017 Youth Mission Trip

Save June 11-17, 2017 on your calendar. Youth will head to Charleston, SC for the 2017 Youth Mission Trip staying at the James Island Presbyterian Mission House.

Bibles for Third Graders

On October 9, personalized Bibles were presented to these third graders as a gift from God: Elizabeth Barron; Anna Blake; Keagan Cavanaugh; Reese Hautop; Ellory Norman; Allye Powell; Lilly Stout; Bruce Vestal; and Abbie Vick.



Basketball Ministry League 2016-2017 Season Starting Soon in Our Family Life Center

You'll see Zachary Barjona, aka Ziggy, our Basketball Program Coordinator around campus soon. Please say "hello!"

Basketball Practices

Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays
5:00 - 9:00 PM
Nov. 1 to March 1, 2017

Basketball Games

Saturdays
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Dec. 4 - 18 AND Jan. 7 to Feb. 26, 2017

Christmas Basketball Camp

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
December 22-24, 2016

Gifts of Service

- Sedgfield M.S. Reading Buddies Needed

Please contact Robert Rogers at rogersrobt@hotmail.com.

- Baked Goods for Bake Sale Needed

Please contact Lyn Sweet (704-553-2728) or Brenda Coble (704-525-0787) to sign-up.

- Avondale Sign Changers Needed

Kids can help too! Sign-up for two weeks or two months, by contacting Robert Rogers at rogersrobt@hotmail.com.

Avondale Pictures

To see more 2016 Congregational Retreat photos, visit <http://tinyurl.com/APCCongRetreat2016PICTURES>





Key Life Dates Shared

We would like to celebrate key dates in the lives of the membership. If your special day(s) is not shown or is incorrect, please contact the [Church Office](#) with the information.

November Birthdays

1 Anna Blake Hunter Presson	8 Michael Harrison Ryan Patterson	17 Tom Stout
2 Charlie Shumate	9 Janet Harrison	19 Andrew Hall
4 Eleanor Sloan Vince Chelena, IV	10 Wesley Hayes	20 Lamar Gunter
5 Matthew Hogston	11 Cole Hickman	21 Jennifer Vick Joe Pease
6 Bill Halsey Lisa Worf Marge Hardegree	13 Betty Myers Mahlon Thomas Mary Hall	22 Rachel Darling
7 Erin Lee	15 Anders Gustafson	27 David Mitchell
8 Beth Suydam Dawn Parrish Emma Ely	Connor Hipps	28 Hadlea Presson Sue Gibbs
	16 Matt Comstock Tina Wilson	29 Barbara Darling Jenny Mitchell Viola Clontz
	17 Jim Rogers	30 Arthur Baum

November Anniversaries

- 4** Carl and DeeDee McDonald 2000
- 8** George and Suzanne Baillie 1997
- 15** Alice Fitchett and Chris Cuvieello
- 17** Tony and Donna McKenzie 1990
- 29** Viola Clontz 1944

Memorials

In memory of: Bill Loftin

Given by: Paula Huffines
Stewart Farris
Eleanor Ramey
Dottie Sitton
Susan Brandau
Tim & Betty Chambers
D.J. & Leslie Saleeby

In memory of: Bill Berryhill

Given by: Stewart Farris
Lena Martin
Susan Brandau
Parks Berryhill, Jr.

In memory of: Ida Parnell

Given by: Eleanor Ramey
Connie Stout

Joys and Concerns

May God give comfort to these individuals and their families and friends.

Members: Suzanne Baillie; Pam Blake; Becky Chavaree; Mike Cathey; Rachel Darling; Doris Flowers; Jacy Grice; Betty McBrayer; Megan McCarthy; Bordie McCloskey; Martha Meunier; David Phillips; Henry Stockwell; and Ellen Watson.

Family and Friends: Barbara Aylor; Lee Ballard; Ann Boyd-Moore; Scott Braswell; Sally Bridgen; Mary Cerena; Audrey Dougherty; Evelyn Earl; Sam Favor; Larry Hensinger; Ray Moss; Sean Nolan; Mike Page; Claire Refaey; Warren Snider; Hunter Stubbs; Clifton Taylor; Larry Williams; and Nora Kate Williams.

Entering into the Church Triumphant: Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of these church members:

Nickie Bateman

October 11, 1928 - October 5, 2016

Bill Berryhill

June 9, 1929 - September 28, 2016

Bill Loftin

January 10, 1920 - September 18, 2016

Marriage: Margaret Elaine Thornberry, the youngest daughter of Bill and Suzi Thornberry, married Mark Wilson McGinn on October 15. The marriage ceremony and reception were held at the McGinn family farm in Lancaster, SC.





Avondale Presbyterian Church
2821 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28209

Avondale's Newsletter Publish Schedule

Avondale Avenues is published monthly on the fourth Tuesday. Deadline for submitting content for next newsletter is November 15 . Publication date is November 22. Send submissions to Caroline@AvondalePresbyChurch.org.



Unity Service of Healing for Our Nation / Wednesday after Election

We invite all to come Avondale, the day after the end of elections, to unite in spirit with others around our nation. Take a few minutes to replenish your mind and heart. Come for a UNITY SERVICE at 12 noon on Wednesday, November 9 for 40 minutes. We invite you to bring your lunch and enjoy it in our Sacred Garden.

Avondale Calendar

Select dates from Avondale and beyond. See all events on our [Church Calendar online](http://www.avondalepresbychurch.org).

October Recap

Narrative Budget 2017 distributed
Avondale Adventures began
3rd Graders Bible Presentation
Journey Groups
Ruling Elder Nominees
Sedgefield Middle School Reading Buddies began
Basketball League Registration
Walk for Peace held at Avondale
Dedication Sunday
College of Elders Meeting
Bi-Annual Congregational Retreat in Black Mountain
Youth Holiday Greenery Sale began

Oct 30 - Youth Fall Mission Day

November and December

Nov 2 - Joyful Noise expands to two sessions!
Nov 5 - The Charlotte Art Collective Holiday Art Show

Nov 6 - Daylight Savings Time "Fall Back"

Nov 6 - Congregational Lunch - Dedication Meal

Nov 8 - General Election. Polls open from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM. Avondale is a polling site.

Nov 9 - Unity Service at 12 PM (30-40 minutes only)

Nov 11-13 - Youth Fall Retreat at Camp Grier

Nov 13 - Core Gathering/Session Meeting

Nov 20 - Congregational Meeting - Next Steps

Nov 24 - Thanksgiving / Church Office closed for National Holiday

Nov 27 - Advent Begins (through Dec 24)

Dec 1 - Room in the Inn program begins

Dec 10 - 4th Annual Bake Sale by The Presbyterian Women of Avondale from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Dec 11 - Christmas Musical at 3:30 PM

Dec 11 - Monthly Session Meeting

Dec 14 - Christmas Adventure Party

www.avondalepresbychurch.org