

Letter from the Pastor



Dear Avondale Church Family,
Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.
This year is off to the races.

On the weekend of January 11-12, 2019, Avondale held its leadership retreat.

You may know that being a leader takes time, courage, discernment, discipline, and determination. Being a leader is in a word; hard. The work can overwhelm and tire even the most enthusiastic leaders among us; even in the church. It is important to get together and worship, hear what God expects and help leaders to be as successful as they can be as they carry out

this most crucial work and live in this essential role. Scripture leads us to passages that encourage leaders to lead. I would like to share a few. Use these to encourage our leaders at Avondale, especially when things get tough.

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Hebrews 13:7

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

I would like to share with you some of the things your leaders did during the leadership weekend. A more comprehensive report will be available to you soon.

On Friday, the session gathered where we broke bread, had worship, a time of fellowship, bid a thankful and heartfelt farewell to David Hall and Cindy McKenzie, welcomed back Jennifer Patterson and welcomed newcomers Rich Worf, Alice CuvIELLO, and Nancy Bohrer. We took this time to

hear from David and Cindy any parting words they wanted to share with us as their time as active elders ended. We are grateful for their faithful service and pray they find new ways of serving at Avondale. We also took the opportunity to look back over the course of the last year to discern together what we did well. Looking back is a great way to evaluate what went well and what we could have done better. This exercise really helped to set the tone for the rest of the weekend.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

- Galatians 6:9

On Saturday, the rest of the leadership team attended the retreat. We took a look at the present. We had breakfast and lunch, had worship, did a couple of icebreakers (a lot of fun and laughter) and heard the voices of Zach Chambers, who gave an overview of the gathering groups and how they should operate, and Jessica Shanks, who gave information to the leaders about the new staff, their roles and what would

make communication between church and staff flow smoothly. Both of these leaders attempted and succeeded in giving oversight to the processes that make Avondale work well. I talked about how to conduct effective meetings to get the most out of time and people. All of this was to help the leaders in their roles in the present age of Avondale. *continued...*



Lent—March 6–April 18
Ash Wednesday—March 6
Holy Week—April 14–20
Palm Sunday—April 14
Maundy Thursday—April 18
The Great Vigil—April 20
Easter—April 21



Pastor Letter cont.

Looking toward the future, in the afternoon, we had a very lively discussion about the future of Avondale, specifically about celebrating 75 years of existence and how we might celebrate this milestone through the year. There was a great deal of energy and enthusiasm around this topic. We spent the rest of the afternoon planning the remainder of the calendar year. Everyone gathered in their gathering groups and looked at the calendar and began planning for mission and outreach and worship.

Following the retreat your session met for the first time this year and had their stated meeting.

It was a full day, but so much was accomplished. The leaders had an opportunity to share and listen, to fellowship and pray together. Please keep us all in prayer as we seek to do God's Will and serve you.

Remain in Christ, Rev. Veronica

Prayers for Rev. Veronica and Dr. Rev. Jerry Cannon who are traveling to Israel in February.

Session Highlights

December 2018 Update:

- Approved minutes of the November 11, 2018 Stated Meeting of the Session.
- Approved the November 2018 Financial Statement.
- Acted on a Letter of Transfer for the Swart family to James Island Presbyterian Church.
- Approved "love offering" at the luncheon on Sunday, December 16, 2018 for Avondale Adventures with donations to be made to hurricane victims in Eastern North Carolina.
- Scheduled the annual Leadership Retreat date for January 11-12, 2019 with times and location to be communicated at a later date.
- Scheduled the monthly Session meeting to be held immediately following the Leadership Retreat on January 12, 2019.

January 2019 Update:

- Approved the minutes of the December 16, 2018 Stated and Called Meetings.
- Received the preliminary year-end financial statement from the Finance Ministry Team.

continued...

**Our Youth BBQ sale is this
Saturday, February 2**
9 AM to 2 PM
Pre-Order now!
Walk-up Sales available!



**Pre-Order Online
BBQ & Fixin's**
[http://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/
youthfundraisers](http://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/youthfundraisers)
Thank you to all the volunteers!

DISCIPLES IN ACTION

Seeks hands and hearts to help with:

Kids Café & Birthday Blessings

Cooking or Delivery & Serve / [Sign-up](#)

75th Anniversary Events / Congregational Life

Contact [Lynn Wilkerson](#) or [Ruby Cathey](#).

Serve on a **Ministry Team**

Contact [Rev. Veronica](#).

Worship Setup / Help with AV

Sign-up on Sundays

Nursery on Sundays

Contact [Dee Dee McDonald](#)

Room In The Inn / [Sign-up](#)

ABC Ministry Volunteer / [ABC webpage](#)

Avondale Adventures

Contact [Lou Johnson](#).

FINANCIAL NEWS

Happy Fiscal Year 2019! Be on the lookout for 2018 year-end contribution statements to arrive in your inbox/mailbox at the end the month. Please contact Jacqueline Howells if you would like to make a 2019 pledge but have not yet had a chance to do so. Contributing via bank draft instead of paper check can be setup at any time to make your giving easier. Gathering group year-end financial reporting will also be sent later this month to both 2018 and 2019 Church Leadership. Contact Jacqueline at 704-333-6194 x13 or Jacqueline@avondalepresbychurch.org.

2019 Pledge Update

\$435,813 Pledged for 2019 as of
Monday, January 28



Birthdays in February

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 Stephen Hummel
Debi Medlin
Kendel Parks
Candace Williamson | 8 Cathy Watson
Cynthia Sibley* | 18 Cheryl Judd-Magee
Amanda Mullennix
Rebeca Presson |
| 3 John Earl
Ella Ferguson | 9 Mary Nell Howard
Cindy McKenzie
Carrie Smith* | 19 Bordie McCloskey |
| 4 Rena Beall
Lauren Blake
Ava Lindahl
Stacey Longshore
Karen Williams* | 10 Kelly Eakes
Mickey Melton | 20 Amy DeArmon
Milli Mann |
| 6 Betty Marshall | 12 Hudson Flowers | 23 Jacqueline Howells
Gail Love* |
| 8 Rebecca Harris | 14 David Byrd | 24 Dee Dee McDonald |
| | 16 Harry Greyard | 25 Nancy Bohrer |
| | 17 Jennilyn Emory
Katherine Hall | 26 Ellen Watson |
| | 18 Rob Blake
Lou Johnson | 27 Cynthia Rupert |

*ACC Teachers

Wedding Anniversaries in February

- | | |
|--|--|
| 7 John Magee and Cheryl Judd-Magee 1987 | 20 Todd and Patti Oswald 1993 |
| 14 Joe and Emily Zuyus 1998 | 22 Mahlon and Susan Thomas 1981 |
| 19 David and Juddie Finison 2010 | 25 Eleanor Ramey 1950 |

Joys & Concerns

Church Triumphant:

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Mary Alice Bryson, on the passing of her sister, Martha Jane Griffin (August 17, 1941- January 5, 2019). Services were held January 8 in Marshville, NC.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Harriette Bryant Thomas, who passed away on January 2, 2019 (February 28, 1916). The family is holding private services.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Martha Rogers, who passed away on January 27, 2019 (July 7, 1922). The family is holding a small service at 2 PM on Wed., January 30 at McEwen Funeral Home in Pineville at 10500 Park Rd, Charlotte, NC 28210.

Marriage:

We celebrate with Chick and Mary Martin, the union of their daughter, Emily Martin to Alex Freeze, married on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at Avondale Presbyterian Church.

Joyful News:

Callie Magee, daughter of Cheryl and John, is moving the end of January to Dallas, TX to begin a new job in design with Feizy.

Birth:

We rejoice with visiting neighbors, Ann and Tim Doherty, who welcomed a son into the world this month.

Concern for Members:

Billie Coates; Sue Haag; Olivia Magee; Betty Marshall; Greg McKenzie; Tim McLeod; Mickey Melton; Martha Meunier; Matt & Stephanie Mitchell & family; Ryan & Ann Patterson & family; David & Libby Phillips; Martha Rogers; Peggy Simpson; Henry Stockwell; Jane Shumate; & Tina Wilson.

Concern for Family and Friends:

Donna Allen; Marvin & Pattie Bethune & family; Colton Brown; Wendy Campbell; Roger Cockman; Donald James; Will McClure; Corey Mitchem; Grace Mullis & family; & Patti Pittman.

Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you all for your prayers, calls, cards, errands, and food during my recent recuperation from surgery. God's presence was certainly felt through the abundance of prayers. You all are a very special congregation!

Have a wonderful New Year.
Much love in Christ,
Linda Haigh



**Thank You
to all those who
contribute to Member Care
and are Faithful Friends.**

God of Mercy,

Our days hold a mixed bag of blessings and difficulties....Be a balm of love and fill us with your peace. Amen



Birthdays in March

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Jessica Shanks | 10 Lyn Sweet | 23 Joe Zuyus |
| 2 Billie Coates | Mollie Zuyus | 25 Shirley McDowell |
| Todd Oswald | 11 Tracie Hummel | 26 Beth Moss |
| 3 Fran McCoy | 14 Lynne Jones* | 27 Lacey Beall |
| Sarah-Kate Pease | Sherry Whitesides | Bryan Emory |
| 4 Langston Longshore | 16 Allye Powell | Laura McCarthy |
| Dann Smith | 17 Martha Branden | 28 Erik Thomson |
| 6 Barbara Barber | Jed Wilkerson | 29 Claire Graham |
| Megan McCarthy | 18 Henry Stockwell | Lynn Wilkerson |
| Joshua Sutherland | 19 Anita Dorroh-Thomas | Cheryl Yount |
| 8 Isla Smith | Mia Platt | 30 John Eyer |
| 9 Erin Passaly | Owen Shumate | 31 Alex Shumate |
| 10 Kay Cameron-Conner | 21 Alice Balfe | *ACC Teachers |
| Jodie Lawson | 22 Barbara Hill | |

"Remember that great love and great achievements involve great risk."

Wedding Anniversaries in March

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Jim and Carol Bowen 1980 | 20 Betty Parrish 1955 |
| 3 Tim and Betty Chambers 1973 | 21 Jack and Sharon McGinn 1958 |
| 8 Mike and Connie Love 1970 | 25 Jennifer and Tim Dewyer 2017 |
| 16 Heather and Jack Hogston 2013 | 27 Kelly and Bill Platt 2004 |

Session Highlights cont.

...continued

- Approved minutes of the November
- Received the 2018 Church Statistical Report which has been submitted to Office of the General Assembly of the PCUSA.
- Elected D. J. Saleeby to serve as Clerk for a one year term.
- Approved dates for the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the calendar year.
- Approved letters of endorsement for the Bethlehem Center and Urban Ministry Center to remain as recipients of 10 Cents-A-Meal grants.
- Approved calling for special offerings by the Mission Ministry Team in response to national or global events such as Hurricane Florence, etc.
- Approved an amendment to the Personnel Policy Manual from the Personnel Ministry Team.
- Approved sponsorship of Davidson Valmyr for one

semester at Central Piedmont Community College.

- Appointed D. J. Saleeby and Rich Worf to serve as commissioners for Avondale to the Presbytery of Charlotte meeting on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 9:30 A. M. at Sharon Presbyterian Church.
- Elected corporate officers who will act on behalf of the church as necessary. The officers are Jackie Shannon – President; Rich Worf – Vice President; Alice CuvIELLO – Secretary; and Jennifer Patterson - Treasurer
- Approved renewal of the \$250,000 Line of Credit with New Dominion Bank (Note that the church has never drawn on the line but it is available under certain conditions).
- Additional Information: At the Leadership Retreat January 11-12, David Hall and Cindy McKenzie were recognized for their faithfulness and dedicated service as Elders upon completion of their three year term in the Class of 2018.

Guest Pastors

February 17 – Rev. Richard Boyce, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Dean & Ass. Professor of Preaching & Pastoral Leadership

February 24 – Rev. Chris Berardi, Director of Procurement, Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte

Honorarium

In honor of: Thomas Billotto
(brother-in-law of Ted Todd and Debby Sacra)

Given by: Anthony Billotto

For: Haiti Ministry

Always Avondale Endowment

“Dreaming “

Everyone has said or heard another say, “I Had A Dream” after a night’s sleep. It usually goes in one ear and out the other in amidst the hustle and bustle of daily life. Last weekend’s Youth Group annual ski trip took advantage of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Over the weekend I heard him say again “I have a dream”. Preparing this piece - his “I have a dream” got me thinking...

When someone starts a conversation with those four significant words, it’s time to pay attention. What comes next is usually significant and comes from the heart. I wonder whether Martha Meunier said “I have a dream” when she decided to fund the construction of the columbarium and set aside money for its maintenance? I wonder whether Emily Bearden said, “I have a dream”, or perhaps she and Watson said, “We have a dream of a new sanctuary” when deciding to bequeath Avondale a financial gift to support that effort. Most of the Sacred Space Committee’s efforts to date have been funded by that gift.



A dream is communal....
Take time to dream.



Although one person may say “I have a dream”, it is rarely a dream that they can fulfill without others with the same dream. How differently do we think and talk about personal dreams versus personal goals? Goals are personal and often times something I want to accomplish. A dream is communal.

Avondale has benefited greatly from dreamers. The Endowment was created twenty-five years ago to receive gifts and bequests. A dream that now has nearly \$1,100,000 through the generosity of many dreamers.

Annually, the Endowment allocates roughly \$35,000 to support extraordinary opportunities that aren’t supported within the annual budget. Please remember this resource is available to support Avondale’s mission and ministry dreams by requesting a grant.

Take time to dream. And if you decide to act, please contact a member of the Session or the Finance Ministry Team.

THANK GOD FOR DREAMERS!!!

DISCIPLES IN ACTION

Gratitude for our Elders

who have completed their service:

Cindy McKenzie, Session
David Hall, Session

Gratitude for our 2018 Ministry Team Leaders

Alice CuvIELLO
Amanda Shanks
Bill Caldwell

Fred Wilkerson
Karen Shannon
Lynn Daniel
Lynn Wilkerson
Mahlon Thomas
Millie Norris
Olivia Magee
Rena Beall
Ruby Cathey
Todd Oswald
Tony McKenzie
Trish Boyd

Ordination & Installation of Elders

Alive CuvIELLO, Rich Worf, and Nancy Bohrer were ordained and installed as Elders in the Class of 2021 on Sunday, December 16, 2018. Jennifer Patterson was installed as Elder in the Class of 2020 to fill a vacancy created when Chris Swart and his family moved away. Prior to their ordination and installation, they completed a period of study and preparation led by Rev. Veronica Cannon and were then examined by the Session.



Thank you Children’s Sunday School Teachers

On behalf of the Christian Nurture team, we would like to say a special “THANK YOU” to our teachers for teaching and assisting our children in Sunday School this past year. Your dedication and commitment to the children of Avondale is deeply appreciated. The time and energy you spent preparing and gave to lessons did not go unnoticed. We say, “ THANK YOU! Well done good and faithful servants!”

K-2nd Teachers: Ruby Cathey, Linda Haigh, Maureen Hunter, Mary Martin, Cindy McKenzie, Greg McKenzie, Krista Norman, Suzie Thornberry / **3rd-5th Teachers:** Lou Johnson, Jerry Lawson, Jenny Matz, Tony McKenzie

CALLED TO SERVE 2019

Session

Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021
John Magee <i>Worship Gathering</i> Patti Oswald <i>Mission / ABC Team</i> Jessica Shanks <i>Discipleship Gathering</i>	Zach Chambers <i>Management Gathering</i> Jennifer Patterson <i>ACC/Discipleship Gathering</i> Jackie Shannon <i>Worship Gathering</i>	Alice CuvIELLO <i>Worship Gathering</i> Rich Worf <i>Mission Gathering</i> Nancy Bohrer <i>Discipleship Gathering</i>
D. J. Saleeby - <i>Clerk of Session</i>	Corporate Officers: Jackie Shannon- President Rich Worf- Vice President	Alice CuvIELLO- Secretary Jennifer Patterson- Treasurer

Gathering Groups

Discipleship	Mission	Management	Worship
(Congregational Life, Christian Nurture, and Member Care)	(Mission, Outreach and ABC)	(Finance, Personnel, Property, and Capital Campaign)	(Spiritual Growth and Stewardship)
Jessica Shanks Jennifer Patterson (ACC) Nancy Bohrer	Patti Oswald - ABC Rich Worf	Zach Chambers	Alice CuvIELLO John Magee Jackie Shannon

Ministry Teams

Ministry Team	Leaders 2019	Gathering Group
Spiritual Growth	Karen Shannon Paula Huffines	Worship
Stewardship	Laura Meier Ted Todd	Worship
Mission	Harry Greyard	Mission
Outreach	Wynanda Sutherland Deidrea Pavlin	Mission
Christian Nurture	Tony McKenzie	Discipleship
Congregational Life	Ruby Cathey Lynn Wilkerson	Discipleship
Member Care	Rena Beall Susanne Anderson	Discipleship
Finance	Fred Wilkerson	Management
Personnel	Lynn Daniel	Management
Property	Todd Oswald Mahlon Thomas	Management



Avondale in Action

ABC Ministry and Kid's Café

In 2015, Avondale's leadership identified the desire to be more mission focused, have a clear vision, to connect to neighborhood, and to build bridges to our neighbors. A "Dream Team" - made up of church and community members – looked beyond the obvious to bring ideas about new possibilities for Avondale to utilize our talents and resources. They "dreamed" of building bridges to reduce inequities affecting the Southside and Brookhill communities, which resulted in our partnership with the Bethlehem Center. Because of this new vision, a group of teens have been spending their "Out of School" afternoon time at Avondale, doing homework, being tutored, enjoying recreation in the Family Life Center and learning how they can be good citizens and serve our community.

Twice a month on Friday afternoons, all the children (elementary through high school) served by the Out of School Time ministry get together for dinner. It's called Kid's Café. Once a month, children with birthdays that month are celebrated. "Birthday Blessings" recognize each child as special and a gift from God. The children love this time together and go home on Friday evenings with full stomachs and happy hearts.

Want to be a part of this joyful ministry? Help prepare a meal – which can be as simple as heating up frozen lasagna - or deliver and serve to the children at the Southview Recreation Center on Vilma Street. Talk to Kay Chelena, Lisa and Rich Worf, Carol and Jim Bowen, Jim and Sharon McCarthy, Cindy and Jack McKenzie, and Ann Sanders to learn more about the impact of this ministry on the children. [Click here for more details or to sign-up](#) or see the link on our homepage.

Bridge Ministry and Brookhill's New Community Center

As previously reported, our friends at South Tryon Community United Methodist Church (STCUMC) and Brookhill Community Organization applied for and were awarded two grants in 2018 totaling over \$17,000 to open a Community Center in the Brookhill neighborhood. The purpose of the Center is to provide a common space for the residents of Brookhill as well as needed services within the neighborhood. The Community Center is located at 407 Basin Street, adjacent to STCUMC. The Center will provide showering facilities and a clothing closet and will also host basic computer skills training, after school tutoring, financial literacy classes, health screenings and community engagement activities. These activities will be phased in as volunteer staffing allows. Yes, this means there should be future opportunities for Avondale members to engage as volunteers.

Debbie Williams, the former administrative director at STCUMC, has been named Executive Director of the Center. Our STCUMC and Brookhill partners have spent the last several months renovating and converting two vacant Brookhill apartments into the Center. We are excited to report that the Center is opening on February 1. Our Bridge Team ministry had previously planned a January supply drive by our congregation to establish a cleaning and hygiene supply inventory for the Center. However, as an alternate source for these supplies was obtained, the Bridge Team has just recently provided the Center with a check for \$500 to assist in procuring window treatments and other necessities for the new facility. The Bridge Team is hopeful that, with the opening of the Center, we will be able to present our congregation with volunteer opportunities in the near future in keeping with the Bridge Team's mission of developing closer ties with our often underserved Brookhill neighbors. If you are interested in participating in this ministry effort and/or serving as a member of the Bridge Team, please contact Greg McKenzie at 704-953-0428.



'WELCOME TO BROOKHILL'

Exhibit at the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture, 551 S. Tryon St., through Sept. 1, 2019. [Details](#)



Avondale in Action

Haiti Ministry

In early December 2018, Joe Zuyus and Ted Todd traveled to Haiti to escort Davidson Valmyr, the son of Jacquelyn Valmyr, our host-guide-contact-friend in Milot, back to Charlotte to live with the Zuyus family and attend CPCC. This process developed from casual conversations from several past trips to Haiti. It became evident that this could become real in the Fall of 2018 during the October trip. Soon after Davidson's arrival, Avondale took up a special offering to assist with expenses related to school. Davidson started school in mid-January, enrolling in his first English class. Davidson is adjusting well to Charlotte, experiencing many "first" as well as, teaching us a few things like how to make the traditional Haitian soup served on their independence day, January 1st. You can find Davidson in worship on Sundays, even hanging around afterwards to help put away chairs. If you have not introduced yourself yet, please do! He has such a kind and sweet personality.

Youth Mission Project

Our Youth group's fall mission project was collecting school supplies for the "Gift of the Heart Kits" through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. We collected enough to assemble 35 bags and have some leftover supplies that will go to a local school in need.

PWA Bake Sale

A simple "Thank You" is never enough for the many people who helped make our Cookie Bake Sale a tremendous success! Everything was so delicious. We were able to send a box of cookies to each of our "Faithful Friends" for them to enjoy. All of the money from the sale goes toward the missions of PWA: our youth support for summer conferences and camps; Teacher Appreciation for Sedgefield Middle School; support and encouragement for our eight college freshmen this year; Offerings of Presbyterian Women USA; and support of Avondale Missions.

It takes a lot of work and effort to do this annual sale. Many, many thanks to all that helped box and organize, staff the sale, and contributed items. Special thanks to Jim Bowen for his popular peanut brittle, Chuck Hendrix for his beautiful handmade woodcraft donations, and Lou Johnson for her help, support and encouragement. From all the members of the PWA Coordinating Team, we appreciate you! In God's love and care, we appreciate you!

Outreach Ministry

We began a New Member & Inquirers Class on January 24, with seven people attending. We will share new member news soon. This program has been updated and enhanced. The four 1-hour sessions following worship, called "Next Step", share a broad range of information including time to connect, information about Avondale membership, our ministries, and the Presbyterian Church. Want to join in? Contact the office to be notified of our next session.

PNC Update

As of January 13, the committee has reviewed over 60 applications and have approached a select group of candidates for first interviews.

Connect Camp

We housed a group of college students in January. They were here to work with Habitat for Humanity Charlotte. We are still hosting groups at Avondale. If you have questions or know a church/group that may be interested, contact Lou Johnson or Jessica Shanks in the office.

Room In The Inn

Room In The Inn began on January 6. Our first weeks have been a huge success with approximately 13-15 attending, mostly women and children and a few men. Thanks to all the volunteers who make these nights go smoothly! We host our homeless neighbors on Sunday evenings and are seeking volunteers to cook, stay overnight, and set-up/take-down. This is open to volunteers beyond our Avondale congregation! Find a [sign-up link](#) on our homepage.



Avondale in Action

Do you know this about ASAP?

ASAP/ Avondale Senior Adult Program meets on the 4th Monday each month in the Fellowship Hall at noon. We enjoy a great Luncheon together and then a program. We bring programs that are informative, uplifting and entertaining. At various times, we involve the Avondale Children's Center children which is always so much fun. We also reach out to members of our congregation that are unable to attend worship through our "Faithful Friends" project. We are visiting, sending cards, making calls, and praying for them. COME JOIN US!

Do you know this about Bunco?

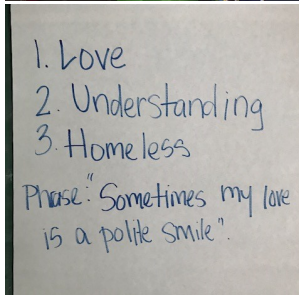
Bunco meets the first Friday night of the month at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Ladies of all ages are invited to come play this easy-to-learn and fun game. We enjoy fellowship, a lot of laughter, and good snacks - and sometimes theme night foods. Participation is a \$5 donation to play with ALL monies going to Missions! Contact Brenda Coble at 980-297-4997.

Music Ministry – Visiting Choir

The Choir from the university of William and Mary will be visiting Avondale for a free concert on March 16, 2019. More information on this concert will come, but now we need your help! This concert is part of the W&M Choir's Domestic Spring Tour. Avondale member, Mary Shannon, is hosting the stop in Charlotte at Avondale. In order to visit, the 56 choir members need housing overnight on Saturday, March 16. If you're interested to host, see details online or pick-up a [flyer](#) at the Church.

Sacred Space Art Program

This new program began in the fall with a painting class and had a great response. Sacred Space Art continues in 2019 with new offerings in clay, digital photography, painting and charcoal drawing. This program is open to Avondalers and the community. We invite you to learn more about this program. See details [online](#) or pick-up a flyer at the Church.



Taizé Services

February 5
March 5
April 2



Advent Workshop

On December 2, we had 10 children attend a workshop where they learned about the Christmas story and made their own take-home nativity scene. This program served to teach/remind the children of the Birth of the Christ Child and to help them understand the journey to Bethlehem and the gift that was given to us all.

Avondale Adventures concluded its fall program with a terrific Christmas Musical in the Family Life Center following worship on December 9 and a luncheon afterwards with around 200 in attendance! We had 25 children participate in the play and choir to kick-off the Advent season in good fashion. A good time was had ball all. Thank you to all the adults who helped make this possible.

An Inter-generational Sunday School Class was held for a 5-week Advent Study in December and January, bringing youth and adults together. The study focused on "All I Want for Christmas" – opening the gifts of God's Grace. Each week looked at a special Gift of: Good News, A New Understanding, A Strong Foundation, A New Style of Living, and finally the Christmas Gift We Can Pass on to Others.

Adventure Sundays are off to a great start to in the new year. Our Kindergarten to 3rd grade group will meet the first Sunday of the month and our older children, 4th and 5th grades, meet on the second Sunday of the month. Both groups went bowling in January and had a fabulous time. Our next Adventure Sundays are February 3 and 10. See the weekly eNews email or your Bulletin for details.

Sunday School & Childcare Update

Our children's Sunday School program times, as of January 1, 2019, have changed for the K-5th grade aged children. They will now be doing activities in our fun Adventure Sundays program! We invite your children and friends to join in Adventure Sundays offering monthly activities of Fellowship, Service, Fun and Learning!

- K-3rd grade meet first Sunday of the month
- 4th- 5th grade meet second Sunday of the month

Avondale in Action

Avondale Children's Center

The Children's Center families participated again this year in the Angel Tree, donating gifts for Bethlehem Center children and also purchasing gift cards for families.

The ACC families enjoyed a wonderful Christmas celebration with a Christmas Pageant and Caroling in the Sanctuary. The staff put together a huge celebration for afterwards with about 200 participants! Families enjoyed photos with Santa, making Reindeer Food, photo booth, Jingle Bell Necklaces, a magician, and more!

In November, the Children's Center had the 3rd Annual Lantern Walk. This year the families decorated their own lanterns! The whole school was involved and the children paraded around the Avondale campus just as it was getting dark. The celebration concluded with cookies and cider.

In October, we had our annual "Trunk or Treat" event. This was the second year we invited the Joyful Noise ministry and a handful of families attended, as well as several church families joining in. The Children's Center also did a project with ASAP. The 3's-5's aged children joined ASAP for pumpkin painting and story time. The ACC has been enjoying various inter-generational projects with Avondalers over the past few years.

Christian Nurture & Sunday School Schedule

Children K-5th - Adventure Sundays program - 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month

Youth 6th-12th - Youth group at 5:30 PM Sundays

Adults - Sunday School at 11 AM, several classes

*During the 11 AM time, Child-care is available for 3-5 year olds in the Children's Center and for K-5th grade children in the elementary Sunday School space for those adults attending Sunday School.

Avondale's 75th Anniversary

It will be a year-long celebration of Avondale's 75th Anniversary with activities each month and throughout the year! The first celebration for our 75th Anniversary is January 27 following Worship to celebrate Avondale's Twenty-Year Dedication to the Room In The Inn Ministry with cake and lemonade. Next, we'll gather around a bonfire in our lower garden on Friday, February 22 starting at 5:30 PM and enjoy hotdogs, s'mores and more.

We encourage all Avondalers to begin thinking about their unique Avondale Story, as all will be asked to contribute to a memory book. We also ask for members to lend us your best Avondale photographs for our historical displays. Details about these requests will come soon.

Avondale's 75th Anniversary Celebrations*

A look at a year-long celebration... with more details to come.

January 27 – "20 Years of Room In The Inn Ministry"

February 22 – "Bonfire & S'Mores" in the Lower Garden at 5:30 PM

March 22 – "White Elephant Bingo" in the Fellowship Hall at 7 PM

April 14 – "Palm Sunday and Egg Hunt"

April 28 – "Knights Tailgate and Ball Game" with ABC/Bethlehem Center

May 19 – "Church Night Supper" featuring Youth Group Memories & Avondale History

May 31 – "Game Night!"

June 2 – "Avondale Lunch Celebrating Presbyterian Women"

July 5 – "Ice cream Social and Movie Night" at 7 PM

August 25 – "Backpack Breakfast" and Blessings of the Backpacks at 8:15 AM

September 21 – "Chili Cook-Off"

October 13 – "Avondale Homecoming 75th Anniversary Celebration!"

November 28 – "A Thanksgiving Breakfast" at 9:30 AM

December 7 – "Avondale Christmas Market!"

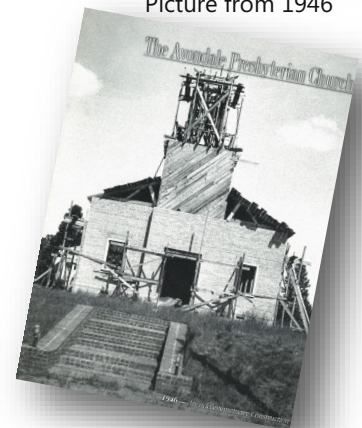
December 31 – "New Years Eve Celebration"

*Dates and events are subject to change.



Letter from 1945

Picture from 1946



75th
ANNIVERSARY



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.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

March 8-10

Have you ever seen the A&E television show "Flip this House"?



AVONDALE ADVENTURES for children K-5th Grade

Wednesdays
Fun, music, games,
Bible lessons, crafts
and dinner.

The fun is held Wednesdays starting at 5:30 PM, going on now through April 10.

Sign-up now for Wednesday evening fun and dinner for the whole family.
 Open to all.

The Adventure is open to the public.
Registration is required.

For more details, contact Lou Johnson at 704-333-6194 x12 or Lou@avondalepresbychurch.org

Sundays
Fellowship, Service,
Fun and Learning!

We invite your children and friends to join in Adventure Sundays offering monthly activities to young children.

First Sundays
 K-3rd grade meet
Second Sundays
 4th- 5th grade meet

What about our lives needs to be flipped dramatically or even just a little? We will explore how to "flip our spiritual houses" through the stories of women in the Bible. Women of all ages are invited to attend this weekend of fellowship, music, relaxation and spiritual renewal. The retreat is at the William Black Lodge in Montreat, NC. Jan Edmiston, The General Presbyter of The Presbytery of Charlotte, is our speaker. Come be surrounded by the love and support of other Avondale women as we each move forward in our spiritual journey.

Registration and more information is on our [website](#). Early Bird registration by February 10.