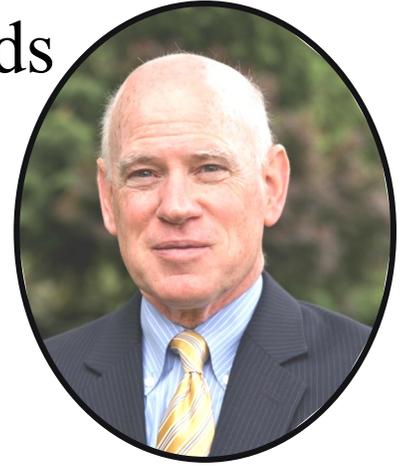


Turning Dreams into Deeds

You will find this far-fetched but I know of a handful of Avondalers who believe that summer is the perfect time to crystallize dreams and transform them into reality. Summer days are a time to step away from the furious pace of life and breathe deeply within the realm of possibility.



- Some members, known as Ruling Elders, envision Avondale bringing clarity and empowerment to mission and ministry.
- Some members dream of small groups, open to all, and transforming our faith community with energy and vitality.
- Some members dream of a sanctuary which is inviting to those with disabilities, spacious, and attractive to all who enter to worship.
- Some members dream of a household of God where newborn infants stir young parents to a new understanding of grace and joy as the larger family of faith lives out their baptismal vows to children.
- Some members dream of giving their time and talents to the work of the church, not out of obligation or guilt but only after conversations with God, prayer and disciplined Bible study.

There is always a danger in dreaming because it always infers some level of change. Dreams shape vision and vision changes life. *"Man's mind, stretched by a new idea, never goes back to its original dimensions,"* claimed Oliver Wendell Holmes. One young person, arriving at Avondale for their week of work camp experience responded:

"I decided to go on a mission rather than remain home and just survive!"

As we move toward the fall season, there is the work of translating these dreams into concrete, realistic action steps -- something that becomes attainable and measurable. *"Now faith is the turning of dreams into deeds"* is Clarence Jordan's paraphrase of Hebrews 11: 1. (Cotton Patch Version)

This continues to be the work of leadership working with our consultant. The dreams listed above are all attainable goals for those who seek to further the Kingdom of God. For those who may think that summer days are idle days at Avondale, how mistaken. Turning kingdom dreams into acts of ministry is the work we are all called to do. May you dream as Jacob did during these summer days.

Yours in Christ,

John B. Earl

"Called to love God, love one another and serve community."



Avondale Bible Camp: Hometown Nazareth

From July 13 through July 17, 140 adults, youth and children participated in Hometown Nazareth Bible Camp. For the second year in a row, we partnered with Avondale's Children's Center and were able to share the Good News with 87 children from the congregation, the Children's Center and the neighborhood. As a mission project, the children donated paper goods and toiletries to The Relatives on East Boulevard, an organization dedicated to "keeping children safe and families together".





Avondale Youth Work Camp to West Virginia

Our youth in grades 6 through 12 traveled to West Virginia to serve others by building homes for those in need. They also enjoyed fellowship and fun on the river.





Avondale Friendship Garden



Friendship Trays



Crisis Assistance Ministry

C+O+N+N+E+C+T
a ministry of avondale presbyterian church

Avondale's CONNECT Ministry

In 2015, Avondale's Mission Ministry Team is hosting 8 CONNECT Camps throughout the year. Youth groups are coming from as far north as Vermont and as far south as Florida to serve those in need in the Charlotte community. Avondale provides a home and hosts meals for these youth and adults working in Charlotte and serving non-profits and ministries including the Urban Ministry Center, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Friendship Trays, Samaritan's Feet and Love INC.



Samaritan's Feet

Second Quarter Ending June 30, 2015 Financial Update



Budgeted Loss for all of 2015 is \$16,400.
We are well on pace to do better than budgeted as long as contributions/pledges are fulfilled.

FUND BALANCES at JUNE 30, 2015

Endowment	\$528,097
Facilities Fund	\$ 35,562
Columbarium Fund	\$ 32,757



Visiting CONNECT Workcamp builds ramp with Love INC



Avondale Presbyterian Church
2821 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28209

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Deadline for next newsletter is August 17 - publication date August 25.

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Joys and Concerns

Ministry of Caring to Members of Our Church:

Alice Balfe, Anne Hamilton, Dot Burke, Edna Hilton, Eldon Stout, Frances Robertson, Jim Neely, Joanne Sahlie, the Gunter family, Ida Parnell, Libby Phillips, Mike Cathey, Molly Carver, Peggy Simpson, Rachel Darling, Susan Harrington, and the Vestal Family

Ministry of Caring to Friends of Our Church Family:

Art Dunlap (brother-in-law of D. J. Saleeby)
 Barbara Aylor (friend of Heather Hogston)
 Buck Melton (father of Barbara Hill)
 Chuck Johnson (father of Marian Stout)
 David Boyd (brother of Louise Lawson)
 Family and friends of Frank Greiss
 (father of Ginny Mitchell)
 Fred Otten (father of Debi Medlin)
 Gayle Hackney (sister of Suzanne Baillie)
 Family and friends of Helen Matthews
 (friend of Nancy Bohrer)
 Hunter Stubbs (friend of Branden family)
 Jeanne Deese (sister of Barbara Hill)
 Larry Hensinger
 (brother-in-law of Nadja Sefcik-Earl)

Ministry of Caring to Friends of Our Church Family:

Mary Cerena (sister-in-law of Barbara Witzel)
 Mike Page (friend of Becky Chavaree)

Entering into the Church Triumphant
Margaret Elizabeth Sawyer Parker
October 8, 1927 - June 16, 2015

Our sympathy is extended to
 Betty's family and friends.

With joy we announce the birth of John Frederick Callaway on Tuesday, June 30. He is the son of John and Joy Callaway, brother of Alevia, grandson of Fred and Lynn Wilkerson, and nephew of Jed Wilkerson.

Our sympathy is extended to Amy, Andy, Lindsay, John Thomas and Cate Brassler and their family and friends. Amy's father, John Robert Wooten, Jr. passed away on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 in Winston-Salem, N.C.