

Letter from the Pastor

March—April 2020

Dear Avondalers,

Since being here I have had the privilege to participate in three baptisms and there are two more coming up. Baptism is one of the two sacraments that we celebrate in the Protestant tradition. Like Holy Communion, baptism is a sacred ritual that Jesus himself participated in. In fact, the Gospel of Mark opens with John the Baptist in the river Jordan baptizing people when Jesus walks up and joins in the ceremony.

What I love about Mark opening his book with this is that before Jesus begins his ministry, before we see him do anything, we see that he is claimed by God. As Jesus is rising from being submerged the author writes, "And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'" For me the theological implication is that God initiates the relationship with us first. We do not earn it, but it is given to us by God who loves us.

This is what we celebrate for everyone that comes before the congregation to be baptized. We make the statement that they are claimed by God. With infants we add the statement that even before the child realizes that God exists, God has already established the relationship by claiming

the child as God's own.

What's more, we also state that there is nothing that can ever separate them from that love. Paul in his letter to the Romans said it this way ...

*Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. **38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.***



What I love about [the Gospel of] Mark opening his book with this ... we see that he is claimed by God.

The significance of Paul's words is that if you truly understand this for you, then it alters the way you see life. It gives you a sense of courage that whatever life brings your way, it will be ok. Life may not go the way we want it to, there is certainly a lot of brokenness in the world. However, the Good News is that God is with us in whatever trial we are facing. From countywide

continued...

...letter to the Romans.... *Who will separate us from the love of Christ?*

Room In The Inn

Room in the Inn (RITI) ended two weeks early this year because of the coronavirus pandemic. But that cannot and will not overshadow the impact that Avondale had on our homeless neighbors in December 2019 and January, February, and March 2020. We will celebrate and commemorate the season as soon as we can all gather together once again, but in the meantime, let's note the following:

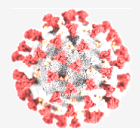


- Avondale hosted 16 nights of RITI this year, giving 192 nights of shelter to individuals in our community. We helped over 180 homeless neighbors (some were, sadly, repeat visitors). For the first time in a couple years, we hosted during the entire month of December.

continued...

In this edition:

- * Session Update
- * Birthdays & Anniversaries (April & May)
- * Member News
- * Ministry News
- * Avondale in Action
- * Letters to Avondale
- * Avondale Responding to the Pandemic
- * Worship & Christian Nurture online
- * COVID-19 Timeline





Birthdays in April

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Brooks Mitchell | 8 Alan Wray | 21 Jim Beall |
| 2 David Thomson | 9 Leni Patterson | Jim Ewing |
| Kevin Watson | 10 Jamie Saleeby | Hudson Vorholt |
| Sam Watson | 11 Sharon McCarthy | 22 Katherine Baloga |
| 3 Lamar Hardegree | Bill Town | Ruby Cathey |
| Makayla Pride | 12 Carter Higgs | Matthew Mitchell |
| 4 Natalie Benson | Graham McNeil | 23 Mary Katherine Darnell |
| Zack Benson | Beth Vorholt | 24 Martha Hayes |
| Carley Yount | 13 Karen Shannon | Nathan Thomas |
| Katelyn Yount | 15 Marc Chavaree | 25 Abbie Vick |
| 5 Eli Oswald | Addison Harris | 27 Tinsley Lawson |
| 6 Pat Banks | Chuck Hendrix | Max Shanks |
| Fletcher Saleeby | Steve Passaly | Leslie Thomas |
| 7 Wendy Campbell | 16 Luke Drozd | 29 Katherine Annas |
| Carey Cavanaugh | Wesley Flowers | Eric Hayes |
| Griffin Shanks | Caroline White | Celeste Longshore |
| Sarah Cameron Wilson | 17 Tiz Benson | Suzi Thornberry |
| 8 Jay Barron | Rachel Matthews | 30 Chip Reed |
| Chris Rolfe | 18 GiGi Gibbs | Merrily Watts |

Wedding Anniversaries in April and May

Scott & Brenda Coble	April 12, 1968	Wesley Flowers	May 1, 2015
Terry & Liz Davis	April 13, 2013	Edwin & Katherine Anderson	May 6, 2000
Corey & Jessica Shanks	April 13, 2013	Douglas & Vicki Hautop	May 8, 2004
John & Elizabeth Eyer	April 18, 2005	Mike & Ginny Mitchell	May 11, 1985
Elizabeth Moore	April 18, 2014	Sabine Schwieman	May 11, 1979
Tom & Marian Stout	April 19, 1997	Greg & Cindy McKenzie	May 12, 1984
Bonnie Howard	April 20, 1996	Brian & Stephanie Tomey	May 15, 1993
Thomas & Jodie Lawson	April 25, 2015	Bill & Suzi Thornberry	May 18, 1985
Jim & Rena Beall	April 29, 2017	Andrew & Deidrea Pavlin	May 19, 2007
Francis McNair	April 30, 1960	Bordie & Delia McCloskey	May 20, 1972
Lora Toney	April 30, 2016	David & Mary Hall	May 30, 1987

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Eleanor Ramey

Given By:

Helena Graham
 Braxton and Dinah Barrett
 Charles and Laura Greer
 Mr. & Mrs. David Trotter &
 Joy Trotter
 Don and Betty Anderson

In Memory of Anne Hamilton

Given By:

Calvin Hamilton

In Memory of Mary Alice Bryson

Given By:

Kathy Downs

In Memory of Lee Weigle

Given By:

The Presbyterian Women
 Leslie and Paul Perlik
 Beverly Stewart
 The Golden Circle Club
 Reid and Nancy Shoemaker
 Robert and Carolyn Obrien
 Chris and Vickie Rolfe (and in
 honor of our friendship
 with the Flowers family)

In Honor of Jim Bowen

Given By:

Nell McRae

**Memorials &
 Honorariums online**
[avondalepresby-
 church.org/donate](http://avondalepresby-church.org/donate)



Birthdays in May

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Marin Blake
Reese Hautop
Zackery McKenzie
Clay Parler | 10 Anderson Cohen
11 Kay DeArmon
12 Edith Gardner
13 Jim Buchanan
Tommy Wray | 22 Connor Gibbs
Harry Whitesides |
| 2 Joe Moss
Emory Parks | 14 Laura Daniel
Dell Lawson | 23 Julie Caldwell
Jack Hunter
Bob Watson |
| 3 Audrey Dougherty
Libby Phillips | 15 Ben Meier
Clark Saleeby
Lora Toney | 24 Thomas Doherty |
| 4 Paige Hamilton | 16 Jackie Shannon | 25 Sophie Barron
Peyton Burgh
David T.A. Mitchell |
| 5 Roberta Hayes
Corey Shanks | 17 Mike Mitchell | 26 Miles Tate |
| 6 John Callaway
Jack Hogston
Joshua Wardlaw | 18 Evie Wray | 27 Lucian Hayes |
| 7 Karen Annas
Susan Brandau | 19 Lucas Ferguson | 28 Emily Freeze |
| 9 Daisy Alexander
Davis Hautop
Andrew Pavlin
Hanna Whitesides | 20 Nancy Buchanan
Chris Mathis | 29 Betty Chambers
Drew Pavlin |
| | 21 David Hall
Paula Huffines
Carl McDonald | 30 Betty Boyd
Chip Burke
Jozsef Eyer
Rick Parler |
| | | 31 Roseanne Thomas |

Joys & Concerns

Members: Louise Chambers; Billie Coates; Sue Haag; Betty Marshall; Frances McNair; Mickey Melton; Betty Parrish; Libby Phillips; Caroline White; Lynn Wilkerson; Tina Wilson.

Family and Friends: Caitlin Ainsworth; The Ash Family; Victoria Blodgett; Ed Boyd; Dave Glover; Molly Gartlan; Debbie Griffin; Stuart Jernigan; Anne Padgett; Mike Page; Beverly Schaffield; Ed Small; Elizabeth Thomas.

Church Triumphant: We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of:

- Ms. Lee A. Weigle, who joined the Church Triumphant on March 4, 2020. Lee, 98 years old, joined Avondale in 1989. A memorial service was held at Avondale on March 9, 2020.

[Obituary](#)

- Billy Loflin, brother of Claire Graham, who joined the Church Triumphant this week in Lynchburg, VA.

Baptism: Baptized in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit was Grace Bearden Marren - daughter of Karey and Bradley Marren and grand-daughter of Mary and Chick Martin on March 8, 2020.

Retired: Paula Huffines, who worked with Bank of America since 1981, retired this month. Best wishes to Paula in her future endeavors. See our Member Directory for personal email address.



Member Care Corner

"Show Your Care/Task of the Week"

Using the church directory, pick 3 members you will call and check on. Spend some time just chatting, catching up and find out if there are any needs.

If there are needs, please email Jim or call the church office and leave a message with information and we will do our best to ensure all needs are met!

Member Directory Online

Online Directory Password: 1944A

Online Directory [https://](https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/directory)

www.avondalepresbychurch.org/directory

Self Care & Prayer

<https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/we-are-sacred-garden>

PCUSA Daily Readings

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/2020/3/23/>

Letter from the Pastor cont.

“stay at home” mandates, pandemics, economic variables, even to death itself, we know that God is with us and will never leave us.

My friends as we adjust to a new normal for our lives, do so with a special courage that the world does not have. For we can remember our baptism, and know without fail, that we are God’s.

Grace & Peace, Jim

Pastor Installation

A Service of Installation of Rev. James Ewing was held at Avondale on February 23, 2020 at 2 PM. Following was a reception in celebration of Jim, Avondale, and the many friends and family of the Avondale family.

Installation Commission & Worship Leaders

Rev. Veronica Cannon | Charlotte Presbytery
Rev. Dr. Neal Carter | Rocky River Presbyterian Church
Dr. Katie Dunlap, Ruling Elder | Star Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston | Charlotte Presbytery
Mrs. Cindy Fisher, Ruling Elder | South Mecklenburg Presbyterian
Mr. Dennis Grills, Ruling Elder | Sharon Presbyterian Church
Rev. Joanna Hipp | Southport Presbyterian Church
Dr. Mary Martin, Elder | Avondale Presbyterian Church
Rev. Pen Perry | First Presbyterian Church, Charlotte
Miss Makayla Pride | Avondale Presbyterian Church

Session Update

February 2020 Session Meeting

At the February 9, 2020 Stated Meeting of the Session the following actions were taken:

- * Approved Minutes of the January 11, 2020 Stated Meeting of the Session
- * Received FYE 2019 Church financial report
- * Received January 2020 Church financial report
- * Received December 2019 Avondale Children’s Center financial report
- * Received 2020 Avondale Children’s Center budget
- * Approved Sacrament of Baptism for Grace Bearden Marren, daughter of Brad and Karey Marren, on March 8, 2020 at the 9:30 A.M. worship service
- * Approved Sacrament of Baptism for Evelyn Lanier Martin, daughter of Drew and Mary Margaret Martin, on March 29, 2020 at the 9:30 A.M. worship service
- * Approved Sacrament of Baptism for Emory Page Parks, daughter of Chad and Kendel Parks, on April 5, 2020 at the 9:30 A.M. worship service

- * Approved Sacrament of Holy Communion to be celebrated at the installation worship service for Rev, Jim Ewing on February 23, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.
- * Approved collection of 2020 Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering on May 3, 2020
- * Approved special offerings during Lent and Easter
- * Received a brief report on the Presbytery of Charlotte meeting held at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church on February 8, 2020

March 2020 Session Meeting

At the March 8, 2020 Stated Meeting of the Session the following actions were taken:

- * Received a report from Jodie Lawson, President of the Avondale Children’s Center Board on the state of the Children’s Center and its relationship with the Church
- * Approved Minutes of the February 9, 2020 Stated Meeting of the Session
- * Received February 2020 Church financial report
- * Received January 2020 Avondale Children’s Center financial report
- * Approved Sacrament of Baptism



- for Benjamin Owen “Bo” Mitchell, son of Matthew and Stefanie Mitchell, on Sunday, April 26, 2020 at the 9:30 A.M. worship service
- * Approved Sacrament of Holy Communion to be celebrated at Youth Sunday on May 17, 2020 at the 9:30 A.M. worship service and authorized select youth participants to serve communion
 - * Called for a Congregational Meeting Sunday, March 22, 2020 immediately following the 9:30 A.M. worship service to present the 2019 Annual Report and the Terms of Call for Rev. Ewing
 - * Received as information a draft of an Avondale Disaster Plan as prepared by the Property Ministry Team based on the suggestion of the church’s insurance carrier

Avondale In Action

Women's Retreat

Recently, 29 Avondale women retreated in Montreat, NC. The theme that was chosen back in October 2019 was prophetic, "The Gift of Encouragement." We learned about Barnabus, a great supporter of the early church known to encourage the disciples. We left with ideas of how we could encourage each other and our elderly friends who live alone. The weather was excellent, the food delicious, and the time together memorable. We left our time together reluctantly to return to our ever-changing crazy world.

2019 Annual Report

Avondale published their 75th anniversary edition of the Annual Report this month. Copies were ready to share with the congregation on Sunday, March 15, 2020; however, due to the international health emergency, Worship service was not held in person. But you can still read the report and enjoy a look back at our anniversary year.

<https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/annualreport>

Art with the ABC After-School Program

The stained-glass mosaic window pictured here was created in the after-school program at Avondale. Cheryl Judd-Magee taught and worked with the teens of the Bethlehem Center, helping them learn about and craft this piece of art. "All the students participated in one way or another and at some point in the process," said Cheryl, "but the majority of the work came down to the focused efforts of two young women - Jorgiana and Endee. I think both their moms contributed too," continued Cheryl. Plans are being made for the finished work.

ABC Ministry Action During School Closures

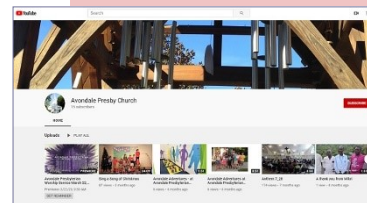
Over the last two weeks, Avondale is serving as host to the Bethlehem Center out of school and Teen leadership programs due to location changes caused by the closing of public schools. Thursday evening, March 19, the ABC Team quickly responded to shopping and assembling food bags for the 22 families participating in the Bethlehem Center program. Stay tuned for possible future opportunities to serve during this unexpected time of crisis.



Avondale eWorship

In case you missed the email, beginning Sunday, March 22, we will send out a morning email with a link that will allow everyone to participate in the Sunday morning online service. We invite you to join us during that time as a way of connecting to God and one another. The Sunday email will serve as our Worship Bulletin.

- * To view worship on Sundays, go to our YouTube channel at <http://tinyurl.com/AvondaleOnYouTube>.
- * Listen to services online anytime at <https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/eworship>.



Avondale In Action

Youth Attic Sale Fundraiser

Hello friends and neighbors, Unfortunately, we are postponing the Attic Sale until further notice. Kindly please continue to hold onto your donations until further notice, if you have the space and are able to keep them. We do plan to still have the Youth Attic Sale & Bake Sale when it is safe to do so. As always, thank you for supporting the Youth Missions.



Ash
Wednesday

Youth Thank Congregation for Supporting the Barbecue

Avondale's youth held their barbecue sale on Saturday, February 1 in advance of the Super Bowl. The youth group would like to thank the congregation for their incredible support of the event. The fundraiser was a success, boasting record pre-orders and brisk sales. In fact, the youth sold out of barbecue by 11 AM the morning of the sale! This year, for the first time, we borrowed signage from the Boy Scout troop at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, which definitely contributed to driving traffic to Avondale. All profits are for the youth mission trip to Peru.



Youth BBQ

Pictured below:
L—Elder Installation
R—Pastor Installation Reception



ACC Closing

Beginning Wednesday, March 25, the Avondale Children's Center will be closed until further notice.

FLC Floors & Property

Please, no walking on FLC floors until Monday, March 30. James Higgs, our custodian, is stripping and waxing the floors this week. The Property Work Day is canceled.

Member Care

Are you in need or know someone in need? Please contact Rev. Jim at 910-691-4165.



ABC responds to pandemic



Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Christian Nurture Gathers Online

Women's Bible Study

A Women's Bible Study via Zoom has begun on **Thursdays at 8 PM**. To join in, contact Amanda Shanks. She will give details about connecting to Zoom gathering. amanda-jshanks@gmail.com mobile/text 804-338-9847

Bible 101

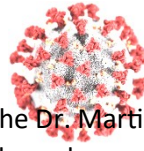
We're meeting **Sundays after the service at 10:30 AM**. We'd love to have anyone join us who's

looking for a way to connect. Over the next few weeks, we'll be looking at different readings and studies with some lectionary mixed in. People can just drop-in on Zoom or contact Lisa Worf, if they'd like to be added to the list or are having trouble connecting via the link. Here's the link to join: <https://zoom.us/j/361205421> mobile/text 248-770-7400 or lamiller55@gmail.com

Contact List

While staff work from home:

Rev. Jim Ewing 910-691-4165*, 704-333-6194 x11, jim@avondalepresbychurch.org
Jessica Shanks 704-488-5037*, 333-6194 x10, jessica@avondalepresbychurch.org
Rich Stanley 704-604-8303* rich@avondalepresbychurch.org
Jaqueline Howells 704-333-6194 x13 jacqueline@avondalepresbychurch.org
Caroline Starnes 704-996-4970* caroline@avondalepresbychurch.org
*mobile/text



Room In The Inn cont.

We also hosted an emergency session, with one day’s notice, on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, one of the coldest days of the winter. Our homeless neighbors were extremely grateful—they look forward to spending the night at Avondale because of our welcoming and generous spirit, as well as our showers and laundry. Avondale made a greater contribution to the RITI program than many churches that have five or ten times as many members as we do. This is a testament to the love we have for our neighbors in need, and the Urban Ministry Center greatly appreciates our devotion to this work.

- * Almost as important, over 95 different people helped with Avondale’s RITI program, most of them Avondale members—an underestimate because it doesn’t include all the youth who helped on December 8, all of our Jewish friends from Havurat Tikvah who helped with dinner on multiple occasions, the groups such as ASAP that participated, and all the family members of helpers who also helped. This means a *huge* portion of our congregation helped with RITI in some way. *Every* job with Room In The Inn is important, and each one of the participants contributed in a meaningful way to helping our homeless neighbors.
- * 20 different people served as overnight hosts—many more than one night, and several for the first time ever. This is a difficult job, but also the most rewarding one. Please seek out Jim Bowen, Davidson Valmyr, Andrew Patterson, Rogers Magee, John Magee, Tim Doherty, Ann Sanders, Arthur Baum, Corey Shanks, Todd Oswald, Rich Worf, DJ Saleeby, David Hall, Carl McDonald, Wink Boyd, Jerry Lawson, Rena Beall, Jim Beall, Greg McKenzie, or Cindy McKenzie to hear about their experiences—you’ll be inspired to spend the night next year!
- * There are certain people who performed jobs so many times, week after week, that the program could not have functioned without them. Mahlon Thomas, showing up coffee mug in hand ready to take the neighbors back on virtually every Monday morning. Beth Suydam and Lynn Daniel, always willing to fill in to pick up the neighbors. Linda Haigh, Betty Chambers, and Page Woods, who did laundry more times than you could count. Sandy and Terry Brodof and the Longshore family, regular evening hosts. Marge and Lamar Hardegree, who broke down the fellowship hall countless times. Lyn Sweet and ASAP, who prepared countless lunches. All of these people, and so many more, lived out their faith on a weekly basis, taking time out of their busy schedules to help some of our neediest community members.

If you did not get a chance to participate in RITI this year, consider doing so when Avondale resumes this work in December 2020. There are few better ways to get to know your fellow Avondale members, while doing work that could not be more vital to our homeless neighbors.

“Embracing Humanity”
 An article about Room In The Inn
 by Sharon McCarthy

*“911, do you need Police,
 Fire or Medic?”*
 ...the article begins.

Read online here:
<http://tinyurl.com/RITlarticle2020>

COVID-19 TIMELINE

- January 21: Washington state reported first case of the new coronavirus in the United States
- January 31: World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 “a public health emergency of international concern.”
- March 3: First confirmed case of COVID-10 in North Carolina announced in Wake County
- March 10: NC Governor Cooper Declares State of Emergency to respond to coronavirus COVID-19
- March 11: WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic
- March 12: First case of COVID-10 in Charlotte, NC announced
- March 13: Avondale Session and Staff announce suspending gathering for Worship and other Christian education programs
- March 14: NC closes all public schools for at least 2 weeks, bans gatherings of more than 100 people
- March 15: Avondale broadcasts Worship service via Facebook Live
- March 17: NC limits restaurants to carry out or delivery, expands unemployment benefits
- March 20: Avondale Leadership announces continued suspension of all activities. Worship Bulletin to be emailed on Sundays to accompany online Worship service. Avondale continues checking on members and assisting our ministries. Ministry Teams are collaborating on ways to connect, support, and serve each other and the community.
- March 22: Avondale’s Worship broadcast on our YouTube channel
- March 23: Executive Order to close K-12 public school statewide through May 15, bans mass gatherings over 50 people, closes some businesses.

LETTERS TO AVONDALE

Youth Advent Challenge

A Message from Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency

Thank you so very much for all of the furniture and overall support. It was a huge donation that will cover needs for the family who arrived yesterday (February 4, 2020), but also for a Syrian family coming today (February 5).

The apartment you all set up was for a family of four from Afghanistan: Ahmad, Maria, Jawad, and Hewad. Ahmad was a civil engineer in Afghanistan and worked for the U.S. Army there; as a result, he and his family were able to come to the U.S. with a special refugee status called Special Immigrant Visa. The family is adjusting well so far. They are very happy to be here; it was a long journey and many years of waiting to resettle.

The boys are delightful; Jawad and Hewad, (13 and 11 years) want to be a doctor and civil engineer (like their dad) someday. In the next few days, the boys will be enrolled in school, and the parents in ESL classes at CPCC/Galilee Center. They will also receive the required immunizations so that Ahmad can receive a work permit. They will receive their social security cards, food benefits (food stamps), and Medicaid activation in the next couple of weeks. It is a very busy time getting started here, but life will start to feel normal for them soon.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of Avondale Presbyterian Church - your group has given Ahmad's family a very warm welcome here in Charlotte. We could not have done this without you!

Rebecca Kurtz, Program Coordinator, Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency



Letter to Member Care

March, 3, 2020

To Our Avondale Family,

On behalf of my family, I extend a heartfelt thank you for all of the phone calls, cards, and words of encouragement we received after the passing of my mother, Donna Allen. As many of you know, she was a true witness to God's mercy and I can be nothing but grateful to have watched her serve and minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ through song and deed. As the flood of cards of condolences recede, those that continue to trickle in remind me of how much she is still loved and remembered by those who she's touched, even those she would deem strangers. It also brings a sense of peace to know that we are thought of during this difficult time.

When the days are dark and life seems unbearable, it is comforting to know that we have a church family who is praying for us across the country; your words have made the sun shine through this storm in our lives. One of my favorite songs that my mother use to sing is titled "Safe in His Arms." Lyrics like "when the storms of life are raging" and "He shall hide me" play in my mind quite often and I can hear her belting out the words and notes with every ounce of her heart pouring out with them. Hearing it all my life, it wouldn't be until now that I truly understand what she was singing, and as I listen to recordings of her, today, I know that she is truly safe in His arms.

Thank you all for your continuous support, love, and prayers. Chris, Erin, Jordyn, and I will be forever grateful to have Avondale in our lives. Blessings Always, Brandy, Chris, Erin, and Jordyn Lee



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Supporting Our Homeless Neighbors

Unfortunately, Room In The Inn was cancelled due to the potential threat of COVID 19. Urban Ministries has worked very hard over the last week to ensure our homeless community are still being served. They have setup tent housing and also partnered with city government to lease a hotel where many may be housed. However, there are many ways you can continue to support our homeless neighbors, including drop-off donations or placing an Amazon order from the Urban Ministries Wishlist. For additional information on these opportunities, please visit:

<https://www.urbanministrycenter.org/helping-the-homeless/ways-you-can-help/donate/our-wishlist/>

Second Harvest Food Bank

Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina is in desperate need of not only donations, but also volunteers to help sort and distribute food that is distributed to children, seniors, families, veterans, and pets. Due to many company policies during the virus outbreak, quite a few regular groups have had to cancel their shifts and the Food Bank is in desperate need of volunteers to help fill those shifts. At this time, they are asking volunteers and staff to stay home if they experience any symptoms of illness, or if they have traveled to high-risk locations within the last 30 days; however, volunteer sessions are planned to run as scheduled. The Food Bank is taking every safety precaution for volunteers and staff including increased cleaning/sanitizing of the facility after each volunteer shift, consistent hand washing, along with social distancing. (No hugs or handshakes allowed either.) The leadership of Avondale asks that you carefully consider the potential risks of volunteering; however, if you are interested in volunteering in the coming weeks with a small group of Avondalers, please reach out to Amanda Shanks at amandajshanks@gmail.com. You are also welcome to sign-up to volunteer individually. For additional information about volunteering or about making a donation to the Food Bank, please visit: <https://www.secondharvestmetrolina.org/news-pages/coronavirus-response>

DISCIPLES IN ACTION

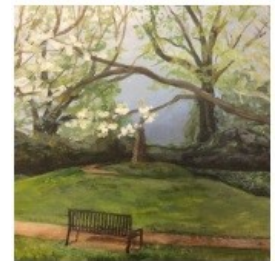
Zoom! Avondale Gathers Online

The church has begun an account with Zoom to enable our ministry teams and small groups to meet virtually/online. Zoom is "video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, collaboration, chat, and webinars across mobile devices, desktops, telephones, and room systems." Jessica Shanks shared, "This is such a great way to stay connected in times like these. Yesterday evening, I joined the high school Youth in their first Zoom gathering and it was so nice to not only hear their voices, but to see everyone's smiles and all be together." "Bible 101 met Sunday using Zoom. It was a good Sunday School class," said Lynn Daniel.



Interested to join in?!

Jessica encourages everyone to take advantage of our new Zoom account! "It is very user friendly. Simply email or call me, letting me know the date and time you would like to meet with your group. I will then email you a link for you to pass along to everyone in your group. They will press the link to log in at the time of the gathering. No one needs to create an account or login," shared Jessica. A reminder, you will need to ensure your camera and microphone are enabled on your computer or smartphone. "I am available to do a trial run with you! Just let me know!" Jessica offered.



Easter Gifts

"Butterfly" Fund

Facilities Fund

One Great Hour of Sharing

<https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/eastergifts>



Your Avondale Pledge

Members have many options for fulfilling pledge commitments including mailing checks, [PayPal via our website \(General Fund\)](#), and one-time or reoccurring [bank draft](#). Drafts can be setup or changed anytime. Contact Jacqueline if you'd like more information.
jacqueline@avondalepresbychurch.org
or 704-333-6194 ext. 12



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 In Action

WAYS TO BE INVOLVED
 & CONNECT
 with Avondale,
 Your Church Family
 & Community

Worship Online

at 9:30 AM on Sundays

Bible 101 Online

at 10:30 AM on Sundays

Women’s Bible Study Online

at 8 PM on Thursdays

Volunteer with ABC Ministry

contact Kay Chelena

Youth Group Online

on Sunday evenings

Contact Jessica Shanks or Zach or Shea Chambers

Read the Annual Report Online

It’s on our website

Self Care & Prayer

in the Sacred Garden

Find prayers on our website

Reach out to fellow Avondalers

especially those who live alone,
 are seniors, or have health challenges
 ...even those with kids!

USE THE ONLINE DIRECTORY
 to obtain phone numbers

Give to those in Need

See MISSION OPPORTUNITIES
 in this edition

Make your Easter Gifts

Send in your Pledge

See details in this edition

This Newsletter has gone digital

Due to the “stay at home” order issued for Mecklenburg County citizens in response to the novel coronavirus pandemic....

**we will not be printing and mailing
 out the Newsletter at this time.**

Avondale eNews Emails

If you don’t get our emails, or want to read one you missed, you can find them on our website. See Weekly eNews or go to:

<https://www.avondalepresbychurch.org/enews>

www.avondalepresbychurch.org