



DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!

Next Newsletter: March 12, 2018

FEBRUARY 26, 2018

**Our Staff**

- **Rev. Choongho Kwon**  
Senior Pastor
- **Judy Everley**  
Congregation Care Minister
- **Mark Keeney**  
Program and Bell Choir Director
- **Sandra Smith**  
Secretary
- **Taylor Tracy**  
Choir Director/Youth Director
- **John Livingston**  
Organist
- **Rachel Phelps**  
Nursery Attendant
- **Kathryn Boman**  
Nursery Attendant
- **Carrie Cerra**  
Nursery Attendant

Newsletters are published every 2nd and 4th Monday, unless noted otherwise.



Blanket Sunday is this Sunday, March 4. If you make a contribution in honor or in memory of a loved one, and write their name on the Blanket Sunday envelope enclosed in the bulletins, a "heart" pin will be attached to the blanket. The blankets will be on display during the month of March.

**Regarding "The Commission on a Way Forward"**

The church council hosted a meeting with Rev. Cindy Buhman, Northwest District Superintendent, on February 18. Rev. Buhman explained the closing process of First UMC of North Kansas City, the simplified structure of church leadership and the commission on a Way Forward. All three issues are related to the future of Avondale UMC. Elizabeth Boman, Lay Leader, prepared and reported the meeting notes last Sunday. (You can contact the church office if you need a copy of her report.) Here I share what "The commission on a Way Forward" is and what we need to pray for. The issue goes beyond a local church and impacts the future of UMC.

The Commission on a Way Forward was proposed by the Council of Bishops and approved by the 2016 General Conference to do a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph of the Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and explore options that help to maintain and strengthen the unity of the church. In January, the 32-member commission has suggested three different frameworks for the church's future.

A traditionalist model would maintain the church's official stances on homosexuality, which declare the practice of homosexuality incompatible with Christian teaching, preclude clergy from officiating at same-sex unions and prohibit the ordination of self-professed practicing gay clergy. A centrist model would remove the Book of Discipline's restrictive language, allowing conferences to decide how inclusive to be, while protecting clergy who could not, as a matter of conscience, perform a same-sex union or support ordination of openly gay clergy. A third option foresees multiple branches of the denomination sharing a General Conference and certain agency functions. One branch might favor the traditionalist approach, another the centrist, with a third opting for full inclusion of LGBTQ individuals.

This week more than 100 active and retired bishops are in Dallas for a special, four-day meeting. It's focused on refining options presented by the Commission on a Way Forward, a group advising the bishops on how to avoid denominational schism after four decades of division over how accepting the church should be of homosexuality.

UMC Daily Digest news reported Council of Bishops President Bruce R. Ough who lead the meeting challenges colleagues to be open to changing their minds as they grapple with how to avoid a breakup of The United Methodist Church over homosexuality. "Let us practice the Lenten discipline of self-emptying, letting go of the positions we came here to defend and the battles we are plotting to wage in this council or the Judicial Council or on the floor of the special General Conference... Let us practice the Lenten discipline of listening to God and one another to the point of dying to ourselves."

It is the time all United Methodists pray for the guidance and wisdom of God's spirit with the leaders in the meeting. I use the Serenity Prayer to pray for them. "God grant them the serenity to accept the things they cannot change; courage to change the things they can; and wisdom to know the difference."

In Christ, Choongho Kwon

# Being Faithful

**FEBRUARY 14, 2018**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**Our Presence**

7:30 p.m. .... 43

**FEBRUARY 18, 2018**

**Our Presence**

8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship ..... 33

10:50 a.m. Sunday Worship ..... 98

Sunday School ..... 66

**FEBRUARY 25, 2018**

**Our Presence**

8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship ..... 32

10:50 a.m. Sunday Worship ..... 67

Sunday School ..... 58



**Prayers Requested**

Scot Lanning

Mark Wear

Family of Clint Edmonson

Family of Kab-Chun Shim

**Memorials**

Contributions have been given in memory of **Margaret Wimberley** by Bea Libra, Carl and Maurine Shearer, Jim and Karen Gibson, Dave and Jeanne Jacobs, Fern Lamberd, Martha and Jim Moore, LaVerne Pulliam, Kay Swanson, Loma and Marlene Frakes, Dan and Mary Lee Sturdevant, Earl and Tina Brecht, Eric and Bonnie Wagner, Judy Jensen, Mary Stewart, Nancy Ann Taylor, and Bill, Marion, and Merilee Talor.

A contribution has been given in memory of **Ellen Engel** by Loma and Marlene Frakes.

A contribution has been given in memory of **Clint Edmonson** by Janie Wasser.

**THANK  
YOU!**

Thank you all for your prayers and cards. My recovery progress from hip replacement surgery is great!

Mary Hickernell

Thanks to those who made our recent Community Meal another pleasant evening for our Avondale family and community. It takes many hands to execute this activity (before, during and after), and our team did it well once again.

Judy Frame

**Taylor Tracy, New Interim Youth Director**

We are delighted to announce that we have been blessed to receive an offer from our current choir director, Taylor Tracy, to assume the added responsibilities of Youth Director on an interim basis. Taylor has substantial experience in working with youth and young adults in previous jobs and we are excited to have him join our staff as Youth Director. Taylor joined the youth during Sunday School on February 25th and will officially start as interim Youth Director on March 1, 2018. Elizabeth Boman, Suzy Conaway as well as Pastor Kwon will be providing orientation to Taylor. He will be arranging for a parent/grandparent meeting in the near future.

Please provide your welcome, support and prayers to Taylor as he takes on this critical position in providing a spiritual foundation to our youth through AUMC.

Judy Jensen, Chair, Pastor Parish Relations Committee

**Congratulations to Avondale United Methodist.**

The Northwest District Mission Council voted this past Thursday and approved our grant request for \$2,800. The Council is excited to see what new relationships come from the Terrific Times program.

So, let the fun begin! One of the Terrific Times activities that was incorporated into the grant was an intergenerational trip to New Dinner Theater to see "Sister Act." If we want all of us to sit together, reservations need to be made ASAP. The first 50 people to sign up will be able to ride a coach (bus) to the theater for the Saturday matinee on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Because of the grant, there will be no charge for the first 50 attendees! (Or we can work out a system where some of us split the cost of a ticket if we have more than 50 people sign up!) We hope our children, our youth group, our adult members, and our neighbors will join us for a fun afternoon of musical theater! Please spread the word. To make a reservation, email Elizabeth Boman at [gssplash@aol.com](mailto:gssplash@aol.com).

# OUR SCHEDULE!

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:30 a.m. Elizabeth Guild in Contemporary Life  
6:00 p.m. Jubilee Ringers in Practice Room  
7:00 p.m. Cathedral Choir in Practice Room

## THURSDAY, MARCH 1

1:00 p.m. Threads of Love in Chapel

## SATURDAY, MARCH 3

10:00 a.m. Saturday Walk with Judy Everley

## SUNDAY, MARCH 4: Blanket Sunday

10:50 a.m. Children's Church  
Noon: Girl Scout Silver and Bronze ceremony

## MONDAY, MARCH 5

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts in Wesley Hall

## TUESDAY, MARCH 6

1:00 p.m. Bible Study in Contemporary Life  
No Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Avonaires' Room

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

6:00 p.m. Jubilee Ringers in Practice Room  
7:00 p.m. Cathedral Choir in Practice Room

## FRIDAY, MARCH 9

9:30 a.m. Northland Church Women United

## SATURDAY, MARCH 10

All Day: Boy Scout Leader Training in Wesley Hall and Classrooms  
9:00 a.m. Hodge/Shy Service Guild in Contemporary Life  
10:00 a.m. Book Club in Church Library  
11:15 a.m. Library Committee in Church library

## SUNDAY, MARCH 11

### Scouting Ministries Sunday

Daylight Saving Time Begins. Set your clocks FORWARD Saturday evening.  
Noon: Missions Committee in Contemporary Life

**MONDAY, MARCH 12: 10 a.m. Newsletter Deadline**

## TUESDAY, MARCH 13

10:30 a.m. PEO in Wesley Hall and Library  
1:00 p.m. Bible Study in Contemporary Life  
1:00 p.m. Staff meeting in Pastor's Office  
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Avonaires' Room

## THRIFT SHOP HOURS

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday  
12 to 3 p.m. Saturdays



## Missions News

Missions collected 29 scarves, seven coats, 24 pairs of socks, 26 pairs of gloves, and 52 hats during February. Thank so very much to everyone who contributed.

March 4th we will be celebrating Blanket Sunday. Just \$10 will buy a Church World Service blanket that can offer warmth and comfort in times of need.

Valerie Goodman, Missions Chair

## Easter Egg Hunt!



## Candy Needed for Easter Egg Hunt

Avondale UMC's annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 31, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Wesley Hall and the Education Wing. We need lots of candy (No candy with nuts, please) to make our Easter bags. You may bring donations to the church office.

## Food Pantry News ...

The Food Pantry is collecting 1-lb. bags of rice during the month of March. Thanks to everyone who donated canned beans in February.

## Remember To Wear Your Name Tags.

**If you need a name tag, contact the church office.**

**Avondale United Methodist Church**  
**3101 NE Winn Road**  
**Kansas City, MO 64117**

**Phone: 816-452-3518**

**Early Worship 8:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School 9:30 a.m.**

**Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.**

**Email: [avondaleumc@gmail.com](mailto:avondaleumc@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.avondalemethodist.org](http://www.avondalemethodist.org)**

***<https://www.facebook.com/AvondaleUMCkcmo/>***

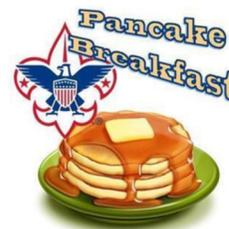


**Sunday, March 11**

**Set your clocks**

**FORWARD**

**Saturday evening at bedtime.**



**Pancake Breakfast**  
**A Camp Benefit for**  
**Boy Scout Troop 179**

**Sunday, March 18**  
**8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Suggested Donation: \$5.00  
Family of 4 or more--\$20

**Avondale United Methodist Church**  
**Wesley Hall**