



**Connecting With God,
Caring For the Whole**

Our Mission: "To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"

SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

Our Staff

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

**The next newsletter
deadline is
Oct. 8, 2018
10:00 a.m.**

See Inside ...

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- ... and more!



Looking Forward to October

Most mainline denominations including the United Methodist Church are in the process of Exodus from the good old days to the uncharted harsh new future. People no longer visit or join a local church because they want relationships or because they want to belong. There are less and less visitors in Sunday morning worship. Many congregations experience schisms between generations and theological perspectives, which shut more people out.

Avondale UMC is not an exception. We are in the wilderness. If you are a long-time member of AUMC, you may remember the good old days: the days your new neighbors showed up in worship even though they had not been invited yet, the days you had difficulty in finding an empty parking spot and pew, and the days AUMC had more baptisms and weddings than funerals. Those good old days had gone. Most of your neighbors don't go to church with you. There are many Sundays without a new visitor. You have no problem in finding a parking spot and pew when you are late to church. As you see, the overall congregants of AUMC are older than those who live in the neighborhood community.

If you agree that AUMC is in the wilderness, I believe you can also agree that there is hope in God. The Book of Exodus tells us how the Hebrews experienced God's grace in the wilderness more than any other place. It is the time AUMC seeks God's grace. It is also the time God seeks our faith and faithfulness. In the wilderness we cannot change either scorching heat or wind. We can change only ourselves. It begins with us. We can endure and keep our faith and hope in God. We can help one another. We can experience that God's grace is not far away.

If you think your church needs change, I hope you remember that it starts with you. "The ability to lead change in the church is directly tied to your willingness to lead God's transformational change in yourself." (Kibbey, Flood Gates)

October 2018 is a gift to AUMC. There are several meaningful events on Sunday mornings when you can invite your neighbors, friends, and family to church. The first Sunday (Oct. 7) is World Communion Sunday: the communion led by two different languages. On October 10, there are interviews and a meeting for the MKI program – please, review the previous newsletter if you want to know more about the MKI. The Second Sunday (Oct. 14) has the installation service of our new district superintendent at Cameron UMC (2:30 PM). Bishop Farr comes to preach. The third Sunday (Oct. 21) is the 103rd Anniversary Sunday with a Pot Luck Lunch. The fourth Sunday (Oct. 28) has the Community Blood Drive (morning), Trunk or Treat (4 PM-5 PM), and Charge Conference (North Star UMC, 6 PM). On October 30 there is a town hall meeting at Liberty UMC (7 PM) regarding "The Way Forward." The first Sunday of November is All Saints Sunday when we remember Avondale members who passed away in 2018.



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Being Faithful

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

Our Presence

8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship.....	24
10:50 a.m. Sunday Worship.....	89
Sunday School	53

SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Our Presence

8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship.....	29
10:50 a.m. Sunday Worship.....	78
Sunday School	33



Ashley Wheat, New Choir Director at AUMC

“Often when there are no words, music can tell the story the heart is ringing. Music has always been my path to the divine whether in church or in my secular life. I have found no more powerful method of speaking my truth or reveling in that fellowship with others, than through music. I am grateful to share those intimacies in the spirit of openness and love that I have found at Avondale.”

Ashley Wheat

Prayer Request for

Paula Oakman and Granddaughter
Susan Vanderkamp



Save the Date ...
Potluck Brunch in Wesley Hall
12:00 p.m., Oct. 21

Hot dogs, pulled pork,
and buns will be furnished.
Please bring a side dish or a dessert.



Thank you everyone for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits while I was in the hospital and during my stay at the McCrite Skilled Nursing Facility. A special thank you to Rev. Kwon for his many visits. Avondale UMC is like family to me and your kindness will not soon be forgotten.

God bless,
Steve Brown



An Invitation ...

If you are considering becoming a member of AUMC and would like more information, you are invited to **“5 Cups of Coffee,”** meetings with Rev. Kwon on Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 30, 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. in his office. Newer members are also invited. Please RSVP to the church office.

Honorarium

A contribution has been given to the food pantry in honor of **Ruth Laningham and Jan Keeney**, by Margery Kuhler.

Kay Swanson Welcomes New Grandbaby

Kay Swanson’s great granddaughter was born Sept. 5th. Her name is Eloise and she will be called Elsie Jean McPhilomy. She joins an older brother and sister. Her parents are Michelle and Mitch McPhilomy. They live in Coeur D Alene, Idaho



Anita Gorman To Receive Award

Anita Gorman will be receiving the William Jewell 2018 Truex Lifetime Alumni Service Award on Oct. 5.

Congratulations, Anita!



Blood Drive in Wesley Hall
Oct. 28, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Book your appointment online at
esavealifenow.org

Call Suzanne Conaway for further information.

OUR SCHEDULE!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

10:30 a.m. Prayer Team in Chapel

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

1:00 p.m. Bible Study in Contemporary Life
1:30 p.m. Staff meeting in Pastor's Office

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

10:00 a.m. Prayer Walk
10:30 a.m. Finer Things Guild in Library

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

10:50 a.m. Children's Church

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

Church Office Closed for Columbus Day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

1:00 p.m. Bible Study in Contemporary Life
1:30 p.m. Staff meeting in Pastor's office

THRIFT SHOP HOURS

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

October Birthdays

- 2: Mike Boman
- 7: Harold Foster
- 11: Bob Garrett
- 13: Carol Stewart
- 17: Vita Buck
- 18: Larry Joiner
- 22: Steve Brown
- 25: Sandy Smith
- 26: Judy Frame
- 28: Skyler Foster
- 30: Pauline Swim, Jennifer Steenstry

(Continued from front page)

Through the entire month, the new sermon series - "Together, We do more" - introduces how United Methodists serve together in the world. Also, I start the "5 Cups of Coffee" meeting on Sept. 30 (9:45 AM -10:30 AM). It is a meeting for all who are interested in spiritual growth and church membership. Our regular Sunday school classes and other small group studies and weekday activities are continuing.

This October we reaffirm Who We Are and What We Are Called For. It is a great opportunity for us to introduce our mission and vision to friends and neighbors and help them experience God's grace at AUMC. It could happen when we intentionally invite them to church. It begins with you and me.

In Christ,
Choongho Kwon

Welcome Home, Kristy and Larry Schmitz!

Join the Seekers Class to welcome "our" missionaries back from their six-year adventure! It's a potluck at Elizabeth and Mike Boman's home at 5232 N. Lydia, on Saturday, September 29 at 5:00 p.m.

Please see Judy Jensen to sign up to bring a dish. Contact Judy at 816-686-6050 or email super.jensen@att.net.

Children are welcome although no child care is provided.

Join us for good food, good fellowship, and a good time!

Missionary Fund Is No Longer Active

When Kristy and Larry started their missionary work six years ago, Avondale UMC set up a special "Missionary Fund" to help support them. Now that they are retired, that fund has been deleted. Thanks to everyone who supported the fund throughout the years.



TRUNKS AND CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED FOR TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, Oct. 28, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

(no candy with nuts, please)

Bring donations to 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

Website: www.avondalemethodist.org

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

MKI—Multiplying Kingdom Impact



Thanks to all of you who have already taken the MKI survey. The Readiness 360 online assessment will help determine our strengths and weaknesses in order to determine our vision for the future.

For those of you who would like some assistance in accessing and taking the survey, here are two options:

1. Visit the church office during regular office hours and Sandy Smith or Mark Keeney will be happy to help.
2. The Seekers Sunday School Class will have computers available in the Library and Wesley Hall on Sundays, Sept. 30 and Oct. 7..

The deadline to complete the survey is Oct. 15. If you do not have the email from church with the link, contact Sandy at 452-3518 to have it emailed to you.

We encourage everyone to participate.