

## Letter from the Pastor

Dear Members of Avondale,

Shared on the following page is the **Order of Worship** to be used at our new 9:30 service on September 11. It embraces our Reformed tradition enabling us to use our God-given gifts to glorify God. In many ways the order is familiar. In other ways the order is more full and rich in liturgy. The order gleans the best from our two worship services and creates a new service that defines a conversation with what is holy.

Over the years, the issue within Presbyterian churches is not a matter of a liturgical versus a non-liturgical service. The problem has been *bad* liturgy - shapeless and formless - and the search for proper means by which it might be reformed and improved. The Order of Worship guiding our new single service offers a deeper meaning than merely patching pieces of traditional and contemporary together.

The fullness of this liturgy recognizes the mystery and downward movement of God, becoming real

in Jesus Christ, and an upward movement of our response, with the Holy Spirit bringing life with the encounter of grace and faith.

When the act of worship takes on meaning, it will carry a specific and definitive shape.

It will have time for preparation and proclamation. It will express gratitude and send those who worship out into the world affirming the mighty acts of God.

Great worship will emerge as a way of life and an ongoing partnership with God. The liturgy provides to a theological rudder which will guide our ship as we come back together as a worshipping community. Truly great worship, with the help of the Holy Spirit, will have a shape and claim that will change the character of our common life.

Yours in Christ,




*This Sunday  
at 10:00 A.M.  
"Conversation"  
on Single Service*

## Growing in Stewardship

### Stewardship in Discipleship: Congregational Life

Congregational Life is about bringing the congregation closer together. It's about creating opportunities through hospitality that make people feel comfortable, wanted, and included. It's about creating times for people to share with each other. For example, The Lemonade Stand. This bright yellow cart does more than serve beverages and cookies, it gives people an incentive not to walk out of service and get in their car. It creates an opportunity to stay and chat and talk about what is going on in your life. A moment to celebrate the day.



The meals serve the same premise - pulling people together. Connecting people from both services together. People of all ages together. Through hospitality, Congregational Life creates opportunities to meet and care about the person sitting next to you.

The Congregational Retreat, formerly called the Family Retreat, has been an incredible, rewarding experience in bringing everyone together. Taking the church bus has enabled more people to go and enjoy. Another thing Congregational Life does.

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## Stewardship cont.

Ways people can help with Congregational Life? First, be present. When you are present, then you can see where you fit in. Hospitality, when you think about this, it's not just about getting flowers and showing up. It is the tools you use with hospitality... kitchen, storage, pantry, tables and chairs, food... Members of the church can serve, share their gift of time, by doing what they like to do or where they like to be. Cooking, organizing, shopping, coordinating, behind the scenes or greeting at the entrance.... work alone or work as part of a group.

Louise Lawson shares that it was many years before she got involved. Before someone asked her to help. And she didn't really want to. Her priority was taking care of her kids. But she said yes. Then, being on this team became part of taking care of her kids. The kids got involved. They spend time together on this, the kids learn new things. It all worked out. She loves doing the pieces of hospitality that create larger connections, fellowship and community.



### Stewardship in Discipleship: Interview in Worship: Jennifer Patterson

Jennifer Patterson has been a member of Avondale for 14 years. Jennifer is a current Elder and serves as the facilitator for the Worship Gathering Group. She and her family can be found on the front row at the ARISE service most every Sunday morning.



Q. Why worship?

A. For me, worship is all about God. It's my time to praise God, to be reminded of His gift of grace, to acknowledge my shortcomings, and to ask for forgiveness. Too often I lose sight of God between Monday and Saturday, and I need Sunday morning worship to restore my relationship with God.

Q. Why worship together?

A. Well, I love my church family, and worship is the one time each week when we all get together. But, more importantly, worshipping together is important for me because it is a reflection of how we should live our lives and grow our faith - together!

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## Order of Worship

The **Order of Worship** for our new 9:30 A.M. unified service beginning on September 11.

### Gathering Music (9:20)

#### Gather in God's Name

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn(s)

A Time of Confession

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Kyrie

Assurance of Pardon

Re-Affirmation of Baptism

Passing of the Peace

#### Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading of Testament

Anthem

Second Reading of Testament

Message

#### Give Thanks to God

Hymn

Affirmation of Faith

Commitment to Community

An Invitation to Discipleship

Prayers of the People

followed by The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Gifts and Tithes

Offertory

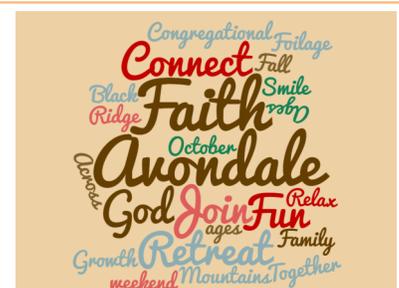
Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

#### Go In God's Name

Hymn

We Depart in Peace



## Stewardship cont.

Q. Why be involved in worship?

A. There are so many important reasons to be involved in worship. There are so many elements to worship, so much that needs to be done each Sunday morning, and we couldn't have the meaningful worship services that we have at Avondale without so many of our church members stepping up to help. I especially appreciate our wonderful musicians, since this is a talent that I do not have. I can set up chairs and pass out bulletins and read a prayer, but I cannot sing or play an instrument. But, in worship, what is often most meaningful and moving to me is the music, so I am very grateful to the many musicians in our congregation that share their gifts to enrich our worship experience.

Q. What is the impact of worship?

A. For me, I find inspiration in worship. After every worship service, I am inspired to move out and help others, and to truly serve others in the way that God intends and Jesus modeled. If we are doing worship "right", our worship services should welcome people in and then send them out with a servant's heart and the conviction that God's love is a powerful force for change.



### Stewardship in Discipleship: Interview in Worship: Sigrid Sacra

Sigrid Sacra is a familiar face for many Avondale missions. She is a ruling elder and serves with the worship gathering. Every person who attends a worship service has a reason to be at Avondale on a Sunday morning. Here's Sigrid's reason:

"Avondale has been an important part of my life for over 25 years. I have always depended on the friendly family focus of the congregation. I have been involved in programs from the youngest children, the Avondale Children's Center, to the most mature, 90 plus. The teaching, serving and growing in this faith community has helped me endure many of life's challenges.

As Avondale grows, changes are a major part of service to our congregation, the community and the world. I need to be a part of that growing that nourishes my faith for now and the future."



*"...nourishes my  
faith for now  
and the future."  
- Sigrid Sacra*

### Haiti on September 11

At the single unified service on September 11, we will be collecting a special offering to feed 30 disabled and elderly men and women in Milot, Haiti. Avondale's *Face to Face in Milot* ministry has a simple goal - to ease the suffering of the disabled and elderly of Milot. This mission of feeding, serving, and loving the elderly poor in Milot is our way of following in the footsteps of Christ. On September 11, you will hear from some Avondale youth and young adults who have traveled to Milot. Please consider making a donation and feeding our friends in Milot.



*...following in the footsteps of Christ...*

**Children, Youth, Staff and Volunteer  
Protection Policy Training  
Wednesday, August 24**

On Wednesday, August 24 at 7:15 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall, Patti Oswald will conduct the Children, Youth, Staff and Volunteer Protection Policy training - or sign-off - for those who need it. Please RSVP your participation to Patti at [pattioswald@mvalaw.com](mailto:pattioswald@mvalaw.com).



**Children's Sunday School Fall Kick-Off  
Wednesday, August 24**

We'll have the Children's Sunday School Kick-Off gathering on Wednesday, August 24 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll have dinner together and take time to honor you - our wonderful teachers - for teaching the children of Avondale.



We'll ask for and listen to feedback about the Summer session, then kick-off the Fall session with refreshed rosters, curriculum and ideas! Patti Oswald will join us at 7:15 P.M. to conduct the Children, Youth, Staff and Volunteer Protection Policy training or sign-off, for those who need it.

Please RSVP to Julie Caldwell so we can plan for food and attendance. [juliecaldwell33@gmail.com](mailto:juliecaldwell33@gmail.com) or 704-231-9440

## About Our Move to a Single Worship Service

### About our Sunday Schedule and Service

Beginning Sunday, September 11, 2016  
9:30 A.M. Worship in the FLC  
10:40 A.M. Fellowship following worship  
11:00 A.M. Christian Nurture & fellowship programs  
(Church School, Journey Groups, and fellowship)

Our unified worship service will be a meaningful, welcoming service that continues to affirm our Reformed tradition. The new service will be a blend of ancient, traditional, and modern forms of music, prayer, and liturgy with scripture remaining at the center of the service. We hope you'll join us in this unified worship as we Glorify God. We also invite you to share your gifts. See "Share Your Gifts" following.

### Questions about our move to a single, unified Worship Service?

#### Find Answers Online:

Article: "Frequently Asked Questions about our single service" <http://tinyurl.com/j4qsm4c>

#### Come to a Conversation:

"Opportunities for Conversation about our Single Worship Service" - We'll meet in the sanctuary at 10:00 A.M. until 10:50 A.M. on Sunday, August 28.

If questions exist in regards to "What next?" and "What will change?", come to this session offered for open questions and conversation. Ruling Elders and representatives from the Single Worship Planning Task Force will conduct the classes.



### Share Your Gifts

Your gifts are needed to glorify God. Beginning September 11, would you consider serving in one of these six ways?

- singing, ringing or playing in one of the choirs or band
- assist in setting up chairs for worship
- setup the morning beverage bar
- usher or serve as a greeter to newcomers
- drive the church bus to pick-up those who desire to attend worship
- share computer skills in projecting visuals for worship



Contact any of our Worship Team Leaders - Harry Greyard, Amanda Shanks and Lynn Wilkerson.

## Avondale News

### 2016 Congregational Retreat October 21-23

All ages are invited to join together for this inter-generational retreat! Our Avondale family will gather in Black Mountain at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly. There, we'll grow together, enjoy the mountain scenery, embrace our faith and have fun.

At our Congregational Retreat, fellowship is strengthened and the presence of God is visible. More details and costs for the Retreat is on our Avondale website, listed under "Upcoming Events". [www.avondalepresbychurch.org](http://www.avondalepresbychurch.org)

### Giving Garden

Even with the unusual weather, our Giving Garden continues to produce healthy, alive food for those in need. In August, our garden produced tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, carrots and more. The fresh produce harvested from our garden goes to Friendship Trays where the food is prepared and delivered to the homes of individuals in need.

### Presbyterian Women hold a Kick-Off Luncheon for Sedgefield Middle School Staff Friday, August 26

The Presbyterian Women of Avondale will host a "Back to School" Luncheon for the staff of Sedgefield Middle School on Friday, August 26. 80+ people will come to Avondale for the salad luncheon. We are in need of salads for this event! If you can contribute a salad of any type, please contact Lyn Sweet or Brenda Coble. If you can contribute, please bring your dish to the Family Life Center by 9:30 A.M. on Friday, August 26.

Lyn Sweet: 704-553-2728, [lsweet03@bellsouth.net](mailto:lsweet03@bellsouth.net) or  
Brenda Coble 704-525-0787, [brendacoble@carolina.rr.com](mailto:brendacoble@carolina.rr.com)

### Youth Fellowship Kick-Off for 2016-17 Sunday, September 11

On September 11, following our new unified worship service – that starts at 9:30 A.M. and ends at 10:40, the Youth Fellowship will kick-off the 2016-2017 fellowship year! All 6-12th graders are invited to attend. Likely, the gathering will be held at Fellowship Point; however, finalized details on location, meal and transportation details are forthcoming soon.

### ODD Advisor Meeting

Wednesday, August 24 at 5:30 P.M.

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## Avondale News cont.

### Join Youth Choir Resumes in September

Come at 4:45 P.M. on Sundays before Youth Fellowship and experience small group camaraderie by singing for the love of singing and preparing for participation in worship. Choir is a cool thing. Let us know you want a place! Led by Regina Love. Look for a starting date coming soon. Contact Regina at [pianos@carolina.rr.com](mailto:pianos@carolina.rr.com).

### Journey Groups Coming in September

Navigating faith isn't a solo effort. It takes a team where we can share joys and struggles, offer encouragement, and help each other discern God's call in our lives.

Avondale already offers groups that nurture these relationships, but in the coming weeks look for many new Journey Groups that foster these ties in a variety of ways, including study and discussion, movies, cycling, prayer, and dinner, to name a few.

*What is a Journey Group?* It is a group of people that comes together to play, learn and grow as they share their journey of faith. All Journey Groups offer opportunities to grow closer to Christ by strengthening our bonds with one another as Christ's people.

### Book Club Journey Group Next on August 30

The Avondale Book Club is reading Larry McMurtry's *The Last Kind Words Saloon* for our August discussion. We will meet at Stacey Longshore's home at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, August 30. Read the book and join us for a lively discussion on what life was like in the wild west and compares to life today. Contact Robert Rogers at 704-996-2923 or [rogersrobt@hotmail.com](mailto:rogersrobt@hotmail.com).

## Bunco

### Next on September 2

After a summer hiatus, Bunco resumes in September. Come for fellowship and fun. Women of all ages and skill levels are welcome.

First Friday of the month from 6:30-9:00 P.M.

Dates: Sept. 2 Oct. 7 Nov. 4 December - no meeting

### ASAP (Avondale Senior Adult Program)

#### Next on September 26

Fellowship, food, learning and adventure for church members aged 55+. Gatherings held monthly on the fourth Monday at noon. We also schedule field trips during the year and undertake varied mission projects.

Dates: Sept. 26 Oct. 24

### Joyful Noise

#### Next on September 7

Joyful Noise returns to the school schedule on Wednesday, September 7. This program is open to the public to parents/caregivers and children, birth through pre-school. Journey with your child, helping them learn about the excitement and love of Christ through music, dance, story time, and fellowship. Come make a joyful noise with us on Wednesdays, from 11:15-11:45 A.M., with a 15 minute free play following.

### Avondale Adventures

#### Begins October 5

Our next ten-week Avondale Adventures session begins October 5, with a parent meeting before this date. The Adventure will run through December 14. The program is open to the public and is for kids aged K-5th grade. Each Wednesday, 5:30-7:30 P.M., the program includes an evening meal, arts and crafts project, choir, and Bible Study. There is a minimal fee for the program.



### Vacation Bible School

Enjoy photos from Laura Meier

<https://laurajmeier.smugmug.com/>

[Avondale-VBS-2016/n-tcwq9d/i-3HdvbV5](https://laurajmeier.smugmug.com/Avondale-VBS-2016/n-tcwq9d/i-3HdvbV5)



### Do you Facebook?

If so, like the [Avondale page!](#)

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/AvondalePresbyterian)

[AvondalePresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/AvondalePresbyterian)



## Key Life Dates Shared

### September Birthdays

- |                                                                                  |                                                                          |                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Ben Miller<br>Evan Michael Harrison<br>Hannah Stockwell<br>Sandy Brodof | <b>9</b> Brenda Coble<br>James Harris<br>Tyler Norman                    | <b>21</b> Shea Chambers                                                    |
| <b>2</b> Floyd McClung, Jr<br>Jim Flowers                                        | <b>10</b> Edna Hilton *                                                  | <b>22</b> Ainsley Chambers<br>Catherine Mitchell                           |
| <b>3</b> Stewart Farris                                                          | <b>11</b> Lauren Hinkel                                                  | <b>23</b> Keely McKenzie<br>Marcus Mitchell<br>Shawn Love<br>Sydney Jordan |
| <b>4</b> Caroline Starnes<br>Grant Caldwell<br>Jessica Wardlaw                   | <b>13</b> Jerry McClure<br>Karey Marren<br>Will Tomey                    | <b>24</b> Steve Annas<br>William Dunlap                                    |
| <b>5</b> Alex Powell<br>Anne Hamilton                                            | <b>14</b> Chris Hipps                                                    | <b>25</b> Brett McCarthy<br>Debby Sacra<br>Sharon McGinn                   |
| <b>6</b> Andrew Flowers<br>Mary Catherine Suydam                                 | <b>15</b> Addison McNeil<br>Amanda Seals<br>Joanne Sahlie<br>Sande Darby | <b>26</b> Mason Todd                                                       |
| <b>8</b> Taylor E. Shanks                                                        | <b>16</b> Bill Parrish                                                   | <b>27</b> Jane Pearl Swart                                                 |
| <b>* Edna Hilton turns 100!</b>                                                  | <b>20</b> Rich Stanley                                                   | <b>29</b> Lee Weigle<br>Tim McLeod                                         |

### September Anniversaries

- 6 Lisa Miller and Rich Worf 2014
- 8 Jim and Christie Flowers 1979
- 9 P. K. Kalevas 1948
- 10 Bill and B. J. Byrd 1983
- 11 Ronnie Holm 1954
- 13 Louise Chambers 1970
- 19 Ellen Watson 1953
- 24 Ann Gregory 1955
- 29 Dennis and Susan Brandau 1984
- 30 Charles and Karen Eakes 1995

### Joys and Concerns

*May God give comfort to these families.*

**Members:** Bill Berryhill; Pam Blake; Mike Cathey; Rachel Darling; Audrey Dougherty; Rose Graham; Bob Howard; Betty McBrayer; Martha Meunier; Betty Patterson; David Phillips; Eleanor Ramey; Henry Stockwell; Beth Suydam; and Libby Thompson.

**Family and Friends:** Barbara Aylor; Lee Ballard; Ann Boyd-Moore; Scott Braswell; Sally Bridgen; Mary Cerena; Elizabeth Darby; Evelyn Earl; Sam Favor; Larry Hensinger; Megan McCarthy; Sean Nolan; Mike Page; Claire Refaey; Cornisha Scott; Warren Snider; Hunter Stubbs; Clifton Taylor; Larry Williams; and Nora Kate Williams.

**Church Triumphant:** To the family and friends of Ida Parnell, who entered the Church Triumphant on August 5, 2016. Mrs. Parnell was a long-time Avondale member and was involved in Presbyterian Women where she was presented an honorary life membership.

### Memorials

**In Memory of:**

Ida Parnell

**Given By:**

Louise P. Chambers  
Domicia L. Sitton  
Presbyterian Women of  
Avondale

**In Memory of:**

Bob Hanna  
(Peggy Simpson's Brother)

**Given By:**

Bill and Marsha Rose



*Pavlin family*

**Baptisms:**  
On August 21, 2016,  
the family of  
Andrew Richard and  
Deidrea Booher Pavlin  
baptized their daughter,  
Drew Elyse Pavlin.

On August 28, 2016,  
the family of  
Thomas Tinsley and  
Jodie Hermann Lawson  
will baptize their daughter,  
Tinsley Sophia Lawson.



*Tinsley Lawson*



**Avondale Presbyterian Church**  
 2821 Park Road  
 Charlotte, NC 28209

### Newsletter Publish Schedule

Avondale Avenues is published monthly on the fourth Tuesday. Deadline for submitting content for next newsletter is September 20. Publication date is September 27. Send submissions to [Caroline@AvondalePresbyChurch.org](mailto:Caroline@AvondalePresbyChurch.org).



### Avondale Calendar

- August 24 - Children, Youth, Staff and Volunteer Protection Policy Training
- August 24 - Children's Sunday School Fall Kick-Off
- August 26 - Presbyterian Women hold Sedgefield M.S. Staff Luncheon
- August 27-28 - Session & TAG Retreat
- August 28 - Conversation On Single Service
- September 5 - Labor Day / Church Office Closed
- Ends Sept. 8 - Fall Youth Flower Sale Fundraiser
- September 11 - Single, Unified Worship Begins
- September 11 - Nurture & Fellowship programs
- September 11 - Youth Fellowship Kick-Off
- October 5 - Avondale Adventures begins
- October 21-23 - Congregational Retreat  
[Avondale calendar online!](#)

### Flower & Plant Sale Going on now!

#### Fall Youth Flower Sale Fundraiser Orders due by September 8

Buy your fall flowers and plants from our youth. Pansies, Violas, Snapdragons, Herbs, Cabbage, Kale, Ferns, Huechera, Rudbeckia, Hosta....on my!

Orders due by September 8. Delivery October 1. Return your order form to a youth group member on Sundays or turn in to the Church Office.

[A list of plants and flowers and order forms](#) are available in the Church Office and on our website under Upcoming Events.

[www.avondalepresbychurch.org](http://www.avondalepresbychurch.org)