Join us in prayer for hope and healing for our Community.

Psalm 107
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.
Pastor's Moment

As the Christmas season ended we began to find ourselves inundated with advertisements for the next big holiday which is coming up this month. With Valentine’s Day right in the middle of the month, February has now become a month long celebration of love (ask me about Galentine’s Day!).

The English language doesn’t offer much nuance to the meaning of the word love, but as we see in the New Testament Greek has different words for different types of love: éros referring to romantic love, philía referring to the love between friends or brothers and sisters, and agápe love meaning love for God and love and charity for our fellow humans.

At Avon Christian Church you will find that we have an emphasis on love that is slightly different than the love our culture emphasizes during this “Month of Love,” and there are several different opportunities for us to live in to the call to agápe love this month. February 1-7, we will be collecting food for Linwood Food Pantry as a part of the Souper Bowl of Caring. February 21-28, we will be receiving our annual Week of Compassion offering and raising awareness of the many ways our compassion is put into action through this organization here in the United States and around the world.

Finally, as I think about how distanced we are during this time, another great way to share the love is to reach out to friends, neighbors, other members of the congregation who may be feeling isolated. As one of my favorite hymns says- “They will know we are Christians by our Love.” Let’s put our compassion, our agápe love, into action so that all the world may experience God’s love through our life, words, and actions.

Peace, Danielle
Lent begins February 17, 2021, with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time of preparation and anticipation; the micro practices introduce ways to guide you each day on your journey of preparation. We hope you will join us.

Ash Wednesday Service
February 17th, 2021 at
7pm

Virtual Service on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/user/AvonChristian/featured
Matthew 6:9-15

9 “Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
10 Your kingdom come.
    Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread.[c]
12 And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
13 And do not bring us to the time of trial,[d]
    but rescue us from the evil one.[e]

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Fa-
ther will also forgive you; 15 but if you do not forgive others,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Amen
Souper Bowl of Caring

Bring non-perishable food donations by the church anytime February 1-7. Place your donations in the team's bin to show support for your favored team to win Super Bowl LV, Kansas City Chiefs or the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Donations will be taken to Linwood Food Pantry. #tacklehunger

Elder Spotlight - Bob Hanesworth

My wife, Nancy, and I have been members of Avon Christian Church for about 12 years. We have a total of four children and six grandchildren. The grandchildren range in age from 3 to 29. The oldest grandchild was married last May so there is a very real chance that I could become a great grandfather in the next few years. I have never been a great grandfather before, but I like to think I will be better than mediocre.

Nancy and I are both retired. Nancy taught Special Ed for 34 years. I must have worked somewhere, because I have always looked well fed, but work was not the highlight of my life so I don't dwell on the details.

During our time at ACC I have served on the Outreach Committee, Deacons, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, two stints as an Elder, and as a member of one Search Committee for Senior Pastor, and now I help with the soundboard on some Sundays.

I look forward to continuing to serve you, the ACC family, any way I can. Don't hesitate to call me.
ACC Business Directory

Calling all creatives, business owners, organizers, coordinators, crafters, fixers! We would love to know who you are! We are putting together a directory of services offered by you to be shared with our congregation. If you provide a service or create a product and would like to be featured in the directory please complete the following information and send it to Melissa by February 5th, 2021.

Your Name:
Business Name:
Description of your Service/Product:
Contact information/Social Media:
Attach a photo if applicable
Juliets
Juliets will be meeting at Longhorn Steakhouse on Friday, February 5th, at 1 PM. It is located in front of the Target on Rockville Road in Avon.
Please let Carol Flinn know if you will be there by emailing mcflinn13@hotmail.com or calling 317-939-2968.

Busy Hands Requests Donations
If you have any yarn laying around your house that you no longer need, Busy Hands is requesting that you donate it to their group for crocheting or knitting hats, scarves, preemie blankets, or prayer shawls. You may leave your donations in the choir room at the end near the fellowship hall or in the front vestibule marked for Busy Hands.
Even if you have no yarn you can help provide supplies to make the above items or to make borders on blankets by donating money to Avon Christian Church and designate that it is to go to Busy Hands. This will help in the purchase of needed materials.
Donated monies helped to pay for the completed blankets for Sheltering Wings. It cost over $500 to make the 81 blankets. Busy Hands can provide their time and talents but could use your assistance to cover the financial expense of their many projects.
Prayer List
An email of prayer concerns goes out to those who opt in to receive the emails. In addition, emails will be sent with specific or special prayer requests. Please let us know if prayer is preferred to be kept confidential.

To be included on this prayer specific communication, or send us a prayer request, email prayer01@avonchristian.org
Financial Update - January 2021

This is the first of, what I plan to be, brief monthly updates to the congregation to keep everyone informed on Avon Christian Church’s budget throughout 2021. This month, I’d like to share the following information:

**Giving trends**

During December, giving totaled $28,919. To meet the needs set forth in the 2021 unified budget, we need to have giving, on average, of approximately $31,000 per month. The Finance Working Group will continue to monitor both giving and spending closely as the year progresses.

**Paycheck Protection Program**

You may recall that in 2020, the church received almost $29,000 from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which was part of the CARES Act. I’m pleased to report that Avon Christian Church had its entire loan forgiven. The latest round of PPP, recently approved by Congress, has two major qualifying provisions. First, an organization/business must have fewer than 300 employees, a condition we easily meet. However, the organization must also show a decrease in revenue of 25% or greater in at least one quarter over that same quarter in the previous year. Our worst quarter in 2020, the 3rd quarter, saw a 19.87% reduction from 2019. Therefore, it appears we do not qualify for this round of PPP. The Finance Working Group continues to explore grant opportunities and will also monitor other federal stimulus opportunities that may be approved.

**Mortgage Refinance**

At the congregational meeting, there was discussion about possible savings if we refinanced our mortgage. Our mortgage is a 5-year loan with a balloon payment at the end. When that term expires, we will secure another loan at the best prevailing rate. The interest rate on our present mortgage, which began at 4.55%, is now at 4.04%. We have 19 months remaining on our current term. The Finance Working Group has examined the costs/benefits associated with a refinance and decided that it is best for Avon Christian Church to finish out the current mortgage.

Thanks for your generous support of the ministry at Avon Christian Church! If you have any questions about Avon Christian Church’s financial situation, please be sure to email them to me and they will be addressed in a future update.

Tim Campbell, Interim Treasurer
January 2021 Giving

2020 Giving Statements

2020 giving statements were mailed Friday, January 15th. Linda emailed statements on the 16th for those who requested this type of delivery. Special arrangements were made for some of you to receive your statements. If you do not receive your statement, please contact Linda as soon as possible at linda@avonchristian.org.

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Ways to Give

Online Giving on our Website
https://www.avonchristian.org/mega_menu_contentgiving/

Giving with the Givelify App
Download in your Mobile App Store
Check out “Givelify Mobile Giving App Demo” from Givelify on Vimeo. https://vimeo.com/88298407

View this video for more details on how to get started, https://youtu.be/8RVHos0lvi4

Electronic Giving

Please contact Linda at lindaa@avonchristian.org.

Online Bill pay through your bank

Phone your bank if you need assistance setting this up. You can set up recurring or one-time payments.

Mail

Write which fund to apply on the memo line and mail your check to:
Avon Christian Church
Attn: Linda Aders
7236 E County Rd 100 S
Avon, IN 46123
AVON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

www.avonchristian.org

office@avonchristian.org

OFFICE HOURS

BY APPOINTMENT

VIRTUAL HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:30am - 3:30pm

CLOSED—FRIDAYS

GENERAL OFFICE EMAIL NOT MONITORED OVER WEEKEND

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Danielle Cox, Senior Minister
Rev. Paula Pettis-Garrett, Associate Minister
Linda Aders, Financial Assistant
Melissa Shriner, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Merchant, Nursery Director
Kurt Schakel - Organist/Accompanist

ACC BOARD

Tracy Wheeler, Moderator
David Hyslop, Vice Moderator
Tim Campbell, Treasurer
Laura Foust, Secretary
Bob Burns, Elders
Cheryl Croghan, Diaconate
Mary Ann Otto, Diaconate
Deb Claus, Member-at-Large
Lura Lawson, Member-at-Large
Ann Hodson, Member-at-Large

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS

Megan Mathena, Co-op
Debi Campbell, Christian Ed
Beth Roberts, Church Growth
Kenda Hamersley, Fellowship
Larry Champion, Outreach
Rachele Baker, Sports
Cheryl Croghan, Worship
Marianne Berlin, Worship
Kelly Payne, Disciples Women
Rick Olson, Disciples Men

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS

Bob Burns
Deb Claus
Rob Hanesworth
Kathy Owen
Kelly Payne
Dora Faye Shelley
Freda Strehle

ELDERS