Luke 2:13-14

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,
14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”
“Try to imagine what I gave up when I came to earth as a baby. I set aside My Glory, so that I could identify with mankind. I accepted the limitations of infancy under the most appalling conditions – a filthy stable.

That was a dark night for Me, even though angels lit up the sky proclaiming “Glory!” to awestruck shepherds. I became poor so that you might become rich. Sing hallelujahs to My holy Name!”

Community Invites…

Brandywine Harp Orchestra
Performance Schedule 2017

December 3rd
Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church
1100 W Church St.
Newark, DE 19711
4:00 PM

December 6th
Highland Presbyterian Church
500 E Roseville Rd
Lancaster, PA 17601
7:00 PM

December 10th
Upper Octorora Presbyterian Church
1121 Octorora Trail
Parkesburg, PA
4:00 PM

OUTREACH TO OUR COMMUNITY

End of Winter Olympics Event
March 17, 2018

The CE Team is looking for a group to help plan this event for our community for kids in grades K-6th. Stay tuned for more info!

Grocery Cards or Perkins Bucks for Christmas!

Please see Joan Rosazza if you would like to give Grocery Cards or Perkins Bucks as gifts for Christmas!

We will be receiving dates for 2018 soon!
All are Welcome!

Christmastide 2017
Avondale Presbyterian Church
PO Box 446, 420 Pennsylvania Avenue 19311

Advent begins
Sunday, December 3rd
Worship 9:15 AM
My Special Worship 11:00 AM

2nd Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 10th
“Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols” 9:15 AM
My Special Worship 11:00 AM

Avondale Borough Tree Lighting
Wednesday, December 14th, 6:30 PM
At Serv-Pro (Old Fire Hall) across from Post Office

3rd Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 17th
Worship 9:15 AM
My Special Worship 11:00 AM

4th Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 24th
Worship 9:15 AM
My Special Worship 11:00 AM

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24th
Candlelight Family Worship
6:30 PM

Happy New Year!
Sunday, December 31st
Worship 9:15 AM
My Special Worship 11:00 AM
A missionary in the South Sea Islands was teaching his people about Christmas. “The giving of gifts is a spontaneous act of celebration over an extremely joyous event. And that is why many people give gifts to others at Christmas time. It is an act of celebration over the joyous occasion of the birth of Christ.”

Following this teaching, one of the young men wanted to give the missionary a gift for Christmas, but since it was a very poor island, presents were not readily available.

On Christmas morning, a knock came at the hut of the missionary. At the door, he found the young man, who then gave him an extremely rare and particularly beautiful seashell that was found only at the distant end of the island.

The missionary thanked the young man for giving him such a rare and beautiful gift from such a distance, to which the man replied, “Long walk part of gift.”

There are many people who have taken upon themselves the arduous life of a missionary to take the gospel to the ends of the earth. They would say this is their “long walk.” This is their gift to God for his gift of salvation. Why not spend some time praying for these servants of God who have willingly sacrificed comfort, safety and separation from family to take the good news to surrounding nations.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Pastor Dave

ALL IN by Mark Batterson

“The gospel cost nothing, but it demands everything!” This book is a call to complete consecration. It is a call to surrender all to the LORD Jesus. Seventeen chapters designed to get us to say “I’m going all in for Jesus.” It is also a book that lets us know if we go all in, that God will show up and show off His power and glory in our lives. When you finish reading this book you will be faced with one decision. Will I consecrate myself to God?

The Israelites were given a promise. “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.”

“God wants to do amazing things. He’s simply waiting for us to consecrate ourselves. It’s time to go all in and all out for the All in All.”
SESSION THREE ON UNDERSTANDING YOUR BIBLE

After Jesus died and rose again he stayed on the earth for 40 days. If for no other reason than to prove to people he had truly risen from the dead. As convinced as people were that he truly rose from the dead, they were not prepared to be witnesses of his life and death and resurrection. Jesus told them to wait. Wait in Jerusalem till they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Once filled full of the Holy Spirit they instantly became witnesses of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The gospel is carried to imperfect people by imperfect people. These imperfect Christ followers band together to help each other grow to spiritual maturity in Christ. These people are called by a new name. They are the CHURCH. The first 12 chapters of the book of Acts tells us about 4 major subjects about the Church.

1. The birth of the Church (Acts 1-5)
In these chapter we read of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came with the sound of a mighty rushing wind, and came as flames of fire that rested on each person who waited in the upper room and then filled them with the fire of God. They spoke in languages they had never learned and as a result many of the Jews from different parts of the world heard the praises of God in their own tongue. Many miracles were associated with the birth of the church. And the numbers of converts to Christianity increased rapidly.

2. Growth: Organization of the Church (Acts 6)
With the rapid growth of the church some measures were taken for the organization of the church, giving them structure and responsibilities. Peter organized a relief effort for needy Christians. People sold some of their possessions. And Deacons were chosen to look after the material needs of the church as the apostles looked after the spiritual needs.

Stephen, a deacon, was arrested by the Jewish leaders. He refused to recant his message about Jesus death and resurrection, and the Jewish leaders stoned him to death. Stephen was the first Christian martyr. His death began a round of persecution so severe that many Christ followers had to flee Jerusalem for the fear of their lives. And this spread the gospel to Judea and Samaria.

4. Transition: A missionary to the gentiles (Acts 8-12)
A zealous Pharisee, Saul of Tarsus, shortly after Stephen’s stoning, went on journey to Damascus to hunt and kill Christians. On this journey he encountered the risen Christ and was converted to being a Christ follower. He became known as the Apostle Paul. And Jesus tells Paul, that he will become a missionary to the Gentiles. Shortly after his conversion he has a vision and the Lord tells him to take the gospel to the Gentiles. This marks the transition in the nature of the Church, because, up to this time, the message had been circulated exclusively to Jews. Enjoy reading the first 12 chapters of Acts throughout the month of December.

UPCOMING SMALL GROUPS
(Beginning in Mid-January)

Tuesday Eve/Wednesday Morning
(Study on the Holy Spirit)

Sunday Nights
(Study on the book of Daniel)

Wednesday afternoon
Women’s Bible Study
(Topic to be decided)
Festival of
9 Lessons
& Carols

AVONDALE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
420 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.
AVONDALE, PA 19311

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017
9:15 AM

Supervised nursery is provided.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

610.268.2919  www.avondalepc.org
Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness
And who seek the Lord:
Look to the rock from which you were cut
and to the quarry from which you were hewn.
Isaiah 51:1

DECEMBER YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

Sunday 12/1-12/3  Fall Retreat at Black Rock
Sunday 12/10  6:00 - 8:30 PM  Lesson with David
Sunday 12/17  6:00 - 8:30 PM  Christmas Party
Sunday 12/24  6:30 PM  Participate in Christmas Eve Worship
Sunday 12/31  No Youth Group  No Youth Group Happy New Year!

We invite all 6th – 12th graders to join us Sunday nights from
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm for fun and fellowship. Dinner is
provided at 6:00 pm.

Be sure to join us at 6:30 PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
& Youth Led Play
“Christmas Holiday”
'Twas the night Jesus came and all through the house
Not a person was praying, not one in the house.
The Bibles were left on the shelf without care,
For no one thought that Jesus would come there.
The children were dressing to crawl into bed,
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
And Mom in her rocker with baby in her lap
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.

When out of the east there rose such a clatter,
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash
Tore open the shutters and lifted the sash!
What to my wondering eyes should appear
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here!
The light of His face made me cover my head---
It was Jesus returning, just as He said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.
In the Book of Life which He held in His hand
Was written the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;
When He said, “It’s not here” my head hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written with love
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose without a sound
While all the rest were left standing around.
I fell to my knees, but it was too late;
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;
Oh, if only I’d known that this was the night.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;
The coming of Jesus is now drawing near.
There’s only one life and when comes the last call
We’ll find that the Bible was true after all.

(Published by Faith, Prayer & Tract League)

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father (knows when Jesus will return). Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. If He comes suddenly, do not let Him find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘WATCH!’ ”
(Mark 13: 32, 33, 36&37)
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER: all ladies are invited to the Oxford Presbyterian Women’s annual ladies Christmas dinner on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Carolyn DiCecco by December 5th and we will arrange carpooling.

2018 CALENDARS: if you receive any 2018 calendars that you don’t need please bring to APC and place in the donation box at the main entrance. We give these calendars to the residents at Twin Pines.

APC Annual Craft Fair and Christmas Bazaar
THANK YOU

The Bazaar Team Update: Thank you again to everyone for attending or for helping at our annual APC Craft Fair & Christmas Bazaar. The event did very well and we brought in $6,173.00. The funds will be allocated as follows: The Kennett Cupboard $1000.00, The Bridge at the Church of the Nazarene $1000.00, Oxford Area Neighborhood Service Center $1000.00, Avondale Presbyterian Church $3,173.00 plus the can goods were distributed this week to the food banks. Thank you again for your support and wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving! Sue Hanson, Barbie Needham, Peggy Watkins, Marci Mebane, Carolyn DiCecco Kathy Barto & The Youth Group.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE COFFEE HOUR
After “Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols”
Sunday, December 10th
in the Great Hall

For the Coffee Hour
Please sign-up to bake & bring 3 dozen cookies
Cookies will be served and additional cookies will be bagged for you to take with you to share with a friend.
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Anniversary

Happy Birthday Jesus

happy anniversary
In a previous Deacon's Corner we talked about what is the role of the deacons. Yes, we help to provide for the welfare of our congregation but we help in other ways. Our budget includes financial help for outside agencies. These include:

- Chester County Migrant Ministry
- Pregnancy Resources cornerstone
- Good Neighbors
- Kennett Food Cupboard
- Neighborhood services
- The Bridge
- The Garage

In each of the next Deacon's corners we will describe the role of each of these ministries.

Next month we will give background on The Bridge, one you are familiar with each week in the bulletin when we request food items.

Barb Hart, Deacon Chair
Jan Ramberger
Margie Worthington
Kathy Lloyd
Pat Kimmel
Bob Hart (day deacon)
Joyce Swisher
Missy Griffin

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Dear APC Family,

Do you want to add a little Christmas joy to someone’s life and at the same time help support our Youth Group’s Annual Ski Trip? Then this beautiful, live, 3-foot decorated Christmas tree is the answer!

Fifty (50) of these beautiful trees have been donated to APC and are available for purchase and pick-up beginning this Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the church.

Make an offer! Cash is preferred; however, if purchasing by check, please make it payable to Avondale Presbyterian Church and put “Tree” in the memo section.

When these lovely trees are gone, that’s it - so get yours early!

Merry Christmas!
Offers to Special Needs individuals and their friends & families

MY SPECIAL Worship Service

Every Sunday 11:00AM - 11:30AM
with social time immediately following

A time for everyone of all ages of all abilities
to come together in Worship & to grow in God’s love!

Coming soon! Supervised Sensory Room.
Wheelchair accessible. Elevator.

For more info: Kathy Barto, 610-235-9544; kathy.barto@verizon.net
FAQs at www.avondalepc.org
Street Address: 420 Pennsylvania Avenue
Avondale, PA 19311

Mailing Address: PO Box 446 Avondale, PA 19311

Website: www.avondalepc.org

Church Secretary: Mrs. Cheryl Kline
  Church Office: 610-268-2919
  E-mail: avondale.pcoffice@verizon.net
  Office Hours: Wed. Thurs. & Friday, 8:30-3:30 PM

Pastor: Dave Bergstrom
  E-mail: pastorbergapc@gmail.com
  Home Phone: 610-268-2919
  Cell Phone:

Minister: Every member of the congregation

Prayer Minister: Marge Pickel
  Home Phone: mnpickel@verizon.net
  E-mail:

Youth Director: Tim Rupard
  Cell Phone: trrupard@yahoo.com
  E-mail:

Organist/Accompanist/Choir Director: Mrs. Amy McLoughlin
  Cell Phone:
  E-mail: amyamcloughlin@gmail.com

Director of AvonBells: Mrs. Peggy Watkins
  Home Phone: pegspen@aol.com
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My Special Worship: Kathy Barto
  Cell Phone:
  Email: kathy.barto@verizon.net

Avondale Presbyterian Church

Dove News

Distributed 10 months/yr.
Editor: Cheryl Kline
E-mail: avondale.pcoffice@verizon.net

To Contribute: Send DOVE NEWS articles &
calendar info via e-mail to Cheryl Kline

JANUARY Dove News articles due by
December 18th. Please include name &
contact info with ALL submissions. Please type
and e-mail your articles if possible.

Church Office Hours:
Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:30-3:30 PM

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