

Church News & Notes...

We are organizing Christmas caroling to be sung on December 15th at 1PM. All are invited to participate!

2nd Annual Avon Holiday Spectacular - 12/7, 2-8 PM Avon streets come alive with holiday lights and music, family friendly activities and sightings of Santa and his Elves! A community open house throughout the Downtown Business District in the Village of Avon. With businesses and organizations offering treats and special discounts for one spectacular evening! Avon UMC will be selling homemade mac and cheese, caramel corn, molasses popcorn balls, and fudge at the church, as well as plates of Christmas cookies at the Village Hall. All proceeds will be donated to Chances & Changes and the Teresa House.

The UMW Potluck Dinner will be held at Jackie Potter's sister's home at 1215 Telephone Road at 6:00PM, with Julie Gage's postponed baby shower to follow at 7:00PM, on Monday, Dec. 9. Please RSVP to Jackie Potter (305-4786).

We are looking for people/families to read and light the candles on the Advent wreath during the month of December. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mia.

We will be welcoming Mizzie Collins (hammered dulcimer), Roxanne Ziegler (harp), and Andy Hanson (recorder/accordion) to provide an Advent worship service of music on December 15th at 10AM. Please join us!

The Christmas Pageant this year will be a simple retelling of the story of the birth of Jesus with narration and music. There are parts for adults and children. The program will be on Sunday, 12/22 at the 10:00 worship service. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday, 12/21 from 10:00 – 11:00. We will meet at 9:00 am on 12/22 for a run through before the service. The children will rehearse on 12/1, 12/8 and 12/15 from 9:00 – 9:15 followed by Sunday School. Please let Linda Rosebrough know if you or your child would like to be involved. All are welcome!

The December/ January issue of The Messenger is available in the back of the sanctuary.

The latest editions of the AUMC Membership Directory and Birthday/ Anniversary List can be found in the back of the sanctuary.

The Upper Room devotional guide for November/ December is available and can be found in the church stairway or on the back shelf.

If you are interested in purchasing Tops gift cards, an on-going fund-raiser for our church, please see Elaine Davis.

This Week's Church Activities

Sunday, December 1, 2019

- 7:30 Radio Ministry WYSL 1040AM
- 9:00 Coffee Hour/ Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 11:00 SPPRC

Wednesday

- 7:00 Chancel Choir/ Bell Choir

Sunday, December 8, 2019

- 7:30 Radio Ministry WYSL 1040AM
- 8:08 Men's Breakfast at Peppermints Restaurant
- 9:00 Coffee Hour/ Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship Service

Our Church Staff

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pastor: | Mia Richardson |
| Lay Leaders: | Laurie Combs
Jackie Potter |
| Instrumentalist: | Mark Brennan |
| Office Manager: | Mark Brennan |
| Music Director: | Linda Rosebrough |
| Sound Engineer: | Mark Blakely |
| Custodian: | Bob Wright |
| Child Care Providers: | Alex Herman
Ceceila Drake |

For upcoming events, please visit our website at www.avonnyumc.org Also, follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/AvonnyUMC](https://www.facebook.com/AvonnyUMC), and on Twitter @UMCAVONH

Hearing assistance is available for our services. Just let an usher know for assistance.

For handicap accessibility to the second floor please let the greeter at the door know of this need.

Children are always welcome in worship. Coloring books, crayons, and activity bags are available from the usher.

Please feel free to contact the church with any questions or concerns at 226-8600. This week's office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9 AM -12 PM.

**Journey to Bethlehem
Are We There Yet?**



Welcome to the Avon United Methodist Church. Our congregation includes people of all backgrounds and perspectives, and we affirm God's grace and love for all people, no matter where you are from, what you look like, or who you love. We gather out of our common love for God and his people, and we are glad you are with us. Our mission is to follow in the path of Jesus so that we may grow in faith, serve in his name, and share God's love.

Avon United Methodist Church
130 Genesee St. Avon, NY 14414
585-226-8600
www.avonnyumc.org
Radio Ministry Sundays 7:30am, WYSL 1040

**December 1, 2019
10:00 AM**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

1st Sunday of Advent

*Please stand in body or spirit

WE GATHER

Please fill out Fellowship Folder

Welcome "How Far is it to Bethlehem?" arr. Mark Hayes

*Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus," #196, v. 1-2

Prelude

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Greeting and Announcements

*Hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," #211, v. 1

Time of Centering

Sharing Our Prayers, Pastor's Prayer, Lord's Prayer

*Call to Worship

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38, 46-47

The busy-ness of the season is upon us; shopping and decorating and wrapping;

Conversations with Children

The Son of Man, the Child of Humanity, is coming at an unexpected hour!

A Gift of Music "Alleluia for Advent" by Patrick Liebergen

The world tells us we need to buy more, to give more, to get more; **Emmanuel, God With Us, is coming at an unexpected hour!**

Scripture Reading Psalm 122 NIV

Society tells us that those who have more will get more, that those who have little will have nothing;

Sermon Rev. Mia Richardson

The babe will be born in the manger, and will enter our world at an unexpected hour!

Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem," #230 v. 1-2, 4

Come away from the ways of the world, and prepare the way of the Lord!

Joy of Giving "There's a Light-a-Comin''," by David Lantz III

Come, for God is ready to do a new thing. Come, for Christ is entering our world and our lives in a new way!

*Doxology "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow," #95

Praying Together

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake; that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray. Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations.

God of mercy and hope, we bring our gifts this morning as we prepare our lives for the gift of the Christ Child. We come reflecting on his past coming to a poor family of refugees, born as they spent the night in a stable in Bethlehem. We know there are gifts to come, although we don't know when he will return, and so we live in that hope. As we dedicate these tithes and offerings to you, we long for him to be born in our hearts again, this year, in this holy season. In the name of the one who came to save us, we pray. Amen.

We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God with Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Amen.

WE CELEBRATE COMMUNION

The Great Communion, #13

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*Hymn "Let There Be Peace on Earth," #431, sung 3x

*Responsive Benediction

People of God, we wait with hope

*We wait with courage; we wait with joy unspeakable, full of glory.

We wait with the assurance that 'The Liberator will come in power, in justice, and in peace.

Go now, trusting and believing that it is so . . .

In the name of Jesus, the Christ! Amen!

Postlude "Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying" arr. Zach Unke

Assisting In Worship Today

Pastor Mia Richardson

Liturgists Jackie Potter, Tasha Hariston

Ushers Stormy & Craig Bailey

Reader Lloyd Hynes, Bobby Luu

Advent Liturgy Craig Bailey

Instrumentalist Tasha Hariston, Jackie Potter,

Kiska Stevens

Music Director Mark Brennan

Sound Engineer Linda Rosebrough

Mark Blakely

The flowers on the altar are provided by Cindy Carpenter, in celebration of Audree Carpenter's birthday!

We would like to thank the Chancel Choir and the Living Son for sharing their musical gifts with us this morning

We hope that you have felt God's love

In a new, refreshing way

For you're so welcomed in this place

And we hope you'll come again,

To join with us in fellowship

And to make some special friends