



GATHERING

Gathering Music *Good to Me* Kelsie Massey
 Gathering
 * Call to Worship
 * Song of Faith *When Our Minds Are Set and Certain*

ENGAGING

The Brown Bag Mystery Tour *R² & The AUMC Young Ones*
Children and youth of all ages and stages are welcome to come to the front of the sanctuary to hang out with Rev. Rebecca as we discover the surprise awaiting us in the Brown Bag.
 Scripture Luke 10:25-37
 Song of Faith *I Saw a Stranger*
 Message *everything [in] between: stranger & neighbor*
 Affirmation of Faith

THANKSGIVING

Call to Prayer *Breathe, Listen, and Notice*
 Call to Confession | Prayer of Confession | Words of Forgiveness |
 Prayers of the People | The Lord's Prayer
 Celebrating Generosity

One of the ways we give thanks to God at Avondale UMC is by meeting God's generosity with our own. The Connection Card in the bulletin is a tool for offering to God our acts of discipleship throughout the previous week. It's also a place to share with the pastor any prayer requests. As the offering plate comes your way, we encourage you to connect with your nearest neighbors.



Musical Offering *Once and For All* Kelsie Massey
* Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95
* Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

* Next Steps

These upcoming opportunities are a chance to take next steps in our faith, growing deeper in God, and carrying this week's message into the world. Be sure to mark your calendars and invite others to join us.

* Song of Faith *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* UMH 269

* Blessing

Parting Music *What Wondrous Love Is This*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Dunger Peak Ministers: The People
Music Director: Kevin Hershberger Worship Leader: Johannah DeSchepper
Guest Musician: Kelsie Massey, Piano & Vocals Tech Team: Jason Wimberley & Mike Slavik
Candle Lighters: Our Youth



AVONDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*To connect with us on Slack for general church chats and/or the Prayer Chain
send a request to Brent at avondaleumctech@gmail.com*

As United Methodists, we believe in open hearts, open minds, and open doors. The congregation of Avondale United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri, is open to all of God's children. We welcome, include, fully affirm, and celebrate the lives of all people. People of all physical and mental ability, race, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity, gender expressions, family structure, marital status, socio-economic class, faith history, and sexual orientation are welcome, affirmed, and loved here. We believe that all individuals are created by love in God's image. As a Reconciling Ministry Church, we strive to create a safe space and a community that enriches the life of each person. We embrace our diversity and invite all to be a vital part of our church family and ministry.

~ Adopted November 2019



everything [in] between intention & action



Parable of the Good Samaritan: The parable begins and ends with the question, “Who is my neighbor?” The answer is, surprisingly, “the stranger.” The Samaritan, whose place of worship and customs are different from the scribe who questions Jesus, is both a stranger and a neighbor to the man who was beaten and left in a ditch. In our world, many of our physical neighbors are strangers to us, and many of our neighbors—those closest to us—feel like strangers in divisive political climates. If we align our intentions and actions, then maybe we need to reconsider who we consider “stranger,” and ask ourselves if we have acted as good neighbors.

This Week’s Centering Practice for everything [in] between |

Center yourself in scripture. Read Luke 10:25-37 a few times through. Read it in several translations.

This Week’s Journaling Prompts for everything [in] between |

Sunday: Who are your neighbors? Do you know their names? |
Monday: How do you feel when a stranger approaches you? How might you learn from and transform those feelings? |
Tuesday: What are the attributes of a good neighbor? Are you a good neighbor? |
Wednesday: Have you received profound hospitality? How did it impact you? |
Thursday: When you think of the word “compassion,” what comes to mind? |
Friday: Who do you find hardest to love? How might you compassionately hold space for them? |
Saturday: What barriers keep you from seeing all people as neighbors? What can bring those barriers down?



Neighbors
by Steve Prince
Pen and ink on paper

Never Met a Stranger

When we talk about God, we say
she's never met a stranger.
She makes friends at the airport.
She waves to babies in the check-out line.

When we talk about God, we say
she'll leave the porch light on.
She'll have warm bread in the oven.
She'll have all the time in the world.

When we talk about God, we say
she'll look you in the eye.
She'll love you as you are.
She'll call you by your name.

When we talk about God,
we never have to talk about
which side of the road she might walk down.
Wherever you are,
that's where she'll be.

~ Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

