

Auburn Presbyterian Church
111 West 12th St.
Auburn, IN 46706
Rev. David Lawrence

NEWSLETTER -- 2018

Ministerial Musings

Most churches like to think of themselves as welcoming and hospitable. Just think about it...have you ever known a congregation to admit it wasn't friendly? I think all of us want to be considered friendly, but people of faith are called to be especially mindful of our welcoming. Not only does the Bible hold people who are generously hospitable in high esteem, it is our responsibility to welcome the widow, orphan, and sojourner. Jesus spoke parables about invitations to feasts, welcoming the stranger, and even caring for "the least of these".

When I arrived at the Auburn church I didn't know what to expect. Of course, I already sort of knew the people on the PNC, but that was a small number and I had only spent a limited amount of time with them. What would the rest of the congregation be like? How would I be received? And what would the staff be like?

Let me assure you-you have welcomed me, you have shown me kindness, and you have been generous to a fault. When I moved here I was pleasantly surprised to have so much help unpacking and you even brought food! This wasn't just a flash in the pan, either. I find that if I need help with something I find so many outstretched hands.

I'm glad that God led me to the Auburn congregation. The initial welcome and the past couple weeks have just verified the presence of the Holy Spirit in my call to Auburn. I look forward to practicing hospitality, welcome, and friendship with more people in the church and in the Auburn community as time goes by.

As for you-keep using those God given gifts of welcome and hospitality.

Pastor David

I Peter 4:9-10 -- Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH:

Acolytes:

- 4: Sylvia Benbow
- 11: Sophie Shepherd
- 18: Isabella Gettys
- 25: Gabe Ackerman
- 29: Gabe Ackerman (Maundy Thursday)



Ushers:

- 4: Don & Nancy Derrow
- 11: Sue Peterson, Betty Sue Gengnagel
- 18: Doug Morrow, Fran Mefford
- 25: Joe Dick, Christine Cross
- 29: Linda Pulver-Jackson (Maundy Thursday)

Liturgist: Peggy Jones



EASTER LILIES:

The gift of plants for use during the Easter season is a beautiful way to remember a loved one, honor an individual or celebrate a special occasion. The church will be purchasing lilies from Nagel's Garden House. To purchase a Lilly an insert will be provided in the Sunday bulletins beginning March 18 .

Acknowledgments will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. The Easter plants may be taken any time after the 10 a.m. worship service on Easter morning.



I would like to thank the church family for all their love, support, cards and many prayers that was felt and received from everyone during the loss of my mother. I am so lucky to belong to such a loving church family.

Thanks again and God Bless you all! Tracy Warner

The Season of *Lent*

The following events will be taking place during the month of March. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

Wednesday, March 7: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David

Wednesday, March 13: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David

Wednesday, March 21: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David



Sunday, March 25: 10:00 a.m. - Palm Sunday Worship Service

Thursday, March 29: 7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service

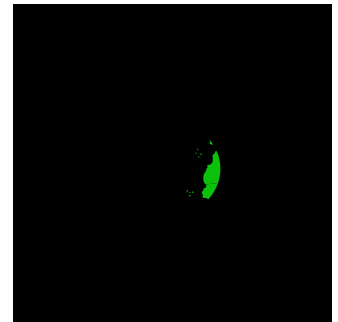
Sunday, April 1: 8:30 a.m. - Men's Easter morning pancake breakfast
10:00 a.m. - Easter morning service

Imagine the joy when your gift changes someone's life – both the joy they will feel in being changed and the joy you will feel in knowing that your gift is changing lives.

As Christians, we talk about God providing us with blessings of all kinds in abundance, but there are many in the world who live with less than what they need. Surely our God calls us to be sharers of abundance.

You can be a channel through whom God satisfies the hungry, comforts the distressed, and brings hope to the poor and oppressed. Create more joy in the world with your generous gift to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Offering Envelopes will be included in your bulletin each Sunday beginning February 18 and will continue through the Lenten Season.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Circle Meetings: Wednesday, March 14

Priscilla Circle will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 14 at **Jeremiah's Coffee House** (at the corner of 9th Street and Main Street). Discussion will be from lesson seven: "In Community with the Hope of the Future." Everyone is invited to attend.

Ruth Circle will meet at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge on the same date. The lesson will cover chapters 21 & 22.

Just a reminder to start setting aside your spring and summer clothing, kitchen utensils, and home decorating for the annual **PW SPRING RUMMAGE SALE** on Friday and Saturday, April 20 & 21.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

March 4: "Lessons from Thailand." Sojirat Oho Kunvuts is an AFS exchange student from Thailand, currently living with Jim and Julia Nixon. A 16-year-old senior at East Noble High School, Oho was a member of the East Noble girls' swim team and serves on the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council in Kendallville. Susan Anderson, a friend of the Nixons, recently returned from a month in Southeast Asia,

including Thailand and Malaysia. Oho and Susan will share with us their experiences in Thailand, their observations about Thai culture, and their understanding of Buddhist philosophy.

March 11: Atonement: What Is It (Part 2). The Rev. Stan Wilson will pick up where we left off our discussion in February and continue guiding us in our understanding of the doctrine of “atonement” and its “more than one” way of understanding how we can be “at-one” with God.

March 18: A Christian Response to Gun Violence. In light of the recent shootings in a South Florida high school that left 17 students and teachers dead, it seems appropriate that we discuss gun violence. Jim Nixon will present information pertinent to this discussion and help us explore a response beyond offering “thoughts and prayers” to victims.

March 25: To be announced.

Let's Help Isabella! High school freshman Isabella Gettys has been nominated by her Honors Biology teacher to attend an Ambassador Leadership Summit this summer for promising young people. Interested in a career in medicine, Isabella has an opportunity to attend a nine-day Summit session at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland. On various Sundays over the course of this spring, Isabella will provide baked goods during fellowship time after worship. Our Session has approved allowing Isabella to receive a good-will offering for the treats she serves – to help defray the \$3,500 cost of her summer schooling. The Christian Education Committee encourages you to be generous when making donations on “Isabella Treat” days. Let's help her make her way to Johns Hopkins!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AVAILABLE:

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to again offer **the Mary Evelyn Moore Scholarship** to a graduating high school senior who plans to continue his/her education. The Moore family established the scholarship in memory of Mary Evelyn, an educator and long-time church member. Applications are available in the church office. The submission deadline is Sunday, March 25.



The Roger Grogg Scholarship, established by Ginger Post in memory of her father, is now administered through the Community Foundation DeKalb County. Please contact the foundation's website (www.cfdc.org) for more information about this scholarship.

FROM OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR, KARI ... Our Youth are getting back into the swing of things for the year. They are continuing to present the Responsive Readings at the beginning of the worship service as they improve their musical skills with chiming, thanks to the help of organist/choir director Judy Rhoades.

Last year the Youth and I spent Lent studying what Lent is and some of the traditional Practices of Lent. This year I am spending Lent with youth learning Foods of the Bible. Our first dinner was Focused on Olive Oils, Cheeses (Goat) and Fruits. We fixed pizza using foods that were available during the time of the Bible. We learned of other uses for things like Olive Oil being used as fuel, anointment and soap. We also then read passages from the Bible referring to these foods. We will continue this study throughout the Lent Season. If there is anyone who has ideas related to this and would like to lead one of these Thursday night lent studies please let me (Kari) know!!!

The Youth raised \$80.00 at our Photo Booth Fundraiser at the church Mardi Gras Party. It was a great turnout!!!

Prayers and Happy Thoughts to All.