

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

SEPTEMBER 2022

NEWSLETTER



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT:

This church is very active in mission and ministry. We are a vital church, which is reflected in the many things that go on around the building and with the congregation. The Leadership Committee is gearing up and will be looking for people who are interested in using their gifts to serve the church. Just as the committee gives much thought to who we will approach, we hope you will prayerfully consider being a larger part of the mission of this church if you are asked to be a part of the leadership.

Specifically, we seek three new Session members (for a three year term), three members to serve as Deacons (for a three year term) one APC Foundation member, and two at-large members of the congregation to serve on the 2023 Leadership Development Committee.

For more information or to personally suggest potential leaders, contact any of this year's Leadership Development Committee: Peggy Jones, Susan Buttermore, Beth Shepherd and Hilda Kennedy.



Brothers and Sisters-

I was reading Christian Century a couple of weeks ago and ran across a Gallup Poll. [The poll described the declining number of Americans who believe in God.](#) I had to look at that twice – a decline in the belief in God. We're used to seeing numbers detailing the reduction in church attendance offset by an increase in people who claim to be spiritual but not religious. I've come to expect those statistics, but a reduction in the number who believe in God...

Some of you might remember back in the 60's and 70's when the phrase "God is Dead" began to be tossed around. The notion that God is dead began with Nietzsche in the 19th century but was given new life in the 20th. Even though Gallup charts a high belief in God at that time, I think those were the beginning rumbles of the present earthquake. These philosophers and theologians were able to envision the impact of the growth in human knowledge.

With our advances in science and technology, it seems like nothing is beyond us. We have developed the perspective that everything is within our grasp, nothing is beyond us. When we see the world that way, there is no need for God. We even begin to ask what God has done for us since we either have or will master every challenge that faces us. And it seems like we have done all this without any effort on God's part. If that's our perspective, a belief in God becomes nothing more than a quaint notion.

Writing this makes me think about the Jeremiah text we read just this last Sunday – the people chased after false idols, "ungods". I remember the Israelites in the wilderness who made a golden calf when it seemed like God was nowhere to be found. What happens when our culture puts science, technology, and human achievement on an altar for worship? Since we're a part of this culture, can we avoid being influenced by an inflated view of human agency?

The Gallup statistics have been on my mind and have been central in several of my conversations this month. One person asked me if I thought there were people in church who didn't believe in God. I want to say no, I'd like to think that everyone in church believes in God. What I do think is that our beliefs have changed tremendously, especially in the last few decades. Our theology has lost some of the mystery and majesty once attributed to God. God is no longer sovereign over everything and we create parts of our lives we believe are exempt from God's influence. We might profess an omnipotent God, but we don't really expect God to work miracles in the world. Surrounded by a culture of human achievement, our faith has changed.

How would you respond to the Gallup Poll? What do you think about God? How does God work in the world? In your life?

Shalom, Pastor David



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women's Circle will start up again beginning in September. The first meeting will be THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th AT 10:30 A.M. This year we will be studying from the book titled *What My Grandmothers Taught Me* - Learning from the Women in Matthew's - Genealogy of Jesus by Merryl Blair.

The books are available now. Contact Barbara Bushnell or Nancy Clark to get your copy. The cost of the books are \$10 if you haven't already paid.

The first lesson will be provided by Pastor David from Lesson One– *Family Trees*, with scripture coming from Matthew 1. All women are invited to attend.

NOTE: Program directories will be available in the church office before the first meeting.



PW RUMMAGE SALE - OCTOBER 13, 14, 15

Thursday, October 13: 8:30 - 5 p.m.

Friday, October 14: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday, October 15: 8:30 a.m. – noon

Presbyterian Women have decided to hold another rummage sale. Items needed are winter clothing (it is easier for the women, if clothing is brought on hangers), kitchen and decorative items, bedding, and holiday decorations. Please be sure your items are in good condition.

You may bring your donations to Fellowship Hall beginning Wednesday, October 5. If you need to bring your items sooner than that please call Judy Ditmars or Cheryl John to make arrangements to do so.

If you can spare a day, an afternoon, or even just an hour or two to help sort, mark, sell, or pack, please feel free to join! Don't forget to start saving your strong sturdy shopping bags with handles (from department stores) for the sale. You may drop them off anytime in the church office.

PW needs some strong men and boys to help with moving heavy items for the rummage sale. There are items in the Boy Scout room that will need to be moved to Fellowship hall. Please see Judy or Cheryl if you can help.

EVANGELISM AND CHURCH GROWTH NEWS:

Marcus is settling in at Purdue, started his Fall Session on Monday. Summer Session went very well and was a great experience.

He is at his permanent spot for 2022-2023 school year at Cary Quadrangle Residence Hall, one of the largest all male residents hall in the country and one of the first buildings built for student housing at Purdue! Plus it's super close to Mackey Arena and Ross-Ade Stadium as well as centrally close to classes.

His address:
Marcus Smith
1016 W. Stadium Ave.
Room: 361SE
West Lafayette, IN 47906



BUILDING AND GROUNDS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FAIR PARKING - B & G COMMITTEE NEEDING VOLUNTEERS:

The Building & Grounds Team will be raising money during the week of the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair by collecting donations to park. We rely on volunteers to park the cars and accept donations. Please call the church office if you can arrange your schedule



to help out during one of the following days. (On Friday and Saturday we need several volunteers to fill the three hour shifts.) **Also, if you would like to reserve a parking place for the week you may do so by calling the church office at 925-2987. The cost is \$35 for the week.**

Monday, September 26:	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 27:	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 28:	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, September 29:	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Friday, September 30:	8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. (three hour shifts)
Saturday, October 1:	8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. (three hour shifts)

WORSHIP & MUSIC NEWS:

HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

USHERS: 4: -----
11: Joyce Phillips and Nancy Derrow
18: Susan Buttermore & Jan Nagel
25: -----

LITURGIST: Joyce Phillips

PROVIDING FLOWERS: Don McIntyre, Barbara Bushnell and Joyce Phillips

FLOWERS FOR MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES . . .

A tribute of fresh flowers for special people as memorials or celebration is a continuing tradition, and further acknowledges the glory of God in our worship experience at the Auburn Presbyterian Church. The acknowledgment will be printed in the Sunday bulletin. The total cost is \$30.00 for two vases of flowers. You may wish to take your floral tribute home following the services. If so, please take the green plastic liner with you. You may even to to the usher's table and get a nice vase provided by our deacons. Just return the liner and vase when you n longer need them. If you do not want to take your flowers home tell the head usher. A deacon will then take the flowers to a nursing home or shut-in. You may call the church office if you are interested.

AVAILABLE DATES FOR OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2021:

September 25

November 6 and 13

December 18 and 25



MISSION COMMITTEE

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



LABOR DAY PARKING PROJECT

Aidan Smith will be parking vehicles during Labor Day weekend at the Auburn Presbyterian Church parking lot. He is working on collecting funds for his Eagle Scout project, which is a bike repair station (pictured at the right) that will be placed on Reike Park Trail. Parking will be

\$5.00....Friday and Saturday



SCHOOL KITS

The mission committee is asking for your help during the month of August to make sure kids have the supplies that they need for school. We will provide a bag, and in the bag will be a list of supplies for you to purchase. We will collect these and take them to Church World Service the first week of September.



OUR FREE LITTLE PANTRY

Our Free Little Pantry is out of food and we are asking for your assistance in providing non-perishable items, such as **canned foods (soups, beans, tuna, chicken), peanut butter, rice, granola bars, dry pasta, crackers, cereals, baby food, boxed foods (mac and cheese, hamburger/tuna helpers), staples (flour, sugar, salt), hygiene products (soap of any kind, tooth paste, shampoo, feminine products, diapers,) or paper products (toilet paper, paper towels) ... anything that would not spoil in the hot weather.** We have cleaned out our church cupboards and need to restock. You may bring items to the church office anytime. Thank you!



ANNOUNCING UP-COMING PRESBYTERY EVENTS



PRESBYTERY PICNIC

Announcing a Presbytery-wide picnic on Sunday, September 18 from 3-6 p.m. at Geneva Center in Rochester, IN. Everyone is invited to attend. Please RSVP to Presbytery by either calling: 574-223-5678 or emailing: vicki@ourpresbytery.org

PHONE AND INTERNET SCAM INFORMATION

Be brought up-to-date regarding dangerous scams in our world today

Saturday, October 1

Lunch at 12:00 noon

Program at 1 p.m.

**Northeast Indiana Presbyterian Cluster
W. Michigan St. LaGrange, IN 46761
Gourmet Lunch provided**

\$10 pre-reservation Fee



200

Deven Hostetler, Indiana State police sergeant and native LaGrange Co. resident, will present the program. Please plan to attend and don't miss this opportunity to be brought up-to-date regarding these dangerous scams in our world today.

For more information: Ken Weaver (weaverk2434@gmail.com) or Tom Smith (tes10@frontier.com)



EUCHRE TOURNAMENT BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER

Do you enjoy playing cards? How about euchre? There has been some interest in starting up a Euchre Tournament at the church. If you are interested see Pastor David. Plans are to begin playing on November 3rd at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars to enjoy a free night of fun with plenty of fellowship! Snacks and prizes will be included.