

Auburn Presbyterian Church
111 West 12th St. – P.O. Box 448
Auburn, IN 46706
Rev. David Lawrence



DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

End of Year Presbyterian Women's Meeting:

On Wednesday, December 14th, the **Presbyterian Women** will hold their annual Christmas party. This year it will take place at Joey Aiken's home (3911 CR 60 - Auburn) at 12 noon. The lunch is being catered by Dutch Heritage (cheddar meat loaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, homemade pie and bread, drink) The cost is \$10 which can be paid the day of. If you have any questions or Cheryl John. All women are invited.



EVANGELISM, CHURCH GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:

CHRISTMAS CARRY-IN DINNER:

The Fellowship committee will be hosting a Christmas carry-in after the worship service on **December 18th**. The committee will provide the main course and rolls as well as place settings and ask everyone to bring their favorite side dish. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending for a good time of fellowship and food!

DEACONS:

CHURCH PICTORIALS COMING SOON!!! Just a reminder that if you do NOT want your address or phone # printed in the new pictorial you need to call the church office and let us know. Also, if you are a deacon or elder please plan on getting your group picture taken for the pictorial following the worship on Sun., Dec. 4th.

CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY - Phyllis Buttermore will be turning 96 on Tuesday, December 6th and we would like to hold a card shower for her. Please take the time to shower her with love and kindness by sending her a special note or card. Her address is: 4971 CR 29, Auburn, IN 46706.

FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters-

Moving from Thanksgiving into Advent and Christmas also moves the church into conflict – as if we needed more! There is an age-old controversy in the church about music in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Some purists would argue that we should only sing Advent hymns and others would have us sing carols all year.

We are in the season of Advent. This is a separate season of the church year committed to preparation for the Christ child. Advent and Christmas go together like Lent and Easter. Another way to think about it is that you would never invite people over without cleaning up the house, which makes Advent an essential element in our faith. This time devoted to preparation deserves to be honored and celebrated. Christmas starts the day after Thanksgiving everywhere but the church. The only place Advent is recognized is in the church and if we don't teach the value of preparing for Christ, no one else will.

On the other side, there's the thought that there simply isn't enough time to sing all the Christmas songs. In the centuries since Christ's birth, the church has amassed a mountain of Christmas hymns and there is no way to sing them all. From this point of view, we deprive the church of its musical history if we don't sing carols during Advent. In many ways, music is the lifeblood of worship, and leaving out carols impacts the vitality of worship.

Last year this church attempted to find a happy medium. We sang at least one carol every Sunday through the Advent season, and yet it didn't seem as if we sang carols. This year we'll keep that practice of singing at least one carol a week, but I'd also like to increase our singing during Advent. If there are Christmas songs that you particularly want to sing, please let me know. Give me a call or an email and I will do my best to incorporate them in the elements of worship.

Both sides of the argument about Advent/Christmas music have valid points. Advent is important and music is important. The most important is coming together as a community of faith to glorify God with our worship and practices. This priority binds us in relationship with God and each other.



SESSION NOTES:

We want to thank the elders, deacons and committee members for their time, talents, and dedication shown to our church this past year. Your work was greatly appreciated. The following Elders and Deacons have served their terms and will be going off at the end of December:

Deacons: Tim Miller, Joyce Phillips, Ray Smith

Elders: Mark Bassett, Jan Nagel, Mary Wilson

Thank You

On Sunday, November 13th the following individuals were voted by the congregation to serve as Elders, Deacons, and Foundation Board members for the next 3 years. We appreciate your willingness to serve your church!

Deacons: Nancy Clark, Don McIntyre, Veronique Poudrier

Elders: Phil Bryan, Dick Reichard, Norm Yoder

**APC Foundation Congregational Rep: Peg Yoder and Session Reps: Carl Smith and Peggy Jones
Leadership & Development Committee: Mark Bassett and Julia Nixon**

MISSION ACTION & INTREPRETATION COMMITTEE:

2022 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING:

What Is the Christmas Joy Offering? There are four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) which provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those who need assistance. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a Presbyterian tradition for more than 60 years. As we celebrate with joy our unity in God's family, we are providing tangible support to persons in our community of faith.



The receipts from the offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions (50 percent) to support assistance programs and to the Committee on Higher Education (50 percent) to support the Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Please make a generous contribution to the Christmas Joy Offering by mailing your contribution to the church (PO Box 448) and mark "Christmas Joy Offering" in the memo part of the check.

Thank you, from your Mission Action and Interpretation Committee.

FRIENDS' TABLE WILL BE CLOSED BEGINNING MONDAY, DECEMBER 12 THRU JANUARY 3. They will resume serving on Monday, January 10, 2023.

ANGEL TREE GIFTS: A reminder that if you took an angel off the angel tree all gifts should be wrapped and brought back to the church no later than Friday, December 18th.



Here is a reverse advent calendar.

Do you remember using an advent calendar when you were a kid...counting down each day until Christmas? How about challenging yourself to a reverse advent calendar! Each day add an item to a box. On Christmas Eve, donate the box to a local food bank or bring it to the church for our free pantry outside the church.

December 1 - box of cereal
December 2 - jar of peanut butter
December 3 - box of stuffing mix
December 4 - box of mashed potatoes
December 5 - box of macaroni & cheese
December 6 - canned fruit
December 7 - canned tomatoes
December 8 - canned tuna
December 9 - box of dessert mix
December 10 - jar of applesauce
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes

December 12 - cranberry sauce
December 13 - canned beans
December 14 - box of crackers
December 15 - package of rice
December 16 - box of oatmeal
December 17 - box of pasta
December 19 - chicken noodle soup
December 20 - tomato soup
December 21 - canned corn
December 22 - canned carrots
December 24 - canned green beans

STEWARDSHIP AND BUDGET COMMITTEE:

The books for 2022 will be wrapped up December 31. If you would like to have your giving go towards 2022, we will need your offering before that date. Thank you.



PER CAPITA: \$42.90 per confirmed member

Per Capita is assessed on the number of active members on the church's roll. For next year, our church Per Capita Apportionment is: **\$42.90 per member**. You may make your checks out to the Auburn Presbyterian Church and either mail to the church office or drop in the offering plate. Be sure to mark at the bottom of your check "per capita" so the treasurer will apply the funds appropriately.



END OF YEAR NOTICE:

Officers and anyone who has to submit a report for our Annual Report, please have it to the church secretary no later than January 15, 2023.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE:

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE:

Please come and invite your friends and neighbors for a wonderful Christmas Eve Service beginning at 7 p.m. The worship service will include communion and a candlelight closing.



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. You can participate by filling out the insert in the Sunday bulletin or calling the church office at 925-2987. Acknowledgments will be printed in the Sunday bulletin. You will be billed directly by the church. The total cost is \$30.00 for two vases of flowers.

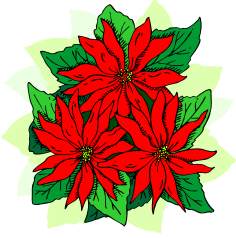
HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

USHERS: 4: Ray Smith & Mary Wilson
11: Lisa & Jason Magsamen
18: Mark Bassett, Angela Bassett
25: Norm & Peg Yoder

LITURGIST: Barb Morrow **PROVIDING FLOWERS:** Susan Buttermore and Joyce Phillips.

COMMUNION WILL TAKE PLACE ON Christmas Eve only. Please mark your calendars.

Christmas Poinsettias



The gift of poinsettias for use during the Christmas season is a beautiful way to remember a loved one, honor an individual or celebrate a special occasion. We will be purchasing only 20 poinsettias this year on a first come first serve basis.

One may participate by filling out the bottom of this form and returning it to the office or drop it in the offering plate as soon as possible.

Please indicate your name, the person's to be honored, and any words of tribute. Acknowledgments will be printed in the Sunday bulletins. The flowers will cost of \$10 each, and you will be billed directly from the church. The poinsettias may be taken any time after the 10:15 a.m. worship service on December 25.

If you have any questions, you may call the church office at 925-2987.

Thank you,

Worship & Music Committee

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Name of Giver</u>	<u>Person/s to be honored & words of tribute</u>
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EUCHRE TOURNAMENT IN NOVEMBER A HUGE SUCCESS:

The first Euchre tournament took place in the lounge on November 3rd and was a great turn out. We had a total of 12 players and everyone enjoyed moving around and getting to play with other couples. We were excited to welcome newcomers that read about it on line and decided to join us. Below are pictures of the evening. If you didn't get a chance to play in November don't worry...another tournament is scheduled for Thursday, December 15th at 7 PM. A sign up will be located at the back of the sanctuary or just call the church office and get signed up to play.

