

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



NEWSLETTER -- 2023

GOOD FRIDAY
UNITED COMMUNITY SERVICE
EVERYONE IS WELCOME
Friday, April 7, 2023 6:30 pm
Auburn First United Methodist Church
1203 E. 7th St. Auburn, IN 46706



First United
Methodist Church
Auburn, Indiana



The Gathering
Experiencing Hope Through Jesus Christ

Auburn Presbyterian
Church



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(USA)

FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters:

Sometimes life can be really overwhelming. In my experience, being overwhelmed has two shapes. There are times in life when something happens and it's a crisis. Crisis requires us to be either laser-focused on a situation, concentrating on a solution at the expense of almost everything else. The other way life can be overwhelming is when things accumulate over time and get away from us. Situations grow so large and out of our control that we feel powerless to do anything about them. Yes, life can be overwhelming and, whether it's a crisis or slow-growing, we develop tunnel vision and become sort of paralyzed.

I wrote last month's newsletter article before I left for Africa and I reread it when I was sitting in an airport on my way back. What occurred to me as I reread what I had written was that I was overwhelmed. My piece seemed to focus on the bad news and the challenge facing the church, which just struck me wrong. I was having coffee with someone about a week later and he commented on that newsletter saying that I had written, a la Joe Friday, just the facts.

I guess I did just present the facts, leadership's awareness of those facts, and our intention to address them. However, there is a big fact that I didn't mention, a fact that we usually forget when we get overwhelmed. The most important fact that I left out of my article is Jesus' words – "and I will be with you to the end of the age". When we get overwhelmed it's hard to see beyond the end of our nose. We forget the thing that binds us together as a community of faith. God's promise to be with us always.

No matter how much we plan and program the church, it's God's church. Paul writes in Ephesians that the prophets and apostles form the foundation of the church that has Christ as its cornerstone. And Christ works through God's church to draw us together as God's children, untied by faith. That's the fact. God is at work and it's our privilege to join in the task.

Our faith and belief are built on this fact. It's faith in the fact of God's presence that casts light into a world that seems so dark and destined for destruction. The fact of God's loving presence restores our hope in humanity and promises us that, no matter how overwhelming things seem, God is up to something.

Shalom, Pastor David



PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES WELCOMES SPECIAL MUSIC



The Brass Cords, a quintet featuring two trumpets, two trombones and a bass, will share special music on Palm Sunday, April 2 at Auburn Presbyterian Church, 111 W. 12th Street. The quintet will play selections throughout the worship service, which begins at 10 a.m.

The Brass Cords consists of local musicians Dale Wagner, Mike Brown, John Chalmers, Bill Goudy and Jerry Sigler. The group performs classical, religious and popular music at venues across northeast Indiana. All are members of the Auburn Community Band.

Among the selections the group will play on Palm Sunday are “It is Well With My Soul,” “Comfort Ye, Comfort Ye My People,” and “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.”



Thursday, April 6:

7:00 p.m. - **Maundy Thursday Service** in the sanctuary. A bulletin and zoom link will be sent out if you are not able to attend in person. Communion will be served.

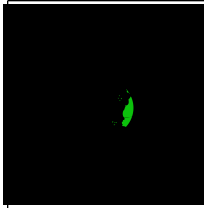
Friday, April 7:

6:30 p.m. - **Community Good Friday Service** taking place at First United Methodist Church this year. The Auburn Presbyterian Church and the Gathering will be participating in the service which begins at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 17:

Easter morning breakfast in fellowship hall beginning at 8:30 a.m. A pancake and bacon breakfast with fruit and pastries, coffee and juice will be provided by the men of the church and the Fellowship Committee.

10:00 a.m. - **Easter morning Worship Service**. Communion served. A zoom invitation will also be sent out by email if you prefer not to attend the worship service in the sanctuary.



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. The MA&I team will be sharing the messages of **One Great Hour of Sharing** as we move thru the Lenten season. We invite your participation by mailing your contribution to the church and mark the check memo as "One Great Hour of Sharing Contribution." Thanks for your cooperation and willingness to participate!

Called to *Serve*

LITURGIST NEEDED FOR WORSHIP!

Each Sunday the pastor has a liturgist help him with the worship service. The position is not a hard one but is very fulfilling. If you don't mind speaking in front of the congregation then you would be a perfect fit. Everything is typed out very plainly and the pastor is willing to go over everything if you feel you need it. We like to keep the same liturgist for the entire month but if you can't commit to a month then we can split the month between 2 people. Please call the church office if you are willing to volunteer to help with this important part of our service.

OUR FREE LITTLE PANTRY

Our Free Little Pantry is being used by the community. We appreciate your support and willingness in bringing in food items which help us keep it filled each week. Right now we notice the need for **DRY GOODS, SUCH AS NOODLES, MAC AND CHEESE ETC.** Other 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).** You may bring items to the church office anytime. Thank you!



SESSION

NOTES:

The Annual Congregational Meeting took place on Sunday, March 26th. If you didn't get a copy of the 2022 Annual Report we still have some in the church office.

REMINDER: MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE CHURCH...

The church no longer rents a Post Office Box. This means that any communication that is done through the mail will need to be sent to: **111 West 12th St. - Auburn, IN 46706**

HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL:

USHERS:

LITURGIST: David Poudrier

- April 2: Veronique Poudrier
- 9: Lisa & Jason Magsamen
- 16: Mark Bassett, Angela Bassett
- 23: Jim & Julia Nixon
- 30: Nancy Derrow & Joyce Phillips

PROVIDING FLOWERS: Stan & Judy Kessler and Stan & Mary Wilson

COMMUNION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 9 (EASTER SUNDAY)
 COMMUNION WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 6 (MAUNDY THURS.)



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 choosing any of the following Sunday morning dates by filling out this form and dropping it off in the offering plate or the church office. (You will notice that we have left out the summer months because when we hold worship in our Biblical Garden we do not need flowers.)

Please indicate on this form, your name, the person/s to be honored, and any words of tribute, such as in memory of, celebrating a birthday or anniversary etc. As the dates are chosen they will be eliminated from this form.

This acknowledgment 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. 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 go 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.

- DATES FOR 2023:** APRIL: 16, 23, 30
 MAY: 28
 JUNE: 18, 25
 SEPTEMBER: 3, 10
 OCTOBER: 15
 DECEMBER: 10, 17, 31

NAME(S): _____

DATE CHOSEN: _____

PERSON(S) TO BE HONORED AND WORDS OF TRIBUTE:

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Presbyterian Women will meet on Wednesday, April 12th at 10:30 a.m. in the lounge. Lesson #9 - "What Are These Women Doing in a Place Like This?" will be our final lesson which will be led by Rachel Roberts. The scripture reading for the lesson is Matthew 1. Join us for a cup of coffee and a great time of sharing and fellowship!

After the meeting in March the women made hygiene kits for the Church World Missions.



INVITATION TO THE CHURCH FROM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN BLUFFTON

Please join us for a very special
RETIREMENT CELEBRATION
honoring
PASTOR LYLE EWING
Sunday, April 16th
10:30 am special worship service
followed by a noon luncheon celebration
at First Presbyterian Church
215 East Dustman Rd., Bluffton, IN

CHURCH PICTORIALS READY FOR PICK-UP!

If you would like to own a new church pictorial you may pick one up in the church office. One per family please!

