

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



NEWSLETTER 2018

WEB SITE OVER-HAUL! CHECK IT OUT!

A task force was commissioned by the Session, supported by your pledges and a grant from the Lilly Foundation's Center for Congregations, to work with a professional web designer to expand our church web presence. You can find it at auburnpc.org.

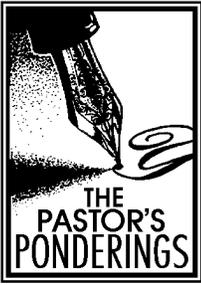


One important purpose is to create a good portrait of our church for the inquirer who we don't know yet. Maybe we'll see that person in church next Sunday. The other purpose is to be useful to members. You can play an important part, too. First, let us know how it can improve. The web site is not the daily news, even while the monthly newsletter is linked. But what else would be helpful? How can it be better for members? What would bring you back to it every week? Forward or voice your comments to Susan Buttermore, Marjorie Reinsch, Jim Nixon or David Lawrence. And our little group needs more people. Want to help? Again, let one of us know. We've hired an expert already; now we need more creativity and enthusiasm.



Attention all MEN in the church:

You are invited to attend a **Men's Informal Breakfast** every **Tuesday, at 8:02 a.m. at Richard's Restaurant in Auburn**. This group has been organized for men to meet and have meaningful conversations over breakfast. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.



APC is like...

Lately, I've been asking people about what they think the church is. More specifically, I've been asking people what they think Auburn Presbyterian is. That's a big question and, when I ask, most people struggle to answer so I figured out a different approach...If Auburn Presbyterian Church were a television show, what show would it be? Similarly, if APC were a car, what kind of car would it be?

I have had some really great conversations around these questions. One person said they felt the church was like the bar in the old show Cheers-everyone knows your name (and everyone has their seat). Another person mentioned that they saw a lot of parallels between the Auburn car and the church-it was innovative in its time. The variety of responses to those questions have been surprising. It seems like the church touches each of us differently. What do you think?

I'm asking these questions to get a better idea of who we are, what we do, and why we do it. The church is so much more than just a place where we gather for worship. We have a nice mission statement that you can find on our web site (www.auburnpc.org), but that statement falls short in attempting to say who we are. There is no way to capture the depth and richness of this congregation by describing just one of our practices or offering a few sentences-even a book would necessarily have to omit some things. More than that, every church has those unwritten rules and informal history that doesn't make it into books or on the web site, and that "institutional history" paints a truer picture of APC than what is available for public consumption.

Also, right now I have fresh eyes. I can see those things that those of you who have been here for awhile have stopped seeing. What will happen is that, after time, I will get drawn into the APC system and my perspective will change. The fresh eyes I have right now will soon lose a portion of their discernment. Since I know this vision will soon slip away as I become more and more a part of the church, now is the time to take advantage of my perspective.

It is really, really fun for me to talk with people and hear them share the different ways the church has been meaningful for them. I've heard stories about how God worked with the church that brought tears to my eye and others that just make me shake my head. The thing is, I've only scratched the surface because you are a deep and rich congregation.

If something occurs to you that you really want to share, call or shoot me an email. Otherwise, just wait. I've made a commitment to spend time outside of worship with all the members of this church. Sorry if I haven't gotten to you yet, but your time is coming. I say that because each of you has something to add to the description of what APC is and what it does and I really want to hear that something.

Shalom, Pastor David



(pictured below is Pastor David, his wife Fran and son Ross)



IT'S OFFICIAL!!!

On April 15, 2018, the Reverend David Lawrence was installed as Pastor of the Auburn Presbyterian Church. Members and friends of our church, along with many members of the Wabash Valley Presbytery, gathered in our sanctuary for the installation service.

The Rev. Quincy Worthington, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Munster and vice-moderator of the Wabash Valley Presbytery, welcomed all in attendance at the 3:00 PM service. Others participating in the installation were: the Rev. David Westphal, honorably retired from the ELCA; David's son Ross Lawrence, an elder at the First Presbyterian Church in Niles, Michigan; the Rev. Fran Lane-Lawrence, pastor at the Niles church (and David's wife!); the Rev. Jennifer Burns Lewis, Visioning and Connecting Leader of the Wabash Valley Presbytery; Clerk of Session at Auburn Presbyterian, Kay Finchum; Auburn Presbyterian Elder Julia Nixon; the Rev. Stan Kessler, and Wabash Valley Presbytery Stated Clerk and APC Elder Marjorie Reinsch.

The chancel choir of APC shared the anthem "No Greater Alleluia." Hymns were sung; scripture was read; constitutional questions for pastor and congregation were asked and answered; charges to David and the congregation were made. On behalf of the congregation, Julia presented David with a green stole, featuring hand-embroidered Jerusalem crosses, for use in "ordinary times."

Jerri Imus and the Fellowship, Evangelism, and Church Growth Committee, with help from the recently decommissioned Pastor Nominating Committee, provided a reception following the installation service.

Thanks to all who shared in the day: organizers, attendees, participants, musicians, pie-bakers! David's installation marks a significant moment in the long history of our church. We welcome him and celebrate this new beginning!

APC FOUNDATION, INC.

Auburn Presbyterian Church Foundation will have a board meeting on Sunday, May 20. At that time they will accept requests for 2018 funds. Please include copies of bids with your request.

The APC Foundation was established to assist with capital improvements to the church as they arise. Please keep the Foundation in mind when planning your future giving. Funds are always needed.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will hold a joint meeting in Fellowship Hall On **Wednesday, May 9 beginning with lunch at noon.** The Reverend Ricky O Creech, President and CEO of Buckhorn & Family services will be the guest speaker, which will begin at 1:30 p.m. He will share how and why the Buckhorn Children's Home and School was started and when it began in 1902. Lunch will be provided by the women so please come and enjoy.

Last Call...Presbyterian Women will be collecting "All Laundry Detergent Paks Free and Clear" (only PAKS, and not liquid or powder.) They are also collecting "Scrubbing Bubbles Daily Shower Cleaner made by SC Johnson." Both items may be purchased at Wal-Mart. The items are being collected for the Buckhorn Children's Home and School in Buckhorn, KY. All items must be turned in to the church no later than Tuesday, May 1. If you have any questions, please see Betty Houghton.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION SUNDAY

During worship on Sunday, May 20, the Christian Education Committee will recognize the many people in our congregation who have helped with education programming this past year. We look forward to publicly thanking our fine volunteers.

A NOTE FROM THE CE DIRECTOR:

The Youth have had a very busy month. They worked very hard putting together Youth Sunday and I'm very proud of the job they did. The service went great! We will continue with our 9 am Sunday School until the end of the month.

We are looking forward to the end of the school year. Many of our youth are very busy with different after school activities. With this in mind I will not be meeting with them on Thursday evenings due to busy schedules. However, I will still plan on being in my office Thursdays for a few hours if you need to see me.

Thank you as always for your support of our Youth.

God Bless,
Kari.

MARY EVELYN MOORE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Travis Conley is the recipient of this year's scholarship, created and named in honor of former long-time church member Mary Evelyn Moore. Travis is the son of JoLynn and Jim Conley, the grandson of Betty Houghton and the nephew of Heather Houghton. He plans this fall to attend Indiana University in Bloomington, where he will study sports marketing and management. The Mary Evelyn Moore Scholarship was presented to Travis during Youth Sunday on April 22. Congratulations, Travis!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School has wrapped up for this school year. Thanks so much to class attendees; your weekly participation was very much appreciated. Thanks, too, to the numerous people in our congregation who presented programs. I believe I speak for many class members in saying we enjoyed and benefited from your expertise. Finally, a big thank-you goes to John Jackson and Linda Jackson-Pulver who delivered coffee and treats to our class each week. I thank them for "treating" us.

Class will resume in September. I am always looking for speakers and ideas for class topics; please feel free to make suggestions. Also, please check the Sunday bulletins throughout the summer as class may meet informally to periodically discuss topics.

~ Barbara Morrow, CE Chair

BIBLE STUDY BEGINS at 6 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, MAY 2



Some of us grew up in the church and learned those Bible stories . . . but we've forgotten-or didn't pay that close attention. Others of us came to the church later in life and never really got that foundation. Still others make it a regular practice to read and study the Bible. Bible Basics 101 has something for everyone, no matter where you fall.

Join us in the lounge at 6 PM Wednesday beginning May 2 for Bible Basics. We will meet every Wednesday night and move through this series of lessons that is especially designed for people who have lost familiarity with the book that's at the center of Christianity.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE:

HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR THE MONTH OF MAY:

USHERS:

6: David & Cheryl John
13: Paul & Leah Watson
20: Peggy Jones & Hilda Kennedy
27: Jan Nagel & Kay Finchum

ACOLYTES:

6: Marcus Smith
13: Aidan Smith
20: Gabe Ackerman
27: Isabella Gettys

LITURGIST: Marjorie Reinsch, Barb Morrow, Julia Nixon

COMMUNION SERVERS: Joe Dick, Barbara Morrow, Julia Nixon

GIVING FLOWERS: Barbara Bushnell, Vinnie & Barbara Pietracatella, John & Linda Jackson

ACOLYTE APPRECIATION SUNDAY - It was a joy to honor all of our Acolytes during the worship service on April 22. We thanked the following acolytes for their meaningful participation in worship each Sunday:



Gabe Ackerman, Sylvia Benbow, Travis Conley, Isabella Gettys, Sophie Shepherd, Aidan Smith, Marcus Smith, and Evan Zielke.

Choir Recognition - May 20th



Please come and celebrate the ministry of the APC Chancel Choir at worship on Sunday, May 20th.

This will be their last Sunday for the 2017-2018 choir season and they are preparing a fantastic new anthem for you! We will have refreshments after worship.

