

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



JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2019

OFFICE CLOSED OVER THE HOLIDAY

Just a reminder... The church office will be closed from the 25 through the 31st. If you have a need you may call the church office and leave a message. Someone will return your call as soon as possible. Thank you.

Our **2019 Calendars** have arrived from Pinnington-McComb Funeral Home. Please help yourself to as many as you like. They are located at the back of the sanctuary.

FROM THE SECRETARY:

I am truly blessed to be able to work for such loving and caring people. It has been my honor to serve you and be your secretary for more than 20 years now. This past year was difficult for me with the loss of my mother but everyone in the congregation stood by me and helped me get through the tough times. For that I am so truly grateful. I would like to also thank everyone for the Christmas bonus, which means alot to know that you appreciate my service. I wish everyone a very blessed, prosperous and Happy New Year!

In Christ's love,
Tracy

NOTES FROM SESSION...

Per Capita is assessed on the number of active members on the church's roll. Each governing body beyond our Session determines how much Per Capita it will assess the membership. For next year, our church **Per Capita Apportionment is: \$41.21 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.

THE CALL OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

The Annual Congregational meeting of the Auburn Presbyterian Church will be held in Fellowship Hall on Sun., January 27, 2019 for the purpose of receiving annual committee reports, receiving the 2018 budget, and transacting any other business that may properly come before said meeting. A meal will precede the actual business meeting. Officers and anyone who has to submit a report for our **2018 Annual Report**, please have it to the church secretary no later than January 14.

NEW OFFICERS FOR 2018:

A unanimous ballot was cast for the following officers for 2018 during the congregational meeting which was held on Sunday, December 10, 2017:

Elders (Class of 2021): Richard Reichard, Melinda Smith, Norm Yoder

Deacons (Class of 2021): Joey Aiken, Jim Nixon, Veronique Poudrier, Cherri Wolf

Jr. Deacon (Class of 2019): Marcus Smith

2019 Leadership Development Team: Polly Bassett, Peggy Jones

APC Foundation Board (Class of 2021): Barbara Pietracatella, (Congregational Rep.)



INSTALLATION/ORDINATION OF NEW OFFICERS: January 13, 2019 is the date set for the installation/ordination of new officers. Please mark your calendars!

NOTE CONCERNING COMMITTEES:

If you are interested in serving on one of the following committees please notify the church office: Building & Grounds, Christian Education, Evangelism/Church Growth & Fellowship, Mission Action & Interpretation, Personnel, Stewardship & Budget and Worship & Music.

FLOWERS FOR MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

Acknowledgments will be printed in the Sunday bulletin. Flowers are delivered each week from the Sprinkling & Can Florists, and 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.

AVAILABLE DATES FOR 2019:

JANUARY: 13

FEBRUARY: 3, 24

MARCH: 3

APRIL: 21, 28

MAY: 26

JUNE: 2

JULY: 21

AUGUST: 4

OCTOBER: 6, 13

NOVEMBER: 10

DECEMBER: 15, 29

FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters-

This month we had an especially interesting discussion in Bible study. We were looking at the passage about Mary and Joseph finding no room at the inn, which opened the subject of talking about place.

I had been giving this a lot of thought lately, thanks to a discussion about place that I watched. If you would like to see this, just click [here](#) If you want to hear more, the entire tenth issue of the [*Journal of Missional Practice*](#) focuses on the subject of place.

In any event, our Wednesday evening conversation dwelt on the meaning of place and home, which is something that I know I take for granted. I never really doubted that I had a place—a place to lay my head, a place to call my own, or even a place in the conversation. The truth is that we are prisoners of our privilege and take for granted that we always have a place or the resources to get one. There is always room at the table for us.

Even as I write I know that is not the case for everyone. Those who have power, control, and resources, often work to keep others away from the table. I hate to admit that I have also been a part of that effort. We are all a part of this as we participate in the culture's discrimination against women, people of color, anyone who is different, and we do that just by not actively promoting inclusion. There are a lot of reasons for this, but that's just too much to go into for this little writing.

The Christmas story is a story of expansive invitation and welcome. God bypassed the rich and powerful religious elite in order to be especially present to an unwed couple, some mangy shepherds and the Israelites who were enslaved in their own land. The gospel story is a story that shames us for wanting to hang on to more than we need at the expense of others. Not that we should give up everything we have in the service of God's work, but we should be mindful of our tendency to acquire and want more and more and more.

The culture encourages our fear that we will never have enough. Our anxiety is fueled by the notion that someone will take our place from us. This is the world in which we live and which the gospel offers an alternative. God offers us life abundant, ever-flowing waters, and an ever-present place at the table.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Class will resume Sunday, Jan. 13. We encourage you to join us as we launch another semester of programming designed to broaden and deepen our understanding of what it means to be a Christian in today's world. We meet in the lounge immediately after worship each week. All are welcome!

Jan. 13 – Guest speaker Allison O'Brien. Allison, of Auburn, is a recent graduate of the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Allison intends to pursue a career in international human rights and criminal justice, and she already has a jump on that career, having studied overseas and traveled to countries such as Myanmar, where human rights issues loom large. Allison will introduce us to a range of "justice" issues around the globe.

Jan. 20 – Birthday Kickoff. Auburn Presbyterian Church celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2019, and this class will feature congregants who have been long-time members. They will share their memories of years spent in our church – and they'll fill us in on church history!

Jan. 27 – No Class. Annual congregational meeting following worship.