

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



DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



Everyone is invited to attend the **175th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION in fellowship hall following worship Sunday, December 8.** A meal will be provided with catered chicken and all the fixings, followed with birthday cake and ice cream of course! No need to bring anything, just yourself and come ready to celebrate.

Joining us will be members from the LaGrange Presbyterian Church who is also celebrating their 175th anniversary this year as well.



"Keep an eye on the APC web page. The monthly calendar appears there along with the monthly newsletter. It's APC's self-portrait for the world. On your smartphone, the format is different, and you will find the menu tabs for other pages in the top left corner if you click on the horizontal bars. The web page address, as always, is auburnpc.org."



NEW CALENDARS FOR 2020

Pinnington Funeral Home has provided free 2020 Calendars to the church. You may pick one up at the back of the sanctuary or in the church office.

LIONS CHRISTMAS STROLL:

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Lions Christmas Stroll. The sanctuary looked absolutely beautiful and the CE/youth and PW did an awesome job in the fellowship hall. It was a beautiful day for the church and we appreciate everyone that made helped to bring it all together!

FROM THE PASTOR:

Friends-One of the things that people regularly mention about this congregation is how we are welcoming. It makes me happy to see the way y'all welcome visitors and greet each other. We do share some strong bonds and proof of that can be seen every Sunday we pass the peace.

These relationships are important because, as we all know, the church isn't the building. The church is the gathered community of faith—it's the people who make the church. Moreover, it's our relationships that form the foundation of our faith and fellowship. Thanks for being people of relationship that care about one another.

We do exceptionally well with these relationships on Sunday, but the challenge for all of us is during the week. Have you ever noticed that someone hasn't been in worship for a couple weeks? Often times that concern flits through our minds at worship and that's where it stays. In fact, I am frequently asked about other members of the congregation who haven't been seen or don't look well when we do see them.

Paul writes in the book of Romans about the value of our relationships in the church and advises us to care for one another. It is in Proverbs that we are exhorted to create deep relationships that stand the test of time and adversity. I read both of these to recommend that my relationships with you extend out from Sunday worship to encompass our day-to-day experience. This is what I am asking of you.

Christine Cross talked about the advantage of a neighborhood approach to church. Christine meant that where we sit on Sundays makes a sort of neighborhood. We know who sits where and we look for them every Sunday. When a person or family is missing we notice. I am suggesting that we take this a step further. Please don't hesitate to call people, especially when you haven't seen them for awhile. I think your call would be well received. If you don't have someone's number, I know Tracy has some directories printed up in the office that she would be glad to share.

We do great with making relationships and, in fact, a lot of you come in contact with one another in the course of the week. I am just suggesting that we could do even better with a couple phone calls. Of course, I'm always ready and willing to talk with anyone, but a contact from another member is so much more meaningful.

Next time you notice someone missing from worship give them a call. Or even call another member just to say hi. If something else needs to happen please feel free to let me know, but I think you will be surprised by the value of your call. This show of love and concern can do nothing but enhance the congregation.

Shalom,

Pastor David



SESSION NOTES:

A Joint Meeting of all Elders and Deacons will be held on Monday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. All current and new officers are required to attend this meeting. A catered meal will begin the evening and the regular session meeting will take place following the joint meeting.

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: Cheryl John, Lisa Magsamen, Sue Peterson, Linda Jackson
Elders: Susan Buttermore, Jerri Imus, Marjorie Reinsch
Jr. Deacon: Marcus Smith

Thank You

On Sunday, November 10 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: Teresa Clark, Tim Miller, Joyce Phillips, Ray Smith
Elders: Mark Bassett, Jan Nagel, Mary Wilson
Junior Deacon: Marcus Smith
APC Foundation: Peggy Jones and Jan Nagel

STEWARDSHIP AND BUDGET COMMITTEE:

The books for 2019 will be wrapped up December 31. If you would like to have your giving go towards 2019, we will need your offering before that date. Thank you.



PER CAPITA: \$42.00 per confirmed member

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: \$42.00 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.



Don't forget to sign up for the Kroger Rewards application. Here's how it works. After you register your Kroger card, every time its scanned at the store a percentage of your purchase comes back to the church! It's that simple. Access **krogercommunityrewards.com** on your computer, then follow the prompts or if you need help see Barbara Bushnell or pastor David.



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 10, 2020**.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE:

WE WISH OUR ACOLYTES A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!

These young people are shining lights in our congregation:
**Gabe Ackerman, Aadon Beck, Sylvia Benbow, Isabella Gettys,
Eva Hoolihan, Aidan Smith, Marcus Smith.**



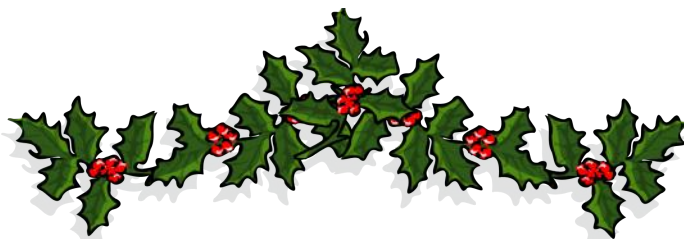
Advent and Special Events at Auburn Presbyterian Church:

Sunday, December 1	10:00 a.m.	First Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the First Advent Candle
Friday, December 6		OFFICIAL DATE THE CHURCH OPENED IN 1844
Saturday, December 7		Jazz Concert in the Sanctuary (see ad)
Sunday, December 8	10:00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the Second Advent Candle 175th Birthday Party following worship.
Friday, December 13	10:30 a.m.	PW meeting and Christmas Party at the Steinger Community Foundation Building on Marin St.
Sunday, December 15	10:00 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the Third Advent Candle
Monday, December 16	6:00 p.m.	Joint meeting of Elders and Deacons
Sunday, December 22	10:00 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent: Lighting of the Third Advent Candle Youth Christmas Party during the worship service
	11:00 a.m.	Reception for Judy Rhoades, organist
Tuesday, December 24	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Festival of Candles and Carols Service. Holy Communion will be Served: The lighting of the Christ Candle



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE:

Please come and invite your friends and neighbors for a wonderful Christmas Eve Service beginning at 8 p.m. The worship service will include choir, communion and a candlelight closing.



HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

USHERS:

1: Doug Morrow, Dick Reichard
8: Mark Bassett, Polly Bassett
15: David & Veronique Poudrier
22: Jan Nagel, Kay Finchum
24: Carl & Melinda Smith
29: Vinnie & Barbara Pietracatella

ACOLYTES:

1: Sylvia Benbow
8: Isabella Gettys
15: Marcus Smith
22: Gabe Ackerman
24: ?
29: Aadon Beck

LITURGIST: Barb Morrow

HEAD USHER: Jerri Imus

FLOWERS: Jim & Julia Nixon, Phyllis Buttermore, Fran Mefford, Barbara Bushnell, Mark & Michelle Bassett

COMMUNION SERVERS: Richard Reichard, Melinda Smith, Norm Yoder, Carl Smith, Cheryl John

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 calling the church office or by filling out the insert in the bulletin or calling the church office at 925-2987. 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.

Thank You and Best Wishes!

My time as your organist is ending soon; my last service will be on Christmas Eve.

Thank you for all your love and support. Please know it has been a great joy to be a part of your worship these past six years. I have had many wonderful relationships and opportunities at APC for which I am deeply grateful.

I pray for God's continued blessing on you and all that you do. You will always have a special place in my heart and my story.

I thank God for you. All joy and peace in believing, - Judy Rhoades



A



reception will be held for Judy Rhoades after worship on Sunday, December 22 in fellowship hall to celebrate Judy's retirement and thank her for the wonderful service she has provided the church. Refreshments will be served.

MISSION ACTION & INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE:



2019 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 using the envelope found in your weekly bulletins, or call the church office to have an envelope mailed to you. Thank you, from your Mission Action and Interpretation Committee.

ANGEL TREE! For several years, the Auburn Presbyterian Church has helped meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the families who have a mother or father incarcerated. The national program is overseen by Prison Fellowship, an evangelical organization formed by Charles Colson as a result of his experiences in jail. Angel Tree's objective is to connect parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts. It is a volunteer program, one in which we are given the names of families and the needs of their children.

An "Angel Tree" will be placed in the Narthex of the church on **December 1**. Members who want to bring the joy of Jesus' birth to DeKalb County children whose parents are incarcerated may take an angel off the tree and buy a gift for a child.

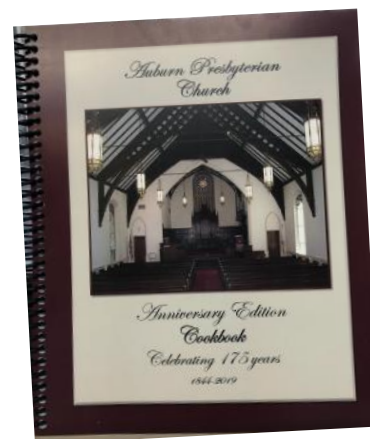


Presbyterian Women Meeting:

Presbyterian Women's Circle will be held Friday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Steinger Community Foundation building (across from the church at 14th St. and Main.) We will study lesson #4 "Words of Love: Honor the life Givers," led by Ruth Randinelli. We will have a short business meeting followed with a **catered lunch by Dutch Heritage**. **The cost is \$8.75; please bring it that day, and let either Cheryl John or Judy Ditmars know by Thursday, December 5th if you plan to attend.**

IT'S HERE!!! *Anniversary Edition - Celebrating 175 Years Cookbook*. The cookbooks are filled with many wonderful recipes. We asked for recipes from the congregation and everyone that donated we are very grateful. You will also find many favorite recipes from those that have passed on, taken from the very first cookbook dated back in 1972 as well as popular recipes from volumes two (1982), three (1995) and four (2003) cookbooks. We found it appropriate to include those that were instrumental in the life of the church as we celebrate our 175 Anniversary.

These cookbooks are available for purchase at a cost of \$15.00 each. They make wonderful Christmas presents! If you would like to purchase one, contact Barbara Bushnell or the church office. Checks need to be made out to Auburn Presbyterian Women.



EVANGELISM AND CHURCH GROWTH COMMITTEE:



**Please Join Us for a Free Evening of
J A Z Z**

**7 – 9 p.m. - Saturday, Dec. 7
in the Sanctuary**

Featuring:



Chris Parker on drums



Jonathan Gardner on bass



Tuomo Uusitalo on piano

**There will be an intermission with
Christmas cookies, coffee and
punch in the portico.**

**Cd's will be available for
purchasing during that time.**

**All are welcome.
Bring friends!**