

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



MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

During this period while the church is closed, we will be offering classes with a twist. We will watch documentaries and movies in our home, then discuss them at a set time via Zoom.

Stay tuned for emails indicating the programs and the discussion times. In addition, if you'd like to suggest a program that everyone watch, please contact Barb Morrow. Home phone: 925-5356. Or email: writolen@ctlnet.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Due to the corona virus situation our Presbyterian Women's group will not meet in the month of May.



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Rev. David Lawrence

April 27, 2020

Brothers and Sisters:

I hope you are all well and doing those things you need to do to care for yourselves physically, mentally, and spiritually. These have been some challenging days and we are inspired to creatively live into a “new normal”.

I wanted to share some information with you that came out of our session meeting on the 20th. As of that meeting there had been no statements from Governor Holcomb, the Indiana Dept. of Health, or the City of Auburn regarding reopening. Furthermore, the Coronavirus infection rate in the state continues to climb, which presents a special hazard for those who are in high risk categories. Considering the information before us, the session decided that we would continue gathering virtually for the next month. We are able to revisit this decision if the situation changes significantly, but we believe the most prudent course of action is to take this up at our May meeting (May 18th).

I know the current situation is disappointing and frustrating and it seems like this will never end. I share those feelings and long to see all of you face-to-face (even at an appropriate distance). What I also know is that this is a small sacrifice if it prevents even one of you from serious illness or death. For all of us this means putting aside our wants and desires out of care for another.

Not worshipping together presents another issue. When we don't meet on Sundays we get out of the habit of presenting our tithes and offerings. The church has experienced a decrease in our collection and I want to encourage you to make online payments or mail in a check for your offering during this time. When restrictions are eased, the church needs to be poised to assist with the ever increasing needs of our community and that will require financial resources, as well as time and effort from us all.

One of my greatest joys during this time has been the congregation's willingness to experiment with new ways of communicating. Who would have imagined? Some of you have become pros with Zoom; and FaceBook is a virtual hangout for many of us. The staff, the leadership, and I have been working hard behind the scenes to keep our relationships strong, but the congregation as a whole has demonstrated a remarkable spirit and ability to find God's bubbling presence outside the walls of church. I applaud your faithful commitment to the mission of Christ through Auburn Presbyterian Church.

May the Lord Bless and keep you; may God's face shine upon you.

Pastor David

GOOD NEWS SECTION!

WANT TO KNOW WHAT OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE UP TO:

I thought we could all use a little bit of news that wasn't geared toward the pandemic we are facing. In this article I contacted Kathryn & Bill Bassett and asked if they could fill us in on where the triplets are and what they have been up to. This is the response I received. Enjoy!

David Bassett:

David is at Indiana University Bloomington studying business at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs with a major in business and an expected minor in information systems. Since freshman year David has been able to enjoy working at Beacon Credit Union as a student worker and has enjoyed the experience, seeing members through the drive-through and at the counter. He hopes to and expects to continue working with his career in finance with Beacon in the immediate future and beyond.

James Bassett: James is at Indiana University Bloomington in the school of arts and sciences with a major political science. He has been an active member of the Indiana University Democrats and the College Democrats of America. He has just completed an internship serving on Capitol Hill in Washington DC in the Democratic Cloakroom for Speaker Nancy Pelosi and had the privilege of whipping votes and attending the state of the union speech as some of his highlights. He has been accepted to attend Manchester University in England next semester for a study abroad, but it is dependent on the current COVID-19 situation.

Grace Bassett: Grace is a senior at Purdue University. Thanks to fast-tracking her studies, she will graduate with a degree in public health and a minor in forensic science in August. This summer she will complete an internship with the American Red Cross in Lafayette, focusing on disaster management and assistance. After graduating, she has been accepted as a member of the Americorps FEMA Corps program where she will be serving at the Pacific Region based in California for at least a year, working in different areas of emergency management.

The Smith Family wanted to share their Easter Outreach:

55 eggs hidden throughout our neighborhood with Bible verses of inspiration. And we each made Easter eggs for our home to spread cheer...those are placed outside for all to see.



These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM . Please use the back door.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance. -----

-- And this one just about sums them all up:

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours