

Auburn Presbyterian Church  
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Auburn, IN 46706  
Rev. Dr. David Lawrence  
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## MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

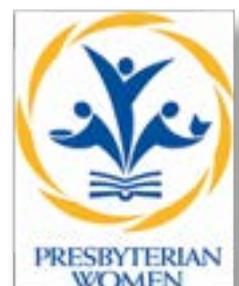
### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN WILL CELEBRATE BLANKET SUNDAY, MAY 11TH**

For over 75 years, Church World Service has been helping people of faith bring God's hope and healing to people in the U.S. and around the world. When difficult times happen, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. That's why the CWS Blankets Program was created—to give a kind, loving and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time, reminding them that they are not alone. For a mere \$10 a blanket is given to someone who needs it.

The Auburn Presbyterian Church Women will be participating in the Church World Service Blanket Program on Sunday, May 11th. An envelope will be enclosed in your bulletin for your convenience and participation on that Sunday. We're grateful for your generosity, kindness and desire to share warmth, compassion and blankets with others.

### **NEWS FROM OUR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN. . . .**

**Presbyterian Women's Circle's will meet on Wednesday, May 14th, at 10:30 a.m. at the Cranberry Cottage Tea Room and Boutique (214 W 6th St, Auburn). We will order our lunch from the menu first and while we are waiting for it to arrive, we will have our meeting. Just a reminder that this will be our last meeting until we start up again in the Fall.**



## FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters,

Paul wrote that we shouldn't be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds, so that we may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2). The spiritual discipline I'm going to focus on this month one of the most difficult: study. The process of study renews our mind and faith so that we are transformed.

When the word study comes up in church our minds immediately jump to the Bible. Bible study is important, but study that builds faith means so much more. Study as a spiritual discipline necessarily includes study of the Bible and theology, but we have to study nature, other people, and relationships, as well as. Paul urges us to read, think, discuss, and question the world and everything in it. We are transformed when we engage the study or every aspect of our existence.

In school we studied to memorize facts or equations. We were tested on how much knowledge we amassed and regurgitated on command. The only test with this spiritual discipline involves how much we try to imitate Jesus. The spiritual practice of study shapes us person of faith and isn't concerned with memorizing Bible passages or the Westminster Confession.

Study must include reflection. Our studies are internalized when we reflect on the things take in. Reflection can happen in deep thought, conversations, or experimenting with new ways thinking. As I wrote, when we engage in reflection on what we study, we are shaped; our thoughts and behaviors are transformed. This takes work, however, when we engage in the discipline of study we begin to gain an understanding of God and God's will for creation.

Shalom, Pastor David



The Center for Congregations is funded by Lilly Endowment, Inc. and is a supporting organization of the Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

APC was invited to participate in a program called Rooted in the Spirit. This program seeks to create a structured way to measure the effectiveness of congregations. The frame for this comes from Galatians 5 – the fruit of the spirit. (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, and control). My cohort will explore how practices like preaching, teaching, pastoral care, and community engagement cultivate fruity qualities in individuals and strengthen the congregation's influence.

Over the next six months, a small group will reflect on these qualities and how to encourage them. Don't be surprised if someone asks you for a story of how you have experienced those spiritual virtues in your life.

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## FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP....

**Open dates for flowers!** A continuing tradition for the church is to give flowers on Sunday mornings in honor of someone, or perhaps as a memorial or celebration. If you didn't get a chance to sign up for flowers it's not too late! We have the following dates available:

**May: 18, 25**

**September: 7**

**November: 9, 20**

**December: 21 & 28**

The cost is \$40 for two vases of flowers. A form is at the back of the sanctuary on the counter, or you may call the church office at 925-2987 with your request. *Just a reminder to please return the green liner if you take the flowers home with you. These liners are re-used by the florist and we only have a certain number of them.*

## HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR THE MONTH OF MAY:

**LITURGIST:** Peggy Jones

### USHERS:

4: Phil Bryan & Joe Dick  
11: David Smith & Peggy Jones  
18: Veronique & David Poudrier  
25: Norm & Peg Yoder

**(REMINDER TO USHERS...**after worship please be sure to check all the pews for any bulletins left that need to be thrown away. Also please straighten the bibles, hymnals and Kleenex boxes. If communion is served, please be sure to gather all the communion cups and return to the kitchen.)

**GIVING FLOWERS:** Jan Nagel & Susan Buttermore, Peggy Jones & David Smith

**COMMUNION:** May 4. **(We need servers - please let the secretary know if you can help)**



## LITURGIST NEEDED FOR WORSHIP!

We are in need of volunteers to be the liturgist for the months of August September, November and December. Anyone interested in being a liturgist please call the church office or talk to Pastor David. Thank you!

**SUMMER WORSHIP IN THE GARDEN BEGINS JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>...mark your calendars!**

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETING IN MAY:

Adult Sunday school will meet during the month of May with "Mercy" being the Theme. Following is the line up for the Month:

May 4: Rev. Stan Kessler teaching the class.  
May 11: Rev. Ken Weaver from Hospice.  
May 18: Kristine Shultis from Saint Martins  
May 25: Holiday – no Sunday School



PICTURED ABOVE IS THE CHOIR GROUP THAT SANG DURING THE COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE IN APRIL. MANY MEMBERS OF APC CHOIR JOINED WITH THE METHODIST CHOIR. IF YOU WERE NOT ABLE TO ATTEND YOU MISSED A GREAT SERVICE.



### EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT COMPLETED!

Check out the new pavilion located on the east side of the church next to the playground equipment. This pavilion was built for the church for an Eagle Scout Project by Scout Levi Webb. Levi did such an incredible job, so make sure you take the time to check it out. Another Eagle Scout candidate has inquired about possibly continuing enhancements to the playground/pavilion area by adding picnic tables which will make this area so inviting!