

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



## **2023 NEWSLETTER**

### **FRIENDS' TABLE:**

If you have a surplus of garden goodies and would like to share...we have many families on Monday at Friends Table that would be happy to have them!  
Just drop them off in the kitchen with a note saying Friends Table.



**Thank**

**You**

A special "Thank you" to everyone that provided a pasta salad for Friends' Table on Monday, July 24. Friends' table served over 160 people so your donation was very much appreciated! If you brought a bowl you may pick it up in the kitchen.

## FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters-

I was asked to offer a devotional for the Deacon meeting earlier this month. We joined in a reflection on prayer that was thought-provoking. In fact, it was so good I wanted to share it with all of you.

We began by talking about the practice of caring for sheep 2000 years ago. It might be the same now, but back then sheep would be with their shepherd so much and knew him so well that they would recognize his voice. The sheep would ignore all other shepherds except their own. In the same way, Jesus hopes that we will recognize his voice and follow him (John 10:4).

God continues to speak to us and we talked about how God might do that. Of course, we mentioned how God speaks to us through Scripture. We went on to discuss how God's voice rings out in nature, music, and the arts. Sometimes, God even speaks to us with visions and dreams. Finally, other people have experienced hearing God as a voice that speaks directly to them. The truth is that God's voice is all around us and we all need to develop "ears to hear" the voice of the Good Shepherd.

God is always speaking, but there is the possibility that we can misunderstand or hear a voice that does not come from God. If we believe in the active presence of evil in the world, it makes sense that evil would work to confuse us about what God says to us. Evil's very reason for being is to confuse and misdirect us about what God is speaking.

To avoid confusion about the voice of God I want to offer three questions that you can ask yourself when you're trying to discern God's voice directing you.

1. Does it now or will it in the future glorify God?
2. Is what I hear consistent with the character of God as I understand it?
3. Do other believers validate what I believe God is speaking to me?

The last two Sundays our Scripture passages have ended with Jesus saying "let all who have ears hear." The problem with that command is that we are surrounded by voices of all kinds. All the voices around us demand our attention and allegiance so we need to temper our listening with discernment. The more time you spend with God, the more acquainted we become with God's voice. Get to know and become familiar with the voice of the shepherd.

Shalom, David



## SPECIAL MUSIC IN AUGUST

Christmas Carols in August? No, don't be confused by the photo. But do join us on Sunday, August 20 when Dave Kurtz and Betsy Rodecap-Kurtz will provide special music during our worship service. They are members of the Chancel Choir and contemporary worship band at Auburn First United Methodist Church. Dave is retired after 47 years with The Star newspaper, and Betsy has retired after 47 years at Children First Center. Married for 48 years, this musical couple has sung at our church in the past, and we look forward to hosting them again – on August 20 at 10 a.m..

pictured is Dave Kurtz and Betsy Rodecap-Kurtz



Burgers, Hot Dogs and More! Auburn Presbyterian Church congregation and The Gathering enjoyed lunch together July 2nd...the weather pushed everything inside, but we still had a great time of fellowship and food. We had about 45 people attend the luncheon.



## **BIBLICAL GARDEN UPDATE:**



This is an update on the Auburn Presbyterian Church's Biblical Garden. The garden has enjoyed several new and ongoing floral areas this season. The early spring tulip and daffodil bulbs planted to honor Fran Mefford were quite plentiful with blooms in May. The "pink ladies" planted to remember Linda Pulver/Jackson have begun their cycle of first showing green leaves and will soon have showy tall pink flower stems. A new plant, a short hydrangea from Pam Scranton's garden, was placed in the newly renovated bed near the garden's east side, this to honor Keith for his help in keeping the "cracks" weed-free, general weeding and pruning. The tall grasses were removed to give a better view at the Sunday morning garden service and this left a spot for several roses and other perennial blooming plants. The drought was a challenge to keeping the new flowers alive, but so far they are hanging on. Ruth Randinelli contributed impatiens to brighten the west side area until your committee can decide what permanent plants can be installed. Ideas, anyone? Again, the ongoing heat and drought have been a difficult situation for these small flowers. Also, the saved Easter lilies that weren't claimed the last three years have begun to bloom, lovely white blossoms near the communion table. We thank Steve, our GED tutor, for his contribution of two 50 foot lengths of garden hose and a sprinkler. They have been in use almost every week since he dropped them off. Please thank Ray Smith for his pruning, keeping the shrubbery tidy and away from the building; Dick Reichard for spraying the weeds and his pruning efforts; the diligent weeders, working most every Saturday, are Polly Bassett, Ruth Randinelli, Pam Scranton, Hilda Kennedy and Emily Heymann, and let's not forget to thank Mark Bassett for mowing the grounds every Friday. Our Biblical Garden is a true treasure.

**MISSION ACTION & INTERPRETATION** - The mission team has been enjoying a summer of vacations and traveling! We are currently deciding which Church World Service programs we want to participate in, so please stay tuned for more information in the upcoming months. Please know how much we appreciate all you do to help our committee team and church families!

**OUR FREE LITTLE PANTRY** - We are still low on items for our "Free Little Pantry". We are asking for your assistance in providing non-perishable items to help restock our supply. Items such as canned foods (soups, beans, tuna, chicken), peanut butter, rice, granola bars, dry pasta, crackers, cereals, baby food, boxed foods (mac and cheese, hamburger/tuna helpers), staples (flour, sugar, salt), hygiene products (soap of any kind, tooth paste, shampoo, feminine products, diapers), or paper products (toilet paper, paper towels). You may bring items to the church office anytime. Thank you!

## SMOCK SENIOR MINISTRIES PROGRAMS

If you signed up for the cruise down the rivers of Fort Wayne on the Sweet Breeze following is the information that you will need to know.

**When:** Thursday, August 10 from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm

**Where:** Promenade Park, West Superior St., Fort Wayne

**Cost:** \$10/per person (payable to the church)

**Lunch will be provided.**

People should try to arrive between 11 and 11:15 a.m. If you are driving and using your GPS for directions the address is 202 West Superior Street, Fort Wayne, IN

COMING IN SEPTEMBER...

Looking forward to September's Smock Senior Ministries Program. On Wednesday, September 6th, shopping/Flea Market in Shipshewana is on the agenda. Lunch will follow at the Blue Gate Restaurant. If you are interested in attending let the office know.



### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:

Presbyterian Women's Circle will start up again beginning in September. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 13 at 10:30 a.m. Our first lesson will be led by Pastor David. All women are invited to attend.

NOTE: Program directories will be available in September. You may pick one up in the church office.

Presbyterian Women will be holding another rummage sale on **October 19 & 20**. Please start saving your items now. If you don't have a place to store your items until October we are designating a room in the basement for that purpose.



## **USHERS AND LITURGIST NEEDED FOR FALL WORSHIP SERVICES**

It's time to start a list of **WEEKLY USHERS** for the Fall worship services. When we begin worshipping in the sanctuary again we will need to provide ushers for the service. If you would like to volunteer for a particular Sunday please call the church office to let Tracy know. Otherwise a random list of people will be chosen to fill this important part of worship.

If you are interested in becoming a **LITURGIST** please let Pastor David know. This is a monthly commitment, however we can make arrangements if you aren't able to do an entire month. Pastor David relies on his liturgist to help him with each worship service.

**WORSHIP SERVICE WILL REMAIN  
IN THE BIBLICAL GARDEN DURING  
THE MONTH OF AUGUST AND  
POSSIBLY SEPTEMBER- WEATHER  
PERMITTING.**

**LABOR DAY FUND RAISER:** Labor Day events are coming up the first weekend in September. We haven't had a group volunteer for parking cars on Friday night during the annual downtown cruise-in or for Saturday during the parade. If your group/committee is looking for a fund-raiser this is a good event to make some money. Call the church office or let Pastor David know if you are interested.



## **BIBLE STUDY STARTING AGAIN IN AUGUST:**

Beginning Wednesday, August 2nd Pastor David will start back up his On line Bible Study every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. Every Tuesday an email will be sent out reminding you of the Bible study along with a Zoom Invitation to join the meeting.

We're taking on a new study by a new presenter. We're going to talk about hope - hope in the resurrection and hope for the world we live in. There is a lot of conversation and we're going to use Isaiah 11:1-9 in our discussion of hope.



Keep an eye on the APC web page. The monthly calendar appears there along with the monthly newsletter. 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. If you have a few great photos to include on the webpage, submit them for consideration to [apcwebinfo@gmail.com](mailto:apcwebinfo@gmail.com). New photos appear often. Perhaps you are there. And the web page address, again, is [auburnpc.org](http://auburnpc.org)."

**AIDAN SMITH RECEIVES EAGLE SCOUT AWARD**  
**Aidan's Eagle Scout Ceremony: Thank you for the support and attending!**



pictured above is Pastor David who delivered the Invocation to begin the Eagle Ceremony



Please, take a moment and see Aidan's Eagle Scout project at Rieke Bike Trail. The new plaque was recently installed next to his Bike Repair Station.



## TOM BASSETT GETS HONORED AS SCOUTMASTER

During the Eagle Scout Ceremony, Scoutmaster Tom Bassett calls out all Eagle Scouts present, little did he know in attendance for the celebration were several past Eagles, starting with his very first one. It was emotional and moving to see the Eagle Scouts honor Scoutmaster Tom Bassett.

Aidan Smith is #99 and Jadin Seiler is #100th under Tom Bassett's Scoutmaster time with Troop 169. It was a very special moment as this is a rare accomplishment for any Scoutmaster!



### Eagle Scouts from Troop 169

Archie Kirkpatrick	Jake Winebrenner	Marc Hartman
Steven Feagler	Jason Smith	Lucas Raub
Bill Weinert	Nick Wentworth	Kyle Bassett
Kessler Teter	Shawn Close	Phillip Bassett
Fredrick Close	David Webb	Marcus Pedavoli
Roger Smith	Chris Dooley	Matt Hauter
Larry Bolinger	Allan Henderson	Zac Long
David Hornbacker	Pat Close	Caleb Kimes
Stan Mefford	Andrew Cornelius	Grant Treesh
Tom Bassett	David Amerman	Alex Schlink
Bob Edgar	Jacob Barna	Dolph Nelson
Bill Edgar	Sam Zollman	Ian Lopshire
Mark Bassett	Matt Johnson	Ivan Scranage
Craig Zahner	Kellen Dooley	Ruger Nester
Kevin Bassett	Brian Ferguson	Taylor Skidmore
Todd Bonecutter	Andy Laverghetta	Corey Nack
Jason Wells	Daniel Hartman	Logan Dorgelo
Bill Bassett	Adam Shipe	David Bassett
Jim Culler	William Bernard	James Bassett
Tom Laverghetta	Denver Miller	Jarrett Reese
David Johnson	Nick Caprino	Nicholas Dye
Jason Mutzfeld	Josh Zelner	Scott Armstrong
Richard Drew	Kevin Kinzer	Graham Seiler
Mark McAninch	Tyler Michael	Oskar King-Hoffmann
Jerry Culler	Jared Maxwell	Paxton Jones
Robert Bell	Sean Hartman	Reece Prosser
Josh Clark	David Johnston Jr.	Alex Ehleiter
Daniel Hanes	Nick Raub	Brock Seiler
Sam Sprankle	Daniel Iddins	John Filutze Jr.
Rich Zollman	Casey Maxwell	Addison Mann
Kurt Ditmars	Dan Kryder	Marcus Smith
David Scranton	Addison Snyder	Travers Mason
John Culler	Kyle Hartman	Gavin Kling
Carl Drew	Dan Barg	Aidan Smith
Nathan Gaier	Ben Hutter	Jadin Seiler
Ryan Bolinger	Mitch Johnson	Carson Culler
Kerry Johnson	Truman Magley	
Craig Sonner	Andrew Wilhelm	
Chad Whisler	Derrick Myers	