

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



## **NEWSLETTER -- 2018**

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**Priscilla Circle** will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday April 11 at the Cranberry Cottage Café. Lessons number eight and nine from "In Community with the Household of Faith,...The Saints" will be the topic of discussion.

**Ruth Circle** will meet on Wednesday, April 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge. Cheryl John will provide the lesson.

#### **HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:**

<b><u>ACOLYTE:</u></b>	<b><u>USHERS:</u></b>	<b><u>FLOWERS:</u></b>
1: Aidan Smith	Polly Bassett, Mark Bassett	Sue Peterson
8: Isabella Gettys	Ross & Nancy Clerk	Stan & Judy Kessler
15: Evan Zielke	Kevin & Stasia Bassett	Ruth Randinelli
22: Sylvia Benbow	Ed Benbow, Barbara Bushnell	John & Linda Jackson
29: Travis Conley	Leah & Paul Watson	David & Cheryl John

**COMMUNION SERVERS - April 1:** Barbara Bushnell, Susan Buttermore, Nancy Clark, Christine Cross, Vinnie Pietracatella, Marjorie Reinsch

**APRIL LITURGIST:** Kay Finchum

## FROM THE PASTOR. . . .

Brothers and Sisters,

Every month we begin our session meetings with a time of study. In the month of March we were guided in a discussion about the church-What is the church? What do you think when you hear the word church?

Many people, both in- and outside of the church think only of that building on 12<sup>th</sup> between Jackson and Main when they hear the word church. For people who have spent time with this congregation, the sanctuary of the building comes to mind when church is mentioned, or they think of the chapel, or the youth room, or even the daycare. There was an elder in our session meeting who commented that the church is not a building: those four walls just provide a wonderful place to gather. This elder went on to say that the Auburn Presbyterian Church is really the people. The people are the church and the church is the people.

We learned that the Greek word for church is *ekklesia*, which means “assembly” or “called out of.” This is the way the church is referred to in numerous spots in the New Testament, which clearly identifies the church with the people and not any kind of building. The Apostle Paul developed this idea more fully and church has come to mean an assembly that includes all of those, living, dead, and yet to come who believe in Jesus Christ.

The part about church that I wanted to bring to your attention in this little writing deals with the “called out of” part. By virtue of a belief in Jesus as our savior we are differentiated from those who don’t-we are “called out of” the general population. The Bible refers to this as being salt or yeast, change agents, in the larger world. This is to say that we see the world a little bit differently than others and we have a different set of priorities. Based on our belief in Christ, we live out these priorities and this difference-we strive to live as those who are “called out of.”

Sometimes, living as disciples and part of the church is really hard. Not too many of us want to stand out in a crowd in a way that calls attention to our faith. The world thinks of peace, love, humility, and justice as weak, but that is the life to which a belief in Christ calls us. We are not all gifted to be evangelists preaching the word and I’m reminded of a quote that’s attributed to St. Francis, “Preach Jesus and, if necessary, use words”. We offer our testimony as we live in ways that run contrary to the world. Not easy work.

The other element in the meaning of *ekklesia* involves assembly-church is a group and, as part of this assembly, we do not have to go it alone. The church is made up of people, but people who are in relationship with each other, supporting and encouraging each other. Because living as an alternative community in the world is hard work, we help each other in this task.

Friends, we are called to be the church. We are set apart as God’s instrument in the world. Not only on Sundays, but everyday we have the task of preaching the risen Christ through word and deed.

Shalom, Pastor David

## BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON!



A central element in Presbyterianism is the Bible, however, many of us have forgotten things about Scripture, if we ever learned them. With that in mind, a new Bible study is beginning on Wednesday nights starting at 6 and ending by 7-in time for choir practice. Beginning in May this group will begin to take a look at some basics of the Bible and then move on to study Scripture. Make plans to join us and refresh your knowledge of the Bible.

## ANNOUNCING PASTOR DAVID'S INSTALLATION SERVICE: APRIL 15

Come celebrate with us! Pastor David will be installed April 15 at 3 o'clock. The special service will take place in the sanctuary. Please join us for this service of worship followed by a reception.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**April 1:** No class. Easter.

April 8: Overtime with our Pastor: Have you ever wanted to ask a pastor questions about a sermon you just heard? Today's class is designed to allow

you to ask Pastor David about his April 8 sermon and to engage in a discussion about it. The sermon is based on the Scripture reading from Acts 4: 32-35. Please read this passage prior to worship, reflect on it, listen carefully to the sermon, and then come to class with any questions.

**April 15:** Dayspring Church. In 1988, the Rev. Bill Lyne became pastor of Auburn Missionary Church and then oversaw its transition to Dayspring Community Church, which in the early 1990s began offering a more contemporary style of worship. A few years ago, Dayspring responded to its growing attendance by building a new church on Auburn's northwest side. Please join us today as we welcome the recently retired Rev. Lyne to our class and learn what inspired his style of ministry and what his vision for Dayspring was – and continues to be.

**April 22:** America's Gun Culture – the Discussion Continues. Jim Nixon will continue leading a discussion we began in March about gun ownership, gun violence and the recent youth-led marches in American cities calling for more gun control.

**April 29:** Preaching to the Royals. The Rev. Michael Lindvall, a retired Presbyterian minister now living in Fort Wayne, was invited last summer to lead a worship service at Crathie Kirk in Scotland. Sitting in the pews that Sunday were none other than Queen Elizabeth and members of her family, vacationing at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. Rev. Lindvall will discuss his "royal" experience and his pastoral career, which included serving 15 years as lead pastor at Brick Presbyterian Church in Manhattan, New York.

We begin our summer break at the start of May. Thanks so much to all our guest speakers/presenters this past year. Thanks, too, to John and Linda Pulver-Jackson for delivering

coffee and treats to us each Sunday. And, of course, we thank class members for their faithful attendance and willingness to contribute meaningfully to our thought-provoking discussions.

Class will resume on a weekly basis in the fall. Check the Sunday bulletin for special classes during the summer.

FROM OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR:

ANNOUNCING . . .

## **YOUTH SUNDAY: APRIL 22**

Happy Spring!!!! The Youth will share the joys of Easter and Spring by participating in the Easter Sunday worship Service.

We are very excited about our upcoming Youth Sunday on April 22nd. Anger Without Sin is the theme. The Youth are working hard and doing much of the writing of the service on their own. They are getting excited about presenting this service to everyone. We are spending our Thursday Evenings and Sundays to work on making this a wonderful experience for both the Youth and Congregation. I hope all can join us for this Blessed day of Joy and Love.

The Youth have decided to commit to a yearlong Mission. They had a choice of 3 different Missions. They choose the Eckhart Public Library as their main Mission and Service Project. We have some upcoming events that will help support this more than worthy project.

Thank you and have a Blessed month

Kari

**Men's group being organized:** Attention all MEN in the church. You are invited to attend a **Men's Informal Breakfast on Tuesday, April 10th at 8:01 a.m. at Richard's Restaurant in Auburn.** This group is being organized for men to meet and have meaningful conversations over breakfast. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.