

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



SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

PW Circle Meetings will begin on **Wednesday, September 12.**

Priscilla Circle will meet at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. Each lunch location will be chosen and announced in the church bulletin.

Ruth Circle will continue to meet in the church lounge at 1:30 p.m. The first Lesson will be given by Polly Bassett.



Every woman of the church is invited and encouraged to attend either or both circle meetings. PW Directories will be available at the back of the sanctuary before the first meeting or you may pick one up at the circle meetings.

BIBLE STUDY BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

Bible Study will start up the first Wednesday in September (September 5) beginning at 6 p.m. The bible is full of stories. Stories of love and war, compassion and crime, and stories of beginnings. Come join us as we start with the story of creation as found in Genesis.

"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."

FROM THE PASTOR:

Friends-Not long ago I was asked about the paraments in the church, the change of colors, and the church calendar. I responded with an article for the newsletter which people seemed to appreciate. Since then, I have gotten other questions as relates to the Liturgical Calendar and I thought I would take this opportunity to go into those a little bit.

If you are at all familiar with “high church” or Roman Catholic tradition you know that they celebrate saint days. While I do not know enough to comment on these, I do know that nearly every day of the year has a saint assigned and they are referred to as feast days. Of course, some are lesser (less significant) and others are greater and how the church celebrates those feast days varies depending on their significance.

So, here comes some theological hair-splitting. Yes, Presbyterians believe in saints. But the saints we refer to are all the faithful who have died before us. This isn't to say that we know who makes it into heaven and it's not to say that we pray to those who have passed. What it does mean is that we recognize that there are some people who modeled a notably faithful life. Furthermore, we recognize that God is present in the daily lives of all the faithful, notable or not.

All of this talk about saints sets the groundwork to write about the church calendar. Where our brothers and sisters in other denominations celebrate special Sundays dedicated to saints, Presbyterians do not follow that tradition. Presbyterians don't acknowledge saint days, but we do celebrate liturgically significant Sundays. We all know Easter and Christmas are two big Sundays in our tradition, but there are others. For example, there is All Saints and Christ the King Sunday. We remember Transfiguration Sunday and Pentecost, as well. These special Sundays are tied to the liturgical calendar and have some sort of Biblical basis. One specially celebrated Sunday is World Communion Sunday, celebrated the first Sunday of October, which was created in the 20th century.

Just recently I was having a conversation with someone who mentioned that Presbyterians used to only celebrate communion quarterly. That is true and some of you reading might remember those days. Quarterly celebration of communion was **not** to make the practice more significant for the church. The larger rationale for this was that the celebration of communion was “Catholic” and Protestants used to do everything they could to distance themselves from those practices that seemed too formal, spiritual, or mystical.

Since those days, the Protestant Church (including Presbyterians) has experienced a wave of what is called liturgical renewal. This is evident in things like the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, special Lenten activities and the much maligned no singing of Christmas Carols during Advent. Those are very obvious things, but less obvious is a greater reliance on the liturgical calendar and the celebration of the liturgically significant Sundays I wrote about above. These practices immerse us in the church universal and remind us of our connection to every worshipping community.

Thinking about these special Sundays, it occurs to me that they happen about once a month. I am not the first to notice this and know of several churches that celebrate communion on these liturgically significant Sundays. What do you think? This would link our communion celebration to Sundays that were Biblically significant, but it would also mean that we wouldn't always celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month. Please speak to me or Susan Buttermore, the elder heading up the Worship and Music Committee, to let us know what you are thinking about something like this...Just an idea for us to mull over.

Shalom, Pastor David



WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS:

Because of the Labor Day holiday the Session voted to change communion to the second Sunday in September (Sept. 9). Please mark your calendars accordingly.

ACOLYTE WORKSHOP.... All acolytes are asked to meet in the sanctuary on **Sunday, September 9** for a brief meeting. We will be going over new procedures and changes for the up-coming year. Also, anyone that would like to become an acolyte should attend this meeting for training purposes. If you are already an acolyte and do not want to continue for the up-coming year please let the office know asap.

HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

ACOLYTE:

2: Isabella Gettys

9: Gabe Ackerman

16: NEW SCHEUDLE COMING

USHERS:

2: Mark Bassett, Alyssa Imus

9: Bill & Kathryn Bassett

16: NEW SCHEUDLE COMING

FLOWERS: Sirleine Smith, Barbara Bushnell, Norm & Peg Yoder, Christine Cross

LITURGIST: John Jackson/Linda Jackson

COMMUNION SERVERS: Kathie Wentworth, Lisa Magsamen, John Jackson, Peggy Jones, Stan Lowe

Chancel Choir rehearsals will be on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We encourage anyone that would like to participate with the choir to join us on Wednesday evenings.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES:

The Leadership and Development Committee of our church has begun the important work of finding new leaders for our congregation. Please use the bulletin insert, when provided, to suggest members whose gifts and talents match the needs of the church. Specifically, we seek three new Session members, four members to serve as deacons, one junior deacon, one APC Foundation member, and two at-large members of the congregation to serve on the 2019 Leadership Development Committee. For more information or to personally suggest potential leaders, contact any of this year's Leadership Development Committee: Julia Nixon, John Jackson, Ray Smith, David John, or Doug Morrow.



BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE NEEDING VOLUNTEERS:

The Building & Grounds Team will be raising money during the week of the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair by collecting donations to park. We rely on volunteers to park the cars and accept donations. Please call the church office if you can arrange your schedule to help out during one of the following days. (On Friday and Saturday we need several volunteers to fill the three hour shifts.) **Also, if you would like to reserve a parking place for the week you may do so by calling the church office at 925-2987. The cost is \$20 for the week.**



Monday, September 24:

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 25:

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 26:

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 27:

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Friday, September 28:

8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. (three hour shifts)

Saturday, September 29:

8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. (three hour shifts)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES UPCOMING EVENTS:

Youth News!

With the summer coming to an end the Youth Program is getting under way. We will begin Bible Study at 9 am on Sunday mornings. The youth will also continue to read the Call to Worship during Sunday morning worship. Our Thursday dinner/ study group will begin this month. As the year progresses Judy and I will be working with the youth on chiming and other projects.

I am looking forward to this coming year and am excited about what it will bring. Pastor David and I are working together on some projects and we are excited about bringing them to life.

God Bless everyone in this coming month.
Kari Ackerman, CE Director.



(Picture of the youth presenting their check to the Library.)

The church recently received the following letter from the Eckhart Public Library:

Dear Kari and the Auburn Presbyterian Church Youth,
We are honored that you have chosen to contribute to Eckhart Public Library's capital campaign, For Every Citizen. Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000.00

Your gift matched by the James Foundation, will create a more flexible, accessible Eckhart Public Library and help restore the library's historic side to its original grandeur. Your contribution will strengthen a community treasure so that it will remain vital and valuable for another century of service.

We are grateful for your commitment to supporting the library's essential role in our community. Our library campus was built on the philanthropy of generous citizens, and we thank you for carrying on the tradition.

Thank you, Janelle Graber, Director Eckhart Public Library

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTING SOON

Adult Sunday School will resume Sept. 16. As in past years, we will meet in the lounge following worship. We have a strong fall lineup in store – one that should appeal to regular class attenders as well as newcomers. If you haven't been to Sunday School in a while, we hope you'll join us as we begin the year by viewing the newly released feature film "Paul, Apostle of Christ." The film, which first appeared in theaters this past spring, received good reviews from critics. We will watch the film in two settings – on Sept. 16 and Sept. 23 – and then devote the Sept. 30 class to discussing what we learned about Paul's influence on Christianity and how he came to be regarded as one of the most important religious leaders of all time.

In the following weeks, we will cover topics ranging from spiritual practices to theologians such as Paul Tillich. We also will welcome guest speaker David Eicher, a friend of Pastor David's, who was influential in creating the most recent PCUSA hymnal "Glory to God."

Come one, come all! Can't wait to see you!