

**Auburn Presbyterian Church**  
**111 West 12th St.**  
**Auburn, IN 46706**  
**Rev. David Lawrence**  
**[www.auburnpc.org](http://www.auburnpc.org)**



## **NEWSLETTER - 2019**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Joint Circle Meeting: Wednesday, March 13 at 11:30 a.m.**

**Priscilla and Ruth Circles** will meet together for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 13 at the Auburn Deli. Lesson, #6 from the study book, will be given by Barbara Bushnell. All women of the church are welcome to join this meeting.



Thank you to everyone who participated in Scout Sunday this year. This was an extremely successful event, due to all the help and support we received. I would like to especially thank those that shared their talents, time and their scouting stories.

Marcus Smith  
Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 169

**THANK YOU**

**FROM THE PASTOR**

Brothers and Sisters-I am writing this as the United Methodist Church comes to grips with how they are going to deal with issues of sexuality and gender. This is a charged and divisive issue that will indelibly mark the Methodist denomination. I say this from experience—we in the PC(USA) have traveled that road and still bear the marks to the struggle.

The situation with the UMC started me thinking about how we handle disagreements. Curiously, my Scripture for meditation this morning was the passage from Matthew that talks about [reconciliation](#). Jesus is basically saying that relationship comes first. Our love and care for each other is more important than worship, more important than who wronged who, more important than nearly everything.

Relationship is at the heart of our faith. [For God so loved](#)... and [God is love](#) are Scriptures that are foundational in Christianity—not just Presbyterianism. This does not say that we won't disagree or have arguments. What these Scriptures do point out is how we ought to deal with those differences of opinion.

Since entering into my doctoral study I've been reading a lot—so much that I need to buy a new bookcase! One of the books I've read that had a tremendous impact on me was [The Vanishing Neighbor](#), which discusses how our society has changed. We have become more polarized and isolated in our opinions. If someone disagrees with us we just “unfriend” or “unfollow” them. [Dunkleman's book](#) reminds us of the importance of relationship for our lives and for our world.

In times gone by we were able to live together in the tension of our disagreements. We didn't try to bully others to get our way and we were unable to cut them out of our lives. We stayed in relationship and often in daily contact with people with whom we had differences. This is not to say that we gave up our own opinions, but we engaged with others, living our lives together, in the midst of the tension of disagreement. Somehow, some way, things worked out.

Members of the PC(USA) learned that it is through ongoing discussion and dialogue that we grow in faith. Our denominational discussion about sexuality has gone on for decades and is still alive in our denomination. As painful as it is, our faith and relationship is stronger the more we come together and talk about our differences. It is our prayer that our experience may serve as a guide for our Methodist brothers and sister. We hope that disagreement will result in growth for the Methodists rather than schism.

So, here is the question for you: What do you do when you have a disagreement with someone? Do you shake the dust from your clothes and move on or are you brave enough to risk deeper conversation? Can you be vulnerable enough to keep an open mind and hear what another person is saying? Can you love one another as God loves you?

Shalom, David

I would like to invite you to our Lenten Bible study. The story of Jesus' last days is poignant and dramatic, filled with colorful characters and moving events. Our Lenten study this year looks at those events, but offers us an opportunity to look at some of the other actors in the play. Mary the Mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene were there, as were Pilate and Judas. The story would be incomplete without these characters and I hope you will join us to learn more about their role in the story of Jesus. You are all invited to take part in this exploration beginning Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> after soup.

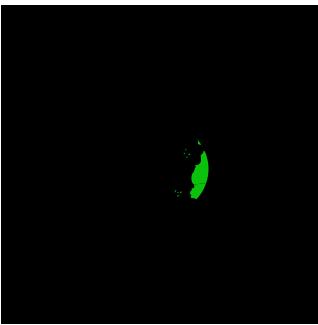


## The Season of LENT

The following events will be taking place during the month of March. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

- Wednesday, March 6: 7:00 p.m. - **ASH WEDNESDAY** - We will begin the Lenten Season with the celebration of **Ash Wednesday**. The service, which will take place in our chapel **beginning at 7 p.m.**, will be a time of prayer, meditation, and the disposition of ashes. Pastor David hopes you will be able to join us as we together begin our Lenten journey and travel toward the cross and eventually Easter Sunday. Please invite your friends and neighbors to this special service.
- Wednesday, March 13: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall (Sue Peterson making soup)  
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David
- Wednesday, March 20: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall (Christine Cross making soup)  
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David
- Wednesday, March 27: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall (Nancy Darrow making soup)  
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David
- Wednesday, April 3: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall (Kari Ackerman making soup)  
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David
- Wednesday, April 10: 6:00 p.m. - Soup served in Fellowship Hall (Pietracatella's making soup)  
6:30 p.m. - Bible Study provided by Pastor David
- Sunday, April 14: 10:00 a.m. - Palm Sunday Worship Service
- Thursday, April 18: 7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service
- Friday, April 19: 7:00 p.m. - Good Friday service in the Chapel w/St. Mark's Lutheran Church
- Sunday, April 21: 10:00 a.m. - Easter morning service





Imagine the joy when your gift changes someone's life – both the joy they will feel in being changed and the joy you will feel in knowing that your gift is changing lives.

As Christians, we talk about God providing us with blessings of all kinds in abundance, but there are many in the world who live with less than what they need. Surely our God calls us to be sharers of abundance.

You can be a channel through whom God satisfies the hungry, comforts the distressed, and brings hope to the poor and oppressed. Create more joy in the world with your generous gift to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Offering Envelopes will be included in your bulletin each Sunday beginning March 10 and will continue through the Lenten Season.



**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AVAILABLE:**  
 The Christian Education Committee is pleased to again offer **the Mary Evelyn Moore Scholarship** to a graduating high school senior who plans to continue his/her education. The Moore family established the scholarship in memory of Mary Evelyn, an educator and long-time

church member. Applications are available in the church office. The submission deadline is Monday, April 1.

**The Roger Grogg Scholarship**, established by Ginger Post in memory of her father, is now administered through the Community Foundation DeKalb County. Please contact the foundation's website ([www.cfdc.org](http://www.cfdc.org)) for more information about this scholarship.

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

#### ACOLYTES:

3: Sylvia Benbow & Eva Hoolihan  
10: Aadon Beck, Marcus Smith  
17: Evan Zielke  
24: Isabella Gettys  
31: Aidan Smith

#### USHERS:

3: Kay Finchum, Tom Riensch  
10: Polly Bassett, Mark Bassett  
17: Cherri Wolf, Judy Ditmars  
24: Vinnie & Barbara Peitracatella  
31: Veronique & David Poudrier

**LITURGIST:** Peggy Jones

**FLOWERS:** Norm & Peg Yoder, Troy & Kari Ackerman, Christine Cross, Barbara Bushnell, Don & Nancy Derrow

**COMMUNION SERVERS:** Richard Reichard, Melinda Smith, Norm Yoder, Sue Peterson

**COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED:** If you would like to help serve communion we need you! Please call the church office and let us know that you would like to be a part of this important service.



A special "Thank-you" to everyone for their involvement and support of the SPAGHETTI DINNER that took place on February 23 at the church. It was a HUGE success!

THANK  
YOU!



### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We think you'll enjoy this wide variety of classes in March. On March 3, we will meet in the downstairs chapel. The rest of the month we will meet in the lounge. Please join us.

**March 3:** Snow and cold January weather forced the cancellation of this special "Look Back Into History" class so . . .we bring it to you today! As part of our church's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, congregants who

have been long-time members will share their memories of people, events and changes in our church. Last week we offered the tour; today we offer more stories – funny, tender and illuminating.

**March 10: Refugees and a Christian Response.** Jim Nixon will lead a discussion examining the moral dimensions of the world’s growing refugee crisis – at a time when we, as Americans, try to sort through precisely what is happening at our southern border. What does God ask of us, and what is asked of us as citizens?

**March 17: India to Indiana.** From time to time we are fortunate to hear from AFS students who visit northeast Indiana. Shivam Pujara, of India, currently attends East Noble High School, and today this 16-year-old will talk to us about his homeland, culture, and India’s religious history. His host parents in Kendallville are Grace and Terry Housholder, whose visits we always welcome.

**March 24: Sacred Music (and Fun Times) Through the Years** – A visual recap and summary of Auburn Presbyterian’s rich music heritage, with references to the pipe organ (we’ve had two) and numerous organists, choir and choir directors, pageants, concerts and Madrigal dinners. Julia Nixon will lead our discussion with PowerPoint assistance from Jim. The program is part of our church’s 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

**March 31: God as Golf Caddy?** The Rev. Stan Wilson, who has introduced us to numerous theologians and their approaches to theology, will do so again – this time by discussing Alfred North Whitehead. The writings of this English philosopher and mathematician (1861 – 1947) are the backbone of “process theology,” which posits that ours is a dynamic world, not a static one. Rev. Wilson will expand on the idea of “God as Golf Caddy.”



Thank you to those that made donations to our youth craft and bake sale during the Spaghetti Dinner. We had a fantastic variety of items to offer. We greatly appreciate the kindness and support you have shown to the Youth of Auburn Presbyterian Church.



### **2019 COMMITTEE TEAMS:**

**BUILDING & GROUNDS:**  
**meets 2nd Monday at 6:30 PM**  
David John – Co-Chairperson  
Janet Nagel - Co-Chairperson  
Dick Reichard - Session Rep.  
Susan Buttermore - Session Rep.

Carl Smith - Deacon Rep.  
Mark Bassett  
John Jackson  
Paul Yoder  
Jerri Imus – (Ex-officio)

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**

**meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 6:30 PM**

Barb Morrow, Elder Chairperson  
Melinda Smith - Elder Rep.  
Kari Ackerman - CE Director  
Linda Jackson - Deacon Rep.  
Cheryl John - Deacon Rep.  
Kathryn Bassett - Deacon Rep.  
Cherri Wolf - Deacon Rep.  
Isabella Gettys

**EVANGELISM, CHURCH GROWTH & MEMBERSHIP CARE/FELLOWSHIP:**

**meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7:15 p.m.**

Jerri Imus - Elder Chairperson  
Melinda Smith - Elder Rep.  
Christine Cross - Deacon Rep.  
Cheryl John - Deacon Rep.  
Linda Jackson - Deacon Rep.  
Marcus Smith - Deacon Rep.  
Alyssa Imus  
Judy Ditmars  
Theresa Clark

**MISSION ACTION AND INTERPRETATION:**

**meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday following worship.**

Marjorie Reinsch – Elder Chairperson  
Lisa Magsamen - Deacon Rep.  
Linda Pulver - Deacon Rep.  
Leah Watson - Deacon Rep.  
Angela Bassett  
John Jackson

**PERSONNEL:**

**meets 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday at 10 a.m.**

Julia Nixon – Elder Chairperson  
Joe Dick - Session Rep.  
Veronique Poudrier - Deacon Rep.  
Peggy Jones

**STEWARDSHIP & BUDGET:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7:00 p.m.**

Norm Yoder - Elder Chairperson  
Barbara Morrow – Elder Rep.  
Doug Morrow  
Ray Smith  
Barbara Bushnell (Treasurer - Ex-officio)

**WORSHIP & MUSIC:**

**meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.**

Mary Wilson - Chairperson

Marjorie Reinsch - Elder Rep.  
Christine Cross - Deacon Rep.  
Sue Peterson - Deacon Rep.  
Linda Jackson - Deacon Rep.  
Jim Nixon - Deacon Rep.  
Paul Watson  
Vinnie Pietracatella  
Judy Rhoades (Ex-officio)

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:**

Julia Nixon - Session Rep. - Chairperson  
Polly Bassett - Congregational Rep.  
Peggy Jones - Congregational Rep.

**SESSION MEETING: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6 p.m.**

**DEACON'S MEETING: meets 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month following worship.**

Moderator: Christine Cross  
Vice Moderator: Leah Watson  
Secretary: Lisa Magsamen  
Treasurer: Cheryl John & Sue Peterson

**APC FOUNDATION:**

Peg Yoder (Congregational Rep.) - President  
Dick Reichard (Session Rep.)  
Ed Benbow (Congregational Rep.)  
Jerri Imus (Session Rep.)  
Barbara Pietracatella - (Congregational Rep.)  
Barbara Bushnell - (appointed Treasurer)

