

Auburn Presbyterian Church  
111 West 12th St.  
Auburn, IN 46706  
www.auburnpc.org  
Rev. David Lawrence



# APRIL 2019

## FISH FRY - SUNDAY, APRIL 7



Please join us as for a celebration and Fish Fry on Sunday, April 7 immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall. John Jackson has been fishing and now he would like to share his catch with the congregation. He will be frying the fish and the Evangelism Church Growth and Fellowship team will be providing the rest of the meal, including a celebration cake. Mark your calendars now!

## CHURCH SPRING CLEAN-UP - April 6

Bring your dust rag, sponge and a smile on Saturday, April 6th and volunteer to complete some additional cleaning in our beautiful church. Come as a family, clean team or individual and help spruce up the building before Easter. This is a great opportunity to clean out any cupboards or spaces you or your group oversees. Items for disposal may be placed outside for pick-up during the Auburn's Annual Spring Clean-up. The hours for the clean-up are between 9 a.m. - noon and pizza will be provided for lunch. Hope you can participate!



## FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters-I hope you are all doing well and looking forward to spring. It's so exciting to see the little sprouts begin to make their appearance!

I was in a conversation with someone the other day and she observed that our culture seems to have forgotten about common courtesy. We were particularly talking about saying thank you, but went on from there. Please, thank you, and you're welcome seem to have disappeared. Some might say that we live with a sense of entitlement and expect everything we are given or the help we receive. I'm not sure if that's the case, or if people are just so immersed in their lives that they don't recognize it when others give them a hand.

The more I think about it, the more I think that's the case. We are over-busy, over-burdened and over-scheduled. No one has time for anything—it seems like something is always demanding our attention or asking that we get involved and there's hardly any room to care for ourselves. We get so caught up in our “stuff” that there's no room for anything or anybody else. This is not healthy.

We rush through our days intent on accomplishing our tasks. Our attention becomes so focused and our freedom so limited that we often don't give a second thought to those tasks, what drives us or what we stand for. We become human doings rather than human beings. This is the situation that results in a loss of courtesy and caring. The loss of common courtesy also reflects the loss of peace (shalom and Sabbath).

Of course, we all are familiar with [Jesus' commandment to love one another](#). But there are so many [other passages](#) that encourage us to live lives that are focused on the other rather than ourselves. All of this suggests that shalom and Sabbath are found not in our tasks or how fast we run but, rather in caring for others. Life is not about bemoaning our hard day, but caring about how someone else is doing. This is where we find our peace and wholeness—in caring for others.

Our world is hungry for caring and hospitality. It really matters how we treat people and how we interact with them. Soon after my conversation with a friend I came upon [this article](#). I hope you take the time to at least skim this discussion about the impact of kindness on our congregation. We are called to satisfy the world's hunger to be loved and cared for.

It's so easy to skip, but the few minutes it takes to actually listen to how someone is doing are invaluable. Hospitality and courtesy are as simple as practicing a smile and offering a warm greeting. This caring should define how we live our lives, but should be especially apparent in our congregation. It is here that we should all be able to find a safe harbor the midst of the storms of life. It is here that one can find Sabbath rest. In the church, courtesy should be common and caring should be overwhelming.

*Pastor David*

Attention all men of the church: An Easter morning breakfast is a fun tradition for the church and we need volunteers to keep the tradition going. If you could help serve on Easter morning please call the church office or email the secretary at [apcsecretary111@gmail.com](mailto:apcsecretary111@gmail.com).

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

April marks the end of our school semester. The last class will be April 28. As always, we will take an extended summer break and then resume classes in the fall.

We continue to be fortunate to have class members and outside guests present programs that enlighten us on issues relevant to our faith. Many thanks to all the presenters. Thanks also to class members for regular attendance and lively participation in discussions.

**April 7:** No class. Fish Fry in Fellowship Hall.

**April 14: Liturgical Calendar – What Is It?** The Rev. Stan Kessler will help us understand what a “liturgical year” is in Christian churches and how the liturgical calendar guides our weekly worship.

**April 21:** No class. Easter. Enjoy the day with your family.

**April 28: A Divide in the Muslim World.** Islam, like all religions, has its sects, two of which are Sunni and Shiah. Today’s guest, Don Smith, will tell us what differentiates Sunnites from Shiites, discuss their rivalries and point out where these sects are predominant in the world. A retired professor of film/documentaries, Don lives in northeast Indiana and continues to travel extensively throughout the Middle East, North Africa and Europe.

## **FROM THE CE DIRECTOR:**

Happy Spring!!!! We have some exciting Activities coming. Youth Sunday will be on May 5th. They are already working on the Sermon/Play for the Church. The theme is going along with Pastor David’s Lent Service of Women Disciples of Jesus. The Subject matter has the youth reflecting on life in the time of Jesus and how different and not different things are today.

Many of our Youth have participated in Music Contests and Performances this Winter. High Five to Gabriel Ackerman, Sylvia Benbow, Aidan Smith, Marcus Smith and Evan Ziekle. All received Gold Medals and Silver Medals. We are very proud of these Young leaders. Congrats!!! Also a big Congratulations to Isabella Gettys for making Varsity Cheer leading!!!

I encourage everyone to reach out to our Youth to just have a conversation they are a wonderful group and are a very interesting group of kids.

God Bless Kari Ackerman  
CE Director

**Priscilla and Ruth Circles have decided to try a change and combine both circles into one, calling their new group Presbyterian Women's Circle.** This circle will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 10 at the Cranberry Cottage Café. The lesson will be #7 from the study books. All women of the church are invited to attend.



## 175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our yearlong celebration of our church's 175<sup>th</sup> birthday is off to a good start with many more interesting programs in store. What's up in April? This spring marks the start of Tracy Warner's 25<sup>th</sup> year as our church secretary. That's an anniversary we don't want to overlook so . . . we plan to thank Tracy for her years of faithful service on **Sunday, April 7**. We will recognize Tracy and her family after worship in Fellowship Hall, at which time the entire congregation is invited to a Fish Fry. Please join us in saying "Thank You, Tracy!" – and treat yourself to some fried fish prepared by John Jackson.

In other news, the Anniversary Celebration Committee will meet at **5 p.m., April 15** in the church lounge to discuss future programs. We'd love to have you join us and offer your ideas. Feel free to contact Kari Ackerman or Barb Morrow if you have suggestions but are unable to attend that meeting.

Here's a recap of programs so far:

In February, youth and adults hosted a successful Spaghetti Dinner and Bake/Craft sale. Kudos to Kari Ackerman, Melinda Smith, and the youth for all their work – and a special shout-out to Vinnie Pietracatella for making his famous meatballs and to his wife Barbara for helping serve them. Also in February, Carl and Melinda Smith and their sons Marcus and Aidan helped organize a very well-attended "Scout Sunday" program, which highlighted our church's longtime support of Scouting troops – a local partnership that dates to the 1930s. In addition, following the worship service in late February, the 175th Anniversary Committee hosted a well-received walking tour inside our building to highlight architectural features, offer background information on the stained-glass windows and other artwork, and discuss how our church's interior layout has changed over the years.

In March, the committee offered two programs that proved to be very popular. On March 3, longtime church members Nancy Derrow, Polly Bassett, Paul Yoder and Norm Yoder shared their respective memories and reflections on church life going back decades. Nancy and Polly generously shared photos, Sunday bulletins and other relevant materials. On March 24, Julia and Jim Nixon, with research assistance from Susan Buttermore, presented a program titled "Sacred Music (and Fun Times) Through the Years." It was a visual recap 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, recitals and Madrigal dinners.

Please check this space – and Sunday bulletins – for notice of more historic and entertaining programs. And as you likely know, we've been offering a "Minute for History" every few weeks at the start of worship service. Hope you are enjoying these bits of history. Many thanks to the presenters!

**HISTORY QUIZ:** Where did Auburn Presbyterian Church meet when it was first organized in 1844?

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NEW DIGITAL SIGN UP AND RUNNING! Check out our new sign on Main St. Many thanks to everyone for their donations to make this happen. It's not too late to contribute if you so choose. Make checks out to APC and mark sign contribution in the memo.



## LENTEN SEASON CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 3 Wednesday Evening Soup in Fellowship Hall beginning at 6 p.m. A Lenten Bible Study will follow, led by Pastor David.

April 10 Wednesday Evening Soup in Fellowship Hall beginning at 6 p.m. A Lenten Bible Study will follow, led by Pastor David.

April 14 Palm Sunday Worship Service at 10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. Communion will be served.



April 18 Maundy Thursday Service in the Chapel beginning at 7 p.m. Communion will be served.

April 19 Good Friday Service in our church beginning at 7 p.m. St. Mark's Lutheran Church will join us for this special service. We hope and pray you can make this worship service a part of your Holy Week journey.

April 21 Men's Easter morning pancake breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. with Easter Worship Service at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Communion will be served. The worship service will also be celebrated with a baptism as well as several individuals becoming active members of our church. We hope and pray you will be able to be present at that time as we experience God's grace and love in this blessed sacrament.

The gift of Lilies for use during the Easter season is a beautiful way to remember a loved one, honor an individual or celebrate a special occasion.

One may participate by calling the church office or filling out the insert in Sunday morning's bulletins and returning them to the office or offering plate by Sunday, April 7. The cost of the Easter lilies are \$11.00 each.



Acknowledgments will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. The lilies may be taken anytime after the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Easter morning. If you have any questions, you may call the church office at 925-2987.



The deacons are asking for those that give flowers on Sunday mornings to please remember to bring back the glass vases that you use to take your flowers home in. As you know, deacons provide these vases for a convenience of transporting the flowers to your homes, but we ask that you return them. We also need you to remember to bring back the green inserts as well. Thank you for your cooperation!

# MISSIONS



## PRESBYTERIAN COFFEE PROJECT

Sunday morning coffee is brewed from Fair Trade coffee purchased through Equal Exchange, a World Fair Trade partner to support fair trade for small-scale farmers around the world. Fair Trade is in line with our scripture, tradition and church policy. Please support this project by drinking more coffee!

## MUD BUCKETS MISSION

The Mission team is asking for help providing supplies to create Emergency Cleanup Buckets or "mud buckets" for flood victims, sponsored by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and Church World Services (CWS).

Buckets will be assembled and delivered to CWS in Elkhart, Indiana. Watch the bulletins for more information.



## EASTER FUN DAY!

Auburn Presbyterian and St. Mark's Lutheran Church are joining together in an effort to reach out to our neighborhood. We are hosting an Easter Fun Day at the McKenney-Harrison School grounds on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Games, crafts, food and an Easter egg hunt will take place. If you would like to help with this mission please call the church office. We will need lots of hands to help make this day a fun day for the children. Please call the church office for more details or to volunteer to help.

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 and will continue through the Lenten Season.

