

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



JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

REMINDERS:

- * Don't forget to start saving your plastic caps for Marcus Smith's Eagle Project. You may pick up a form at the back of the sanctuary this will show you what is acceptable. The barrel to collect items is located by the Fellowship Hall.
- * Twelfth Street will be closed for the next 4-6 weeks due to work being done by the city. You will have to use our parking lot and enter from 13th Street.
- * No Adult Sunday School classes this summer. Class will resume in the fall.

HELPING WITH OUR WORSHIP FOR JUNE:

JUNE ACOLYTES:

2 Aidan Smith
9 Sylvia Benbow
16 Isabella Gettys
23 Gabe Ackerman
30 Marcus Smith

23 Doug & Barb Morrow
30 Jim & Julia Nixon

JUNE USHERS:

2 Carl & Melinda smith
9 John & Linda Jackson
16 Susan Buttermore, Jan Nagel

Communion will take place on June 9 and 16 in celebration of Day of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

Liturgist: Marjorie Reinsch

**Communion Servers: June 9: Sue Peterson, Cheryl John, Dick Reichard, Melinda Smith, Norm Yoder
June 16: Lisa Magsamen, Christine Cross, Dick Reichard, Melinda Smith, Norm Yoder**

FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters:

I want to thank this congregation for the way it supports me through the education process I'm in. I really appreciate this support and interest. But it occurred to me that a lot of you don't know much about this process.

I am involved in a Doctorate of Ministry program offered through Dubuque Seminary, which is a Presbyterian seminary inside the larger University of Dubuque. The highest degree of ministry available, this is, at minimum, a three year program that culminates in a doctoral project and book-length paper.

The coursework centers around church leadership in a time of change. We live in a time of transition in which institutions, rules, and our culture is transforming right before our very eyes! Things we thought we could count on have gone by the wayside to be replaced with different values and ways of doing things. Firm foundations are hard to find. We do know, though, that God continues to bubble up in the midst of a context that is embracing no religious practices and claims to be spiritual but not religious. This is a time of change and the church must find its way through this.

This course is offered as part of a cohort system and there are eight of us in the group. We are all experienced pastors from all over the country. We meet regularly via the internet and once a year we gather in Dubuque. We have two professors—Chris James, a teacher in the seminary and Alan Roxburgh, a well-known author and speaker.

The work I have done consists of reading a lot of books and writing a lot of papers. I also meet regularly with a small group of church members, called a Praxis Team, to explore some practices around ways in which the church might join in God's mission in the world. This has been a new experience for all of us and we have fumbled through it as best as we can. I really need to thank the Praxis Team for their willingness to join this experiment.

I am leaving for Dubuque at the end of May for the third and last gathering of our cohort. This coming week I'll present my proposal for my final project. This isn't the end of the process, but I feel as if I am rounding the corner and the end is in sight. Hopefully my proposal will be accepted and I can begin work on this last step.

The last step consists of following through with the proposal and taking the actions that I suggest. Based on those actions we will reflect and be guided onto further steps. I will be writing all of this up and defending it to a committee. I hope to have this done in the next year.

I believe that Auburn Presbyterian will benefit from the things I am learning. The community of Auburn is a good location for us to try out these experiments because it is so "connectional" in make-up. You see, one of the biggest elements of transitioning the church is listening to its context: Who are the people around us? How is God active in their lives? How can we join in with God's work in the neighborhood?

Questions like those above are designed to make us look outward from the church. They stretch us to think of how God is working outside the ways we normally think and the places we normally look. For some of us this may not be to earth-shattering, but for others it means a realignment of practices that have served us for decades.

Again, thanks for your interest and support up to this point. I hope you will all join in the last part of this journey and celebrate its conclusion with me. But that's not the end. We need to take the next step and begin to walk the church through the transition that lies in front of it.

Shalom, David



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Our church had the pleasure of honoring two seniors – **Evan Zielke** and **Claire Comfort** - with scholarships during Youth Sunday on May 5.

Evan was this year's recipient of the **Mary Evelyn Moore Scholarship**, established by Harlan Moore in recognition of his wife's years of Christian Education service to our church. Evan will attend Trine University in the fall and study computer engineering. He envisions a career in which he blends robotics and electronics with computer code writing. While at Trine, he also hopes to participate in a program called "Engineers without Borders."

A National Honor Society student, Evan made his mark at DeKalb High School as a multi-year member of the marching band, pep band, jazz band and concert band. His specialty is the trumpet, and throughout the years he generously shared his musical gifts with our congregation during worship. Evan's volunteer activities during high school included sorting, distributing and delivering food for Community Harvest Foodbank.

Claire was this year's recipient of the **Roger Grogg Athletic Scholarship**, established by Ginger Post in honor of her sports-loving father Roger who – along with Ginger's mother Wanda – was a longtime member of this church. Ginger established this scholarship more than a decade ago, and a few years ago arranged to have it administered through the Community Foundation of DeKalb County. Even with the administrative change, the scholarship is available to Auburn Presbyterian youth

Claire will attend Indiana University, Bloomington, in the fall. She plans to double major in biology and communications and envisions several career options including law, dentistry, and healthcare management. Claire amassed an impressive academic record at DeKalb High School, where she took numerous honors, dual credit and Advanced Placement courses. Along with her involvement in many school and community service activities, including serving as president of VOICE, a DeKalb County youth philanthropic group, Claire was a three-year cross country runner and team captain her senior year. She also ran track her freshman year and was on the junior varsity golf team one year.

Auburn Presbyterian's Christian Education Committee wishes Evan and Claire all the best in their college careers.



Pictured to the left is Evan Zielke, receiving the Mary Evelyn Moore Scholarship and pictured to the right is Claire Comfort receiving the Roger Grogg Athletic Scholarship



FROM THE CE DIRECTOR: What a year!!! We have seen such a great worship growth in our youth program. We spent the year focused on the Book of James, learning about the women in the life of Jesus and everything in between. The youth did a wonderful Christmas program and a great Youth Sunday. Many Sundays we got to experience the talents of our youth with special performances!!!! We forget the hard work these Youth put into our church in serving God and our church worship.

As we hit the summer season we will look forward to our usual Sunday morning worship. I have also planned activities for everyone throughout the summer. We have picnics, disc golf, movies, a paint canvas day, tie dye, and a Thanksgiving dinner. These activities are focused on our group fellowship. Any adult interested in joining us please contact Kari Ackerman.

ORGANIST TIM DENTON and 175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 - SPECIAL MUSIC! Tim Denton, our church organist from several years ago, will return to APC to play the organ during worship on June 2. Tim and his family now live in Noblesville, Indiana, and he currently serves as the organist/director of music at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Indianapolis. Prior to his service at Auburn Presbyterian, Tim held similar positions at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Louisville and at Trinity English Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, where he shared responsibilities with Robert Hobby, director of music. Tim is an active composer whose choral setting of Psalm 103 has been published by MorningStar Music and whose composition "Sing to the Lord" has been accepted into the Choristers Guild catalogue. Tim's significant musical talents will both honor our church's **175th anniversary** and commemorate the **50th "birthday" of our Reuter organ, installed in 1969.** Following worship, Tim, Michelle, and their two children will be recognized at a reception in the church lounge. Please plan to be in worship and stay to greet the Denton family!

UPCOMING 175th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

- July 21:** Worship in the Biblical Garden. Picnic and old-fashioned games to follow.
- September 15:** Church members will perform a light-hearted skit, written by church member and noted author/playwright Rachel Roberts. The skit will be performed in the sanctuary after worship. The public is invited.
- November 17:** The church will again highlight the 50th anniversary of its organ, with acclaimed organist David Henning playing during our worship service and giving an afternoon recital. Henning, formerly at APC, is currently the organist at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas, where he played for the funerals of former President George H. W. Bush and former First Lady Barbara Bush.
- November 23:** The church will be featured on the Lion's Club annual "Christmas Stroll." Soup luncheon and baked goods sale included.
- December 8:** Birthday Party in Fellowship Hall following worship – in observance of the Dec. 6, 1844 date when a handful of pioneers organized Auburn Presbyterian Church.

CHURCH HISTORY QUESTION:

When was the educational wing on the building's east side dedicated?

Participants in 175th anniversary skit: "**Pews, Pies, & Pastors**" Rehearsal "read-through" times
(Come to one --or all-- of the scheduled times.... Bring script.)

June 9—Sunday (immediately after church)

June 12—Wednesday at 7 pm.

July 28- Sunday (immediately after church)

August 18 - Sunday (immediately after church)

August 28 —Wednesday at 7 p.m.

September: to be determined

Performance: Sept. 15th —morning service

ACOLYTE APPRECIATION SUNDAY - It was a joy to honor all of our Acolytes during the worship service on May 5th. We thanked the following acolytes for their meaningful participation in worship each Sunday:

Gabe Ackerman, Aadon Beck, Sylvia Benbow, Isabella Gettys, Eva Hoolihan, Aidan Smith, Marcus Smith, and graduating senior Evan Zielke.



Help us to reach out to the children of the Community!

APC is pairing up with St. Marks Lutheran Church to host a VBS for ages Pre K through 5 grade beginning June 24-27. We need many volunteers to help in the evenings from 6-8 p.m. (Free admission into the YMCA for the week if you volunteer.) Areas of assistance will be helping with food, games, crafts or being a team leader. Pastor Dan, from St. Marks, and Pastor David are doing all the preparing and organizing. All they need is volunteers to help pull it all together!

A sign-up sheet is located at the back of the sanctuary. After you sign-up you will receive a call with what the plans are and where you will be needed. Here is the link if you would like to sign up and register a child up for VBS:

<https://forms.gle/6ds3UoD5YZj1JndM8>

FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE:

This year members and friends of Auburn Presbyterian Church have the opportunity to participate in the **Pentecost Offering on Pentecost Sunday, June 9.** The session has elected to participate in this special offering, one of four special offerings of the PC(USA). Unlike One Great Hour of Sharing where 100 percent of dollars received are forwarded on to the Office of the General Assembly, this offering allows each church to retain forty percent of gifted dollars for use with youth, children at risk and young adults. Retained funds can be used with programs with the youth of our church or perhaps with local ministry programs aiding youth and children. These dollars can also be used to help send youth to the Youth Triennium, a fun filled, worship, learning and serving gathering of high school aged youth, held once every three years at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

The Pentecost offering is another way to put our mission dollars to work with our children and youth. We all recognize the importance of our children and youth in the future of the church. This offering will help in

our efforts to educate and nurture our youngest members, giving them a firm foundation for life, both in and beyond the church. As the Psalmist said, "God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds". Psalm 71:17.

It is our prayer that all will generously participate and support children, youth and young adults this Pentecost Sunday, June 9. Thank you in advance for your gift.