

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



NEWSLETTER - 2021

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE MEETING:

Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday, March 10th at 10:30 a.m. in the large room downstairs due to the ease of social distancing. Pastor David will lead us in the first lesson of our new Bible Study, "Into the Light." Please don't forget to wear your mask. All women of the church are welcome to join us.



WORSHIP WILL RESUME IN THE SANCTUARY ON SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Session met and decided to resume worship in the sanctuary Sunday, March 7. We will continue to provide a Zoom and Facebook alternative for those who prefer. Please know that the CDC and local health department continue to advise we take precautions when gathering. If you decide to come to worship you will need to wear a mask. We will take your temperature and ask you to sanitize your hands. Please be aware of your distance from people and try to maintain at least six feet of space. As we did last fall, bulletins will be placed in the pews and there will be no singing. There will be no fellowship or Sunday School following worship.

FROM THE PASTOR:

Brothers and Sisters:

I hope you are well. The sun is shining and spring is in the air...but it is Indiana and we can never know what tomorrow's weather will bring. Anyway, I wanted to use this newsletter to tell you about something that's been going on in the background over the last year.

About 18 months ago I asked the session for approval to go through a process of Appreciative Inquiry. AI is a conversational process that a congregation uses to move forward based on the skills and talents we experienced in our past. The other night someone said it reminded them of the Sankofa bird that symbolizes the need for history to shape learning.



This process is a good fit for APC and I made plans to get it going—then there was a pandemic. But Appreciative Inquiry is not dead! A small group of us continued to meet through the fall and winter months. During that time, we prayed and planned, dreamed and discerned what AI would be like for the Auburn Church. We met on Zoom and used a congregational coach to move through this work. The pandemic's gift was time to reflect and plan the process.

Many of us are unfamiliar with the AI process. This really amounts to a series of guided conversations about our past that help us discern how God is calling us to move ahead. The group of us envision these conversations occurring in small groups. Because the virus is still a risk, we are planning how to arrange these conversations. We want to provide everyone with an opportunity to share their stories and experiences because some voices can get overlooked.

Guided conversations are just that; we've developed some questions to help us stay on track and steer our conversations. The group and I want to share these questions with you so we can start reflecting on our experiences. We'd like to start our conversations talking about these questions:

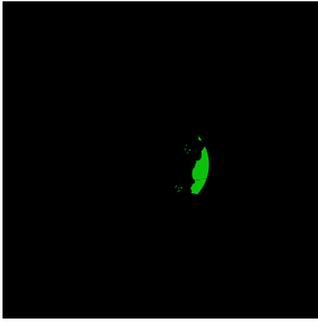
Describe a time when you were most excited by or felt the deepest sense of connection to our church?

Describe a time when APC influenced your faith. What happened?

Was there a time when you were personally involved with APC to impact the community beyond the congregation? What were the results? What is the mission that God has called us to do?

Please think about these questions. Reflect on your experiences, your stories, and your history with APC. We will get together and chat after Easter.

Shalom, Pastor David



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.

The MA&I team will be sharing the messages of **One Great Hour of Sharing** as we move thru the Lenten season. We invite your participation by mailing your contribution to the church and mark the check memo as "One Great Hour of Sharing Contribution." Thanks for your cooperation and willingness to participate!

Please ask what our "Friends' Table could use and this was found on the internet that really helped get a better grasp on what would be helpful:

If you would like to donate, please bring your items to the church on Monday morning or you may leave it in the kitchen following worship service. Thank you for your support in this great mission of our church!



Eric McCool

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Sharing wisdom from a food bank volunteer:

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box. But it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles.
4. Canned Foods should be Pop Tops OR donate Can Openers.
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of.
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift.
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts.
8. Sugar & Flour are treats.
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers & grocery stores.
10. Seeds are great in spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Butter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix & Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

Bonus: CASH makes it possible for the Food Bank to buy what's missing and buy in bulk.

THE MARY EVELYN MOORE SCHOLARSHIP



The Christian Education Committee is accepting applications for the Mary Evelyn Moore Scholarship. Applications can be picked up in the church office and must be returned to the office by SUNDAY, MARCH 29. The MEM Scholarship is available to church members who seek to further their studies at a degree-granting post-secondary educational institution.

Previous recipients are not eligible. Please read the application cover letter for more details.



MIXED SPRING FLOWERS

The gift of Spring flowers for use during the Easter season is a beautiful way to remember a loved one, honor an individual or celebrate a special occasion. If you have a preference of just receiving lilies please indicate on the form.

One may participate by calling the church office or filling out this form and returning it to the office or offering plate by Sunday, March 21st. The cost of the flowers is \$12.00 each.

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

Quantity **Name of Giver**

Person/s to be honored and words of tribute: (use back if necessary)

