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January 2010



Audubon United Methodist Church  
314 Graisbury Ave.  
Audubon, NJ 08106  
\*\*\*\*\*

A Christ-centered, Biblical, Caring church, making a difference.

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Website: Audubonumc.com Email: [audubonumc@verizon.net](mailto:audubonumc@verizon.net) Phone: (856) 547-6114

**January newsletter is sponsored by,**

Norman & Gail Lore, "In honor of our Family".

Sunday Worship Opportunities

Contemporary Service 8:15 am

Sunday School 9:30 am (All ages)

Traditional Service 10:45 am

Youth Group Jr./Sr. High (meets September to June)

6:00 – 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall

Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. Walter Jesuncosky, III, Pastor

Marilyn Radley, Music an Choir Director

Jesse Deal, Pianist

Marge Watson, Organist

Helen Orfe, Nursery

John Bowdoin, Custodian

# Meetings and Events for January

## January

9 Saturday Planning Mtg. Conover Parlor 10:00 AM

## Regular Monthly Meetings For January

Koffee Klatch Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Hall 9:15 AM

Trustees Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Church House 7:00 PM

Church Council Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Conover Parlor 7:30 PM

Finance meeting Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Church House 6:45 PM

Friendly Senior's Luncheon, Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> at Crystal lake Diner @ 12:00 noon. See Joan Windston for more details)

## Weekly Meetings

Youth Group meets every Sunday at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. All 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade children are welcome to attend.

Seekers Bible class meets every Monday night at 7:00 pm in Conover Parlor. If you can't make Sunday school, this is the place to come to study the Bible. Everyone is welcome.

Choir Rehearsal, Wednesday evening @ 7:30 in the Sanctuary.

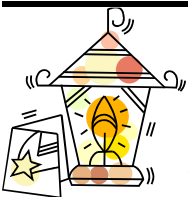
Cheney Handbell Choir, Sunday, after service when announced.

## Newsletter deadline is January 10<sup>th</sup>

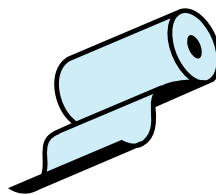


This is my first newsletter, & I want to thank you in advance for having everything to me by the deadline, January 10<sup>th</sup>. May God bless you, Sarah Gibbons.

## Shut-in of the Month



**Dick Williams, Clare Bridge, 480 Woodlane Rd., Mt. Holy, NJ 08060. Send Dick a card to let him know we are thinking of him.**



## Food pantry

If your family's last name begins with:

- A-F Please bring \*Paper products
- G-R Please bring 2 cans of veggies
- S=Z Please bring 2 cans of soup

\*1 pkg. toilet paper, 1 roll paper towels or 1 box of tissues



## With the Friendly Seniors

time on January 27<sup>th</sup>. at 12 noon at the Crystal Lake Diner. Won't you come along and join the fun. We'd love to have you.



## irthdays &

## Anniversaries

### Birthday

Carol Mannion	2 <sup>nd</sup> .
Ruth Dabundo	3 <sup>rd</sup> .
Holly Fitzgerald	3 <sup>rd</sup> .
Jen Craig	4 <sup>th</sup> .
Kevin Acker	5 <sup>th</sup> .
Walt Jesuncosky, III	7 <sup>th</sup> .
Scott Radley	8 <sup>th</sup> .
Kyle Kraszewski	9 <sup>th</sup> .
Joe Craig, Jr.	11 <sup>th</sup> .
Barbara Nachtrieb	12 <sup>th</sup> .
Samantha Graham	15 <sup>th</sup> .
Cyrus John Tahmasebi	16 <sup>th</sup> .
Kelsey Sargent	16 <sup>th</sup> .

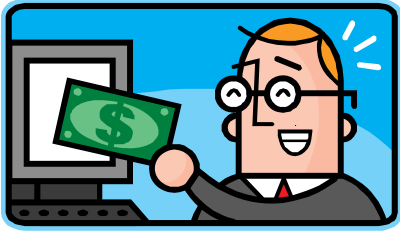
Casey Glazer	17 <sup>th</sup> .
Maggie Bowen	17 <sup>th</sup> .
Zachary Ashton Kucharski	17 <sup>th</sup> .
Ruslana Snyder	18 <sup>th</sup> .
Jessica Wacker	22 <sup>nd</sup> .
Joe Fennimore	22 <sup>nd</sup> .
Elijah Nicholas	26 <sup>th</sup> .
James Nachtrieb	29 <sup>th</sup> .
Jon Soulliard	29 <sup>th</sup> .
Matt Soulliard	29 <sup>th</sup> .
Gail Lore	31 <sup>st</sup> .

### Anniversaries



## CHURCH PLANNING MEETING

A planning meeting will be held on Saturday, January 9<sup>TH</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Conover Parlor. This meeting will help with the planning and scheduling of church activities for the next six months. All church leaders and committee chairs should be present.



### **Building Fund and Major Repairs**

**If you would like to contribute to the Building and major Repairs Fund through electronic giving, see Frank Slattery or Carol Tait and let them know that you would like to give to the “Capital Campaign”.**



**A note of gratitude to the AUMC congregation. The United Methodist Women thank you for your donations of crafts, attic treasures, delicious homemade baked goods, and many hours of volunteered time. You made our Christmas Bazaar a successful fund raising event. The money is used for special church purchases, repairs, missions, and the support of youth group events. We appreciate your support and generosity.**

**Sincerely,  
Marilyn Steadman**



## ***From the Pastor–January 2010***

***See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the desert  
and streams in the wasteland.***

Isa 43:19 NIV

The New Year is upon us and with it comes new challenges and opportunities. We will face changes and decisions that may never have occurred to us in 2009. God will open doors that have seemed closed and close a few windows that we are reluctant to close ourselves. The big question we have to ask ourselves is “Am I open to what God wants to do?” I would like to invite the members and friends of Audubon United Methodist Church to do something that will help us all answer this question. At the opening of a new year, I ask you to PRAY.

I am not suggesting you don't pray already. We pray for all kinds of things...prayers for the sick, prayers for help, prayers for decisions, prayers for loved ones, prayers for world peace, prayers for those who don't know Jesus...we have long prayer lists. I am asking you to pray specifically (1) you will be able to perceive the new thing God is doing (new in your life, new in our church, new in our world) and (2) what part God would have you play in the process.

First, God wants us to perceive the new thing he is doing. For Isaiah, the new thing would be the coming of the Messiah. Some people got it, others didn't. Those who did understand what God was doing found new life and great blessing. This is still true today. People who appreciate the person and work of Christ find life and blessing. I believe the same principle is at work in our midst in 2010. It's not that God has deviated from his master plan and is springing something different on us. Rather God is always presenting us with new ways and opportunities to bring the Gospel to those who need it most. Face it, so many traditions we have in the church today were once new ideas. Things like organs, choirs, bells, musical instruments, audio systems, video, drama teams, Sunday School, and live Nativities were once new concepts that caught on. You can be sure there were critics who said these were bad ideas that would never last. Wrong. 2010 may just be the year the next great tradition at AUMC gets started. Pray that God will give you the heart to discern it.

Second, pray God will show you what part you should play in his “new things.” I know the responses will vary from person to person. Some will say “sign me up!” Other will lament “this change is not for me.” Probably most will be somewhere in the middle. I am suggesting you at least ask the question “What's my part in this?” When you arrive at your answer, the matter of your response is between you and the Lord. You don't have to answer to me or Church Council, or anyone else for that matter, but to God. I am confident that if we seek the mind of God and open ourselves to what he wants to do in and through us, 2010 will be an amazing year for our church.

Please join me in praying God will show us what he is doing in our midst and how we can be part of this amazing work. May 2010 be our greatest year ever as we seek the Lord's will for His ministry!

Blessings,

***Pastor Walt***



## EAT MORE CHICK, PLEEEASE

### CHICK- FIL- A

Chick-fil-A Spirit Night: Thursday November 5th from 4-7PM. Take a night off from cooking and enjoy dinner and fellowship with fellow church members/friends. A portion of the proceeds will come to the church. Be sure to tell them you are there from AUMC-and while you're at it, invite your neighbors and friends to go too!



### **Missions:**

"Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts."

This is just one of several comments we received from the families we helped through the Angel Tree project last month. This project is very dear to me. Unless you have been in a position where you don't know how you will provide your children with gifts at Christmastime, you can't know what our efforts mean to the families we help. Here are a few excerpts from the letters we received.

"Thanking everyone ahead of time. This means so very much to my family." "I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and concern that our family has received since my husband's death. Every day someone new reaches out to us. I must however gratefully decline your generous offer. Our family is blessed that I have been able to maintain full time employment during this time. We have also received generous monetary gifts from family, friends, and co-workers. I would like to request that your church community keep my family in your prayers. ... May you have a blessed Christmas knowing your intentions meant so much to me." "Thank you for thinking of my family." "Anything that you give no matter what you can provide will be taken with sincere gratitude. We lost a lot of our stuff from the fire and the robbery...so again I can't thank you enough for everything. May the Lord bless and prosper your ministry for the works and care that obviously is shown here. "

We were able to hear from these families ahead of time, because this year we contacted them by mail to gather some information about their needs and wishes. The notes came in with the information they provided. The outpouring of love that each of you who took an ornament from the tree exhibited was overwhelming. Thank each of you for caring and reaching out to help someone in need this Christmas season.

I would like to also thank those who helped organize the effort. Joan Windston is my partner in this project each year, and I couldn't do it without her. She helps me from start to finish and as many of you know, she is a tireless worker. I injured my back on Monday before Christmas and by Christmas Eve, I could not move very well. We had a few people who we needed to shop for at the last minute.. Fortunately, my daughter, Rebekah stopped by and she offered to go with me to do the shopping. I pushed a cart while she did the lifting and carrying. Pat Mace has been a delivery helper for several years now, as she was again this year. She helps us sort the gifts and get them bagged up so we can deliver them to the families. She jumped in and took charge of this job since I was

pretty much an overseer at this point. My husband, Paul, who has helped deliver the gifts in the past, wrapped most of the gifts that we purchased, and then helped bag them up for delivery. Shawn Seppanen stopped by the church during all of this activity, and was kind enough to offer his help. He helped finish the wrapping, and then delivered to a couple of families, before heading off to carry out his own Christmas Eve plans. And of course, a big thank you to all who took ornaments from the tree!

### Mission of the Month

This month we will learn more about Campus Crusade for Christ, which is a ministry to college students nationwide. We support Matt and Heather Baehr who are Campus Crusade missionaries right here in South Jersey. They will share with us about the work that God is doing on several college campuses right in our own backyard. William Betts and Shawn Seppanen are involved with Campus Crusade on the Stockton College campus as well.



Our heart-felt thanks go out to Linda Holonia who not only organizes the angel tree, but gives unselfishly to those she does not even know. Each year Linda makes sure every name on the list gets a gift. God bless you, Linda, our own little mother Theresa.



What a great year for the choir! Marilyn Radley and all her merry music makers, out did themselves again this year. The four o'clock service was a smashing success. We pray some visitors will return and join us for the rest of the year. Marge Watson, the Handbell Choir and the special music make the church come alive. Thanks to all choir members for their constant dedication.



In February Henry Ward, Edith grandson, will be going to Auckland, New Zealand to play Oboe in the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra. Good luck to you Henry. If you play like you did at Christmas services this year, you will be a big success!



JANUARY SUPPER CLUB.....

Coming on Wednesday, January 20<sup>TH</sup> at 6 PM a five session video study with leader guide will feature Rev. Adam Hamilton "ENOUGH" discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. Enough is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom on prudent financial practices. Find the keys to experience contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. This study could change your life by changing your relationship with money.

Join us for the supper club.....the meal's on us!

*Save the Date!*

**District Day of Learning**

**Saturday, January 16, 2010**

From 8:00am to 2:00pm

Hope UMC, Voorhees, NJ

23 workshops to choose from

Box lunch provided

**\$12 Pre-registration fee  
or \$15 at the door**

Church office will provide  
more info.

