



Audubon United Methodist Church

314 Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114

March 2020 Newsletter

Sunday Worship Opportunities:

- 9:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
- 9:00 A.M. Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 A.M. Traditional Service



Our Doors are always open!

Our Church Building is Handicap Accessible. Elevator access to the sanctuary and the lower level can be found on the Graisbury Ave. side entrance. Handicapped parking is available on Graisbury and also in the rear of the church house.



The March Newsletter is sponsored by Barb and Frank Cunane for all of God's blessings to their loving family and in honor of Barbara's birthday.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- March 1 Bible 101 begins after 10:30 service
- March 10 Finance meeting 6:45 PM
Church Council 7:30 PM Conover Parlor
- March 16 Trustees meeting
- March 22 Deadline for March Newsletter—*send to Marilyn Radley at smradley@verizon.net*
- March 26 Cancer with Hope

Weekly Meetings:

- Mondays:** Seekers (7-8 P.M.) Conover Parlor
AA (7:30-8:30 P.M.) Adult Assembly
- Wednesdays:** Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30-9 PM
- Fridays:** The Link 6:30 – 8 PM
- CUBS:** Bears, Tigers and Arrow of Light meet Tues and Thurs. Pack meeting 3rd Friday of the month.

Bible 101 returning & refreshed.

March 1- April 5!

It's a Bible Basics study. It will be a 6 week study following the 10:30 service on Sundays. Beverages & snacks will be provided. Pastor Jisun and Anne Simpson will conduct the class. Looking forward to seeing old & new faces!



From the Pastor's Desk:



The season of Lent is around the corner. For many of us, Lent was a time for "giving up" – giving up candy, giving up caffeine, giving up money for the poor, etc. in order to commemorate the suffering of Christ on the cross. I remember when my daughter Lydia was a second grader, she made many of her school friends give up something of their choice during Lent just because that's the season of giving up. I received many phone calls from their mothers. Fortunately, they thought that it was such a cute gesture.

Lent is the season of forty days preceding Easter not counting the six Sundays of the season. It is the time when we are reminded to spend time on spiritual reflection and make space for the new life that Easter promises. It is a time to do "soul cleaning." Yes, "Giving up" of Lent has a lot more to do with "soul cleaning," getting rid of the clutter that prevents God from helping us move forward in our relationship with God. It also has to do with giving up some activities in order to have the time to engage in spiritual reflection.

Lent always begins on Ash Wednesday. The ashes are a symbol of our humanness, our limitations, our need to do "soul cleaning." Because Easter is a movable feast (it occurs on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox), Ash Wednesday is also movable. This year Lent begins on February 26. During the season of Lent this year, I would like to encourage us to give up 15 minutes a day from your busy schedule to do the soul cleaning. To help you with this, Audubon church is providing a devotional, titled, "Message of Trust" for us to be on the same page of reading, reflecting, praying and maybe journaling. May these 15 minutes lead you into making the space in your soul for the joy and new life of Easter.

Pastor Jisun

Mission News by Bruce Krout

The Chinese government monitors and rates its citizens and visitors through cameras and spies. A “social credit score” is determined and used to punish or reward those who behave “properly” as determined by the Communist Party. The announcement below was recently sent by our Asian missionaries. For their safety, their names have been left out of this piece.

“If you have been watching the international news over these last months, I am sure you are keenly aware of some of the challenges that we are facing in our part of the world (US-China trade war, increased oppression of the Church, Wuhan coronavirus etc.)! The environment has become increasingly more hostile and intolerant toward Christians and the church here. Due to these increased restrictions and the heightened scrutiny and monitoring of our activities over these past months in addition to the recent outbreak of the coronavirus, it has been decided that it would be best for us to temporarily and indefinitely relocate to the US for the time being. Although this is a very difficult decision, it is seen to be the wisest decision for us at this time. We are desperately needing your prayers as we face these major decisions and transitions in these next weeks and months. Since we have not lived in the US for many years, there will be a lot of adjustment. We will have to start from scratch as we begin to “get established” in the US. At this point, our tentative plan is to relocate in early September. We will let you know in the next weeks and months some ways that you might be able to help assist us in making this transition a bit smoother as we face these challenges of establishing ourselves in the US for the first time in our married life. I will continue to focus on my target audience here in China and the greater Chinese community. Therefore, I plan to still have an office and small apartment as my base to maintain my presence here and out of which I can continue to run my consulting business. I will travel between the US and China on a regular basis. Although traveling between the two will have its challenges, at this point, it seems to be the best option for now. Please be praying earnestly for us during these days! Thank you for being a vital part of our faithful team! Our Father is our peace in this time of uncertainty. May you be blessed abundantly during these days!

Your faithful international representatives”

Sharing God’s word and love, however we can, is our mission.

Our church-wide devotional booklet for Lent is available

to anyone who wants to spend a little time with God each day during Lent. Instead of giving something up for Lent, let’s commit to giving some time each day to grow in our faith. In using this booklet we will each be reflecting on our individual relationships with Jesus. Wouldn’t you like to spend 15 minutes each day during Lent strengthening your relationship with Jesus? A free will donation of \$2.00 is appreciated, but not required. Please take a book if you are interested.



If you would like to join a group to pray for Pastor Jisun at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday, please meet in Conover Parlor (the library). Don’t feel pressured to pray aloud. Lindsy will lead prayer each week. Matthew 18:20 tells us, “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” Everyone is welcome



Pastor Jisun is planning the confirmation class of 2020. Please contact Pastor Jisun if your child is interested. The usual recommended age for the confirmation class would be the 7th grade and up. This year we may consider 6th grade children as well to be in the class.

VBS 2020 July 5 –July 10



Pam Alekseyev will be leading our VBS this year. She is looking for Volunteers to lend her a hand. Look for upcoming information! **Let her know YOU will help!**

AUMC VICTORIOUS WOMEN

Ladies Day at America's Keswick

May 13th 9A.M.-3 P.M. Cost: \$22 and includes 3

sessions with **Susie Larson** and a gourmet box lunch. Susie is a talk show host, national speaker, and author of fifteen books and many articles. In both 2016 and 2017, Susie was nominated and voted into the top ten groups for the National John Maxwell Leadership Award.



Susie has been married to her dear husband Kevin since 1985 and together they have three wonderful sons, three beautiful daughters-in-law, one amazing grandson, and one adorable pit bull named Memphis. Susie's passion is to see women everywhere awakened to the value of their soul, the depth of God's love, and the height of their calling in Christ Jesus.

If you are interested, please see Lyn Radley, she has already purchased tickets so please make your checks out to her.

Keep your ears and eyes open for future upcoming dates and events.

United Methodist Community at Collingswood.

A donation to Collingswood Manor Auxiliary has been a line item in our budget for many years.

I thought you might be interested to know some background. For well over 80 years, the Collingswood Auxiliary has brightened the lives of residents at the Collingswood Manor. The group's involvement was born out of the community's close connection to local Methodist churches. In the early days of the auxiliary, each Methodist church had an internal group, often comprised of women whose specific purpose was to support the mission of United Methodist homes. The presidents of individual church auxiliaries (like our UMW) would get together regularly, thus the Collingswood auxiliary was born.

Currently, they have about 25 members. They have two major fundraisers each year, a Christmas sale and a miniature flea market in the spring. In the past we have donated items to both of these events. They also host April Showers each spring. You have seen our collection baskets in the foyer each March and April as we collect soaps,

toothpaste, toiletry items, tissues, etc., which we contribute to the residents of Collingswood Manor. The auxiliary also sets up a little store for the residents to come in and shop for what they need, a perfect arrangement for those who can't get out or don't have the extra spending money for these items. The Auxiliary donates the proceeds from these events to the Gift of Care Circle, which provides support for UMC residents who outlive their financial resources and can no longer afford the total cost of their care.

The \$250 that our UMW donates to this organization may not seem like much, but you know the saying, "every little bit helps".

I am proud to say we ladies are a small part of something that benefits these older folks. It is a good feeling to help others.

It doesn't take much to make others feel special. Let's continue to do just that.

April Showers for Collingswood Manor

Our collection deadline is Sunday April 5th

Each resident will get a bag to fill with any items they need. This is our gift to the residents. Please help brighten their day!

Dish cloths	Tea Towels	dish soap
Sponges	laundry soap	paper towels
Hand towels	handy wipes	baby oil
Poly-grip	wash cloths	Ziploc bags
Socks	after shave	puzzle books
Scotch tape	safety pins	note paper
Comb	brush	paper napkins
Tissues	shower cap	emery boards
Needle/thread	toothbrush	deodorant
Bobby pins	denture care	bar soap
Shampoo	soft soap	hand lotion
Baby powder	dusting powder	Vaseline
Cotton balls	pens/pencils	toothpaste
Face cream	greeting cards	dental floss

May your spring be sprinkled with many blessings.....Cheryl

Altar Flowers

There are several openings available for altar flower sponsors. Please see Linda Holonia or send an email to the office to be a sponsor. July 12, July 26, and Oct. 25.



From the Treasurer

Thank you to the volunteers who serve as counters and head counters.

These individuals spend approximately a half hour after the second service counting the offering, filling out a form (which comes to me telling me how to post the contributions, *i.e.*, *Envelopes, Repair & Maintenance, etc.*), and depositing the funds in the church's account. If you would like to join this exclusive group, please see Bill Simpson.



March Shut-in of the Month



Jim Barrett
Woodbury Mews Room 219
122 Green Avenue
Woodbury, NJ 08096

Keep him in your prayers and let him know he is in your thoughts by sending a card.

March Birthdays

- 1 Elaine Soulliard
- 5 Maggie Bouch
- 9 Barbara Cunane
- 10 Mia Reich
- 12 Kevin Fennimore
- 12 Tracy Schnyer
- 15 William Betts
- 16 Becca VanArnam
- 18 Tim Bouch
- 22 Laurie Bouch
- 23 Anne Simpson
- 23 Caroline Reich
- 23 Don Canning
- 24 Scott Ryan



March Communion Offering:

Camden Urban Ministry Initiative

Those assisting in our ministries for March

Greeters: Bruce Krout

Ushers: Frank Cunane, Mark VanArnam

Liturgist: Barbara Cunane

Counters: Allison and Don Cox and David and Becky James

Trustee to open and close church: Don Cox

Prayers – Praise – Thanks

Pray in the spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. Ephesians 6:18

Prayer requests from our weekly bulletins

- Doug J. • Crystal • Mary L.
- Shannon P. • Caitlyn C. • Mike & Tyler S.
- Mary P • Tiara C • Anne and Joe
- Tom H Sr. • Susan H • Ron & Samantha F.
- Charlie W and family • Marti W
- Carol F • Miles J • Youngsoon Choi
- Ruslana's father Karl • Dr. K and wife Bernice

Our Friends with Special Needs

- Carol F • Dan A. • Gwen E.
- Joan W • Bill R • Peg and Don L
- Sandy A • Marge W • Peg and George K.
- Cass K • Jim B • Keeyoung K
- Estelle M

College Students to keep in your prayers :

- Maggy B • Holly F • Emily W
- Becca V • Colin R • Jake V
- Kevin F • Tyler S

Prayer Card Requests

- World Gospel Mission ministries and the Crakers
- International Students ministries and the Mannons
- Campus Crusade "CRU" Alex Simpson Aponte
- Our servicemen and women:
Walter J IV- US Coast Guard, Jim G – NJ Army National Guard, James S. -US Army and Madison S US Army, Kyle R – US Marines
- A close friend struggling with depression
- Helena's sister Elsie passed away
- A miracle for husband Tom with cancer and cirrhosis and needs a transplant; for his Salvation.
- Jean W friend awaiting tests for Pancreatic cancer
- Barb C cousin Kelsey recovering from Thyroid surgery
- Mary B mother, Nancy, in rehab
- Rebekah and Rob interviewing for new jobs.
- Martha who had a stroke - William
- Lindsy gives praise for answered prayers
- Safety for Anne and Bill as they travel to Australia and New Zealand
- Pray for family of Kathy who passed and her 3 boys
- Pastor Jisun's mom, Youngsoon Choi, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery

- Blessings on Sam in his own apartment
- Colin R studying abroad in Italy this semester
- Scout leader Dave B. who had appendix surgery
- Dan, who is going to school in China; pray that he will stay healthy (*update: he is back in the USA*)

Prayers for our church

- Please pray for our church leaders as we move forward in our 2020 vision for AUMC
- Please pray that AUMC will continue to grow in spirit and be a beacon in the neighborhood.
- Please pray for Pastor Jisun; for good health, strength, protection, and guidance.
- Please pray that others will see Jesus’ spirit flowing from us.
- Please pray that we will each experience a deeper spiritual walk with the Lord.
- Please pray that the leaders of AUMC would be led by the spirit to know God’s will for our church.
- Pray that we can attract more families and others in the area who aren’t attending church elsewhere.

Church Staff:

- * Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jisun Kwak
- * Admin. Assistant: Linda Holonia
- * Director of Music: Mia Reich
- * Organist: David Reich
- * Pianist: Jesse Deal
- * Nursery helpers: Lauren F, Marissa W

Church Office email: audubonumc@verizon.net

Pastor’s email: pastorjisun@gmail.com

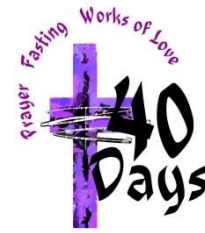
NEW Church Office Hours

Monday 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

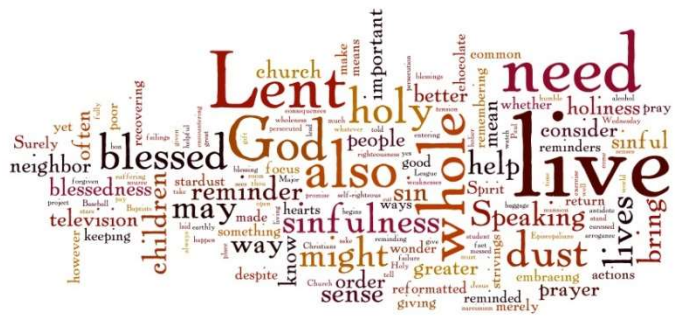
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Check out our website: audubonumc.com



What are you giving up for Lent?
Why not try giving up:
Complaining – focus on Gratitude
Pessimism – become an optimist
Worry – trust God
Bitterness – turn to forgiveness
Hatred – return good for evil
Negativism – be positive
Anger – be more patient
Pettiness – become mature
Gloom – enjoy the beauty around you
Jealousy – pray for trust
Gossiping – control your tongue
Sin – turn to virtue
Give up giving up and hang in there!
Give God your best!



A Look Ahead

April 5 Palm Sunday Service and Egg Hunt

April 9 Holy Thursday Service – 7:30 P.M. at Audubon UMC

April 10 Good Friday Service – 7:30 P.M. at Logan Mem. Presby.

April 12 Easter Services – 9 and 10:30 A.M. Hallelujah Christ is Risen!

