



Audubon United Methodist Church

314 Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114

April, 2019 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

From the Pastor: A Modern Take on Easter

If I've heard it once, I've heard it a thousand times, "Pastor, the Bible needs to be relevant to life today. We live differently now, even different from the generation before us." So I looked at the story of the first Easter, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead as found in Matthew 28...

28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he^[a] lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead,^[b] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. NRSV.

Then I wondered if a 2019 addition might not be appropriate, considering the call to make the Bible relevant to today's experience and lifestyles. Here is what I came up with...

And when the women found the disciples, they shared the good news of Jesus' resurrection. But the disciples, in turn, offered their excuses. "Thanks, but I have concert to attend today at the Praetorium." Another said, "That's great news. I promised my kids I would go to their recital today. Little Joshua is getting quite good playing the harp and psaltery." And yet another disciple explained, "my grandkids are in sports at the arena this morning. I would hate to disappoint them. (pastor's message continues on page 2)



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 April Newsletter is sponsored by Laurie Bouch in honor of her family.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- April 4 Book Study Conover Parlor 7 PM
- April 9 Church Council-7:30 PM Conover Parlor
- April 11 Book Study Conover Parlor 7 PM
- April 14 Palm Sunday
Easter Egg Hunt 1-3 PM
- April 14 Deadline for May Newsletter—send to Marilyn Radley at smradley@verizon.net
- April 15 Trustees meeting
- April 18 Upper Room Communion 7:30 PM
- April 19 Good Friday service at Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church 7:30 PM
- April 21 Easter Sunday JESUS IS RISEN!
- April 25 Game Night 6-10 PM

Pastor Walt will be on vacation April 22-28

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.



(Continued - pastor's message from page 1)

I promise when I get the opportunity I'll tell folks about Jesus." Each of the disciples made his excuse and left the Upper Room for their various commitments. And so the glorious news of Jesus rising from the dead would have to wait until the disciples could find time to share the gospel and worship. And Jesus wept.

New Revised Pastor Walt Version.

Some of you may think I'm being mean spirited or cruel. No, I'm just being relevant. If the resurrection happened today, why should I think modern disciples would react differently than the story I just related? I hear the same excuses all the time why folks can't be involved in church and witness. They send a loud, clear message to the church, the pastor, their families and children; yes, even God that their priority is not Jesus Christ. Each of us will have to answer for the choices we make, not to a clergy person, an organization, a group, but to our Lord. When we wonder why churches struggle, unsaved people find us unconvincing, our children have no interest in church, Sunday School, or youth group, we might want to look back at the message we have sent by our preoccupation with things that will fade away in the light of eternity. As believers we have no greater responsibility than to live our faith, witness to our faith, train the next generation of Christians who Jesus is and how to make him Lord of their lives. Oh, we can blame church for being boring, pastors for not scratching where we itch, pressure from family and friends to skip corporate worship, or get mad at other believers for offenses real or imagined, but in the end, I still hear those words... "Jesus wept."

I want to thank the faithful members and friends of our church for their support of Christ's work and Word at AUMC. You have kept our church alive and moving forward in faith. Without you, we would have to close. To those who struggle with priorities like the imaginary modern disciples in my story, I urge you to stand up for Jesus in your home, family, job, school and church. We have the great good news "Jesus is risen from the dead!"

What will you do with it?

Pastor Walt



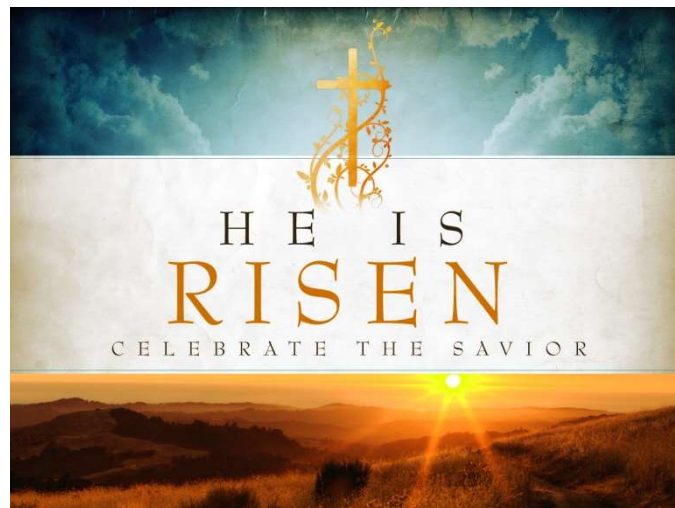
Save the date... Open House at Pastor Walt & Carol's new home, 231 Cedarcroft Ave. on **Sunday, May 26 from 2-5 pm.** All members and friends are welcome.

Holy Week Services

Holy Thursday, April 18 at AUMC 7:30 pm
Upper Room Communion Service

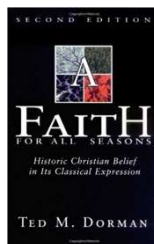
Good Friday, April 19 at Logan Memorial
Presbyterian Church 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday, April 21: 9 am Sunrise Service
10:30 am Traditional Easter Worship



The General Conference of the United Methodist Church has voted to retain the current standards on human sexuality (these have been in effect for decades) while adding enforcement provisions. The decision is currently under review by the Judicial Council (the church's Supreme Court) to insure compliance with church law. All are still welcome in United Methodist Churches as they have always been.

Our Book Study will continue to meet on



Tuesdays at 7 P.M. in Conover Parlor. *A Faith for All Seasons* written by Steven Molin. The study is led by Anne Simpson. All are invited!

Change is an often uncomfortable and disruptive force--yet nothing is more inevitable than the necessity of adapting to new circumstances. A Faith For All Seasons explores how a vital relationship with Jesus Christ is essential for coping with the constant flux of contemporary life. When radical changes rock our world, the Lord guides and comforts us--and gives us the security to face the future with confidence. He is the One who will NEVER change!

March 28 Families decrease in size

April 4 Changing jobs, ministers

April 11 The Future

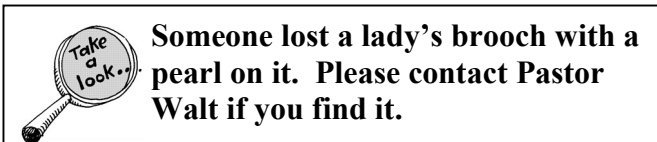
Ladies Day at America's Keswick May 8th

9AM -3 P.M. Cost: \$22 for group and includes 3 sessions with Carol Kent and a gourmet box lunch.

"What makes my heart sing?" asks Carol. "Speaking to groups looking for messages that include humor and hope that speak to today's challenges by pointing to God's Word."



18 ladies are currently attending. If you are interested, see Lyn Radley.



Do you like to play games, board games, that is?

Beginning on April 25th from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. we will be offering an open play board game night. This evening is planned for all ages, as games of all kinds will be offered. Come when you can and leave when you must. Parents of younger children are asked to stay and play too, as we do not have sufficient manpower to supervise young children. You can also bring your own game to share. If you have any games at home that you don't use any more, you may donate them too. Simply bring them to church and drop them in the narthex. We will meet in Fellowship Hall where tables will be set up for various games. For those wishing to play role playing games, they will be set up in smaller rooms, as these games go much longer than a typical board game. Refreshments will be available. We plan to offer game night twice a month to start. The next Game Night will be held on May 9th.

VBS is coming! July 14-19

All kids (and adults) are invited to join us as we discover Jesus' Miraculous Mission as we learn how He saves the world!! If you would like to help the kids discover more about Jesus, please see Linda Holonia or Susan Medoro.



We Welcome our new pastor



Bishop John Schol has appointed Rev. Dr. Jisun Kwak as pastor of Audubon United Methodist Church.

She will begin her official duties as pastor on July 1, 2019. Rev. Dr. Kwak. is currently serving Christ Church United Methodist in Fair Haven and Embury United Methodist Church in Little Silver. Previously, she has served Mendham United Methodist Church, Thiells United Methodist Church, Centenary United Methodist Church of Metuchen, and Gateway North District and Delaware Bay District as District Superintendent. Jisun has passion for the outreach ministry. She is also a trained pastoral counsellor and has taught and led various seminars on the subject. Pastor Walt's last Sunday in the pulpit will be June 16, though the transition process has already started. Please pray for Pastor Kwak as she begins her journey with AUMC and Pastor Walt and Carol as **they move into retirement and their new home.**

Annual Easter Egg Hunt is Sunday April 14th from 1-3 PM

Help is still needed:
Lots of filled eggs
Food (soft pretzel tray, cupcakes, cookies or other snack foods)



Volunteers needed to staff craft tables for the kids, kitchen help, hiding eggs and clean up. Contact Ruslana at 856-547-4361 or the church office.

Mission News by Bruce Krout

A few weeks ago, I presented a lesson at Kids Link about Jen Bricker. Bricker was born with no legs and her biological parents put her up for adoption in Romania the day she was born. A very faithful family in Illinois adopted her and raised her to be an optimistic person with a “can do” personality. She competed in numerous sports when growing up, including softball, basketball, and power tumbling where she came in 4th in AAU Junior Olympic gymnastics. You can view a number of inspirational videos and a bio of her on YouTube. “When ‘Can’t’ is a Four-letter Word” is the 18-minute video I recommend. It is a truly amazing story that has a giant God-incidence involved. You will not be disappointed with this investment of your time! Trust me.

I bring this topic up because of the lunacy that the U.S. is living in. In the last month, N.Y. State legalized third trimester abortions, allowing women to kill a fully formed, healthy infant. Virginia’s governor, who is a doctor, even talked about aborting a child on the delivery table if the mother decided afterward that she didn’t want the healthy baby. Democrats in six states have either proposed or have legalized third-trimester abortions. One of our 10 Commandments instructs us that “You shall not murder.” Exodus 20:13.

Please keep Bethany Christian Services in mind and talk up their service to friends and relatives. Remember our Church supports and offers office space in our church house for Bethany’s staff to counsel women and their families toward God-loving options!

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

Help Earn a Bench for Rec Center



Save and bring your plastic bags and wraps to the Audubon Library, Municipal Bldg. or the High School. If 500 pounds are collected, the town will earn a TREX bench for the Rec Center. Collection is from December through June. Bags and wraps will be recycled into eco-friendly decking and railing.



April Showers for Collingswood

Manor Our collection deadline is

Sunday April 7th 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

NO TRAVEL SIZE PRODUCTS

Dish cloths	Tea Towels	dish soap
Sponges	paper towels	puzzle books
Scotch tape	zip lock bags	note paper
Comb	brush	paper napkins
Kleenex	shower cap	emery boards
tooth brush	Tooth paste	mouth wash
soft soap	hand cream	body lotion
body wash	disposable razors	baby powder
Tums	lip balm	Band-aides
slipper socks	hard candy	nail polish
greeting cards	pens	stamps
dental floss	small paper plates	rain bonnets
crackers	daily and weekly pill boxes	
peanut butter crackers		candy bars

Books! Books! – Too many books?



If you have books you no longer want or need, they can be donated to the Camden County

Pop Up Library. Each and every book makes for another reader. They are looking for books for all ages groups that cover all interests and all genres. Due to popularity, they especially need:

- Bibles
- Dictionaries and thesauruses
- Children’s board books
- How to draw books
- James Patterson and John Grisham books
- Books printed in Spanish

In addition they also need plastic bins, cardboard boxes and wooden crates for book storage. You can donate books, supplies, money, or donate your time by becoming a volunteer Pop Up Librarian! Books can be dropped off in Haddon Township. For more info, go to <https://camdencountypopuplibrary.org/donate/> or call the church office for more information.

April Shut-in of the Month



Sandy Albrecht
137 S. White Horse Pike
Audubon, NJ 08106

Keep her in your prayers and let her know she is in your thoughts by sending a card.

April Birthdays

- 4 Billy Zane
- 5 Katie VanArnam
- 6 Tom Hertfelder
- 20 Estelle MacCulloch
- 24 Clara Reich
- 29 Walter Jesuncosky, IV



April Communion Offering:

Camden Urban Ministry Initiative (C.U.M.I),
cooperative after-school program in Camden.

Those assisting in our ministries for April

Greeters: Dan and Lindsy Arcaini

Ushers: Peg and Tracy Schnyer

Liturgist: Elaine Soulliard

Counters: Barb Hertfelder, Barb and Frank
Cunane

Trustee to open/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 • Beverly F (Chris' mother)
- Ruslana's father Karl • Dr. K and wife Bernice
- Marti W • Carol F

Our Friends with Special Needs

- Carol F • Dan A. • Doris K.
- Gwen E. • Joan W • Bill R
- Sandy A • Marge W • Gerry G.
- Cass Kyler • Peg K • Peg and Don L

College Students to keep in your prayers :

- Holly F • Emily W • Tyler S
- Becca V • Ashley S • Jake V
- Kevin F • Christy S (law school)
- Chris S (Seminary)

Prayer Card Requests

- World Gospel Mission ministries and the Crakers
- International Students ministries and the Mannons
- Campus Crusade CRU Alex Simpson
- Our servicemen and women:
Walter J IV- U.S. Coast Guard, Jim G – NJ

- Army National Guard, James S. -US Army and Madison S US Army, Matt US Army in Europe
- George and Estelle for health issues
- Carol T recovering from knee replacement surgery
- A miracle for husband Tom with cancer and cirrhosis and needs a transplant; for his Salvation.
–Barbara
- Friend dealing with anxiety -Peg S
- Lindsy asks for prayers for a viable cancer treatment for her dad, one that makes him comfortable. Most of all pray for his salvation
- Continued prayers for Joan as she recovers from knee replacement surgery
- Linda H recovering from 2 broken wrists
- Scott for improved health
- Pray for Annaliese R, USMC
- Peg K asks for prayers for Pam
- Barry asks for prayers for a good friend, Jeff who started chemo for stage 4 esophageal cancer. Pray for God to comfort him and his family.
- Bob F recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Mary Bundick needs to find new housing soon. If you know someone who might be renting an apartment, even a room, please let the church office know so we can assist Mary in her search to find a new home
- Ef D as she recovers from a double mastectomy and prepares for chemotherapy
- Prayers for Ruslana's mother

Praises

- Praise on the birth of a new granddaughter, Quinn Marie - Bill and Elaine S
- Peg B and Lyn R celebrate answered prayers for their daughter, Jen, recovering from surgery.

Church Staff:

- * Pastor: Rev. Dr. Walter Jesuncosky, III
 - * Admin. Assistant: Linda Holonia
 - * Director of Music: Mia Reich
 - * Organist: David Reich
 - * Pianist: Jesse Deal
 - * Nursery helpers: Maggie B, Lauren F, Marissa W
- Church Office email : audubonumc@verizon.net
Pastor's email : aumcpastor@verizon.net

Church Office Hours

- Monday & Wed. 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
 - Friday 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
- Check out our website: audubonumc.com

AudubonUMC



Easter Lilies



It's the season of spring, the season of rebirth, and most of all the Season of our Risen Lord and Savior. As always, part of our Easter celebration is the placement of Easter Lilies in the sanctuary.

The price is \$9 per plant. Your order and payment will be due by Sunday, April 14 (Palm Sunday).

NO ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN AFTER THIS DATE!

Enjoy your lilies year after year. When you take them home after Easter Sunday Services, plant them 6 inches deep. They come up every year and bloom several times throughout the summer.

Please complete the following (Kindly PRINT):

Your Name	In Memory of:	In Honor of:

Total number plants _____ Total Amount enclosed _____

Signature _____

Please send completed orders with payment to the church office.

