

Audubon United Methodist Church

314 W. Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114



December 2021 Newsletter



Sunday Worship Opportunities:



***Our Doors are open!
And we are meeting in person!***

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.



Sundays:

9:00 A.M. . Classes for Elementary, Middle and High School students. Great studies and discussions!

9:00 A.M. Seekers Adult Sunday School in person and Zoom.

10:20 A.M. Traditional Service in person and streaming live on our Facebook page and posted later on YouTube.

Face masks are required. Some windows will remain open and the exhaust fan running for fresh air exchange and ventilation as required by the CDC.

- Fri. Dec. 3 Greening of the church 7 P.M.
- Sun. Dec 5 Welcome luncheon for Pastor Garrett and his family- Ally, Dakota, and Declan.
- Tues. Dec. 14 Church Council Meeting 7:30 P.M.
- Mon. Dec. 20 Trustees Meeting 7 P.M.
- Fri. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve services 4 P.M. and 8 P.M.
- Every Weds. Comfort Food on Zoom 7:30 P.M.
- Every Thurs. Chancel Choir rehearsal 7:00 P.M.

ZOOM MEETING ID: 732-520-3940 PASSWORD:
Audubon PHONE DIAL-IN: 646 558 8656 JOIN US!

Our Vision Statement:

“We are a Christ-centered family of Christians. We are actively seeking to grow the kingdom of God by bringing the Word and Love of God to the community. We may not always think alike, but we always love alike as God has taught us.”

Greening of the Church Friday, Dec. 3



Come join the decorating fun!
Everyone is welcome

Children's Advent

Instead of Elf on the Shelf, move Mary and Joseph throughout your house “on their journey to Bethlehem” and end up at the nativity scene on Christmas Eve.



Blessing Tree

It's the most wonderful time of the year!
When you take a tag, be sure to record what you take on the sign-up sheet.

Wrapped gifts with the gift tag attached (in a way it can easily be removed and replaced with a name tag) are **due by December 5.** If you have any questions please contact Linda Holonia or the church office.



Sunday, December 5 following church, we will officially welcome our Pastor Garret and his family to Audubon United Methodist Church with a luncheon. Safety guidelines will be followed. Everyone is invited to attend!

December 24 at 4 and 8 P.M.



Mission News by Bruce Krout

At the end of each fiscal year a Mission budget is proposed and given to the Finance Committee. Roughly \$10,000 has been budgeted for 2022. Here is a breakdown of the Mission budget. The Crakers (WGM), Mannons (ISI), and Simpsons (Cru) are designated to receive \$1,200 each. The following groups are slotted to get \$600: Cru Global Outreach, Red Bird Missionary, Henderson Settlement, Mission Safety Int'l and Ranch Hope. The remaining groups are to receive \$300: UM Homes, Atlantic City Rescue, Delanco Camp, Methodist Hospital, Options for Women, Bethany Christian Services, Kids Alley, CROP, IHOC, Urban Promise, and Children's Fresh Air Home.

As Mission Chair, I have found that Linda Holonia and Carol Tait have been good resources for sharing information and giving me insights. Carol has guided me in many financial decisions through the years. In the new year, Carol will be grooming William Betts to begin relieving her as Church Treasurer. She has been our Church Treasurer for roughly 16 years. It is not only her financial acumen that Carol has a good understanding of. She was the Mission Chair at Haddon Heights Methodist years ago. On top of that, both of Carol's daughters were involved in mission work. Becky worked for a Christian organization in Hungary for a year teaching conversational English. Carol's other daughter, Jen, was involved with Campus Crusade in New Jersey for two years.

With that kind of mission interest and background, it is no wonder as to why Carol Tait has a BIG heart for missions. Thank you, Carol, for all of the time and work you invested in support of our mission groups!

(FYI- The CROP Walk fundraising total was a **whopping \$450**. Thank you to the many supporters of AUMC.)

Merry Christmas to you and God bless you and your family with peace and joy for the new year to come!

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

Cancer with Hope

There will be NO meeting this month. See you all in January 2022.

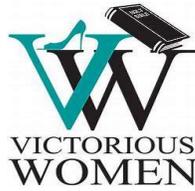
Contact Bruce Krout at 609-605-5450 for more information



amazonsmile

When making purchases on Amazon, remember to use Amazon Smile and designate AUMC as your desired donation recipient. **This past quarter AmazonSmile made a charitable donation of \$60.17 to us** thanks to qualifying purchases made by you and other customers who have selected AUMC as their charity. Thanks!

Our Christmas Bazaar was a great success!



It was wonderful to be back and so generously supported by all of you. It was good to see customers from years prior coming back to shop, too.

Much thanks goes to Lois Reiter who chaired the event this year and all of the ladies who helped with the set-up, worked the day of the bazaar and the breakdown of the event and of course the bakers! God is so good -- all the time. We made approximately \$3000 which will enable Victorious Women to continue their support to assist local missions, ministries and projects. Thank you!!!

Collingswood Food Pantry at St. Paul's Food Bank at Evangelical Lutheran Church in Collingswood.

Are you looking to help make someone's holiday brighter? Look no further than donating items to the food pantry in Collingswood! The following is a list of items you might want to purchase and place inside the church with the label Food Pantry. (Any better ideas where to place the items?)

NEW items only, please!

Warm shirts larger sizes, socks, children's clothes any size, sports balls, children's gifts, toiletry kits (perfume, lotion, etc.), colored pencils with a neutral theme, coffee, sugar, oil, cookies, snack foods, baking mixes, laundry soap, dish soap, foil, waxed paper, cleaning supplies, razors, shaving supplies, dental items, shampoo, deodorant

The people who are in need thank you in advance!

Matthew 25:35 -- *For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took me in.*

Romans 12:13 -- *Share with the saints who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

From the bottom of my heart, thank you! If you know anyone in need or would like to become more involved, call Elaine Soulliard at 609-280-4792.

Electronic giving

For those of our members and friends who have been giving electronically with Vanco, please be sure to complete a new Authorization form since some of our funds have changed. If you like the freedom of unscheduled giving, Vanco has a new giving app, **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**, that makes it easier for members to give at any time. If you are not giving electronically yet, you can check out their website for more information.



Support AUMC with gift card purchases



Many of us are doing our Christmas shopping. The "experts" are saying that many gift items will not be available or in short supply this year due to shipping problems. With that in mind, please remember that you may order gift cards for gift giving or for your own use through the church because the retailers give a percentage of each card purchased back to the church. Last year at Christmas time, we earned over \$200.00 through your gift card purchases. Order forms are in the Narthex or can be emailed to those of you who are still worshipping virtually. Turn-around time is about 1 week. Please direct any questions to Linda Holonia or the church office.

AED – Automatic External Defibrillator

The AED is used to help save someone in cardiac arrest.

*Do you know our church has one?

*Do you know how to use it?

*Would you like to learn how?



Prior to the pandemic in 2020 classes were planned to teach the basic skill of cardiac compressions and how to use the AED. This was canceled due to the pandemic. Now this free 2-hour class will be offered again. If you are interested please contact Dorothy Groves. 609-405-4134, or grovesdorothy@gmail.com



Health & Wellness – Short and Sweet

THOUGHTS FOR A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

2121 was a continuation of 2020 with the pandemic, but 2021 is almost over. Thanksgiving has just passed and now we enter into the Christmas season. This year we have more freedom to celebrate as a vaccine became available just a year ago and many have been vaccinated. We have much to be thankful for.

Although the vaccine has brought positive changes we must remain vigilant as we gather with friends and loved ones. Always have a mask available and use it to protect anyone in the gathering who is not vaccinated.

If you have not had a COVID booster, consider getting one as it is now approved for everyone. Also if you have not gotten your Flu shot consider doing so. Influenza season is upon us. Viruses thrive in colder weather. Just as we've seen the increases in COVID last winter, the Flu will rear its ugly head again. Influenza vaccination protects against a severe case should one contract it. If you are 65 or over, remember to ask for the quadrivalent vaccine which protects against four different *flu* viruses, including two *influenza A* viruses and two *influenza B*. Everyone have a Merry Christmas and let us pray for a New Year full of God's blessings.

"Continue to MASK-UP with Social Distancing – keep the flu away as well as COVID"

Questions/suggestions/feedback? – contact Dorothy Groves. Cell phone 609-405-4134, or email at grovesdorothy@gmail.com



Merry Christmas!

Enjoy watching a video recording of an earlier Live Nativity now appearing on our FB page and the AUMC website.



Church memorabilia wanted

Do you have anything in your possession pertaining to our church history that you think should be on display? Please contact Barbara Cunane. She is looking for artifacts to display behind glass in Conover Parlor. These items will have a description card and date.



Thank You from AGO recital.

"It's Monday morning the 25th of October, and I'm savoring the memory of a wonderful Members' Recital yesterday. We heard a variety of music ranging from some tried and true classics to a quartet of fine pieces by women composers whose work has been unjustly underrepresented. I confess the name of the Tellers organ company (Erie PA, active 1906-1973) never excited me before, and that's an opinion I must now reevaluate! The Tellers organ at Audubon United Methodist has a warm sound with a powerful bass that fills the room without overpowering it. And yesterday's recitalists found a variety of intriguing colors to use in their performances. This is an organ I now want to spend several hours exploring, hopefully soon. Thanks to Rev. Gouveia and the church leadership for allowing us to use their facility, thanks to Mia and David Reich for hosting us at their church, and then hosting us at their home." Jonathan Stark, AGO Dean

December Communion Offering:

Kids Alley

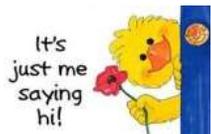
December Liturgist

Sandy Albrecht

December Church Closer

Bob Fonash

December Shut-in of the Month



Peggy Lauk
122 Willet Way.
Thorofare, NJ 08086

Let her know you are thinking of her by sending a card.

December Birthdays

- 2 Joan Windston
- 7 Liz Deal
- 10 Dan Arcaini
- 12 Lois Reiter
- 13 Sandy Albrecht
- 14 Samantha Snyder
- 15 Bill Soulliard
- 22 Mary Ann Mazur
- 22 Lori Krout
- 22 Samantha Fennimore
- 29 Carol Fennimore



December Anniversaries

- 3 Pam and Peter Alekseyev
- 10 Mia and David Reich



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

Intercessory Prayer Needs

- Doug J.
- Shannon P.
- Mary P
- Carol F
- Joan W
- Sandy A
- Gerry G
- Pat H
- Dee G
- Estelle M
- Joe
- Charlie W and family
- Dr. K and wife Bernice
- Crystal
- Susan H
- Tiara C
- Dan A.
- Bill R
- Peg K
- Gail Lore
- Susan H
- Miles J
- Bill S
- Lauri M
- Mary L.
- Mike & Tyler S.
- Anne
- Gwen E.
- Peg and Don L
- Rosemarie
- Bill D
- Ef D
- Youngsoon
- Dorothy G
- Kevin H
- Ruslana's father, Karl

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- U.S. Coast Guard, Jim G – NJ Army National Guard, James S. –US Army
Please remember to keep CPT Jim Goslin in your prayers. He has been deployed to the Middle East and will be gone for 9-10 months.
- To for our Pastor and family
- Pray for God's voice.
- Sandy A. in Rehab at Collingswood Manor
- Estelle continued improvement at home
- Please pray for Ef's sister, Donna as she continues her recovery
- Bob F for relief of back and leg pain
- Bill and Anne S for strength during Bill's treatment
- Marty J in Florida for continued recovery
- Mary Ann M diagnosed with breast cancer
- Jean W's nephew Jake, a police officer in Collingswood as he recovers from a motorcycle accident
- Peg K, George passed away the end of November
- Seriously ill child and his uncle
- Lindsi's sister with COVID



We all pray, right? Here's an easy way to add power to your prayers. The evil in the world doesn't want you to pray!

WE HAVE A STRONG WEAPON against evil. God's own words! We've all prayed in a laundry-list style, at some point. Do you want to pray more deeply? Do you want to feel more connected to the Holy Spirit? Well, you CAN. How? By using scripture!

Choose short Bible verses to use WITH your own words of prayer. Or, use verses you've already memorized. (Need help finding scripture? Try the Psalms, or The Upper Room Devotional.) Look for the follow-up video shortly, with examples and more advice. Stay tuned, and be blessed in praying,
The Acts 29 Team

Church Staff:

- * Pastor: Garrett Gouveia
 - * Admin. Asst.: Linda Holonia
 - * Director of Music: Mia Reich
 - * Organist: David Reich
 - * Pianist: Jesse Deal
- Nursery Aides: Marissa W. and Chloe P.
Church Office email : audubonumc@verizon.net

Church Office Hours

Monday 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
Wed. and Thursday 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
Check out our website: audubonumc.com



Find us on: **facebook**



@Audubon_UMC



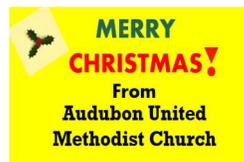
Vision 2021 - Writing Acts 29

Listen for our weekly challenge each Sunday and don't forget to watch our YouTube videos.



Outreach cards!

Use them to share with others inviting people to reconnect to their faith and also to our church.



If you would like to have a **Merry Christmas from AUMC** sign for your lawn, please see Diane Stanley.



Come let us
Adore
Him





2021 Christmas Poinsettias

You are again invited to share in placing one or more poinsettias in our sanctuary for the Christmas Season. The price is \$5 per plant.

We would like to have them in the sanctuary for Sunday, December 19. Therefore, **orders MUST be placed by Wednesday December 15. No orders will be accepted after this date.**

You may take your poinsettia home after the 8 PM Christmas Eve service on December 24 if you are in attendance. For anyone worshipping virtually on Christmas Eve, instructions on when you can get your plants will be forthcoming.

Please complete the order form below and put it in the church secretary's mailbox, or the church mailbox in front of the office, together with your payment.

PLEASE PRINT

| <i>Your Name</i> | <i>In Memory Of</i> | <i>In Honor Of</i> |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Signature: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

