

Audubon United Methodist Church



314 W. Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114



September 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.



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.

Tues. Sept. 14 Church Council 7:30 PM in person & Zoom

Mon. Sept. 20 – Deadline for Reports for Conf.

Tues. Sept. 28 Cancer with Hope 7:00 P.M. Zoom

Weds. Comfort Food on Zoom 7:30 PM Zoom

Thurs. Chancel Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM

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

The September Newsletter is sponsored by Lyn and Scott Radley in memory of their parents, Fred and Marion Kreckmann and Francis and Alfretta Radley.

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."

From the pastor's desk

I would like to first tell you that I love you. You have been most kind and loving to me and I am very grateful for that.

It is with a very sad heart that I inform you as I have shared it on August 8, that I will be leaving the Audubon United Methodist Church at the end of September and will serve the Zion Lutheran Congregation in Saddle River of Bergen County, NJ.

I have a couple of issues that have been pressing my mind and one of them was my mother's health. After much prayerful discernment and discussion with my family, it is best for me to take care of my elderly mother who has been very much weak and fragile after my father passed due to Covid 19 about a year ago. She needs to live in the area where she can have Korean speaking services including an adult day care, home healthcare aids and doctors. Bergen County is the right area.

I have been very happy with the Audubon church ministry, especially with you all. I have been hoping to serve this church for long term. However, God is leading me to a different path and I need to follow the call. I trust that you understand this.

My last Sunday will be the second Sunday of September but I will remain as the pastor on duty until the end of September.

Audubon UMC will receive a new pastor although we do not know yet the exact date. I believe that our God of grace will appoint a wonderful pastor for the beloved congregation of the Audubon UMC.

Thank you for your loving support for me!

May god richly bless you and your family all the more!

Blessing,
Jisun



Chancel Choir rehearsals begin Sept. 9 at 7:30 PM under the Reich's backyard tent. Let the music begin!

Back to Normal but with a fresh start

SAVE THE DATE Sept. 12th

In-person classes for children & youth will begin on Sunday Sept. 12 9am.

For the safety of everyone during this Covid 19 resurgence, I'm asking all staff & students to wear masks, practice social distancing, & wash hands often. I'm using the guidelines of the Audubon Public School Board, who is making these requirements for those teachers & students attending the schools in town.

The teachers and I miss seeing the children in person. We have a new curriculum which I hope will be exciting & fun but, most importantly, help them learn more about Jesus and the Bible.

Students in grades 7-12 will meet on the 3rd floor.

Children in preschool -6 grade will meet on the main floor.

Looking forward to seeing you & the children on Sunday, Sept. 12th.

Hope you are as excited as I am to get back to normal life, but also feel like this time is a chance to start something new.

How about a new name for Sunday School?

Let's brainstorm & come up with some new titles for teens & kids! We can have a contest to see who has the cleverest title. Email your ideas to church office.

Blessing of Backpacks



Pastor Jisun would like to have a blessing of backpacks **during service on Sept. 12th.**

Bring your backpack to church that day. If you are attending on-line, have it near.

Children today face so many challenges during school hours, it would be comforting to have a blessing and a reminder that Jesus is always with them.

Need for teachers

Requirements: a love of children & a desire to help them learn about the Bible and Jesus. Won't you try to give an hour on Sunday for 3 months to help with our Sunday School program?

If you can, please contact Anne Simpson or the office.



3rd Fridays Sept. 17 and October 15 to promote AUMC in our community. Sign-up sheets to volunteer are in the Narthex. Join us on Merchant Street.



Mission News by Bruce Krout

It is a sad time that Pastor Jisun Kwak will be leaving us at the end of this month.

I will always remember the stories she told us about her family and the South Korean culture. South Korea has many similarities to the Western world.

What do you know about North Korea? If you're like me, you don't know much about this country. You may remember seeing satellite photos in which the darkest part of the world is North Korea because of a lack of electricity. Perhaps you know of the present leader Kim Jong-un and his missile experimentation. There is rampant famine and starvation in North Korea. Holocaust comparisons are being made about North Korea with the many political prison camps. Journalists are banned in most of North Korea, so little information has been available to the outside world. Technology and internet are severely limited in this country. In 2020 it was ranked last for freedom out of 180 countries!

What I want to suggest to you is podcast #1691 of Yeonmi Park found on the Joe Rogan Experience (on the Spotify app). Let me warn you, it does have some adult language/content. Yeonmi Park was born in North Korea and shares her life story. As a thirteen-year-old, Park escapes to China. You will be surprised at how she escapes, becomes a Christian, and how the North Korean regime uses the Bible to reinforce their present leadership story (1:12 of podcast). She has an eye-opening perspective about what freedom is. Her story reminds me of the extreme challenges faced by the Crakers of the World Gospel Mission. Click below to access the podcast or use the Spotify app on your device. https://open.spotify.com/episode/0G5o6GYjWgbSvKG3W2W2xO?si=W5TfnZBWHW23PYSmypxWg&context=spotify%3Ashow%3A4rOoJ6Egrf8K2lrywzwOMk&dl_branch=1

P.S. Thank you for your faithful giving of school supplies to Kids Alley this past month.

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



We were pleased to celebrate the baptism of Maxine Patricia Kelly on Saturday July 17. She is the daughter of Gina and Joseph Kelly and the granddaughter of Sue and Mario Medoro.

We are having a baby shower

September 19 to benefit Options for Women a pregnancy care center.

We will have a luncheon and Options Director Chuck Swanson will share about the program.

This is a joint venture with Victorious Women and the Kindness Kommittee.



Please see the flyer in the Narthex for details about their needs!



If you took a baby bottle bank to fill with loose change during the summer please return it on Sept. 19. There are still bottles available in the cradle in the Narthex

The Bazaar is Back!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 13.**

We are collecting Christmas and household items. No clothing, and please, remember that one person's trash is not necessarily our treasure. Please have them clean and ready to sell. You may leave the items downstairs in the UMW room, or contact Lyn Radley, Lois Reiter, or CJ Fennimore.

Cancer with Hope

Join our Journey of Hope Cancer Care Ministry **Tues. Sept. 28 @ 7 PM** in person and on Zoom. Contact Bruce Krout at 609-605-5450 for more information



Collingswood Food Pantry

We continue to collect paper and plastic grocery bags for the food pantry at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Collingswood. Please leave them on the porch leading to the pastor's office at the church house, not the front porch. If you or anyone you know is in need, please contact Elaine Souliard at 609-280-4792.

Thank you!

I would like to thank everyone who made this scholarship possible. Having support from the entire church family means the world to me and helps me keep my faith strong. AUMC has always been there for me since I was a baby. Thank you to the church council as well for awarding me with this scholarship. I will continue to walk with God in my every day life.

Thank you again! Lauren



Upper Room Devotionals Sept/Oct issues are now available in the Narthex. Donations appreciated – Large print \$1.59, regular print \$1.29.

Support AUMC with gift card purchases

You can support AUMC by purchasing your gift cards through the church. Each retailer gives a percentage of each card purchased back to the church. It can range from 1.5% to 15% or more, depending on the card. It may not sound like much, but the last time we placed an order we received more than \$90.00. Back to school is a great time to purchase cards for your shopping. You can also buy gift cards for grocery stores, restaurants, gas stations, specialty retailers and so much more.



Pick up a retailer list in the narthex and check it out.

Electronic giving

For those of our members and friends who have been giving electronically with Vanco or the **GIVE PLUS+** GivePlus Mobile app, and for those who would like to take advantage of online giving,

Vanco has released a new giving app, Vanco Mobile, that makes it easier for members to give, easier for staff to manage – and will help you tell our church's story. They will be sunsetting their mobile app, **GivePlus Mobile** on September 30, 2021, and replacing it with their own Vanco app.



All logins, donations, and saved billing info will transition over to Vanco Mobile from GivePlus Mobile. You will not have to start from scratch. The first time you are on the site or the app, you will be asked to log in with the password you have always used.

If you are not giving electronically yet, you can check out their website for more information.

Vanco Online is a customizable eGiving and payment tool that provides a seamless checkout process for one-time or recurring donations. You can go online to our website and click on Vanco Online to give.

Vanco Mobile The **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement** app can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play Store. It offers online giving tools for members to give and even set up automatic donations. It will also enable members and visitors to make payments for future church fundraisers.



When making purchases on Amazon, remember to use Amazon Smile and designate AUMC as your desired donation recipient. AUMC receives a donation each quarter from Amazon. Thanks!

AUMC is hosting the annual members recital for the Southwest Jersey Chapter of the AGO!

This chapter recital of the American Guild of Organist is October 24, 2021 at 4 PM with a reception to follow in the Reich's backyard. There will be more details to follow but *Save the Date!* -David Reich.



We are again participating in Boscov's Friends Helping Friends.

This is a fundraiser sponsored by Boscov's to help area non-profits raise funds. We have shopping passes for sale for \$5.00 each. AUMC keeps the \$5.00 and the purchaser receives a shopping pass that is good all day on **October 20, 2021** and entitles the bearer up to 25% off their purchases, including sale prices. Additionally, the shopper may register to win a \$100 Boscov's gift card!! This is a great deal for the church and for the purchaser. Contact the office to let Linda know how many passes you would like to purchase. Please tell everyone you know that we are participating in this event, as there are many other non-profits doing the same. This is an in-store only event .



Health & Wellness – Short and Sweet

“Continue to MASK-UP with Social Distancing”

This month's article has some frightening and serious content, but all is based on the truth of the current status of Covid 19.

A few months ago it seemed we were beating COVID.

Enter the Delta Variant!

We continue to see in the news sports events with the stands quite full, crowded concerts with people shoulder to shoulder, and gatherings of all sorts in major cities. There are occasional persons with a mask, but social distancing is nonexistent.

WHAT ARE WE BEING TOLD NOW?

If you are unvaccinated or vaccinated always wear a mask and social distance regardless of where you are and with whom.

WHY?

As we hear on the news every day and several times a day: **The Delta Variant is dangerous!**

The Delta Variant:

- Is quite contagious and easily passed even to someone who is vaccinated. A vaccinated person may be asymptomatic (not exhibiting symptoms), but can be a carrier and infect others.

- The unvaccinated person who contracts Covid becomes very ill requiring hospitalization, most likely ending up on a ventilator, and faces possible death or post-covid lasting, incapacitating health concerns.
- To help overcome the Delta variant, one major thing we can each do is wear a mask. Also, unless you have a medical condition contraindicating the vaccine, get vaccinated.
 - How many times on the news do we hear a victim of Covid saying they wish they had gotten the vaccine?
 - How often in the news do we hear a distraught parent who says they should have gotten the vaccine because now their child is hospitalized and very ill with Covid?
 - How often do we see a picture of a beautiful family only to know one or more members of that family has died from Covid because they were not vaccinated?
 - How many more children will be left without one or both parents?
 - How many parents will lose a child to Covid?
- Listen to the percentages of those hospitalized. The average, on a daily basis, of new cases and of hospitalized patients is about **95% UNVACCINATED!** There is a continual rise of hospitalized children under 12 with Covid and some die.

WHAT WILL THE FUTURE HOLD?.....

At this time there is another variant on the horizon. The more Covid spreads, greater the chance there will be more variants. As with the Flu, it mutates every year with a new strain necessitating an annual Flu shot.

To combat this possibility our country must take control of the virus and the best way is to get vaccinated to decrease the spread. So spread the word to others and be aware of your surroundings. Wear a mask and social distance.

Watch for this column for “Shorts on Health and Wellness” in the monthly Newsletter. I will continue providing Covid updates. For October I would be happy to receive suggested topics you are interested in. So if you have Questions/suggestions? – contact Dorothy Groves. Cell phone 609-405-4134, or [email at grovesdorothy@gmail.com](mailto:grovesdorothy@gmail.com)

Stay Safe!

September Communion Offering:

Local Benevolence

September Liturgist

Sue Medoro

September Shut-in of the Month



Marge Watson
99 E. Main Street. Rm 402
Marlton NJ 08053

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

September Birthdays

13 Lindsai Arcaini
19 Emily Whiteley
19 Gerry Gosk
20 Anastasia Barrus
23 Paul Griffis
27 Cindy Burroughs
27 Terry Mazur
27 Jake VanArnam
29 Jack Deal



September Anniversaries

24 Peg and George Keel
29 Sue and Mario Medora
30 Diane and Mike Stanley



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. • Susan H • Mike & Tyler S.
• Mary P • Tiara C • Anne and Joe
• Miles J • Ron & Samantha F.
• Charlie W and family • 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.
• Gerry G • Gail Lore • Keeyoung K

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
• We need volunteers to take leadership roles.
Pray for God's voice.
• Bill B friend of Ef and Jack has a rare sinus cancer
• Estelle in the hospital and George at home
• Scott R is home recovering from a stroke
• Bob F for relief of back and leg pain

- Carol J for continued healing for her knee
- Bill and Anne S for strength during Bill's chemo treatment
- Marty J in Florida is undergoing treatment for lung cancer and is not doing well.
- Peg L recovering from surgery
- Tracy's mother Caroline is home from rehab



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: Rev. Dr. Jisun Kwak
* Admin. Asst.: Linda Holonia
* Director of Music: Mia Reich
* Organist: David Reich
* Pianist: Jesse Deal
Church Office email: audubonumc@verizon.net
Pastor's email: pastorjisun@gmail.com

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: <https://www.audubonumc.com/>
Check us out on Twitter: [@Audubon_UMC](https://twitter.com/Audubon_UMC)



AudubonUMC

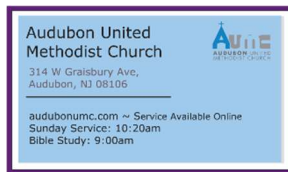
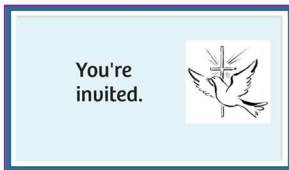
Vision 2021 - Writing Acts 29

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7T-BxrKGgDkWrn5TwCGMOA>

Don't forget about our Outreach cards!

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



Mark your calendars for these events:
Every Weds. @7:30 Comfort Food on Zoom

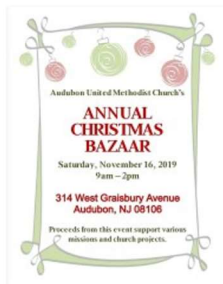


Sept. 12 9:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School

Sept. 19 after worship
UMW/Victorious Women
Baby Shower for
Options for Women
PCC



Saturday, Nov. 13



UMW Annual



Dec. 12, 5-8 p.m.
Live Nativity

Details to follow!

