

Mt. Auburn United Methodist Church—11/20/2013



*In everything
Give thanks.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18

What's Happening...

- Help decorate the church for Christmas
- Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes due this Sunday
- Volunteer for "Breakfast with St. Nick"
- Plan to attend the Youth Play and Christmas Cantata
- Find ways to serve this Christmas

—And more . . .



Mt. Auburn
United Methodist Church
3100 W. Stones Crossing Rd.
Greenwood, IN 46143
www.mtauburnumc.org



Church Office Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm
Phone 535-8555 Fax 535-1210

Dr. J. Wesley Hertel—ext. 1305

Senior Pastor

Rev. Ben Greenbaum—ext. 1309

Assoc. Pastor

Mr. Bill Dittinger—ext. 1308

Dir. of Worship

Mrs. Karen Heirick—ext. 1311

Dir. of Music Min.

Mrs. Myrna Lorenz ext. 1303

Dir. of Adult Min.

Mr. Travis Taylor—ext. 1352

Dir. of Youth Min.

Rev. John K. Worthinger

JAM Program Director

Mrs. Nancy Van Dyke—ext. 1319

Dir. of Child. Min.

Mrs. Beth Carter—ext. 1306

Dir. of Wkday Child. Min.

Mrs. Melissa Truelove—ext. 1304

Membership Services Coordinator

Mrs. Amy Shockley—ext. 1318

Dir. of Communications

Mrs. Lisa Stiffler—ext. 1345

Parish Nurse

Mrs. Denise Speer—ext. 1302

Business Administrator

Mr. Jerry Heistand—ext. 1351

Facility Manager

Mr. Duane Jaeger—ext. 1353

Technical Director

Mrs. Carrie Ray—ext. 1315

Head Custodian

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Regular Weekly Activities

Sundays

8:10am Prayer in Chapel
 9:00am Worship, S.S. & Life Groups
 10:30am Worship, Life Groups, & JAM
 7-9pm Men's Open Gym

Mondays

9:30-11:30am Moms n More -Rm 210
 6:00-7:30pm Marlin Group-1/2 Crts
 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts -Upper Rooms
 7:30-9pm Shockley - 1/2 Crts

Tuesdays

9:30-11:30am Ladies Bible Study --Rm 205
 6-7:30pm Ruff - Crts
 7pm Prayer with Rev. Mecwan-Chapel
 7:30-9pm Marlin - Cts

Wednesdays

9:30-11:30am Ladies Bible Study--Rm 211
 10:00-2:15pm Jerry's Dance Class-CR
 6:00pm Health Counseling,
 6:00pm Handbells
 6:00-7:30pm Shockley - 1/2 Crts.
 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study--Rm 205
 6:30-8pm Youth LG-YR, Rm 206, 207
 7:00pm JAM Rehearsal-CCC,
 7:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursdays

9:30am Staff Mtg.—Rm 204
 6:30-8:00pm Wilson/Thovson LG--In home
 6:30pm Women's Bible Study—Rm 208
 7:00pm Band Rehearsal-The Courts

Saturday

4:25pm Youth Band Practice - CCC
 5:30-7pm SNL Worship - CCC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11:30-1pm Orchestra- Choir Rm 2-6pm Hanging of the Green	2 7pm-Staff Parish-Rm 32 9:30 Prayer Group-Audrey Miller's home	3 7pm-Cub Scouts-UR	4	5 BS--Rm 205 6-8pm-GS Ser. Unit CR/ Rm 12 6:30pm-Bod for God- Rm.204	6 6:30pm McNamee LG-YR	7 9-11am-TH/Kit Autism Breakfast w/St Nick 12-3pm MDA-TH
8 11:30-1pm Orchestra- Choir Rm	9 9:30am-Prayer Shawl-TH 6pm-Trustees-Rm 25 7pm Shalom Circle- Audrey Miller's home	10 9:30 Piecemakers 204 6pm Health Min-Rm 25 6pm GS #2703-Rm 26 6pm GS #1044-CR 7pm Cub Scouts-UR	11 6pm Handbells-Cts 6pm Orchestra-Choir Rm 7pm Choir, handbells, Orchestra-Cts	12 6pm GS #879-café 6pm GS #1172-CR	13 6:30pm 4:4 Forum	14 9 & 10am Breakfast w/St Nick-TH,Courts 11-12:30 Cantata Rehearsal 5:30 One Clear Star-CCC
15 Christmas Cantata	16 9:30-11am Prayer-C	17 7pm Cub Scouts-FH 7pm Bookies-Rm 25	18	19 6pm GS#879-Cafe 6:30 Bod for God-Rm 204 7pm New Amb. Training - Rm 210 7pm Boy Scouts-Rm 206 6-8pm Daycare-FH, Cts	20 6:30pm McNamee LG-YR	21
22 8-12 Blood Drive-CR	23 7pm Ad Board-Rm 204	24 7 & 11pm Christmas Eve Services	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31	<p> KEY: S.S.—Sunday School; UR—Upper Rooms; FH—Fellowship Hall; L— Library BS—Boy Scouts; CS—Cub Scouts; GS—Girl Scouts; Chapel —C; OFLC—O'Dell Family Life Center; CR—Community Rm; TH—Trinity Hall; YR—Youth Rm; K—Kitchen; Cts—The Courts; UR—Upper Rms; CCC— Chambers Celebration Center </p>			



December Birthdays

Dec 1	Kate Boyce John Burdsall Jeff Lake Roger Thompson	Dec 11	Jennifer Chain Jeff Kruse Alan Rice Logan Wade
Dec 2	Alice Bishop Shane Mullins Gloria Smith	Dec 12	DeeDee Cox Tonya Overton
Dec 4	Alice Burdsall Avery Drane Dennie Lohr	Dec 13	Keith Barrett Maggie Boyce Dottie Morris Joel Rifkind Doris Waters
Dec 5	Carolyn Darstek Steve Nordholt Paige Pine Eric Robe	Dec 14	Nancy Board
Dec 6	Holli Jones Scott Nichols Gillian Semmler Roy Umbarger	Dec 15	Tim Butler
Dec 7	Heather Bonser Zachary Kroll Barbara Letts A.J. Patton Trevor Speer	Dec 16	Walt Umbarger
Dec 8	Clint Carson Jerry McRoberts Teresa Tom	Dec 17	Alberta Coy Macile Fleenor Rick McNeely LaTheda Noonan George Roach
Dec 9	Chase Hawkins	Dec 18	Jeff Brewer Alyssa Harrell Jim Newcomer Steve Rademaker Ernie Wilson
Dec 10	Ella Brown Darrell Francis Damien Noonan Ted Polk Ellie Todd	Dec 19	Sue Boltz Emily Grider Conner Walsh
		Dec 20	Beth Coffey Paula Kopko Ed Orme
		Dec 21	Betty Crouse



Dec 22	Luke Appleton Taylor Carter Jenna Coy Roland Lorenz Cristy Roleson
Dec 24	Aileen Beeler Clara Sjoquist
Dec 25	David Lorenz Matt Maciejczyk Doug Meyer Mary Walker
Dec 26	Jakob Marlin Mary Marshall Alex Plummer
Dec 27	David Armenoff Melissa Carson Norma Jones Mary Kinder Joel McClurg Jamie Newcomer Nate Robe Cassidy Stiffler
Dec 28	Claudia Braman Reese Brichler Katie Gainey Sean Gainey Tyler Hansen Kathy Rice Heather Silvertooth Duane Sjoquist, II
Dec 29	Meredith Braman Jackie Grider
Dec 30	Debbie Bryant Makenna Mullins Lora Thompson Carol Tumey
Dec 31	Jordan Coy Drew Dobbins

December Anniversaries

Dec 2	Pat & Donna Nix
Dec 4	John & Paige Pine
Dec 7	Jerry & Kathy Heistand
Dec 15	Denny & Valerie Blessing
Dec 22	Ted & Alecia Adams
Dec 23	Leon & Ramona Nichol森



My Dear Friends,

Can it really be that we have arrived at the threshold of another Thanksgiving Day? It's unbelievable how quickly a year passes. I know thanksgiving should be an attitude for living everyday, but I am pleased we live in a nation that has set aside a specific day for thanksgiving.

Like all days with good intentions, it has become crowded with much that is superficial – a day to pig out and then fall to sleep with the football game on, or to prepare your strategy to attack the crowds shopping on black Friday.

But, it is more than that. It is a day, for those of us fortunate to have family close, to be together. And, I strongly believe that most of us really do take the time to thank God for all of our blessings. This is the one day I actually feel sorry for the atheist. If an atheist wants to give thanks – whom does he thank? Who do you thank for the sunshine and the rain, good health, overall well-being, and the mysteries of providence? It's not just luck. If it is luck, who sees to it that you are lucky? Who, but God?

However, (and here is what will blow your mind), did you know that we are instructed in scripture to give thanks *"in everything"* to God? That means we thank God not only for the good things, but even the bad that happens to us. Why? Because we know God loves us and we trust that He is using even the bad that happens to us to make us better.

I hope you will join me in worship this Sunday as we join together in singing that great hymn *"For the Beauty of the Earth."* Yes, it is God who creates such a beautiful earth for our enjoyment! Let's remember to thank Him! But let us also remember to thank Him for the storms!

My message for Sunday is taken from Luke 17:11-19 and titled *"The 90 Percenters."* It's the story of the 10 lepers who were healed, but only one returned to give Jesus thanks. That surely is not a percentage indicative of those who give thanks today, is it? If it is, this is one time I don't want to be in the majority.

What about you?

Jim Hertel

Weekly Report of General Giving:

Week Ending	Budgeted Ministries	Debt Reduction Funds	Capital & Sanctuary Funds	Other Funds	Total Received
11/3/13	\$20,196	\$4,456	\$2,630	\$510	\$27,842
11/10/13	\$16,143	\$8,405	-0-	\$111	\$24,659
11/17/13	\$30,213	\$3,886	-0-	\$520	*\$34,619

Weekly Budgeted 2013 Congregational Giving (does not include Debt Reduction) \$22,942.00; Highlighted Other Funds include: Benevolent, Local Missions and Compassion Ministries \$1,141.
 * UMCOR Contributions for the Philippines \$2,336.

Weekly Report of Attendance

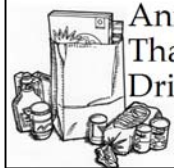
Week Ending	Worship Attendance	S.S. & Life Groups	Participation In Mission
10/27/13	462	216	30
11/3/13	540	298	39
11/10/13	526	281	34
11/17/13	524	275	39



**Hanging of the Green
 Sunday, Dec. 1**

Please come and help decorate the church for the Christmas season.

We plan to decorate in stages.
 Help set up trees from 2-4pm.
 Help decorate trees from 4-6pm.



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to Begin

Thank you for your generosity! Almost 200 bags of groceries were donated and delivered to four local pantries and organizations.

SYMPATHY NOTICES

We remember Rae Cartee and family at the passing of her grandmother Ruth Nye.

We remember Max Williams at the passing of his beloved wife Norma. Services were held in Greenwood.

We also remember Carolyn Patterson and family in prayers at the passing of her beloved husband, Jeff on Nov. 1 The funeral was held at Mt. Auburn.

Rosemary Sanders passed away on Nov. 17. Services will be held in Morgantown this week. Please keep Richard and family in your prayers.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome little ones!

Abel Robert McClurg was born on Nov. 15, to Adam and Mackenzie McClurg. Grandparents are Gary and Bonnie Buckley, and great grandparents are Phil and Kiki Willsey.

Adalyn Grace Mullins was born on Nov. 11, to Shane and Tina Mullins. She is welcomed by her siblings Rylan, Brennan and Makenna.

THANK YOU'S

Thank you so much for the flowers for my father's funeral. Also thank you for the prayers. My father loved attending Mt. Auburn!

—Ken & Nancy Burcham & The Family of Floyd (Pie) D. Garman

A Note from Catherine Turcotte

Catherine Turcotte led us in a Service of Prayer and Forgiveness on Sunday, Nov. 10. On Monday, Nov. 11, she wrote:

I am praising the Lord for yesterday's Service of Prayer and Forgiveness! The Holy Spirit went before us in song selection and in the timing of the service (during the My Hope campaign), and He filled the sanctuary. I had spiritual dreams the night before and a Holy boldness in preaching that amazed me, and I pray blessed the Lord!

I sensed a deep desire for revival and a true thirst for God at Mt. Auburn. I believe everyone came forward at both services to place their repentance prayers in the bowls of water, representing the Living Water. Please join me in praying that each individual experiences the release of repentance and the increased flow of the Living Water, even so much that it gushes onto others.

So thankful to be serving Jesus with you, —Catherine

Bikes For the Homeless

At Tuxedo Park's Community Initiative one will find a vibrant intersect of compassion and hope. Each Thursday the old Baptist church opens up its doors to the surrounding community to come and receive whatever they need, whether it is groceries, clothes, toiletries or a hot meal. It was at Tuxedo Park that I met a man named James White, formerly a homeless man who now lives in the neighboring Gladstone Apartments, the result of the *Indianapolis Partners in Housing Initiative* that secured ten buildings to help house the community's homeless and mentally ill.

James looks to be in his mid-fifties, a little rough around the edges with broad shoulders and a big smile. He has many friends there. When he walks in many people wave to him and cross the room to shake his hand. James is a giver. It is clear by his humble character and warm demeanor that he belongs to Jesus Christ. A little over three years ago, James was staying at *Horizon House* (Indianapolis's only daytime shelter) when he met a woman named Maureen McLean. Maureen is 73 years old and visits the shelter three times a week to pray for and love on the homeless who come there to wash their clothes, receive health care, check their email and search for jobs online. It was through Maureen that James received a bike, which helped him change his circumstances and obtain housing in Gladstone. James now collects and repairs bicycles for free and, with Maureen's help, has given away over 770 bicycles. There are currently 50 people still on their waiting list.

I called Maureen and we talked for over an hour. She is a wonderful woman, full of the Holy Spirit and very passionate about her work with the homeless. She explained to me she has seen how giving a bicycle to a homeless person can help change their life. With their own transportation the homeless are more able to schedule interviews, gain employment, and keep their jobs. They are able to attend classes, keep doctor's appointments, and get back to shelters.

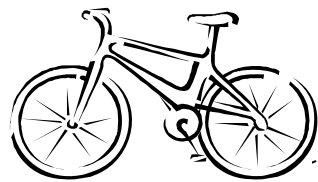
However, bikes aren't the only need. Because of the circumstances surrounding homelessness, theft is always an issue. Maureen shared if they aren't given a good bike lock with their bike, the odds of them keeping it long isn't very good. Furthermore, safety is also an issue. The city busses stop running at midnight and so many who are working third shift positions or night jobs have to peddle to where they are staying in poorly lit conditions. Maureen shared how she had a friend named Bud who was killed by a hit and run last year while riding *home* on the bike she had given him.

So... if you are interested in participating in or contributing to their bike ministry this Christmas season, please contact Travis Taylor on how you can help. Here is a list of what they could use:

- New or used bikes (children's bike are accepted)
- Helmets and Reading Glasses
- Good/sturdy bike locks
- Bike Lights and Various Bike Parts
- Reflective Vests
- Ponchos and Backpacks

May God Bless you as serve the least of these!

Travis Taylor, Director of Youth Ministries
317-535-8555 x1352
travist@mtauburnumc.org



Celebration Sunday

A Great Big Wonderful Day!

Celebration Sunday remains a high day for Mt. Auburn. It's special because we get to show God how much we love Him and trust Him. At Christmas and Easter we thank God for what He has done for us. Celebration Sunday gives us the opportunity to give back to God for all that He has given to us. It's the day we declare that Mt. Auburn can count on us to support its ministries, mission, and administration for the year to come.

Without the wonderful people who work and give generously every week – Mt. Auburn would close. We vote by our stewardship commitments each year to keep Mt. Auburn open, strong, and vital for the Lord's work.

Last Sunday was Celebration Sunday for 2013, and the members of the congregation presented their commitments for next year to be placed on the altar for consecration. It's a holy and sacred moment. If you were one of the many who declared your intentions for next year – **WE THANK YOU!**

If somehow you missed Celebration Sunday, it is not too late. Please return your stewardship forms to the church office right away and let the church know that you can be counted on for 2014. **WE NEED EVERYONE!**

TRAFALGAR UMC OPPORTUNITY

(Will You Pray?)

In the coming month, Mt. Auburn will commission some church members to serve as missionaries to the Trafalgar UMC congregation; this is a part of our formal partnership with Trafalgar UMC. Trafalgar needs assistance to begin children's and youth ministry programs, and we're also looking for assistance to begin Life Groups. Maybe God is calling you to help bring Christ centered renewal to Trafalgar UMC. Would you pray for God's leading? If you believe God is prompting you, or you'd like more information about opportunities at Trafalgar, please call 535-8555 ext. 1309 or e-mail me at beng@mtauburnumc.org.

—Ben Greenbaum



One Clear Star

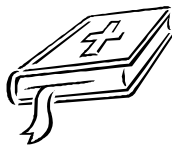


It turns out that many teenagers have a flair for the dramatic... I know, big surprise right? On Saturday, December 14th, our youth will be presenting R.S Charlton's Christmas play, *One Clear Star* in the Chambers from 5:30-7:00pm. A love offering will be collected and all proceeds will go to Tuxedo Park's Community Initiative. This play beautifully captures the essence of the gospel and the precious gift Christ offers to each of us. So, please mark your calendars and bring someone who still needs to find Christ this Christmas and together we'll celebrate all the blessings of this joyous season!
—Travis Taylor



Join us in JAM this Christmas as we learn about the birth of Jesus!

- Dec. 1 "Zechariah—The King is Coming"
- Dec. 8 "The Christmas Guest"
- Dec. 15 "One Clear Star" youth play
- Dec. 22 "Faces Around the Manger"
- Dec. 29 "The Visit of the Wise Men"
- Jan. 5 "The First King—Saul and the Problem of Obedience"



THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

We will be distributing Bibles to the third graders during JAM on Sunday, December 1. Your third grader can look forward to a great story about "Zechariah—The King is Coming" and receive a new Bible. It will be a great morning and one you won't want to miss.

Remember to mark your calendar with this important date. We look forward to seeing you there!

Nancy Van Dyke,
Director of Children's Ministry

Rev. John Wortinger,
JAM Program Director



At Mt. Auburn

We have started a new program for school age children at the daycare. Mt. Auburn has recently formed a Christ Youth Bible Club group (CYBC). This is a non-denominational Christian Bible study program that is being implemented in the daycare. CYBC is designed to be led with adult volunteers to teach elementary school aged children how to use and study their Bible, pray together and live out Christian values. Mt. Auburn CYBC will be involved in several service projects as well. We recently participated in Operation Christmas Child, filling 20 boxes!

Our goal is to equip each child with a firm foundation in the Word of God, while developing leadership skills and instilling confidence in living out their faith. This will teach them as they move up through middle and high school to rely on God and His Word as a lamp unto their feet and a light unto their path (Psalm 119:105). It is our hope that these students will build lasting and godly friendships that will help them stand strong together and even step out as leaders during their more challenging middle and high school years.

At the daycare, CYBC meets each Wednesday from 3:45 to 4:45. This year we will be studying the Fruit of the Spirit. Recently, Mary Ann Sutton joined us as a shepherd. Would you be interested in sharing the word with children? If you would like to help shepherd please contact one of us; we would love to have you.

We ask for your prayers as we move forward with this exciting program!
God Bless,

Beth Carter, Daycare Director
Nancy Van Dyke, Director of Children's Ministries
Travis Taylor, Director of Youth Ministries

Mission of Christ Youth Bible Club (CYBC)

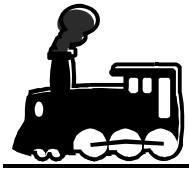
CYBC's mission is to glorify God while equipping each child with a foundational knowledge of the Word of God, developing leadership skills, and building Christian relationships within the community that will enable students to live out their values among their peer groups and lead others by example.

Here's what's happening!

TECHNOLOGY TUESDAYS

Beginning in early November, Duane Jeager will make himself available for the technical needs of congregation members. If you need a little technical help (computer problems, software questions, reprogramming a garage door or even changing a light bulb!), Duane is willing to assist you in between the hours of 9am-3pm on Tuesdays. You may contact him at: duanej@mtauburnumc.org or 535-8555 ext. 1353.

NEXT NEWSLETTER—The next newsletter is scheduled for **Wednesday, Dec. 11**. All items to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Amy Shockley (amys@mtauburnumc.org) by Friday, Dec. 6. Thank you!



Senior Moments Outing!

Join us for lunch at the L.S. Ayres Tea Room on Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 11:30a.m. at the Indiana State Museum. This will be followed by a visit to the "Jingle Rails" exhibit at the Eiteljorg Museum at 1pm. Cost is \$9 (Seniors 65 & older).

Free parking is available in the underground garage when visiting the Eiteljorg Museum (*The Eiteljorg and Indiana State Museum are next to each other.*) Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Jingle Rails: Rediscover your inner child as you enter a one-of-a-kind locomotive wonderland. Bring the entire family and marvel as trains wind past treasures of Indianapolis and the American West, including Soldiers and Sails Monument, Lucas Oil Stadium, the Indiana State Fair, a working replica of Old Faithful, Golden Gate Bridge, the Grand Canyon and other wonders.



MT. AUBURN BLOOD DRIVE SUNDAY, Dec. 22 8:30AM-Noon

Sign up in Trinity Hall on Sundays Dec. 8 and 15 or online at: https://www.donorpoint.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/72389

Walk-ins Welcome! Bring a photo ID with first & last name. Give Blood. Save a Life.



How many boxes can Mt. Auburn fill for Operation Christmas Child?

Return your filled shoe boxes to church by Sunday, Nov. 24.



Mark December 7 and 8 To Join in the Celebration of David Ntogohnya's Graduation from Seminary!

It was my 3rd trip to Uganda in the summer of 2008 to teach lay pastors that I believed God gave me a vision to develop a theologically trained leadership for the church's next generation. By the fall of 2010, David Ntogohnya arrived in the United States to begin the Master's of Divinity degree at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.

We've watched David excel and grow at seminary in the past 3 years, and now he is ready to graduate on December 6. Mt. Auburn has sponsored him fully along with the scholarships Asbury has provided. David has sacrificed much to pursue his seminary education. He has a wife and two small children in Uganda that he has only been able to see once a year in January when back in Uganda. David's wife is coming to America to be present for his graduation, and then very soon they both will return to Uganda to continue the ministry for which he has been training.

Before that happens, we want David and his wife to come to Mt. Auburn so our congregation can celebrate his graduation. So, set aside Saturday, December 7, and Sunday, December 8.

On **Saturday evening, December 7, at 5 p.m.** there will be a banquet in David's honor. This will be a pitch-in fellowship church-wide dinner. Bring a meat, vegetable, salad, or dessert dish large enough to share with a big crowd. Table service will be provided. David will share with us his heart and passion for ministry as he prepares to return to Africa.

Then on **Sunday, December 8, at both services**, Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas, the past President of Asbury Seminary will be preaching and he will present David his diploma. Dr. Kalas was the President of the seminary when David entered in the fall of 2010. He welcomed him and made it possible for him to attend Asbury. It is, therefore, fitting that he be here as we celebrate the end of this long journey, and the beginning of a new one. Dr. Kalas is one of United Methodism's best preachers. Don't miss this!

—Jim Hertel

PREPARING FOR ADVENT WORSHIP

- December 1** **1st Sunday of Advent—HOPE**
"God's Peaceful Reign" Isaiah 2:1-5
Dr. Hertel, Preaching
- December 8** **2nd Sunday of Advent—THE WAY**
Dr. Ellsworth Kalas, Preaching
Past President of Asbury Seminary
Honoring Rev. & Mrs. David Ntoghnya
- December 14** **Saturday Night Life**
"One Clear Star"
A play presented by youth at 5:30pm
- December 15** **3rd Sunday of Advent—JOY**
"On This Shining Night"
A Christmas Cantata presented by Music Ministries
At both 9:00 & 10:30
- December 22** **4th Sunday of Advent—PEACE**
"God's Sign of Peace" Isaiah 7:10-16
Dr. Hertel, Preaching
- December 24** **Christmas Eve**
"God's Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:2-7
Dr. Hertel, Preaching
7pm Family Service
11pm Candlelight Service



WHAT IS ADVENT?

Advent is the season when we prepare ourselves to receive God's gift of Jesus. It is a time of "getting ready" for the celebration of Christmas. During this time, Christians observe a season of prayer, fasting and repentance, followed by anticipation, hope, and joy.

Many Christians celebrate Advent not only by thanking God for Christ's first coming to Earth as a baby, but also for his presence among us today through the Holy Spirit, and in preparation and anticipation of his final coming at the end of time.

Watch each week at Mt. Auburn as we light a candle representing this special time.

Myrna Lorenz to Return to School

One of the joys of serving a long time in a congregation is to witness the growth in the spiritual lives of people. When I came to Mt. Auburn, Roland and Myrna were a happy couple with careers, fresh from Canada, and no children. It's funny the things you remember about people. Myrna had a car with a telephone for her work. In itself, that was not so unique. Car phones were becoming common, but Myrna's had an answering machine. I had never seen that in a car before. It may not sound like much now, but that was over 23 years ago, and before voice mail. I was impressed!

When David and Peter came along, Myrna's secular career closed, but she then found her real purpose—the reason why God had made her and put her here. With Barb Howard as a mentor, she found her passion for small groups in church to learn and teach the Bible. And, you know, Myrna could sell ice to Eskimos, so—her passion has been contagious!

Honestly, I credit Myrna's leadership in adult ministries, with Barb Howard's mentorship, as one of the main contributing factors to renewal and revitalization of our congregation. Now, Myrna has decided to return to school and pursue a Masters degree in Applied Biblical Studies at Moody Theological Seminary.

Myrna will be the fourth member of our staff to return to school. We were able to pay for Travis Taylor's Bachelor's degree program which he finished this spring, and we await his next steps. Ben will soon (very soon!) begin a Doctoral program at Asbury Seminary. The congregation has committed to pay for this. Karen is now pursuing a Doctoral program in worship. We have paid some of her tuition.

I want the congregation to take it upon its heart to support Myrna and Karen fully by helping them to pay for all of their educational expenses. I think you share that desire with me. When you are given an opportunity, I will ask you to give generously. Thank you. You are the best congregation!

—Jim Hertel

Year-End Giving Instructions

About 10% of our annual offerings are received during the month of December. If you want to make a gift to the church and receive credit for tax purposes this year, then be sure to have your offering into the church office no later than 12 noon, Tuesday, December 31. If you need help, please call Denise Speer in the Business Office at 535-8555. Thank you for your support of our ministries.

From Health Ministries...

I want thank all the volunteers of the health fair at the Sikh Temple on Saturday, Nov. 9. It was a beautiful day in so many ways. We were blessed with sunny skies and many people from Mt. Auburn willing to help! The fair was designed to reach many people that don't or haven't had health care available to them. We saw a total of 118 people and many that needed assistance in disease management that they were unaware of. With the prayers lifted for a collaboration with the Sikhs to allow us to reach out to them, we were successful in just that. I want to say thank you to Dr. Hertel, Rev. Manabí, Mary Ann Sutton, Deb McGuire, Audrey Miller, Barb Voris, Susan Sjoquist, Jerry and Louise McRoberts, Myrna Lorenz, Carrie Ray, James Weidman, many nursing students, a pharm D, NKF Volunteers and Dr. Anil Jain for their compassionate hearts for others on this day.

—Lisa D. Stiffler Parish Nurse

VOLUNTEER NEEDS FROM OMS

OMS needs 1 or 2 volunteers to hang lights on the OMS lobby Christmas tree preferably on the afternoon of Monday, Nov. 25th. They are flexible on timing, and if you're so inclined, OMS would not object to having the entire tree decorated!

On Wednesdays, OMS offers a lunch in their Fellowship Hall. They need a volunteer to help with cleanup after these lunches. This can be either a man or woman. If interested in any of the opportunities, please contact: Doris Waters, Volunteer Coordinator, One Mission Society, 941 Fry Road, Greenwood. 317/888-3333, Ext. 300 Cell: 317/442-0893

NEW STUDIES BEGINNING THIS SUNDAY!

Shockley Parker Life Group 9 am on Sunday in Room 210 will be studying Faith Lessons with Ray Vander Laan. Faith Lessons are fascinating Bible studies with tour guide and historian Ray Vander Laan. Filmed in Israel and Turkey where Bible events actually took place, Ray weaves together historical, cultural, and geographical contexts to reveal keen insights into how people in biblical times understood God and Jesus' teaching.

Lorenz Life Group 9 am on Sunday in Room 209 will be studying the book *Get Their Name* by Bob Farr, Doug Anderson and Kay Kotan. This is one of the books recommended by the Fruitful Congregation Initiative and mentioned in our prescription document. We will read this book with an emphasis on obedience to what God has called us to do. Anyone interested in taking this journey with us is welcome to join us for this study.

Tickets on Sale Soon...

Breakfast with St. Nicholas

Saturday, Dec. 14

Two Seatings: 9 & 10 a.m.

Join us for breakfast: French toast sticks, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee cake, beverages

Children's activities: crafts, games, a visit & photo with St. Nicholas!

Cost: \$5.00 (adults); \$4.00 (children 3-11 yrs);
Free 2 & under

Tickets: Must be purchased in advance. Available on Sundays, Nov. 24, and Dec. 1 and 8 or in church office (6a-6p). Seating limited.

Volunteers needed—how can you help?

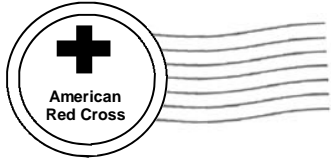
(Circle volunteer time) **9:00 or 10:00**

- I will help serve breakfast in the serving line or "wait" on families.
- I will help cook breakfast.
- I will run a craft.
- I will run a game.
- I will donate a coffee cake.
- I will be a runner/greeter.
- I will help clean up after the breakfast.
- I will help set up on Friday.

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

**Please return in the offering plate, to the church office or contact
Nancy Van Dyke: nancyv@mtauburnumc.org 535-8555 ext. 1319**

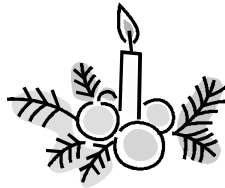


*Help Send
"Holiday Mail for Heroes"*

Sunday, Dec. 1, is the last day you'll be able to help send holiday greeting cards with messages of thanks and support to men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. Stop by the table on the east end of Trinity Hall where cards are available for you to sign. Supplies are also there if you'd like to make a card. It's certainly a difficult time to be away from loved ones, so be sure and share your wishes of gratitude to our military. Cards will be gathered and collectively mailed on Monday, Dec. 2, through the American Red Cross. Sponsored by the Shockley/Parker Life Group.

Holiday Help Fund

If you wish to recognize a loved one in the Christmas Eve bulletins as a dedication or memorial, we ask that you make a \$5 donation to the church's Help Fund. The Help Fund is used for needy families in the area. Please submit this form no later than 12/15 and make all checks payable to Mt. Auburn.



Name: _____

Phone No: _____

In memory of/in honor of (circle): _____

Amount Enclosed: _____



Ring Bells for the Salvation Army!

Help ring bells for the Salvation Army for a one hour interval from 9am-9pm on Friday, Dec. 6 at the Greenwood Park Mall Food Court entrance (inside) by Dick's and from 9am-8pm on Saturday, Dec. 7 at Kroger (135 & Fairview). Sign up at the Welcome Center.



**Be an Angel...
Pick an Ornament!**

Beginning Sunday, Dec. 1, you'll be able to select one or more "ornaments" and purchase the gifts indicated on the tag for the 60 children of the families that Mt. Auburn adopts.

The shape and color of the paper ornaments indicate the family and child represented. Five gift tags (1 toy/special gift and 4 clothing items) will be made for each of the 60 children we will serve this year. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

1. Please select one or more ornaments;
2. Purchase only the gift specified on the tag;
3. Wrap the gift;
4. **Tie** the paper ornament to the gift (please do not tape the ornament tags to the packages);
5. **Return these to the church by 11 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 22.**

Mt. Auburn has always been a generous congregation, and we know you will want to help provide some holiday joy for these families in need. Please, though, only purchase the gift as designated. Since there are multiple children in most of the families we have adopted, we want to be sure that each child receives the same number of packages.

Volunteers are needed to deliver the gifts to the families Dec. 22-24, who are all in the Greenwood/Whiteland /Franklin areas. If you can help please contact Maureen at Maureen@peigenesis.com or at 317-308-4491.



Four Corners Mission Opportunity

After the tags are off the Angel Tree, our Christmas tree looks really lonely. Help decorate it by bringing mittens, gloves, hats, or scarves for our friends in the Four Corners area of the U.S. Many of the native Americans live in the high desert area where it gets very cold. It has been our tradition to send these winter items to Shiprock, Arizona, where they are distributed to those in need. Any questions? Call us at 882-0404. —Gene and Carolyn Freeman