

Audubon United Methodist Church

314 Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114

April, 2015 Newsletter

Sunday Worship Opportunities:

9:00 AM Contemporary Service

9:00 AM Church School for all ages

10:30 AM Traditional Service

From the Pastor:



"Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, 'Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to

sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?'"

Then they remembered Jesus' words."

Luke 24:5-8 The Message

Easter is upon us. We are getting ready to celebrate the greatest Holy Day of the Christian faith. Sure we have Palms on Palm Sunday, Communion on Holy Thursday, a Tenebrae Service on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday we sing "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" and other hymns that celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. But sometimes I wonder, do we really believe it? Too many Christians live like the resurrection didn't happen. And if it did happen, it has no effect on how they live their lives. In a moment of exasperation, the Apostle Paul raised this question in his letter to the Colossians...

"If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the universe, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world?" Colossians 2:20 NRSV.

My challenge to all of us this Easter is to live like we really believe Jesus was raised from the dead. That will affect how we look at everything, our lives, our jobs, our families and friends, even our church.

(The pastor's message is continued on page 3)



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 presented by Gwen Evans in memory of her parents, Rev. and Mrs. David C. Evans.

Meetings and Events

- April 2 7:30 PM Upper Room Communion
- April 3 7:30 PM Tenebrae Service
- April 5 Easter – He Is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!
- April 7 7:30 PM Admin Council Conover Parlor
- April 12 Collingswood Manor April Showers gifts
Deadline for May Newsletter –send to
Marilyn Radley smradley@verizon.net
- April 21 7:00 PM Trustees meeting

Weekly Meetings:

Mondays: Seekers (7-8 PM) Conover Parlor
Men's Prayer Group 7 PM at the Arcaini's
AA (7:30-8:30 PM) Adult Assembly Room

Wednesdays:

Chancel Choir (7:30–9 PM) Sanctuary

Sundays: Hand Bell Rehearsal 11:45 AM

Young Adult Bible Study 5:30 PM
Downstairs Lounge

Youth Group (6 pm) 2nd Floor Grades 6-12

Church Office Hours

Monday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Wednesday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Friday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Time to update the Church Directory

Please check your name, address phone number, birthday and anniversary dates in the current Directory (it's pink and dated *Fall 2012*). If it is incorrect, please provide the correct information to the church office and in the copy of the directory in the Narthex.

District Good Friday Men's Breakfast

April 3 @ 6:55 am

A Good Friday Men's Breakfast is being held at the Crowne Plaza 2349 W. Marlton Pike Cherry Hill. Cost is \$18.00 /pp.

The Special Guest Speaker will be Cedric Brown a Former Philadelphia Eagle and now the Pastor of Commitment Community Church. For tickets: Please contact FUMC Collingswood @ 856-858-1186 or maria@fumccollingswood.org

UMW - Victorious Women

Spring Ladies Day at America's Keswick Wednesday, May 13, 2015

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, doors open at 8:00 AM

Speaker: Liz Curtis Higgs, is back!

Registration: \$22 per person ***Includes 3 sessions, continental breakfast, and gourmet boxed lunch.*** Call today and order your tickets! 800.453.7942, or purchase your tickets online at:

<http://www.americaskeswick.org>

If you have any questions, see Lyn Radley

Bible 101 is Extending class for 2 more weeks!

Bible 101 is a basic refresher study of the Bible every Sunday morning in March from 9-10 AM downstairs in the Adult Assembly Room.

Discussion of covenant, oppression and salvation in the Old and New Testaments. Grab your coffee and head downstairs.

Sunday School for all ages at 9 AM

Children meet in the Hoffman Room

Teens meet in the downstairs lounge

Seekers (men and women) meet in Conover Parlor

Fidelis Class (women) meets in the Chapel

Special Note: all children attending 12 Sundays between now and June will receive a Chick-Fil-A gift card.

Calling All Children who love to make Noise!!!

The AUMC Children's Choir needs YOU. Children of ANY age please consider joining us – you don't need to be "the best", you just need to love singing and fun!



We rehearse every Sunday morning beginning April 12th at 9:45 AM in Fellowship Hall. We are hoping to have our very first "performance" on Children's Day. Please call Music Director Mia Reich at 858-2565 with any questions.

Angels on Wheels Ministry

Our Angels on Wheels ministry is excited to report that we will be providing Easter Dinners to the 12 families (from the Angel Tree) in our community! We could not have done this without your prayers and support! It humbles me to see the graciousness and generosity of our local community retailers: ShopRite of Lawnside, ShopRite of Brooklawn, Sonic of Audubon, Chick-Fil-A of Audubon, Del Buonos of Haddon Heights and Wegmans of Cherry Hill!

Please...when you frequent these stores, remember to take an extra moment and seek the manager and let him/her know that you are from AUMC and thank them for their generous contribution to our outreach mission "Angels on Wheels!"

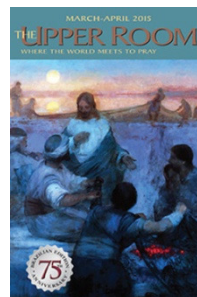
We are still collecting non-perishable items as well as monetary donations all through the year. The "Soup Kettle" will be located in the Narthex.

April Showers for Collingswood Manor

Each resident is given a bag that they may fill with any of the items listed below. They look forward to this day every year. Please bring any items to the narthex by Sunday April 12th.

Dish cloths	Tea Towels	Dish Soap
Sponges	Soft Soap	Laundry Soap
Hand Towels	Baby Oil	Handy Wipes
Comb	Brush	Bobby Pins
Shampoo	Bar Soap	Baby Powder
Vaseline	Deodorant	Hand Lotion
Tooth Paste	Tooth Brush	Dental Floss
Poly-Grip	Denture Tooth Paste	
Wash Cloths	Face Cream	Dusting Powder
Cotton Balls	After Shave	Emery Boards
Shower Cap	Kleenex	Paper Napkins
Socks	Safety Pins	Needle and Thread
Note Paper	Scotch Tape	Puzzle Books
Greeting Cards Pens and Pencils		
Zip-lock Sandwich Bags		

Upper Room Devotional Books



The March/April issue of the Upper Room is still available at the wall mounted display by the Graisbury Ave. door. They come in regular and large print editions. If you wish to receive the Upper Room via email or to download the app for Android or Apple go to: <http://devotional.upperroom.org/emaildevotional>

(Continued - pastor's message from page 1)

If the resurrection is real that means our Savior lives! His promises are real and so is his power. Christians have no need to drag along defeated and demoralized. Much of society thinks Christians are narrow, unnecessary and irrelevant. I've even heard some talking heads liken Christians to Muslim extremists or even a cult... a threat to modern society. We are in good company. Jesus was viewed as a threat to the status quo by political and religious leaders of his day. He did not come with words of hatred and violence, but with a message of love, forgiveness and new life. To seal the deal, he died in our place, taking our sins to the cross with him. Then came God's Masterpiece... he raised Jesus from the dead! At the very heart of our faith is the resurrection... not some symbolic gesture, not a fairy tale for children or false hope to misguided, unintelligent, superstitious people, Jesus really is alive! If we know this, then we live like it. We worship like it. We witness like it.

My question for Audubon UMC is simple... is our ministry driven by the risen Christ, or simply a sense of duty and tradition? Do we boldly proclaim Jesus is alive or just try to fit in to our society without making waves? I want to invite you to join me in creating a disturbance in our communities. Jesus Christ will be as alive to non-religious and nominally religious folks in our towns as he is to us. They either see lives and a church empowered by the risen Lord or folks who act like they just aren't sure. Be sure... be very sure. And when you are, I am reminded of a line from the hymn "He Lives." "You ask me how I know he lives... he lives within my heart." Won't that shake things up!

Happy Easter to you all,

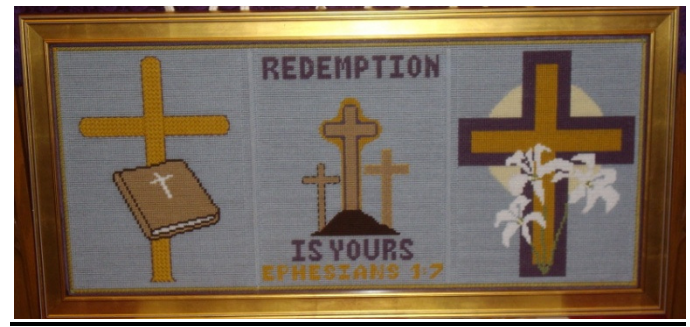
Pastor Walt, Carol, Walter and Miles

Military Mission

If you know of any active duty military personnel whether serving in the US or overseas, please notify the office or fill out the gold address form. We will be praying for them regularly and sending cards and packages.

Thank you for everyone who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt!

As they say.... a good time was had by all!
"Hoppy" children, fun, food and of course, lots of chocolate, candy and eggs!



FORGIVENESS MURAL

We have a new addition to our church, a forgiveness mural hanging on the wall in the narthex. Mary Tharan created this plastic canvas project to beautify our church and show the victory God has given us through Christ's Death and Resurrection. There are three panels on the mural. The first panel has a Bible which seems to be leaning against a cross. The second panel depicts Calvary, where Jesus gave His life for our redemption. The gold stitching around one cross represents the thief who repented, while the cross with black stitching represents the thief who mocked Jesus instead. At the top of this panel you will see the word REDEMPTION, and at the bottom the scripture, Ephesians 1:7. The third panel, with lilies on a gold and purple cross, shows the glorious message of Easter. When you see this mural as you leave the sanctuary, may it be a reminder to you of God's great love for us, and the strength He gives us to live a Christian life and to forgive others.

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.
Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)

Nature Walk

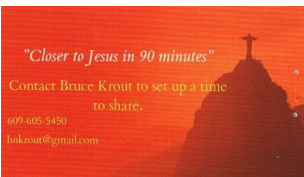
Join Coleen Makuszewski and Bruce Krout on Saturday, April 25th at the Palmyra Cove Nature Park (next to the Delaware River and Tacony-Palmyra Bridge). We will meet at 10:30 AM in the parking lot of the P.C.N.P. Coleen's biology background and experience with the NJ DEP and Bruce's background as a Delaware River Ambassador and environmental educator for P.C.N.P. should make this an informative 2 hour walk. It is primarily a nature/bird walk with discussions about Delaware River history and environmental sustainability, as well. There are picnic tables available and a beautiful education building to visit after the walk if you like. Group size will be limited to the first 20 folks that sign up.

Consider asking your friends and family to come along as we consider the awesomeness and beauty of God's nature. Sign up for the walk on the clipboard found in the Narthex. If interest is great enough, a second tentative date on May 9th is being considered. Binoculars, bug spray, and lunch are items you might bring.

Contact Bruce Krout for more information.
(856)547-7593 bnkrout@gmail.com

Men's Prayer Group meets on Monday evenings at 7 PM at the Arcaini residence. Contact Dan or Bruce Krout for additional information.

Closer to Jesus in 90 Minutes



If you or someone you know is interested please contact Bruce Krout at 609-605-5450
bnkrout@gmail.com

Electronic Giving

Never worry about forgetting your envelope again! The Vanco Services Electronic Giving Form has been updated. Whether you currently give electronically or would like to begin, you have a number of choices. You can designate your offering to any of the following funds and you can choose the weekly, semi-monthly or monthly options.

Tithes & Offerings	Repairs and Maintenance
Advent Offering	Christmas Offering
Lenten Offering	Easter Offering
Thanksgiving Offering	United Methodist Women
AUMC Walker/Bowen Scholarship Fund	
Stephen Betts Scholarship Fund	
Capital Improvements/Major Repairs Fund	
Shared Ministry/Missions	A Future With Hope.

If you would like to update your electronic giving choices or begin electronic giving, complete the attached form, enclose it in an envelope and place it in the blue Treasurer's folder in the Narthex.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Offertory envelopes are available in the Narthex for donation to this cause. For additional information, please visit www.umgiving.org

A Little Humor: Know your scripture

A woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was startled by an intruder. She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled:

"Stop! Acts 2:38!" (Repent and be Baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins may be forgiven.) The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar: 'Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you.' 'Scripture?' replied the burglar. 'She said she had an Ax and Two 38's!' Knowing scripture can save your life - in more ways than one! (Thanks to Cheryl Laxton)

April Shut-in of the Month

Gwen Wylde
Collingswood Manor
460 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108

Please 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
29 Walter Jesuncosky, IV



April Anniversaries

15 Dot and Charlie Pierce

If you or your family members have not been included in this past year's list of birthdays and anniversaries, please contact the church office or Marilyn Radley (smradley@verizon.net)

April Communion Offering

Camden Urban Ministry Initiative, a cooperative after-school program in Camden.

April Greeters:

Dan and Lindsy Arcaini

April Ushers:

Peg and Tracy Schnyer
Cheryl Laxton

April Liturgist:

Mark VanArnam

April Counters:

Bob and Barbara Kondras
Don Canning

Prayers – Praise - Thanks



Numerous prayer requests have been mentioned or written on prayer cards. Some of them are listed here. Since our newsletter is posted on our website, last names are omitted for privacy.

Prayer requests from our weekly bulletins

- Doug J. (Ef's brother)
- Mike & Tyler S.
- Shannon P. (Fitzgerald's niece)
- Beverly F (Chris's mother)
- Tom J. (George MacCulloch's friend)
- Kathleen B (George MacCulloch's cousin)
- Anne (Barbara Hertfelder's neighbor)
- Danielle and Samantha (in prison) - Kim
- Nancy E. (friend of Sarah Gibbons)
- Carol and Bill B (friends of Dorothy Groves)
- Carol B (friend of Dorothy Groves)
- Dorothy H/S (friend of Kim Williams)
- Phil S (Carol F)
- Allison K
- Katie V
- Carol Jo and Carol F

Our Friends with Special Needs

- Norma A.
- Jean S.
- Florence W.
- Gwen W.
- Edith W.
- Peg L.
- Gerry G.
- Bill and Kay R.
- Wyone and Bob B.
- Jim T.
- Gwen E.
- Ed S.
- Marge and Emmett W.
- Dan A

Prayer Card Requests

- The Hofbauer's son, James, who is in Bulgaria.
- Ruslana's father and brother-in-law
- Prayers for salvation and a spirit of a willing heart for my Dad. -- Lindsi
- Praise! Rebekah has a hearing date (5/25) and other issues are resolved.
- Prayers for a friend's daughter, Shannon - Dorothy
- Prayers for her cousins, Michele & Sandy, their Mom my dear aunt Irene, passed away – Jean W
- One co-worker hospitalized, another co-worker's neighbor hospitalized and awaiting rehab or home care – Carol J
- Friend Joe recovering from bypass surgery – Barb and Frank
- Co-worker, Becky, who is going on maternity leave -- William
- Bob F for continued healing and recovery
- My cousin, Jane is having surgery – Eleanor
- Jim (Carol T.'s brother-in-law)

- Hofbauer's friend having hand surgery and job loss
- George H. – God's direction (Karen H.)
- Keith's dad who is dying
- Debbie – health issues (Linda H's friend)

Please contact the office to update any requests you may have made – either answered prayer or no longer needed.

Church Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Walter Jesuncosky, III

Administrative Assistant: Jane Gannon

Director of Music: Mia Reich

Organist: David Reich

Pianist: Jesse Deal

Nursery: Ashley Schnyer, Holly Fitzgerald,

Becca VanArnam, Emily Whiteley