

# Audubon United Methodist Church

314 Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

[www.audubonumc.com](http://www.audubonumc.com) 856-547-6114

## June, 2017 Newsletter

### Sunday Worship Opportunities:

- 9:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
- 9:00 A.M. Church School for all ages
- 10:30 A.M. Traditional Service

### From the Pastor: "Priority #1"

*"Instead, desire first and foremost God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:33 CEB*



**Excuses...** if you are a parent you've heard them all. "The dog ate my homework." "My cellphone died so I missed your call/text." "All my friends are going...getting one, doing it, etc." Every generation thinks it has the most original excuses,

only to find out their parents are often one step ahead of them . . . they used the same excuses when they were young! The same goes for pastors. We get excuses from folks all the time. And we have heard the same ones over and over for years.

"Pastor, I'm just too busy." "Sunday is my day to rest up from a busy week." "The kids/grandkids have so many activities, I just can't come" "I can't afford to tithe...finances are tight." "My feelings were hurt by (fill in the blank)."

I am a parent so I understand how folks are pulled every direction. I've been on a "fixed income" most of my life...the church (the SPRC and Charge Conference) have fixed that amount every year for the forty years I've been a pastor. Rest, yes pastor's need rest, too. Not necessarily the same kind of rest a person who labors physically needs, but we can get drained just like anyone. Pastors get emotionally exhausted dealing with hurt, illness, loss, angry folk, and sin. Hurt feelings? If I let them get to me, I would have hung up my spurs years ago. All I can say is I've heard it all and probably said much of it myself. So how do we get beyond excuses?

*(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 June Newsletter is sponsored by Barbara Hertfelder in loving memory of Charles and Amanda Poopert*

### Meetings and Events

- June 3 Bethany Walk and 5K Run
- June 4 Confirmation and Luncheon
- June 11 Children's Day
- June 13 Admin Council - Conover Parlor 7:30
- June 18 Father's Day
- June 18 Deadline for July/August Newsletter—send to Marilyn Radley at [smradley@verizon.net](mailto:smradley@verizon.net)
- June 20 Trustees meeting

### Weekly Meetings:

- Sundays:** Youth group 6 P.M.  
Bell Choir following church
- Mondays:** Men's Group 7 PM  
Seekers (7-8 P.M.) Conover Parlor  
AA (7:30-8:30 P.M.) Adult Assembly
- Wednesdays:** Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30-9 PM



### Church Office – SUMMER HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday  
9:30 AM until 12 Noon. (Beginning June 5)



### **Watch for information on the 4th of July Parade in the bulletin!**

### This and That Bulletin Board

The bulletin board is located at the bottom of the steps at the Graisbury Ave. door and is for you to post information of interest to the congregation.



## Congratulations to Our Graduates



College: Sam Arcaini  
High School: Holly Fitzgerald

## Bethany's Walk and 5K Run

**Saturday, June 3 at Laurel Acres Park.**

Kick off summer by celebrating family, belonging and hope at this family-friendly walk and 5K event! Serve together by raising awareness and funds for Bethany's ministries and change kids' lives! For more info and to register, see Carol Jesuncosky or visit [www.bethanytristatewalkrun.org](http://www.bethanytristatewalkrun.org) You can help by donating empty clean plastic gallon jugs to be used for iced tea and lemonade. Thanks!



## Children's Day – June 12

The kids are in charge this week and will give the message, sing in the choir loft and will present a chat with the adults! Join us and celebrate the children of our church!



## Vacation Bible School July 10-14, 2017

**From 6 to 8:30 PM each evening.**



There is a need for teachers, crafters, and helpers in the kitchen and play areas. Can you prepare a meal for VBS workers to eat prior to sessions? To join the fun,

contact Amy Kelly at 856-905-0812 or email the office at [audubonumc@verizon.net](mailto:audubonumc@verizon.net).

Programs for children and adults!

## Mission News by Bruce Krout

We are well within the countdown that takes place in many classrooms as teachers and students look forward to summer vacation and keep track daily as to how many school days are left. For our Church family, you might consider sending your child/grandchild to the Delanco Camp near Medford, NJ. For \$325 or less, your youngster gets to experience a week of camp in a Christian based program of fun camp activities. Our AUMC families can once again receive a \$75 reimbursement toward the camp fee after you register your child. See Carol Tait or myself for details. Check out their website for details as to the weeks that the different age groups are involved. The Jr. Camp (for kids going into 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grades) starts July 9<sup>th</sup>. The various groupings include all ages of teens. Check out the Delanco Camp website at [Delanco.org](http://Delanco.org) (609-859-2262) for details. A couple of teens who loved their Delanco camp experience last summer were Elijah Nicholas and Fran Makuszewski. Has your family considered Delanco Camp?



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

*(Holy) Family Circus from Bruce Krout*

On Mother's Day Pastor Walt did a sermon around Jesus' mom, Mary. It was an interesting take on a very special mom for this special day. He talked about Jesus' brothers too. So I shared the following possible family scenario with Pastor Walt after church that Sunday. I said that Mary probably said to her boys on numerous occasions when her kids were frustrating her, as kids can do, "Why can't you be more like Jesus?". To which Walt added one of Jesus' brothers responding to Mary by saying..."Yeah, you always treat Jesus like he's a God!"

## **We are looking for a few friendly people!**

If you can smile and say "Good Morning!" to people as they come into church, you qualify! You would be responsible to arrive 15 minutes prior to the service and stand at the doors and greet people as they come in. Do you attend the first service? Perhaps you would be willing to stay and greet people for the second service. Your simple act of service can brighten a person's whole day. If you are interested, please call the office at 856-547-6114 or call Barbara Cunane at 856-752-0850

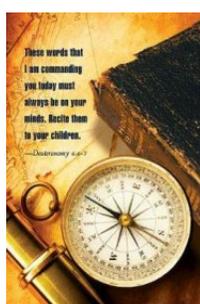
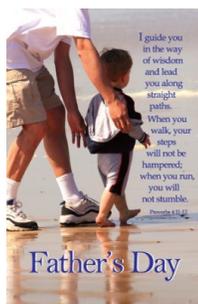
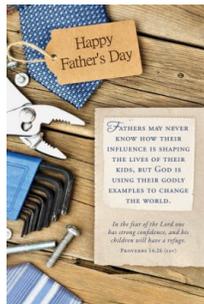
*(Continued - pastor's message from page 1)*

My suggestion is make Jesus Christ Priority #1 in your life and the life of your family. Here's an idea: sit down and make a list of what is important to you. Include family time, work, leisure, commitments to activities, even goals you strive for. Prioritize that list and be honest. Once you have done this, take note of where your commitment to Jesus Christ and his church are on that list (if he made the list at all). I'm not suggesting Jesus is unimportant to you, but maybe you took Jesus for granted and unintentionally left him off the priority list. If you are honest with yourself and God, you may realize you've fallen into the common trap today, "If I have nothing else left on my to-do list, I'll give God a nod."

Our Lord wants more than a friendly nod, an occasional visit to his house and a passing prayer. Our scripture above calls on us to "desire first and foremost God's kingdom and God's righteousness." It may seem like an almost impossible challenge, but when we consider the rest of the verse, Jesus' words make perfect sense..."and all these things will be given to you as well." An important lesson for all of us to learn is if we put Christ first, the rest of our priority list falls into place. We even find time to do the things we need to do because we've handed the task of scheduling over to the Lord. The most difficult part (in my opinion) of putting Jesus first is trusting him to keep his part of the bargain. All I can tell you is when I do Part A ("desire first and foremost"), Part B ("all these things will be given to you as well") always seems to follow.

With summer coming we have a perfect opportunity to put Priority #1 into practice. Folks disappear often not to return until October. Jesus seems to drop down the list below going "down the shore," catching a ball game, recreation, or just plain "chilling." With our priorities in order, we will have plenty of time and energy for enjoying life because Jesus Christ is where he deserves to be, Priority #1.

**Pastor Walt**



## UMW Victorious Women

### Spring Ladies Day at America's Keswick Wednesday, May 18, 2018.

The tickets are now on sale for speaker **LIZ CURTIS HIGGS** and will sell out quickly. We have used one of her video bible studies, had a reading from her book "Women of Christmas" and yes, we did hear Liz speak at Keswick before and she was FABULOUS in person! Her latest book is "The Women of Easter." 15 ladies already have their tickets and we can get more for a short time. Our tickets are \$22 and include all 3 sessions with Liz, continental breakfast, and a gourmet boxed lunch. 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, doors open at 8:00 AM. Don't miss out!



**See Lyn Radley for tickets ASAP!**

### June Birthdays

- 1 Carol Jo Fennimore
- 4 Tom Hertfelder
- 7 Frank Cunane
- 9 Charlie Pierce
- 16 Amy Kelly
- 19 Chris Fitzgerald
- 22 Barry Zane
- 22 Eric Lore
- 28 Linda Holonia
- 30 Carol Tait
- 30 Kyra Lyman
- 30 Colin Reich



### June Anniversaries

- 1 Lois and Don Reiter
- 13 Carol and Walt Jesuncosky
- 15 Coleen and Bill Makuszewski
- 18 Jack and Ef Deal
- 18 Jesse and Liz Deal
- 23 Fern and Frank Montesano
- 25 Cindy and Rich Burrough
- 25 Sarah and Pat Gibbons



### June Shut-in of the Month



Charlie Pierce  
Pitman UM Community  
Assisted Living and Memory Care  
535 N. Oak Street, Pitman, NJ 08071

*Keep him in your prayers and let him know he is in your thoughts by sending a card.*

## **June Communion Offering:**

Local Benevolence

## **Those assisting in our ministries for June:**

**Greeters and Ushers:** Lindsi and Dan Arcaini,  
Sam Arcaini and Chris Fitzgerald

**Liturgist:** Marilyn Radley

**Counters:** Allison and Don Cox

## **Trustee to open and close church:**

Miles Jesuncosky

## **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.
- Carol B
- Ruslana's father
- Crystal
- Mary L.
- Mike & Tyler S.
- Shannon P.
- Caitlyn C.
- Anne and Joe
- George G
- Peg L
- Carol and Bill B.
- Mary P
- George
- Theresa and son
- Beverly F (Chris's mother)
- Ron & Samantha F.

### **Our Friends with Special Needs**

- Charlie P
- Ginny A.
- Dan A.
- Doris K.
- Myrtle J.
- Gwen E.
- Eleanor T.
- Edith W.
- Ed S.
- Ronnie W.
- Gerry G.

### **Prayer Card Requests**

- My sisters' health issues especially Elsie's stem cell transplant and that they find Jesus – Helena
- Wyone and Abby on the passing of Bob B.
- Prayers for Elijah, and upcoming court date.
- My dad Karl following heart surgery -Ruslana
- Peg and George K for renewed health and for their dog Tabby.
- Amy's father for improved health and to return home
- Prayers for our grandson, BJ and his family
- Granddaughter, Brianna recovery from surgery- Sarah
- Husband Tom with cancer and cirrhosis and needs a transplant. –Barbara
- Paul H that he continues to not smoke --Linda
- Prayers for our grandson Liam
- Bill R for health and strength.
- George asks for prayers for a friend, Jason H. who has a malignant brain tumor

- For Lori's eye surgery and healthy recovery
- For my friend Carol B for healing, remission of the disease, and to have strength to continue planning for and looking forward for her wedding. -Dorothy
- Amy McD's father on comfort care.
- Walter J IV as he performs his duties in the Coast Guard.
- Celebrating renewed health for Peg L
- Dominick T who is at DuPont Children's Hospital with abdominal pain and a feeding tube.
- Paris K recently diagnosed with breast cancer and will be having surgery in May
- William D asks for prayers for his nephew, Victor, who is in rehab for drug addiction.
- William asks for prayers for his friends and co-workers with serious health issues.
- Remember our service men: Walter J and James S
- Brother George is doing better. -Dorothy

### **Prayers for our church**

- Please pray for our church leaders as they make important decisions this winter and spring regarding appointments and for unity concerning the direction of the United Methodist Church.
- Please pray for upcoming events, including Youth Group, Men's study group, Midsummer Nights, church picnic and VBS.
- Please pray that AUMC will continue to grow in spirit and be seen as a beacon in the neighborhood.
- Please pray for Pastor Walt; for good health, strength, protection, and guidance.
- Please pray that others will see Jesus' spirit flowing from us.
- Please pray that we will each experience a deeper spiritual walk with the Lord.
- Please pray that the leaders of AUMC would be led by the spirit to know God's will for our church.
- Pray that we can attract more families and others in the area who aren't attending church elsewhere.
- Pray that our members can experience unity that comes from the Spirit.

### **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: Holly F and Emily W
- Church Office email : [audubonumc@verizon.net](mailto:audubonumc@verizon.net)  
Pastor's email : [aumcpastor@verizon.net](mailto:aumcpastor@verizon.net)

