

The Auburn United Methodist Church

Blessing of the Animals Service: August 22, @ 6:30 p.m.

In place of the Casual Make-up Monday service, we will be celebrating a Blessing of the Animals. This stretches back to St. Francis of Assisi who is known for showing compassion towards all living things; he may have even preached to birds! From the UM Book of Worship: "A Blessing of the Animals...witnesses to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation." It's an expression of our thanks to God for the gift of animals and the blessings they add to our lives. So please bring your children, your pets, your stuffed animals or other animals important in your life and have them blessed as we give thanks to God on August 22nd.



The Great Lakes Loons Ball Game

Join us on Sunday,
August 21 at 3:00
pm for Family Day
at the Dow Diamond.

(Kids run the bases after the game)

Box Seat Tickets \$9 Optional Food
Voucher \$8 (save \$2) Food Voucher in-
cludes gourmet hot dog, chips and a 22
oz beverage

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall to
reserve your seat!

Any questions, please contact Janet
Rahl (989) 860-4865



*The United
Methodist Women
Annual mystery trip on
August 9. We will be
leaving the church park-
ing lot at 8:00 am.
Please sign up in the fel-
lowship hall or call Joan
Schrott 662-7376*

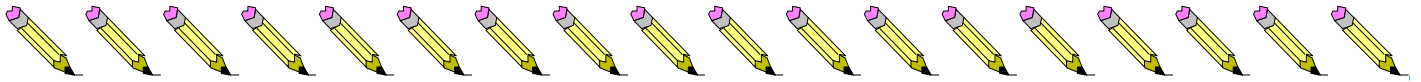


SINK OR SWIM?

People’s stories about learning to swim often sound like this: “My dad tossed me into the water. I didn’t have a choice — I flailed around until I found myself swimming!”

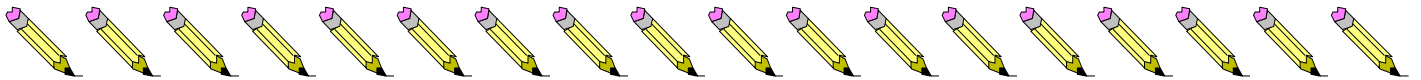
But an elderly Christian tells a variation of this story: “Wanting to teach me to swim, my father threw me off the dock into the lake. I sank.” But then he goes on: “So my father jumped in with me.”

The storyteller’s wisdom shines in his application: “God doesn’t toss us into life and leave us alone to sink or swim. By sending Jesus, God jumped right in with us to save us from death, hold us protectively and help us navigate life.”



Back to School Sales!

Don’t forget Operation Christmas Child during you back to school shopping. Sales are starting already! Needed items include crayons, pencils, markers, pencil sharpeners, pocket-sized notebooks, pocket Kleenex packs, colored pencils, erasers, small scissors and glue sticks. Other items are posted on the Children’s Ministries board in the Fellowship Hall.



- Who: 3rd-5th grade Sunday School Picnic
- Date: Saturday August 20
- Time: noon to 3
- Place: Williams Township Park (under the usual tree)
- Food: lunch and snacks provided



3rd-5th Sunday School

PICNIC

- Let’s say goodbye to our 5th graders and hello to our new 3rd graders.
- Please wear play clothes. In case of rain it will be held at the church.
- Questions: Call Linda 662-7482
- God Bless,
- Linda and Arlene



Adopt a Garden!!



The church flower beds need immediate attention.

We need your help to beautify our church grounds.

The flower beds need weeding and general maintenance.

Please volunteer, sign up in the fellowship hall.

Please note the calendars at the Connection Point bulletin board. Please write any events planned for inside the church building so that we can keep track of events. Reserving the fellowship hall must be done through the church office. Thanks!

Stewardship would like to thank Adult and Family Ministries, Janet Rahl and her team for a awesome float and picnic. A lot of time and work went into this fun activity. It is great way to let the community know we are here and an active church. Thank you!!

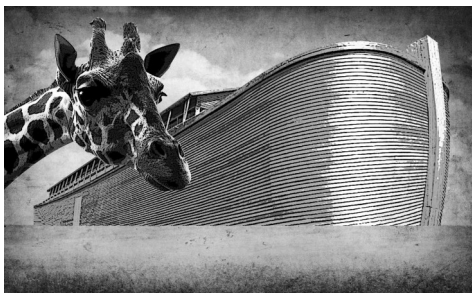
We would also like to thank Worship, Monica Bedtelyon and her team for Worship in the Park. The service was wonderful, the music was right on. Praising God in the great outdoors was special, he sent nice little breezes. Then there was the pork, tender and delicious. Thank you and God bless!

Late bloomers

The pink crepe myrtle finally bloomed – two full months after every other tree of its kind in the area and just as the changing weather signaled the season's end. Between the rocky soil, too much shade and not enough water, the tree was doing the best it could under the circumstances.

Sound familiar? Like that tree, we're often "... afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:8-9, NRSV). At times, everything seems to go against us. Nothing comes easily. Life is a struggle.

But in Christ, we are not undone. We can persevere. We can bloom, even under the harshest circumstances.



Answer: C (See Genesis 6:19-20 and 7:2-3.)

How many animals did God tell Noah to bring into the ark?

- A. Two of each kind
- B. Seven pairs of clean animals and one pair each of unclean animals
- C. Both A and B
- D. None of the above

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Taking the long way

It's human nature to look for shortcuts. We want the quickest, surest route to our destination. Delays, detours and dead ends are frustrating and discouraging.

Consider this: "When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea" (Exodus 13:17-18, NRSV).

The Red Sea looked like a fatal wrong turn, but God was protecting the Israelites. He had a plan in place to lead them to the Promised Land.

When God seems to prefer delays and detours in your life, keep in mind that the long way just might be better.

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Rob Samborn
- 2 - Mary Ellen Warmbier
- 10 - Donna Samborn
Gloria Putnam
- 13 - Paul Hutton
Clarence Pfund
- 14 - Linda Czyzewski
- 19 - Kay Pashak
- 22 - Judy Bellows
Carson Randall
- 27 - Donald Tomkinson
John Duranczyk
Elizabeth Grenesko
- 28 - Megan Thompson
Nancy Tiede
- 29 - Dan Rodammer
- 30 - Brett Allen

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Duane & Lynn Harris
- 3 - Paul & Arlene Erwin
- 8 - Dave & Tamara Klida
- 10 - Bill & Liz Shephard
- 11 - Clayton & Marilyn Davis
- 13 - Dale & Barb Anderson
- 14 - Agness Schmidt & Ralph Wackerly
- 15 - Tom & Sara Gilson

GREETERS, USHERS, PRAYER ROOM AND WORSHIP LEADERS

August 7

Greeters: Pat Lyvere, Kathy Gilson

Ushers: Bernie & Sheila Hoy

Prayer Room: Jo Dhyse-Mahl

August 14

Greeters: Agness Schmidt, Pat Behm

Ushers: Nancy Simpson, Melissa Grew

Prayer Room: Janet Rahl

August 21

Greeters: Roye & Sandy Burr

Ushers: Bruce Bedtelyon, Chuck Witherspoon

Prayer Room: Monica Bedtelyon

August 28

Greeters: Chuck & Bev Witherspoon

Ushers: Chris Ambrose, Rob Samborn

Prayer Room: Linda Nicholas

August 7 & 14 Worship Leader: Monica Bedtelyon

August 21 & 28 Worship Leader: Linda Czyzewski

Playing for Time

I remember the old days
As if they were mine.
We'd sit on the front porch
And declare the day fine.

With our tart lemonade
And rocking chair talk,
They'd begin to tell stories
Of jump rope and chalk

"Do you remember the time ..."
Great Aunt Sadie would start,
"When we rode down that hill
We thought we were smart."

Sailing by on those roller skates
Skate key on a string
And in winter it was ice skates,
And on bikes in the Spring.

They'd debate about seasons:
"Wasn't summer the best
For playing outside!
We were so blessed!"

"We played hop-scotch and tag,
And sure loved the swings ...
And see-saws and dolls,
Hide-Go-Seek and such things.

My grandma was a tomboy,
Who loved kick ball and jacks ...
And marbles and ball
And races in sacks.

They also would talk
About days it would rain:
They played cards or worked puzzles
And board games, they'd explain.

Then we'd start singing a song
About playmates, and smile ...
There's not been rain barrels
or cellar doors for a while.

I cherish the thought of
That long ago day,
When I learned we're not old
When we remember how to play.

Composed by Penny Parkin delivered at the Elegant Ladies Luncheon July 12, 2011

The Elegant Ladies 80's Brunch was held July 12th, 2011 in the Fellowship Hall. We had 12 ladies over 80 present along with 12 guests. We had 10 workers to make the sandwiches and serve the food. Bev Witherspoon introduced all the women and their guests. Sandy DeWaele gave us a history of some of the games that were played centuries ago and also some that we played as kids. Penny Parkin read a poem that she wrote. Gretchen Rodammer introduced the program. They were a musical group called Sweet Mountain Music from Farwell. It was a combination of Blue Grass and Christian music. It was a very enjoyable brunch. Thank you ladies for a job well done.

Auburn United Methodist Church

207 S. Auburn Rd.

Auburn, MI 48611

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00pm

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am - Noon

989-662-6314

Website: auburnumc.org

Email: auburnumc@sbcglobal.net

www.Facebook.com/AuburnUMC



Serving Christ since 1875

Church Staff

<i>Pastor:</i>	<i>Duane M. Harris</i>
<i>Coordinator of Music:</i>	<i>Sara Messbarger</i>
<i>Coordinator of Youth Ministry:</i>	<i>Kayla Roosa</i>
<i>Office Administrator:</i>	<i>Patti Behmlander</i>
<i>Organist:</i>	<i>Sue Ambrose</i>

Our Vision Statement

A passionate, Spirit-led community where people meet and serve
Christ.

Let go!

Much attention is being paid to the heavy backpacks kids now lug to school. My fifth-grader's backpack weighs nearly 20 pounds — more than one-quarter of her body weight!

This year I bought my kids backpacks with wheels to ease the muscle strain. Problem solved? Wrong. They continue lugging the packs on their backs, and I keep reminding them to put the packs down and roll them. I don't understand it — or do I? We adults carry heavy burdens, too. They pile up and weigh us down. The cumulative weight can be crushing. But we don't have to carry our troubles. Jesus tells us to let him shoulder the load (see Matthew 11:28). Jesus already took away our biggest burden by dying on the cross. So we can truly “Let go ... and let God.”

—Kari Myers