

The Auburn United Methodist Church



Link 2011

From the Pastor

Romans 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

With deer hunting in Michigan, much of it has to do with waiting. On opening morning a few years ago, my father-in-law and I were in the woods on his property before daybreak. Each of us in our blinds waiting in the dark, hoping for a sighting when the sun began to cast shadows. Not long after daybreak—7:42 a.m. to be exact—I spotted a doe, but she disappeared before I could get myself together.

She returned at 11:10 a.m. This time I was ready. After dressing the deer and giving thanks for the gift, I went back to the blind for more waiting. Waiting for lunchtime to come. Waiting for another sighting. Napping on and off. Enjoying the pleasure of drinking hot coffee from a thermos. Enjoying the pleasures of the forest smells on a cool, fall day, and looking forward to the rewards that waiting can bring.

In life, as in hunting, much of our time is spent waiting. We wait for children to be born, tax refund checks to come, the Thanksgiving turkey to be cooked. Those who suffer from depression wait for the fog to lift. Those in the midst of grief wait for the pain to subside. We wait for war to end and peace to prevail. Children wait for the joy of a birthday or gifts under the Christmas tree.

In the church, Advent is the season of waiting, a celebration of waiting. In a world still very much broken, we wait. In a world still reporting the number of people killed in conflicts global and local, we wait. In a world in which progress and wealth seldom bring the promised rewards, we wait. Unhappiness plagues rich and poor alike. And unsatisfied searching finds its place with young and old alike. Clearly, there is always the potential for better days. We've all been in places in our lives in which we have hoped for a feeling of completeness, of being satisfied, of being relevant and of finding deep meaning in our lives. Clearly, God is not finished with us yet. And so we wait and hope that perhaps there will be a sighting, that we will spot the movement of God. We wait for Jesus the Christ to be born in us: often he is unseen, but hoped for. And so we wait....

The peace of the Christ Child be with you,

Duane M. Harris

The Bible says in Psalm 100:1-2 Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before his presence with singing. So if you are between the ages of 15 and 100 please consider joining the Choir. We meet on Thursday nights at 6:30pm. No experience needed. If you love to sing, and want to serve the Lord please join us. Any questions please see Shelby. Also keep in mind that there is always time for special music. If you would like to get a few friends together and sing on a Sunday let me know!!



“Help Adorn the Sanctuary” Join us Saturday December 3rd for “Hanging of the Greens”. We will begin decorating at 10:00 am. Pizza and soda will follow.



Join us for the annual **Christmas program** titled "A Christmas Night" on Sunday, December 11, during the regular Sunday school time, 9:45 am - 10:30 am in the sanctuary. The children and youth of our church will present a unique perspective of the Christmas story that will include two shepherds, an innkeeper and his wife, a wise man and his servant and Mary. Afterwards, all are invited to enjoy Christmas cookies in the Fellowship Hall.

Time	Date	Greeters	Ushers	Prayer Room
8:30	12/04/2011	Roye & Sandy Burr	Steve & Kelly Krueger	Barb Anderson
10:45	12/04/2011	Bill & Liz Shephard	Chris Ambrose, Rob Samborn	Betty Stoddard
8:30	12/11/2011	Roye & Sandy Burr	Larry & Janet Rahl	Sheila Hoy
10:45	12/11/2011	Doris & Penny Parkin	Shayne & Debbie Tyler	Linda Czyzewski
8:30	12/18/2011		Ben Norton, Nancy Simpson	Pat Lyvere
10:45	12/18/2011	Chuck & Bev Witherspoon	Alison Binns, Kevin Myers	Kayla Roosa
10:45	12/25/2011	Chuck & Bev Witherspoon	Bill & Liz Shephard	Sue Plessner

November Worship Leaders 8:30 Janet & Bud Stevens; 10:45 Penny Parkin

Children's Church; 4- Linda Czyzewski; 11-Kathy Maurer; 18- Jennifer Miller

The Evangelism Committee is looking for people to help staff the Connection Point. We are looking for two people to be at the Connection Point before and after every service. If you would be interested in staffing it for us, please let Shelby Thompson know, or sign up on the sheet at the Connection Point.

We also need people to sign up to do Fellowship time for a Sunday. Bring in some type of goodies to share and then making sure that there is coffee made. Setting up and putting away is also part of the job. See sign-up sheet at the Connection Point if you are interested.



Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve 7:00 pm Family Service

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve 11:00 pm

Traditional Candlelight Communion Service

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day Service 10:45 am

Christmas Carol Sing

(Note: Only one service on Christmas Day)

Christmas
Worship
Schedule

What to give?

To your enemy, forgiveness.
To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service.
To all men, charity.
To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect.
—Oren Arnold

Scripture and Sermons for December

December 4, 2011 Mark 1:1-8

Advent Series: “Outside the box: Acceptance”

December 11, 2011 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Advent series: “Outside the box: Family of God”

December 18, 2011 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16\Luke 2:7

Advent Series: “Outside the box: Self-giving”

December 24, 2011 Mark 9:33-37\Luke 2:1-20

Advent series: “Outside the box: gentle power”



Upcoming Events

December 3: Hanging of the Greens, 10am-1pm Come help hang Christmas decorations around the church -- PIZZA will be provided for all who attend!

December 4: 2-3 Door to Door Calendar Sales, 3-5:30 Pop Can Drive

December 11: 6-7:30 Breakthrough, topic to be determined

December 17, 4:30pm-December 18, 8:00am: Lock-in, Gift Wrapping Fund Raiser, and Cookie Baking: We will have a lock-in from Saturday December 17 - Sunday, December 18th. From 5-6:30 we will be wrapping gifts for the congregation -- all those going on the Mission Trip are expected to be present and participate. At 6:30, Matt Coppess from Campus Life will be joining ...us to tell us what Campus Life is all about and what it has to offer each of YOU, after Matt is done with hanging with us, we will begin baking cookies that we will be selling to help raise funds for the mission trip as well! Once the baking is complete, we will have some free time, worship, and more fun! We will wake up Sunday morning and head into worship

December 29, 7pm-December 30, 9:00am: Christmas Lock-in with Chrysalis: This event will be taking place at Midland First UMC and is being put on by Mid Michigan Chrysalis. Chrysalis is a 3 day spiritual retreat that is an Upper Room sponsored program. It is a weekend that is focused on the spiritual growth of teens across the globe. Mid-Michigan Chrysalis is the local organization that puts on Chrysalis weekends primarily in the Saginaw Bay District. This will be an opportunity to fellowship, laugh, play games, and meet lots of friends from the tri-city area.

Thank you to all who participated in the Brown Bag Auction for Breakthrough, with your help, we raised \$304 towards our Mission Trip in June of next year!!

Come one, come all! The next Breakthrough Fund Raiser is upon us! We will be offering the service of gift wrapping on December 17th from 5-6:30 at the church, bring your gifts, we'll do the wrapping!

We will also be selling Christmas Cutout Cookies \$6 per dozen on December 18th, they will be baked and decorated – see the Breakthrough Bulletin Board at the top of the stairs outside of the Narthex to sign up for a dozen to take home for your family today! All proceeds will be designated towards our mission trip!



The annual Christmas food and items giveaway will be held on December 17th. Items needed include new and slightly used toys, household items, Christmas decorations, etc. No Clothing Please. Items will be collected December 8-14th.

Prayer Chain Team—The two new Prayer Chain Teams will be in effect starting December 1, 2011. We will have one Prayer Chain Team where the prayer concerns will be passed on by email and the other will be by phone calls. Please call Kathy Gilson at 662-2114 or email me at k1949g@yahoo.com for prayer concerns or praises that you would like passed on. Prayer is a gift that God has given to all of us. We have the awesome opportunity to go directly to our God with our joys and concerns for ourselves and each other. If you would like to be part of either team please contact Kathy at the above number or email address.

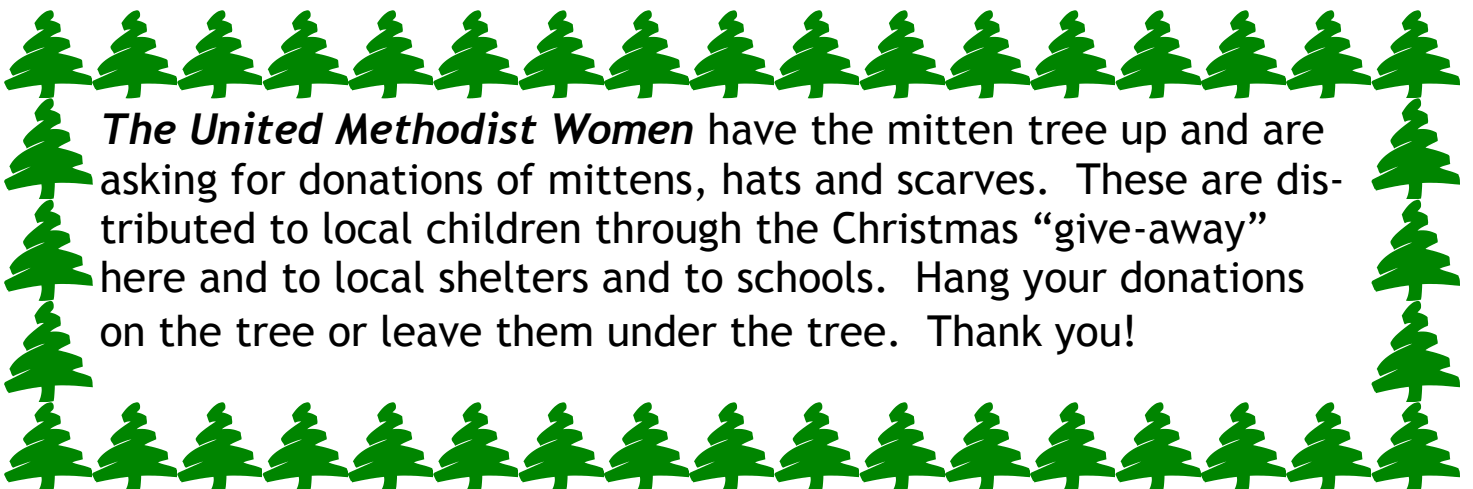


DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 - Matt Thompson
 4 - Joan Simpson
 11 - Larry Rahl
 Becky Meylan
 14 - Lucy Gransden
 15 - Sue Plessner
 Rick Samborn
 16 - Jordan Smith
 17 - Bill Shephard
 20 - Lee Ann Zunich
 22 - Shelby Thompson
 Marcus King
 26 - Kathy Gilson

ANNIVERSARIES

2- Steve & Judy Bellows
 13 - Glenn & Brenda Sinicki
 20 - Ron & Becky Meylan

The United Methodist Women have the mitten tree up and are asking for donations of mittens, hats and scarves. These are distributed to local children through the Christmas “give-away” here and to local shelters and to schools. Hang your donations on the tree or leave them under the tree. Thank you!

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

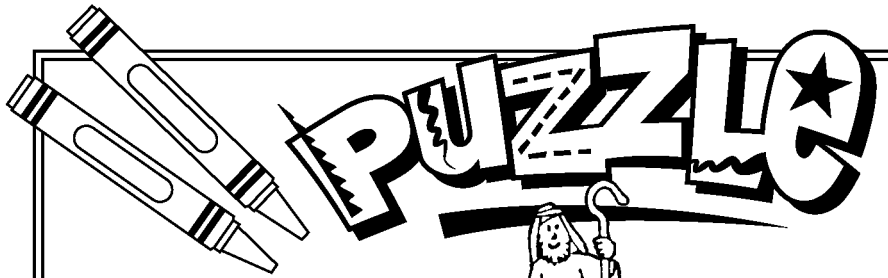
- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia (available at craft stores)
- Palm-size wicker wreath
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.



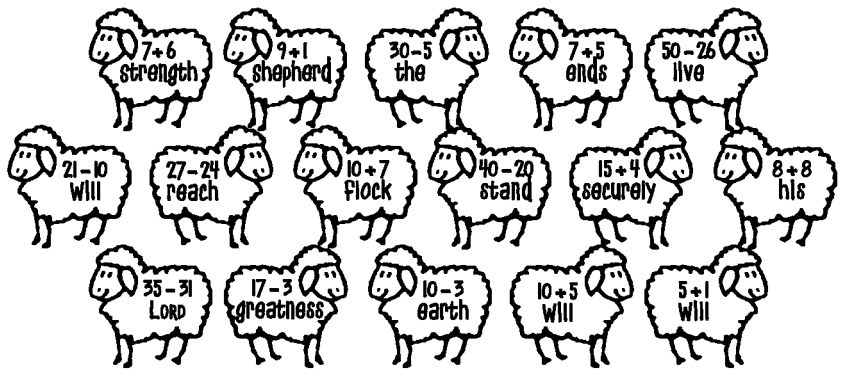
Merry Christmas



A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.



"He 15 20 and 10 his 17

in the 13 of the 4 And they 11 24

19, for then 16 14 6

3 to the 12 of 25 7."

MICAH 5:4, NIV

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord ... And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV



Potluck Sunday, December 11th. Please bring a dish to pass and join us for food and fellowship after the 10:45 am service.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
December				Choir Practice 6:30 pm Prayer Team 5:30 pm	Mission Auction 6 pm	Hanging of the greens 10am-1 pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Youth Group 2 pm-5:30 pm	Trustees 7:00 pm		Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Choir Practice 6:30 pm Caring Ministry 5:30 pm		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am SS Christmas program 9:45 am Potluck Youth Group 6:00 pm		UMW General Meeting 1:00 pm	Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Choir Practice 6:30 pm Prayer Team 5:30 pm		Food Pantry Christmas giveaway
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Jesus B-Day party during Children's church Youth Leadership Council 4:30-6 pm Youth Group 6-7:30 pm	Church Council 7:00 pm		Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Choir Practice 6:30 pm		Christmas Eve service 7 & 11 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Worship Service 10:45 am ONLY	Office Closed	Martha Esther Circle 9:30 am Mary Ruth Hope Circle 7:00 pm	Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Prayer Team 5:30 pm		



Serving Christ since 1875

Our Vision Statement

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

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

Church Staff

Coordinator of Music Interim: Shelby Thompson

Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Kayla Roosa

Office Administrator: Patti Behmlander

Organist: Sue Ambrose

Pastor: Duane M. Harris

JESUS' Birthday Party: A celebration of Jesus Christ's birth! For all children, December 18th during Children's Church (10:45 am service).

Reflect on the light of the world-Jesus

Encounter Christ's birth

Joyous giving

O 'come let us adore Him

Imagine the journey

Capture the true meaning of Christmas

Enjoy the celebration!



**Note: Deadline for Link Submissions is the 4th Monday of the month
(Monday following Church Council).**