



# THE LINK

Auburn United Methodist Church

## The Pastor's Page

November! The month of Thanksgiving. All of us should "count our blessings", not our problems, and reflect on what we are thankful for this year. Yes, 2020 has been a very tough year! Frankly, it's easier this year to name the things that we wish were different, and to name the things we are NOT thankful for, than name the things for which we are thankful. Still, the message of Philippians 4:8 is clear: focus on the positive!

Our Governor, Gretchen Whitmer is not on the ballot this year, but I've seen yard signs critical of her: "My Governor is an idiot". She's not running, and I don't make political endorsements, but I am thankful for her leadership in this very tough year. I've been tracking this historic pandemic daily, for months, and the statistics are remarkable. A pattern is clear: the states that didn't practice social distancing, wearing masks, and restricting activities at places where the virus easily spreads (bars, casinos, health clubs, schools, churches, sporting events, parties, etc.), but instead "opened early" have twice as many Covid-19 cases per population than states like Michigan that has tried to "err on the side of caution". Compared to Michigan, Florida has more than twice the rate of infection and more than twice as many deaths due to Covid-19.

	Cases per million	Total Deaths	Total Cases
Florida	36,410	16,457	782,013
Michigan	17,991	7,552	179,669

*\*stats from 10-27-2020, <https://ncov2019.live/data>*

The truth is that the policies Michigan adopted, and our following them, has saved thousands of lives in Michigan. I am very thankful for that. It may well be the case that we are not yet halfway through this pandemic. We need to be prepared for that possibility.

Right now, our nation is divided, people are stressed, and feelings are on edge. Negative campaign ads are overwhelming and have made us both weary and wary. Most elections in the US are close, 55% to 45% being a "landslide". That's still a lot of people who view things differently. I'd remind us to hold our country and state in prayer. And, I want us to be in prayer for our national and state leaders. As God's people, as followers of Christ, two scriptural admonitions come to mind in contentious times:

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."  
Matthew 5:9

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."  
Romans 12:18

Shalom, Pastor Rob



2020  
November

### Inside This Issue

Cover...	Pastor's Page
Page 4...	Birthdays, etc.
Page 5...	Calendar
Page 6...	Information

# Thank You for Your Continued Support

The Missions Ministry Team would like to thank you for your continued support of the church. Even without having noisy offerings most of this year we were able to continue to meet our pledge agreement with all the missions we support.

Midwest Mission  
Distribution Center

Auburn Community  
Food Pantry

Cass Community  
Social Service

Oscoda Indian Mission

One Week One Street

Fresh Aire Samaritan  
Counseling Centers

AUMC Camp Scholarships

Bishop Craig Children Village

To help reduce the spread of the covid virus, we have decided not to collect a noisy offerings for the remainder of the year.

## Food Pantry - Thanksgiving Baskets

Planning has begun for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets distribution. There are grocery bags with a list of supplemental items needed for the baskets. The bags are located in the Fellowship Hall on the Food Pantry cart or use the list for reference. The filled bags are due back to the church by Sunday, November 15. A special offering will be collected on Sunday, November 8 for the purchase of the Turkeys.

Thank you for your continued support of this worthy mission.

### Thanksgiving Baskets



#### THANKSGIVING BASKETS

- 1 Large Box Instant Potatoes
- 2 Cans of Turkey Gravy
- 1 Large Box Stuffing Mix
- 1 Box Pie Crust (Jiffy)
- 1 Large Box of Jello
- 1 Can of Fruit Cocktail
- 1 Can Pumpkin Pie Mix
- 2 Cans of Corn or Gr Beans
- 1 Can Evaporated Milk
- 1 Can Cranberry Sauce

Please return filled bag to church by  
Sunday, November 15, 2020

# In The News...



**Amber Meyer** (daughter of Adrenne Meyer) was awarded both the National Honorable Mention and the Pat Flynn Spirit of Relay awards during the Relay ELT Rally! Of course Amber said "I just do what I think is right" (and stop crying mom). This award is given to volunteers who go above and beyond and embodies the spirit of Relay like the mother of Relay Pat Flynn.



---

## Quilts for Kids & Lap Robes for Seniors

We were able to give five quilts to the Monitor Twp Fire Dept; five quilts and eight afghans to Beacon of Hope; five lap robes to Brittany Manor; and five quilts and eight afghans to each of the following: Good Samaritan Rescue Center, Bay City Women's Shelter, Midland Women's Shelter and Old Town Christian Outreach Center.





# News and Information from the Financial Secretary

What to receive your yearly giving statement sooner? Sign up for an electronic statement. Quick and easy to do and it saves printing, envelope and postage cost.

Send our Financial Secretary, Jean Everts, and email at [jeaneverts55@gmail.com](mailto:jeaneverts55@gmail.com) and give your name and envelope number, if you have it, and say " Please sign my up for electronic giving statements,"

## In other news...

We currently have 7 counters, one more counter would give them a rotation of 8. With an 8 person rotation you would only have to count for 8-12 Sundays a year. Training is provided. For more information about how you can become a counter, contact Jean Everts at 989-600-6548 or [jeaneverts55@gmail.com](mailto:jeaneverts55@gmail.com).

Please don't forget about the people on the Caring Team Visitation List who are not able to come to Church as often. If you need their address please contact the Church office.				<b>FINANCIAL STATUS</b>	
Roger Anderson		June Filcek		<b>OCTOBER INCOME</b>	<b>YTD INCOME</b>
Don Gilson		Echo Ignafol		\$10,847.00	\$143,229.86
Sharon Dengel		Don Spaulding		<b>OCTOBER EXPENSES</b>	<b>YTD EXPENSES</b>
Shirley Doll		Ken & Ruby Christopherson		\$11,630.12	\$133,948.43
Ardis Juhala		Robert & Dolores Wise		A detailed Income & Expense Statement is available on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.	
<b>NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS</b>				<b>NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</b>	
1	Kim Weitzel	22	Ruby Christopherson	10	Bernie & Sheila Hoy
3	Arianne Massung	23	Birt Etienne	16	Fred & Sue Kloepfer
4	Dolores Wise	26	Patricia Benedict	18	Bob & Dolores Wise
8	Gayle Gibbon	28	Ronda Nystrom	30	Roye & Sandy Burr
13	Trudy Pischel	28	Aaron Wiles		
21	Diane Allen	29	April Nahgahgwon		
21	Laura Rahl				



## MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Joan Schrott moved in October

Her new address:

8471 Hartel Rd

Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Jim & Barb Cody moved in August

Their new address:

30061 Pin Oak Court

Chesterfield MI 48051

# AUMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:45 Traditional 11:00 Contemporary All Saints Sunday		1:00 Food Pantry Prep	5:30 Staff Meeting 6:30 Praise Band			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:45 Traditional 11:00 Contemporary Special Offering for Thanksgiving Dinners (Food Pantry)		1:00 UMW 6:30 SPRC Zoom meeting With DS	5:00 Worship Team 6:30 Praise Band			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:45 Traditional 11:00 Contemporary Charge Conference Zoom Meeting 4:00		1:00 Food Pantry Prep	5:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Praise Band		Western Food Drive Delivery 1:30 pm	Food Pantry Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:45 Traditional 11:00 Contemporary			6:30 Praise Band	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING		
29	30					
8:45 Traditional 11:00 Contemporary						



# AUBURN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**207 S. Auburn Rd.  
Auburn, MI 48611  
(989) 662-6314  
Pastor Rob's Cell  
(989)415-3830**

*Pastor:*  
*Ministers:*  
*Administrative Assistant:*  
*Interim Bookkeeper:*  
*Coordinator of Music:*  
*Worship Leader & Keyboardist:*  
*Nursery:*

*Rev. Rob Nystrom  
EVERYONE!  
Jennifer Williams  
Jennifer Williams  
Pat McIlvenna  
Gabrielle Cook-McIlvenna  
Phyllis Roberts*

## **Church Office Hours:**

**Monday – Thursday  
9:00 am – 1:30 pm**

## **Pastor's Typical Office Hours:**

Monday & Thursdays  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

If you would like to meet with  
Pastor Rob please call the church  
office to schedule an appointment  
or contact Pastor Rob.

Website: [auburnumc.org](http://auburnumc.org)  
Email: [office@auburnumc.org](mailto:office@auburnumc.org)  
[www.Facebook.com/AuburnUMC](http://www.Facebook.com/AuburnUMC)

## **Our Vision:**

Creating a church where children and youth love  
to attend.

## **Our Mission:**

Connecting people with the love and life of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.

## **Our Core Values:**

1. Prayer is a powerful means through which we relate to God.
2. The Bible is the authoritative source for knowing God.
3. Jesus is God's Son. He is the One who reveals in a way like no other that God loves us unconditionally with amazing grace.
4. Mission, local and distant, is a means to love our neighbor in real and relevant ways.
5. Imitating our Lord by practice, practice, practice realizing that none of us are perfect, but we are all on the faith journey together.
6. The Holy Spirit is God's guiding Presence in whom "...we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

