

AUDUBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
314 W. Graisbury Avenue
Audubon, NJ 08106
December, 2004

AUDUBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Church Staff

Dr. Walter Jesuncosky III, Pastor
Marilyn K. Radley, Director of Music
Marge Watson, Organist
Jessie Deal, Pianist
Kevin Francis, Treasurer
Elina Matthews, Secretary
Arsenette Reiter, Assistant Secretary
John Bowdoin, Custodian
Elizabeth Hoffman, Nursery
Helen Orfe, Nursery

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Telephone Numbers

Church 547-6114
Parsonage 547-0653
Fax # 547-7319



Sunday Services

Church School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
(September - May)

Jr./Sr. High Youth 7:00 p.m.

Monday - Snack N Yak

After School 3 - 6 Grades
(September - May)

On the Internet:

www.AudubonUMC.com

*The December Newsletter is sponsored by
George and Estelle MacCulloch in loving memory of their loved ones.*

DECEMBER 2004

Counters

Scott Radley, Sr.
Robert Fonash
Anita Fonash
Barbara Hertfelder
Peg Cheney

Chancel Choir

Marilyn Radley, Director

Cheney Bell Choir

Marilyn Radley, Director

Ushers

Tracy Schnyer
Allison Betts
Christy Schnyer
Nikole Zane

Greeters

Tracy Schnyer
Peg Schnyer

God's Kids Choir

Jennifer Smith, Director

Communion Stewards

Gwen Evans
Laurie Bouch
Rachel Graham
Cindy Burroughs

Church Closing

Barbara Hertfelder

Liturgist

Peg Cheney

JANUARY 2005

Counters

Joan Windston
Owen Windston
Bill Simpson
Anne Simpson
Bill Simpson

Chancel Choir

Marilyn Radley, Director

Cheney Bell Choir

Marilyn Radley Director

Ushers

Robert Fonash
Ron Fennimore
Walter Jesuncoosky

Greeters

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Communion Stewards

Laurie Bouch
Cindy Burrough
Gwen Evans
Rachel Graham

Church Closing

Marty Jacobsen

Liturgist

Carol Tait

WANTED!

SLIGHTLY USED FURNITURE FOR THE YOUTH GROUP ROOM

WHAT? Couches, comfy chairs, end tables, coffee tables, lamps, or anything else you may want to donate for the room décor.

WHY? To have a room that the Youth Group can call their own.

WHEN? ASAP

WHO? Call Elaine Soulliard @ 546-8864

HOW? Someone will pick the items up from your home.

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Bethany Christian Services

Special notes from the latest Bethany Christian Services Memo from October 22, 2004:

Special Needs Adoption

- So far this year, 13 waiting children have moved in with their adoptive families, and 24 children have had their adoptions legally finalized.

International Adoption

- Three more waiting children have been matched with Bethany adoptive families!
- We are delighted to facilitate the first adoption of a Colombian Child through our branch. Both the child and the family are adjusting well.

Special Christmas Events

Thursday, December 2nd (time approx) 6pm

Greening and Decoration of Church

Covered Dish Supper

Saturday, December 4th 2pm

Church Bazaar & Dinner

Sunday, December 12th 6pm

Christmas Carol Singing

(during Evening Worship Service)

Saturday, December 18th 7-9pm

Live Nativity

Sunday, December 19th 10:30am

Christmas Cantata

Monday, December 20th (see Bulletin for times)

Christmas Caroling (Audubon)

Friday, December 24th 7pm

Family Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24th 10pm

Traditional Service of
Carols & Candles

Memorial Poinsettias 2004

If you would like to order Poinsettias through the church to present during the Christmas Season In Memory of Your Loved Ones or In Honor of Your Loved Ones, please fill out the form below and return it with your payment of \$6.50 per plant to our church secretaries.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH.

If you have any questions, please contact Elina or Elsie at 547-6114.

You may pick up your poinsettia after the second Christmas Eve Service or after service Sunday, December 26th. If you are unable to attend either service, we would appreciate it if you would make arrangements for someone to pick up your flower(s). Poinsettias left after December 26th will be given away. If you are available to help deliver flowers, contact Carol Fennimore. Thanks!

Memorial Poinsettias 2004

Please order _____ plant(s) at \$6.50 each. My payment is included.

1. Presented by _____
in loving MEMORY of _____
in HONOR of _____
2. Presented by _____
in loving MEMORY of _____
in HONOR of _____
3. Presented by _____
in loving MEMORY of _____
in HONOR of _____

The Mission Committee is asking for your support. This will not cost a cent. Each month we would like to ask you to keep on your prayer list a designated Mission of the Audubon United Methodist Church.

For the Month of December would you pray for the Christmas Tree Mission - Pray that others will be willing to GIVE to those less fortunate during these precious Holidays.

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Remember the date

JANUARY NEWSLETTER deadline is:
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19th

If you have a completed announcement before that date, feel free to submit it early. Feel free to email your article via email. Please, no late submissions.

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Shut-in of the Month

During the month of December, please remember Roger and Betty Smith - a special couple who are unable to worship with us. All of our Congregation is encouraged to remember them this month with your cards, prayers and maybe a phone call. ☺

Roger & Betty Smith
Collingswood Manor
Apartment 428 & 5th Floor
460 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Frank Slattery	17	Kevin Rumbol
2	Jeff Burrough	18	Connie Ruoff
2	Joan Windston	18	Kendra Ruoff
3	Bob Tait	20	Kelsey Bowen
5	Anthony Costello	21	Richard Williams - 85 th Birthday!
10	Dan Arcaini	22	Linda Kates
12	Jennifer Groves	22	Lara Murphy
12	Lois Reiter	26	Sean Reiter
13	Sandy Albrecht	27	Jake Sturgis
13	Jim Toliver	28	Jack Radley
13	Jackie Warner	29	Carol Fennimore
15	Bill Soulliard	29	Joe Mannion
16	Holly Fishwick	29	Dot Pierce
16	John Pursglove	30	Heather Burdsall
16	Bonnie Smeltzer		

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

8	Connie & Al Ruoff
18	Jen & Ed Smith
28	Holly & Jim Fishwick

We have been collecting all of our congregation's birthdays and anniversaries. This is an ongoing project, therefore, if you have not given your family's special days to the church office, please place the information in the folder, (the mail slot) marked Birthdays and Anniversaries.

Membership Class.

Pastor Walt is looking to form a new membership class in January. Classes will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:15-10:15 am. There will be approximately 9 sessions after which those completing the course will be received into the full membership of Audubon United Methodist Church the Sunday after Easter. If you would like to join our fellowship or even just audit the class, please see Pastor Walt or Anne Simpson.

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Friendly Seniors

Next gathering for the Friendly Seniors will be the November/December lunch on Wednesday, December 1st. Their evening program is being postponed until May.

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Cuts For Christ

We would like to thank all the people who came out to get there hair cuts, for Cuts For Christ. We raised a total of \$393.00 for the Bell Tower. Thanks goes out to all who helped. We really had fun.

God Bless
Kathleen Tahmasebi & Kathleen Bowdoin

AUMC

YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

COME ONE! COME ALL!
AND DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR FRIENDS!
7th to 12th graders welcome
Sunday nights from 7 to 8 pm

DECEMBER MEETING DATES

Dec. 4th Saturday! (not Sunday) Come at noon or anytime after to help with the Ham Dinner. We have the perfect job for you! Come dressed in dark pants and a white shirt. This is to benefit Keswick!

We need *EVERYONE'S HELP!*

Dec. 5th No Meeting! Get some much needed rest after Saturday's dinner!

Dec. 12th Meet at the church at 5 p.m. for the Live Nativity at another location.

Dec. 19th Birthday celebration for teens with November or December birthdays!

Dec. 26th Take time off to celebrate the birth of Christ! (No meeting!)

Important contact information: Paris at work: 856-546-0600 ext. 228

Paris and Joe's cell: 856-904-0296

Email: PKUCHARSKI@CHIRESEARCH.com
JOENPARIS@comcast.net

Saturday, December 4th

UMW Christmas Bazaar

2-4pm

Youth Sponsored Ham Dinner

4-7pm

The Audubon United Methodist Church Youth Group
Invites you to Dinner

To supplement the cost of their Annual Youth Retreat
in Conjunction with the UMW's Christmas Bazaar

Menu

Sliced Honey Ham with Pineapple

Homemade Scalloped Potatoes

Green Beans Almandine

Fresh Fruit Cup

Dinner Roll

Selection of Hot and Cold Beverages

Your choice of a Homemade Dessert

Price per dinner

Adults: \$10 - Children 10 and under: \$6

Serving continuously from 4:30 to 7:00 pm

Take out is available.

Come and support a worthy cause and enjoy a delicious
dinner with your family and friends.

See any Youth Group Leader for more information.

United Methodist Women

Christmas Bazaar and Tea

Saturday, December 4, 2004

Fellowship Hall

Bazaar 1pm to 4pm

Tea 2pm to 4 pm

Help is needed

We need all kinds of homemade baked goods: cakes, pies, bread, muffins, and especially lots of cookies.

If you have crafts or new white elephant items we will need these for the Bazaar. These items or baked goods may be dropped off on Friday, December 3, 2004 at 1 PM or on Saturday, December 4, 2004 at Noon.

If you can help with setting up the Bazaar on Friday, your help will be appreciated.

Christmas Bazaar
Sunday, December 5th

Second Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 5th

Christmas Day
Saturday, December 25th

New Year's Day
Saturday, January 1st, 2005

Office Voice mail

We finally have our office voicemail up and functional. Should you call and want to leave a message after hours and want to bypass our voicemail messages:

Elina/Elsie - ext. 200

Pastor Walt - ext. 201

CHRISTMAS 2004 – From Pastor Walt

People say it every year... “I can’t believe Christmas is almost here.” This year I will be different: *I believe it!* We have been warned. Christmas decorations, artificial trees, enlarged toy departments, and store displays have been up for weeks. The Home Shopping Channel and QVC began preparing us for the holiday back in September. L.L. Bean, the Sharper Image and J.C. Penney (not to mention Lionel Trains) sent out their catalogs some time ago. But most of us still find that Christmas comes upon us rather quickly. Why is that?

First, doesn’t it seem like the holidays run together these days? Like the guy who came up with the new greeting for the extended season “Merry Thanksgivoween!” its getting harder to figure out where one special day ends and the other begins. Second, if you are like me, you have been very busy. Church activities and meetings, family obligations, band competitions, etc. have kept the Jesuncosky Family hopping. I’m sure you have been busy as well. When you are busy it seems the holidays just creep up on you. Finally, I think another reason Christmas comes so quickly in our minds is that we just aren’t ready for it. Not ready can mean not ready to Christmas shop, bake, decorate, shovel snow (its coming!) visit friends and relatives (or be visited) or send cards. Because of a loss or change in your life you may not be ready to face this coming Christmas season. Christmastime for me used to mean it was time to pay my outrageously high car insurance bill, I am almost a year older, and the cost of the holidays would soon show up on my credit card statement. But this year I am ready for Christmas! Here’s why.

I look back on the years past, the changes in my life and family and realize there are only so many Christmases left (at least for me). No, I am not planning on transferring to my “Mansion just over the hilltop” any time soon, but I am at that point in life where I don’t want to take Christmas for granted. Carol and I are blessed to have three of our parents still living. They are in failing health, but praise God they are still with us. I have no clue how long they will be here, but I want to enjoy as much time with them as possible. I pray we have another Christmas together. My children are getting older. It has dawned on me that one day they will be gone...off to college, married, in the service, whatever. Carol and I will be “empty nesters!” I’m sure we will survive, but we will miss having them under our roof (that is unless they move back in). I look forward to sharing Christmas as a family under one roof as long as we can. In the life of the church, there is no more beautiful time of year than Advent and Christmas. The special music, the decorations, carols, and services minister to folks in a powerful way. This Christmas, Audubon UMC will go the extra mile in preparing God’s house and people to celebrate the birth of our Savior. I look forward to folks in our community thinking of AUMC as “the Church that really celebrates Christmas.” This won’t happen by accident...it takes planning and work by the entire church family. But I am convinced God will honor what we do and use us to bless Audubon and the surrounding areas. What better time to proclaim God’s love to the world than the Birthday of his only begotten Son? Finally, I am ready for Christmas this year *because I need it!* I find our Lord ministers to me, personally, through this time of year like no other. He takes the story of Jesus’ birth and mission and combines it with the memories of the past, the beauty of the season, and the hope for tomorrow I have in Him. Then he wraps it up like a present and says, “This is for you!” In the same way my family and I pray you will be blessed this Christmas as only our Lord can do. Rejoice in God’s gift to you and join the rest of the family in worship at Audubon United Methodist Church.

Pastor Walt, Carol, Walter and Miles