

Audubon United Methodist Church

314 W. Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114



March 2025 Newsletter

Sunday Worship Opportunities:



Our Doors are open!

And we are meeting in person!

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 Ave. and also behind the church house.

Our Vision Statement:

"We are a Christ-centered family of Christians. We are actively seeking to grow the kingdom of God by bringing the Word and Love of God to the community. We may not always think alike, but we always love alike as God has taught us."

Sundays:

- 9:00 A.M. Children's Sunday School
- 9:00 A.M. Seekers Adult Sunday School in person and Zoom. ID: 732-520-3940 PASSWORD: audubon
- 9: A.M. Teen Sunday School
- 10 AM Children's Choir
- 10:20 A.M. Traditional Service in person and streaming live on our Facebook page and on YouTube.

Weekly Happenings:

Every Sun, 6 PM Teen Fellowship

Every Mon. Seekers Adult Sunday School on Zoom 7:30 PM

Every Weds. Comfort Food via Zoom 7:30 P.M

Every Thurs, Chancel Choir 7:30 PM

Coming Events

March

- Sun Mar 2, Victorious Women will meet after service featuring a covered dish luncheon. All women of the church are invited to attend.
- Wed Mar 5, Ash Wednesday, service 7pm
- Sat Mar 8, Attic Treasures open 9-noon
- Sat Mar 22, American Guild of Organists Master Class
- Sat Mar 22 9-10:30 Small Group Bible Study with Diane Stanley, Conover Parlor
- Tues Mar/25, 7PM, Cancer with Hope

April

- Sun Apr 6. Book Club after church
- Tues Apr 8, 6:45 Finance Committee
- Tues Apr 8, 7:30 Church Council
- Sun Apr 13, Palm Sunday. Easter Egg Hunt, 12 :30-2
- Thurs Apr 17, 7:30 PM Holy Thursday Service
- Fri Apr 18, Prayer Walk (Good Friday) 11am followed by luncheon at AUMC
- Fri Apr 18, 7:30 Tenebrae Service
- Sun Apr 20 Easter
- Tues Apr 22, 7 PM Cancer with Hope
- Sat Apr 26, 10:30 Small Group Bible Study with Diane Stanley, Conover Parlor
- Sun 4/27, Planning Meeting after church
- Tues 4/29, 7PM, Cancer with Hope

May

- Sat. May 10, 9-2:30 Vendor Blender and Thrift Store
- Sun May 11, Mothers' Day
- Sat May 23, 10:30 Small Group Bible Study with Diane Stanley, Conover Parlor
- Tues. May 27 7:00 p.m. Cancer with Hope
- Thurs May 29 7:30 p.m. Last Choir Practice

June

- Sun. June 8 Children's Day-Last day of Children's SS
- Tues June 10, 6:45, Finance Committee
- Tues June 10, 7:30 Church Council
- Sun. June 15 Father's Day



Youth Group is Back—and It's Just Getting Started!

What a night! AUMC's youth program kicked off with a bang as eight awesome students showed up ready to have fun, hang out, and claim the third floor as their own. Between games, laughter, and a little teamwork to spruce up the space, they turned it into their new go-to spot. By the end of the night, one thing was clear—they're already counting down the days until next time. And honestly? So are we! Can't wait to see what's next!



*Trustees
Chairperson
Tracy
Schnyer*

Ongoing projects are in the works. Updates will be forthcoming

Congregation Inspiration Corner

You are welcome to share with the congregation.

What can I share? Here are some ideas:

- something that happened that impacted you and you would like to share;
- a hymn that made a change in you;
- a poem that is special;
- anything to share that was unexpected and brought you closer to God;
- a blessing you have received;
- An angel encounter.

All I need to know I learned from Noah's Ark

1. Remember that we are all in the same boat
2. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
3. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old someone may ask you to do something really big.
4. Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job that needs to be done.
5. Build your future on high ground.
6. For safety's sake travel in pairs
7. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with cheetahs.
8. When you're stressed, float awhile.
9. Remember the ark was built by amateurs. The Titanic by pros.
10. No matter the storm, when you are with God there's always a rainbow waiting.

Anonymous

*Music Corner
Ken Carson, Organist*

As always we invite all to join us, no experience necessary. We rehearse Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm.



*Our Church
Missions
Linda Holonia*

You may be aware that we support missionaries Marc & Alyssa Stasio who minister on college campuses in NJ through Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ.) You may not know that Cru works around the world, spreading the gospel, not only on college campuses.

*An influential man in the Middle East recently approached a group of Cru missionaries. He asked what they were doing and they boldly explained they were offering Bibles. They offered him one and he began reading aloud as a small crowd gathered. He read the entire book of John and asked to take the Bible home with him.

The demand for Bibles is so great that Cru is struggling to keep up. We can help by

donating \$6.75 for one Bible. Please pray and donate as you feel lead. Make checks payable to AUMC, and we will send a check to Cru for the amount donated so that we can provide some much-needed Bibles. We will accept your donations until March 16. Please indicate that your donation is for Bibles for Cru.

*As this occurred in the Middle East, it would be dangerous for this individual if more specific information were shared.

Victorious Women

C.J. Fennimore and Ruslana Snyder



- We will take donations for **SPECIFIC items only. Watch for periodic announcements.** Questions? - Please see CJ Fennimore or Ruslana Snyder.
- The Victorious Women CANNOT pick up donations from anyone's home and please do not randomly drop off donations without seeing CJ or Ruslana first.
- Upcoming Attic Treasures Thrift Store's Dates: March 8th, April 12th and May 10th.

Barbara Cunane has developed a schedule of workers to lighten the load for those who have given their time every month. We need 2 or 3 people each month. Bring a friend to help. By doing so, we will have enough workers to cover the rest of the year. We are asking everyone to sign up for one month. Of course, if you can give more time that would be great! Please contact Barbara at 856-261-6681 or goldymom22@yahoo.com

WORK SCHEDULE- second Saturday of the month from 9 to noon. Months:

April
May

June – Dorothy
July
August
September
October
November
December

Special Announcement!



Victorious Women have scheduled the **Spring Vendor Fare for May 10**, one day before Mother's Day. Your help will be

needed to make the event a success. Help will be needed in the kitchen, on the floor and in the Attic Treasures, which will be open during the event. Let CarolJo know where you can help.

Prayers-Praise-Thanks



Pray in the spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all

HEALING:

Mary L. (Lyme disease), Sammi S. (Ruslana's daughter), Keith, Mike & Tyler S., Dee G., Carol F., Miles J., Estelle M., George M., Youngsoon C., Bill D., Pam, Sandy A., Rosemarie, Dorothy G., Wyone B. for healing and peace, Annmarie H. for healing, strength & peace; Crystal for faith, healing, & wisdom; Robert P; Helena W; Mary M.

OR ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES:

Dave R. for ongoing cancer treatment, Pat H. with MS (Barbara's cousin), Charlie W. & family for health & strength, Mary B., Barbara H, Peg L.

FOR CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH

Lauri M.; Kevin H.; Anne (Barbara H.'s neighbor)

ANSWERED PRAYERS:

Jane has recovered from COVID and has returned to church. Jackie Pittam's parents have moved closer to her and are in Moorestown

Prayer Requests from the office and extended requests:

Please pray for Peg Lauk. She has been ill with a GI virus and possible UTI. Please also pray for Laurie Bouch who has been caring for her mom and visits (at Collingswood Manor) daily.

Tracy Schnyer: Please pray for my 1 yr old great-grandniece, Cleo, who has RSV and now HIB (a form of Influenza "B"). She may need to be hospitalized to fight these conditions, if she does not improve with current treatments.

Prayer requests may be submitted by placing a prayer card in the offering plate or contacting the office either by mail or email. If you indicate, your request will be shared via email to the congregation.

Help Wanted

Co-Treasurer for Audubon UMC: It is important that more than one person be completely familiar with the finances of the church and how the records are kept. In the event the Treasurer is unable to fulfil the responsibilities of the position, a back-up person is crucial. If you have any experience with bookkeeping and/or accounting systems, please speak with Pastor Garrett. Be assured training is available as needed.

PowerPoint creators: Alternate(s) are needed to take turns creating the weekly PowerPoint for livestreaming our service. Please speak with Pastor Garrett for more information.

When can I order gift cards from the church?
Any time!



Although we promote this opportunity during the holidays, you can order gift cards any time. It generally takes about a week for the cards to arrive. Simply complete an order form, located on the table in the Narthex, and give it to Linda Holonia with a check payable to the church. You pay face value for the cards and the retailers donate a portion of your purchase to the church. The order will be placed on Monday and the cards will be available the following Sunday. To cover the cost of shipping, the order will be placed once we have enough cards ordered to cover that cost. This is a simple way to help our church budget.

Faith Promise of Giving



It is not too late to make your faith promise/estimate of giving. Although you may make a Faith Promise any time during the year, we depend on them by the end of the year so that we may fulfill our budget needs for 2025. Please consider taking a step out in faith and make a commitment to God's work through AUMC. You may place your Promise in the offering plate or mail it to the office.

Cancer with Hope

Tuesday, February 25. Those affected by cancer, whether you are a patient or a loved one or a support for someone facing the disease, you are welcome. Please, contact Bruce Krout at 609-605-5450 for more information



Potpourri

We continue to collect used stamps for a mission in Ft. Myers, FL. Please tear the stamps off your mail and donate them in the box in the Narthex. They will be processed and used to provide Sunday school materials that are used in 8 Latin American countries



Delanco Camp dates have been announced. There is a week set aside for any child who has finished 3rd grade through 12th grade. This is a sleep-away one week camp centered around Christian teachings (and tons of fun). The cost is \$350 with a \$50 discount for first-time campers. Scholarships are available and AUMC provides financial assistance. See Pastor Garrett or Linda Holonia for more information. Camp dates:

- Junior Camp (entering grades 4th-6th) July 6-12, 2025
- Junior High 1 Camp (entering grades 6th-9th) July 13-19, 2025
- Teen Camp (entering grades 9th-12th) July 20-26, 2025
- Middler Camp (entering grades 5th-8th) July 27-August 2, 2025
- Junior High 2 Camp (entering grades 6th-9th) August 3-9, 2025



Pastor Garrett will begin a **Saturday morning group study** based on his sermon series for Lent, The Way of the Cross.

The first meeting will be on Saturday, **March 8 at 10:00 a.m.** Everyone is invited to attend. If you know you will join him, please let the office know so he can provide enough snacks for everyone

THE UPPER ROOM®

Looking for a devotional? The Upper Room is available for you in the Narthex, or ask to have one mailed to you.



Youth Group is off to a great start!! They meet each Sunday evening 6:00-8:00. All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us!!

Come to the Youth Room (3rd floor) at 6:00 tonight for food, fun and fellowship!!

Friends are welcome to join us too!



Looking for an opportunity to grow in your faith? Ask Carol Tait about the Walk to Emmaus, a 3-day Christian experience. A Face to Face event is available for those over 60 who cannot attend a 3 day experience.



We have several openings for altar flowers this Spring. The cost of altar flowers is \$20.00 per arrangement. If you would like to sponsor one or more

arrangements, please contact the church office.

Available dates are:

May 11, 1 arrangement

May 18, 1 arrangement

Homebound of the Month



Let them know you are thinking of them by sending a card

Pamela Alekseyev

606 Gaskill Ave.

Mt Ephraim, NJ 08059



March Birthdays

1 Elaine Soulliard
2 Brandon Alekseyev
5 Maggie Bouch
9 Barbara Cunane
12 Kevin Fennimore
12 Tracy Schnyer
16 Rebecca VanArnam
18 Tim Bouch
19 Mike Barrus
22 Laurie Bouch
24 Scott Ryan
28 Karen Campling
30 Hope Carson
31 Joe Whylings
31 Wyone Beckman



To give online,
scan this QR Code
with your smart
phone or tablet

Church Staff and Contact Information

* Pastor: Garrett Gouveia
* Admin. Asst.: Linda Holonia
* Organist/pianist: Ken Carson
* Nursery Aide: Calvin Reich
Church Office email :
audubonumc@verizon.net
Church office Phone: 856-547-6114

March Anniversaries

15 David and Karen Campling

March Trustee Opener/Closer

To be assigned

Communion Offering

Urban Promise

Pastor Garrett email:

rev.garrettmgouveia@gmail.com

Pastor's office hours:

Mon, Wed, Thur. 8:45 – 11:30 AM

Church Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs: 9-1

Check out our website: audubonumc.com

Search for **AudubonUMC** on
Facebook YouTube Twitter (X) Instagram



Items for the April newsletter are
due Sunday, March 9. Please email
me your items directly. Thank you.

Dorothy

grovesdorothy@gmail.com

Newsletter Sponsor

The February Newsletter is sponsored by Tim and Laurie Bouch in memory of her dad, Don Lauk and in honor of her mom Peg and their daughter, Maggie Bouch.



LENT

Ash Wednesday

*It is immediately preceded by Shrove Tuesday. Ash Wednesday is a **solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God and marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season.** It is commonly observed with the distribution of ashes and with fasting.

*Ash Wednesday marks the start of a 40-day period which is **an allusion to the separation of Jesus in the desert to fast and pray.** During this time he was tempted. Matthew 4:1–11, Mark 1:12–13, and Luke 4:1–13.

*Although the holiday of Ash Wednesday is **never directly mentioned in the Bible**, it is one of the most celebrated Christian events in church history. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day season of fasting, reflection, and remembrance before the Holy Week and the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.



St Patrick's Day – March 17

March 17, the day St. Patrick died

St. Patrick's Day celebrates the life and death of St. Patrick, Ireland's patron saint, and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. It's also a day to celebrate Irish culture.

What is Saint Patrick's famous quote?

He who believes shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be damned.

What does the shamrock symbolize?



The shamrock symbolizes Ireland, the Christian Holy Trinity, and good fortune. According to legend, St. Patrick used the shamrock's three leaves to represent the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit when trying to convert the Irish to Christianity.

What song was written by St. Patrick?



**Remember!
Everybody is
Irish on
St. Patty's
Day!**

MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 a.m. Children's SS Teen Bible study Seeker's SS 10:20 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. UMW Luncheon	3 7:00 p.m. Seeker's Sunday school via Zoom	4	5 7:30 p.m. Comfort Food via Zoom	6 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7	8 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Attic Treasures Thrift Store 10:00 A.M. Pastor's Lenten Bible study
9 9:00 Children's SS Teen Bible study Seeker's SS 10:20 a.m. Worship	10 7:00 p.m. Seeker's Sunday school via Zoom	11	12 7:30 p.m. Comfort Food via Zoom	13 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	14	15 10:00 A.M. Pastor's Lenten Bible study
16 9:00 Children's SS Teen Bible study Seeker's SS 10:20 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	17 7:00 p.m. Seeker's Sunday school via Zoom	18	19 7:30 p.m. Comfort Food via Zoom	20 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	21	22 10:00 A.M. Pastor's Lenten Bible study 4:00 p.m. American Guild of Organists
23 9:00 Children's SS Teen Bible study Seeker's SS 10:20 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	24 7:00 p.m. Seeker's Sunday school via Zoom	25 7:00 p.m. Cancer with Hope Simpson Room and Zoom Contact Bruce for info 609-605- 5450	26 7:30 p.m. Comfort Food via Zoom	27 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	28	29 10:00 A.M. Pastor's Lenten Bible study. 8:00-3:00 Walk to Emmaus
30 9:00 Children's SS Teen Bible study Seeker's SS 10:20 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	31 7:00 p.m. Seeker's Sunday school via Zoom					