

Audubon United Methodist Church

314 W. Graisbury Avenue, Audubon, NJ 08106

www.audubonumc.com 856-547-6114



December 2023 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 is on the Graisbury Ave. side entrance.

Limited handicapped parking is available on Graisbury and in the rear of the church house.

Sundays:

- 9:00 A.M. Children's Sunday School
Seekers Adult Sunday School in person
And on Zoom.
- 10:20 A.M. Traditional Service in person and streaming live on our Facebook page and YouTube.
- Fri. Dec 1 Greening of the Church 7 P.M.
Sat. Dec 9 Attic Treasures Thrift Store is open
Sun. Dec. 10 Book club following service
Live Nativity 5 – 8 P.M.
- Tues. Dec. 12 Church Council Meeting 7:30 P.M.
Sun. Dec. 17 Chancel Choir Cantata at 10:20 AM
Sun. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve services at 4 and 8 P.M.
Thurs. Dec 28 Blood Drive 2-7 PM
- Every Mon. Seekers Bible Study-Zoom-7:00 P.M.
Every Weds. Comfort Food on Zoom 7:30 P.M.
Every Thurs. Choir rehearsal 7:30 P.M.

ZOOM MEETING ID: 732-520-3940 PASSWORD:
audubon PHONE DIAL-IN: 646 558 8656 JOIN US!

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

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."



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Come and join us on Friday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. as we decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Help is especially needed to set up the Christmas tree.

LIVE NATIVITY will be presented on the front lawn

Dec. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m.



Live actors, live animals all telling the story of our living God. Invite your neighbors and friends and join in the celebration!



BLESSING TREE Is up and waiting for you to choose a tag or two to bless someone less fortunate than we are. Without our help, they may not have a Merry Christmas. Please be generous and help those in need this season. All gifts should be: Wrapped with the tag gently placed on the wrapping so that it can be removed, and a name placed on the gift; returned by **December 10**. If you have any questions, please see Linda Holonia.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4 P.M. Family Service
8 P.M. Traditional Candlelight Service
Welcome the newborn KING.



Thank you to all who helped at the Christmas Bazaar. It was a great success!

From the Finance committee –

Thank you for making your 2024 commitment to doing God's work through AUMC. If you have not yet made your pledge, you may place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Electronic giving is available. See Carol Tait for information. If you have questions about donating a portion of your RMD, please contact Bob Kondras or Carol Tait.



We are collecting stamps from mail, which are then sent to the Alliance Stamp Ministry, who in turn sells the stamps and supports the Publicaciones Alianza, a publishing house in Argentina that writes and publishes Sunday school materials that are used in 8 Latin American countries. A box will be located in the narthex for the collection of your used stamps. The stamps will be picked up every 4-6 weeks

From Audubon Peer to Peer - Thank you ever so much! All donations were picked up and APTPA wanted to relay their thanks and to let you know that your donations will make such a difference to many families!! In addition to the items collected, \$200.00 was donated by you to APTPA.

GIFT CARDS



Gift card order forms are now in the narthex. These forms list the many cards available. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask Linda Holonia

BLOOD DRIVE

Our next Blood Drive is scheduled for Thursday, December 28 from 2-7 PM. Please go to the American Red Cross website and search for our blood drive by date and sign-up to donate blood. The need is very great, and your donation is important. As a thank you, each donor will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card.



Save a Life, Give Blood



It seems like it a far ways off, but we are planning for **Lent 2024**.

We would like to compile our own Lenten devotional, created by YOU!! During this period of deep spiritual significance, we ask that each

person create at least one reflection for the booklet. It could be a thoughtful reflection, personal story, a prayer, or any other format that is meaningful to you. Your words can provide comfort and hope for others. Please pray about how you can contribute to our Lenten devotional booklet.

International Students

For many years we have sponsored David and Kathy (MacCulloch) Mannon who have been missionaries on college campuses in New Jersey-mainly Rutgers in New Brunswick. They have influenced many foreign college students to come to Christ through their ministry. The students then returned to their home countries following graduation and have spread the Word in their home countries. The time has come for David and Kathy to move on and they are leaving their ministry. David is taking a job in the secular community. Therefore, our sponsorship of them will end as of now. We have been privileged to sponsor them and their work throughout the years and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

CANCER WITH HOPE

We will be not be meeting in December.

Next meeting will be Mon. Jan. 29 at 7 P.M.

Contact Bruce Krout at 609-605-5450 for more information.



December Homebound of the Month



Bea Fisher
154 Yale Rd.
Audubon, NJ 08106

Let her know you are thinking of her by sending a card.

December Servants

Liturgist: Mark VanArnam

Trustee Opener/Closer: Joe Fennimore

December Communion Offering: Kids Alley

December Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|--------------------|
| 2 | Joan Windston | 22 | Samantha Fennimore |
| 10 | Dan Arcaini | 22 | Mary Ann Mazur |
| 12 | Lois Reiter | 29 | Carol Fennimore |
| 13 | Sandy Albrecht | | |
| 14 | Samanatha Snyder | | |
| 15 | Bill Soulliard | | |



December Anniversary: 3 Pam & Peter Alekseyev

Prayer Ministry

We will gather a small group of people following worship for a brief time of prayer, asking God to send new families to AUMC. This will be about 5 minutes of prayer. If you are interested in joining in prayer for our church to grow, please meet in the Conover Parlor following worship. *"For where two or three are gathered in My name, I am there among them."* Matthew 18:20

Prayers – Praise – Thanks

Pray in the spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.
Ephesians 6:18



Intercessory Prayer Needs

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| • Doug J. | • Crystal | • Mary L. |
| • Shannon P. | • Michelle | • Mike & Tyler S. |
| • Kevin H | • Tiara C | • MaryAnn M |
| • Carol F | • Dan A. | • Gwen E. |
| • Joan W | • Peg and Don L | • Scott |
| • Sandy A | • Rosemarie | • Bill D |
| • Gerry G | • Gail L | • Peggy C |
| • Pat H | • Dorothy G | • Dee G |
| • Estelle M | • Lauri M | • Charlie W and family |
| • Dave R. | • Bill F. | • Erin F. |

Prayer Card Requests

- Our Pastor and family
- Our homebound members
- Megan for strength and guidance as she works through a personal issue

Have you checked out our website lately?

<https://www.audubonumc.com>



<https://www.facebook.com/AudubonUMC>



[@Audubon_UMC](http://www.twitter.com)



Church Staff:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| * Pastor: | Garrett M. Gouveia |
| * Admin. Asst.: | Linda Holonia |
| * Director of Music: | Carl Ellinwood, Jr |
| * Organist: | Ken Carson |
| * Nursery Aide: | Calvin R, Sophia K |

Church office Phone: 856-547-6114

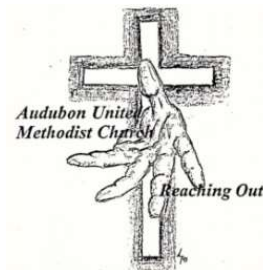
Church Office e-mail: audubonumc@verizon.net

Pastor Garrett e-mail: rev.garrettmgouveia@gmail.com

Pastor's office hours: Mon, Wed, Fri. 8:45 – 11:30 AM

Church Office Hours

Monday	10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
Wed. and Thursday	10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.





2023 Christmas Poinsettias

You are again invited to share in placing one or more poinsettias in our sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

The price is \$5 per plant.

We would like to have them in the sanctuary for Sunday, December 17. Therefore, **orders MUST be placed by Wednesday December 13. No orders will be accepted after this date.**

You may take your poinsettia home after the 8 PM Christmas Eve service on December 24 if you are in attendance. For anyone worshipping virtually on Christmas Eve, instructions on when you can get your plants will be forthcoming.

Please complete the order form below and give it with your payment to the church secretary.

PLEASE PRINT

<i>Your Name</i>	<i>In Memory Of</i>	<i>In Honor Of</i>

Signature: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

