

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN

April 22, 2018 Eastertide

All members of this parish form the ministry team in witness of Christ.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC: Judith Kuhn, Organist

WELCOME, MISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Rev. Stephen Bascom, Pastor

The United Methodist Church of Auburn is an intergenerational Christian Community whose mission is to embody Christ's love through a commitment to serve God by fulfilling the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of our congregation and of our local and global communities.

PRELUDE: Park Avenue Pickers

GATHERING PRAYER:

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: This is the good news – the grave is empty, Christ is risen!

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: This is the good news – the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: This is the good news – once we were no people, now we are God's people.

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

ALL: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

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***GATHERING HYMN:** 'Easter People, Raise Your Voices' UMH Page 304

*If you would like to like a candle for prayer,
please feel free to do so during any congregational hymn.*

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

NOISY OFFERING AND CHILDREN'S MOMENT: Carol Christopoulos

PRAISE FOR CREATION: "Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi for All Created Things"
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks unto God, and serve God with great humility

ANTHEM: 'What A Friend We Have in Jesus' Park Avenue Pickers

SCRIPTURE: John 10:11-18 NT Page 97 Diane Higgins

***GLORIA PATRI** UMH Page 71

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

ANNIVERSARY REFLECTION: 'Fifty Years of United'

***HYMN:** 'They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love' TFWS Page 2223

MESSAGE: 'Lost in His Love'
I John 3:16-24 NT Page 226

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

OFFERTORY: 'Journey Home' P. Harris

*We invite you to invest in God's mission and ministry as it flows
through the United Methodist Church of Auburn into human lives!*

***DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;* UMH Page 94

*Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the Source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

We confess, O God, that we are often overwhelmed by needs in the world – hunger, disease, strife, prejudice, and many other problems. Receive these offerings as signs that we will act to get something done instead of worrying about what we cannot do. Bless these gifts so that they will bring healing and love in Jesus' name. Amen.

**SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS
PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

WE DEPART TO SERVE

- *CLOSING HYMN: 'Blessed Assurance' (v.1-2) UMH Page 369
- *BENEDICTION:
- *CONG. RESPONSE: 'Blessed Assurance' (v. 3) UMH Page 369
- *POSTLUDE: 'Sortie on "Hermas"' E. Broughton

*CONGREGATION STANDS – if you are physically able

UMH – The United Methodist Hymnal (Red) TFWS – The Faith We Sing (black)
Large Print hymnals and bulletins along with assisted-listening devices are available at the Visitor's Booth, or an usher would be glad to provide you with either or both.

MEDITATION

'Even if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts and knows all things.' (1 John 3:20) Since the time of Jesus' crucifixion, there have been many who have played the 'blame game.' Who was responsible Herod? The High Priest? The Roman soldiers? Judas? The crowds shouting, Crucify? God? Human Sin? The Devil? Jesus himself? There seems to be plenty of 'blame' to pass around, but Jesus did not play the 'blame game.' He said, "Father, forgive them, they do not know what they do." And again, "No one takes (my life) from me, but I give it up freely...I have the right to give is up, and I have the right to take it up again." (John 10:18). Forgiveness flows from the Calvary miracle, awakening Easter in the life of all who trust God. God forgives, but the trouble is, "sometimes we do not." We punish others, and sometimes punish ourselves. "How can I forgive myself for something which had lasting consequence for someone else?" Easter has come, but we refuse to leave the tomb...

**THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF AUBURN**

439 Park Avenue, Auburn, ME 04210, 207-782-3972

**A Reconciling Congregation*

*I am
the Good Shepherd
John 10:11*

Rev. Stephen Bascom, Sr., Pastor

Worship Schedule

**Sunday 8:15 a.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.**

Staff Directory

Email: office@auburnmethodist.org

Web Site: auburnmethodist.org

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Bascom, Sr.

Parsonage: 753-1275

Email: sebisk@live.com

Secretary: Joan Spitzform

Church Office: 782-3972

Organist: Judith Kuhn

WELCOME TO ALL

Welcome to our church! We are so glad you decided to worship with us this day. We are a Reconciling United Methodist Church that is passionate about serving God. We love inspiring worship services and are committed to diversity. We believe that all persons are of sacred worth.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we covenant to follow his example of unconditional love, compassion and justice in our mission and ministry. Therefore, we welcome and nurture the full participation of people of every age, heritage, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, economic status, faith background, family structure, gender identity, marital status, race, social standing and varying capability.

We strive to fully embody the mission of the United Methodist Church to open hearts, minds and doors to everybody. We invite you to worship with us knowing that you are loved exactly as you are.

This Week's Ushers: Nurture Committee

This Week's Greeters: Shirley Keene

This Week's Liturgist: Diane Higgins

Next Week's Liturgist: Sharon McGilvery

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY, April 22, 2018 Birthday Luncheon

8:15 a.m. Communion Worship

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Worship Committee

11:30 a.m. Birthday Luncheon

4:30 p.m. Music Together

5:30 p.m. Zumba Fitness Class

MONDAY, April 23, 2018

5:30 p.m. Solutions Group

7:00 p.m. Serenity Group

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir

7:30 p.m. AA/Alanon

TUESDAY, April 24, 2018

10:00 a.m. Multiple Sclerosis Group

4:00 p.m. UMW Banquet

5:30 p.m. Solutions Book Club

5:30 p.m. Zumba Fitness Class

WEDNESDAY, April 25, 2018

9:30 a.m. Music Together

6:00 p.m. Wesleyan Singers

6:30 p.m. Private Men's Group

THURSDAY, April 26, 2018

10:00 a.m. Clover Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Faith Journey

10:15 a.m. Music Together

5:30 p.m. Zumba Fitness Class

6:00 p.m. Cub/Boy Scouts

FRIDAY, April 27, 2018

10:15 a.m. Music Together

5:45 p.m. Boy Scout T111

SATURDAY, April 28, 2018 BEAN SUPPER

9:00 a.m. Music Together

4:00 p.m. Praise Service

11:15 a.m. Music Together

5:00 p.m. Bean Supper

SUNDAY, April 28, 2018

8:15 a.m. Communion Worship

1:00 p.m. T111 Eagle Scout

10:00 a.m. Worship

4:30 p.m. Music Together

11:30 a.m. Music Committee

5:30 p.m. Zumba Fitness Class

6:30 p.m. Private Men's Group

REACHING OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY

HIGH STREET FOOD PANTRY: Items needed on a weekly basis are: Peanut Butter, Canned Vegetables, Canned Meats, Soup of any kind, Canned Pasta, Canned Fruit, Dry Cereal, Baking Items, Crackers – all kinds, Toilet Paper. **Remember, we also collect new or gently used children's books!** If you have questions, please speak with Leroy Brown or Eric Howes. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

PRE-SCHOOL COLLECTION: Items are needed for the preschool! We will be collecting copy paper and napkins until the end of April. Thank you all for your generosity!

PLEASE NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR BEACON SUBMISSIONS IS THE 10TH OF EVERY MONTH. PLEASE FORWARD YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO EDITH ELLIS BY THAT DATE TO AVOID THE BEACON BEING LATE.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHANGE TO CHURCH! Every week we pass around our Milk Bucket to collect change (we accept bills too!) to provide milk for the Trinity Jubilee Center. The milk we provide helps to give young and old alike milk for the free lunch program. Thank you for your continued support of this outreach!

NAME BADGES: For anyone who is new or has misplaced their name tag, don't forget to sign your name on the Name Badge sign-up sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MID-MAINE DISTRICT UMW: The Spring meeting will be held at the United Methodist Economic Ministries in Salem, Maine on April 28th from 10-2 pm. This will include a tour, time to help with a project, and a business meeting. Soup and dessert provided (bring a sandwich). Cost \$7.00 per person. **We will be collecting bug spray, sunscreen and band aids to assist in their work. A box is provided on the table in the reception area if you wish to contribute. See Lucille Webber or Sharon McGilverly for more details.**

UMW BANQUET NEWS: Registrations for this year's UMW banquet will be held on Sunday, April 8th, and April 15th. The Banquet will be held at the church on **Tuesday, April 24th**, "Fashions through the Ages" is the theme and is open to women of the church and their guests. Feel free to wear an outfit from your favorite decade or display it for all to admire. Available on display so far will be an 1890's dress and a wedding gown from the 1930's. Maybe you still have a fifties poodle skirt and bobby sox or a tie-dyed outfit you would like to wear or display. After the dinner we will have a program to enjoy. Cost is \$10.00 for this catered event for women and girls ages 10 and over.

Special Mother's Day Remembrance Bulletin: A special Mother's Day remembrance will be sponsored again this year by Ruth Circle, honoring Mothers living, and in memory of those who are no longer with us, but will always be remembered in our hearts. **EACH NAME** submitted for remembrance will be \$1.00 (or more, if you wish) – the money collected will go to **The Wisdom Women's Center** in Lewiston – a mission for women that functions as a grassroots collaborative of women who work together to break their isolation and build community toward the bettering and enriching of each other's lives. The sacred and safe Center supports women in becoming aware of their inner resources, pursuing life affirming relationships, and developing their potential. **Members of Ruth Circle will have a table set up for receiving Memory/Honor slips after worship on April 8, 15, 22, 29 and a self-service area for the 8:30 worship service. The collection deadline is APRIL 29, 2018.**

SPRING WEEDING AND ORGANIZATION DAY: Please join us on May 5th as we gather at 9:00 a.m. for prayer and coffee time. Then the work will begin! We will plan on sorting through the contents of several storage spaces and need to decide what needs to be kept and where it should be stored and what can be discarded. Lunch will be served.