



The Beacon

Newsletter of the United Methodist Church
October 2024



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

439 PARK AVENUE
AUBURN, MAINE 04210

Telephone: (207) 782-3972

www.auburnmethodist.org

Church Secretary, Carla Daigle

Email: office@auburnmethodist.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday

9 am until Noon

Sunday Worship 8:30 and 10:30 am

Nursery Care Available

Sunday School starting again on

September 8

Staff

Rev. Stephen Bascom, Pastor

sebisk@outlook.com

parsonage: (207) 753-1275

cell: (339) 440-3746

Ryan Slocum, Organist

William Buzza, Bell Choir Director

Peter Poliquin, Custodian

Edith Ellis, Beacon Editor

Cherie Downing, SS Superintendent

Email articles to

sunnysidegardens@roadrunner.com

**BEACON deadline for submission
is the 10th of the month prior to
publication date.**

Welcome to October!

A summer parishioner, before returning to Indiana, engaged me after worship on Rally Sunday to say, "The church I attend in Indiana is much bigger than this one, but we don't begin to offer the variety of mission projects, classes, programs and activities that you do. Thank you for all your efforts; keep up the good work!"

Busyness, of course, is the work of squirrels rather than disciples, but did not Jesus say, "The field is ripe for the harvest? Pray to the Lord of the harvest that he may send workers into the field." It is in that spirit that we offer the programs and opportunities that we do: Worship and Online Praise, Godly Play Church School, Youth Fellowship, Nursery, Faith Journey, Men's Breakfast Fellowship, United Women of Faith, City Mission, High Street Food Cupboard, Upper Room Devotional, Bible Study, Wednesday Book Group, Wesleyan Singers, Handbell Choir, Volunteers in Mission, Scouting, support groups, Lectionary Studies, and so forth.

Alive in the Spirit of Christ, we seek to grow into our best selves for the joy of life and the healing and transformation of the world! What a privilege it is to be part of this great work. I want to thank you for your gifts, time and offerings which enable us to be the parish we are. It is a privilege to serve as your pastor and to discover the adventure each day offers!

As you likely have heard, our Merger Vote has been postponed until after the sale of the Calvary building which is scheduled for this month. Details will soon be announced. The Leadership Board of Calvary UMC has worked hard to move this work forward, and we are nearing the finish line of this chapter of our parish's journey.

The United Methodist Church, worldwide, is moving forward too, and we wish to share the story with you. Please join us for an introduction to our new Episcopal leader, Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton, on Monday, October 7th, 6-8 pm (dinner served beforehand) at our own church (UMCA). Catch the vision of Christian renewal!

One more thing—don't forget to vote on November 5th!

God's grace and peace,

Pastor Steve Bascom

Next due date is **October 10th**

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday is Pastor's Sabbath day.

Pastor Steve will be in the church office Tuesday from 9 am to 12 noon. He is also available by appointment, parsonage phone: (207) 753-1275; cell (339) 440-3746; sebisk@live.com



Parish Notes



We celebrate with John and Emily Derouche as they welcome daughter, Evangeline Patricia Derouche (born August 23rd) to their family. Congratulations! Mom and baby are doing well, and we look forward to meeting Evangeline!

Our congratulations are extended to Jeff & Kim Thistlewaite who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a renewal of vows ceremony at UMC of Auburn on September 28th. God's joy be with you!

With sorrow, we announce the passing of Marcia Akers, one of our beloved and compassionate members on August 25th. A celebration of her life was held on August 31st at UMC of Auburn, followed by a graveside service of committal at Gracelawn Memorial Park Cemetery on September 7th. We are grateful for her life and presence among us, and know her passing is also a great loss for the Empire Grove community and the Lewiston-Auburn healing community. Our prayers are with husband Carroll, daughter Dawn Humason-Beaule, and their family.



Friendly Reminders



High Street Food Pantry

The following items are needed for the Food Pantry on a weekly basis: peanut butter, toilet paper, and pasta sauce. Please place items in the grocery cart outside the sanctuary.

If you have questions about the pantry or wish to volunteer, please speak with Leroy Brown. Thank you for supporting this mission and helping local people meet their most basic needs.

E-beacon Invitation

To receive your eBeacon, send an email to sunnysidegardens@roadrunner.com. If you would like to receive an electronic version of the Beacon **and** still receive a paper copy please be sure to specify this otherwise you will be removed from the mailing list for the Beacon. Many thanks to those that are already receiving their eBeacon! The group is growing. **Please keep your email address up to date. If it changes, send a note to the email above.**

P.S. You can also find the most recent and the last issues of the Beacon on our web site- auburnmethodist.org, so please check it out.



Church News



Missions Committee

The Missions Committee has a lot going on for the fall months! Our Mission focus for the month of September is Mission Shares - World Missions. Pastor Steve will explain this project In Mission Moments during the month.

We are currently working on a fund raiser for the church in the form of a silent auction which will take place at the October 19th bean supper. We will have an informational half sheet handout to be given to folks at the September 21 supper and stand up sheets on each table with more information regarding the silent auction. If anyone in the congregation has a gift card, interesting item, or service that they would like to donate to the auction please contact me at 207.208.9800 or ptpelletier@yahoo.com as soon as possible.

We will be holding a meeting on Sunday, September 29, after the 10:30 service to discuss Thanksgiving Baskets for Thanksgiving and the Giving Tree for Christmas as Pam McDonald and Jan Wilkinson have handed these projects to the Missions Committee. We welcome anyone who would like to help us with these important projects to join us at this important meeting!

Our mission project for October will be "Boots!" In October, the Mission Committee will help out 4 different groups/organizations with donations to purchase winter boots for those in need. The money collected will be equally divided among the Asylum Seekers Resettlement Fund, City Mission, Trinity Jubilee Center and a group called Papa's Boots at the Bolster's Mills UMC. Envelopes will be provided on a couple of Sundays in October, and you also can just drop a check in the offering plate with "Boots" in the memo line. We all deserve to have warm and dry feet during the cold winter months. Thank you for your help!

Again thank you as always for your generous and continuing support of the missions of the AUMC.

Pat Titus
ptpelletier@yahoo.com
207-208-9800

Shop on Park Avenue

Saturday, November 23rd.

Monetary gifts are always helpful as the Country Cupboard has many supplies that need to be purchased. Our frugal shoppers are always watching for sales.

Items needed:

- Clean and sellable white elephant items
- Seasonal items and crafts
- Crafts and Home and Hearth: potholder, scrubbies, aprons, etc. (No electronics)
- Jewelry can be brought in as soon as possible to be cleaned and readied for sale.
- Books. Children and adult novels only. (No textbooks, coffee table travel books, CDs or VCR tapes)
- Candy, Fudge, Needhams, etc. This is a very popular booth.
- Pies. Another popular booth that sells out fast. (No cream pies)
- Country Cupboard. Monetary donations will be needed so the crew can go out and buy the supplies in bulk and watch for sales. If you write a check please designate in the memo: "Church Fair Country Cupboard". This table also needs pickles, relishes, jams and jellies, and homemade breads.
- Toys and games for kids
- \$5 Surprise Bags (see below). You may give the items to Janet or they may be left in Cherie's office labeled for "Gift for Surprise Bags".

WORKERS are needed for set up on Wednesday, the day of the fair and for CLEAN UP. If you have any questions, speak to Cherie, Jan Wilkinson or Chris Conant. This is our big fundraiser of the year to support the budget. Many thanks!

Time to Think about Surprise Bags For the Fair

I've received plenty of Christmas bags to use for the SURPRISE BAG table at the Fair in November! Now it's time to gather the items to go IN those bags. Please remember, items need to be worth \$5.00 or more and be new or in "like new condition", also gift certificates. We need items for men, women and children. Place your donations in a bag labeled "Surprise Bags" and leave them on the rolling cart near the coat rack in the Fellowship Hall (or give them to Cherie Downing to save for me). Fair table has been a big hit for the last 4 years and I sold over 100 bags last year – all profit for the Fair!

Thanks for your help, Janet Irish.



Events



Sunday Worship Services

8:30 am - 'In Person' & Zoom
10:30 am - 'In Person' & Live-stream
(You Tube, UMCA Facebook,
www.auburnmethodist.org)

Growing Deeper

"Facilitated Conversation Centered on Lectionary Readings for the Day"
Sundays, 9:30 to 10:15 am
UMC of Auburn Lounge (Led by Pastor Steve Bascom)

Upper Room Devotional

Weekly Zoom Meetings, Fridays at 10 am
October 4, 11 & 18
(Open to all/facilitated by Pastor Steve Bascom)
Speak to Pastor Steve if you wish to receive the invitation.

Bible Study: Matthew

Friday Nights, 6:30 pm, UMCA
October 4, 11, 18, & 25

Faith Journey (weekly women's spiritual formation group). Open to all Women of the Wider Parish of UMCA and Calvary UMC
Thursdays, 9:30 am, UMCA choir room

Men's Monthly Fellowship Breakfast

Auburn/Lewiston
Saturday, October 5th, 2024, 7:30 am, UMCA
Feel free to invite a friend!

Meet Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton

(Bishop of the New Hope Area, including New York and New England Conferences)
Monday, October 7th, 2024, UMC of Auburn
2-4 pm – clergy gathering
4-6 pm – dinner with clergy and laity
6-8 pm – all are welcome

United Women of Faith Sunday

Worship Service & World Thank Offering
October 13th, 10:30 am

Assisted-Living Monthly Worship Services

Led by Pastor Steve Bascom
Clover Manor, October 17th, 10 am
Schooner Estates, October 25th at 10 am

Church Public Supper

Saturday, October 19th, 5 pm
Park Avenue Pickers (perform prior to supper)
Silent Auction (Cash only)

Sunday, October 20th, 2:30 pm, Annual Church Conference(s) for UMCA and Calvary UMC to be held at Lisbon UMC

Note:

Merger Conferences Postponed until November
Following sale of Calvary UMC building.



Fall Bucket List:

- Go to a pumpkin patch.
- Go apple picking.
- Have a picnic outside.
- Plan a movie night.
- Host a game night with friends.
- Bake an apple pie.
- Plan a Halloween costume.
- Go on a hayride.
- Get lost in a corn maze.
- Attend a Fall Festival.
- Make colorful leaf art.
- Make a pine cone bird feeder.
- Carve a pumpkin.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY - Take notice of the beauty in nature.

Sunday School Kick Off

Thank you to Beth Woodhead for helping with getting children registered. It was so nice to see familiar faces and welcome some new ones on our first Sunday; 18 students registered. Thank you to the youth group for helping the younger children to make slime. Everyone enjoyed activities with the parachute and outside games. Popsicles and cookies ended the day. It was a great Kickoff to Sunday School.

We are feeling very thankful for the volunteers who have offered to help Kay Little's class.

Mark Your Calendar and Save the Date

October 6 will be Family Apple Picking at Wallingford's. There will be a sign up sheet available so we have a count of how many to plan on. This is open to all church members that would like to attend.

Acolytes Needed

Are you in third grade and above and interested in becoming an acolyte? Please speak to Ms. Cherie.

* Acolytes participate in the worship service by carrying the acolyte taper into church, lighting the altar candles before the service and extinguishing them at the end of service. The lighted candles on the altar represent the Light of Christ. Therefore, when acolytes walk down the aisle and light the candles, they are symbolically carrying the light of Christ into service. At the end of service, the acolyte returns to the altar, lights the acolyte taper, snuffs out the altar candles and the walks back up the aisle with the lighted taper. This symbolizes taking the Light of Christ and Love of God out into the world.

October Celebrations

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
4	Kathy Lawrence Makenzie Swett		Carl & Alyssa Skilling
8			Randy & Sandy Fowler
9	Kary Coffin David Young		
12		Bruce Hall & Kathy Lawrence Tom and Brenda Mower	
13			John and Emily Derouche
16	Stanford Fulgham		
20			Roy and Desiree Cossey
21	Sue DeRoche		
22			Bruce Damon & Marcia Baxter
24	Cody Malpass		
27	Gary Hemenway		

If you would like your birthday or anniversary added to our monthly list in the Beacon, please submit your details to Sharon McGilvery: sharon.mcgilvery@yahoo.com or call her at 207.782.0089.

Support Groups that use our church.

- Sunday Evening and Wednesday evening Private Men's Group (See Pastor Steve for more information)
- Every Monday Evening- Keep Coming Back AA (Women)
- There is a Solution Alanon (Women)
- The Serenity Group (12-Step Fellowship)
- Every Tuesday Evening One Day at a Time Alanon (Women)

Girl Scouts

- 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays River Valley Girl Scouts Team Meeting
- 2nd & 4th Wednesday Troop 5043

Cub and Boy Scouts

- Cub Scouts Pack 111, every Thursday evening
- Boy Scout Troop 121, every Thursday evening
- Boy Scout Troop 111, every Friday evening

Outside Groups That Regularly Use Our Church Building

- Androscoggin Music Together
- Edgewood Condo Association
- Granite Mills Condo Association
- Literacy Volunteers of Androscoggin County
- Maine Iris Society
- Music Together
- Park Avenue Pickers
- Rotary
- and others as requested.

Please refer to the church calendar in the Church Hall for day and time of events or call the church office: Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – Noon at 782-3972.



October 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday, Oct 13 United Women of Faith Sunday 10:30 am	Sunday, Oct 20 Church Conference 2:30 pm to be held at Lisbon UMC	1 • 2:30 pm Mission Comm. • 4:30 pm Choir Practice	2 • 11 am Adult Church Study (Z) • 6 pm Park Ave. Pickers	3 • 9:30 am Faith Journey • 10:45 am NOW Comm. • 6:30 pm Church Council	4 • 10 am Upper Room Devotional (Z) • 6:30 pm Bible Study Gospel of Matthew	5 • 7:30 am Men's Breakfast Fellowship Hall 
6 Sunday Worship (see below) • 9:30 am Choir Practice • 9:30 am Grow Deeper	7 Meet : Bishop Bickerton See page 3 for schedule	8 • 4:30 pm Choir Practice	9 • 10 am Adult Church Study (Z) • 6 pm Park Ave. Pickers	10 • 9:30 am Faith Journey	11 • 10 am Upper Room Devotional (Z) • 6:30 pm Bible Study Gospel of Matthew	12 No church activities scheduled.
13 Sunday Worship (see below) • 9:30 am Choir Practice • 9:30 am Grow Deeper	14 Columbus Day Office Closed • 5:30 pm Bell Choir	15 • 4:30 pm Choir Practice	16 • 10 am Adult Church Study • 6 pm Park Ave. Pickers	17 • 9:30 am Faith Journey • 6 pm Clover Worship	18 • 10 am Upper Room Devotional (Z) • 6:30 pm Bible Study Gospel of Matthew	19 • 5:00 pm Bean Supper  (4:30 Pickers Play) Silent Auction
20 Sunday Worship (see below) • 9:30 am Choir Practice • 9:30 am Grow Deeper	21 • 5:30 pm Bell Choir	22 • 4:30 pm Choir Practice	23 • 10 am Adult Church Study • 6 pm Park Ave. Pickers	24 • 9:30 am Faith Journey	25 • 10:00 am Worship at Schooner • 6:30 pm Bible Study Gospel of Matthew	26 • 10 am - 2 pm UWF Seminar (in sanctuary)
27 Sunday Worship (see below) • 9:30 am Choir Practice • 9:30 am Grow Deeper	28 • 5:30 pm Bell Choir	29 • 4:30 pm Choir Practice	30 • 10 am Adult Church Study	31 • 9:30 am Faith Journey		FH = Fellowship Hall (Z) = Zoom

Sunday's Morning Worship Schedule

8:30 am Praise and Worship, In Person (IP) and Zoom (Z)
 10:30 am - Worship Service, In Person (IP) and Live-stream (LS)
 Communion on the first Sunday each month

*Please refer to the church calendar for day and time of events or call the church office Monday thru Friday, 9 am to noon.
 207.782.3972 or email office@auburnmethodist.org*

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
439 PARK AVENUE
AUBURN, MAINE 04210
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
AUBURN, MAINE 04210
PERMIT NO. 9



The United Methodist Church of Auburn is an inter generational 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.