

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN
SUNDAY, October 18, 2009
LAITY SUNDAY
10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRE SERVICE MUSIC:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please indicate your presence by signing the pew pad)

PRELUDE:

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

LEADER: We are here because we have heard the call of Jesus in our lives.

PEOPLE: **We are here to challenge and support one another to rise up and follow.**

LEADER: We are here because we want to be God's people.

PEOPLE: **We want to learn more about what it means to be the people of God.**

LEADER: We come, seeking to be moved, changed, and made whole by the Spirit of the living God.

ALL: **Let us open our hearts to the moving of the Spirit, and prepare to leave this place as true disciples of Christ. Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: "I Am the Church" UMH No. 558

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison)
Dear God, you are the author and source of our lives. You spread before us many pathways in this world of wilderness, and we are free to choose our own path. In our process of choosing, Great Spirit, lend us guidance. In our moments of despair, encourage us and broaden our perspective. In our moments of failure, empower us with strength to try again. In our moments of victory, teach us humility. Send us your loving spirit, that we may be agents of care and concern. Open our ears that we may hear each other. Warm our hearts that we may care for one another and enlighten our minds that we may be about the tasks you set before us. This we pray through Christ our Lord who has taught us to pray saying,...

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.

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM: Claire Cote, Director

MOMENTS WITH THE CHILDREN: Ms. Kary

HYMN: "Here I Am, Lord" UMH No. 593
(Please remain seated)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ruth 1:15 - 18 OT, Page 230

*ACT OF PRAISE: Psalm 100 UMH No. 821
(Sung Response #1)

ANTHEM "Song of Ruth" The Wesleyan Singers

EPISTLE LESSON: Hebrews 10:23 - 25 NT, Page 211

SERMON: "We Gather Together"

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

THE SERVICE OF PRAYER

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS
PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER
ORGAN PRAYER RESPONSE

THE SERVICE OF GIVING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY:

*DOXOLOGY: *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;* No. 95
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** (In Unison)

Your importance in our lives, O God, is reflected in our gifts. We return to you, through the ministry and outreach of this church, a portion of all you have entrusted to us. We promise that these offerings will not be the end of our giving. We will also invest our time and abilities in your work of healing, comforting, teaching, guiding, and proclaiming good news. Bless each gift, whatever its size, and multiply the good to be done through our time, talents, and treasure. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*HYMN: "Pass It On" UMH No. 572

BENEDICTION: (Please be seated)

The way is long, let us go together.
The way is difficult, let us help each other.
The way is joyful, let us share it.
The way is Christ's, for Christ is the Way, let us follow.
The way is open before us, let us go: with the love of God, the grace of Christ,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please do not leave today without first greeting someone whom you do not know!

CHORAL BENEDICTION:

***POSTLUDE**

*CONGREGATION STANDS - if you are physically able

UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal (red) TFWS = The Faith We Sing Hymnal Supplement (black)

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF AUBURN**

**A Reconciling Congregation*

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.

Rev. Richard A. Cullen, Pastor

**Worship Services
Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

TODAY'S LITURGIST:

FAITH JOURNEY GROUP

TODAY'S ACOLYTE:

SIERRA GARY

LITURGIST NEXT SUNDAY:

ACOLYTE NEXT SUNDAY:

EMILY TALPEY

USHERS FOR

THIS SERVICE ARE:

Members of the UM Youth Group

WE WELCOME you to our worship service during this Pentecost Season. It is our hope that you will be moved and inspired through your presence in this service. If you are visiting for the first time, please fill out one of the pew cards and visit our Visitors Information Booth which is located in our Fellowship Hall. Please join us for our coffee hour following this service and plan to worship with us again either next Saturday at 4:00 p.m. or next Sunday at 10:00 a.m.



Attendance last Saturday, October 10th: 28

Attendance last Sunday, October 11th: 140

WE HAVE AVAILABLE LARGE-PRINT HYMNALS FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO USE THEM. THEY ARE LOCATED ON THE BOOK RACK IN THE VESTRY. PLEASE PICK ONE UP ON YOUR WAY INTO CHURCH, BUT BE SURE TO RETURN IT TO THE BOOK RACK ON YOUR WAY OUT.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES NOW AVAILABLE: If you have any difficulty hearing in the sanctuary, please consider using one of the "assistive listening devices" that are now available and can be picked up at the Visitor's Information Booth in the vestry. The device is simple to use and unobtrusive. We have four devices to begin with but can purchase more if they are needed!

LAITY WEEKEND GUESTS: Today we welcome as worship leaders and "preachers" members of the Thursday morning Faith Journey Group. This group of 25 or so women led by Gladys Chapman has been meeting regularly on Thursday mornings for about 20 years. In both the Saturday and Sunday worship services, different members of the group will be leading us in worship and sharing with us what has made their experience so special.

TODAY – RECOGNITION OF NEW FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS: It is our privilege to recognize the members of the class of 1959, those members of our congregation who became members in 1959 and who this year have now been members for 50 years. Received as members in 1959 were the following: Phyllis and Martin Dow; Beverly Haynes; Shirley and Maurice Keene; Sharon McGilvery, and Elizabeth (Betty) and Lynn Markee. It is a joy to recognize each of these individuals and to present them with a certificate acknowledging this occasion.

TODAY - A CELEBRATION FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY: An interfaith service of worship in celebration of the struggle for marriage equality will be held **today at 5 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church located on Spring Street here in Auburn.** The service will include a joint choir made up of members of various churches, synagogues, and other religious gatherings here in the twin cities. If you are interested in joining the choir, please speak to Sarah Dow. Pastor Rich will be delivering one of three homilies for the service. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Rich.

TODAY - SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Today in Sunday School our children will begin with our new Unit 2: The Exodus. Here is where each age group will go **today:**

3 – 5 year-olds: Godly Play in Room 2 and Free Time in Room 3.

Grades 1 & 2: Cooking and Games in the Fellowship Hall.

Grades 3 & 4: Drama in Room 4.

Grades 5 & 6: Art in Room 5.

Grades 7 & Up: Godly Time (The Exodus) in the Library.

Are you interested in teaching a lesson for 4 weeks? Please let Ms. Kary know!

TODAY - YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS: Come and join us for our Youth Group meetings. Everyone is always welcome to join us:

7th – 12th Graders - The next meeting is **Today, October 18th, at 6:00 p.m.** here at Auburn UMC. This year, we will be meeting every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m.

4th – 6th Graders - Kids 4 Christ will be eating and meeting at their first meeting today on **Sunday, October 18th, at 11:30 a.m.** after church. Come and join us!

TODAY - POTLUCK LUNCHEON:

When: **Sunday, October 18th, at 11:30 a.m.**

UMW INFORMATION:

REMINDER: October is World Thank Offering and members should get their offering to Rosemary Malpass, Treasurer of UMW.

UMW Executive Board meeting

- Choir Room on **Tuesday, November 3rd, at 6:30 p.m.**

UMW Circle Meetings:

Naomi Circle - **Tuesday, October 20th, at 1:30 p.m.**

(Leader: Shirley Keene, Tel: 782-1334)

Ruth Circle - **Tuesday, October 20th, at 7:00 p.m.**

(Leader: Lucille Webber, Tel: 998-5234)

SENIOR CITIZENS AND FRIENDS LUNCHEON:

The October 20th Luncheon is SOLD OUT – no further reservations will be taken.

FLU CLINIC: On **Thursday, October 29th**, a flu clinic will be held here at the Auburn UMC from **10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** in the Library. If you have any questions, feel free to speak with Lucille Webber.

MEN'S BREAKFAST:

When: **Saturday, November 7th, at 7:30 a.m.**

Where: Calvary United Methodist Church, Lewiston.

Please be sure to add your name to the sign-up sheet so we will know how many to expect to feed!

FREE CONVERSATION SERIES AT CLOVER HEALTH CARE:

What: Conversation Series About Memory Loss and Dementia

When: **3 – 4:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.**

Where: Clover Health Care, 440 Minot Avenue, Auburn

Cost: No Charge

Facilitator: Bonnie Iwans, LSW

Conversation Topic: *Caregiver Burnout and Ways to Cope With Stress.*

Date: **November 11, 2009.**

For more information, phone the Maine Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association in Portland at (207) 772-0115, OR, check out the website at <http://www.alz.org/maine>

CHURCH FAIR – Shop on Park Avenue:

When: **Saturday, November 21st (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.)**

The Fair is just around the corner and we hope that all of you are busy making things for us to sell. It takes all of us to make the Fair a huge success. The booth contact people are:

Country Store - Gladys Chapman and Pam MacDonald

Candy - Marcia Akers

Jewelry - Wanda Sprague

Home and Hearth - Donna Manson

Baskets - Pat Thomas

Baked Goods - Leone Ford and Lois Beechum

Books - Holly and David Sysko

White Elephant - Don Malpass

Lunch - Nicole Gardner



Please contact these people if you have any questions or would like to work on that booth. **KEEP THOSE HANDS MOVING!** There will be sign-up sheets in the vestry for the Country Store and for workers. Don't forget to pick up a basket and fill it for the Basket Booth. We need and appreciate the help of *every* worker Elf!

TIME TO SORT YOUR JEWELRY FOR THE CHURCH FAIR!!!: Donations may be placed in the designated box on the table outside the sanctuary. We need time to prepare the jewelry for sale so, please, **don't delay!**

USHERS FOR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES:

Several groups in the church have taken responsibility for providing ushers regularly for Sunday morning worship services each month during the year: The Communion Stewards on the first Sunday; members of the Men's Group on the second Sunday of the month and members of the Youth Group on the third Sunday. That leaves the 4th Sunday and when there is a 5th Sunday that other congregation members will be asked to volunteer. There is a **sign-up calendar** to the right of the sanctuary entrance where you may sign up or you may call (225-5258) or e-mail me at jirish@usm.maine.edu to let me know of your willingness to serve the church in this way. For those of you who haven't ushered before but would be willing to volunteer, there is a short information sheet posted on the calendar

for reference. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this part of our church worship service.

Janet Irish, Usher Coordinator

TRINITY SOUP KITCHEN MILK FUND: Nearly 15 years ago our congregation agreed to pay for all of the milk that is purchased at the Trinity Soup Kitchen. The intention was that donations would be solicited from the congregation and the Missions Committee would provide the remainder from the Mission budget. The cost per week is \$28.50. We will report each week how much money has been received. Thank you for your support. Donations by cash can be put in the milk fund container located on the table in the narthex. Checks can be placed in your weekly offering or mailed to the church. Please be sure to note that the money is designated for the “Trinity Milk Fund.”

Needed each week:	\$28.50
Received on 10/11/09:	\$55.44
Year-to-date:	\$340.29

FOOD PANTRY NEED GREATER THAN EVER!!

The need at the High Street Food Pantry is greater than ever. Items in high demand: Canned goods – vegetables, fruit, soup, tuna, and pasta sauce; peanut butter, toilet paper. The High Street Pantry is a collaboration among our church, High Street, West Auburn Congregational, and St. Michael’s Episcopal Church. Thanks to everyone who leaves food in the grocery cart outside the sanctuary, and thanks to the dedicated volunteers who staff the pantry each week! **UPDATE: Desperately in need of Tuna, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Cereal, and Canned Fruit!**

NAME TAGS: Please be sure to use your name tag every Sunday so that we can know who you are! Name tags are now available on the board to the right of the entrance to the sanctuary. If you do not as yet have a name tag, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Please indicate your desire to have one and one will be provided. Please note that we have name tags for the children as well which are located on the right wall as you go into the Sunday School wing. The children’s name tags are organized by class and alphabetized – please be sure that your child returns their name tag to the board!

TIME TO UPDATE: If you would like to have your family’s birthday/anniversary information added to the church’s list, which appears each month in the Beacon, please contact the Church Office at 782-3972 or office@auburnmethodist.org .

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Give a Helping Hand in Your Community!

The Catholic Charities of Maine is looking for caring people to volunteer their time a couple of hours each week to assist seniors who may live alone or need a helping hand. The S.E.A.R.C.H. Program (Seek Elderly Alone, Renew Courage & Hope) is receiving many calls from seniors, as well as referrals from other Human Service agencies, about elderly people in our communities who are in need of your support. They are seeking volunteers to help provide companionship, transportation, assistance with errands, and telephone reassurance calls for elderly and disabled people who live in Androscoggin County. If you are interested in helping someone from your community in this way (OR if you know of an elderly person who may need this kind of help), please contact Program Director, Wendy Russell, by calling 784-0157. You can visit the Catholic Charities website (www.ccmaine.org) or check out their S.E.A.R.C.H. pamphlet which is posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen entryway.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED BY SeniorsPlus!! CAN YOU HELP?: Drivers are needed for Meals on Wheels in the Lewiston-Auburn area. Some delivery routes last one hour and some as much as 2 hours. Volunteers receive mileage reimbursement from their homes and you may choose to volunteer one day or more – the commitment is up to you. Perhaps you would like to help prepare meals as a Kitchen Angel! 400 meals are prepared per day for distribution throughout Androscoggin, Oxford, and Franklin Counties and volunteers at the new location at 55 Alfred Plourde Parkway in Lewiston are a vital part of this program. Kitchen Angels can assist in many different ways with a flexible schedule and working with a diverse group of staff and other volunteers. If you have some time that you would like to volunteer, please contact Trudy Hamilton, Manager of Volunteer Resources at SeniorsPlus, at (207)795-4010 (Ext. 3114). Check out their website at www.seniorsplus.org for more info. They would love to speak with you!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Volunteers are needed for the Trinity Soup Kitchen on the **3rd Sunday of each month from 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.** Join us at 247 Bates Street, Lewiston. For Sunday evening’s Soup Kitchen, contact person is now Marcia Baxter at Tel: (207) 784-2429.

PEW OFFERING ENVELOPES: Pew offering envelopes are available in the pew racks for your use. If you have forgotten your offering envelope or do not have offering envelopes, please feel free to use the pew envelopes.

THE UPPER ROOM Daily Devotional Guide: Issues for the all-new *November - December*, are available right now. These booklets are provided for you free of charge and may be found in the bookrack on the left before entering the sanctuary. These are offered in both extra-large type and regular-sized print – please take one for your personal use.

SUNDAY SERVICE VIDEOTAPES: We are taping almost all of the Sunday worship services. They can be found on the table in the narthex. Please be sure to sign them out and back in once returned.



**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Psalm 95.02

The United Methodist Church of Auburn 782-3972
E-mail address: office@auburnmethodist.org
Web site address: Auburnmethodist.org
Rev. Richard A. Cullen, parsonage 782-7484
E-mail address: RCullen@auburnmethodist.org
Kary Coffin, Director of Christian Education
E-mail address: dce@auburnmethodist.org
Gladys Chapman, Preschool Director
Diane Nadeau, Secretary
Peter Poliquin, Custodian
Norma Rice-Gould, Organist
Sarah Dow, Choir Director
William Buzza, Bell Choir Director
Mitch Thomas, Saturday Worship Service Music Coordinator
Lucille Webber, Congregational Nurse
Maynard Chapman, Treasurer
Sue Lajoie, Financial Secretary
Jim Sargent, Beacon Editor (E-mail: jsargent@megalink.net)

*As a reconciling congregation, we are part of a nation-wide network of churches who believe that all of God's people are of sacred worth. We recognize the great diversity of people to be not only part of God's plan but one of God's greatest gifts as well. We believe that part of our mission as reconciling Christians is to raise awareness of the issues surrounding diversity and to work for social justice. We believe that in doing so, we more fully embody the United Methodist Church's mission to open our hearts, open our minds, and open our doors to all people. We invite you to come in, worship, and know that you are welcome and loved exactly as you are.

STATEMENT OF DIVERSITY

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 continue to welcome and nurture the full participation of people of every age, cultural heritage and ethnic origin, sexual orientation, economic status, faith background, family structure, gender, gender identity, marital status, race, social standing, and varying capability.

SUNDAY, October 18th – LAITY SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal	11:30 a.m.	Potluck Luncheon
9:00 a.m.	Adult SS	11:30 a.m.	Missions Committee
10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/ SS	11:30 a.m.	Kids 4 Christ Youth Group
11:00 a.m.	Children’s Choir	6:00 p.m.	Jr./Sr. Youth Group @HERE
11:15 a.m.	Coffee & Conversation		

MONDAY, October 19th –		6:00 p.m.	Bells Rehearse
a.m.	Life Coach appts.	7:00 p.m.	Serenity Fellowship
2:00 p.m.	Auburn Art Club	7:30 p.m.	AA / Alanon

TUESDAY, October 20th -		1:30 p.m.	Naomi Circle
a.m.	Life Coach appts.	5:30 p.m.	4 Park Avenue
11:30 a.m.	Sr. Citizen Luncheon	7:00 p.m.	Ruth Circle
		7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Committee

WEDNESDAY, October 21st –		2:00 p.m.	Clover Manor Service
7:15 a.m.	Rotary Breakfast	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
a.m.	Life Coach appts.	6:30 p.m.	Private Men’s Group
9:00 a.m.	Caron Art Class	6:00 p.m.	River Valley GS meet

THURSDAY, October 22nd –			
a.m.	Spiritual Direction	5:45 p.m.	GS Cadets #273
9:00 a.m.	Music Together	6:30 p.m.	Good Sense Budget Class
10:00 a.m.	Bible Study	6:30 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack meet

FRIDAY, October 23rd – PASTOR’S SABBATH			
a.m.	Spiritual Direction	6:30 p.m.	BS Troop 111
10:15 a.m.	Music Together		

SATURDAY, October 24th -		4:00 p.m.	Worship w/Lee Domann
9:15 a.m.	Music Together	7:00 p.m.	Lee Domann Concert

SUNDAY, October 25th – YOUTH SUNDAY – HOLY HUMOR with LEE DOMANN

9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal		
9:00 a.m.	Adult SS	11:15 a.m.	Coffee & Conversation
10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/ SS	1:30 p.m.	Halloween Party
11:00 a.m.	Children’s Choir	6:00 p.m.	Jr./Sr. Youth Group @HERE