

The Auburn Light

Auburn Community Church

440-543-1402

Pastor Charles Brown

Email pastor@auburnchurch.net

January 2008

Quarterly Newsletter



Chagrin Falls Council of Churches Wednesday Lenten Series

(Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m., Worship at 7:30 p.m.)

February 13:

"The donkey tells of a peaceful Savior."
Hosted by Lord of Life Lutheran Church
17989 Chillicothe Rd.

February 20:

"The dove tells of an angry Savior."
Hosted by Auburn Community Church
11076 Washington St.

February 27:

"The camel tells of a warning Savior."
Hosted by Lord of Life Lutheran Church
17989 Chillicothe Rd.

March 5:

"The hen tells of a grieving Savior."
Hosted by Bainbridge Community Church
17751 Chillicothe Rd.

March 12:

"The vulture tells of a coming Savior."
Hosted by Valley Presbyterian Church
17560 Chillicothe Rd.

March 21:

(Good Friday):
Stations of the Cross
Chagrin Falls at the Gazebo at 12 Noon

2008 Officers & Committees

President - Fred Dietz

Vice President - Casey Kotwica

Church Clerk - Dorothy Papp

Financial Secretary

Nancy Douglass Wilson

Treasurer - Floyd Ramsey

Trustees

Bob Boles

Patty Phillips

Al Fellenstein

Floyd Ramsey

Chet Zavarella

Diaconate

Gayle Fellenstein

Sharon Cedeno

Justy MacLearie

Cheryl Stankus

Sharon Zavarella

Michelle Coon

Memorial Committee

Betty Button

Sue Simpson

Cheryl Stankus

Board of Missions

Phyllis Andrews

Ruth Cavanaugh

Jean Frohring

Cheryl Stankus

Geauga Co-Op Reps

Norma Green

Jan Haskins

Chagrin Valley Council -

Norma Green

Stewardship Committee

Nancy Douglass Wilson

Floyd Ramsey

Bob Boles

**The Next Quarterly Meeting
April 20th, 2008**

Trustees Report

The door and window combination in the kitchen of the parsonage has been replaced with a sliding glass door and the dining room window has been replaced. \$300 dollars from each months rent is earmarked for repair and upgrade. The church entry ceiling has also been repaired.

Our organist has been working under a three month contract on a trial basis. Further employment will be discussed at the February meeting.

Pastor Charles was granted a cost of living raise on the recommendation of the Deaconate.

We are still searching for someone who is able to audit non-profit entities.

AA has contributed new tables for the room that they use for meetings.

Thank you to Pastor Brown for the new micro-phones that he donated to the church.

Missions

Our Mission project for the Geauga County Children was a wonderful success! Thanks to all of you who continually donate to our worth while projects of aid to others.

We collected:

2 hat, gloves and scarf sets

8 pairs of socks

19 pairs of gloves

8 hats

1 hat and scarf set

\$30

Thanks again one and all.

Mission Committee

Prayers

Your prayers are asked for all who are sick, lonely, fearful and unemployed. Your prayers are asked for the members of this church who are unable to be here with us.

If you have any prayer request to post in the Auburn Light, please email them to newsletter@auburnchurch.net

Pork Dinner

The pork dinner is February 8th from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Please reserve your ticket by Monday, February 4th. To reserve your ticket please call the church at 543-1402 or Norma at 543-4364 or Janet at 543-8459.

Youth

The youth group is planning a field trip to a Veggie movie. They have been active in several missions including Suicide Prevention Hotline and the Heiffer Project. The proceeds of the Pork dinner bake sale will go to the youth to help support their missions as well as their programs and materials.

Deaconate

The committee is working on a new membership list. The mission for 2008 is to increase membership in the church. Upcoming events include the Lenten Service on February 20 where soup and sandwiches will be provided. Deaconate members are currently planning the sunrise service.

Handicap

Equipment

Need handicap equipment? We can help. There are wheel chairs, canes, crutches, and more at the church for anyone who needs them. See what is there before you rent or buy and keep as long as needed.

Memorial Fund

Balance as of 12/31/2007 - \$5959.91

CD's - \$5000 (Jodi Blankenship Scholarship Fund)

Undesignated Funds - \$4178.91

Designated Funds - \$1781.00

(\$1565.00 of Designated funds are for Jodi's Fund)

Pastors Report for 2008 Annual Meeting

It's hard to believe that I'm now in my second year as your pastor.

Since my arrival in September of 2006, I have been very busy between my activities here at Auburn Church, WRA Lay School, Geauga Co-op, Chagrin Valley Council of Churches and the Western Reserve Association where I am now the Moderator.

The year 2007 was a busy year for all of us. Between the church dinners and the regular morning worship services, I especially enjoyed the September cookout ("smoke out" for me") and all of the events that we engage in.

Thanks to all who make the church dinners a success. I am amazed at how you make it look so easy.

In 2007 I performed six funerals, two baptisms and one wedding.

I look forward to starting Bible Study again sometime after Lent and hope to prepare a "Healing Service" to also begin after Lent. The healing service will be a once a month event.

I am especially pleased at the numbers of children that attend Sunday Service and then Sunday

School. I am also especially pleased at the members who faithfully attend church each Sunday.

We averaged 46 worshipers each Sunday during 2007. On this past Christmas Eve, we counted 94 people who attended our Christmas Eve Service. I understand this might have been a record number. Thanks for your efforts in our "Each One Bring One" campaign.

As you all might remember, Easter sunrise service was snowed out last year. This year Easter is on March 23rd; let's pray that we don't get snow this year and are able to have our sunrise service as planned.

Our Music Ministry has continued to be a "standout" under the direction of Bob Boles and thanks to Stephanie Boles for providing the hymns and anthems for us each Sunday. The choir has been splendid.

December was a busy month. Starting with the First Sunday in Advent and the lighting of the Advent candles to the last Sunday in December; New Years Eve.

And finally, our mission trip to Back Bay Mission was a success

in more ways than one (smile). We were able to continue the process of providing shelter to families in Biloxi, Mississippi and had an opportunity to get to know members of other churches in the Geauga Cooperative.

This year has been a spirit filled experience and I pray that you have been satisfied with our progress. I look forward to implementing new plans in 2008 and growing our congregation by a few more members.

I'd like to thank all of the members of this congregation who put in so much time to make 2007 a successful year.

Thank you for your music, your food, your support of our ministry, the commitment to attending church each Sunday and for your enthusiasm and dedication to serve has been exciting to watch. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and pray for you always.

I have had a wonderful 12 months being with you and I look forward to a blessed 2008.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Charles

Newsletters

We are changing the monthly newsletter to a quarterly newsletter. It will be sent after each quarterly meeting. We will also send any special newsletters when needed.

All articles for the newsletter must be in to Bob Boles by the quarterly meeting for publication the following week.