



A Message from the Minister

SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS

In his book, *How to Keep Your Kids on Your Team*, Charles Stanley tells the story of a farmer who had some puppies for sale. As he was nailing up a sign advertising “puppies for sale,” he felt a tug on his overalls and discovered a small boy standing beside him with a big grin and something in his hand. “Mister,” he said, “I want to buy one of your puppies.” “Well,” said the farmer, “These puppies come from very fine parents and they are very expensive.” Visibly saddened, the little boy dropped his head. When he looked back up, he said “I’ve got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough money to take a look at the puppies?” “Sure,” said the farmer. He called out, “Dolly, here Dolly.” Out of the barn came Dolly, followed by four little balls of fur. The boy was ecstatic with delight. Suddenly, a fifth little ball of fur peeked out of the barn. It was much smaller than the others and walked with a pronounced limp. There was no doubt about it, this fifth puppy was the runt of the litter. Without hesitation, the little boy pointed to the fifth puppy and squealed, “I want the little one that limps.” The farmer, softened now by the little boy, knelt down and said, “Son, you don’t want that little runt. He’ll never be able to run and play like the other pups can.” With that the little boy reached down and pulled up one leg of his jeans, revealing a metal brace running down both sides of his leg and attached to a specially made shoe. With that, he said to the farmer, “I want the little puppy that limps. He’ll need someone who understands.”

Somewhere I read that Native Americans have a saying that goes something like this, “You will never understand another’s plight until you have walked a distance in his moccasins.” It’s so easy to judge the thoughts and motives of others; what they do right and what they do wrong; without having enough information to make a truly informed judgment. How many times have we caught ourselves saying to someone going through a difficult time, “I know exactly how you feel,” only to recognize after we’ve said it that we have absolutely no idea how they feel because we have never had the same experience?”

I think of the hymn writer that wrote: “Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.” While the experiences of our lives may be like those of others, they are seldom the same. Rather than saying, “I know exactly how you feel,” perhaps it would be better to embrace others with compassion and concern and simply let them know that we stand alongside them in whatever circumstances they face. The little boy in the story with which we began never suggested he knew how the little puppy felt, he simply said, “He’ll need someone who understands.” Let’s endeavor to be more understanding of others, for this is the will of God for each of us.

-Pastor Chris

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR CHURCH CALENDAR ...*Dates to Remember; Details follow*

- **HAVEN HOME VISIT:** Mon July 1, 6 pm
- **INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION:** Thur July 4 (Church “Open House”)
- **YOUTH WORKCAMP IN RUSHVILLE, IN:** Sun July 7 – Sat July 13
- **FARMERS MARKET:** Weds July 3 – Aug 28, 4-7 pm
- **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** Mon July 8, 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm
- **WORKCAMP TESTIMONIALS:** Sun July 14, 10 am
- **CHURCH BOARD MTG:** Mon July 15, 7 pm
- **JONES ROAD MINISTRY VBS:** Fri July 19, 9 am – noon
- **ANNA MARIA CARE FACILITY WORSHIP:** Sun July 28, 2:30 pm



MISSION DIRECTORS NEWS from Tom Siewiorek

The following organizations received donations this month--:

Stella Maris - They provide quality chemical dependency treatment and mental health services to our community regardless of race, gender, religion or ability to pay.

Bainbridge Recovery Club - They serve all types of addictive behavior for anyone seeking a 12 step recovery program.

Hatte Larlham - For over 50 years, they remain committed to the care of children and adults with developmental disabilities.

We continue to receive thank you notes and letters from the various organizations who received donations showing their appreciation.

The "goodie bags" for the Workcampers were prepared and ready for distribution.

As you are able, become actively involved as volunteers for the various missions.

We have been receiving positive feedback from parishioners regarding the recent speakers for the various organizations we help to support.

If you have a favorite charity that you would like to have the Missions Committee research and consider for donations, please let us know.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE IN NUMBERS:

June 2 - 204

June 9 - 160

June 16 - 234

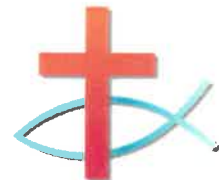
(VBS celebration/WorkCamp Commissioning)

June 23 - 151

THANK YOU DANA SHIVELY!!
 You really brightened our "ROAR"ing
 VBS decorations with your hand-drawn
 and painted "Buddies".

**LAITY SUNDAY IS AUGUST 11, 2019**

The Elders invite all church members to participate in the worship on Laity Sunday at The Church in Aurora when we focus on the ministry of all Christians. If you would like to serve in some capacity please contact Ingrid Cuppage, 330-840-7175 or Karen Pope 330-815-9363.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

from Liz Sutter, Director

Vacation Bible School was very smooth this year. We had a total of 91 attendees. Of those 91 attendees, 40 were members of TCIA and 51 were non-members. What made this year so incredible was the fantastic team of volunteers that helped lead all of our crafts, stories, games, and snacks...42 teen volunteers and 14 adult volunteers in all. Multiple people donated their time, skills, materials, and expertise to make this week very special including a celebratory Pancake Breakfast hosted by Fellowship.



On July 19 we will be taking an abbreviated version of our VBS to the **Jones Road Ministry**. Jones Road is located in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland...not far from **Haven Home**. They run a program called "Literacy through the Arts" which offers children from low-income families exposure to academic tutoring, sports, and art during the summer that they wouldn't normally receive in life. We will be preparing the volunteers and "ROAR!" materials to provide them a great experience, and we ask your prayers on this day for our work with this ministry.

You are invited to attend

SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS-- a free event for the Aurora community, sponsored by Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Arrive at 6 pm to find a seat, get your popcorn and drinks. A themed video will start at 6:20 pm. The movie will start promptly at 6:30 pm. Bring a blanket/pillow and a friend! A craft will follow after the movie.

Movies:

July 1 - Bolt; July 15 - Evan Almighty; July 29 - E.T.

CHECK THIS OUT ...

from Carol Bowman, your Church Librarian

A **PARABLE** is a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson. Although not exactly fluffy summer reading for July, Parables can teach us all how to improve our spiritual lives. Check out these library materials that may give you a good start on your journey: *Once Upon a Parable*, *What Jesus Meant*, *Good Samaritan*, and the DVD, *The Prodigal Son*. For children, two books, *Best-Loved Parables* and *Kingdom Parables*, may interest them and prompt them to ask questions.



REVIEWS OF BOOKS AVAILABLE IN OUR CHURCH LIBRARY

submitted by Daniel & Nancy Gallik

This Month's Theme: **PARABLES**

The Parables of Jesus (1983)

by James Montgomery Boice

Precise truths included in the Bible come from Jesus Christ. He found ways to teach us without dictating to us. Jesus' parables break through mere words and make us ask for the goodness he experienced in his life. James Boice takes us through the parables of Jesus, grouping them into five categories: parables of the kingdom, salvation, wisdom and folly, the Christian life, and judgment. In each section Boice brings Jesus' words to bear on life today. Through his careful study and clear explanation of each parable—born from a sermon series he preached at the Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, where he pastored for 32 years—he helps us understand just what Jesus meant, and how our hearts and lives ought to respond.

Kingdom Parables: Favorite Bible Parables for Children (1994) by Christopher A. Lane with Illustrations by Sharon Dahl

The author presents six Gospel parables of Jesus using creative storytelling to retell a parable as experienced by animal characters. It would be best to read the Bible version of the parable at the end of the story, and then go back to read the creative story of how the animals learned the Biblical truth. In reading this book, children can discover Jesus' lessons on mercy, prayer, forgiveness, love, and fairness. The rich, colorful illustrations will capture a child's eye and make these important stories memorable.

CIRCLE 3-H INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN BACKPACK PROJECT



During June and July, Circle 3-H is collecting new, inexpensive backpacks for elementary school children. A box for your donations will be placed by the nursery in Great Hall. Backpacks will be distributed through Volunteers of America to needy children in our area to help them have a good start for the new school year, and your help with this worthwhile project will be greatly appreciated. Call Jackie Ward (440-543-6778) if you have questions.

Aurora's VOA Food Pantry requests donations of paper towels, canned tuna, and canned chicken. Your contributions may be placed in the collection bench in Great Hall and will be taken to the pantry on Tuesday of each week.



We will host an **OPEN HOUSE** to the Aurora community from 10 AM - 2 PM offering refreshing water and restrooms. AND a TCIA team of 40+ will carry the largest American flag in the 11 AM parade! If you can help carry the flag, meet at Heinen's east parking lot at 10:30 AM; contact Kim (330-554-3916) with questions. If you would like to help during the Open House, contact Rebecca (330-715-7312).

MODERATOR'S REPORT from Jimmy Eavenson

The Church in Aurora Board met on June 17.

A few excerpts from topics discussed at the meeting:

Our Treasurer reported that 2019 revenue was \$9,751 above budget while expenses for the year were \$21,176 below budget, resulting in a net surplus of \$30,927 above budget for 2019. The surplus can be attributed to the savings due to the timing of filled and unfilled Church staff positions.

VBS was a huge success this year with more than 90 participants and ~60 volunteers. There is a plan to hold the same VBS on July 19 at the Jones Road Ministry in Cleveland.

The use of nametags may be coordinated with new member introductions...so let's hope that we see a lot more nametags this year...thanks Membership.

Please see the separate article regarding door security procedures.

We have had requests from several families to offer a service on Saturdays. This is being researched by CE, Membership, and Elders so that we can better understand the expectations and requirements.

Our Cub Scouts will be marching with TCIA flag-bearers during the July 4th Parade, and they plan to construct a float that honors our church and our nation.

The sound system in Fellowship Hall was damaged by lightning, and it is being replaced with an updated system with enhanced surge/lightning protection.

There appears to be a need for a position to address social media needs and concerns. This most likely would be a paid intern.

The Trustees indicate that a new HVAC unit with revised ductwork (costing ~\$9000) will soon grace our roof...before the weather gets too warm.

Stewardship plans to have a Time & Talent Survey this Fall.

Audrey Winkler was appointed to the Community Outreach committee, and Russ Post was appointed to the IT committee.

Donations are still needed for Phase 2 (Library, Hanson Hall, Choir Room, and Child Care Rooms) and Phase 3 (Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary) renovations.

Our Pastoral Search committee is now armed with lots of helpful comments received at the May 19, 2019 Special Congregational Meeting, and all the members have agreed to continue on until a Senior Pastor with a "call" from God is found.

Cataloging and digitizing documents/items in Archives will soon be initiated with assistance from the Aurora Historical Society.

Each committee has been charged with the task of updating all their relevant documents such as code of regulations, rules, guidelines, procedures, etc. This will help all to stay current and be able to pass good habits to the next generations.

The Farmer's Market started June 12 and will continue each Wednesday until August 28.

TCIA board meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM. The next meeting will be July 15, 2019.





JUNE 2019 CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Births, Baptisms, Weddings: None to Report

Deaths: Marcelle McDaniel, mother of Rita Suchanek on June 4.



CONGRATULATIONS TO AL CONNERS who is this year's Grand Marshal in Aurora's July 4 parade. He is being recognized for the many years he has volunteered his time and talents locally and worldwide.



THANK YOU TO KIM WILLIAMSON AND REBECCA BLISS for coordinating the church's July 4 Parade and Open House Activities



2019 WORKCAMP WEEKS HAVE ARRIVED – 13 youth/adults have served in Winchester, KY this week, and 26 travel to Rushville, IN on July 7. **PAUL ESPOSITO** is serving on the summer staff traveling to different sites to assist with set-up and coordination of the worksites. This year's theme is **RELENTLESS** based on the story of David in the old testament. "Despite huge successes and devastating failures, David relentlessly pursued God. He recognized God's relentless love and mercy and responded with relentless faith, trusting God to guide and shape his life. Through faith, David became a "man after God's own heart" (Acts 13:22). Testimonies and music will be shared by the WorkCampers during July 14 Worship.

THANK YOU TO DOROTHY BELL who will continue as Blood Drive Coordinator for 2020. Our next drive is July 8. June blood drive donations were given to Cleveland Clinic, St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center, Lake Health-West Medical Center, UH Cleveland Medical Center, & Children's Hospital medical Center- Akron.



EFFECTIVE JULY 1, THE BOX RENTAL AT THE POST OFFICE WILL BE DISCONTINUED. CHURCH MAIL SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

146 SOUTH CHILLICOTHE ROAD

FROM JIMMY EAVENSON –

Door security procedures involving Deacons, Greeters, committees and other groups have been discussed for several months by TCIA Board, and the current policy (adopted from our Safety/Emergency plan) is reiterated..... **exterior doors, unless directly monitored, should remain locked** (all exterior doors have "crash-bars" for exiting). TCIA Board has agreed, that due to several recent incidents, **the North Chapel "crash-bar" door should not be over-ridden** (i.e., it should not be propped open, the lock mechanism should not be defeated and it should remain locked unless opened via a key or key-card from outside). Signs are being added near the walkways with messages directing people to the Main (West) entrance. To gain entry to the North or Main doors, **TCIA MEMBERS are encouraged to get a key-card** (they are just like the ones used at schools, businesses, motels, etc.).....see our secretary, Kay, in TCIA office.



American
Red Cross

Without A, B and O, we can't save anybody.

Blood Drive The Church in Aurora

Fellowship Hall
146 S. Chillicothe Road
Aurora, OH 44202

Monday, July 8, 2019
1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org, or use the free Red Cross Blood Donor App and enter Sponsor Code: Aurora to schedule your life saving donation time today! Open to the public and walk-in's are welcome as the schedule allows.




Scan to schedule
an appointment.

Not enough people donate blood. Only you can fill the #MissingTypes.

Download the Blood Donor App | 1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org/MissingTypes

THE CHURCH IN AURORA

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 WORSHIP 10 am	July 1 6 pm HAVEN HOME VISIT	2 9 am BULLETIN DEADLINE	3 12 pm Circle D (away) 4 pm - 7 pm FARMERS MARKET 7 pm STEPHEN MINISTRY (HH) & WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY (Lib)	4  Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED	5 OFFICE CLOSED 10 am Circle 3-H (FH) 7 pm AA (FH)	6 8:15 am BIBLE STUDY (Lb)
7 WORSHIP 10 am WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN 8:30 am STEPHEN LDERS Mtg (SM) 11:15 am ELDERS Mtg (SM)	8 WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN 1:30 pm - 6:30 pm RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE (FH) 6:30 pm - 8 pm SCOUT COMMITTEE MTG (ESC) 7 pm ENDOWMENT mtg (Lb)	9 WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN	10 WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN 4 pm - 7 pm FARMERS MARKET 7 pm WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY (Lb) 7 pm MEMBERSHIP MTG (FH)	11 WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN 9 am BULLETIN DEADLINE	12 WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN 7 pm AA (FH)	13 WORKCAMP: Rushville, IN 8:15 am BIBLE STUDY (Lb) 9:15 am TRUSTEE MEETING
14  WORSHIP 10 am (WORKCAMP TESTIMONIALS) 11:15 am MISSIONS mtg (HH) CE mtg (SM)	15 7 pm CHURCH BOARD MTG (HH) 7:15 pm EMMAUS (FH)	16	17 4 pm - 7 pm FARMERS MARKET 7 pm STEPHEN MINISTRY (HH) 7 pm WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY (Lb)	18 SPIRE DEADLINE 9 am BULLETIN DEADLINE	19 9 am - 12 pm JONES RD MINISTRY VBS 7 pm AA (FH)	20 8 am - 6 pm BROGAN FAMILY REUNION (FH) 8:15 am BIBLE STUDY (Lb)
21 WORSHIP 10 am 8:30 am STEWARDSHIP mtg (SM)	22	23	24 4 pm - 7 pm FARMERS MARKET 7 pm WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY (Lb)	25 9 am BULLETIN DEADLINE	26 7 pm AA (FH)	27 8:15 am BIBLE STUDY (Lb)
28 WORSHIP 10 am 2:30 pm ANNA MARIA (Rev. Kevin)	29 6 pm - 8 pm SCOUT Pack 3265 - (FH)	30	31 4 pm - 7 pm FARMERS MARKET 7 pm WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY (Lb)	1 9 am BULLETIN DEADLINE	2 10 am Circle 3-H (FH) 7 pm AA (FH)	3 8:15 am BIBLE STUDY (Lb) 9:15 am TRUSTEES Mtg (HH)

THE CHURCH IN AURORA
146 S. Chillicothe Rd.
Aurora, OH 44202
(330) 562-8266
www.tcia.cc

The Spire

July 2019

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.11



THE CHURCH IN AURORA
in partnership with the City of Aurora presents our

COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET

June 12th thru August 28th

Aurum **LIBERTY**