

Pastor's Greeting

Dear AUMC Family!

November 2020

Peace in the name of Jesus Christ! Peace seems to be missing from our culture, yet it is promised by God. We usually think more about peace as the holiday season approaches. In Luke's Nativity, we are told that the angels said, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Jesus told us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you."

It is easy to lose our sense of peace--as we remember those who have died on All Saints Day; as we continue to struggle with COVID; as we adjust to shorter daylight hours; as the stresses of the holidays loom. The peace of God comes, not from our circumstances, but from our faith in the Creator. When we remember that we are not God, and many things are beyond our control (and will not be changed by any amount of worrying!) we can slow down, take a deep breath, and recall Who is ultimately in control. Peace.

Experiencing God's Peace will not necessarily change our circumstances, but it will change us! Thanks be to God for God's never-ending effort to make us closer to our full potential. We have very little control over others or our external situations, but with God's help we can grow in our responses, increase our self-control, and witness to others by our new-found actions.

This year AUMC will be the voting site for Avoca. The Lighthouse Christmas is the following week. The third week of November will be our Charge Conference. The next week is Thanksgiving. The following Sunday begins Advent, the beginning of the Christian Year and the countdown to Christ's birthday. December will bring Dave Burdick's concert and two Christmas Eve services. It is a wonderful, busy and holy season!

In regard to COVID, we are permitted to remove our masks once seated and properly distanced but wear them whenever we are up moving about. Pews, chairs, and tables are sanitized after every use. The building is treated professionally every 90 days and will be done again after the election and Lighthouse giveaway. We are recording attendance and checking temperatures as you enter the building. We are doing our very best to provide a safe environment for worship. As always, if you do not feel well or are not yet comfortable attending, please request a DVD or watch the edited version on YouTube.

Praying that God richly blesses you as we move through this holy season,

Pastor Barre