



Aurora First United Methodist Church **May, 2026**

“Heart to Heart, House to House, Town to Town, One Kingdom to Another”

From Pastor Ryan:

I’m looking forward to the opportunities that will be opening for us to get out a little more and to connect with other people as the weather warms up. This season is a great opportunity to get to know other people, connect with our neighbors, and bring people together.

A key characteristic of a follower of Jesus is hospitality. I believe a simple definition of hospitality is the ability to help others belong, feel noticed, and be cared for. How could you do that in the place where you live?

Could you get to know the neighbors on your street? Maybe even plan a little neighborhood get together. We participated in one a few years ago and were surprised by how many of our neighbors didn’t know one another. Maybe

you could enjoy a lunch in a local park and strike up a conversation with someone new? Or maybe consider moving from hanging out in your backyard to your front as a way to connect with people in your neighborhood. Another good way to care for and to get to know others is to try to avoid drive-thrus for a few day (or forever!) and see how many people you can meet, and new conversations you can have.

During our Easter sermon series on encounters with the resurrected Jesus we recently explored the story of an encounter two travelers had on the road with Jesus. (Luke 24) Those travelers in the story were walking seven miles from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus and were broken hearted because Jesus had been killed. They didn't realize that a fellow travel walking alongside of them was actually Jesus.

When they arrived to their home instead of letting this new companion keep walking alone into the night, they welcomed him, shared a meal, and extended hospitality. Around their dinner table that night as Jesus blessed the bread – their eyes were opened to presence of Jesus at their table.

We may not walk dusty roads with Jesus in the same way. But as Richard Rohr reminds us, Luke's Gospel answers the question: *How is Jesus present to us now?* The answer is this—he is present at the table. In the breaking of bread. In the shared meal. In the ordinary moments where heaven and earth meet.

What ordinary moments might God be inviting us into?

This month, consider how God might be inviting you into deeper hospitality:

Not just to open your door—but to step into someone else's world.

Not just to host—but to receive.

Not just to speak—but to listen.

Because sometimes, we recognize Jesus not when we are in charge...

...but when we are willing to be guests.



Attendance and Giving for April

4/5 – attendance: 44/offering \$1967

4/12 – attendance: 29/offering \$2318

4/19 – attendance: 30/offering \$2260

4/26 – attendance: 24/offering \$648

Our average attendance for the Sundays of April was 32. Average giving for the Sundays of March was \$1798.25. This month we sent \$75 to St. Vincent de Paul. Weekly our church gives \$10 to the Clearing-House, so for this past month we sent \$40.

Dates to Remember

May 10 – Mother’s Day

May 12 – Mountain Mission pick up

May 16 – Armed Forces Day

May 17 – Coffee and donuts after worship

May 24 - Pentecost – Wear red to worship!

May 25 – Memorial Day

May 26 – Fourth Street Food

May 31 – Hymn Choice

Mission and Outreach

We will serve at Fourth Street Food on Tuesday, May 26th.

Thanks to everyone for your ongoing support of our Blessing Box efforts. We now list specific items needed each week, so watch the Sunday bulletin. For instance, on Sunday, April 26, the bulletin showed that we needed peas and carrots and individual fruit cups. You may also check with Judy Mosier!

Mountain Mission and Rummage Sale

The Mountain Mission truck will be coming for the regular pick up on Tuesday May 12. Please box your items and mark them “Mountain Mission” so that they don’t get mixed up with Rummage Sale items. We will have our Rummage Sale on June 5 & 6, the same weekend as the Presbyterians have theirs. All the leftovers from both sales will go to the Mountain Mission in the future. If you bring things early please mark them “Rummage Sale,” and if you bring rummage things before Mother’s Day they will need to go in the corner of the basement.

Cleaning Teams

Cleaning teams save our church money! *If you are interested in being on a cleaning team, please contact Roger Fehling at 513-519-1309, or leave a message at 812-926-0535.*

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mary Worthington 5/16

Julie Whitaker 5/18

Cohen McHenry 5/21

Rob Moorhead 5/22

Cari Baylor 5/26

May Liturgists

May 3: Judy Mosier

May 10: Roger Fehling

May 17: Bonnie Nocks

May 24: Janet Hart

May 31: Rob Moorhead

May Ushers & Greeters

May 3: Susan & Kenn Moasio

May 10: Judy & Dave Hizer

May 17: Sue & Jeff Baer

May 24: Steve Hart and
Steve Turner

May 31: LouAnn & Danny Martin

If you are unable to serve on your given Sunday, please change with someone, and notify Pastor Ryan. Contact Judy Hizer at (513) 314-6682 if you would like to help out as a liturgist, an usher, or a greeter.

Lectionary for May

May 3: Prov 4:10-18; Ps 119:9-32;

1 Pet 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 10: Ezk 34:1-7; Ps 115;

1 Pet 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 17: |(Ascension Sunday)

Isa 45:1-7; Ps 21:1-7;

1 Pet 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 24: (Pentecost) Num 11:24-30;

Ps 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Cor 12:3b-13;

John 7:37-39

May 31: (Trinity Sunday)

Gen 1:1-2:4a; Ps 8; 2 Cor 13:11-13;

Matt 28:16-20

PRAYER LIST

Let us share our concerns and blessings with the Lord: Travel mercies for Shelly traveling to granddaughter Tess's graduation and for Tess's future (Shelly), Tom DeVille-dizziness (Charlotte), Carl and Janet- We all miss them (Pastor Ryan and all of us), Monica's mother having liver ultrasound (Monica), Aiden-boot camp (Monica), Anita & Gene Pitts-health issues (Judy M.), travel mercies for Baers, Joe Waldon, Kelly Kuckenrider (Jeff, Jim, Kelly), Emma-tumor removed (Charlotte), Debbie Fehling & Roger (Judy H.), Paula Lechner-broken arm (Judy M.), Meg Harter-stroke-at RidgeWood (Judy M.), Tom Dierking-cornea transplant (Bonnie), Service men & women across the world (Bonnie), Sue Turner-back pain (Steve T.), Nancy chemo treatment Monday, Jenna-MRI for back (Monica), Peace on Earth (Jim W.), Bill Caulkins-Parkinson diagnosis (Katherine), Kristin-back surgery (Stephanie), Donna Largent-angiogram Tuesday

(Kathie), Sue Turner-sciatic nerve issues (Steve T.), Nancy Guthrie and her family-Nancy's safe return (Jim W.), Terry Heath-hospice (Judy M.), Don & Marlene Kincer (Robin), Ken Carpenter (Jeff), Ron Veverka-ALS (Judy M.) Mattie-migranes (Nick), Shirley Kuckenrider-fell (Kelley), Mark-depression (Charlotte), Mark-brain tumor (Charlotte), Janet Ingle-brain aneurysm (Janet H.), Randy Turner-gall bladder (Steve T.), Charlotte Hastings-stroke (Jim W.), Tim-seizures (Jeff), Liz Kenny-tests (Steve T.), Mike Peters- poor health (Jim W.), Barb Ankenbauer - injuries in auto accident (Debbie), Jan Uhlmansiek (Kelley), Millie Tufts-healing from hip replacement (Debbie), Roger Ullrich-health issues (Judy H.), Sandy-hip surgery (Steve T.), Dave Krouse-throat issues (Shelly), RJ-heart issues (Jim B.), Virginia Becker-multiple issues (Debbie), Barbara Taylor-kidney donor needed (Steve H.), Liz Hauntz-dementia (Debbie), Julia Heyob (Debbie)

Our cancer prayer list of friends and families: Nancy Turner (Debbie), Angela Brookbank - appendix cancer (Jim W.), Tammy Veverka-breast cancer (Judy M.), Mark-brain tumor (Charlotte), Ishita (Cari), Jane Van Arsdale-lung cancer (Judy H.), Pastors Ed & Stormy Scherer-Berry's granddaughter, Xiomari, 2 years old-liver cancer (Judy M.), Kim Schmeltzer-lung cancer (Judy M.), Dakota's mom's friend - cancer (Jenna),

Jackie Reynold's -breast cancer (Debbie), Merrill Hutchinson-brain cancer (Jeff), Paul Green-lung cancer (Debbie), Cooper Cain-stage 4 cancer (Jim B.), Bev Houze-masses in both lungs, inoperable (Nancy T.), Russ Smith-lung cancer (Roger), Cammy Hochstrasser (Robin), Lona (Kenn), Leslie Cassidy-cancer in 3 areas (Bonnie), Amy Shackelford (Julie), Doug-pancreatic cancer and coming surgery (Kelley), Ellaine Marshall (Julie), Kim Burkey (Pastor Ryan), Stephanie Riley (Gary)

Sympathy to the Families and

Friends of: Abigail Hensley, Wilma Webb, Merrill Hutchinson, Sr., Sylvia Wilson, Judy Arthur

PRAISES

Mattie's new job (Mattie), Emily home after surgery-tumor was benign (Charlotte), love & support offered to Dave & Judy (Judy H.), Nancy Reidel worshipping with us (Judy H.), Randy Meyer at home (Kelly), shots helping Jenna's back pain (Steve T.), Caity & daughter, Brad & family, Trent & family worshipping with us (Judy H.), Tammy Veverka-radiation finished (Judy M.), Kenn's & Shelly's help with decor (Judy M.), Debbie's improvement (Roger), Joey & friends worshipping with us (Jenna), Kenn's help with Holy Week project (Judy H.), Janet & Judy H. chairing 4th Street dinner Tuesday

(Judy M.), Cainin, Jen, & Luna worshipping with us (Judy H.), Verna's health progress (Verna), Donations for Blessing Box (All of us), Hauser Jets-semi state (Rob), CASA Youth Summit for 8th graders in D, Oliver Moisio coming to Ft. Meade in June (Susan), Veterans everywhere (Kathi), Power of God's miracles (Cari), Recovery Groups appreciation for sharing our building (All of us), Opportunity to help through UMCOR (Everyone)

Those in Nursing Homes & Assisted

Living: Gary Starker, Doris Spencer, JD Largent

Shut Ins: Wilma Beyer, Jerry Stonebraker

Special Care & Concerns: Gun violence around the world; all who are suffering after natural disasters. For an end to war and violence around the world especially in Israel and Ukraine; refugees;

discontent in United States, Red Cross workers and volunteers, relief workers

Local Missions: AA, NA, CASA, St. Vincent de Paul, Clearinghouse, YES Home, Heart House, Safe Passage

United Methodist Missions:

UMCOR workers and volunteers, Red Bird Mission, Mountain Mission

Prayers for our Nation as COVID continues, racial tensions, Christian Unity, our United Methodist Church, Prayers for our cities, for our counties, our state, our police, our firefighters, EMTs, all military men and women

and their families, all healthcare workers, first responders, chaplains, missionaries, clergy, persons in financial distress, businesses needing employees

WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT

PRAYER. To help us keep our lists current, if you see a name that can be removed, PLEASE let us know. If you would like to add a name, please let us know.

If you know of a change, have a concern, or a praise and would like to add a name, you can call the church with the information, mail a note, email Pastor Ryan

(ryangoode1@gmail.com); Judy Mosier (kjmosier@comcast.net); or

Jim Waldon

(jimgwaldon@gmail.com)

When submitting a prayer request please include the following information—

** Your Name (required), ** Name of the one needing prayer (*be sure you have their permission to make their need known*), **Nature of Request (surgery, health concern, etc.)

