

## MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

### STEWARDSHIP

John tells us that the Creator stepped into HIS creation that first Christmas to bring us salvation. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Salvation through faith in Jesus gives us forgiveness of sins, the depths of his eternal love, the fullest portion of joy, the richest measure of peace, and the enduring comfort of hope. "He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:32). May His love, His peace, His joy and His hope continue to fill your heart with wonder, and reinforce your desire to live for Him as a faithful steward. "Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

## MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

### LECIO AND ILMA WANDERLEY

We want to thank God for this blessed partnership with Aldan Union Church, your missionary vision, and your love for missionaries and lost people. We want to thank God and you for 39 years as one of AUC's missionaries. I am the camp director, reaching kids and teens for Jesus. My wife and children are entirely involved and helping in the ministry. We have seen over 3,500 campers accept Jesus as their Savior. I also work as the Executive Director for VFC Mission in Brazil. Years ago, we started a ministry called Kid's Place, where we embrace and receive 120 kids and teens yearly from a slum called Coque. They also get two meals per day, extra education, and Bible teachings. With Pastor Josué, we started a church at a fishing village called Abreu do Una. The church is growing and has over 150 members attending. Pastor Gilson and his family work as missionaries in the Amazon jungle area, reaching the riverside people for Jesus. God is faithful to us. I hope some of you will come to Brazil to help us and see what God has done here. Please keep these ministries, missionaries, and my family in your prayers. We are in the process of selecting and training the staff for the January camps. Pray for the Kid's Place ministry and Áurea Delgado, the new director. Also pray for our trip plans to the USA for the Missionary Conference next year. *You may send a word of encouragement to Lecio & Ilma at [leciowh@hotmail.com](mailto:leciowh@hotmail.com)*

To learn more about the 50+ missionaries we support, check out our Missionary Wall located in the hallway between the Sanctuary and the Gym.



**DECEMBER SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:** James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

### CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT AUC!

**6:30 PM Dec. 3:** The **Family Music Festival** will contain beloved Christmas songs presented by our church family. Vocal and instrumental solos, selections from our kids choir and chimes, and other special music will help us focus our hearts on the birth of our Savior.

**6:00 PM Dec. 9 and 10: Chapter Eleven Christmas** - The stage comes alive in this story of discovering true worth presented by our Salt, Light, and Fragrance drama ministry. Come Saturday and stay for a light reception following the performance. Note the start time.

**6:30 PM Dec. 17: Glorious Night** - Our annual Christmas concert presented by our choirs and soloists, all accompanied by a live orchestra. The program includes a variety of familiar and new Christmas songs. This is a perfect event to invite friends and family: the gospel will be presented clearly.

**5:00 PM Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service** - A time of celebration and reflection for the entire family.

\*Nursery will be provided for each of these evenings.

### AUC KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY | DECEMBER 8 | 6PM | GYM

Kids (5th grade & below) with their families are invited to a family Christmas party. Please bring your favorite Christmas treat, dress in your best Christmas apparel, and be ready to have lots of fun while we celebrate the birth of Jesus together!

Please take a moment to 'Check In' to the morning worship service and Bible School either through the Church Center App or at the Welcome Center. You can also submit donations to the church through the Church Center App. If you need help visit the Welcome Center in the Foyer.

## **ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST | DECEMBER 17**

Our Christmas Breakfast will be held on Sunday, December 17, immediately following our morning service. Pancakes, fruit, coffee, juice, and a variety of quick breads will be available, along with gluten free options. The food will be great and the fellowship even better! Bring out your whole family and we'll look forward to seeing you here. Please sign up online with Church Center or call the office. There will be gluten free options.

## **ESL HELP NEEDED**

Our ESL ministry is growing, and we need more teachers. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Molly Olshefsky (molshefsky@gmail.com).

## **ANGEL TREE**

AUC once again has the privilege of participating in the Angel Tree Ministry. We are taking the gospel message and Christmas gifts to children who have one or both parents in prison by bringing a little joy and sharing Christ's love with them and their caregivers. We need volunteers to purchase and deliver the gifts. We hope to reach approximately **50** children, many of whom are local. Donations to help defray expenses are also helpful. Please consider being part of Angel Tree, and visit the information table in the Gym or Foyer. Pray that God will use our efforts to glorify His name.

## **STUDENT MINISTRY PASTOR SEARCH**

We are continuing our search for a Student Ministry Pastor. Please continue to pray for the Lord's leading and the refinement of our process. Pray for strength and endurance for our volunteers and for the search committee; I am so thankful for them all, and their persistence in accomplishing this task. -Pastor Joe

## **CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

It's that time of year again... Christmas Poinsetta Memorials! Poinsettias in memory of a loved one are available for \$10 each. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!**

## **FOOD BANK HOURS**

The food pantry will be open Monday December 11 from 6:30 to 7:30PM, Sunday December 17 from noon to 1PM and Tuesday December 19 from 6:15 to 7:15PM. AldanCare is very grateful for the AUC congregation for allowing us to serve so many families in 2023. Without your faithful donations, it would not have been possible. Thank you.

## **2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Please be sure to pick up your box of offering envelopes located on the table in the Gym hallway today! You can also pick them up at the church office during the week. If you have not used envelopes in the past but would like to, please contact the church office.

## **MISSIONS**

### **MISSIONS CONFERENCE**

It's never too early to save the date for next year's Missionary Conference. From March 9-17, 2024 we will have our 88th annual missionary conference during which we will hear from a variety of AUC-sponsored missionaries and those from other missions organizations.

## **STUDENT MINISTRY**

### **MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY | 7PM**

Students are welcome to join us every week for Bible Study on the Student Floor. We will continue our study in the book of Proverbs this Wednesday!

## **MEN'S MINISTRY**

### **TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY | 6:30-7:30AM | CHAPEL**

Our teacher for this week is Jack Nelson. Coffee is provided.

### **MAN UP | SATURDAYS | 9-11AM | CHAPEL**

We meet Saturday morning to discuss various subjects relating to sermons, book studies, videos, etc.

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## **NOTE**

As a reminder: The pastors, staff, and volunteers of AUC will never solicit personal financial help through personal texts, emails, or any other form of communication. In the past, false emails and texts have been sent in the name of our pastoral staff, and we want to remind you not to give to anyone reaching out to you in this way. Always follow up directly with that person before discussing any needs.

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