

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Merry Christmas!

I am so blessed that my family and I have had our seventh Christmas season with our family here at AUC. I am thankful to see the growth in us as a church body and as a family, and I am grateful for a church family who desires to hear the word of God for what it says from its context, no more and no less. So, let's apply what we have learned together and dive into the next year with our eyes set on Christ - to live more for Him than ever before, to love Him more than ever before, and in so doing, to love one another more than ever before. God bless you all!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Joe

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

BILL AND JANET KRAFTSON

Janet and I hosted 2 of our 3 grown children and 4 of our 6 grandchildren this Thanksgiving. We plan to see all of our crew at Christmas. We are thankful they all know the Lord and our constant prayer is that each of our grandchildren, ages 10-19, will follow the Lord with all their hearts and minds for all their lives. We had our first Open Forum outreach in 1972 while I was still a ThM student at Dallas Theological Seminary. Seventy people attended, about 50 of whom were guests. Upon graduation from DTS in 1974, we began our ministry of outreach and discipleship full-time. In 1977 several of us founded Search Ministries as a small national ministry. God has blessed Search with a greatly expanded impact in the past 5-7 years with the addition of excellent training, leadership, and many young staff committed to taking the Great Commission to the next generation. Please pray for the many individual conversations that flow out of these discussions. Although most of the spiritual growth we've observed occurs in the weeks and months after the forum ends, we know of one person who has already placed his faith in Christ along with several others on the verge of life's most important decision. We will invite many of these people to their first-ever Bible study in one of several small groups. Please pray for the conviction of the Holy Spirit to draw both the skeptics and those who are confused and have never heard about the incredible gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Thanks again for your prayers. *You may send a word of encouragement to Bill and Janet at bkraftson@searchnational.org*

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!

5:00 PM TONIGHT: Christmas Eve Service – A time of celebration and reflection for the entire family. Nursery will be provided.

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).

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED | MONDAY & TUESDAY DECEMBER 25 & 26

In observation of Christmas, the office will be closed tomorrow and Tuesday.

PRAYER MEETING | WEDNESDAY | 7PM | GSP ROOM

Join us for a time of corporate prayer as we praise our Heavenly Father and pray for our church, our community and our country. This week we will be meeting in the GSP room.

2023 GIVING REMINDER

All 2023 year end tax deductible gifts (online donations and cash or check donations) must be received in the office or postmarked by December 31st.

ALL CHURCH POTLUCK | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 | 6PM

Save the date for the next All Church Potluck! Registration will open in January.

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.

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

REMEMBER THE MINISTRY OF REMOTE PARKING

During the Christmas activities we need to especially remember our ministry of remote parking. Please do not park in the main lot behind the church if you are physically able to use street parking, the municipal lot across the street or the Providence Park lot, so that we have plenty of spaces for our guests and those who need to park close to the buildings. Please keep the spaces marked as handicapped for those who need them. There will be parking lot attendants available each evening.

HELP IN THE NURSERY

We are looking for volunteers to help care for children in the nursery during the morning service and Bible school. If you are interested in serving in the nursery this spring, please contact Brittini Nelson at brittinijnelson@gmail.com.

EASTER CHOIR | SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 | 9:30AM

Rehearsals begin soon for this year's Easter Choir! We'll meet from 9:30AM to noon on Saturday, January 13, and continue most Thursdays at 7:30PM thereafter. The program will be presented Sunday evening, March 24 and will feature music that is easy to learn. All are welcome, even if you don't know how to read music or have never sung in a choir before! Contact Pastor Michael for more information.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE

Snowflake Cafe will be open on February 11, 2024 from 8:30AM to 12:30PM. Mark your calendar now for the first snowfall of encouragement just for you! Stay tuned for updates on this flurry of fun!

STUDENT MINISTRY

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY | 7PM

We are taking this week off for Christmas break, but we will resume on January 3! Students are welcome to join us every week for Bible Study on the Student Floor.

WINTER WEEKEND 2024 | JANUARY 26-27

Winter Weekend 2024 is coming up soon! Students currently in grades 6–12 are invited to join us for an awesome weekend of Bible study, small groups, games, food, and fellowship. This year there will be an optional overnight element that will take place here at AUC. You can find more info and registration on Church Center.

MEN'S MINISTRY

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

We are not meeting this week, December 26. Bible study will continue on January 3.

MAN UP | SATURDAYS | 9-11AM | CHAPEL

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

THANK YOU NOTE

The family of Judy Edinger would like to extend their thanks and gratitude for the condolences, phone calls, and everyone who came to the service. And even more thanks to everyone who helped with the service and reception. We ask for your continued prayers at this difficult time. Please contact the church office if you are interested in making meals for the family.
