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The Aurelius Baptist Church Choir under the direction of Sue Haynes, will present an Easter Cantata, "Praise the God of Resurrection" on **Maundy Thursday April 1, at 7:00 PM.**

The Easter message is a living testimony of hundreds of first-century eyewitnesses who saw Jesus in the days of His suffering, and the 40 days He walked among them after His resurrection from the dead. Hundreds of thousands who have believed down through the centuries, also bear testimony to His living presence in their lives.

The music explores the breath and depth of human emotion found in the passion story of Christ Jesus. From joyous hosannas, to the upper room, hours of solitude and rejection, and the shame of the cross, this cantata is a moving reminder of the power of God.

On Easter Sunday the choir will present the finale---"Praise the God of Resurrection", in celebration of our living Lord.

Aurelius Baptist Church  
4419 West Barnes Road  
Mason, MI 48854  
Steve Aikin, Pastor

# Aurelius Baptist Church News

4419 West Barnes Road

Mason, MI 48854

(517) 628-2085

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## Choir to present cantata at Maundy Thursday service

It's hard to believe that this coming Sunday marks the third Sunday in Lent and that Easter is coming up the First Sunday in April.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to join us here at Aurelius Baptist for some or all of the special activities that are scheduled during Holy Week and the celebration of the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ on **Easter Sunday April 4.**

**The Palm Sunday** service is **March 28** and will begin at **10:45 AM.** The children will be invited to wave palm leaves through the church aisles.

The choir has already started practicing for the cantata, "**Praise the God of Resurrection.**" This is an Easter Cantata featuring the music by Mark Hayes, Lloyd Larson, Joseph Martin and Ruth Schram. Please read the outside column for more information. This will be presented at

the **Maundy Thursday Service** on **April 1, at 7:00 PM**

**Good Friday** Services will be held April 2, the location and time yet to be determined. Please call the church office later in the month for this information.

On **Saturday April 3,** Youth Minister Becky Hiebert invites all **kids** in the area to come and join in the **Easter Egg Hunt** at the church. This will start at 3:00 PM.

Pastor Steve Aikin will bring us an inspiring message on Easter Sunday **April 4, at 8:00 AM for the Sunrise Service.**

**At 9:00 AM** you can enjoy a hearty **Easter Breakfast**, prepared by Elsie Bugbee and her crew.

Pastor Steve will present the **Easter Message** following breakfast at **10:45 AM.**

The breakfast and second Easter service will be held in the Family Center.

America for Christ gifts support Christ-centered ministries that are transforming lives across the United States and Puerto Rico--from addressing Children in Poverty initiatives and resettling refugees violently driven from their homelands to providing evangelism training, developing discipleship resources and leading ministry workshops and conferences.

The America for Christ offering will be taken on Sunday March 7, and March 14

## Cookbooks for sale

The Aurelius Baptist Busy Bees and the Girls Scouts joined forces to compile a cookbook that you will treasure! We all know and admire the cooking skills of ABC Member Elsie Bugbee. In the new cookbook she shares 135 of her recipes.

The regular spiral bound cook book sells for \$10.00 and the 8 1/2 x 11 full page with plastic protective pages over the recipes inside a three ring notebook sells for \$15.00. Please call Elsie at 517-628-8404 or Pam Miller at 517-676-1280 to order your cookbook.

## Help available for the grieving

ABC Member, Eileen Droscha, announced that new grief classes are forming for those who have lost spouses or parents that have lost a child of any age.

The class for those who have lost spouses begins on Monday March 8, at 10:00 AM, at the Mason Methodist Church on Ash Street.

The class for those who have lost children begins on Monday March 8, at 7:00 PM, also at the Mason Methodist Church.

These classes are a 10 week course in helping you deal with your grief, with ongoing support once the course is completed.

For further information or to enroll, contact Eileen Droscha at 517-628-2018.

## 'Nones' are gaining ground

According to the recent "American Religious Identification Survey," 15 percent of Americans now identify with no religion. If the trend continues, experts predict that people with no religious affiliation could soon surpass the nation's largest denominations.

"Nones aren't a fringe group anymore and are now part of middle America," says demographer and study coauthor Ariela Keysar, quoted in USA Today last year. "They're present in every socio-demographic group."

Although "Nones" reject organized religion, half still believe in God or a higher power. Interestingly, Nones are the only major U.S. "faith group" consisting mostly of males.

Lead researcher, Barry Kosmin said people have many misconceptions about Nones. (Continued page 7)

Nones...continued from page 2

"They're not New Age searchers or spiritual or even hardened atheists. They're a stew of agnostics, deists and rationalists. (They're) skeptical about organized religion and clerics while still holding to an idea of God."

Hearing about all the "Nones" gives us even more reason to go out and share our faith with someone.

## Equal opportunity

When young Kelli said her prayers each night, she would bless every family member, every friend and every pet (current and past). Toward the end of her prayers, she'd say, "And all girls."

One night her father asked his daughter why she always ended that way.

"Because," she replied, "everybody else always finishes their prayers by saying, 'All men.'"

## ? ? ? Bible quiz ? ?

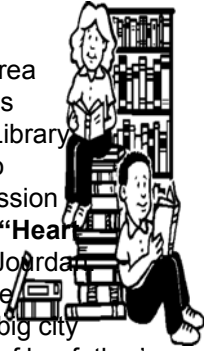
An Old Testament prophet wrote the following words about Jesus: "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth."

Who wrote those words?

- A. Amos
- B. Jonah
- C. Jeremiah
- D. Isaiah

## Aurelius Library News

by: Jennifer DeGroat,  
Head Librarian



Each year, the Capital Area District Library chooses a book as our "Capital Area One Read." Library patrons are highly encouraged to read the book and join in a discussion of it. This year's chosen book is "Heart in the Right Place" by Carolyn Jourdan. It is the story of Jourdan's own life journey from being a successful big city attorney to becoming a member of her father's small town doctor's office while her mother recovered from a heart attack. Though she had her share of difficulties, Jourdan is able to tell this story with humor and wit. The book was selected by the One Read committee for its ability to speak to us during this time of economic turmoil, in which we are finding ourselves having to cope with uncertainty and down-sizing.

We want to not only encourage you to pick up this great book, but to also join us in a **book discussion** of this title. Aurelius Library will be holding book discussion of "Heart in the Right Place" on **Tuesday March 16, at 3:00 PM**. We hope that you can join us for this time of lively discussion and refreshments.

If you like this title, you may also want to see Carolyn Jourdan in person. Be sure to mark your calendars, as **Jourdan will be visiting CADL on Monday April 19 at 7:00 PM**.

Please join us for one of these other upcoming events:

- **Story times** are currently being held for preschoolers ages 3-5 on **Wednesday** mornings at **10:30 AM**.

- The Friends of the Aurelius Library semi-annual **euchre tournament** will be held on Saturday March 6, at 7:00 PM. Donations to the Friends group will be accepted to play. Bring a snack to share. Drinks will be provided. Proceeds to benefit the Aurelius Library.

- Celebrate March Madness with special drop-in activities during open hours on March 20-March 27. Call (517) 628-3743 for more information.

**Words from the Healing Ministry  
Trust  
God's Medicine**

“Attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them and health to all their flesh.” Proverbs 4:20-22

God is interested in healing us if we are sick. He is interested in keeping us well. For our healing and our health, He has made provision --God's Medicine. There is only one way, “By constant, careful diligent, reverent, prayerful study of God's Word.

God's Medicine is His Word and here are His directions for taking it:

1. Attend to my Words.
2. Incline thine ear to My sayings.
- 3 Let My Words not depart from thine eyes.
4. Keep them in the midst of thine heart.

If you still feel a little under the weather, double up on the medicine. Just double the dose of your Bible reading and it will work wonders.

Father God, thank you for Your Word and especially Psalm 103:2-3, “Bless the Lord, O , my soul and forget not all His benefits; Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; and shew him my salvation.” In Jesus' name,

Amen

**Schedule of Sunday Worship Assistants**

Date	Lay Leaders
March 7	Bill Rich
March 14	Dave Holzhei
March 21	Bea VanAndel
March 28	Art Weirauch

**CLASSIC CHINA AND THE YANGTZE  
TOUR - Beijing - Forbidden City  
by: Clarence L. Miller  
(part 8 continued)**

The Forbidden City is divided into two parts: the outer court and the inner court. The outer court, where emperors handled court affairs and held different ceremonies were in the Taihe, Zhonghe, Baohe, Wenhua and Wuying Halls. The inner court where the emperor lived and handled day-to-day work are the Qianqing, Jiaotai and Kunming halls. the Imperial Garden contained green pines, exotic flowers, rare stones, pavilions and two storied houses, ponds and waterside pavilions that look like a natural picture.

There were twelve additional halls throughout the inner court, each having two courtyards. The front halls were used for the emperor to receive his guests. Beside each hall were a bedroom and a side hall. There was also a fasting hall. Behind all of these halls were the living quarters of the princes. Two more halls houses the queen and concubines of the emperor. Emperor Qianlong lived in the Huangji and Ningshou Hall after he let his son P'u Yi become the emperor in 1906.

The Forbidden City has four entrance gates. The main Meridian Gate ( Wumen) to the South, the Eastern Flower Gate (Donghuamen), the Western Flower Gate (Xihuamen), and the Gate of the Divine Prowess (Shenwumen) to the North. The Forbidden City has been well preserved since the founding of the People's Republic.. It contains the most magnificent ancient architectural complex in China, and is the biggest and most intact architectural complex of palaces in the world. The Forbidden City became one of the key units for preservation of cultural relics in 1961. In 1987, UNESCO included the Forbidden City in the list of World Heritages. The ancient Forbidden City has radiated the vigor of its youth and become the cultural heritage of mankind. It attracts millions of visitors from home and abroad. Next Month: Xi'an

**The  
Pastor's  
Corner**

**B**ack in the early days of my adulthood, I would make a periodic visit to what we called the junk yard to purchase a part for one of our old beaters. I never was much of a mechanic, but the simple stuff I could do. A place called Auto Salvage, was about a mile from our house and they had row upon row of crashed and old cars that no longer ran.

I would take with me a few tools, mostly wrenches, and remove whatever used part my car was in need of. I pulled wheel parts, window parts, brake parts, you name it parts. But there was one part that I never pulled from a junk yard. A funny thing about this part is that while a car cannot run without it, I never saw this part of a car at any junk yard I ever visited. Can you name the car part that I am talking about?

There is something similar to this in our belief in Christ. Just as there is a part to a car that it must have to run, though never found in a junk yard, so it is in our faith. The answer to the above riddle is the key.

Yes, the car key is never found in a junk yard, but without that part the auto will not start or run. And in the same way without the resurrection, there is nothing that distinguishes our faith from that of other beliefs and religious teachings.

What is so special about Christ, the key if you will, is that He arose. And in His resurrection He overcame death. He and He alone has the power to save because He and He alone conquered over death. And the “good news” for us is that just as He showed His power over death in the resurrection, He will do the same for all who call upon Him for their resurrection after death. So what is the “key” to our faith? Christ's resurrection.

God bless,

Happy Easter,  
Pastor Steve

