

The Committee on Representation has selected a few churches with the help of Reverend Jennifer Burns Lewis to interview and find out what works for them as far as inclusion is concerned. My report is based on the Auburn Presbyterian Church. This information is a combination of a wonderful time of conversation with Pastor David Lawrence and Veronique Poudrier coupled with their web page.

The first thing I noticed was the great desire Auburn Presbyterian Church (APC from here on) had to serve not just their church but the community of Auburn and beyond.

A group of people met in February of this year to determine what their strengths were/are, how those strengths are perceived, how they could more accurately project who and what they are?

This great desire is the nucleus (my opinion) for expanding their efforts to be more inclusive. APC's heart for its community is expressed in several ways. Here is an abridged list.

The great gift of a more than adequate facility is how we begin this journey. APC appreciates and shares its building with many community groups-Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, Four 12 step groups (AA, Al Anon & 2 NA), a church startup called "The Gathering", Impact and The Auburn Community Band.

APC also collaborates with others to better serve its community. Some of those programs are Inasmuch Ministry which supplies food to those in need, Fortify Life

which provides housing and whose goal is to eradicate poverty in DeKalb County and Women's Serenity which is a women's shelter in Auburn.

Finally, APC has programs of their own. These are Friend's Table which now delivers meals to those in need. It has operated for 23 years and serves 300 meals a week.



APC also has a food pantry, a free library, a well-attended rummage sale 1-2 times a year and will host a memorial service for Parkview Grief Support.

Thank you Pastor David, Veronique and all of APC for serving Auburn so well!

