

# Methodists seek funds and school supplies for giveaway Aug. 12

Aurora Methodists are collecting funds and school supplies for a free school-supply distribution Saturday, Aug. 12.

The 10 annual event will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 14, N. May St. in Aurora or until supplies are distributed.

Aurora-area students are invited. Students need not attend to get school supplies and backpacks.

The event is co-sponsored by Wesley and Fourth Street United Methodist churches in Aurora.

About 50 volunteers from both churches will distribute supplies.

The public is invited to contribute funds or supplies. Supplies needed are three-ring binders, two-pocket folders, highlighters, 24-pack crayons, washable markers, spiral-bound notebooks, black-ink pens, blue-ink pens, 12-inch rulers with inches and centimeters, supply boxes, round-tip scissors, No. 2 pencils, pink erasers and glue sticks.

Donations will be accepted at Wesley UMC, 14 N. May St. and Fourth St. UMC, 551 S. Fourth St., through Sunday, Aug. 6.

Wesley office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday. Fourth St. UMC office hours are 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday through Friday.

Rev. Gary Hougen of Batavia, Wesley outreach coordinator, a retired UMC pastor, is directing the project. He said the goal is to assist more than 300 Aurora students with supplies for school.

About 350 pupils received supplies during last year's distribution at Greenman Elementary School in Aurora. The school was "adopted" by Wesley UMC several years ago.

Rev. Hougen said, "The distribution is sponsored by Aurora United Methodist churches and businesses that care about the education and health of local children.

"This is a community effort to give necessary school supplies to students who could not otherwise afford them.

"We care that kids should have the tools to learn with at school.

"We hope to distribute backpacks of school supplies to students from all grades from the East and West Aurora school districts.

"Both the value of the supplies and monetary donations are tax deductible."

For more information, call (630) 896-1033. (630) 897-5257 or email [Nicole.wumc@gmail.com](mailto:Nicole.wumc@gmail.com).

