

# THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER AND THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

COMBINED NEWSLETTER OF  
THE ALBURNETT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND  
PRAIRIE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

VOLUME XVIII NO. 5

MAY 2014

Alburnett United Methodist Church  
319-842-2388

E-MAIL: [alburnettumc@fmtcs.com](mailto:alburnettumc@fmtcs.com)  
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM

Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church  
319-377-7506

E-MAIL: [office@prairiechapelmarion.org](mailto:office@prairiechapelmarion.org)  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15AM  
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM

THE REVEREND JON MOSS, PASTOR  
Cell Phone 319-651-4883

**Pastor Jon's NEW email: [jon.moss@iaumc.net](mailto:jon.moss@iaumc.net)**

## A Word from Pastor Jon



The Easter Services were wonderful and well attended. It was an exciting week in our various Holy Week Services where we had five baptisms and received six new members into our churches. I'm excited about the worship services, discipleship opportunities and the direction our churches are heading. Already we are scheduling another New Members Class. This is a sign that people are connecting and for that we are thankful. But at the same time we are ready to continue the work God has called to do.

Our challenge is to strengthen our internal and external focus in order for our churches to continue the growth and improvement we've experienced so far. Internally we will continue to work on worship, hospitality, and discipleship. This internal focus helps us to know God more and love God deeper which should naturally be expressed in how we live in relationship with others. We want to be internally strong as a foundation for our second major focus which is external.

The effectiveness of our obedience to Christ's call on our life together cannot just be measured by what happens inside the church. The real question is what kind of impact are we, as the church, having on our community? Is our presence known by the community through loving acts that demonstrate our love of God and neighbor?

We will be looking for ways in which we can be of service to our community, to help build bridges rather than live our faith behind walls. Do you have an idea? Write it down and put it in the prayer box and I will get it. Just like Pam Kirk and Mary Moore say in their "Healthy Church Moment" article, "*Hide it under a bushel, NO. I'm going to let it shine*". This applies to all of us. While we work on strengthening some internal areas of knowing and loving God, we cannot wait on being externally focused which is one way we serve God. A question we want to ask ourselves as a church is, "*Whose lives are different because of our church*"? We are going to focus on that and I can't wait to ask ourselves that question again a year from now!

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jon



Pastor Jon will be at Ashland Theological Seminary in Ohio May 19 - 24. He will be taking a class on Incarnational Leadership.

Pastor Jon has already started preparation for this class as it requires approximately 70 hours of reading and 50 hours of writing.

This course will focus on selected issues facing Christian leaders in an ever-changing world from a Wesleyan perspective. Some of the objectives are to be familiar with a Wesleyan perspective on leadership as it relates to character and moral formation and to understand how a Wesleyan theology of ministry relates to the mission of the church in the twenty-first century.

This meets part of our Pastor's Continuing Education requirements.

~Dale Garlinghouse

Chairperson - Staff Pastor/Parish Relations Committee

**Interested in Joining the Church?** I would love to talk with you about Church Membership. If you would like to learn more about church membership and what it means to be a member, please let me know or call the church office, leave your name, contact information, and say "I'm interested in membership" and we'll take it from there! ~Pastor Jon



**PICTURED ROCKS CAMP:** We have another exciting summer planned for 2014. This year we will discover who Jesus is and how knowing Him enables us to be our true selves. We brought back your favorite camps, added some new ones and created some new activities. All campers receive a water bottle and group photo of their week.

**NEVER BEEN TO PICTURED ROCKS? Sign up for "A Taste of Camp"** on May 31 from 2:00-8:00pm. Come check out the camp and learn more about Picture Rocks during an afternoon of fun and food - all at no cost! This is a great opportunity to experience what camp is all about, meet the staff and sample some camp activities including swimming, s'mores, and much more. Pre-register for this event by calling or emailing the camp office by Saturday, May 17. Phone 866-651-1223 or email [PicturedRocks.Camp@iaumc.org](mailto:PicturedRocks.Camp@iaumc.org)



## PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Alburnett  
Monday - Wednesday  
9:00AM - NOON

Prairie Chapel  
Thursday  
9:30AM - NOON

Fridays are the Pastor's Day Off

There are times when hospital calls, visitation, denominational or ecumenical meetings will require a change to the Pastoral office hours but in general these are the new office hours by location for Pastor Jon.

# UPDATE



Your help is needed to update our records. Each Sunday during April there will be cards available in the foyer for you to update your contact information. This information is critical as we are expanding our communication tools. Please take a few minutes to fill out one of these cards (please print clearly) and place the card in the offering plate or in the special basket in the foyer. Please contact the office if you would like a card mailed or e-mailed to you.

### GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CHURCH RECORD UPDATES

**ONE CARD PER PERSON --- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY ---**

Name			
Address			
City/State/Zip			
Telephone	HM	Cell	Other
e-Mail			
*1 Birthday			
*1 Anniversary			
Text Messages	Can we send text message to your cell phone? YES [ ] NO [ ]		
*1	Only the month and day will be identified outside the office use.		
<b>X</b>	We will include all your phone numbers & e-mail in future church directory unless indicated for "Office Use Only" by an <b>X</b>		

*sample*

**Please place in the offering plate, give to an usher, or place in the basket in the foyer**



## MAY LECTIONARY READINGS

May 4, 2014 Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35
May 11, 2014 Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10
May 18, 2014 Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14
May 25, 2014 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21
May 29, 2014 Ascension of the Lord	Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

### SENIOR LIVING ANYTHING I CAN DO ?

Yes, absolutely! At this time of year, our staff (just two of them) **needs help cleaning up winter's mess and putting in some new plantings.** Call Bev, 373-8302, if you love to work in the dirt and make things beautiful.

Also, on June 12, Living Water UMC will be having a Fun and Games night with a light supper. This will be a fund raiser to benefit  
MARION SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

### WE'RE THANKFUL FOR OUR GROWING FAMILY!



WELCOME  
TO THE  
FAMILY

The following were baptized on Easter Sunday at Alburnett: Cora Marie Burns (Ryan & Shelly Burns) and Riley Wyatt Hemphill (Ryan & Kelly Hemphill). At Prairie Chapel Jarod Bowman was baptized on Good Friday and Easton Morgan Clemens (Mike & Jennie Clemens) and Hailey Helen Ritze (Nicholas & Abigail Ritze) were baptized on Easter Sunday.

New members were welcomed on Easter Sunday!  
Alburnett: Roger Altes.

Prairie Chapel: Jarod Bowman, Jennie Clemens, Amber Jordan, Jim Kotrba and Judy Kotrba.

If you are interested in learning about being a member contact the church office or Pastor Jon. Another New Member Class will be offered in June.



Welcome  
Our New  
Members

## A Journey with Christ The Walk to Emmaus

*While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. ~Luke 24:15*



The walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a **new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through** other believers.

The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others. And at our churches we see the Emmaus experience as a effective tool for building church leaders.

We want to update our records so if you have participated in the Walk to Emmaus or are interested in more information please let Pastor Jon know.

**THE JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** is Monday, May 19. Items may be submitted by email ([alburnettumc@fmtcs.com](mailto:alburnettumc@fmtcs.com) or [office@prairiechapelmarion.org](mailto:office@prairiechapelmarion.org)) or may be left in Virginia's box or folder at the church.

### Native American Ministries Sunday - May 4, 2014

Your Generous Gifts on Native American Ministries Sunday support:

- Native American ministries within the annual conference
- Scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology approved by the University Senate of The United Methodist Church (administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry)
- Strengthen, develop and equip Native American rural and urban congregations, ministries and communities (related to the General Board of Global Ministries).



## ORIENTATION MEETING

Alburnett - May 4th

Communion Steward Orientation 4:00-5:00PM

This meeting will give you an opportunity to learn the roles and responsibilities of the Communion Steward including what materials to use and where they are located. You will also learn about the care and preparation of the communion table and how to dispose of left over elements. How you will learn how to assist the Pastor in the administration of Holy Communion. This Orientation is designed not only to help those who currently serve as communion stewards but it is especially designed to train those who would like to participate in this ministry for the first time. If you want to attend just register on the sign-up sheet in the foyer or leave a message with the church office.

Homebound Communion Training/Refresher 5:00-6:00PM

In this training session you will learn the roles and responsibilities of the Homebound Communion Steward. You will actually work through the mechanics of administering the sacrament in the homebound setting. We will also cover the topics listed below

- The goal and purpose of your visit

- Historical background of the Sacrament

- Theology/Meaning Of Holy Communion

- The Invitation to Holy Communion

- Serving the elements

- How are the remaining elements to be handled?

This session is designed as a refresher for those who have previously participated in serving communion to the homebound as well as those who will be participating for the first time.

**SENIOR LIVING:** ANYTHING I CAN DO? Yes, absolutely! At this time of year, our staff (just two of them) **needs help cleaning up winter's mess and putting in some new plantings.** Call Bev, 373-8302, if you love to work in the dirt and make things beautiful. Also, on June 12, Living Water UMC will be having a Fun and Games night with a light supper. This will be a fund raiser to benefit MARION SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY



# THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.fmtcs.com/web/alburnettumc/>

HEALTHY CHURCH MOMENT: *Hide it under a bushel, NO. I'm going to*



*let it shine!* Jesus walked with the people proclaiming the gospel while healing and helping others. It's time to take the light inside our church out into the community. The church needs to be externally focused. This can be done by identifying needs in our community and start

ministries or programs to meet these needs. We can also partner with existing ministries or human-service agencies that are already accomplishing good works. The church doors are open and we welcome others in.

Now is the time to go out the doors...do the work and get our hands dirty. ....*let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

~Healthy Church Initiative  
Pam Kirk and Mary Moore

## FINANCIAL FACTS

Fact: 2013 Expenses Budget: \$70,362

Fact: \$5,863.50 needed per Month for Expenses

Fact: \$1,353 needed per Week for Expenses

Contributions	
4/6	\$1216.00
4/13	\$1444.38
4/20	\$1708.00
4/27	\$1137.00

Attendance	
4/6	53
4/13	67
4/20	114
4/27	40

Note: the Bietz property monthly payment is \$225.16.  
Thank you for your continued Pledged Contributions.

If you have items for the Administrative Board agenda please send your info to Rhonda Lange at [rhondalange87@gmail.com](mailto:rhondalange87@gmail.com).



**The Church Chatterer...**

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 HILDA MARTIN
- 3 SUE MEINEKE
- 6 AMY COLEMAN WRIGHT
- 9 TRAVIS STEVENSON
- 12 LEE ROBERT SLOAN
- 12 HOWARD POWERS
- 13 SUE BECKER
- 15 ROBERT MOYER
- 16 JOSHUA MCGRAW
- 18 LORI REED
- 18 JEANNE BAILEY



- 21 MICHELLE MOYER FIELDS
- 22 DONNA HOUTS
- 24 WILLIAM SHERMAN
- 29 ADDISON SLOAN
- 30 KOREY JOHNSON

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3 BART & KIM GINGRICH
- 12 RON & JERRIS RICHARDSON

If your special day is not listed here, please contact Virginia Lyttle at the church office.

**MAY COMMUNION STEWARD - Marcy Machacek**

**Ushers & Greeters**



*MAY GREETERS*

- 4 **Roberta Cameron & Rhonda Lange**
- 11 Bill & Cletis Sloan
- 18 Ardie & Luke Smith
- 25 Dana & Brie Sperfslage

*MAY USHERS*

- 4 *Volunteers needed*
- 11 Howard Powers & Ken Andrews
- 18 Callie Wright & Nicole Smith
- 25 Lori & Elizabeth Sperfslage

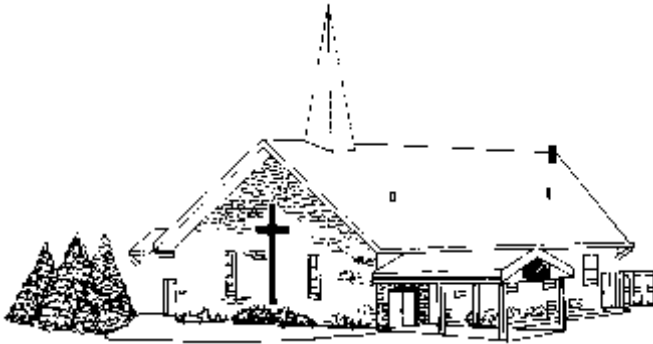
*MAY BAKED GOODS*

- 4 Kim Gingrich
- 11 Howard Powers
- 18 Callie Wright
- 25 Brie Sperfslage

*MAY NURSERY*

- 4 *Volunteers needed*
- 11 *Volunteers needed*
- 18 *Volunteers needed*
- 25 *Volunteers needed*

Please add *your name* to the sign-up sheet at the church.



# THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

Visit our Web Site at [www.prairiechapelmarion.org](http://www.prairiechapelmarion.org)

## STEWARDSHIP

*When I became a member of Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church I promised to be faithful with my...*

**PRAYERS:** Safety for farmers in the fields and on the roads. Pray for all service men and women. Pray for those recovering from illness and surgery. Pray for peace.

PRESENCE:

Bring a Friend!!

Weekly Attendance:

GIFTS: Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485.

Weekly General Offerings:

4/6	59
4/13	56
4/20	125
4/27	50

4/6	\$2442
4/13	\$1564
4/20	\$1557
4/27	\$1266

**SERVICE:** BIG THANKS...Thank you to everyone who helped with the Spring Rummage Sale...proceeds will go to the Trustees Improvement Fund.

**PRAIRIE CHAPEL IS ON FACEBOOK!!** If you are a current Facebook user please come check out our page, just search for Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church. (If you are not a current Facebook user, it is free and it only takes a minute.) If you like what you see hit the "Like"



button and keep up to date with church events, weather cancellations, mission work and much more. Please share our page with your friends and let them know about our little country church with a large heart for others. If you have questions or need help with this please email Leann Bowman at [isu\\_cloneme@yahoo.com](mailto:isu_cloneme@yahoo.com)

THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS...



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mark Neal
- 2 Carol Yeisley
- 3 Frank Lamb
- 5 Jordyn Cory
- 8 Paula Patterson
- 8 Beth Martin
- 10 Jim Dettmann
- 11 Brad Wittenburg
- 16 Jarod Bowman
- 20 Sandra Liegl
- 20 Inez Mattke
- 20 Chris Christiansen
- 20 Paul Martin

- 20 Kaycee Cory
  - 21 Norm Nielson
  - 21 Corey Seibert
  - 21 Ethan Lilleberg
  - 23 Wyatt Blackford
  - 24 Blane Beckner
  - 24 Sharon Scott
  - 26 Mark Nietert
  - 30 Timothy Lyttle
  - 31 Trent Coberly
- MAY ANNIVERSARIES
- 26 Dan & Virginia Lyttle

*If Your Special Day is not listed here, please drop a note to or call Virginia Lyttle at the Church Office.*



*MAY COMMUNION STEWARD - LOIS MARTIN*

*MAY USHERS/GREETERS*

*MAY ACOLYTES*

- 4 Paul & Dorothy Martin
- 11 Kevin & Orv Banasik
- 18 Tim & Kathy Clemens
- 25 Volunteers needed

- 4 Ana & Jenna Scott
- 11 Volunteers needed
- 18 Volunteers needed
- 25 Volunteers needed

*Please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the church.*

**UMW NEWS:** Our annual tour is Wednesday May 7. We are planning to visit the following places in Cedar Rapids: The History Center, Czech Museum, the Restore and maybe more. Lunch out maybe in Czech village. Reservations are due to Kathy Clemens (377-0949) by May 5.

**OUR SALAD SUPPER** is May 15th at 6:30PM. Everyone bring a salad and a friend. Reservations due to Kathy Clemens by May 12. Admittance is free if you wear your favorite apron!

**COMMUNITY CLUB:** will be held on May 1 at 7:00PM. Everyone is welcome for this monthly potluck supper. We have lots of conversation and laughs and would love for you to join us!

United Methodist Parish  
Rev. Jon Moss, Pastor  
P.O. Box 88  
Alburnett, IA 52202



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ALBURNETT IA  
PERMIT NO. 3