

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. 12

DECEMBER 2014



Alburnett United Methodist Church
319-842-2388

E-MAIL: alburnettumc@fmtcs.com
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM

Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church
319-377-7506

E-MAIL office@prairiechapelmarion.org
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00AM

THE REVEREND JON MOSS, PASTOR
Cell Phone 319-651-4883
Pastor's E-Mail jon.moss@iaumc.net

A Word from Pastor Jon



I remember working with someone who disliked the Christmas season so much that his co-workers put up a small Christmas tree which they had spray painted black to represent his feelings about Christmas. As it turned out it was one of the few things he liked about Christmas. He had a special coffee mug labeled “Bah, humbug” that he would use every year.

Amid the preparations for Christmas each year, there always seem to be a few voices, proclaiming a “Bah, humbug!” on the whole business. And if the truth be known, some of us may feel less than excited about Christmas ourselves. The expense, the crowds, the overindulgence, the hurried schedules and all the other trappings of modern Christmas celebrations are enough to make all of us take a jaundiced look at the season.

In the face of the all the humbug circumstances, it is helpful to remember that God did not send Jesus to be “at our throats,” but to be “in our hearts.” The difference between those two concepts defines the gap between gloom and glory. This is why the gospel is called the good news. As Gospel writer John expressed it, “For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him” (3:17).

Jesus is God’s gift to our world and to our hearts. When Jesus resides within, whether we enjoy or merely tolerate the flurry of seasonal preparations, Christmas itself is a grand opportunity to say thank you to God for the gift of the Son.

In the light of that, we are planning the following programs as opportunities to thank God together for the priceless gift of Jesus:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Prairie Chapel Live Nativity	Dec. 6	5:00-7:00PM
Alburnett Children's Program	Dec. 7	6:30PM
Prairie Chapel Bell Choir	Dec. 14	9:00AM
Prairie Chapel Children's Program	Dec. 21	6:30PM
Alburnett Christmas Eve Service	Dec. 24	7:00PM
Prairie Chapel Christmas Eve Service	Dec. 24	9:00PM

Please join us as we seek to celebrate Christmas in our hearts and lives.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jon

Inclement Weather Policy



If inclement weather forces us to cancel our Sunday worship services and classes, we will communicate to the congregation by several methods. We will post weather related closures on KCRG Channel 9 TV. Additionally, we will post such notice on our website www.alburnettumc.org, www.prairiechapelmarion.org, and Prairie Chapel face book page, by 8:00am Sunday morning. If no such notice appears by this time, then you should assume we are having worship as planned. This decision will consider road conditions, access to our worship site, and whether power & heat are available. If inclement weather forces us to cancel our Wednesday participation in 4:12 Youth group we will post such notice on our websites by 3:00pm. Of course, even if we decide to hold services, your local conditions may warrant you staying at home. We want to encourage everyone to make good, safe decisions!

Newsletter Deadline for January 2015

Newsletter Articles due in Office

December 15

Your Newsletter Received

December 29

SENIOR LIVING

Moundview Manor Scott Meadows Trinity Pointe
 THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

As we celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are all reminded to be grateful for the blessings we have. The governing board of Marion Senior Living Community extends a Hearty Thanks to all of you, our supporting churches and individuals. If you baked for the Fun Night or the Lasagna dinner, purchased tickets and attended these events, donated cash or gift cards, knitted items, attended our Anniversary celebration, purchased Younkers books from our members, worshiped with our seniors or pulled weeds on our campus---- WE THANK YOU! As we enter the new year of 2015, be assured that the board will be searching for new ways for further outreach to our seniors and we will continue to need your help and support.

Follow us on our website: MarionSeniorLiving.com



Purchase a
Poinsettia

Order a beautiful Poinsettia to honor or remember a loved one. Place your order no later than Sunday, December 7, by mailing or dropping this form to the church office or call Virginia Lyttle at 377-6807. Cost for each Poinsettia is \$10.00 (includes tax).

Name _____

Number of Poinsettias _____

In Memory Of _____

In Honor Of _____

Plants may be picked up following the Christmas Eve Service, or left to decorate the church for the remainder of Christmastide. Please indicate your preference:



DECEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS

December 7, 2014 Second Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8
December 14, 2014 Third Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28
December 21, 2014 4th Sunday of Advent	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:47-55; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38
December 24, 2014 Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20
December 25, 2014 Christmas Day	Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14
December 28, 2014 1st Sunday after Christmas	Isaiah 61:10—62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40
December 31, 2014 Watch Night/New Year	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8 Revelations 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46

ARE YOU HEADED SOUTH FOR THE WINTER?

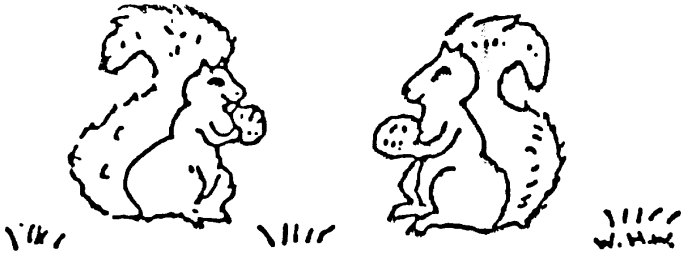
UPDATE



Your help is needed to update our records. Each Sunday 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.

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



THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER

Visit our New Web Site at <http://www.alburnettumc.org>



Children's
Program

We Come to Bethlehem

Sunday, December 7, 2014

6:30PM

Fellowship and Refreshments
following the program.

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	
10/26	\$667.00
11/9	\$1406.38
11/16	\$2199.00
11/23	\$676.00
11/30	n/a

Attendance	
10/26	32
11/9	40
11/16	34
11/23	45
11/30	n/a

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

Dorothy Sherman has a new phone number: 319-929-9039. Update your contact list!

The Church Chatterer...

December Birthdays

- 2 Dana Burns
- 3 Chalise Hite Swanson
- 3 Jean Quaas
- 3 Lindy Horak
- 3 Robbie Carrothers
- 4 Marcy Machacek
- 5 Pat Jordan
- 6 Connie Moyer
- 12 Adam Reed
- 13 Lance Horak
- 17 Eleanor Flitsch

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 17 Paula Horak
- 19 Robin Boddicker Oeth
- 26 Mark Hite
- 29 Delores Johnson
- 30 Jessica McGraw Cook
- 31 Tim Lange

December Anniversaries

- 21 Jon & Sharon Moss

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

Ushers & Greeters



December Communion Steward:

Pam Kirk

DECEMBER GREETERS

- 7 Pam & David Kirk, Juanita Reed
- 14 Ardie & Carol Smith
- 21 Tom & Mary Moore
- 24 Ken & Shirley Adnrews
- 28 Richard & Judy Burns

DECEMBER USHERS

- 7 Julie Hoover
- 14 volunteers needed
- 21 Dave & Marcy Machacek
- 24 n/a
- 28 Ken Andrews & Everett Schilling

DECEMBER BAKED GOODS

- 7 volunteer needed
- 14 Elizabeth Sperfslage
- 21 Marcy Machacek
- 28 Judy Burns

DECEMBER NURSERY ATTENDANTS

- 7 volunteers needed
- 14 volunteers needed
- 21 Pam Kirk &
- 28 volunteers needed

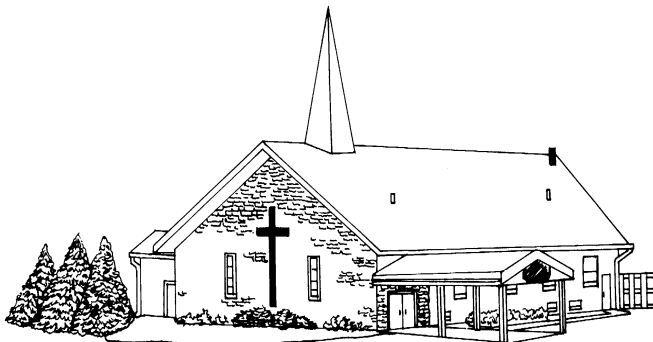
Please add ***your name*** to the sign-up sheet at the church.

Sunday School Teachers

Safe Sanctuary Policy Review



Date: December 14th
Time: 11:45 am - 12:45 pm
Location: Confirmation Room



THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

Visit our New Web Site at www.prairiechapelmarion.org

STEWARDSHIP

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

PRAYERS: Pray for Peace. Prayers for all those recovering from surgery, illness, injury and those undergoing treatments. Travel mercies for college students returning home for the holidays and all those heading south for the winter.

PRESENCE:

Bring a Friend!!

Weekly Attendance:

10/26	49
11/2	57
11/9	41
11/16	55
11/23	47
11/30	n/a

GIFTS: Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485.

Weekly Offerings:

10/26	\$1020
11/2	\$2117
11/9	\$2391
11/16	\$1746
11/23	\$1308
11/30	n/a

SERVICE: BIG THANKS.....to everyone who made donations, of cash and kit items, who helped sew, who helped assemble kits, who helped transport and deliver everything to InGathering and who stayed to help sort and repack kits and load the big trailer!!

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: This year's Christmas Offering will be given to HACAP. Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. (HACAP) is a diverse, community-focused nonprofit dedicated to empowering and improving the lives of families living with the everyday barriers of poverty.

UMW News: Next Meeting Saturday, December 6 at 9:00AM.

Christmas Brunch Meeting & Cookie Bake. Program: Virginia Lyttle. Hostesses: Paula Patterson, Beth Martin, Carly Martin & Angie Kisling. **Reveal your Prayer Partners; Bring cookies for Live Nativity.** Mission Project: Love Gift Tree (socks, hats, mittens, underwear, toys, etc.)

THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS...

December Birthdays

- 1 Jennie Clemens
- 2 Tristan Dietiker
- 4 Sarah Trumm
- 6 Brynn Bowman
- 6 Josh Garlinghouse
- 7 Sandra Dettmann Aird
- 7 Chloe Beckner
- 13 Rupert Kneef
- 13 Donna Timm
- 14 Kenneth Dixon
- 14 Codie Yeisley
- 15 Kale Nebergall
- 16 Christine Adams
- 17 Kevin Beckner
- 18 Dianna Moyer
- 20 Denise Mooney
- 23 Karon Dettman



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 23 Genevieve Scott
- 25 Jim Shatto
- 26 Sharon Banasik
- 27 Paige Victoria Martin
- 28 Matthew Walther
- 28 Jamie Walther
- 29 Caelee Yeisley
- 30 Kathy Clemens

December Anniversaries

- 2 Jeff & Karla Nielson
- 13 David & Beth Martin
- 19 Chris & Julie Novak
- 21 Pastor Jon & Sharon Moss

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

DECEMBER COMMUNION STEWARD - Kathy Clemens



DECEMBER USHERS/GREETERS

- 7 volunteers needed
- 14 James Jordan & Holly Ryan
- 21 volunteers needed
- 24 Tim & Kathy Clemens
- 28 Jeanna & Erik Lilleberg

DECEMBER ACOLYTES

- 7 volunteers needed
- 14 Emily & Blake Ritze
- 21 volunteers needed
- 24 volunteers needed
- 28 Hannah Lilleberg

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

COMMUNITY CLUB will meet on Thursday, December 4 at 7:00PM at the church. Bring personal care items to donate to local shelters. See you there!

LIVE NATIVITY: Come to Prairie Chapel on Saturday December 6 from 5:00-7:00PM. Toast marshmallows with the shepherds, visit with the Holy family and pet live animals. Then join us inside to warm up with cookies and hot cocoa. In case of bad weather it will be Sunday, December 7, from 5:00-7:00PM.

Christmas Program: Everyone is welcome to join us on Sunday, December 21, at 6:30PM for our annual Sunday School Christmas Program "Just A Little Christmas". Cookies and beverages provided following a visit from a special guest.