

THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER AND THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

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

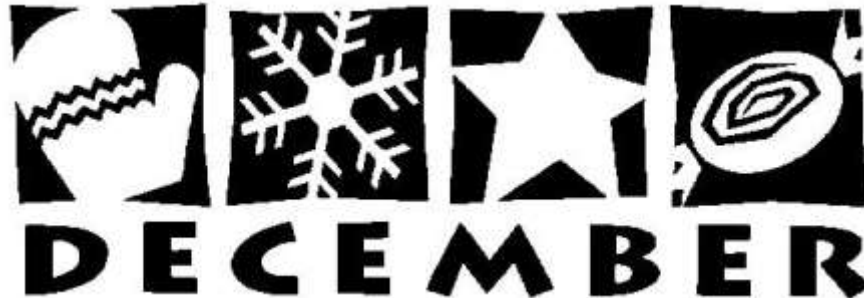
VOLUME XIX NO. 12

DECEMBER 2015

Alburnett United Methodist Church
319-842-2388
E-MAIL: alburnettumc@fmtcs.com
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00AM

Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church
319-377-7506
E-MAIL office@prairiechapelmarion.org
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM

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





**A WORD FROM
PASTOR JON**



Under Wraps

Unwrapping God's Greatest Gift

Advent will start on Sunday, November 29th, and we will start an exciting new Advent emphasis, *Under Wraps: The Gift We Never Expected*. **This joyful theme explores some of God's** unexpected qualities, presented over the four weeks of Advent, plus the week of Christmas:

God Is Expectant
God Is Dangerous
God Is Jealous
God Is Faithful
A Season of Joy

Just as the first wrapped gift beneath the Christmas tree marks the new season, so the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day signaled **that God's hope and salvation and redemption plan had come** into the world. In Jesus, God gift-wrapped himself in human flesh and was born in a stable so he could come and live among us and offer us life and salvation that we could never gain on our own.

Join us this Advent as we unwrap God's greatest gift, our Savior Jesus. There will be several opportunities for you to celebrate the coming of the Christ child this season with your friends and family. I look forward to seeing you as we worship Christ the Lord.

Faithfully yours,



DECEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS	
December 6, 2015 2nd Sunday of Advent	Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6
December 13, 2015 3rd Sunday of Advent	Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
December 20, 2015 4th Sunday of Advent	Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45
December 24, 2015 Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20
December 25, 2015 Christmas Day	Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14
December 27, 2015 1st Sun. after Christmas Day	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52
December 31, 2015 Watch Night/New Year	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46

ARE YOU HEADED SOUTH FOR THE WINTER?

Please let us know your winter address, so we can keep sending you the newsletter! Before you leave, drop a note to the office or leave a message or email. Thanks!!

Alburnett: alburnettumc@fmtcs.com or 319-842-2388

Prairie Chapel: office@prairiechapelmarion.org or 319-377-7506.

FOOD BANK FUND RAISER: On December 19 from 7:00-9:00PM, the Christian band Damascus Road is going to play at the Lynn Dunn building at the Linn County Fair Grounds in Central City. There will be no charge to get in, but there will be a free will offering which will benefit the two food banks in Central City.

THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is Tuesday, December 15. Items may be submitted by email (alburnettumc@fmtcs.com or office@prairiechapelmarion.org) or may be left in Virginia's box or folder at the church.



- * **Sunday, December 5 from 5:00-7:00PM:** Live Nativity at Prairie Chapel UMC.
- * **Sunday, December 13 at 9:00AM:** Children's Christmas Program at Alburnett UMC.
- * **Sunday, December 13 at 10:30AM:** Bell Choir music at Prairie Chapel.
- * **Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 and 10:30AM:** Choir music at both Alburnett and Prairie Chapel United Methodist Churches.
- * **Sunday December 20 at 6:30PM:** Children's Christmas Program and more at Prairie Chapel UMC.
- * **Thursday, December 24 at 5:00PM:** Christmas Eve Service at Prairie Chapel UMC.
- * **Thursday, December 24 at 7:00PM:** Christmas Eve Service at Alburnett UMC.

Order a beautiful Poinsettia to honor or remember a loved one. Place your order no later than Sunday, December 6, 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:

Membership Class



If you would like to learn more about church membership, our Methodist heritage, 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 the membership class" and we'll take it from there! The first class will be January 12, 2016 at Alburnett starting at 6:30pm. The classes will rotate between Alburnett and Prairie Chapel churches.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY: Winter is fast approaching and it's time for us to be reminded how we will communicate to you when inclement weather forces us to cancel or delay our Sunday worship service and classes, we will post such notice in the following locations:



- KCRG TV Channel 9
- KCRG TV Web Site - <http://www.kcrg.com/cancellations>
- Church Web sites (www.alburnettumc.org or www.prairiechapelmarion.org)
- Prairie Chapel will also post cancellations on their Facebook page

These notices will be made 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 is available. Of course, we also want to encourage everyone to make good, safe decisions regardless of whether we cancel the worship service or not.

WHEN SOMEONE IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY IS HOSPITALIZED: The purpose of pastoral care is to surround our hospitalized church family member with Christian prayers, love and presence. In order to do our part, we need help from you. When you or a family member needs to be hospitalized, please make sure that your registration is current and specifies Alburnett or Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church as your home church or community of faith. Without that information, we may not be aware that someone from our church family is in either of the hospitals.

Your spiritual care is important to us and it is also a crucial part of healing. Please help us supply that support by calling the Alburnett church office at 842-2388, Prairie Chapel office at 377-7506 or Pastor Jon anytime you are hospitalized.



THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER
Visit our Web Site at www.alburnettumc.org

**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER 13 AT 9:00AM**

Christmas Program Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays, December 2 and December 9 from 6:00-7:00PM; those with speaking parts staying until 7:30PM. Reminder: Children are to bring canned goods for the Food Pantry thru the end of December.

LOCAL MISSION PROJECT

Our Mission Project for December will be the mitten, gloves, scarves, hats, underwear and socks Christmas Tree in the sanctuary. These items will be donated to HACAP. The Christmas Offering will go either to a needy family to be applied to their utility bills or the purchase of gas cards for the Veterans Outreach Center.

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	
11/1	\$966.00
11/8	\$813.00
11/15	\$795.00
11/22	\$1,190.00
11/29	n/a

Attendance	
11/1	74
11/8	68
11/15	55
11/22	71
11/29	n/a

The Church Chatterer...

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 REED CALLAHAN
- 2 DANA BURNS
- 3 CHALISE HITE SWANSON
- 3 JEAN QUAAS
- 3 LINDY HORAK
- 3 ROBBIE CARROTHERS
- 4 BEN HUNT
- 4 MARCY MACHACEK
- 5 PAT JORDAN
- 6 CONNIE MOYER
- 12 ADAM REED
- 13 LANCE HORAK



- 17 ELEANOR FLITSCH
- 17 PAULA HORAK
- 19 ROBIN BODDICKER OETH
- 26 MARK HITE
- 29 DELORES JOHNSON
- 30 JESSICA MCGRAW COOK
- 31 TIM LANGE

ANNIVERSARIES

- 21 JON & SHARON MOSS

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

DECEMBER **COMMUNION STEWARD** - Judy Burns

Ushers & Greeters



DECEMBER GREETERS

- 6 *Volunteers needed*
- 13 Don & Janice Happel
- 20 Ardie & Carol Smith
- 24 *Volunteers needed*
- 27 Ken Andrews & Ev Schilling

DECEMBER BAKED GOODS

- 6 Cindy Scott
- 13 *Volunteers needed*
- 20 Stacy Franklin
- 27 Shirley Andrews

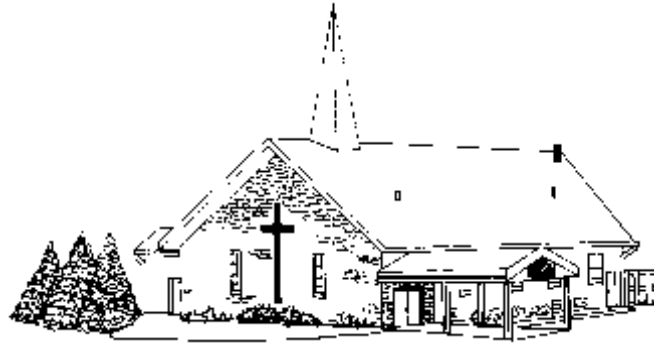
DECEMBER USHERS

- 6 Dorothy Sherman
- 13 *Volunteers needed*
- 20 Richard & Judy Burns
- 24 *Volunteers needed*
- 27 *Volunteers needed*

DECEMBER NURSERY

- 6 Shelly Burns & Carrie Olmstead
- 13 *Volunteers needed*
- 20 Kelly Hemphill & Stacy Franklin
- 27 *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

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:

11/1	75
11/8	61
11/15	42
11/22	55
11/29	n/a

GIFTS: Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485.
Weekly General Offerings:

11/1	\$2523.50
11/8	\$2044.00
11/15	\$1340.00
11/22	\$1158.00
11/29	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 Program: Everyone is welcome to join us on Sunday, December 21, at 6:30PM for our annual Sunday School Christmas Program. Cookies and beverages provided following a visit from a special guest.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY: The Young Adult Class will be sponsoring a family through HACAP's "Adopt-A-Family" program for Christmas. They are sponsoring a fundraising lunch on Sunday, December 13 following the worship service, with chili, sandwiches and baked goods. Everyone is welcome to help with the lunch and help deliver gifts and food to the family they are paired with. Come enjoy lunch and fellowship while helping a needy family have a great Christmas!

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



- 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 - Emma Miller

DECEMBER USHERS/GREETERS

- 6 Dale & Barb Garlinghouse
- 13 James & Judy Kotrba
- 20 *Volunteers needed*
- 24 *Volunteers needed*
- 27 Tim & Kathy Clemens

DECEMBER ACOLYTES

- 6 *Volunteers needed*
- 13 Ana & Genna Scott
- 20 *Volunteers needed*
- 24 *Volunteers needed*
- 27 Nebergalls

Live Nativity: Come to Prairie Chapel on Sunday, 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. Volunteers are needed to help with this event; contact Kathy Clemens.

UMW: Next Meeting is Saturday, December 5 at 9:00AM for our Christmas Brunch Meeting & Cookie Bake. Hostesses: Marcia Jordan, Paula Patterson and Vicki Martin. Program: Virginia Lyttle. Reveal your Prayer Partners and bring cookie dough to bake or cookies already baked for the Live Nativity.

COMMUNITY CLUB: will be held on December 3 at 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome for this monthly potluck supper. For Christmas, bring personal care items to be donated to local shelters. We have lots of conversation and laughs and would love for you to join us!

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.