

THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER AND THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

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

VOLUME XX NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 2016

Alburnett United Methodist Church
319-842-2388
E-MAIL: alburnettumc@fmtcs.com
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30AM

Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church
319-377-7506
E-MAIL office@prairiechapelmarion.org
SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM

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





A Word from Pastor Jon

This month is a continuation of sharing some good articles concerning Christian community. My desire is to see us continue to grow closer to each other and identify ways we can uplift and affirm one another. I trust that from this article you will have a deeper appreciation for the value of presence with those who are in need regardless of whether they are part of our church family or members of our community.

The God Who Shares Your Pain

“God-with-us” is our best and deepest comfort.

Matthew 1:21–23; John 1:1–14

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us”. Matthew 1:22-23

We have lost the simple but difficult gift of being present to each other. We say, “Why should I visit this person? I can’t do anything anyway. I don’t even have anything to say. Of what use can I be?”

We have forgotten that it is often in “useless,” unpretentious, humble presence to each other that we feel consolation and comfort. Simply being with someone is difficult because it asks that we share in the other’s vulnerability, enter with him or her into the experience of weakness and powerlessness, become part of uncertainty, and give up control and self-determination. And still, whenever this happens, new strength and new hope are being born.

Those who offer us comfort and consolation by being and staying with us in moments of illness, mental anguish, or spiritual darkness often grow as close to us as those with whom we have biological ties. They show their solidarity with us by willingly entering the dark, uncharted spaces of our lives.

Likewise, God is a God-with-us, a God who came to share our lives in solidarity. It does not mean that God solves our problems, shows us the way out of our confusion, or offers answers for our many questions. He might do all of that, but his solidarity consists in the fact that he is willing to enter with us into our problems, confusions, and questions.

That is the good news of God’s taking on human flesh.

As soon as we call God “God-with-us,” we enter into a new relationship of intimacy with him. By calling him Immanuel, we recognize that he has committed himself to live in

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A Word from Pastor Jon ⇨Continued from previous page

solidarity with us, to share our joys and pains, to defend and protect us, and to suffer all of life with us. We will never really know God as a compassionate God if we do not understand with our heart and mind that he lived among us (John 1:14).

How do we know this as anything more than a beautiful idea? We know this because in Jesus, God's compassion became visible to us. Jesus has embraced everything human with the infinite tenderness of his compassion.

—HENRI J. M. NOUWEN, DOUGLAS A. MORRISON, and DONALD P. MCNEIL

From COMPASSION by Henri J.M. Nouwen, D. Morrison & D. McNeill, © 1982 by Donald P. McNeill, Douglas A. Morrison, and Henri J.M. Nouwen. Used by permission of Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc.

A source that I appreciated and would be good for further reading on this subject is Joe Pennel's book listed below.

Pennel, Joe E. The Gift of Presence: A Guide to Helping Those Who Suffer. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, ©2009.

Let's Care for One Another,

Pastor Jon

PARISH NEWS...



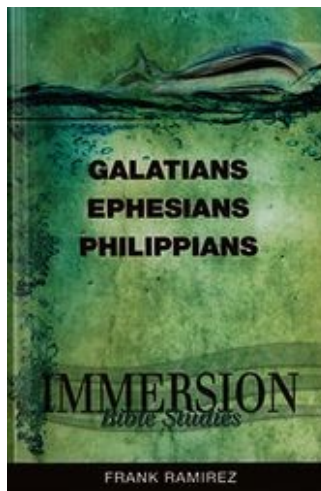
SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS	
September 4, 2016 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Philemon 1-21, Luke 14:25-33
September 11, 2016 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10
September 18, 2016 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13
September 25, 2016 19th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

IMMERSION BIBLE STUDY

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians



Journey inside the pages of Scripture to meet a personal God who enters individual lives and begins a creative work from the inside out. Shaped with the individual in mind, Immersion encourages simultaneous engagement both with the Word of God and with the God of the Word to become a new creation in Christ.

Immersion, inspired by a fresh translation--the Common English Bible--stands firmly on Scripture and helps readers explore the emotional, spiritual, and intellectual needs of their personal faith. More importantly, they'll be able to discover God's revelation through readings and reflections.

We will study the background, historical context, and then move into each chapter as we look at these letters of Paul for what they meant to the original audience and then reflect on the meaning for us today.

Starting the week of August 28th we will study the book of Galatians for about 6 weeks and then take a break. We will use the same pattern for Ephesians and Philippians.

Books are available – See Pastor Jon

First Class:

Prairie Chapel: Sunday, August 28th 2:00 – 3:30PM Fellowship Hall.

Alburnett: Monday, August 29th 6:30 – 8:00PM Confirmation Room.

Newsletter Deadline for October 2016

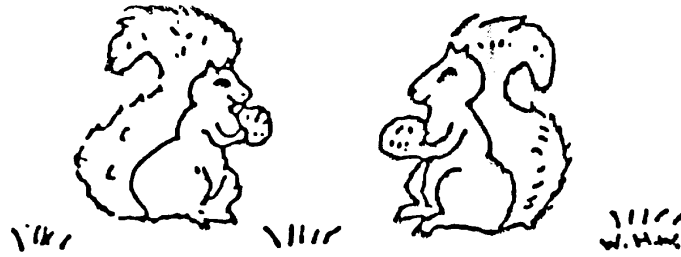
Newsletter Articles due in Office

Monday, September 19

Newsletter Folding Party

Wednesday, September 28

MARION SENIOR LIVING FUNDRAISER: Join us Thursday Sept 8th from 5:00-7:30PM for a great meal and fellowship time! Our Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser will be catered by Zio Johnno's. Admission: Adults are \$10.00 Children 3-10 are \$5.00 Children under 3 are free. Tickets: Tickets can be purchased at the door or you can pre-order online. Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 155 Boyson Rd, Marion, IA 52302. Can't make our event? Donations are appreciated! <http://marionseniorliving.com/event/lasagna-dinner-fundraiser-2016/>



THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER

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

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		Attendance	
7/31	552.00	7/31	36
8/7	1350.00	8/7	49
8/14	1304.00	8/14	38
8/21	661.00	8/21	46
8/28	N/A	8/28	N/A

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: After an awesome summer of raising tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, kale, and cabbage. LET'S GET TOGETHER every Sunday morning beginning September 11 from 10:30-11:30AM...But not before we start off the fall session with a BBQ on Aug. 28th, right after the Worship Service. Please join us on a new adventure of sharing about Jesus love with bible lessons, crafts and song. Jesus Loves the Little Children, All the Children of the World! ~Education Committee



Fall Sunday School will begin September 11, 10:30-11:30AM. Ages: Pre-K to 6th.

OMELET BREAKFAST: September 17 from 7:00-11:00AM. Invite all your friends! Sign up sheets are being passed at church for workers and donations.

Starting in September we will have an additional Communion Service on the 3rd Sunday of the month after the worship service. This is for anyone who would like to participate or those who missed Communion on the first Sunday, and for our Sunday School teachers and workers who are leading Children's Discipleship Classes each week. As others are in the fellowship hall after service feel free to come into the sanctuary and join in a short communion service. That's the 3rd Sunday of the month starting September 18th.

- Pastor Jon

SEPTEMBER MISSIONS PROJECT

Our mission project for September will be UMCOR Health Kits. Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes.

See the list below for items you can donate, and please read carefully, because only certain items and sizes can be put in these kits. Please place any items on the collections table in Fellowship Hall. Donations for purchase of these items are also welcomed.

Thank you. The Missions Committee

- 1 hand towel (15 x 25 up to 17 x 27, no kitchen towels)
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 comb (8 in. long and sturdy, not pocket -sized)
- 1 toothbrush (unopened in original packaging; not child sized)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. & up in wrapper; no Ivory or Jergens)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages ($\frac{3}{4}$ inch)

THANK YOU FROM THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER to the donors of Alburnett Community for the blood drive you recently held with MVRBC. Donation rates may fluctuate depending on the season, but the demand for blood products at the hospitals we serve is constant. Staff members in our component production are able to produce as many as four different blood components from every whole blood donation. We collected 14 units on the day of the blood drive, which will serve 56 patients at local hospitals. With the help of partnering organizations like yours, blood is on the shelves when patients need it. MVRBC expresses appreciation to all who participated for their commitment to our mission.

The Church Chatterer...

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 KAREN BEYER
- 2 KEELY SLOAN
- 2 KIM GINGRICH
- 6 KELLY HEMPHILL
- 6 ERIC COLEMAN
- 11 EVERETT SCHILLING
- 11 MILDRED KIRK
- 15 DANIEL KADLEC
- 15 JANET SCHWIEGER
- 16 KYLE HITE
- 19 JIM POWERS
- 19 CARISSA LALA
- 20 CALLIE WRIGHT
- 20 CASSIDY HENLE
- 20 KATHY HINDMAN
- 25 JULIE HOOVER



- 27 CARLYN MCGRAW
- 27 CAMERON MCGRAW

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 GREG & BETH GRITTON
- 4 DAVE & JANET SARGENT
- 10 JEFF & HEATHER CARROTHERS
- 14 CHARLES & BILLIE JO QUAAS
- 15 GALE & PAT JORDAN
- 20 WAYNE & SHELLY VOLKL
- 21 ADAM & KERRY SLOAN
- 26 DALE & PAULA HORAK
- 28 ALAN & DANA SPERFSLAGE

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

HELP US PREPARE FOR THE OMELET BREAKFAST

It would be a great help if after the Sunday worship service on September 11th, you could help set up some additional tables and chairs in preparation for Omelet Breakfast. It won't take long with your help!

Ushers & Greeters



SEPTEMBER GREETERS

- 4 Jeanne Bailey & Julie Hoover
- 11 Kevin Johnson
- 18 *Volunteers needed*
- 25 Ardie & Carol Smith

SEPTEMBER BAKED GOODS

- 4 Julie Hoover
- 11 Elizabeth Sperfslage
- 18 Leasha Henricksen
- 25 Marcy Machacek

September Communion Steward:

Julie Hoover

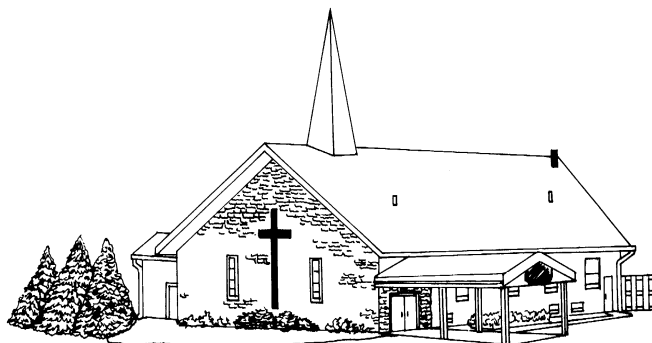
SEPTEMBER USHERS

- 4 Shirley & Ken Andrews
- 11 *Volunteers needed*
- 18 *Volunteers needed*
- 25 *Volunteers needed*

SEPTEMBER NURSERY ATTENDANTS

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

Please add **your name** to the sign-up sheet at the church. 7



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: Prayers for all those recovering from surgery and those facing treatments and therapy. Pray for students getting back to work in a new school year. Pray for Peace.

PRESENCE:

Bring a Friend!!

Weekly Attendance:

7/31	48
8/7	56
8/14	37
8/21	35
8/28	n/a

GIFTS: Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485.

Weekly Offerings:

7/31	\$1,502.00
8/7	\$2,361.00
8/14	n/a
8/21	n/a
8/28	n/a

SERVICE: BIG THANKS.....to everyone who donated food, money and labor, and all who came out to support our Ice Cream Social on July 31.

COMMUNITY CLUB will meet on Thursday, September 8 at 6:30PM at the church. See you there!



**JOIN US FOR A
HAYRIDE**

SUNDAY SCHOOL starts September 11 at 10:15AM.

BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL HAY RACK RIDE: Sunday, September 11 at 3:00PM at the home of Wayne & Linda Blackford. RSVP by Friday, September 9 to Kathy Clemens, 319-350-1281.

PRAIRIE CHAPEL NEWS...

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 Anastasia Scott
 5 Joel Robertson
 5 Justin Nielson
 8 Laura Falcon
 12 Scott Blackford
 17 Susan Jensen
 18 Gertrude Scott
 19 Keith Weller
 21 Crystal Dietiker
 21 Virginia Lyttle
 21 Dustin Smith



23 Jody Speas
 25 Dennis Sejkora
 27 Lilly Bowman
 27 Brian Sejkora
 27 Tyler Clemens
 28 Walter Falcon
 28 Darcie Coberly
 30 Easton Clemens

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

2 Dick & Connie Walther
 5 Roy & Sharon Bowers
 7 Wayne & Linda Blackford
 11 Dana & Cindy Ditzenberger
 15 Joe & Barb Trumm
 23 Dave & Donna Mooney
 24 Reg & Roni Eberle
 30 Jeff & Sharon Scott

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

SEPTEMBER COMMUNION STEWARD - VOLUNTEER NEEDED & SERVERS - Dale Garlinghouse and volunteer needed



SEPT. USHERS/GREETERS SEPT. ACOLYTES

4	Dale & Barb Garlinghouse	4
11	Wally & Laura Falcon	11
18	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	18
25	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	25

Volunteers Needed

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

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: MEET ON September 15 at 1:00PM
 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Program and Devotions: Leann Bowman
Hostesses: Irene Thompson & Sharon Sejkora
 Business Meeting
 Soup Supper Planning

MISSION PROJECT: Literacy Kits

- 1 spiral notebook wide rule 70 sheets
- 2 pencils #2 with erasers
- 1 hand pencil sharpener
- 1 package 3x5 white index cards
- 1 dry erase board 8x11
- 1 package dry erase crayons (8)
- 1 gallon Ziploc bag