

THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER AND THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

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

VOLUME XXI NO. 1

JANUARY 2017

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



A New Year's Resolution

We've all made them.

I'm going to lose weight this year

I'm going to volunteer more,

I'm going to read more, read my Bible too...

The list can go on and on. I write out a plan of growth in the fall of each year. These are things that I would like to work on in the coming year.

They're areas where I would like to see some improvement. I add to that list what I will do to accomplish these desired improvements. It could include a reading list, where I will focus my continuing education efforts, or what I will try to do with friends and family.

But like so many, I often fall short in the promises I make to myself about the coming year. I don't lose the weight or I don't get all my reading done. Do you know what I mean?

As I was thinking along these lines I realized that while my resolutions can fade, God's promises last forever. God's promise of new life, of faithfulness, of Ministry, of blessing, of guidance, these are just some of God's promises that do not fade.

So instead of focusing on the promises we make and sometimes fail to keep at the new year, let's focus on the promises of God that do not change with the calendar or with the latest trends. God's promises are consistent and we can celebrate that. As we better understand this perhaps we can find strength and guidance for the promises we really need to keep.

So, we will spend the first part of the year appreciating God's unbreakable promises, starting on January 8th with the promise of new life. I trust you will join us as we begin this sermon series New Year, Same Promises.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jon

Parish News...

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>
- WMT Radio
- 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.



JANUARY LECTIONARY READINGS	
January 1, 2017 New Year	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46.
Epiphany Sunday	Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12
January 8, 2017 Baptism of the Lord	Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17
January 15, 2017 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Cor 1:1-9; Jn 1:29-42
January 22, 2017 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23
January 29, 2017 4th Sunday after the Epiphany	Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12



Pastor Jon Appointed to the Iowa Conference Board of Ordained Ministry

Pastor Jon has been appointed to the Iowa Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (BoOM) starting in 2017. On behalf of the church, the Iowa BoOM, under the guidelines of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) prepares and assists those pursuing professional ministry through ordination, certification, or licensed ministry. Pastor Jon will be part of the Doctrine and Theology Examination Team.



I want to express my thanks to you for your expressions of love and care that you shared with me and my family this Christmas season. Little surprises and other expressions of love that you shared with us through e-mails, cards, as well as gifts, they were all very meaningful and encouraging. Thank you for your continued gracious generosity, understanding, and heartfelt love. I am truly blessed to be your Pastor and part of this community of faith. May God continue to bless you.

Pastor Jon



A Big Thank You to both Prairie Chapel and Alburnett United Methodist Churches for the prayers, love and support during the time of our loss of our son Scott Blackford. God bless each and every one of you.

Bud & Kris Blackford

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, fill out the back of a prayer card, drop a note to the office or leave a message or email. Thanks!!

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

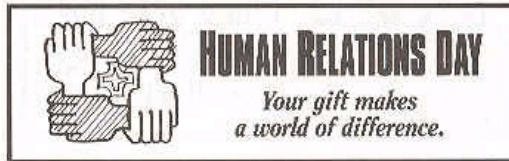
Prairie Chapel: office@prairiechapelmarion.org or 319-377-7506.

Newsletter Deadline for February 2016

Newsletter Articles due in Office Sunday, January 15

Newsletter Folding Party Wednesday, January 25

Because of your gifts on Human Relations Day, caring ministries continue in communities across the United States. Your Human Relations Day offering enriches ministries related to:



- Child care
- Children's after-school and summer initiatives
- Domestic hunger and poverty
- Economic development
- Education, including tutoring
- Emergency services
- Employment
- Gang intervention
- HIV/AIDS and other health issues
- Homelessness and housing
- Older adults
- Parenting
- Prison ministry
- Restorative justice
- Substance abuse and rehabilitation
- Youth, especially at-risk teens
- Technological empowerment

A Churchwide Special Sunday Of The United Methodist Church

God created each of us in God's image, and we all have potential to do great things. We celebrate that potential—and the opportunities to work together—on Human Relations Day.

Your Human Relations Day offering strengthens outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico and encourages social justice and work with at-risk youth. Your gifts help to build community across all races and peoples.



We will need some volunteers to help us with some very basic Word and Excel data entry projects coming in 2017. If you could volunteer about 2 to 3 hours a month it would be very helpful.

If you would be willing to help just write "Yes, I can Help" on a prayer card with your name, email, or phone number and place it in the offering plate or give it to Pastor Jon.

Thank you for your service!

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 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	
11/27	\$640.00	11/27	64
12/4	\$1120.00	12/4	52
12/11	\$1286.20	12/11	112
12/18	Subzero cold	12/18	Subzero cold
12/25	n/a	12/25	n/a

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Hallelujah...What a great program that portrayed the Birth of Jesus Christ. "The Wonder of a Star" that led the Shepherds to that stable, and the Wiseman to the new born King. "The Wonder of a Name"..The visit of a Angel that spoke to Mary and Joseph. A baby would be born and his name would be Jesus, the Son of God. "The Wonder of a Manger"..Mary's baby was laid in a trough on a bed of hay. God's Son began life humbly, having a manger for his bed. "The Wonder of a Promise" Over seven hundred years after Isaiah told God's people about God's promise to send a savior. Jesus was born. God's promise was kept.

Thank you to all the parents for sharing your children and reminding us that "Jesus is the Reason for Season." Also thanks to Linda, Lori, Judy, and all the Moms that helped.

We are Blessed

~Education Committee

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who helped to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas? Also, a special thanks to Robin Morrison for making the beautiful bows to decorate our poinsettias and pews. We will be taking the decorations down and sharing a Salad Potluck on Sunday, January 8th after the worship service.

The Church Chatterer...

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 MADISON JO MARTIN-ENOS
- 1 LAURA HOUTS HIRL
- 1 BRADY SCOTT
- 4 KRISTA MCGRAW
- 4 STEPHANIE MACHACEK ASCHER
- 7 JALAA WEAVER
- 7 KARMEN HERSHEY
- 9 VIRGINIA BURNS
- 10 JOSLYN MCGRAW
- 11 CAROL SMITH
- 12 JENNIFER BERRY
- 14 ALAN SPERFSLAGE

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 CHARLEIGH HENRIKSEN
 - 16 ROSS MORRISON
 - 18 BAILEY HEMPHILL
 - 20 PEYTON SCOTT
 - 23 KEVIN JOHNSON
 - 25 MEGAN VOLKL
 - 27 ELAINE HOUTS
 - 27 KEN ANDREWS
- JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**
- 24 KENT & BETTY WRIGHT

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

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING PARKING LOT PROJECT: A special Administrative Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday January 11, 2017 at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and decide on the Parking Lot Repair/Resurface project. The cost, based on current bids, will be presented as well as how much money we currently have toward this project and how much money must be raised. Additionally, information will be presented as to what is included and not included in this project. This is the time and place for your input. Please mark your calendar and be there, we need your presence in this important meeting. See you there!

JANUARY MISSION PROJECT: Help prepare our Sunday School and local school for the flu and cold season! This month, we are asking for donations of kleenex and sanitizing wipes. These are greatly needed items during this time of year and will hopefully help our students keep the germs of flu, viruses, and colds from spreading! Thank you. ~The Missions Committee



January Communion Steward: Pam Kirk

JANUARY GREETERS

- 1 *Volunteers needed*
- 8 Ken Andrews & Everett Schilling
- 15 *Volunteers needed*
- 22 *Volunteers needed*
- 29 *Volunteers needed*

JANUARY USHERS

- 1
- 22
- 29

Volunteers Needed

JANUARY BAKED GOODS

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22
- 29

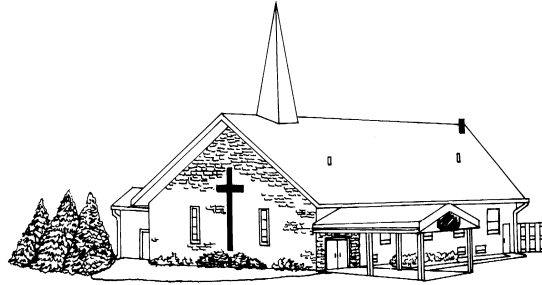
JANUARY NURSERY ATTENDANTS

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22
- 29

Volunteers Needed

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. Pray for all service men and women, for their safe return to their homes; those recovering from surgery and injuries; and for those traveling to warmer climates for the winter months & vacations.

PRESENCE:

Bring a Friend!!

Weekly Attendance:

11/27	\$1944.50
12/4	\$1213.50
12/11	\$1353.16
12/18	Subzero cold
12/25	\$1868.00

GIFTS: Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485.

Weekly Offerings:

11/27	55
12/4	48
12/11	37
12/18	Subzero cold
12/25	44

SERVICE: BIG THANKS.....to everyone who contributed in some way to the success of our annual Christmas Program, the Sunday School teachers, parents and children who made the evening so special!

PRAIRIE CHAPEL UMW meeting: Date and Time to be announced.

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE Y JANUARY 15, 2017: Prairie Chapel is having a family night at the Marion YMCA! Yes, that's right! It's been too many years since we've done this, so mark your calendars now. The fun starts at 6:00PM and goes until 9:00PM. We have the whole Y: gym, pool, weight room and a room for our food. Pizza will be ordered; we ask everyone eating it to chip in to pay for it or order just for your family. Bring pop, or juice of your liking and snacks to share. Invite a friend. **RSVP by Sunday, January 8!! to Kathy Clemens, 319-350-1281.** We need a head count so we can have the correct number of life guards on hand.

PRAIRIE CHAPEL NEWS...

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Natalie Nielson
- 4 Joe Trumm
- 10 Irene Thompson
- 10 Sharon Bowers
- 11 Loyd Martin
- 17 Dale Garlinghouse
- 18 Reagan Robinson
- 19 Judy Nietert



- 21 Willis Dettman
- 24 Lois Martin
- 26 Emma Miller
- 30 Margaret Kneef
- 31 Michael Clemens

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Bud & Kris Blackford
- 16 Greg & Natalie Nielson
- 26 Loyd & Lois Martin

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

JANUARY COMMUNION STEWARD & SERVERS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



JANUARY USHERS/GREETERS

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22
- 29

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

JANUARY ACOLYTES

- 6
- 13
- 20
- 27

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

JANUARY MISSION PROJECT: In December, we started a crusade called "Homes for Haiti." Sukup Manufacturing in Sheffield, Iowa has designed these homes for "Go Serve Global" from their grain bin models. In 2013, our church purchased a home and the statistics are out. After the hurricane several months ago, the two villages of these homes survived; a few with only minimal damage. Up to 60 people crammed themselves into these homes for protection. Our church is putting out a challenge. We want to send two homes. They cost \$7,000 each. The first one has been bought with money from our general funds. The challenge is to match that with this crusade. So far we have collected \$4,040 for the second home. Watch for displays on the bulletin board and other areas around the church. Let's all join together to build another home for people in one the poorest nations. Let's see how God can use us. Checks can be made out to Prairie Chapel Church with "Homes for Haiti" in the memo.

COMMUNITY CLUB will meet on Thursday, January 5 at 6:30PM at the church. Everyone is welcome for this monthly potluck supper. We have lots of conversation and laughs and would love for you to join us!. See you there!