

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. 3

MARCH 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



BOOT CAMP FOR THE SOUL

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians ¹.

We too approach the Lenten season with an emphasis on personal examination, and contrition-the intentional work of seeking a change of heart or actions. Reflection and change take work; frankly, they take hard work. In a way, Lent can be like a boot camp for the soul, a restart in a focused area. A time where we set aside some of the distractions of our busy lives and we focus on one aspect of our lives. We will walk this season together, demanding the best of ourselves, ready to support one another, and prepared to see truths that challenge our self-understanding.

We recognize the term "boot camp" from the military, but it is not limited to that one application. Companies have used this theme when they are preparing for a new venture and people enter a period of training before the launch of a new event, system, or process. Here they concentrate on learning or re-learning the fundamentals of the program and sometimes the push to do so is hard, but needed, to ensure the goals are met.

In much the same way, the Lenten disciplines we adopt are intended to make the season "hard" in the way a boot camp can be, pushing us beyond what we think our limits are in ways that strengthen us.

Join us in this Lenten emphasis and sermon series

“BOOT CAMP FOR THE SOUL”.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jon

¹*The United Methodist Book of Worship* (Nashville, Tenn.: United Methodist Pub. House, ©1992), 320-21.



VISION PLANNING MEETINGS

This month we will be having a gathering to work on the development of our Church Vision. We will meet on the Wednesday nights listed below in lieu of the regular Administrative Board meetings. There will be four areas that we will give attention to:

- Purpose = Mission
- Picture = Vision
- Plan = Strategic Plan
- Part = What is your Part

We will also discuss what do we need to let go of. What holds us back?

All of this will not be accomplished in one gathering but this month will be the start. If you are interested in the process of working on our vision, please plan on attending. We need you! This is important work as we look to the future.

Prairie Chapel Wednesday March 15th at 7:00 – 8:30PM

Alburnett Wednesday March 22nd at 7:00 – 8:30PM



MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS	
March 1, 2017 Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
March 5, 2017 1st Sunday in Lent	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11
March 12, 2017 DST 2nd Sunday in Lent	Gen 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
March 19, 2017 3rd Sunday in Lent	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119:33-40; I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5:38-48
March 26, 2017 4th Sunday in Lent	1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

PARISH NEWS... **UMCOR SUNDAY IS MARCH 26, 2017**

- When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded
- When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded
- When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded
- And when the next mass crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond

UMCOR will be able to offer aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer because United Methodists give through UMCOR Sunday, **(formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)**. In fact, it's your generous giving that allows us to respond when disaster strikes. **Ensure the United Methodist Church Can Keep Helping** Will you continue to give to UMCOR Sunday **(formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)**? Will you continue to meet the needs of the children, families and communities who've experienced devastation in the wake of disaster? When we meet the needs of those who suffer we actually minister to Jesus, As we respond, we recognize Jesus in those who are reeling in the wake of disaster.



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!

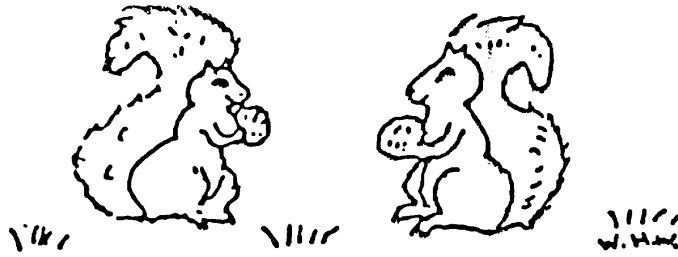
INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH? I would love to talk with you about Church Membership. If you would like to learn more about church membership and what it means to be a member, please let me know or call the church office, leave your name, contact information, and say "I'm interested in membership"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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please let us know your new address, so we can keep sending you the newsletter! Would you prefer to receive the Newsletter by email? 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 April 2016
Newsletter Articles due in Office Wednesday, March 15
Newsletter Folding Party Wednesday, March 22



THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER

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

FINANCIAL FACTS

Fact: 2017 Expenses Budget: \$85,000
Fact: needed per Month for Expenses: \$7,083
Fact: needed per Week for Expenses: \$1,635

Contributions		Attendance	
1/29	1120.00	1/29	36
2/5	910.00	2/5	32
2/12	920.00	2/12	50
2/19	875.00	2/19	53
2/26	n/a	2/26	n/a

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 16 or Memorial weekend May 28. This is a great time for families to worship together. A nursery will be available for 3yrs and younger.

~Education Committee

"Like" Pastor Jon's Facebook Page: It will have Information on Alburnett Services & Activities. **Like page:**



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/PastorJonIA

His posts on Parish information will also appear on the Prairie Chapel Facebook Page.

MARCH MISSION PROJECT: Our March Mission project is Camp Courageous. Camp Courageous is a year round therapeutic camp located in Monticello, Iowa. It is a camp which serves Iowa area people of all ages with various disabilities. They have needs in many different areas, but we are focusing on these:

Black sharpies	Napkins	Paper towels
Paper plates	Toilet paper	Glue (all types)
Zip-lock bags (gal./qt.)	If you would rather give monetary donations, a box will be located in Fellowship Hall. ~The Missions Committee	



Church Carpet Fund UPDATE



Last month we announced that a Carpet Fund had been established to replace the 42-year-old carpet that we now have. This was driven not only by appearance but also some safety concerns with areas of carpet separation. We are pleased to announce that we have received a substantial donation that will pay for the carpet replacement. We are so thankful for the generosity of the giver and their desire to be a blessing to the church and its worshipers. When you consider the decision to move forward with the parking lot repair and resurfacing as well as the replacement of the carpet, people are excited about the progress of our church and its future. For all of this we express our sincere thanks to the members and friends and our God who is faithful and always provides.

Pastor Jon

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! There will be a Blood Drive at Alburnett UMC on Thursday, March 23 from 2:30-5:30PM. More information in weekly bulletin & web site.

The Church Chatterer...

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 RITA SCHUCHMAN
- 2 ALLY OLMSTEAD
- 3 PASTOR JON MOSS
- 4 LORI SPERFSLAGE
- 6 JANICE HAPPEL
- 6 JUSTIN PLATE
- 8 BETH GRITTON
- 9 JEFF CARROTHERS
- 15 LAURA GINGRICH
- 15 LOGAN MORRISON
- 16 KELSEY HENLE
- 16 ANDREA BODDICKER
- 17 CUTTER SHEFELBINE



- 19 LAKEN CAVES
- 19 MACKINZE CARROTHERS
- 23 JASON GRITTON
- 28 KYLE SLOAN
- 29 OWEN HENRICKSEN
- 29 JACK MARTIN-ENOS

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 ROGER & ROBERTA ALTES
- 19 KEVIN & BEV HINES
- 24 RICHARD & JUDY BURNS

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

HELP US KEEP UP TO DATE!

Your help is needed to update our records. On the back of the prayer cards that are available each Sunday, there is a Communication Card. 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.

Ushers & Greeters



March Communion Steward: Marcy Machacek

MARCH GREETERS

- 5 *Volunteers needed*
- 12 Julie Hoover & Jeanne Bailey
- 19 Sperfslage family
- 26 Everett Schilling & Ken Andrews

MARCH USHERS

- 5 *Volunteers needed*
- 12 *Volunteers needed*
- 19 Sperfslage family
- 26 Dave & Marcy Machacek

MARCH BAKED GOODS

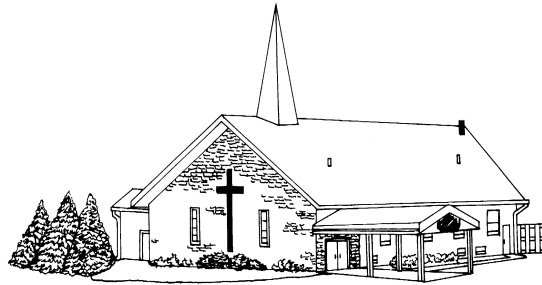
- 5 Jerry Goad
- 12 Julie Hoover
- 19 *Volunteers needed*
- 26 Marcy Machacek

MARCH NURSERY ATTENDANTS

- 5
- 12
- 19
- 26

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 or injury and those undergoing treatments. Pray for all service men and women, for their safe return to their homes. Pray for our elected officials, that God may give them wisdom.

PRESENCE:
Bring a Friend!!
Weekly Attendance:

1/29	n/a
2/5	1581.50
2/12	n/a
2/19	1525.00
2/26	n/a

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

1/29	41
2/5	42
2/12	35
2/19	33
2/26	n/a

SERVICE: BIG THANKS.....to our faithful office volunteers who have been helping with newsletter & bulletin folding!



PRAIRIE CHAPEL UMW: March 16 meeting at 1:00PM. Program and Devotions: Emma Miller. Hostess: Dora Nielson. Our Mission Project is Health Kits.
There is a Spiritual Growth Retreat at Mount Vernon United Methodist Church on March 25, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Check with Emma Miller for more information.

PRAIRIE CHAPEL NEWS...



MARCH

- 1 CARLEY TRUMM
- 4 NICOLE LILLEBERG
- 3 JON MOSS
- 4 CHRIS GRISWOLD
- 5 CLETUS REINHARDT
- 6 TESSALY ROBERTSON
- 8 CONNIE WALTHER
- 10 ZACH GARLINGHOUSE
- 13 BRENTON BLACKFORD
- 14 MARK MATTKE

- 17 BETHANN THOMPSON
- 19 MATT MARTIN
- 20 MITCH MARTIN
- 20 REGAN NEBERGALL
- 22 DAVID MARTIN
- 23 DONNA MOONEY
- 23 CALEB MASON

- 24 TRACI POSTLETHWAIT
- 25 ALANNA NIETERT
- 25 KRIS BLACKFORD
- 27 OLIVIA NEBERGALL

- MARCH ANNIVERSARIES
- 14 DENNIS & SHARON SEJKORA
- 19 JIM & JUDY KOTRBA

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

MARCH COMMUNION STEWARD - VOLUNTEER NEEDED & SERVERS - DALE GARLINGHOUSE AND 1 MORE VOLUNTEER NEEDED



MARCH USHERS/GREETERS

- 5 *Volunteers needed*
- 12 Dale Garlinghouse
- 19 *Volunteers needed*
- 26 *Volunteers needed*

MARCH ACOLYTES

- 5
- 12
- 19
- 26

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

MARCH MISSIONS: HEALTH KITS

- 1 new hand towel (15x 25 up to 17 x 27)
- 1 new wash cloth
- 1 bath size bar soap (3 oz. or larger) no ivory or jergens
- 1 new toothbrush in original or sealed package (not child size)
- 6 band aids (3/4")
- 1 large sturdy comb (no pocket or rattail)
- 1 metal nail file or finger nail clippers
- 1 gallon Ziploc bag

COMMUNITY CLUB will meet on Thursday, March 2 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!

THANK YOU: Loyd & I want to thank all of you for the cards, notes, and flowers for our anniversary. Also thanks for your many prayers for Loyd's health. You are a loving church family. Sincerely, Lois & Loyd Martin

THANK YOU to our church family for your prayers and concern during our recent illnesses. It is comforting to know we were in your thoughts. Blessings to you all, Wally & Laura Falcon