# 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. 5

MAY 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



# Contemplating a Comparison Mindset

## **Guest Author - Angie Moss**

Galatians 6:4-5 "Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load."

It's funny what happens when you compare yourself to others. As a pianist, I often compare myself with other players, admiring their technique and musicality. What should be an opportunity to aspire to a higher level of musicianship becomes a laundry list of areas where my skills are lacking. I leave a performance discouraged instead of inspired, wondering why I play when there are people with such a high level of talent.

I wish I could limit such feelings to performance halls. I find that I compare myself to other Christians as well. When surrounded by Christians, I should be inspired, renewed, or reflective about my faith. Sometimes I find it difficult to concentrate on listening to God when I'm surrounded by other Christians who pray with more conviction than I ever could; who are more devoted in spiritual disciplines; Christians who are enveloped in worship experiences and Christians who are able to give at the pass of an offering plate. What do I have to share? Why does God need me when He has "better" people to do His work?

This is why God needs each of us: "For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well" (Psalm 139:13-14 NIV). When we compare ourselves to others with the "I'll-never-be-like-that" mindset, it is almost as if we are giving up on discovering the unique qualities or qualifications God has given us. Instead of comparing, <u>contemplate</u>: how can I best use what God given me? <u>continued</u> 2 PARISH NEWS... ⇔Continued from previous page

As members of a United Methodist Parish, we've committed to giving our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Not to compare who recites the more eloquent prayers, has consistent attendance, writes the biggest check, or is involved with the most activities, but just to *give*. "Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load" (Galatians 6:4-5). Test your actions as you consider your role in the growth of our church; the role God has specifically set for you. His works are wonderful – we know that full well.

Angie Moss



| MAY LECTIONARY READINGS |                                       |  |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| May 7, 2017             | Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23;               |  |
| 4th Sunday of Easter    | 1 Peter 2:19–25; John 10:1–10         |  |
| May 14, 2017            | Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16;    |  |
| 5th Sunday of Easter    | 1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–14          |  |
| May 21, 2017            | Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8–20;         |  |
| 6th Sunday of Easter    | 1 Peter 3:13–22; John 14:15–21        |  |
| May 25, 2017            | Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47;                |  |
| Ascension of the Lord   | Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53      |  |
| May 28, 2017            | Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;    |  |
| 7th Sunday of Easter    | 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11 |  |

**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.

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The Church Chatterer...



## 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 |         | Att  | endance |
|---------------|---------|------|---------|
| 2/26          | 1155.00 | 2/26 | 56      |
| 3/5           | 945.00  | 3/5  | 36      |
| 3/12          | 1187.00 | 3/12 | 56      |
| 3/19          | 1270.00 | 3/19 | 50      |
| 3/26          | n/a     | 3/26 | n/a     |

**THANK YOU:** From an anonymous person --Thanks to the choir for their beautiful music during the Lenten services and Easter Sunday morning.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** There will be no Sunday School on Memorial weekend May 28. This is a great time for families to worship together. A nursery will be available for 3yrs and younger.

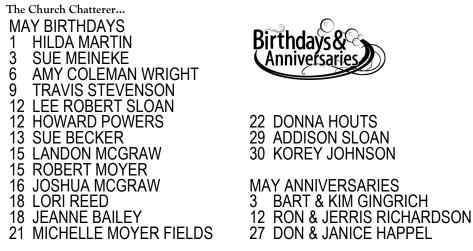
~Education Committee

Find us on Facebook Page: It will have Information on Alburnett Services & Activities.

Like page: www.facebook.com/PastorJonIA

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

| Newsletter Deadline for June 2017                |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Newsletter Articles due in Office Monday, May 15 |   |  |
| Newsletter Folding Party Wednesday, May 24       | 4 |  |



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

**MISSIONS:** In May, our mission project will be gathering seeds, plants, and items needed for our church garden. Our children will be caring for a garden again during our summer Sunday school. They will need a variety of items to get it started. There will be a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall if you would like to contribute to their gardening experiences. Thank you.



#### **MAY GREETERS**

- 7 Dave & Marcy Machacek
- 14 Julie Hoover
- 21 Ken & Shirley Andrews
- 28 volunteers needed

MAY USHERS

- 7 Dick & Judy Burns
- 14 Ken Andrews & Everett Schilling
- 21 volunteers needed
- 28 volunteers needed

#### MAY BAKED GOODS

- 7 Amy Schrader
- 14 Neva Lanning
- 21 Judy Burns
- 28 Jerry Goad





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

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# 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 safety for farmers in the fields and on the roads. Pray for those recovering from illness and surgery, and undergoing treatments. Pray for the safety of all military, police, firefighters and EMT personnel. Pray for our elected officials, that God may give them wisdom.

#### **PRESENCE:**

Bring a Friend!! Weekly Attendance:

| Tutendunce. |     |  |
|-------------|-----|--|
| 3/26        | 53  |  |
| 4/2         | 54  |  |
| 4/9         | 57  |  |
| 4/16        | 98  |  |
| 4/23        | n/a |  |
| 4/30        | n/a |  |

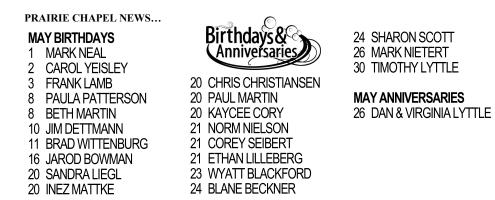
**GIFTS:** Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485. Weekly Offerings:

| iy Oneinigo. |            |  |
|--------------|------------|--|
| 3/26         | \$1,592.50 |  |
| 4/2          | \$2,133.50 |  |
| 4/9          | \$         |  |
| 4/16         | \$         |  |
| 4/23         | n/a        |  |
| 4/30         | n/a        |  |
|              |            |  |

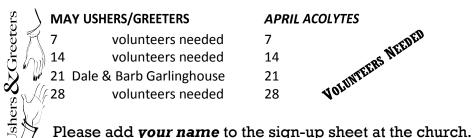
**SERVICE:** BIG THANKS.....to everyone who donated to, helped at and shopped at our Rummage Sale April 5-6. We made about \$900 for the UMW to put towards Mission Projects.

**MAY MISSION PROJECT:** We will collect items for the Catherine McCauley Center. Tissues, Garbage Bags, Paper towels, Toilet Paper, Cleaning Products, Dish Soap, Dish Washer Detergent can be brought to the church.

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



**PRAIRIE CHAPEL UMW:** Tour on May 3 going to Clinton, IA. The carpool will leave promptly at 8:00AM from the church parking lot. RSVP to Carrie Robertson or Holly Ryan by Sunday, April 30.

"Shake It Up" at our Salad Supper May 18 at 6:30PM...invite mothers, daughters, and friends. Bring a salad to share and your favorite set of Salt & Pepper Shakers. RSVP to Holly Ryan or Rae Kinkead by Monday, May 15. Hostesses: Holly Ryan, Virginia Lyttle, Rae Kinkead. Program: Kathy Clemens.

**COMMUNITY CLUB** will meet on Thursday, May 4 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!

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