

THE ALBURNETT CHURCH CHATTERER AND THE PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS

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

VOLUME XXII NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 2018

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 WORSHIP 10:30AM

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



A WORD FROM PASTOR JON

GOD'S GRACE IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION - JUSTIFYING GRACE

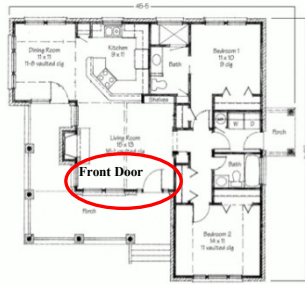


Coming from the Wesleyan Tradition, we are set apart by our understanding of God's grace. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, defined *grace* as God's bounty, or favor: God's free, undeserved favor.

While we understand it is manifested in various ways, there is only one grace. All grace is God's and the adjectives (prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying) reflect the various works of the self-same Spirit. In the concept of **prevenient grace** (introduced in August Newsletter), God takes the initiative to reach out to be in relationship with us. In **justifying grace**, we believe God continues to take the initiative, so in that sense, all of God's grace is "prevenient."

Wesley compares salvation and God's grace to a house. Each of the movements of God's grace corresponds to a different part of the house of salvation. Last month we understood that prevenient grace was compared to the porch of the house where we are welcomed or invited to come in. Wesley compared justifying grace to **the door** of the house. When we respond to God's invitation and enter the house of salvation, we are right with God and have assurance that our sins are forgiven.

JUSTIFYING GRACE - Justification and Assurance – We believe God



reaches out to all of us who are willing to return to God's ways, with a grace of accepting and pardoning love. In justification, we turn to participate in God's ways and are, through faith alone, forgiven and restored to God's favor through the action and example of Jesus Christ. Just as justifying text in a word processor or on a typewriter aligns the text in a certain way (i.e.

right or left justified), justifying grace aligns us with God¹.

Quoting Robert Tuttle, Jr. *Justifying grace is the work of the Holy Spirit at the moment of conversion whereby the process of moving toward disobedience is stopped and the process of moving back toward obedience is begun*².

Justifying grace causes a relational change between ourselves and God. We are brought to realize and have faith that we are restored to right relationship with God. We come to know that we are God's children, and we are forgiven. In that alignment, we become new creatures in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Wesley teaches us that justification is another word for pardon. It is the assurance that

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our sins are forgiven which comes from repentance, of turning towards God's gracious gift of new life in Christ.

In talking with your Christian friends from other churches, you may hear them using terms to describe this change, such as conversion or being born again. For those from the Wesleyan Tradition, we are certain that this is something that can only take place in us by the power of God's grace.

Our doctrinal and theological statement found in our Book of Discipline describes the timing of this change of direction as follows, "*sometimes justification comes about instantaneously; sometimes it is a gradual process. Either way, it is a new beginning; it is not an end.*"³ A new beginning justifying grace is part of *an ongoing process* which we will look at next month.

Scripture reference: Romans 3:21-26: *But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ (or through the faith of Jesus Christ) for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...* (NRSV).

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jon

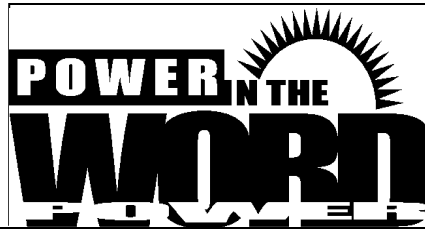
¹ 1st UMC Wichita Falls, Texas <http://www.fumcwf.org/wesleyan-doctrines/justifying-grace/>

² Robert G. Tuttle, *Sanctity Without Starch: a Layperson's Guide to a Wesleyan Theology of Grace* (Lexington, KY: Bristol Books, 1992), 80.

³ *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, 2016, 52
Kenneth L. Carder, *Living Our Beliefs: the United Methodist Way*, rev. ed.
(Nashville, Tenn.: Discipleship Resources, 2009), 79-81.

CONFIRMATION On September 5, 2018, we will start Confirmation classes and the students will then be confirmed in September 2019. Class meets each Wednesday from 6:30-8:30PM, at Alburnett United Methodist Church downstairs in the Confirmation Room.

<p>Newsletter Deadline for October 2018 Newsletter <u>Newsletter Articles due in Office</u> Saturday, September 15 <u>Newsletter Folding Party</u> Thursday, September 20</p>



SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS

September 2 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2,6-9; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23
September 9 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,22-23; Psalm 125; James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37
September 16 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38
September 23 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3,7-8a; Mark 9:30-37
September 30 19th Sunday after Pentecost	Esther 7:1-6,9-10,9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

SECRETARY'S NEW OFFICE HOURS: Beginning **September 1**, Virginia will be at the Alburnett Office on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00AM-12:00NOON, and at Prairie Chapel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM-12:00NOON. If you need copies, please call several days ahead to schedule during office hours.

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?

ARE YOU MOVING? GOING AWAY TO COLLEGE?

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.



Worship Service Times
will change
on October 7, 2018

Effective October 7st the worship times will switch.

Prairie Chapel's worship service will start at 9:00AM

Sunday School will meet at 10:15AM.

Alburnett's worship service will start at 10:30AM

Sunday School will meet at 10:30AM

These worship service times will stay in place until January 1, 2020. And they will switch every year after that on January 1st. This will make the publication of our worship services much simpler for marketing purposes.

SAMARITAN'S CHEST - Confidential assistance of individuals or families in our local community.

Money that is collected in the chest goes into the Pastor's Benevolence Fund to help with special needs and confidential assistance of individuals or families within our local community, mostly for food and gas.

The Good Samaritan Fund has been established to impact the lives of people who are in need of small emergency assistance

The Good Samaritan and is funded by donations from individuals who want to assist others as an expression of Christian love.



There will be a sign and container (chest) set out on the first Sunday of each month for these donations.

*The Good Samaritan Fund
Because others passed them by ...*



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	
7/29	\$600.00	7/29	40
8/5	\$1175.00	8/5	41
8/12	\$1025.00	8/12	40
8/19	\$631.00	8/19	40
8/26	n/a	8/26	n/a

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
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.

"Like" Pastor Jon's 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.



Find us on
Facebook



SUNDAY SCHOOL will begin on Sunday, September 9 at 10:30AM. Sign up sheets for teaching slots will be available on Sunday.



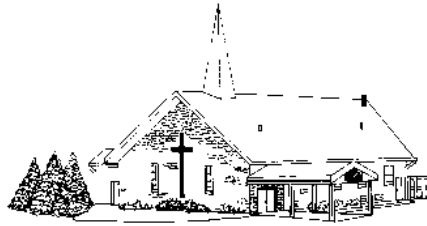
MISSIONS: Our September mission project is the UMCOR health kits. Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes. The items needed for these kits are:

- ◆ 1 hand towel (15x25 – 17x27)
- ◆ 1 toothbrush (unopened, not child's)
- ◆ 1 wash cloth
- ◆ 1 comb (not pocket sized)
- ◆ 1 bath-sized bar of 3 oz. wrapped soap
- ◆ 6 adhesive plastic strip band aides ($\frac{3}{4}$ in.)
- ◆ 1 nail file or fingernail clipper (no emery boards)

Donations for the purchase of these items are also welcomed. Please place any items on the collections table in Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

The Missions Committee





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 those recovering from illness and surgery, and undergoing treatments or in hospice care. 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:

7/29	65
8/5	47
8/12	33
8/19	38
8/26	n/a

GIFTS: Weekly budget needs approximately \$1485.

Weekly Offerings:

7/29	\$1513.00
8/5	\$1666.50
8/12	\$1990.00
8/19	\$1668.50
8/26	n/a

SERVICE: BIG THANKS.....to all who helped with the Ice Cream Social! And to everyone who helped with VBS, teachers, workers, leaders, and those who donated money & supplies!

UMW: Our next meeting is Thursday, September 20 @ 6:30PM. Program and Devotions: Lois Martin. Hostesses: Emma Miller & Sharon Scott. Business Meeting Agenda: Soup Supper

SEPTEMBER MISSION PROJECT: Health kits -

- ♦ wash cloth
- ♦ hand towel
- ♦ New toothbrush in sealed package
- ♦ 3 oz. or larger bar of soap (no Ivory or Jergens)
- ♦ 6 ¾ inch bandaids

The nail clippers and combs are ordered in bulk.

PRAIRIE CHAPEL CHIPS...

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 ANASTASIA SCOTT
5 JOEL ROBERTSON
5 JUSTIN NIELSON
8 LAURA FALCON
17 SUSAN JENSEN
19 KETH 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 MORGAN 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 contact Virginia Lyttle at the church office.



Sunday School starts on Sunday, September 9 at 9:15AM. If you are interested and able to help teach, please contact the church office at 377-7506.

COMMUNITY CLUB will meet on Thursday, September 6 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!

**The 39th Annual Thanksgiving Ingathering
will be held on Saturday, November 3, 2018**

UMCOR is no longer accepting cloth school bags.

UMCOR is now asking that school kits be placed in 2-gallon resealable plastic bags.

Assembly Instructions

- Use a 2-gallon size resealable bag instead of cloth bag.
- Stack all paper items on top of each other. Place in 2-gallon bag.
- Place all loose items in smaller resealable bags and place on top of paper and seal 2-gallon bag.

The UMCOR School Kit list, Hygiene Kit list and Cleaning Bucket list are available at the church.

Those who wish to continue sewing school bags can make them for Midwest Mission Distribution Center. A pattern for the bags is available at the church.