

The Parish Visitor



November, 2017

Visit us at myaledoumc.com

UP...OUT OF THE WATER

by Rev. Mark

Several years back, I performed a funeral for a gentleman who was a long-term member of the church we served at the time. He spent the last few years of his life in a nursing home. One day, toward the end of his life, when I visited him, we were talking about what we wanted out of life. And in the context of that conversation, he said, "At this point in my life, what I want most is to be buried up out of the water." (Champaign County is VERY flat and the water table is VERY high!) He chuckled, I chuckled, and we went on with our conversation.

A few months later, he passed away. As I prepared to perform his funeral, that conversation came back to me. I filed into my "short-term" memory...in case it came up again. The day of the funeral came, I performed the service at the funeral home, and then we loaded into cars and headed to the cemetery... a few miles out of town, for the committal service. That particular cemetery sits on a slight hill...a rise that stands above the surrounding farm land. As I stood there, with my hand on the casket, committing his earthly remains back to the ground...back to God, that conversation, parked in short-term memory, came flooding back. I shared it with those gathered there, and then I added, "Well...you got your wish...you are up out of the water!"

What do YOU want out of life? Do you have goals? Dreams? Hopes? Do you review them regularly, pursue them with passion? Or has the weight of the world caused you to put them on the back burner, perhaps even give up on them altogether? Without goals, dreams and hopes, the world is a pretty grim, uninviting place. Life is just a day-to-day attempt to survive another day. But WITH them...the world is a bright, inviting place full of promise and potential. I don't know about you, but if those are my choices, I would MUCH rather lean toward the inviting and promising than the uninviting and hopeless! Don't let the world destroy your dreams. Hang in there, seek strength from God, and keep pushing forward!

DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERMON?

If you miss church on Sunday, you can STILL experience the sermon. You can go to the church's Facebook page OR the church website to watch a video of any sermon you missed. You can also go to www.stickwithjesus.com and choose "read my blog" to read a transcript of the sermon! If you would like to subscribe and receive a daily email link, email Rev. Mark at revmark@stickwithjesus.com. Please share these links with your friends and family.



SPECIAL DATES:

- Nov 5 Communion & Food Pantry Sunday
- Nov 5 UMW Sunday/ Golden Age Luncheon 11:30AM.
- Nov 5 Operation Christmas Child boxes due.
- Nov 6 Bazaar Work Time/ Pizza Making 5PM
- Nov 9 Caring Hearts Food Prep 9AM
- Nov 13 Bazaar Craft Work/ Sweet Breads Time 5PM
- Nov 14 Bazaar Work Time to Make Grinch Treats 6PM
- Nov 16 Naomi Wesleyan Circle 11:30AM
- Nov 17 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- Nov 17 Holiday Bazaar 3-7PM
- Nov 18 Holiday Bazaar 8-11AM
- Nov 19 CIA Luncheon 11:30AM
- Nov 19 Youth Fellowship 11:30AM
- Nov 19 Mission Meeting 5:15PM
- Nov 19 Trustees Meeting 6PM
- Nov 19 Finance Meeting 6:45PM
- Nov 19 Administrative Council Meeting 7:30PM
- Nov 20 UM Men Meeting 6PM
- Nov 23-24 Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 26 Hanging of the Greens 4-6:30PM
- Nov 27 PPRC Meeting 6:30PM
- Nov 27 Endowment Committee Meeting 6:30PM
- Nov 27 Relay for Life Meeting 6:30PM
- Nov 30 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM

CURRENT BIBLE STUDIES



Be Hopeful: A Study of 1Peter

WHAT: Mike Millar's current Tuesday morning Bible Study

WHEN: Tuesdays @ 9AM

WHERE: In the Fellowship Cafe'

WHY: Hope isn't a sedative; it's a shot of adrenaline, a spiritual blood transfusion. Best-selling author and former pastor Warren Wiersbe preaches the same message Peter preached so long ago. Turning each enlightening page, believers gain increasing confidence in true Hope, a God in whom they don't just wish for eternal life. In Scripture, hope means the promise of salvation for those who have accepted Him and His Son's death and resurrection.

WHAT ELSE: The books are \$8

Ten Men of the Bible: How God Used Imperfect People to Change the World

WHAT: Current Wednesday morning MEN'S Bible Study

WHEN: Wednesdays @ 6:30AM (Coffee, breakfast pizza AND donuts EVERY week!)

WHERE: In the Fellowship Cafe' next to the sanctuary

WHY: The men of the Bible aren't depicted there because they were perfect, but to highlight their faithfulness to God! In this 10-session study guide, Max Lucado looks at the stories of some of these Scriptural characters, pointing out key decisions they made - and the good or bad consequences that resulted. Each session includes discussion questions.

WHAT ELSE: The books are \$15 and it is NEVER too late to join!

The Red Sea Rules

WHAT: Paul Hevland's current Wednesday Evening Bible Study

WHEN: Wednesdays at 6PM

WHERE: In the Fellowship Caf , next to the Sanctuary

WHY: Just as Moses and the Israelites found themselves caught between "the devil and the deep Red Sea," so are we sometimes overwhelmed by life's problems. *The Red Sea Rules reveals that even in the midst of seemingly impossible situations God promises to make a way for us. His loving guidance will protect us through danger, illness, marital strife, financial problems, or whatever challenges Satan places in our path.*

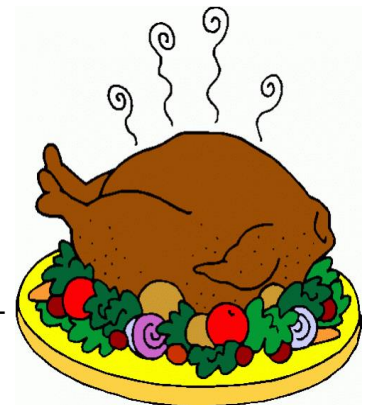
It is certain that we will face difficulties, and that God will allow them, as He allowed the Israelites to become trapped between Pharaoh's rushing armies and the uncrossable Red Sea. But just as certain is the fact that the same God who led us in will lead us out. As *The Red Sea Rules makes comfortingly clear, He is in control.*

WHAT ELSE: The books are \$5

UMW SUNDAY AND GOLDEN AGE LUNCHEON

One of the best events in the life of our church is coming up on Sunday, Nov 5th. United Methodist Women Sunday will be celebrated at all 3 services. Our Golden Agers (age 75 and above) will be honored at each service. UMW Sunday brings with it the annual Golden Age Luncheon. EVERYONE is invited to come for a delicious FREE meal (ham, turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, salads, rolls, and desserts) following the 10:30 service. We look forward to a huge crowd! As I say each and every year, we will need to have two groups of people in attendance that day. One, all the Golden Age women of our church family should be present to be honored. Secondly, EVERYONE of all ages needs to come to show their appreciation for everything these ladies have done for our church over the years. November 5th—mark it on your calendars and plan to attend UMW Sunday and the Golden Age Luncheon.

UMW co-presidents, Mary Flint and Molly Joseph



NEW SERMON SERIES: THANKFUL

by Rev. Mark

November is the month that our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving. And hopefully, we also turn to being thankful. But call it thankful, call it grateful, call it what you will- it can be a challenge in today's world to truly find things to be thankful FOR! Our next sermon series will walk through 4 things we should absolutely be grateful for. The weeks of the series look like this:

Sunday, November 5, 2017- Grateful For Family (Ruth 1:8-18)

Nothing is as important as family- it is everything.

(Psalm 127:3-5, Ephesians 6:1-4)

Sunday, November 12, 2017- Grateful For Needs Met (John 5:1-8a)

All you need is the plan, the road map, and the courage to press on to your destination.

(Psalm 40:16-17, Philippians 4:19-20)

Sunday, November 19, 2017- Grateful For Church (Matthew 12:46-50)

Family are the friends God chose for us, while a Church Family are the friends God helped us find.

(Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, 1 Timothy 3:14-15)

Sunday, November 26, 2017- Grateful For God (Luke 17:11-19)

Believe that God has blessed you with life and with wonderful people in your life and remain thankful for that blessing.

(Daniel 2:20-23, James 1:16-18)



Come each week to focus on the gratitude that we should find every day...all year long!

THANKSGIVING

by Rev. Mark

Thursday, Nov. 23rd brings the annual celebration of Thanksgiving- a day originally set aside to give thanks for the things one has at the end of the harvest season, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November.

We trace this American tradition back to 1623. After the harvest in November that year, Governor William Bradford proclaimed: *Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest...has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and...has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience, I proclaim that all...gather at ye meeting house...between the hours of 9 and 12...on Thursday November 29th, 1623, there to render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all his blessings.*

This year at Thanksgiving, I pray you will be able to break bread with family and/or friends. This Thanksgiving, take time to count your blessings- name them one by one. This Thanksgiving, be sure to give God the thanks He deserves for all of the blessings He gives us.



What's New in Your Church Kitchen?

Recently, the Safety Team sponsored a Food Safety Class at the church. The class was given by the Mercer County Health Department and has made us much more aware and concerned about our food safety. We wear hats or other head covering while working with food. Gloves must be worn while touching meat, raw vegetables, and any ready-to-eat food. We now have gloves in all sizes available in glove rack by the serving window.

We are using the dishwasher to wash and sanitize our dishes.

Counters and tables are cleaned with bleach or other food service cleaner.



Do you realize that we easily average serving food to nearly 200 people each week at AUMC?

Let's think about the many groups we feed: Senior High students, TAG students, Wednesday Night Fellowship, United Methodist Men meetings, CIA, Caring Hearts frozen meals as well as many special events like our Golden Age dinner, Journey, and Rhubarb Fest.

We want our kitchen to have the ability to continue to serve safe and wholesome food. United Methodist Women have purchased two top-of-the line non-stick skillet and Dutch oven along with the non-scratch utensils.

We also have a new food processor and a manual food slicer/chopper.

The Caring Hearts Food Prep team have used the stainless steel pasta pan that was recently purchased by the United Methodist Men many times, to easily prepare pasta dishes for the Caring Hearts freezer.

We are very fortunate to have a well-supplied kitchen to support all of our food ministries.

We would love to have YOU come join in the kitchen fun at any time!

Contact Ruth Dulaney 309-738-6151 to see what fits into your schedule to become a *Church Basement Lady or Gentleman*.

YOU'RE INVITED TO...THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

WHEN: Sunday, November 26th, 4PM-6:30PM

WHAT: Please join us as we prepare our hearts and church for the upcoming Holiday season. There will be fun, activities AND dinner for the entire family. We encourage everyone, young and old, to mark your calendar and take time out of your busy schedules to be a part of something special.

WHAT ELSE: The weekly Senior High Youth will be "included" in this event!



The Next C.I.A. (Caring Individual Adults) Luncheon is Coming Up!

by Joanne Harris

The C.I.A. (Caring Individual Adults) is a group that is open to both mature men and women who often find themselves eating alone. This includes, but isn't limited to, anyone who has lost their spouse, been divorced or separated, or whose loved one is in the nursing home. Once a month, at 11:45AM, the Caring Hearts ministry provides a luncheon for CIA. And CIA is up and running for the Fall!

The next CIA lunch will be on Sunday, November 19 at 11:45AM. If you fit the "profile" for this group, consider this your personal invitation! If you DON'T, but you know someone who DOES, please feel free to invite them to join us and then BRING them! Yes- come with them, so they will feel more comfortable being with someone they know. Stay. Have lunch. Introduce your guest to others. What a great way to grow this group! Join us for lunch on Sunday, November 19 at 11:45AM!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don't forget- in the wee, small hours of the morning of Sunday Nov. 5th, we turn our clocks **BACK** one hour as we end Daylight Savings Time. So, mark your calendars, adjust your clock, and come to worship on the 5th of November ready to experience God in a powerful way!



YOUNG ADULTS/YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTRIES

As the Christmas Season speeds towards us, along with the New Year, I want to tell you about a couple of upcoming events for Young Adults and Young Families.

The first thing I want to do is get as many people as possible on board to participate in the "Read Through the Bible in a Year" study. This study starts on January 1st but there will be a few weeks after that a Young Family Member or Young Adult can join in, although I cannot promise that I will have enough Bibles ordered for the late comers, so you might have to wait until a new shipment arrives. A couple of things about the study: It is ALL online and all the discussion, questions, answers, and comments will be done through Facebook. I have chosen this study because it is easier to get more people involved if they can pick the times to read the Bible, and pick the times to contribute to the discussion. With so many things going on with Young Families and Young Adults, and trying to find a time that I thought would work for the most people, online seemed like the best option to reach as many as possible. If you know someone who you think would enjoy this Bible study, invite them! The best part of having an online Bible study is that we can reach so many more people! Lastly, if you come to this church, the Bibles are low cost or free to you! All you need to do is say that you would like to be in the study and a Bible will be provided for you to keep.

Also, I am hosting a Christmas Party at the Church on Saturday, December 2nd, 2017, 2pm-4pm. Snacks will be provided and there will be a Hot Chocolate Bar. There will be many activities for all ages. There will be micro parties going on for babies-kindergarten, 1st-7th grade, and adults. The adults will have a Christmas Sock Exchange. A brief overview of what a Christmas Sock Exchange is: you buy a pair of socks, fill them with little candies, trinkets, or whatever you want. Then you somehow tie the socks together, whether it be a bow, a bag, or gift wrap. Then we play a game and hopefully you don't end up with the gift you brought! Please don't spend more than \$10 per person. The last activity will be personalized family tree ornaments that we will gather as a group to make. "Ugly" Christmas sweaters are optional :)

Ashley Schmidt

Director of Young Adults/Young Families





7th Annual *Follow the Star* Holiday Bazaar

Friday, Nov. 17th 3 PM to 7 PM Saturday, Nov. 18th 8 AM to 11 AM
Special Preview for Seniors Nov. 17th 2 PM

This is an event which you and your family do not want to miss. We pride ourselves in beautifully displaying Nativity Sets as well as maintaining an old-fashioned, unique and high-quality bazaar for the seventh year. Spread the word and invite your friends to attend.

It is another great opportunity to connect others to Jesus Christ!

Our Ever-Popular Displays & Booths

Beautiful Nativities on display to celebrate the birth of Jesus

Candy Cane Café The Country Store Sweet Shoppe Secret Shoppers

Creative Hands Dinner-To-Go Pampered Pets The Cutting Edge

Hot Chocolate Bar **(New)** Grinch's Heart Deck the Halls
(New) Thanksgiving Blessings

(New) Homemade with Love **(New)** All Things Wooden **(New)** Feathered Nest

Friday meal: 4:30-6:30 PM Vegetable Soup & pulled pork sandwiches or baked beans
and a kid's meal of hot dog and homemade mac and cheese

Saturday meal: 8:00-10:30 AM Biscuits and sausage gravy

This is truly a team effort to plan and prepare for the upcoming Holiday Bazaar.

Thank you to everyone who has helped or will be helping in any way.

Many individuals are donating their time, talents, Nativities, and money for this project!

There are still many opportunities to serve!

November Group Work Times: Nov. 6th at 5 PM: Make Pizzas Nov. 13th at 5 PM: Make Sweet Breads

Items that are needed:

Cookies and candies
Nativity Set(s)
Hand crafted items
Home baked goods
 Including:
Low Fat baked goods
Sugar free baked goods
Gluten free items

Workers needed:

Set up tables for Nativities Mon. Nov. 13th at 6:30 PM
Make Grinch treats Tues Nov. 14th at 6:00 PM
Set up tables Wed. Nov. 15th after WNF
Set up booths & Nativities Thurs. Nov. 16th 9 AM
Final set up Fri., Nov. 17th 9 AM
Work at the Bazaar Friday and/or Saturday.
Clean up Saturday 11:30 AM
Pack up your own Nativity sets by Sunday, Nov. 19th

Profits will be used for local missions

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dwight & Joan Reynolds- 11/02/1978
 Kris & Heidi Hess- 11/03/1990
 Richard & Martha Rittenhouse- 11/06/1965
 Michael & Sandra McEwen- 11/08/1980
 Jim & Barbara Runyon- 11/18/1956
 Richard & Nancy Robinson- 11/18/1978
 Donald & Gerry Harmon- 11/19/1955
 John & Christy Bender- 11/22/1975
 Tim & Cathy Hay- 11/26/2006
 David & Laurie Etter- 11/29/1985

forever & always

UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

Joan Lawson- 11/01
 Gladys Johnson- 11/21
 Cheryl McCaw- 11/22
 Maxine Riley- 11/26

The deadline for the next
 Parish Visitor is
Friday, November 17, 8am.
 Please have all articles submitted
 by this date!

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Norma Adams	Carol Freeman/cancer	Bob Patterson
Hank & Betty Allan	Connie Freeman	Bill & Carolyn Pollock
Jamicynn Allen	Gail	Bryce Rathje
Sandy Anderson/cancer	Susie Hall/breast cancer	Cork Reid
Jan Dunham Aulife	Kathy Haney	Mary Rillie/health
Barbara K/illness	Rev Mark and family	Nick & Sarah Riordan
Alan Benson family	Michael Harris	Fred Rooth
Bobbi/health	Pam Heath	Lisa Rzepecki
Bob Bocox	Lola Helm/loss	Kris Salmon/cancer
Brady, Jacob, Camden	Marilyn Hessman	Ron Schmidt/healing
Stephanie Braucht family	Parker Hopkins/2yrs old/cancer	Ibrahim Simba/14/badly burned
Brenda Brandt	Don Howlett	Dianna Spencer
Debby Breeden	Noah Huston	Jim Stites
Joalice Bressan	Judy Inman	Deb Swank/lymphoma
Calvin	Jackson	Marvin Tharp family
Cox family	Cynthia Jennings family	Joe Thibedoux/lymphoma
Charlie David	Jeremy	Pam Truman
Dee Dellitt	Aubrey King/cancer	Tammy W
Kelsey Desplinter	Chad King/brain tumor	Rebecca Weihler/brain tumor
Noah Dewitt	Wayne King	Jo Weis
Dick & Beverly	Kristin	LaRay Wigdall family
Erma Dobbins	Allison Kuk	Eric Zimmerman
Jim Droste	Nadine Liby	Shut-ins/Nursing Home Resi- dents
Lauren Eggen/cancer	Tiffanee Lloyd	Military & families
Chris Engstrom	Brent McCurdy	All ill/in hospitals
Ron Engstrom	Lisa McWhorter	All who battle cancer
Soni Engstrom	Violet Meskan/Lyme disease	Hurricane/Flood Victims
Evelyn/1yr old/cancer	Monica	Our Church
Mary Flint	Linda Morrow	All who mourn
Jenifer Franks	Ember Pappas	

Mercer County Schools
 Administration, Teachers, Students
 and Staff
 National and Local Governmental
 Leaders



FUNDING OUR FAITH

Dear Church Family,

In an All-Church Meeting, the members came together and voted overwhelmingly to approve this project. God has now paved the way for us to move ahead and get started! All members and friends of the Aledo United Methodist Church will need to come together to pledge sufficient funds to make this campaign a reality. For this to work, we will need some substantial individual gifts. But more importantly, we will need *everyone* to participate—regardless of the amount that you can pledge.

To make this more manageable and to allow people to stretch their gift, we are spreading the campaign over three years. The chart below shows just one way that we can reach our goal with a variety of gifts. The chart also shows how givers can make manageable weekly gifts that add up to very nice pledges. Your gift can be any amount that fits your situation. **These gifts to the Capital Campaign need to be over and above our giving to the church budget.**

"Funding our Faith" Capital Campaign				
ft GIFTS	PLEDGE	AMOUNT/YR	AMOUNT/WEEK	TOTAL
	AMOUNT	OVER 3 YRS	OVER 3 YEARS	
30	\$ 500.00	\$ 166.67	\$ 3.21	\$ 15,000.00
30	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 333.33	\$ 6.41	\$ 30,000.00
20	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 833.33	\$ 16.03	\$ 50,000.00
15	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,666.67	\$ 32.05	\$ 75,000.00
10	\$10,000.00	\$ 3,333.33		\$ 100,000.00
6	\$25,000.00	\$ 8,333.33		\$ 150,000.00
1	\$50,000.00	\$ 16,666.67		\$ 50,000.00
112	TOTAL			\$ 470,000.00

We have had a good response to our capital campaign. On Commitment Sunday, we received 55 commitments totaling \$150,460.00. This commitment process will take some time to complete. If you have already committed, we thank you very much. If you have not yet committed, we would ask that you prayerfully consider making a pledge, taking into account the three-year time frame.

The future of our church is in God's hands. The Campaign Team, the leaders and participants of our congregation have consistently moved forward as we answer God's call on our church. We continue to answer this call as each of us commits to the support of this campaign. We need to stretch and dig deep to reach this lofty goal. But, with God's help, we will be able to get there! God is good, all the time! Pray and search how God is calling *YOU* to commit to:

"Funding Our Faith"!

Nancy & Richard Robinson (chair), Gary Heard, Doyce & Sue Hiscocks, Dwight Reynolds, Stan Nelson, Stan Swank- The Capital Campaign Team

Wednesday Night Fellowship November Meals

Come join us for delicious, free meals on the
following Wednesdays at 5:15 PM.

November 1st Ad Council is serving Goulash, green beans, tossed salad, Texas cake or pumpkin bars, and orange sherbet.

November 8th Diana Eggen, Ashley Schmidt, Lyn Franks will prepare French bread pizzas, Relishes, Cottage Cheese, Peaches, Desserts

November 15th United Methodist Men will serve a Traditional Thanksgiving turkey dinner will all the trimmings

November 22nd No WNF

November 29th Kathy Newswander and Sara Blaser will prepare Chili and/or Vegetable soup with oyster crackers, relish tray, cookies and ice cream.

Donations are accepted for our Brazil
Food Pantry mission.

Enjoy the food and fellowship!



CUNNINGHAM CHILDREN'S HOME & LESSIE BATES DAVIS NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE CHRISTMAS

It is time to gather gift cards for Christmas gifts for the children and families at these two places that the United Methodist Women, (and our entire Church), support throughout the year (and especially at Christmas)! Bring your gift cards for Amazon, Family Dollar, Gordmans, Old Navy, TJ Maxx, Wendy's, Taco Bell, Burger King, Casey's, Arby's, iTunes, Toys R Us, or Walmart to the office by November 22nd, and we will make sure they arrive at their destinations by December 1st. They have lots of shopping to do to be ready by Christmas! Thank you for your support !



Youth & Children's Page

VULNERABILITY

A crisp chill in the air will soon give way to dancing flakes of white, but long before we venture into December the convenient stores will be peddling Christmas. I've already started to see commercials, and we are on the threshold of November!

However, I am grateful for the extra time to reflect on our Savior and God's vulnerability through the Christmas story.

Have you ever thought about our Almighty being vulnerable? The fact that God came taking our flesh and being born as we are...a helpless, fragile infant. In the John account of His birth, the Scripture states that He "revealed" Himself to us.

Why would the Creator and Sustainer of all take our simple, mortal frame only to endure the same joys and sorrows, fears and disappointments, hope and dreams from the stable to the cross?

I believe it is because God wanted more than anything to be in relationship with us. God allowed Himself to become vulnerable, because the only way to be deeply connected with someone is through sincere vulnerability.

When we aggressively hold back, we don't experience real acceptance, because the person trying to connect with us never knows who we truly are....only what we are pretending to be. To be known and cherished for who you are is to be vulnerable. Being seen and accepted means putting you at risk of being rejected. Nobody likes rejection; we've all experienced that crippling blow. But the equation is pretty straight forward: Heartfelt, real relationships need connections. Making connections means being vulnerable. Being vulnerable means risk. Eeewww.

Yet STILL God becomes one with us, fully sharing in our lives, so we may know and deeply connect in His. WOW! God loved us so much that He risked EVERYTHING to be connected with us. He became vulnerable for us to know Him and in return allowing ourselves to be known! His mortality teaches us that He values and accepts us UNCONDITIONALLY!

Vulnerability does NOT equal weakness but an UNCOMMON STRENGTH leading to authenticity and availability...Two powerful tools that God can use for His glory.

So in this moment, I charge us as followers of the King to embrace vulnerability rather than using our faith to fight against it! Will you join me?

What an amazing turnout for the "Bring Your Bible To School" Celebration! 20 AWESOME SOULS got up before 6am to show their faith at AUMC and the Mercer County School District! So great a cloud of witnesses!



DRIVE TO THRIVE

*Runs September-May

*4 Points Possible for Attendance to any Youth or Children's Event: Yourself, Brought A Friend, Brought Your Bible, Want To Teach A Lesson

*Quarterly Prizes

Who will win the BIG Prize!?!

Thank you to the 19 TAG Members who came to lay their burdens before our Savior and pray with/for their fellow family members. I am so proud to serve and teach such beautiful young Christians!

SR HIGH TAG: November 10th-11th, 7pm-8am
JR HIGH TAG: December 1st-2nd, 7pm-8am

Melissa Coleman

Director of Youth and Children's Ministries



COMING SOON!

2/3rds of God: 11/18, 10am-1pm

Youth Fellowship: 11/19, 11:30-12:30pm

VETERAN DAY OBSERVANCE

Veteran's Day is on Saturday, November 11. The next day, Sunday, November 12, we will honor veterans at all 3 worship services. And this year, we are adding a new layer to this important observance. We are asking you to submit a picture of your veteran(s) to include in a slide show we will run as part of worship that day. If you would like to submit a picture, you can either email it to the church (office@myaledoumc.com) or bring a "hard copy" to the church office. (If you bring a "hard copy", please put it in an envelope or folder and clearly mark both the envelope/folder AND the picture with A. the name of the person in the picture and B. who the picture should be returned to.) The deadline for submission is Monday, November 6.

As a lead-in to our Veteran's Day observance, starting on Sunday, October 15th, everyone has been encouraged to select a plastic figure from a basket in the sanctuary. The figures represent members of the Armed Forces, along with Police and Fire Personnel. You are encouraged to put your figure in a prominent place, reminding you to pray for our veterans and first responders- those who put themselves in harm's way for our protection!

CHURCH WEBSITE

Have you looked at your church's website? If not, go to www.myaledoumc.com and see what's going on! Not only can you see the "basics" about the Aledo United Methodist Church, you can find the most current church calendar. Also, the monthly newsletter can be found on our website. Stop by and check it out!



CONNECTION COINS FOR NOVEMBER

The Connection Coins (or as Rev. Mark calls them, the "thinly-veiled Pringles cans"!) are doing great things in the life of the Aledo UMC! On the 2nd Sunday of each month, during the Children's Moment, the ushers pass around those cans. You are encouraged to drop your change in- although we WILL accept "folding money"! And that change goes toward helping fund a ministry within the church.

This month (November 12th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward an awesome ministry- The Fellowship Café. One of the fastest growing and most-used ministries on Sunday mornings, the Fellowship Café offers a place for people to get some gourmet coffee and a bite to eat while they share in some powerful fellowship. As our Sunday morning attendance grows, so does the number of people reached by the Café. 100% of anything you put in those "thinly-veiled Pringles cans" on November 12th will help fund that valuable ministry. What a GREAT way to help connect people to Jesus Christ. So, bring your change on November 12th!



THANK YOU!

by Rev. Mark

On behalf of Joanne, Sam and Hunter, I would like to sincerely thank all of you for the amazing outpouring for Pastor Appreciation Month. We were humbled and overwhelmed by your generosity- both in the gifts you gave us and the wonderful things you said. We feel incredibly blessed to serve alongside each of you. God is doing amazing things at The Aledo United Methodist Church and we are excited and honored to be a part of it! God is good, all the time!

**PRAYER
WALK
THROUGH THE
CHURCH
EVERY
SUNDAY
MORNING
AT 7AM.**

Need a ride to church?

Contact Greg Cobert at 309-737-5621, or the office at 309-582-2169 to make arrangements to be picked up.



**WORSHIP
TIMES:
Sundays 8AM,
9:15AM,
10:30AM
Sunday School
9:15AM**

GIVE TILL IT FEELS GOOD!!

I wanted to let you know how our church is doing financially this year. Giving towards the budget as of September 30th totals \$215,443.17 which seems like a lot of money but it is less than we received last year at this time and is considerably behind our budgeted amount. As of the end of September, our Church had outstanding bills including one month's conference obligations totaling \$10,748. This is not bad for this time of year but we will need to make up this amount by the end of the year. The Quarterly Giving Statements will be mailed soon. Please look at your statement and make sure your giving is up to date. More importantly, make sure your gifts represent and acknowledge all the blessings God has given you. You know you are getting really connected to the Church and to God when the more you give the better it feels.

Our Capital Campaign, "Funding Our Faith", kicked off October 15th with Commitment Sunday. This is an exciting time for our church as we make capital improvements that will set our church up for the future. We will need many large gifts to make this campaign successful. More importantly we will need everyone's participation regardless of the size of the gift. As a member of the Capital Committee, I ask you to give generously to this campaign. As the Treasurer of the church, I remind everyone that gifts to the capital campaign need to be over and above gifts to our budget.

Thank you for keeping our Church financially strong

Dwight Reynolds, Treasurer

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(WEEKLY NEED \$6,689)

Date	10/01/2017	10/08/2017	10/15/2017	10/22/2017
Attendance	248	226	251	252
Receipts (Toward Budget)	\$7,058.12	\$4,422.00	\$5,672.15	\$4,783.00

