

The Parish Visitor



November 2024

Visit us at myaledoumc.com

Share the Harvest

On the back of our weekly bulletin you'll find a box of "Vital Statistics" which records attendance and giving from the previous week. It also indicates that \$6,400 is needed per week to meet our general fund obligations, and if you've been following our vital statistics, you'll notice that we frequently fall short of what is needed. Thankfully, our church has traditionally lived within its budget so that by the end of the year, what we spend is less than what we budget. However, those efforts are not enough to make up for all our shortfall.

Our finance committee is projecting a \$30,000 deficit by the end of the year. You may be wondering what's included in that \$30,000 shortfall. Thankfully, it does not include our utilities, salaries, insurance, or programming expenses. All those have been paid on time throughout the year. However, one of the areas where we fall short is in paying our Conference apportionments which represents our denominational "overhead." It's what we pay because we are United Methodists, and it represents an important part of our witness to the world. For example, our apportionments sustain ministries such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which provides millions of dollars of aid in areas affected by natural disasters or poverty.

To meet all of our 2024 financial obligations, we are once again launching "Share the Harvest" to raise \$30,000. There are three levels within that goal: our "bronze goal" is \$10,000; our "silver goal" is \$20,000; and our "golden goal" is \$30,000.

Please participate in Share the Harvest by giving above and beyond your regular giving, whether that's an extra dollar or an extra \$100. It all adds up and it all helps us close the gap in our giving. Please mark your extra giving for "Share the Harvest" or simply, "Harvest." If you haven't given at all this year, or if you've given sporadically, anything you give may be marked for Share the Harvest.

(Continued on page 2)

SPECIAL DATES:

- ~ November 12 Office Closed for Veterans Day
- ~ November 12 Loving Hearts food prep 1:00 PM
- ~ November 14 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1:00 PM
- ~ November 17 Mission meeting 5:15 PM
- ~ November 17 Trustee meeting 6:00 PM
- ~ November 17 Finance Meeting 6:45 PM
- ~ November 17 Ad Council meeting 7:00 PM
- ~ November 18 PV articles due
- ~ November 18 UM Men meeting 6:00 PM
- ~ November 22 Christmas Market Place 4:00 PM
- ~ November 23 Christmas Market Place 9:00 AM
- ~ November 24 Hanging of the Greens 4:00 PM
- ~ November 25 Endowment Memorial Meeting 6:30 PM
- ~ November 28 Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- ~ November 29 Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

We'll also be engaging in another spiritual practice in November by making our annual pledges to the church. When we prayerfully make our pledges to the church, we do so by faith, trusting that God will provide us with the means for us to take care of our homes, our families, and our church. Pledge cards will be sent out with our quarterly statements. Our pledge cards will also give you the opportunity to give toward our new roof. Cost for a new roof over the sanctuary will be \$47,550. So far, we have received \$3,400; the rest will be covered by a low-interest bank loan which we plan to repay within three years. Any money pledged toward the roof in excess of expenses will be designated for the building fund.

Please prayerfully consider how you might participate in our end-of-year "Share the Harvest" campaign and how you might support our church next year through our pledge drive.

Connecting People to Christ with you,
Pastor Dave

Connecting with the Word

As believers in Christ, we are shaped by the Word of God. Following are the scriptures suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary for each week in October. I encourage you to read these passages to prepare your hearts for worship, whether in-person, on the radio, on Facebook, or on our church website, Myaledoumc.com.

All Saints Sunday, November 3: Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:11-14; and Mark 12:28-34. Holy Communion will be served.

Sunday, November 10: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; and Mark 12:38-44.

Sunday, November 17: 1 Samuel 1:4-20; Psalm 113; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8.

Sunday, November 24: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132; Revelation 1:4b-8' John 18:33-37.



Connecting People to Christ with you,

MOUNTAIN OF LOVE

In our final tally in our September food drive for the Mercer County Food Pantry, we collected and donated 818 nonperishable food items plus \$581.00.. Thank you! Your love and generosity will provide food to those in need.



Thank You Homecoming Float Committee

Thank you to All Who Helped with our AUMC Mercer County Homecoming Parade Float
We promoted Aledo United Methodist Church by entering our New Orleans's Café DuMonde float in the parade October 3rd and passed out personalized chip clips and Mardi Gras beads.

Thank you to:

Gary Heard for providing his trailer.

Bob and Andrea Parker for providing space in their garage to decorate and house the float.

Float committee members for designing the float: Pastor Dave and Candice, Andrea Parker, Mindy Rushford, Ruth Dulaney

Wayne and Vi Darsnek for providing the Café structure

Pastor Dave and Candice for providing the children's kitchen set, bistro set, and Café Du Monde caulk board with the menu

Mindy Rushford for providing the signage, lamppost and baker's costumes

Float decorators: Candice Schultz, Pastor Dave, Andrea and Bob Parker, Wayne and Vi Darsnek, Ashley Thomas, Mary Flint, Ruth Dulaney

Those riding the float: Ashley Stice, Ollie Stice, Carly Stice, Pam Truman

Float drivers: Bob and Andrea Parker

Float walkers passing out goodies to the community: Candice Schultz, Paula, Nelson, Vi Darsnek, Max Tatum, Finn Tatum, Kula Naeole, Ashley Thomas, Terra Hansen, Ruth Dulaney

AUMC Bus driver: Pastor Dave

If you would like to be involved with our Holly Days Disney themed float on

December 6th, please contact the church office or Ruth Dulaney.



Membership Opportunity

Have you been attending Aledo UMC regularly but have never joined the church? If you've been faithful in your attendance, why not really connect with us through church membership? Our Fifth Sunday services have become the perfect time to welcome new members because everyone is worshipping together, but it's not the only time to join. Interested? Contact Pastor Dave.

We need you!

We need volunteers starting in November for the Tech Booth, Fellowship Café, and Hospitality Greeters. We really need more helpers in each area! Contact Ruth Dulaney if you can help.



THE FORGE

WHERE LIVES TAKE SHAPE

- Forge will meet at 6 pm Sunday, November 3 & 10.
- Please contact Pastor Dave or Kaitlyn Marceleno to make sure you are receiving text messages about our gatherings and activities.

TOBY MAC, MERCYME & ZACH WILLIAMS

are coming to the Vibrant Arena at the Mark

Sunday, November 17 at 7 pm.

Our youth will go together as a group with our youth fund paying a portion of the ticket price. Tickets have already been purchased; however, one or two might still be available. Contact Pastor Dave if interested.



Carving on the Green

John and Nicole Taylor hosted Forge on Sunday, October 20 for pumpkin carving, smores, a campfire, and more.

Be sure to join us for our upcoming Forge events!

On Sunday, November 3, we will work with the Missions Team to prepare and pack our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.



November Honorees of the Month

Debbie and Stan Swank

It's nice to have something—or someone—you can count on. And for twelve years, members and friends of Aledo UMC could count on someone who is friendly, helpful, knowledgeable, and efficient when they called or stopped by the church office. And for twelve years, that person has been Debbie Swank.

However, she is retiring this month; her last official day in the office will be Friday, November 15, and sometime after that she and her husband Stan will travel to Arizona for the winter where they will have the joy of being with more of their family.

Throughout her twelve years of service, Debbie has served with integrity, faithfully making our Monday morning bank deposits. She's managed calendar, published the Parish Visitor, ordered supplies, sent out Call-Em-All's, supported Walk to Emmaus, kept the rest of the staff on their toes, and so much more.

Debbie will be missed. Thankfully, she will remain on our counting team when she and Stan return in spring.

We also want to honor Stan Swank this month. Stan has served our congregation in a variety of ways, most notably as a trustee where he's often been the person to get our boiler up and running, or change an electrical outlet, unclog a toilet. He also makes house calls to the parsonage when repairs are needed there. Stan is also one of our most faithful grillers—Yum!

Stan has also been a faithful member of our United Methodist Men as well as our Wednesday morning Men's Bible Study.

We will miss Debbie and Stan and wish them well on their new adventure of retirement!



Retirement and Recognition of Debbie Swank

Debbie Swank is retiring! Please join the Pastor Staff Parish Relations Committee (PSPRC) of Aledo UMC on **Sunday, November 10, 2024** for a Swank going away party. The Swank's will be recognized during all three services. Coffee, cake and brownies will be served in the Fellowship café/Chapel area. You will have a chance to visit and wish the Swank's well on their next adventure in Arizona. Please join us.

Sponsors for our November Radio Broadcasts

November 3rd—Kathy Jenkins in loving memory of her sons Brian and David

November 10th—Pollocks in honor of their anniversary

November 17th—Anonymous

November 24th—Mary and Paul Flint in loving memory of Mary's mom, Maxine Riley

Aledo UMC has a wonderful ministry partnership with WRMJ Radio 102.3 FM. Our services are now broadcast every Sunday at 5:10 pm, thanks to your sponsorship.

We encourage you to download the WRMJ app so you can listen to our broadcast live on your smartphone, tablet, or computer. The app is available free at your app store.



WRMJ RADIO BROADCAST.

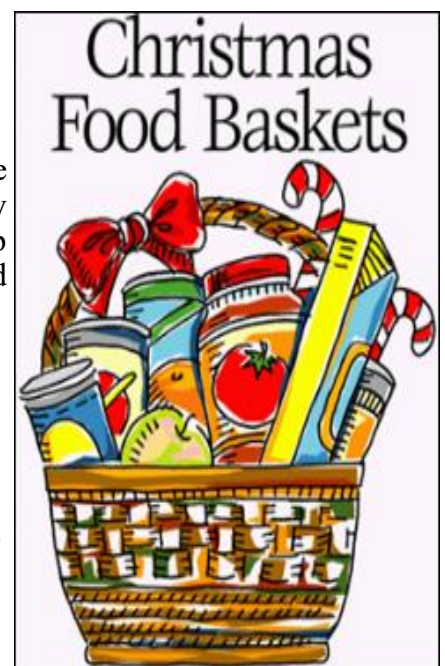
We need sponsors!

Each Sunday at 5:10PM we broadcast our 8am Worship Service on WRMJ. Would you like to sponsor this? It costs \$30 to sponsor a Sunday broadcast, and is a wonderful way to get our Services out to the public and to those who cannot make it out to church. If you are interested, let the office know at 582-2169. If you would like to sponsor in memory of a loved one, give us the information and we will acknowledge it in the bulletin and in the announcements.

CONNECTION COINS FOR NOVEMBER

The Connection Coins (the "thinly-veiled Pringles cans"!) are doing great things in the life of the Aledo UMC! On the 2nd Sunday of each month, those cans are set out. 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.

Each year here at Aledo United Methodist Church we share our blessings with others in the form of Holiday food baskets. These will be prepared in-house, and donations are needed to provide supplies for the baskets. Your coins will help make that happen. 100% of the money that is collected in the cans on the 10th of November will be used to help fund this valuable Ministry. What a GREAT way to help connect people to Jesus Christ. So, remember to bring your change on Sunday, November 10th.



thank you

Whether it was a card, a email, a hand shake, or a Prayer, your expression of support during Pastor Appreciation Month have once again overwhelmed Candice and me. Serving Aledo UMC has been the jy of my career I have learned so much over these past 4-plus years, and I thank you for the positive growth environment which you, as a congregation, have created. Together, let us to continue to connect people to Christ as we grow together.

Pastor Dave

**Aledo UMC offers two
Bible Studies for Men**

- **Men's Bible Study every Wednesday Morning at 6:30AM** . Come for breakfast and a time of studying God's Word. The men are currently studying James.
- **Saturday 8-9:15AM Men's Bible Study.** Meets once a month; our November meeting is on the 2nd.

Thank you to everyone for all of your Prayers during my recent troubles. I could feel the power of your Prayers.

Stan Swank

Thank You!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

You are invited to join us for our Tuesday morning Bible study as we preview, "God Relents," a project by Pastor Dave. Studies begin at 9 am and are open to all who are curious about God.

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ at the UMC Aledo, IL

Thank you for your generous gifts! May God bless you as together we want to show his love as the hands, feet, and heart of Christ

In his service,

Midwest Mission Family

Thank You!

**2024 Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, November 24th 3:00-5:30PM**

Kid's Crafts
Banner Making
Cookie Decorating
Sanctuary Decorating
Wonderful Meal & Fellowship
Lighting of the Christmas Tree
Christmas Story
Christmas Carols



*A time to prepare our hearts for
the Christmas Season.*

Fun for all ages!

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dwight and Joan Reynolds 11/02/1978
 Chris and Heidi Hess 11/03/1990
 Michael and Sandy McEwen 11/08/1980
 Bill and Carolyn Pollock 11/10/1968
 Richard and Nancy Robinson 11/18/1978
 John and Christy Bender 11/22/1975
 Tim and Cathy Hay 11/26/2006



UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

Linda Earl 11/22/1949



The deadline for the next Parish Visitor is
Monday November 18th
 All articles must be submitted by this date!

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Alicia/healing	Stan Hunt/health
Jodie Andress	Kathy Jenkins/recovery
Miles Arevalo/health	Jodi/health
Kirsten Autery & friend	Meyer Johnson/recovery
Tom Balmer/health	Dave Kozlowski/cancer
Bishop David Bard	John and Debbie/health
Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	Family of Kenny Landis
Bill Breeden/health	Greg LeHue/health
Rena Brown/mental health	Gary Long/health
Karen Buchanan/health	Family of Kassie Maas
Family of Greg Campbell	Laura McGinnis/health
Neil David/hospice	Family of Sharon Moffitt
Connie Dellitt/health	Linda Morrow/health
Jim Droste/health	Family of Jane Mumm
Stacey Dutton/health	Mike Newsom/healing
Hal Earl/health	Kula Naeole/health
Sonjia Fell/healing	Kathy Newswander/cancer treatment
Amber Fitzsimmons/cancer	Jennifer Olson/cancer
Jayne Fitzsimmons/healing	Paul & family/addiction
Renee Forber/healing	Baby Peyton/health
Marie Fredrickson/InterVarsity	Marion Pinkham/health
Gabrielle/FMD	Bill Pollock/health
The Gerber Family	Janice Pollock/cancer
Scott Guyton/recovery	Richard Rockhold/health
Bruce Hall/health	Chrissy Riddell/cancer
Family of Jim Hansen	Don Schroeder/health
Andrew Hofer/FCA	Derek Schroeder/health
	Pastor Dave & Candice



Patricia Short/peace	Elene Waters/health
Ann Simmons/results	David Wheeler/healing
Joyce Smith/cancer	Mike Willis/Nena Visser/health cancer
Dianna Spencer health	Dick Zimmerman/health
Family of Dave Stanley	Liz Zimmerman/health
Family of Amy Studer	Acceptance, Respect, Dignity, Equality
Stan Swank	AUMC family & committees
Finn Tatum/health	All of Your Children
Pam Thorton/health	Brookstone, nursing home, and Vashti residents
Dale, Debby, Ashley Thomas	Areas affected by hurricanes, Gaza Strip, Israel, Palestine, Russia, Sudan, Ukraine, World Peace
Verla Thomson/health	Kind Words, Kind Hearts
Tony Tomsha/health	
Family of Cherie Tracy	
The Vickory Family	

ALEDO UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS
Marketplace

JOIN US!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - 4:00-7:00PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - 9:00-11:00AM

CRAFTS, BAKED GOODS, RUDOLPH'S RERUNS
(2ND HAND CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS),
RADA CUTLERY, AND MORE FOR SALE!

CAFE WITH SPECIALTY DRINKS & TREATS:
* CINNAMON ROLLS (SATURDAY)

Reverse Advent Buckets

From December 1st through Christmas Eve, drop a donation—small or large in your advent buckets. Those donations will be sent to Heifer International where they will be used to purchase various animals—or wells—Please return buckets by Christmas Eve.



Coming in December

Mark your calendar for these special events coming next month:

Sunday, December 1, First Sunday in Advent: Pick up your Reverse Advent Buckets and begin filling them with your spare change. All proceeds will be sent to Heifer International.

Friday, December 6, 5 to 8 pm: Aledo Holly Days featuring the Electric Parade.

Sunday, December 8, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm: Omelet Breakfast served by our United Methodist Men.

Sunday, December 8, 10:30 am: Christmas Music Fest featuring the Bell and Chancel Choirs.

Sunday, December 15, 10:30 am: Children's Christmas Program.

Tuesday, December 24, 7 pm and 11 pm: Christmas Eve worship services featuring the Chancel and Bell Choirs at the 7 pm service. Please return your Reverse Advent Buckets.

Sunday, December 29, 9:15 am: Fifth Sunday Worship Schedule with one service only at 9:15 followed by a soup luncheon served by our United Methodist Men.

**Fellowship Meal
To celebrate Thanksgiving
For all Vashti Residents**

November 25, 2024

6:00 PM

Vashti Community Room

Served by Aledo United Methodist Church

Mission Team

Fun Trivia Game after the meal

If you would like to join in this Vashti outreach, come help prepare the meal in the church kitchen at **3:00 PM** on **November 25th** or help serve the meal at **6:00 PM** at Vashti. Contact Ruth Dulaney

Have You Loomed with Us Yet?

Recently our mat weaving team completed their sixth plastic sleeping mat for the Midwest Mission which ships them overseas to be used by refugees of war and natural disaster. Pictured from left are Nancy Robinson, Shari Chandler, Sue Galambos, and Denise Patterson.

You are welcome to become a mat weaver on any Tuesday morning at either 9 am or 10:30 am.

A big thank you goes out to Andrea Roberts, our West District Administrative Assistant, who helped deliver two mats plus other supplies to the Midwest Mission.



Our Church in Mission

AUMC made its mark for missions in lots of ways this month.

Fourteen volunteers volunteered at River Bend Food Bank on Thursday, September 26.

Our United Methodist Men participated in a workday at Camp Summit on Saturday, October 19.

Several ladies brought their sewing machines to church on Tuesday, October 15 to make sanitary supplies for the Midwest Mission which will then send them to women in Third World nations.



Don't forget Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Boxes are due November 3rd!

Need a ride to church?

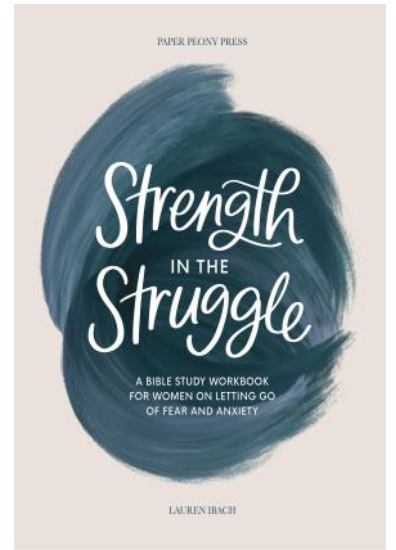
Contact the office at 309-582-2169 or Jon Swanson at 309-371-9501 to make arrangements



Sunday Evening Women's Bible Study

For our Fall Women's Book Study, we will be reading "Strength in the Struggle". We will meet Sunday evenings at 6pm beginning Sept 8th.

Natalie Nelson leads this study which is held at 6 pm most—but not every—Sunday. Interested persons may contact her for details.



The United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, November 18th. There will be a meal, a short business meeting, and lots of fellowship. All men are welcome!



Hy-Vee Baked Product Schedule

Our HyVee bread and many other goodies are delivered on Saturday morning. They are available for you to pick up in the Fellowship Café area when you come to Church Services on Sunday morning. The bread is in the lobby outside the church office on Monday morning 8 –9AM for you to select bread products for your neighbors and yourself.



FINANCIAL MATTERS

(WEEKLY NEED TO HOLD STEADY \$6,018.00)

Date	10/06/2024	10/13/2024	10/20/2024	10/27/2024
Attendance	168	161	213	183
Receipts				
(Toward Budget)	\$7135.00	\$7922.00	\$3899.00	\$2113.99

