

# The Parish Visitor

## June, 2017



Visit us at [myaledoumc.com](http://myaledoumc.com)

### Are You Ready?

It's funny how life works. We started in the ministry almost exactly 20 years ago- August of 1997. A year before that, Joanne and I talked and came to the same conclusion- God was calling us into the ministry. We spent almost a full year (I gave my employer 9 months' notice that I was leaving!) getting ready. In July of that year, I spent two weeks on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington (My alma mater, by the way!) attending what was then called The License to Preach School. At the end of that 2-week period, assuming you make it through, you are then eligible to be appointed to serve a church as a Licensed Local Pastor.

I finished the class at the end of July, we were appointed to our first church- The Christ United Methodist Church in Fairview Heights, Illinois on August 15 and I started full-time seminary on August 25. The next three years were a blur- full-time student, Associate Pastor at the church, moving to a new community, trying to juggle all of that AND a family. It was a tough 3 years. We then spent four MORE years at that church, post-seminary.

One of the great things we got to be a part of there was exponential church growth. That church grew from 200/week average worship attendance to 800/week average worship attendance in the 7 years we were there. That is an opportunity few pastors have the joy of experiencing. I feel incredibly blessed. We were able to take that "DNA" with us to our next church, where we saw growth as well. (Not NEARLY that volume of growth, but growth nonetheless.) And after 8 years there, God brought us here. And again, we have seen growth in the church. It's something I NEVER take for granted, because it's something not every pastor gets to experience firsthand.

If there is anything I have learned from 20 years of church growth, it's that there is a foundational truth to the whole thing. And that foundational truth is this- churches grow, at the end of the day, from one person telling one person. Ad campaigns. Radio spots. TV commercials. Social Media campaigns. Direct mailers. They all have their place. And they all have their impact. But they all pale in comparison to the power of one person telling one person.

When you tell somebody what God has done in your life and follow that up with an invitation to join you at church and see what it's all about, you can radically impact a life. Look at it this way- as I write this, we are averaging 286 people/week in worship attendance. If half of those 286- only HALF- each got ONE person to come to church this year- just ONE, ALL year- that would mean we would see an attendance increase of 50%...in ONE year! If ONLY half brought ONLY one each. That's not only possible, it is infinitely "do-able"!

Do you like what is going on at your church? If you do, then it's time to step up and help us get over the next hurdle. It's time to be like those great theologians The Doobie Brothers and start takin' it to the streets! I have done ALL I can do. We have grown absolutely as much as we CAN grow based on what I can do. BUT- if you are willing to step up, step out and partner with me to help connect more and more people to Jesus Christ- well, the sky's the limit! So...are you ready?

### SPECIAL DATES:

- June 1 Pie Making for Rhubarb Fest 4PM
- June 2 Rhubarb Fest Luncheon 11AM-1PM
- June 3 Rhubarb Fest Luncheon 11AM-1PM
- June 4 Communion & Food Pantry Sunday
- June 8 Caring Hearts Food Prep 9AM
- June 8 MCSEEF Meeting 7PM
- June 15 Naomi Wesleyan Circle 11:30AM
- June 18 Father's Day
- June 19 UM Men Meeting 6PM
- June 22 Sewing Group 9AM-3PM
- June 22 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM
- June 22 UMW Executive Board Meeting 4:45PM
- June 23 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- June 23 TAG Potluck 1-3PM
- June 25 CIA Luncheon 11:30AM
- June 25 Youth Fellowship 11:30AM
- June 25 Trustees Meeting 6:15PM
- June 25 Finance Meeting 6:15PM
- June 25 Administrative Council Meeting 7:30PM

# CURRENT & NEW SERMON SERIES

by Rev. Mark

On Sunday, June 4, we start the second round of a very interesting and unusual approach to sermons- **UPICKEM2!** Every week, YOU have the choice of three Bible characters. You will have the opportunity to vote on which one you want to see the next week. The one with the most votes will be the one I preach on! But instead of a normal "sermon", each week's message is a monologue from the character themselves. The characters that don't get picked "slide" down to become choices in later weeks. The weeks of the series look like this:

**Sunday, June 4-** Old Testament Choices: Abraham, David or Job

**Sunday, June 11-** New Testament Choices: Barnabas, John the Baptist or Paul

**Sunday, June 18-** Old Testament Choices: Moses and the other 2 existing OT choices

**Sunday, June 25-** New Testament Choices: Peter and the other 2 existing NT choices

**Sunday, July 2-** Old Testament Choices: Noah and the other 2 existing OT choices

Make sure you vote and make sure you come each week to be a part of this unique approach to preaching!



## WORSHIP TECH OPPORTUNITIES

AS we prepare to expand our Sunday morning worship opportunities, the need for "worship tech" also increases. Do you like electronics? Then your church needs YOU! We need people to help operate the sound system and computer during Sunday morning worship services. What do you need in order to run these things? The list is LONG- a willingness to serve, and...that would be about it! The systems, designed specifically for churches, are quite simple to operate. (Don't let all the knobs and switches intimidate you!) The great part about this ministry is that it happens during worship, when you're in church anyway! Do you feel God calling you to step up and help? Talk to Rev. Mark. Mike Millar or Ruth Dulaney.

## DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERMON?

If you miss church on Sunday, there are TWO ways you can STILL experience the sermon. You can go to the church website ([www.myaledoumc.com](http://www.myaledoumc.com)) and select "Sermon Video Archives". It will take you to videos of the sermons- taken from our live streaming on Facebook at 8AM every Sunday morning. You can also go to [www.stickwithjesus.com](http://www.stickwithjesus.com). Scroll down the main page until you find the date you missed- that day's blog will be a transcript of the sermon! If you would like to subscribe and receive a daily email link, email Rev. Mark at [revmark@stickwithjesus.com](mailto:revmark@stickwithjesus.com). Please share these links with your friends and family.

## AN OUTREACH IDEA

Here's a low-risk, easy way to introduce others to faith- share Rev. Mark's website with them. Described as "a daily look at life as a shaved-headed, earring-wearing, rock-drumming United Methodist minister", [www.stickwithjesus.com](http://www.stickwithjesus.com) features a "thought for the day", written by Rev. Mark- a new one is literally added daily! There is also a daily Bible verse AND a Prayer Request page, where you can (anonymously if you want) ask for prayer! Check it out- if you would like to subscribe and receive a daily email link, email Rev. Mark at [revmark@myaledoumc.com](mailto:revmark@myaledoumc.com) and let him know.



## PASTOR'S CURRENT BIBLE STUDIES

### The Trinity: Practically Speaking

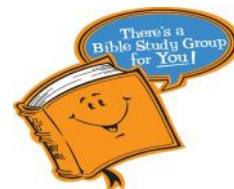
**WHAT:** Rev. Mark's current Tuesday morning Bible Study

**WHEN:** Tuesdays @ 9AM

**WHERE:** In the Fellowship Cafe'

**WHY:** Three Gods, or One, or Three-in-One? Since the word Trinity does not appear in the Bible, many people wonder whether the doctrine is anything more than an intellectual puzzle created by theologians. This book takes readers on a guided tour of the logic leading to understanding God as a Trinity. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the Bible (and in Christian experience) are all vital to the reality of salvation. All three save. A robust understanding of the Trinity fosters a greater and more transformed Christian life.

**WHAT ELSE:** The books are...FREE and it is NOT too late to join!



### The Gospel of Luke

**WHAT:** Rev. Mark's current Wednesday morning MEN'S Bible Study

**WHEN:** Wednesdays @ 6:30AM

**WHERE:** In the Fellowship Cafe' next to the sanctuary

**WHY:** With a historian's precision, Luke's Gospel shows painstaking care both in detail and in expression. Of equal distinction is the universal appeal of the Gospel. Dr. William Barclay wrote that this Gospel makes "Christ the open door for all without reserve." In many areas that were either minimized or neglected by the other Gospel writers, Luke's account is more complete, emphasizing prayer, the dignity of women, and praise of God. Barclay's insightful comments help each of us to see the infinitude of God's love through Luke's eyes.

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

## PRAYER CHALLENGE

by Rev. Mark

Charles Haddon Spurgeon was born June 19, 1834 in Kelvedon, United Kingdom. By the time he died on January 31, 1892 in Menton, France, he was known as the "prince of preachers". He was a Baptist minister who saw enormous blessings throughout his ministry. Thousands of people came to Jesus Christ through his preaching. He was known to draw as many as 10,000 people at a time!

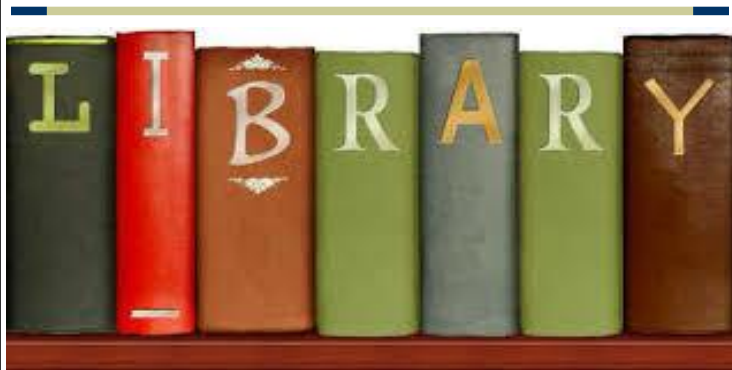
But Spurgeon never took credit for the success of his ministry. Instead, he always pointed to a VERY specific thing- the hundreds of people who came before worship services and prayed for God's blessing. He consistently said that any success he had came from God in answer to those prayers. He often referred to those prayer groups as the church's "boiler room."

Think about that- one the preeminent preachers...ever...attributed his success to folks sitting in a room...praying. There is GREAT power in prayer. It is NOT the least we can do- it's the MOST we can do. With that in mind, here's my challenge. I challenge you to spend the next 3 months in prayer. No- I DON'T mean constant prayer! But for the next 3 months, pray for your church. Pray for the new worship service. Pray for the Youth and Children's ministries. Pray for Sunday School and Adult Bible studies. Pray for the 8,000 people in Mercer County who don't have a church home. Pray for...me!

We stand on the threshold of absolutely amazing things. God is moving in powerful ways. How we respond to His call will define where we go from here. And so...we pray. Spurgeon told his fellow pastors, "Brethren, we shall never see much change for the better in our churches in general till the prayer meeting occupies a higher place in the esteem of Christians".

## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Four framed stained-glass windows have been removed from the west side of the church building because of "water/weather issues". They will not be reinstalled. Therefore, the Trustees Committee is making them available to anyone who would like them **in return for a donation to the church**. Each framed window is 38"X61". They are "first come, first served" and you will need be able to get them from the 2nd floor of the church to **your home**. Please contact the Church Office if you are interested.



**VISIT THE CHURCH  
LIBRARY TODAY!!**

## Evelyn Yerkey's Birthday!!!

**Evelyn's 90th birthday is  
June 27<sup>th</sup>. Let's honor her  
with a card shower! You can  
send her birthday wishes at:** to

**Evelyn Yerkey  
Genesis Senior Living Center  
309 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Room 202-B  
Aledo, IL. 61231**



## HOLY LAND TRIP

by Rev. Mark

In January of 2018, Joanne and I will be helping lead a trip to the Holy Land. And WHAT a trip it will be- it will focus on following the path of Jesus' life, from Bethlehem all the way to the Garden Tomb.

We will fly out of St. Louis on Jan. 8, 2018, landing in Tel Aviv on the 9<sup>th</sup>. That night, we will stay in a hotel in Bethlehem. From there, it is a whirlwind tour that leads through Jerusalem to the Garden Tomb...and beyond! Then, on the 17<sup>th</sup>, we fly back into St. Louis.

Bethlehem. Nazareth. Jerusalem. The Upper Room. The Garden of Gethsemane. The Garden Tomb. Renewing wedding vows in Cana of Galilee. Worship on the Sea of Galilee. Remembering baptisms at the Jordan River. Communion at the Garden Tomb. It's hard to even wrap your head around. To say that Joanne and I are excited about this trip is a GROSS understatement! And the possibility of taking this trip with part of our church family makes it that much better!

**If you have ANY interest in being a part of this trip, please contact Rev. Mark as soon as possible. It's NOT too late!**



## CHURCH WEBSITE

Have you looked at your church's website? If not, go to [www.myaledoumc.com](http://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 church current calendar. Also, the monthly newsletter can be found on our website. Stop by and check it out!



## THE NURSERY

Have you ever wondered why churches need good, safe, well-staffed nursery programs? Well, wonder no more! The reason churches need strong nursery programs is that, for folks with young children, the nursery is often THE most important part of the church. If there is a good nursery, they can comfortably leave their kids in capable hands and attend a worship service. If, however, they find a nursery that is poorly or under-staffed with folks who seem unfriendly and stressed, they A. won't leave their kids, and B. won't come back! Your church truly believes that children are NOT simply the future of the church- they are very much an active, important part of its present!



## SCHEDULING EVENTS

The Aledo United Methodist Church is a BUSY place! (Our custodian tells us that he struggles to find time to CLEAN the church because there is always something GOING ON in the church!) And since we are busy connecting people with Jesus Christ, then it is a VERY good thing that we are busy! But BECAUSE we are so busy, it makes scheduling a bit more of a challenge. Events that never had to be concerned with the calendar before now...have to!

We continue to find creative, collaborative ways to enable multiple events to happen at the same time- which IS our goal- but we can't do that if we don't know an event is scheduled. With that in mind, please contact the Church Office as soon as possible to make sure your date/time/area of the church is available and to get your event on the church calendar. Is your church a busy place? Yes! Is it busy connecting people to Jesus Christ? Yes! Therefore, we want to do EVERYTHING we can to make sure as many ministries as possible that help further our mission are able to happen!

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## CONNECTION COINS FOR JUNE

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 (June 11th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward this year's Vacation Bible School (July 16-19). Each summer, dozens and dozens of kids visit us to learn more about their faith. Your coins will help make that happen. 100% of what you put in the cans on June 11th will help fund that valuable ministry. What a GREAT way to help connect people to Jesus Christ. So, bring your change on June 11th!



**Luncheon**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
**11:00 AM - 1:30 PM**  
**Rhubarb Fest**



June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd  
*Bring your family and friends!*

The homemade menu includes chicken salad on a croissant or on a lettuce leaf or ham and cheese on wheat hoagie bun;  
 potato salad or chips, fresh fruit,  
 rhubarb or fruit pie and beverage.  
 A child's meal which includes a hot dog or ham sandwich, chips,  
 cookie and juice box is also available.

**Church Bus Service to and from church**  
**Downtown Bus Stop**

**Take-out meals and delivery to Aledo homes and businesses**  
**Place orders AHEAD online or at the church office .**

*This is your opportunity to connect – thank you for serving!*  
**WE NEED WORKERS Thursday, Friday and Saturday!**  
**Workers on Friday & Saturday – Wear pink or green shirt**  
**and a cap**

Bring perishable food for potato & chicken salad  
 by Thursday 8 AM  
**Bring lots and lots of pies by 8 AM Friday or Saturday**

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

06/03/1967– Bill & Ila Bertrand  
 06/04/2011– John & Nicole Taylor  
 06/08/1968– Hal & Linda Earl  
 06/08/1974– Tom & Barbara King  
 06/09/2006– Jayson & Jessie Thomson  
 06/11/1994– Cliff & Jennifer Anderson  
 06/12/1976– Rick & Kathy Newswander  
 06/13/1981– Gary & Anita Heard  
 06/14/2003– George & Glenda Foy  
 06/21/1953– Dick & Liz Zimmerman  
 06/22/2013– Dan & Cara Magedanz  
 06/24/1973– Danny & Linda Schrock  
 06/24/2006– Ryan & RaeAnn Latko  
 06/28/1999– Bradley & Janean Ottoson  
 06/29/1991– Don & Lyn Franks

*forever & always*

## UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

06/03– Carole Korns  
 06/05– Bonnie Ricketts  
 06/11– Carol Ann Boney  
 06/27– Evelyn Yerkey  
 06/30– Nadine Liby



The deadline for the next  
 Parish Visitor is  
***Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8am.***  
 Please have all articles submitted  
 by this date!

## THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Norma Adams  
 Hank & Betty Allan  
 Jamicynn Allen  
 Linda Bell  
 Alan Benson  
 Bob Bocox  
 Syl Carlson  
 Cody  
 Dee Dellitt  
 Noah Dewitt  
 Dick & Beverly  
 Jim Droste  
 Laura Eggen/cancer  
 Lorrie Eiland  
 Chris Engstrom  
 Ron Engstrom  
 Soni Engstrom  
 Paul Engwall  
 Evelyn/1yr old/cancer  
 Mary Flint  
 Lyn & Don Franks  
 Carol Freeman/cancer  
 Connie Freeman  
 Gail

Merna Gilmore family  
 Bailey Greene  
 Renae Hains  
 Susie Hall/breast cancer  
 Rev Mark and family  
 Michael Harris  
 Pam Heath  
 Noah Huston  
 Judy Inman  
 Joe/strength  
 Murle Kell family  
 Chad King/brain tumor  
 Jodi Lindell/knee surgery  
 Megan Klauer/cancer  
 Allison Kuk  
 Patty Langum/surgery  
 Tiffanee Lloyd  
 Nancy Mack  
 Makenna  
 Jeff Marston  
 Marvin Massey  
 Mike Matthews  
 Mary Lou McCreight  
 Brent McCurdy

Mick & Janice Miller  
 Steve Oaks  
 Ember Pappas  
 Bill Pollock  
 Bryce Rathje  
 Curtis Richardson family  
 Mary Rillie/health  
 Thelma Robbins  
 Fred Rooth  
 Jerry Russell  
 Pam Russell  
 Linda Schrock  
 Andrew Smith  
 Robert Smith family  
 Dianna Spencer  
 Robert Spencer  
 Jim Stites  
 Marvin Tharp  
 Pam Truman  
 Shut-ins/Nursing Home  
 Residents  
 Military & families  
 All ill/in hospitals

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

  
*Lord,  
 Hear Our  
 Prayer*

## FLAG DAY

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14th (a Wednesday this year). It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress, in 1777. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday, though on June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first (and only) U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday. The longest-running Flag Day parade is held annually in Quincy, Massachusetts, which began 1952 and will celebrate its 59th year in 2009. The largest Flag Day parade is held annually in Troy, New York, which bases its parade on the Quincy parade and typically draws 50,000 spectators. The week of June 14 is designated as "National Flag Week." During National Flag Week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag for the duration of that week. This year, remember the freedom that our flag represents, and thank God for that freedom- including the freedom to worship.



## RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay for Life will soon be here - **Saturday, June 24 at Central Park from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm.** Our Aledo UMC relay team will once again have the grilled pork chop dinner as our final fundraiser, beginning around 4:00 pm.

We continue to collect loose change in prescription bottles so give us a final boost and fill, fill, fill. A big thank you to the grillers, wrappers, and those that stopped by for a grilled chop at Mercer Market in May. It was a successful fundraiser. We appreciate your support and generosity. See you at Relay!

## SUMMER SOLSTICE

Have you ever heard of the Summer Solstice and wondered what exactly that was? The word "solstice" derives from a combination of two Latin words: "sol" meaning "sun" and "sistere" meaning "to stand still." As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. The Summer Solstice marks the longest day (and the shortest night) of the year. In the Northern Hemisphere, Summer Solstice begins on June 20, 2016 at 11:39 AM CDT.





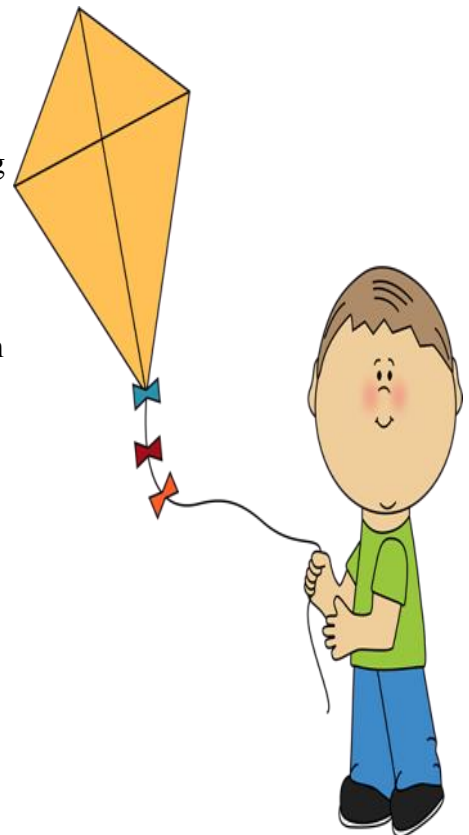
## FATHER'S DAY



On Sunday, June 18th, we celebrate Father's Day. It was first celebrated as a church service at the Williams Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South in Fairmont, WV, in 1908. (The first Mother's Day was celebrated 2 months earlier in Grafton, WV, 15 miles away!) Grace Golden Clayton is believed to have suggested the service to her pastor to commemorate 361 local men killed in a mine explosion. It was not made official until 1966 by President Lyndon Johnson. If you are able...spend some time with your dad that day. If you can't, but can call him...do that! If you are unable to do either of those things, take a moment to say a prayer to God, thanking Him that your dad helped bring you into this world.

## SPECIAL OBSERVANCES IN JUNE

Did you know that June is Dairy Month? Or Great Outdoors Month? How about Adopt-A-Cat Month? It's also Drive Safe Month, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month, Iced Tea Month, Potty Training Awareness Month and Turkey Lovers Month. The 1st week of June is National Fishing Week, while the 2nd week is National Clay Week. Here are some special June days: June 1st- Donut Day, June 2nd- I Love My Dentist Day, June 3rd- Egg Day, June 4th- Cheese Day, June 5th- Gingerbread Day, June 6th- Applesauce Cake Day, June 7th- Daniel Boone Day, June 8th- Jelly-Filled Donut Day, June 9th- Young Eagles Day, June 10th- "Pop Goes the Weasel" Day, June 11th- Hug Day, June 12th- Magic Day, June 13th- Weed Your Garden Day, June 14th- Flag Day, June 15th- Fly A Kite Day, June 16th- Hollerin' Contest Day, June 17th- Fudge Day, June 18th- Father's Day (see accompanying article), June 19th- Panic Day, June 20th- Ice Cream Soda Day, June 21st- Eat Your Vegetables Day, June 22nd- Chocolate Éclair Day, June 23rd- Pecan Sandies Day, June 24th- Swim a Lap Day, June 25th - Catfish Day, June 26th- Chocolate Pudding Day. June 27th- Sun-glasses Day, June 28th- Paul Bunyan Day, June 29th- Camera Day and June 30th- Meteor Day. Celebrate the many strange and wonderful days June has to offer!



## C.I.A. (CARING INDIVIDUAL ADULTS) LUNCHEON- JUNE 25TH

by Joanne Harris

After Mark's mom passed away, I was on the phone talking to Mark's dad. He shared with me how hard it was adjusting to being alone. One of the most difficult things he said was eating by himself. So with that in mind, The Caring Hearts Ministry decided to form the C.I.A. (Caring Individual Adults) group. This group is open to both mature men and women who live alone. This includes anyone who has lost their spouse, divorced or separated, or whose loved one is in the nursing home. Once a month, at 11:30AM, the Caring Hearts ministry provides a luncheon for CIA. The June luncheon is set for Sunday, June 25th. You don't have to bring anything except yourself. Feel free to invite a friend to share the meal and fellowship. I will look forward to seeing you at the next CIA luncheon on June 25th!

## PLEDGING AND TITHING



### WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

At Aledo United Methodist Church, we know that financial stewardship is an important component of a balanced spiritual life. We emphasize the giver's need to give rather than the church's need to receive. Maintaining a healthy relationship with our possessions keeps them from getting in the way of our relationships with God, our neighbors, and our own inner being. Returning to God from that which God has given us is a tangible way to express our faith. When each of us gives as we are able, together we can fund our various ministries in Aledo and around the world.

### WHAT IS A PLEDGE?

A pledge is an estimate of giving; some call it a statement of intent. Pledge amount may be changed, increased or decreased during the year, at any time as financial circumstances change.

### WHY SHOULD I PLEDGE?

Pledging allows us to make intentional decisions about our financial giving. It is all about priorities! When we plan ahead for our giving, we make conscious choices about spending our money in ways that reflect our faith and values. The church sets a budget based largely on the amount of total pledges received. While regular giving that is not pledged is important to the church, our pledges let the church plan more accurately.

### HOW DO I PLEDGE?

Our annual stewardship campaign is held each January but pledges may be made at any time. Pledge forms are available in the church office.

### HOW DO I PAY MY PLEDGE?

Paying your pledge is a matter of personal preference. You may pay weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly via cash, check, Pay Pal, or through your financial institution's bill pay feature.

### HOW MUCH SHOULD I PLEDGE?

Determining the amount of your annual pledge is between you and God. Only you know what you can give. The dollar amount is not the most important detail of your pledge. We want you to participate. We want you to do the best you can.

### WHAT IS A TITHE?

A tithe is 10% of your income. A tithe may sound like an unattainable goal to begin with, but if you start with a certain proportion of your income and increase the percentage each year, you will be tithing in a short time. You could start with 2 ½%, which is equivalent to pledging the first hour's pay of a 40-hour week.

### HOW WILL I KNOW HOW MUCH I HAVE GIVEN TO THE CHURCH?

The church prepares quarterly statements of giving for everyone that gives to the church.

### GET STARTED!

The amount of your pledge is not as important as is getting started.

## ***A Special TAG Thank You!***

The Members of Junior High TAG would like to send out a very heartfelt **THANK YOU** to the anonymous bakers who blessed us with not only a huge batch of delicious cupcakes but also notes of encouragement to brighten our day. We are so overwhelmingly thankful for such a random act of kindness. They were readily devoured and greatly appreciated!

**THANK YOU SO MUCH,  
MYSTERY BAKERS!**

Teens Among God  
Summer Celebration  
Cookout Potluck  
June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

1-3pm

Bring yourself, a dish, and a friend!

**Potluck**  
Everyone Brings Something to the Table.



**VBS**  
**July 16-19th**  
**5-7:30pm**



**youthfellowship**  
discover. transform. follow.  
**June 25th,**  
**11:30-12:30pm**

### **What's Coming Up, TAG:**

**ATTN, 6-8th**

**graders, Join us on every Tues-**  
**day,**

**5-6:15pm**

**Senior High**

**(9-12th), come learn and fellow-**  
**ship with us every Sunday, 6:00-**  
**7:15pm**

**Youth Bible Study—Wednesdays,**  
**3-4pm**



**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**

## **ONLINE GIVING**

by Rev. Mark

More people are now making their weekly/monthly/yearly offering to your church online! If you go to our home page ([www.myaledoumc.com](http://www.myaledoumc.com)) and choose "giving" from the Navigation Bar near the top, it will take you to a page that will provide the opportunity for you to give electronically. You can either do a one-time gift or a recurring monthly gift.

"Pastor, why would that be good for the church?" Thanks for asking! It's SO easy to forget your checkbook at home one week. It's also so easy to forget to give your offering when you are out of town. But the truth of the matter is that the financial commitments of the church...the bills, if you will...don't decrease on those weeks when people forget to tithe. Our financial commitments are steady all year long. Therefore, having a steady, dependable stream of giving helps us better plan for next week, next month and next year!

In addition to through our website, MANY banks now offer online "bill pay". With that service you can set up your church giving for whenever and however much you want it to be. Either way, it's simple, easy and dependable. Won't you consider electronic giving?



## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(WEEKLY NEED \$6,689)

Date	05/07/2017	05/14/2017	05/21/2017	05/28/2017
Attendance	263	242	260	NA
Receipts (Toward Budget)	\$7,071.82	\$4,274.65	\$5,902.00	NA

