

The Parish Visitor



August 2021

Visit us at myaledoumc.com

Combating Delta

I began the month of July by preaching a “freedom sermon” on Independence Day. I used that occasion to underscore the fact that as Americans, we have the freedom to be vaccinated against Covid-19; we also have the freedom to choose not to be vaccinated against Covid-19.

Since I preached that sermon, the Delta variant of the coronavirus has caused more sickness, more hospitalizations, and more deaths. However, health professionals are now characterizing our pandemic as a *pandemic of the unvaccinated*.

If you have not been vaccinated against Covid-19, I hope you change your mind and receive the vaccine. To further encourage you, **Aledo UMC will host a vaccine clinic on Tuesday, August 3 from 3 to 4:15 pm.** Anyone age 12 and over may participate and walk-ins are welcome as appointments are not necessary. There is no cost for the vaccine which will be administered by health professionals from the Mercer County Health Department. Recipients over age 18 will have a choice of receiving either the Johnson & Johnson one-dose vaccine or the Pfizer two-dose vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine is also available for persons aged 12 to 17.

My wife recently shared an article with me which reported that many of the so-called “anti-vaxxers” are now getting Covid-19 vaccines because they have seen that others who have received the vaccine have had minimal side effects. I received my first dose on January 11; my second on February 11. After the second dose, I had a headache, and I needed a nap. That was it.

A second reason why anti-vaxxers are now being vaccinated is many assumed the pandemic would be over by now; instead, the delta variant is spiking upwards and it is even more serious than the original coronavirus. Our son Jordan is a Doctor of Pharmacy in research at the University of Iowa, and he will tell you that your health is at much greater risk if don't get vaccinated than if you do. Indeed, over 99 percent of all Covid-related deaths are among those who have not been vaccinated.

Finally, many anti-vaxxers now realize that they will have more freedom in our society once they're vaccinated than if they are not.

(continued on page 2)

SPECIAL DATES:

- August 1 Food Pantry and Communion Sunday
- August 3 UMW Picnic at Ruth Dulaney's Home 6PM
- August 5 Caring Hearts Food Prep 9AM
- August 10 Loving Hands Food Prep 1:30PM
- August 15 Missions Meeting 5:15PM
- August 15 Trustees meeting 6PM
- August 15 Finance meeting 6:45PM
- August 15 Administrative Council meeting 7:30PM
- August 16 United Methodist Men's Meeting 6PM
- August 19 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM
- August 20 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- August 23 Endowment Meeting 6:30PM
- August 24 Loving Hands Food Prep 1:30PM
- August 26 Women's Bible Study 6PM
- August 29 Harvest Concert 6PM

(Continued from page 1)

In 1955, the polio vaccine was made available to Americans and because so many people received polio vaccination, our country has been polio-free since 1979. The difference is that the polio vaccination was not politicized the way this pandemic has been politicized. Remember the vaccine was developed during a Republican administration and it is being distributed during a Democratic administration. The coronavirus doesn't care who you voted for or who you didn't vote for. It infects Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. So please, don't let politics bring possible harm to you, your family, your friends, your neighbors, and your church. Let's wipe Covid-19 from our land, just as we wiped polio from our land just a generation ago. But to do that, more of our citizens will need to be vaccinated. Do something for yourself, for your family, for your church, for your neighbors, for your country, and for the world and get the vaccine.

Connecting People to Christ with you,

Pastor Dave

Connecting with the Word

Worship at AUMC may look different this August as remodeling of the chancel and choir loft is slated to begin, perhaps as early as the end of July. I hope you'll come and watch the progress as we modernize our sanctuary. If demolition or construction should change our worship plans, you will be notified on Facebook and by way of a Call-'Em-All.

We begin the month with Communion on Sunday, August 1. I am going to begin a series of sermons on David and his relationships. I'm calling this series, "Touched by David." My first sermon in the series is "David and Samuel," and it will be drawn from 1 Samuel 16. Kathleen's Children's Moments will be drawn from each week's gospel lesson, beginning with John 6:24-35. Other scriptures include Psalm 89 and Ephesians 4:1-16.

On Sunday, August 8 we'll turn our attention to 1 Samuel 17 and "David and Goliath." Other scriptures include Psalm 130, Ephesians 4:25-5:2, and John 6:35, 41-51.

"David and Saul" will be the subject of my sermon on August 15. Scriptures include 1 Samuel 19, Psalm 11, Ephesians 5:15-20, and John 6:51-58.

We're going to take a break from the life of David on August 22 to hear a report on our YouthWorks mission trip to Louisville. Scriptures include Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20, and John 6:56-69.

We wrap the month up on August 29 with "David and Abigail." Scriptures include 1 Samuel 25; Psalm 45; James 1:17-27, and Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

Connecting People to Christ with you,

Pastor Dave

HyVee Bread Product Delivery

Each Saturday

The bread products are available before and after each Sunday Service in the South end of the Fellowship Room next to the Sanctuary.

Stop by and help yourself! Take some to your neighbor!

The bread racks are then moved to the church lobby and are available there until 11:00 AM. Monday. Any leftovers are shared with the residents at Vashti and Mercer County Health Department visitors.

Would you like to join the Bakery Team who count and sort the products on Saturdays at 10 AM? We need more team members!

Walk to Emmaus

There's nothing like setting the world aside for a weekend, going on a retreat, and deepening your walk with Jesus. That's the purpose of Walk to Emmaus, and if you've never participated in a Walk, your opportunity is coming up this fall:

Men's Walk to Emmaus is Thursday, October 28 through Sunday, October 31.

Women's Walk to Emmaus is Thursday, November 4 through Sunday, November 7.

Chrysalis Co-ed Flight for teens is Thursday, November 11 through Sunday, November 14.

See Pastor Dave for more information. *Walk to Emmaus* and *Chrysalis* are ministries of The Upper Room.

The United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, August 16, 2021 at 6PM. There will be a meal, a short business meeting, and lots of fellowship. All men are welcome



AUMC is Hiring!

Aledo UMC has an immediate opening for a Director of Technology. This is a part-time position that is responsible for:

1. Preparing and organizing Power-Point presentations for Sunday worship as well as other occasions
2. Creating and maintaining marquee messages
3. Updating the Aledo UMC webpage
4. Other technology duties to be determined.

This position is currently open to all interested Aledo UMC members. Applicants should have a desire to connect people to Jesus Christ, have excellent computer skills and the ability to work well in a team environment which includes both paid staff and volunteers.

To apply please submit a resume to Pastor Dave via the church office by August 15th.

Hurry, Hurry, Get'em While They're.....Marked Down!!

Operation Christmas Child will run from October 3rd through October 31st this year. While that's still a ways off, it's not too early to start collecting items for your shoeboxes now...many of you may have already started to do so. *I do want to remind you that now is an excellent time to pick up school supplies at reduced prices.*

If you have never filled a shoebox before, please go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> and click on "how to pack a shoebox". Even if you are a "shoebox veteran" (as many of you are), this is an excellent resource for new ideas....in other words, "don't be afraid to think outside the shoebox". While visiting this website, please take the time to click on the stories and see how God uses these shoeboxes to change lives. It is simply amazing how God can take one box, filled with a few small toys, school supplies, clothing, and/or hygiene items and use it to glorify his name. There will be more information in the days to come, but **NOW...right now....**is the time to start collecting those gift items.



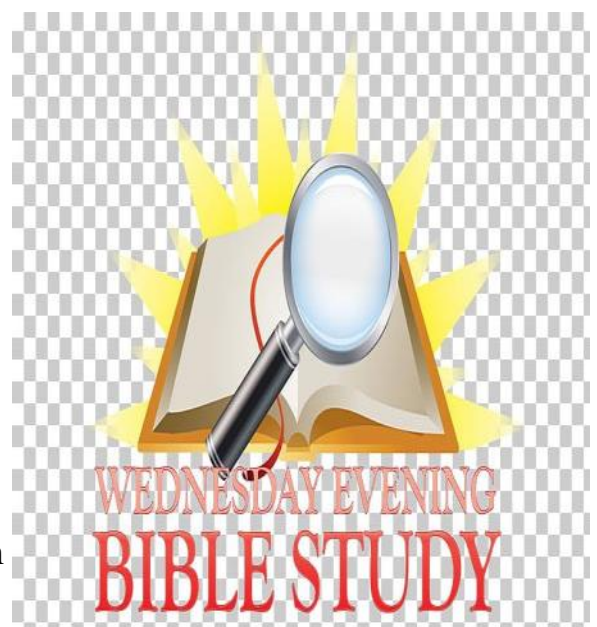
HARVEST CONCERT

There is a poster on page 6 for the Harvest Concert happening on August 29 in the AUMC parking lot. Please share this with friends and neighbors, or post it for others to see. This concert is open to the public.

Beginnings

Our Wednesday evening Bible study returns September 8 at 6 pm, and it returns with a twist. Rather than purchasing a Bible study, we will be studying a book as it's being written. I have had an interest in writing but have never taken the time to actually write a book. That changes this fall. Every couple of weeks I will present the rough draft of a chapter to a book that I am writing which is called, "Beginnings." My rough draft is already 50 pages long. Each week we'll not only discuss each chapter, but you'll also be able to help me fine-tune each chapter.

Pastor Dave



WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS THIS SEASON

Our Wednesday night meal schedule will look different this season with only having the following special event meals on Wednesday evenings. The meals will start at 5:15 PM and all are welcome to come enjoy the food and fellowship on these nights!

September 8th: Welcome Back, Welcome Back -

Chicken Salad Sandwiches/Potato Salad

(Using our usual Rhubarb Fest recipes since everyone missed that the last two years)

October 6th: Fall Celebration – Chili Dogs, S'mores Dessert

November 17th: Thanksgiving Feast – Turkey with all the trimmings

December 15th: Church Family Christmas Celebration – Ham and Christmas Dishes

January 12th: Winter Soup Bar – Chili, Ham & Beans, Chicken Noodle Soup

February 9th: Valentine Love Dinner – Pork Chops, Scalloped Potatoes

March 16th: Fill Your Soul – Chicken Noodles, Mashed Potatoes

April 20th: Season Finale – Taco Haystacks

I will be looking for individuals and/or groups to volunteer to help prepare and serve some of these special meals.

Please contact me with which meal you would like to prepare.

Ruth Dulaney, Volunteer Coordinator



**Sunday, August 29, 2021
Aledo United Methodist Church
301 North College Ave.**

**Bring a lawn chair and enjoy this Worship
Concert for the entire family!
Bring a friend!**

**Meal at 5:00 PM
Grilled Pork Chop or Hot Dog, Chips,
Brownie, Bottled Water
Donation for Youth Mission Trips**

**Outdoor Concert at 6:00 PM
Open to the Whole Community**

Youth & Children's Page

SEPTEMBER! SEPTEMBER! SEPTEMBER!

Wednesday, September 8 kicks off our return to Youth and Children's programming! We will once again hold Sunday School classes, have Forge meetings, Second Sunday Specials, Wednesday evening programming and the Nursery will reopen! Details will be shared soon! Mark your calendars!

DO YOU LOVE YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES? WE NEED YOU!

We are busy planning our fall kickoff and a return to youth classes, activities and reopening the nursery in September! **WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS** to join our teachers and nursery team!

Teachers – we will need volunteers to teach Sunday School and Wednesday night classes for all age groups. We would love for **YOU** to join our teaching team!

Nursery – we will need volunteers to help in the Nursery on Sunday mornings, during services. (Natalie works to make sure all staff and volunteers can attend a service in addition to working in the nursery.)

Do you love babies? Children? Jr. High students? High School students? We have a place for you to join our team! Please contact Kathleen or Natalie Nelson if you have questions or want to join us in these most important ministries!

We are looking forward to the day when we can all be together again!

BINGO

Thank you to Brenda Dunn for leading our Bingo! games during the month of July. Students in grades 5-12 learned about self-care while playing bingo and winning prizes! Thank you to all the students who joined us!

MISSION TRIP TO LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY!

At the press deadline, we were three days away from leaving on our 2021 YouthWorks mission trip to Louisville, Kentucky. Look for trip stories and pictures in the September issue of the Parish Visitor! Pastor Dave will also be posting pictures on our Facebook page during the trip. Be sure to check it out!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – KNIGHTS OF THE NORTH CASTLE!

Thank you to everyone who helped with and attended our 2021 Vacation Bible School, Knights of North Castle, the Quest for the King's Armor! Thank you to our knights, ladies and jesters - Mary Flint, Sue Hiscocks, Sue Galambos, Mike Millar, Joanne Harris, Ruth Dulaney, Paster Dave Schultz, Candice Schultz, Scott Guyton, Hailey McRae, Jaiden LaDue, Alexsis Taylor and Angela Hudson for all of their help in making this summer's VBS such a success! We had 15 in-person participants and 12 online participants. Huzzah!

Kathleen Bashem



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

08/06/1999– Scott & Dianna Spencer
 08/17/1984– Garry & Debra Toops
 08/18/2007– Nick & Miranda Boss
 08/26/1972– Steve & Rhonda Brown
 08/28/2011– Jacob & Hannah Robinson
 08/29/1965– Stan & Debbie Swank
 08/30/???– Barry & Denise Algren
 08/31/1969– Bill & Debby Breeden



UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

08/10– Erma Dobbins
 08/28– Audrey Anderson



The deadline for the next
 Parish Visitor is
Friday, August 20 @ 8am.
 Please have all articles submitted
 by this date!

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Chuck Alexander/health health
 Alicia/cancer Susie Hall/health
 Amelia/breast cancer Jim Hanson/cancer
 Karen Ashton/cancer Kyeleigh Hunn/13yrs
 Phyllis Batson old/cancer
 Bishop Beard/eyesight Jackson/CP
 Charlotte Janet Jenson/cancer
 Julia Cirks/cancer Jerry/cancer
 Susan DeBlock/cancer Gilbert Johnson/cancer
 Ashley Dewitt/health Terry Jones/cancer
 Adam Douglas/health CeCe Jordan
 Jim Droste/health John Karwath/cancer
 Jimmy Dutton/kidney Chad King/brain tumor
 donor Jon Lee/cancer
 Lauren Eggen/cancer Bea Leng family
 Rich & Sonjia Fell Nadine Liby
 Weslyn Fisher/5 yrs old/ Lisa/cancer
 cancer Maddie/3yrs old/cancer
 CJ Friedel Eric Matich/6yrs/
 Gail/chemo & radiation leukemia
 Gloria/cancer Marcia/cancer
 Bob Grubbs Jennie Maynard
 Bruce & Linda Hall/ Sylvia McEwen/cancer

Joe Miller
 Jody Newton/cancer
 Joel Noe/health
 Perry/cancer
 Clara Recknagle/healing
 Judith Redlinger
 June Rettig
 Ann Rogers/cancer
 Andy Rutledge/cancer
 Ashley Schmidt/move to
 Texas
 Jackie
 Jack Schultz/healing
 Sharon/stem cell transplant
 Merrill Shipman
 Judy Spellious
 Vernon Swearingen family
 Sydney/healing
 Joe Thibedoux
 Connie & Charley Thomas
 Dorothy Unsworth/health
 George Unsworth/health
 Lowell Wedekind/cancer

Rebecca Weihler/brain tumor
 Marsha Whitman/cancer
 Steve Willetts
 Brandy Young family
 Brookstone residents
 Shut-ins/Nursing Home resi-
 dents
 Military & families
 All ill/in hospitals
 Our world leaders
 Our Church/congregation
 Those suffering from depres-
 sion
 Marriages in crisis
 Our denomination/peace
 Our country/world
 Travel mercies to vacationers

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

Caring Hearts Food Ministry

The food is free to anyone who is in need of food or needs some cheer.

Our Caring Hearts Food Freezer is located in the basement by the elevator door.

**Those obtaining food from the freezer need to observe our guidelines
for picking up food**

only during office hours 8:00 AM – Noon Monday through Friday.

Pick up a pamphlet with our guidelines listed as well as other food sources in Mercer County pamphlets on the basement bookshelf near the Caring Hearts Freezer

We have Caring Hearts food preparations of casseroles, soups, desserts and food packs twice a month, usually the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. We need more volunteers to help with these preparations. Please join us August 5th at 9:00 AM and August 19th at 1:00 PM in the church kitchen to share your “Caring Heart” for others.

**Free Fresh Produce from
Riverbend Food Bank
Available August 4th and 18th
10:00 AM – Noon**

**Come to the church and pick up
some for your family!**



**VBS
Pictures**



CONNECTION COINS FOR AUGUST

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.

This month (August 8th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward an awesome ministry- College Care Packages. Every Fall, the Sunrise Coffee House Adult Sunday School Class puts together Care Packages for young people who are heading to college for the year. These packages include a wide variety of things that are simply designed to brighten their day and remind them that not only does God love them- they have a church full of people praying for them and loving them, too.



The items are donated and lovingly packed. But they have to be mailed. And that postage costs money! And that's where YOU come in! So, 100% of the money that is collected in the cans on the 8th of August 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, August 8th!

SCHEDULING EVENTS

The Aledo United Methodist Church is a BUSY place! (Our custodians tells us that they struggle 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!



ARE YOU READY FOR A STORY?

Do you have a young person in your life that loves stories? Do YOU like to listen to stories? Join Kathleen every Tuesday morning at 9 am for “Are You Ready for a Story?” Kathleen shares stories from Franklin, Patricia Polacco, Jan Brett and others with seasonal stories and stories to warm your heart. Set your device notifications to alert you to the live Facebook broadcast on the Aledo United Methodist Church Facebook page. Can't watch it live? Catch the recorded replay on the AUMC Facebook page. You'll find it under the video tab.



All Ladies!



To our annual

UMW Potluck Picnic

Tuesday, August 3rd at 6:00 PM

(Note: The Date Change from Monday to Tuesday)

Ruth Dulaney's home

705 NW 2nd Ave, Aledo

(Carpool at the church at 5:45 PM)

Sloppy Joe Sandwiches, Drinks and

Dinnerware provided

Bring your favorite food to share

We will eat inside and then enjoy fun and

fellowship outside,

Weather permitting

(Bring a lawn chair, if possible)

**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.



OUR USUAL WORSHIP TIMES:

**Sundays
8AM,
9:15AM,
10:30AM**

Caring Hearts

Do you want to take some food to a friend who is ill or in need? Our Caring Hearts freezer, located by the elevator doors in the basement, has a variety of soups, casseroles, fruit, and desserts.

A group of dedicated ladies prepare the delicious homemade food twice a month for anyone who is in need of cheer.

Please help yourself!

DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERMON?

If you miss church on Sunday, you can STILL experience the sermon. You can go to the church website, myale-doumc.com, to see a transcript of any of Pastor Dave's recent sermons that you missed. Please share this link with your friends and family.

Sponsors for our August Radio Broadcasts

August 1– Mary Flint in appreciation for help at Rhubarb Fest

August 8– Scott & Dianna Spencer in memory of Margaret Wilhouse

August 15– available

August 22– available

August 29– sponsored by a friend of AUMC to God's glory



FINANCIAL MATTERS (WEEKLY NEED \$6,993.29)

Date	07/04/2021	07/11/2021	07/18/2021	07/25/2021
Attendance	136	137	249	141
Receipts				
(Toward Budget)	\$6,925.00	\$5,875.00	\$4,905.00	\$2,424.00

