

The Parish Visitor

April, 2018



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INVITATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

by Rev. Mark

It's hard going someplace new, isn't it? You feel out of place. You aren't sure what to do. It seems that everybody else is "in the know" and you are...NOT! That is a staple of human nature AND the primary reason so many people aren't terribly willing to try new things- they don't like that feeling of "not belonging".

And if that is true ANYWHERE, it's true in a church. Even in the most welcoming of congregations (I'm looking at YOU, Aledo UMC!), visitors are pretty unwilling to muster the courage necessary to step into a new place and be vulnerable.

You might be thinking just now, "That's not really true, Pastor! We went to a church in Florida while we were on vacation. We didn't know anybody and we had NO problem just walking in and introducing ourselves!" First off- well done! But, you have to remember- you're "church people". You may not know THAT church, but you know CHURCH. And while we certainly welcome anybody who walks in our doors, we are especially reaching out to those people who aren't "church people"- we exist to CONNECT people to Jesus Christ!

So maybe you know someone who has been a "church person" but has drifted from church...for any number of reasons. (And frankly, the reason really shouldn't matter to anyone but them!) Or maybe you know someone who has been saying for some time, "I really ought to go to church." Or maybe you know someone who is facing a major life change- death in the family, devastating diagnosis, new baby, wedding, divorce, whatever. (Statistics show that the majority of people who start going to church do so because of a major life change.)

Regardless of which of those types of folks you know (And it's probably all three!), they are one invitation away from actually coming to church. The odds of them coming on their own are fairly small. But the odds of them coming if YOU invite them increase dramatically.

Why should we invite people? If the goal is simply more "seats in the seats" and therefore more money in the plate, then we are missing the mark. But if the goal is what is stated on the wall in the sanctuary, the bulletin, the website- "We exist to connect people to Jesus Christ"- then the more the merrier!

Churches don't grow through snappy ad campaigns and TV commercials. They grow through one person inviting one person. That's where YOU come in. Invite people. Seek them out. Tell them about your church. Invite them to try us out. Tell them you'll meet them here. Better- offer to bring them. Sit with them. Introduce them. Show them around. Follow up.

If I do those things, they have a small impact. If we ALL do those things- there is no telling where God might lead us!

SPECIAL DATES:

- April 1 Easter Sunday Services at 6:30AM, 8AM, 9:15AM, 10:30AM
- April 1 Communion & Food Pantry Sunday
- April 7 The Journey 8:30AM-3:30PM
- April 15 CIA Luncheon 11:30AM
- April 15 Youth Fellowship 11:30AM
- April 15 Safety Meeting
- April 15 Trustees Meeting 6PM
- April 15 Finance Meeting 6:45PM
- April 15 Administrative Council Meeting 7:30PM
- April 16 UM Men 6PM
- April 19 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM
- April 19 UMW Exec Meeting 4:15PM
- April 20 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- April 23 Relay for Life Meeting 6:30PM
- April 26 Women's Bible Study 5:30PM

New/Current Bible Studies

The Gospel of John

WHAT: Current Tuesday morning Bible Study

WHEN: Tuesday mornings at 9AM

WHERE: In the Fellowship Café, next to the Sanctuary

WHY: Without the apostle John we would have been left to wonder about the hands-on Jesus. But through John's eyes and pen, we are privileged to witness the ministry of the Savior. John's gift to us is a record of tender moments and heaven-powered miracles.

WHAT ELSE: The books are \$8 and it is not too late to join!

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!

Daniel: Standing Strong in a Hostile World

WHAT: Current Wednesday Night Bible Study

WHEN: Wednesday Night at 6PM

WHERE: Fellowship Café next to the Sanctuary

WHY: Living in a culture that was hostile toward having faith in God, Daniel and his friends could have conformed to society. Instead, they learned to take a stand through God's power for what they believed. By studying their integrity and faithfulness, students will be challenged to evaluate their priorities and embrace biblical values, no matter the cost.

WHAT ELSE: This study will end on April 11th. There will be a new study, The Book of James by Max Lucado, starting April 18th.



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.

COOKING FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

We all LOVE to eat! But maybe you also love to cook! We could use your help. Ruth Dulaney is scheduling groups to provide Wednesday Night meals for the "Spring semester". We need individuals, groups, or families to sign up for those 2018 WNFs. There IS a budget, so if covering the cost of the food is a problem...don't let it be! It is a true joy to be able to provide dinner for others. The sign-up board has empty spots just waiting for YOU to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

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 church current calendar. Also, the monthly newsletter can be found on our website. Stop by and check it out!

Current/New Sermon Series

by Rev. Mark

On Sunday, April 8, we begin a rather philosophical journey- **Liar, Lunatic or Lord?** Christian writer C.S. Lewis once posed the thought that, when you consider Jesus Christ, you have to decide that He is one of three things: a liar, a lunatic or the Lord. We will spend four weeks considering those three and where we might "come down" on this argument. The weeks of the series look like this:

Sunday, April 8, 2018- C. S. Lewis Vs. Joy Behar (Mark 8:27-30)

Ridicule has historically proven itself a rickety fence for great ideas.

(Isaiah 9:6, John 1:9-14)

Sunday, April 15, 2018- Liar (Mark 2: 3-12)

You can run with a lie but you can't hide from the truth!

(Isaiah 43:25-26, Acts 10:42-43)

Sunday, April 22, 2018- Lunatic (John 10:27-30)

What can you do against the lunatic who is more intelligent than yourself, who gives your arguments a fair hearing and then simply persists in his lunacy?

(Exodus 3:14, John 15:10-14)

Sunday, April 29, 2018- Lord (John 3:16-21)

Getting to know Jesus Christ is the best thing one can ever do in their lifetime. Don't miss the opportunity.

(Isaiah 7:14 , Matthew 22:34-40)



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 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 and let him know.



**UMW Spring Meeting at
Bethel Wesley UMC ,
1201-13th St, Moline
Saturday, April 7th @ 9AM.**

Requested items for Cunningham Children's Home:

Shampoo/Conditioner sets (no coconut scents), gift cards for Walmart, Target, Dollar Tree, McDonalds, Jimmy John's, Steak 'n Shake

Requested items for Lessie Bates Davis:

Gift cards for Walmart, Target, Kmart, Dollar General, McDonalds, Subway, Circle K gas cards.

Don't forget Boxtops for Education!

Emergency Assistance

The Aledo United Methodist Church Safety Team is compiling a list of our church family members who would like assistance in case of an emergency such as a power outage, major snow or wind storm, etc. to be transported to a safe place or other needed assistance.

If you would like to be put on the AUMC Emergency Assistance list, please fill out this form or obtain a form from the office. Please return it to the church office by April 16th.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email address: _____

Your emergency contact person: _____

Their phone #: _____



Thank You!

Charles (Logan) and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns during his recent illness. A special thanks goes out to the trained personnel that stepped in to help when he passed out. We are so thankful for them and also for having the equipment at the church to work with when these emergencies arise.

God bless all of you.
The Luallens

Dear friends
at AUMC:

Thank you so much for the adorable baby blanket for Joseph. It was so nice of you to think of us!

Thanks,
*Jenny, Josh,
and Joseph
Barnett*

MUSIC MINISTRY

What untapped musical gifts do YOU have? Perhaps you sing or play a musical instrument? If so, perhaps God is calling you to a greater commitment in our worship services. Here is a list of the current music ministry opportunities available:

The Vocal Choir always has room for more singers.

The Bell Choir is looking for more ringers, including substitutes.

Do you sing or play an instrument? Special music presentations always have a place for you!

Pray about stepping out in faith. If you feel God calling you to join the music ministry of the church, talk to Rev. Mark- stop him at church, call him at the office or e-mail him at revmark@stickwithjesus.com.



CHURCH BASEMENT MAN OF THE YEAR AT CIRCA 21

Dwight Reynolds is one of the finalists in the Church Basement Man of the Year at Circa 21!. On April 6, the winner will be announced. Doors open at 5:45PM. Buffet is open 6-7PM. At 7PM, Dennis Hitchcock will have all the finalists come to the stage. This is when the winner will be announced! If anyone wants to attend on that evening of April 6, tickets will be \$36.50 per person for the dinner and show. Please call Sue Treanor at 786-2667, Ext 312 for reservations or additional information. GO DWIGHT!!

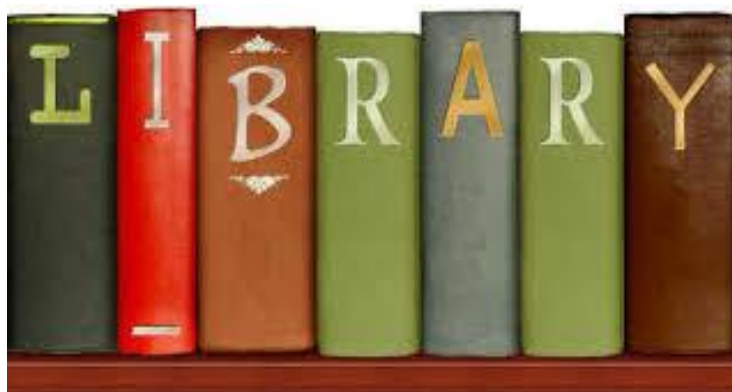
FUEL- OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

by Rev. Mark

Our Wednesday Night Children's ministry- **FUEL**- is off and running. And the leadership couldn't be more excited! The emphasis is built around "Hands-On Bible". The kids have fun while they learn more about the great stories of the Bible...AND how those stories impact their lives! We are SO excited about the positive impact this ministry has on our children! If you have children or grandchildren, please consider helping them be a part of this exciting new program. If you have friends or neighbors who have kids, please invite them. Let them know that they are welcome to come for dinner at 5:15PM, stay for an adult Bible study while their kids are ministered to from 6PM to 7PM and be home, working on homework and getting everybody ready for bed, by 7:15PM!

THE JOURNEY

The 9th annual Journey Women's Retreat, "Let your Light Shine", is fast approaching. There is still plenty of time to register. The Journey will be held on Saturday, April 7th from 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM. Call the church office at 582-2169, register online at myale-doumc.com, or email ruthdulaney@gmail.com. Registration is \$15, and scholarships are available, if needed. The Journey is sure to be a day of praise, inspiration, fellowship, music, and prayer. Four ladies will share their journeys throughout the day, and lunch promises to be superb. Bring a friend and a canned good to help our local food pantry. Registration is encouraged, as we are limited to 250 attendees.

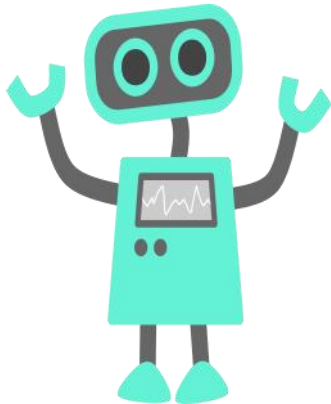


**VISIT THE
CHURCH
LIBRARY
TODAY!!**

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!



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 Mike Millar or Ruth Dulaney.

Do you want to take some food to a friend who is ill or in need?

Our Caring Hearts freezer, located in the northeast corner of the church basement back room, 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!

CALL-EM-ALL

Did you know that your church has a notification service named Call-Em-All? We use it to notify church members, both through automated phone calls and/or text messages, of a variety of things. Do YOU get texts and/or phone calls from Call-Em-All? If not, would you LIKE to? Whether you are a committee member, a member of a group like United Methodist Men or Women or you would like to receive all-church news or prayer requests, Call-Em-All can help keep you informed. If you are not currently receiving Call-Em-All notifications or would like to receive more of them, simply call the office. We can help!

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

04/03/1982- Robert & Rebecca Maynard
 04/08/2017- Rick & Jean Hunt
 04/18/1990- Dale & Cheri Bloomfield
 04/25/1976- Stan & Paula Nelson
 04/29/2002- Bryce & Jackie Benson

Happy
Anniversary

UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

04/03- Ann Sedam
 04/10- Eileen (Babe) Hyett
 04/11- Liz Zimmerman



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

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Norma Adams
 Kira Anderson
 Sandy Anderson/cancer
 Sharon Address
 Phyllis Batson/pacemaker
 Don Benson
 Bob Bocox
 Brian Boenkamp/coma
 Brady, Jacob, Camden
 Brenda Brandt
 Bill Breeden
 Holden C/heart
 Calvin
 Mary Cameron family
 Robin Ciccotelli/chemo
 Tricia & Rory Conway/
 Lymes
 Charlie David
 Dee Dellitt
 Stacey DeSpain/6yrs/health
 Dick & Beverly
 Madge Douglas
 Dennis Downing
 Erma Dobbins
 Jim Droste
 John Earll family
 Lauren Eggen/cancer
 Chris Engstrom
 Soni Engstrom

Evelyn/1yr old/cancer
 Bob Fausett/heart
 Brooke Fausett
 Rich Fell/sciatica
 Jenifer Franks
 Carol Freeman/cancer
 Connie Freeman
 CJ Friedel
 Gail/chemo & radiation
 Rodney Glidden/lung cancer
 Linda Hall/shoulder surgery
 Susie Hall/breast cancer
 Rev Mark and family
 Michael Harris
 Fannie Harrison
 Pam Heath
 Marilyn Hessman
 Sheryl Hodges
 Parker Hopkins/2yrs old/
 cancer
 Judy Inman family
 Irven
 Jackson
 Jeremy
 Jodi & Barry
 Debbie Jones/heart
 Olivia Jones/health
 Terry Jones/cancer
 Kevin & Terri/new home

Aubrey King/cancer
 Chad King/brain tumor
 Martha King/heart
 Wayne King family
 Allison Kuk/remission
 Jon Lee/cancer
 Kirsten Leeper & baby
 Marge Lloyd
 Tiffanee Lloyd
 Lisa McWhorter
 Violet Meskan/Lyme disease
 Connie Midkiff
 Cathy Miller/shingles
 Monica
 Steve Morss/health
 Kayla & Jamie Mugford/baby
 Nena
 Joel Noe
 Andrea Parker
 Ember Pappas
 Bryce Rathje
 Angela Rebello
 Mary Rillie/health
 Robert & Monica/health
 Nick & Sarah Riordan
 Fred Rooth
 Jerry Russell family
 Lisa Rzepecki

Kris Salmon/cancer
 Ron Schmidt/healing
 Neil Seaton/stroke
 Ann Sedam/healing
 Rollin Spencer/health
 Stacey
 Jim Stites
 Joe Thibedoux/lymphoma
 Charley Thomas
 Pam & Neil Truman
 Tammy W
 Rebecca Weihler/brain tumor
 Jo Weis
 Shut-ins/Nursing Home Residents
 Military & families
 All ill/in hospitals
 All who battle cancer
 Our Church
 All who mourn
 Gun Violence
 Upcoming Emmaus weekends

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

Wednesday Night Fellowship April Meals

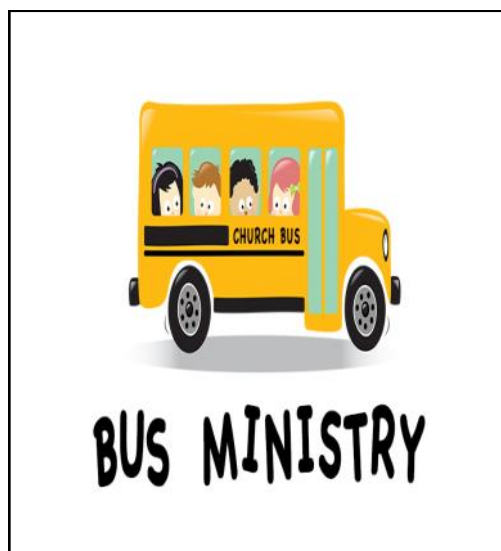
Come join us for homemade meals on the following Wednesdays at 5:15 PM.

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|------------------------|---|
| April 4 th | United Methodist Men – Tator Tot Casserole, Green Beans, Salad, Dinner Rolls, Desserts |
| April 11 th | Ad Council – Ham and Cheese Sliders, Chips, Salad Bar, Desserts |
| April 18 th | Fans in the Stands – Something Yummy TBA |
| April 25 th | Jennifer Mattson & Connie Alexander – Maid Rites, Cowboy Beans, Potato Chips, Macaroni Salad, Cookies & Ice Cream |



Donations are accepted for our Brazil mission.

Enjoy the food and fellowship!



Blessed be the
God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who according to His great
mercy has caused us to
be born again
to a living hope
through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ
from the dead **1 Peter 1:3**

SPECIAL OBSERVANCES IN APRIL

Did you know that April Is Autism Awareness Month? It's also Mathematics Education Month, but did you know it's Keep America Beautiful Month? What about Guitar Month? Frog Month? Humor Month? Here are the special days April has to offer: April 1st- Easter Sunday, April 2nd- Pickles Day, April 3rd- Pet the Dog Day, April 4th- Draw a Picture of a Bird Day, April 5th- Old Horseshoes Day, April 6th- Piz-zaburger Day, April 7th- No Housework Day, April 8th- Pudding Day, April 9th- Yo-Yo Day, April 10th- Encourage a Young Writer Day, April 11th- Jackie Robinson Day, April 12th- Big Wind Day, April 13th- Plastic Grass Day, April 14th- Look up at the Sky Day, April 15th- Titanic Remembrance Day, April 16th- Spring Flowers Day, April 17th- Blah, Blah, Blah Day, April 18th- Pet Owner's Day, April 19th- Humorous Day, April 20th- Pineapple Upside-Down Cake Day, April 21st- Kindergarten Day, April 22nd- Earth Day, April 23rd- Sing Out Day, April 24th- Pigs-in-a-Blanket Day, April 25th- Telephone Day, April 26th - Administrative Professional's Day, April 27th- Tell a Story Day, April 28th- Hug a Friend Day, April 29th- Zipper Day, and April 30th- Honesty Day!

Reading, writing, and 'rithmetic...as well as zippers, food and fools! Enjoy the wonderful, unusual and downright strange this month!



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Bishop Gregory Palmer, the former Bishop of our Illinois Great Rivers Conference of the United Methodist Church, in an e-letter dated December 20, 2008, said this about the decline of our denomination, "...the invitation to discipleship is at the core of our identity and mission as The United Methodist Church. We as an annual conference...have struggled to be invitational...with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In 2007, 60 percent of our congregations received ZERO persons by professions of faith. We are simply not bringing new people into the life of the church in a way that outpaces our decline. As Bishop of the Illinois Area, I want to encourage you that, as United Methodists, we have a glorious heritage of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ and offering invitation to the transforming relationship with the Savior."

6 out of every 10 United Methodist Churches in our conference are losing ground. This makes AUMC all the more exciting of a place in which to do ministry! New members are joining. Baptisms are happening. If THAT doesn't get you excited...then your wood's all wet!

Have you felt God tugging at you, urging you to take a leap of faith and become a larger part of something bigger than yourself? Have you been considering joining the church, but don't quite know how? Here's what you do! Simply contact Rev. Mark (revmark@myaledoumc.com) and set up a time to visit with him. This 30-minute meeting will allow him to get to know you better and talk to you about your faith journey. At the end of the meeting, you'll decide which Sunday you would like to join the church...and the rest, as they say, is history! Pray about it—are YOU ready to step out in faith?



Youth & Children's Page

ATTENTION, SENIORS!

The Endowment Committee at Aledo UMC would like to invite SENIORS to apply for our Gilliland Simpson Sandquist Endowment Scholarship. This scholarship is for 2018 High School graduates who are members or active participants at Aledo UMC, and who will be attending college, junior college, or trade school in the fall of 2018. The requested application must be completed and returned to the church office by April 22nd, 2018.

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We are SO PROUD!

What's Coming Up.

VAG:

ATTN, 6-8th graders,

Join us on every Tuesday,

5-6:15pm

Senior High (9-12th),

come learn and fellowship with us
every Sunday,

6:00-7:15pm

Youth Bible Study—

Wednesdays, 6-7pm

2/3rds of God—

April 21st, 10am-1pm

Youth Fellowship—

April 22nd, 11:30am-12:30pm



C.I.A. (CARING INDIVIDUAL ADULTS) LUNCHEON APRIL 15TH

CIA continues to flourish! This group is aimed folks who often find themselves eating alone. This includes (but is NOT limited to) anyone who has lost their spouse, divorced or separated, or whose loved one is in the nursing home. The CIA luncheon happens once each month. This month, the luncheon will be on Sunday, April 15th, immediately following the 10:30AM worship service. You don't have to bring anything except yourself. Feel free to invite a friend to share the meal and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you on the 15th of April at 11:45AM!

CONNECTION COINS FOR APRIL

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 (April 8th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward another important 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 April 8th will help fund that valuable ministry. What a GREAT way to help connect people to Jesus Christ!

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!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP!

Wednesday Night Fellowship is going full speed! The dinners have been spectacular, the rest of the evening has been great and the fellowship has been outstanding! The evening begins with dinner from 5:15 -6PM. Then, everything else starts!! At 6PM, your choices include:

Nursery for birth-3 years old

FUEL for kids through 6th Grade

Junior/Senior High Bible Study

Paul Hevland’s Adult Bible Study class (see accompanying article)

Bell Choir

Choir

See you on Wednesday evenings!

**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**

CALL-EM-ALL UPDATE

Call-Em-All now has a way for you to get those messages that only come through partially. It is called Message Replay. If you call the number 844-358-1565, they will play for you the last message sent to your phone number. Be sure to call from the phone that received the original message, and call soon, as you will get only the last message sent.

ONLINE GIVING

by Rev. Mark

More and more of you are now making your weekly/monthly/yearly offering to your church online! If you go to the home page of the church website (www.myledoumc.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 check-book 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 setting it up 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	03/04/2018	03/11/2018	03/18/2018	03/25/2018
Attendance	239	233	291	425
Receipts				
(Toward Budget)	\$9,030.00	\$5,698.00	\$5,512.01	\$7,156.99

**SHARING
GOD'S
GIFTS**