

The Parish Visitor

June, 2016



Visit us at myaledoumc.com

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 of 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".

Did You Miss Sunday's Sermon?

If you miss church on Sunday, you can STILL experience the sermon. Simply go to 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. Please share these links with your friends and family.



SPECIAL DATES:

- June 3 Rhubarb Fest 11-1 PM
- June 4 Rhubarb Fest 11-1PM
- June 6 Finance Meeting 6PM
- June 6 Trustees Meeting 7PM
- June 9 Caring Hearts Food Prep 9AM
- June 12 Administrative Council 7:15PM
- June 14 AUMC Family Movie Night 6:30-8:30 PM
- June 16 Naomi Wesleyan Circle @ Doug's T&C 11:30 AM
- June 19th Father's Day Celebration at Both Services
- June 20 UM Men Dinner/Meeting 6PM
- June 20 Registration due for MMDC Mission Trip
- June 23 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM
- June 23 UMW Exec. Board Meeting 4:15
- June 24 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- June 25th Relay For Life at Central Park 11AM-11PM
- June 26 CIA Luncheon 11:30 PM

New Sermon Series

by Rev. Mark

On Sunday, June 5, everything old is new again! In the summer of 2014, we spent time in The Psizzlin' Psummer Psalm Psermon Pseries. Last summer, we went back for another helping-The Psequal! This summer...we're BACK!

The Psizzlin' Psummer Psalm Psermon Pseries Psecond Psequal will be in full force. We'll spend June and early July looking at more of King David's writings. We'll wrap things up on 4th of July weekend. The weeks of the series look like this:

- **Sunday, June 5- An Evening Hymn** (Psalm 4)

It's not stress that kills us but our reaction to it.

- **Sunday, June 12- Longing For God** (Psalm 42)

Every person has a longing to be significant; to make a contribution; to be a part of something noble and purposeful.

- **Sunday, June 19- A Father's Call** (Psalm 128)

A father is a man who expects his children to be as good as they were meant to be.

- **Sunday, June 26- God's Faithfulness** (Psalm 111)

The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate.

- **Sunday, July 3- 4th of July- The Gates of Freedom** (Psalm 118)

Conformity is the jailer of freedom and the enemy of growth.

Come each week expecting God to speak to you in powerful ways!



What Musical Gifts Do YOU Have?

With a new, third Sunday morning worship service starting in the Fall, the need for musicians and singers increases. What untapped musical gifts do YOU have? Perhaps you sing or play a musical instrument? If so, maybe God is calling you to a greater commitment in our worship services. Here is a list of the current music ministry opportunities available:

- The new 9:15AM Worship Service needs a pianist, an acoustic guitarist and singers. See Rev. Mark for details.
- The Vocal Choir always has room for more singers. See Molly Joseph for more info.
- The Bell Choir is looking for more ringers, including substitutes. See Ila Bertrand for details.
- Do you play the piano? We could use your gifts! See Mike Millar to find out more.

Pray about stepping out in faith. If you feel God calling you to join the music ministry of the church...answer that call!

You are invited!

Gary and Anita Heard invite the church family to share in a celebration of Matthew and Hannah's joining together as husband and wife. The Aledo reception is Sunday, June 26th, 2016, 1-6PM at the Heard House and Gardens (1976 Ridge Road, Aledo, IL). Please join us for a joyful and relaxing afternoon of friendship, food, and live music.



Pastor's Bible Studies

His Name is Jesus

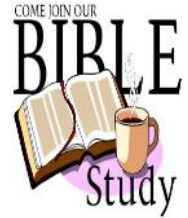
WHAT: Rev. Mark's Tuesday morning Bible Study

WHEN: Tuesdays @ 9AM

WHERE: In the Fellowship Cafe'

WHY: Get to know Jesus---and discover what it means to follow him as Savior and Lord! This back-to-basics interactive study helps you understand the Gospels chronologically; see how Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecy; and explore how his ministry enacted the saving reign of God.

WHAT ELSE: The books are \$10



The Gospel of Luke

WHAT: Rev. Mark's 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

Fundamentals of the Faith

WHAT: Rev. Mark's Sunday Morning Bible Study

WHEN: Sundays @ 9:15AM

WHERE: In the Dining Room

WHY: Fundamentals of the Faith is a thirteen-lesson study which blend basic biblical truths with personal obedience and service. This study is ideal to disciple new believers or help more mature Christians sharpen their understanding.

WHAT ELSE: We would LOVE to have you join this class. Books are \$10.



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 12th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward Vacation Bible School. Among the fastest growing ministries here are our Youth and Children's Ministries. As those ministries grow, so does need for financial support. So all proceeds collected from the June 12th Connection Coins will go toward helping fund the cost of this year's Vacation Bible School! What a GREAT way to help connect people to Jesus Christ. So bring your change on June 12th!



Aledo United Methodist Church Family Movie Night

AUMC will be holding a family movie night Tuesday, June 14th, 6:30-8:30PM. We will be watching the movie "Heaven Is For Real". Bring your family and enjoy a fun family time!

FUEL- Our Wednesday Night Children's Ministry

by Rev. Mark

FUEL has "gone to bed" for the season.

It will restart in the Fall!



Wednesday Night Fellowship Wrapped Up For the Season

The 2015-2016 edition of Wednesday Night Fellowship has been "put to bed"! We fed, on average, just under 100 people/week! Thank you to ALL the people who helped make WNF a huge success this year! We will start things back up in the fall.

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.



Father's Day

On Sunday, June 19th, 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.



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!

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- Panic Day, June 19th- Father's Day (see accompanying article), 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- Sunglasses 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!

CHURCH WEBSITE

Have you looked at your church's website? If not, go to www.myaledoumc.com and see what's going on! Not only can you see the "basics" about the Aledo United Methodist Church, you can find the most current church calendar. In addition, the 2-minute "call to worship" videos that start our 8AM service every week are available. Also, the monthly newsletter AND the weekly bulletin (complete with the current version of the Prayer List) can be found on our website. Stop by and check it out!



Just Breathe

I had just finished having four vials of blood drawn when the nurse came back in and explained I had ten minutes to drink this bottled concoction. The liquid was basically pure sugar with a slight hint of orange and Drano flavors. When I finished the sweet torture, I would have my blood drawn again in 30-40 minutes to test my A-1C levels.

The nurse said to me, "If you puke the test is over. Let me warn you the drink isn't good."

So I untwist the cap and begin to chug this "drink" (a term I use loosely). It lived up to its hype and was one of the nastiest things I have ever tasted...a mix of overly flat, syrupy pop with crushed sweet tarts. Yuck!

I finished it in record time, determined not to vomit. I sat there for a few minutes then my nurse broke the silence by saying, "Just breathe." I did NOT realize I was holding my breath as I mapped out some kind of strategy in my mind. God showed me during that moment how I spent parts of my life the same way...just holding my breath.

When a problem arose, I would allow myself to become unnerved and stressed. I refused to relax. I spent time trying to fix it myself. In the center of this chaos, I never pondered the fact that I quit breathing. I was restless.

My attitude was totally contrary to what Jesus tell us. He says in Matthew 11:28, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

He offers and gives us permission to rest! He is calling us to rest in faith knowing His sufficient grace and mercy are more than enough to handle our troubles. He wants us to breathe in His presence. As we take those moments to rest, we can be assured that He has plans for us to prosper and have a hopeful future (Jeremiah 29:11).

Is it time for you to rest?

VBS July 17-20th



What's Coming Up, TAG:

**2/3rd of God: June 18th,
10am-12pm**

**ATTN, 6-8th graders, Join
us on every Tuesday from 5-
6:15pm**

**Senior High (9-12th), come
learn and fellowship with us
every Sunday from 6:00-
7:15pm**

**Summer Bible Study:
Wednesdays 3-4pm**

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

06/03/1967- Bill & Ila Bertrand
 06/04/2011- John & Nicole Taylor
 06/07/2003- Craig & Stephanie Brown
 06/08/1968- Hal & Linda Earl
 06/08/1974- Tom & Barb 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
 06/20/2009- Chris & Meghan Harper
 06/21/1953- Dick & Liz Zimmerman
 06/22/2013- Dan & Cara Magedanz
 06/24/2006- Ryan & RaeAnn Latko
 06/24/1973- Dan & Linda Schrock
 06/27/1970- Gary & Anne Olson
 06/28/1999- Bradley & Janean Ottoson

*Happy
Anniversary*

UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

06/03- Carole Korn
 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 24
at 8am.

Please have all articles submitted
by this date!

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Connie Alexander
 Roger & Jodie Andress
 Scott Balmer
 Cindy Bosold
 Patty Bruner
 Judy Bunnell
 John & Bev Carlin
 Melissa Coleman
 Hurley Crossman
 Joe D
 Karen Dahlstrom
 Adam Douglas
 Linda Douglas
 Brenda Dunbar
 Judy Elliott
 Chris Engstrom
 Ron/Diane Engstrom
 Paul Engwall
 Don & Lyn Franks
 Jeff G
 Alexis Ganzer
 Susie Hall
 Beverly Haney
 Steve Hannig & family
 Rev Harris & family

Ralph Hill & family
 Ida Hoben
 Linda Hoy
 Noah Huston
 Lane Hyett family
 Chuck & Carmen Inman
 Judy Inman
 Jim
 Carli J.
 Kevin Jones
 Katie
 Karl Kenney family
 Beverly & Dick Koch
 Alison Kuk
 Nadine Liby
 Diane Lindberg
 Luann Matlick
 Jerry McAlister
 Roger McIntyre
 Joan Miller
 Joe Miller & family
 Mick Miller
 Noah Muske
 Joe & Kristin Ott
 Linda Patsche

Bonnie Peterson
 Chad Peterson
 Suzanne Ramer
 Bryce Rathje
 Richard Rockhold
 Richard Rutledge
 Sarah
 Ken Schlotfeld
 Ron Taylor
 Kenny Tharp
 Teresa Thomas
 Valerie & Eva
 Robin Vaughn
 Marilyn Wagler
 Ashley White
 Evelyn Yerkey
 Eric Zimmerman
 My Grandson
 My Niece's family
 Spiritual warfare
 Shut Ins/ Nursing Homes
 Military & families
 All ill/in hospitals
 Our nation & world

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



Flag Day

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14th (a Tuesday 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.

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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.



DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERMON?

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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!

Church Membership

by Rev. Mark

As of this writing, 25 folks have joined our church so far this calendar year. 25. In 5 months. I don't know about you, but I think that's pretty exciting! As a way of wrapping your head around that, more than 50% of the United Methodist Churches across the country won't have ONE new member this year. God is doing GREAT things here. And I, for one, am pretty jazzed to be a part of it!

What about...YOU? 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?

FOR I KNOW
THE PLANS
I HAVE FOR YOU
DECLARES
THE LORD
PLANS TO PROSPER YOU
AND NOT HARM YOU
PLANS TO GIVE YOU
H O P E
AND A FUTURE

Midwest Mission Distribution Center Mission Trip

We at AUMC will be going to MMDC in Chatham, IL Sunday, August 21 through Wednesday, August 24 on a mission trip! We will be doing various tasks to further the mission of the Methodist Church in our country, and around the world! There are sit-down jobs, such as sorting, sewing, filling flood buckets. There are "manly" jobs, such as cutting lumber, building desks and repairing bikes. There is a perfect job there for you!

Our Mission Committee has generously chosen to contribute financially to this trip, so all can participate. We are asking for your contribution to be \$50, but if that is not doable for you, contact the office or Rev Mark, and arrangements can be made for you can attend. We need your commitment, and your payment, by June 20th, so our reservations can be confirmed with MMDC. There are packets available at the Church with all the information you need. Pick one up today to see if this is something you would like to join us in doing!

Here are some facts to answer a few questions you may have:

- We will be sleeping in bunks in bunkrooms for 4 persons. Each bunkroom will (of course) be gender specific. The bunks are nice and comfortable.
- There are nice bathrooms with showers.
- We will be able to prepare our own meals. The costs are included in the \$50. We will come up with a plan for meals. You will not have to prepare your own each day.
- We will leave the church Sunday afternoon/early evening, work Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and return Wednesday evening.

This will be such an exciting time to work together as AUMC brothers and sisters, and to be the hands and feet of Christ to the nation and the world! Pick up a packet today, and join us on this adventure!



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!



Join Us At



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

June 3rd and 4th

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!

Enjoy the Sit-Down Crew Preparations on Tuesday at 10:30 AM

Join the Pie Making Sessions Wednesday & Thursday

Bring perishable food for potato & chicken salad by Thursday 8 AM

Bring lots and lots of pies by 8 AM Friday or Saturday

Workers on Friday & Saturday – Wear white shirt and a cap

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



WORSHIP TIMES:
Sundays 8AM &
10:15AM
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) and choose "giving" from the Navigation Bar near the top, it will take you to a page that will provide the opportunity for your 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?

C.I.A. (Caring Individual Adults) Luncheon

by Joanne Harris

C.I.A. (Caring Individual Adults) continues to flourish! 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 26th. 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!

FINANCIAL MATTERS (WEEKLY NEED \$6,082)



Date	05/01/2016	05/08/2016	05/15/2016	05/22/2016
Attendance	241	258	237	274
Receipts				
(Toward Budget)	\$7,734.05	\$5,882.30	\$5,424.00	\$4,457.25