

The Parish Visitor

May 2025



Visit us at myaledoumc.com

A HEART STRANGELY WARMED

The roots of Methodism are found in the month of May, way back in 1738, with a young Anglican preacher named John Wesley.

In 1735, Wesley decided to leave England for the New World to preach the gospel to the colonists and the “heathen” indigenous persons. He arrived in Savannah, Georgia on February 6, 1736. At the time, Savannah was comprised of just 40 homes, and Wesley soon began preaching. He had images of colonists and natives alike listening to the Word of God, soaking up every word like eager children. But nothing could be further from reality. The native persons were not interested and the English colonists found Wesley too rigid, too harsh and too demanding.

Complicating matters was the fact that Wesley had fallen deeply in love with a young lady named Sophia Hopkey. However, he decided not to marry her, believing that he would be a more effective minister if he remained single. So Sophia married another.

Sometime later, Sophia and her new husband attended Wesley’s church, and because the marriage had not been properly announced—no doubt because Sophia had previously been linked to Wesley—the heartbroken preacher refused to serve Holy Communion to the couple.

That led to charges being filed against Wesley, here it depends on which biographer you read—but according to some, John Wesley quietly slipped out of Savannah and sailed for London. Or, according to others, he boarded the ship just a few steps ahead of the tar and feathers.

Either way, one can only imagine how heavy Wesley’s heart was as he set sail for England on December 5, 1737, rejected and disillusioned. Not only was his heart heavy with heartbreak, but it was also heavy with his lingering doubts about his own salvation, and those doubts were amplified after observing the faith of some German Moravians who fearless sang psalms during a violent storm at sea.

Back in England, Wesley was fully aware of his own inadequacies. He was an ordained preacher, but something was missing from his life. He was still aware of those inadequacies several weeks later when he walked into a meeting on Aldersgate Street where someone was reading a passage from Martin Luther’s Commentary on Romans 1:17, “The just shall live by faith.” That’s the verse which launched Luther’s Reformation.

SPECIAL DATES:

- May 1 Pie Making 9AM
- May 2 8AM Package Pies take to MM
- May 4 Trustee Meeting at 6PM
- May 4 Finance Meeting at 6:45PM
- May 4 Ad Council Meeting at 7:30PM
- May 7 9AM Pie Making
- May 8 8AM Package pies take to MM at 5PM
- May 8 Caring Hearts Food prep 9AM
- May 10 Pork Chops at MM Relay for Life at 10AM
- May 12 MDSF Banquet at 6PM
- May 13 Loving Hands food prep at 1PM
- May 14 at 9AM Pie making
- May 15 9AM Package Pies 5PM take to MM
- May 15 1PM Caring Hearts food prep
- May 19 9AM sit down crew prep for RF
- May 19 6PM UMM Mtg
- May 20 5PM Food Pantry
- May 21 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- May 22 1PM Caring Hearts
- May 23 Food pantry 8AM till noon
- May 26 Office Closed for Memorial Day
- May 27 1PM Loving Hands 5PM cleaning for RF
- May 28 9AM Pie making
- May 29 8AM sit down prep/make pies
- May 30 9AM make sloppy joes



(continued from page 1)

Listening to that commentary on May 24, 1738, John Wesley later wrote, "I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me, that he had taken away *my* sins, even *mine* and saved *me* from the law of sin and death."

That conversion experience, which took place in a gathering along Aldersgate Street in London, has become known as Wesley's "Aldersgate" experience. He described his Aldersgate experience as "the most glorious day which I have hitherto seen." The same passage which launched the Lutheran Reformation in 1517 launched the Methodist Movement 221 years later.

As we approach May 24, 2025, let us ask ourselves if we have the assurance of knowing that Christ has taken away our sins. Having our hearts "strangely warmed" is a part of our Methodist heritage. We all need our Aldersgate—that place where we can say without question that we've met Christ for ourselves.

Connection people to Christ with you,
Pastor Dave

Statue of John Wesley, located in Reynold's Square,
Savannah, Georgia

Connecting with the Word

As believers in Christ, we are shaped by the Word of God. Following are the scriptures suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary for each week in May. I encourage you to read these passages to prepare your hearts for worship, whether in-person, on the radio, on Facebook, or on our church website, Myaledoumc.com. You'll notice that in the season between Easter and Pentecost, the Book of Acts takes the place of the Old Testament Lesson.

Sunday, May 4, Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) Psalm 30: Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

Sunday, May 11, Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 9:9-17; John 10:22-30

Sunday, May 18: .Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6 John 13: 31-35

Sunday May 25 Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21: 10, 22 5; John 14: 21-29

Christian Education Classes

Sunday, 9:15 am

- Children's Sunday School meets in rooms 8 & 9.
- Two adult classes are offered. Ila Bertrand's class meets in room 7, The Sonrise Coffee House. Damon Seys leads the Seekers in room 16.

Sunday, 10:30 am

- Middle and High School youth meet in room 12.

Nursery Care

- During the 9:15 am and 10:30 am, Nursery care is provided for children aged 4 and

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, ROGER BIRKHEAD!



Come help us celebrate!
Open House
Viola Presbyterian Church
Sunday, May 25th, 2025
2:00-4:00 P.M.

If you are unable to attend, you may send a
birthday card to:
Roger Birkhead
2881 State Highway 17,
Viola, IL 61486



LENTEN BUCKET UPDATE

Total giving was \$1,420.00, which far exceeds our silver goal of \$919.00, which is one month's apportionments for Conference Benevolences and Connectional Ministries. If you haven't turned in your bucket yet, please do so as soon as possible and help us reach our gold goal of \$1,838.00, which is two month's apportionments.



Sponsors for our May Radio Broadcasts

May 4, Anonymous

May 11, United Methodist Men

May 18, Anonymous

May 25, Julie Bigham in memory of loved ones

Aledo UMC has a wonderful ministry partnership with WRMJ Radio 102.3 FM. Our services are now broadcast every Sunday at 5:10 pm, thanks to your sponsorship. We encourage you to download the WRMJ app so you can listen to our broadcast live on your smartphone, tablet, or computer. The app is available free at your app store.



Mothers, Daughters, Sisters, Friends “Let’s Go To The Hop” in AUMC Dining Room

May 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Tickets are only \$5.00 each payable to UMW
Obtain yours from Mary Flint, Ruth Dulaney
or the church office by May 5th

Menu

Grilled Hamburger and
Hot Dog Meal
And a surprise dessert!



**50’s Attire is
encouraged**



MOTHER’S DAY

Do you have your greeting card picked out? **Sunday, May 11th is Mother’s Day!** Those tireless, often thankless women who brought us into this world are honored on that day. The women of the church will be recognized that day, and the men of the congregation will be giving each of them a special gift as well. If your mother is no longer with us, say a special prayer of thanksgiving for her that day. If she IS with us, make sure you call her to tell her how much she means to you. We may not be able to be together, but we can let her know how much she is loved and remembered.



MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May (Monday, May 26th this year). Formerly known as Decoration Day, it commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in military service to their country. First enacted to honor Union soldiers from the Civil War (it is celebrated near the day of official reunification after that war), it was expanded after World War I to include American casualties of any war or military action.

On Sunday, May 25th we will honor those men and women who gave their lives for our country during our Worship Service. Please remember the ultimate price these brave people paid so that we might have freedom-including freedom to worship as we see fit.



Bible Studies for Men

Men's Bible Study every Wednesday Morning at 6:30AM is currently studying "Ten Men of the Bible" by Max Lucado. Come join them for fellowship and breakfast!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Come join Pastor Dave on Tuesday mornings at 9AM till 10:30AM. They are studying from the book, "Words of Life" by Adam Hamilton. Unpack the Ten Commandments, Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today.

Thank You

AUMC thank you so much for your 126 shoebox gifts. Thank you for your generous hearts and partnerships in sharing Jesus Christ, "The light of the worlds". (John 8:12)

Your Great Quad Cities IA IL Area Operation Christmas Child.

The United Methodist Men meet on May 19th. There will be a meal, a short business meeting, and lots of fellowship. Join us, and bring a friend!



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

05/03/2014– Jose & Kaitlyn Marceleno
 05/07/2011– Darren & Kia Winsor
 05/16/1970– Mike & Vicki Peterson
 05/21/2016– Pat & Amy Sage
 05/22/2021– Paul & Paula Hevland
 05/24/2014– Arnold & Diane Hunt
 05/25/1996– Bill & Jane Stropes
 05/31/1986– Russell & Susie Marston



UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

05/11– Linda Tharp
 05/19– Louise Engwall
 05/21– Martha Rittenhouse
 05/30– Clara McCreight



The deadline for the next Parish Visitor is

Thursday, May 21st at 8am.

**All articles must be
submitted by this date!**

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Alicia/healing
 Jodie Andress
 Family of Judy Baker
 Bob Baker/health
 JeAnne Balmer/health
 Tom Balmer/health
 Bishop David Bard
 Family of Vick Bieri
 Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai
 Bill Breeden/health
 Renae Brown/mental health
 Grant Dahlstrom/ankle injury
 Neil David/hospice
 Connie Dellitt/health
 Adam Douglas/health
 Jim Droste/health
 Stacey Dutton/health
 Jayne Fitzsimmons/healing
 Renee Forber/healing
 Family of Don Franks
 Marie Fredrickson/InterVarsity
 Gabrielle/FMD
 The Gerber Family
 Andrew Hofer/FCA
 Diane & Stan Hunt/health/job
 Kathy Jenkins/health
 Family of Joyce Lindle
 Vicki Lowe/health
 The McCaw Family
 Family of Laura McGinnis
 Family of Peggy Malone
 Mitch Meminger/health

Linda Morrow/health
 Kula Naole
 Mike Newsom/healing
 Kathy Newswander/cancer treatment
 Ruby Nimrick/health
 Family of Sonia Nimrick
 Family of Dave Noyd
 Family of Anne Obiedzinski
 Cookie Olsen
 Jennifer Olson/cancer
 Cara Brown Osborn/issues
 Family of Cheryl Patterson
 Paul & family/addiction
 Sharon Peterson/health
 Baby Peyton/health
 Marion Pinkham/health
 Bill Pollock/health
 Janice Pollock/cancer
 Candi Rains/cancer treatments
 Dan Reed/cancer
 Kevin Ricke/health
 Chrissy Riddell/cancer
 Diana Rupe/health
 Pastor Dave & Candice
 Ashley Schmidt
 Dianna Spencer health
 Family of Amy Studer
 Dan Swanson/health
 Family of Corey Thompsen
 Family of Debby Thomas
 Leslie VanLanshoot/stroke
 Nena Visser/health



Dick Zimmerman/health
 Liz Zimmerman/health
 Jim Bigham
 Deb Swank
 Pam Truman
 Cara Brown Osborn
 Steve & Rhonda Brown
 Diane Richardson friend health issues
 Dave Pence/health
 Baby Peyton/health
 Marion Pinkham/health
 Bill Pollock/health
 Janice Pollock/cancer
 Candi Rains/cancer treatments
 Dan Reed/cancer
 Martha Rittenhouse/health
 Jane Williams pain
 Mitch Meminger/health

Acceptance, Respect, Dignity, Equality
 AUMC family & committees
 Brookstone, nursing home, and
 Vashti residents
 World Peace
 Jobs.
 Kind Words, Kind Hearts
 Our Country, The World
 People in need
 Students being deported
 Those who are grieving.
 Mercer County Schools,
 Administration, Teachers, Staff and
 Students

**United
Methodist
Church**



RHUBARB FESTIVAL LUNCHEON

**JUNE 6TH AND 7TH
11:00 AM – 1:30 PM**

**Opportunities for all men, women
and youth to help with this BIG
event - We have a spot for YOU!**

- **RHUBARB TO SHARE? WILLING TO CUT & BAG RHUBARB? – CALL MARY OR PAUL FLINT @ 309-582-7615**
- **INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO ATTEND**
- **HELP MAKE PIES AT CHURCH – SIGN UP IN CAFÉ**
- **HELP WITH OTHER GROUP PREPARATIONS AT CHURCH – LISTS AVAILABLE ALSO IN CAFÉ**
- **SIGN UP FOR DAILY WORK OPPORTUNITIES WEEK BEFORE EVENT ON: JUNE 3RD– JUNE 5TH**
- **MAKE PIES AT HOME AND BRING TO CHURCH DAYS OF RHUBARB FEST: JUNE 6TH & JUNE 7TH**
- **WORK DURING RHUBARB FEST**
- **QUESTIONS: CONTACT MARY FLINT OR RUTH DULANEY**

ADULT MENU: \$12.50 DONATION

**CHICKEN SALAD, SLOPPY JOE
OR HOT DOG SANDWICH; PICKLES;
POTATO SALAD OR POTATO CHIPS;
HOMEMADE PIE & BEVERAGE**

CHILD'S MENU (10 AND UNDER): \$5.00 DONATION

HOT DOG, POTATO CHIPS, COOKIE & JUICE

Rhubarb Fest Work Opportunities

Pie Making at 9AM & Pie Packaging the next AM at 8:00

Thur., May 1st Wed., May 7th Wed., May 14th Wed., May 28th Thur., May 29th

Sit Down Prep

Mon., 19th 9AM - Strawberries, Boxes, Spices

Thurs, May 29th – Crumb topping, Flute pie crusts, Pickle relish, S&P Boxes

Rhubarb Fest Week Preparations

Fri., May 30th 9AM– Make Sloppy Joes Tues., June 3rd 1PM – Chop Chicken

Wednesday, June 4th

8AM Boil Eggs 10AM Chop Eggs, Cut Celery 1PM Peel & Cut Potatoes
3PM Boil Potatoes 6PM Prepare Potato Salad Dressing 4PM – Set Up

Thursday, June 5th

7AM Make Potato Salad 11AM Make Chicken Salad 1PM Cut Croissants
5PM Finish Set Up & Bring pies from **Mercer Market**

Friday and Saturday, June 6th & 7th

Rhubarb Fest Workers!!



RICE MEAL PACKETS

The mission team and other volunteers prepared 520 rice meal packets, that went to MMDC where they will be ship to those areas that need them. Thank you to Wayne and Vi Darsnek for organizing the event and to Dwight Reynolds for picking up the supplies. The cost for assembling the meals was partially covered by our Trivia Night. Thank you to everyone that helped in this mission!



CONNECTION COINS FOR MAY



Our food ministries, Caring Hearts (Frozen food Ministry at AUMC) and Loving Hands Ministry for Mercer County Health Department, are highly dependent upon the food available from Riverbend Food Bank at a lower price than retail stores. Each week the Health Department receives 1000 pounds of free produce which they distribute throughout the county through this program.

Riverbend Food Bank has experienced a 7% loss in food received due to the recent cuts by USDA, about \$650,000 worth of food. Hunger is at the highest rate in over a decade. Families are having trouble buying enough healthy food. The Food Bank urgently needs support to meet the increased need with fewer resources to keep their shelves stocked. Every \$1 helps provide enough food for 5 meals.

We can help by donating through our church at anytime or now with the Connection Coins, directly donating to Riverbend Food Bank general accounts, 4010 Kimmel Drive, Davenport, Iowa 52802 riverbendfoodbank.org 563-345-6490 , or donating to our account at Riverbend Food Bank – Agency 11452.

Congrats to our Graduates!

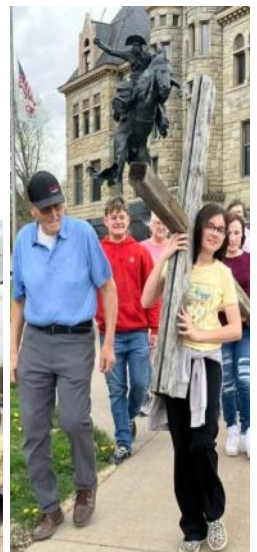


**Austin Hains
Gracie Hevland
Violet Meskan
Alexsis Taylor**

Can't wait to see what God has in store for you all!

Aledo UMC Cross Walk

Once again on Good Friday, we continued our tradition of prayerfully carrying the cross from the church to the Courthouse, stopping often to pray and giving everyone the opportunity to carry it the opportunity to do so. It's also a powerful witness to our community. Thanks to everyone who participated!



Our AUMC Volunteer of the Month for May

Our Tech Booth Team

Thanks to your generosity, our church has been blessed with amazing technology—both audio and visual—which greatly enhances our worship experiences. However, none of that technology runs itself. It requires a team of volunteers to run the sound board and computer for each service. This month we are expressing our appreciation to these dedicated volunteers. But along with that appreciation, we are also extending a plea to the congregation for more volunteers. Our current tech team includes:

- Mike Millar, who works directly with setting up technology with Finn Solutions as well as during our worship services
- Quinton King, our part-time director of technology who is in the tech booth during most services.
- Our current dedicated tech booth volunteers include Barry Algren, Jenn Anderson, Caden Leng, Noah Seys, Max Tatum, Alexis Taylor, Ethan Taylor, and Jen Thompson. Ethan also operates the camera during the 8 am service.
- Ruth Dulaney serves as our scheduler. If you would like to join this team and operate either the computer or the sound board, please contact Ruth.
- Others who have volunteered over the past year include Joanne Harris, Bill Kraut, Deb Swank, and Miles Ward.

Not to be overlooked are the contributions of two individuals who were especially dedicated members of our tech team, Amy Studer and Bill Glenn. For years, Amy ran the sound board for the 8 am service, and Bill did the same for the 9:15 and 10:30 services. Both have gone on to glory; both too soon, and they've been hard to replace. Your help is needed. The more who sign up, the more the burden is shared with others.

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the family of Laura McGinnis, thank you for the support you have provided us over the past year as she faced many health battles. Thank you to the many of you who provided us with support, prayer, food, flowers and memorial donations in honor of her. Laura loved the church and her faithfulness to God she expressed in all the ways her life touched others. Thank you for allowing us to use the church to allow the community to come together to celebrate her life with us. Our gratitude goes out to Pastor Dave for reading the Scripture and delivering the Word so thoughtfully in honor of our Wife/Mother/Grandmother. We couldn't be more appreciative of those who provided the music that Laura had wished for, Forgiven Praise Band, thank you for taking the time to honor us with your talent and to Steve Brown for lending his golden voice to us even when unavailable to attend in person. To Ruth, and the United Methodist Women and all who helped prepare, serve and clean up after the fellowship meal, your efforts and time were invaluable to our family. The meal prepared fed everyone's bellies and souls and Laura was so pleased to see her wishes honored in the way she often expressed her love and faithfulness through feeding friends and family. As we all navigate our earthly world without her, please honor Laura's memory by loving thy neighbor, loving the world and emulating her by living with daring and spirit and joy.

Randy
Amy, Trenton & Cael
Abby, Andrew, Rylan, Kaelyn & Rydge
Ali, James, Wesley & Lauryn



Need a ride to church?

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



SAVE THE DATE

VBS IS COMING IN JULY

THEME IS "ROAD TRIP"

JULY 21ST THROUGH THE 25TH



THE FORGE

WHERE LIVES TAKE SHAPE

FORGE IS OUR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP FOR GRADES 6 THROUGH 12.

- Forge T-shirts are now available. See Pastor Dave for more information. ●
- Forge meeting times will be announced by text. If you're not receiving notices of gatherings, contact Pastor Dave
- On Sunday, April 13, we helped pull rhubarb as our church gears up for Rhubarb Fest June 6 and 7.



FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Date	04/06/2024	04/13/2024	04/21/2024	04/28/2024
Attendance	166	145	277	NA
Receipts				
(Toward Budget)	\$10,179.00	\$5,426.00	\$4,121.00	NA

