

The Parish Visitor



August 2025

Visit us at myaledoumc.com

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

Our many volunteers form the backbone of our church. That is especially evident during our Sunday morning worship services because it takes a lot of people to make our services hum along as smoothly as they do. Every Sunday, ushers, greeters, fellowship café workers, musicians, choir members, bell ringers, computer and sound board operators, nursery workers, Sunday school teachers, and more mobilize to enhance your worship experience.

Unfortunately, declining attendance at our traditional worship service has forced us to ask ourselves, *Are we being good stewards of the time and energy of our volunteers?* And the answer that keeps coming back to us is that it's time for a change.

After much prayer and discernment and many conversations, we will launch a new Sunday morning worship schedule beginning Sunday, September 7:

- **8 AM** will become a **BLENDED WORSHIP** service, and it will feature the Connection Praise Band, keyboardist Katie Moran, the Chancel Choir, and the Bell Choir.

- **9 AM, SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES.** Ashlie Dellitt Fuller and Pete Nelson will continue to teach our children, and Nicole Taylor will continue to direct children's music. John Taylor will lead a class for junior and senior high youth. Ila Bertrand will continue to lead an adult class in the Sonshine Coffeehouse, and Damon Seys and I will team-teach an adult class in the Seeker's room.

- **9:45 AM, ROCK AND WORSHIP** will continue with the Forgiven Praise Band. The only change is that it will meet at a new time.

Our traditional worship regulars will be welcome at either 8 AM or 9:45; however, the 8 AM service will more closely resemble our 10:30 traditional worship service.

Incidentally, we will continue to present our 10:30 traditional worship service through Sunday, August 31.

With the changes, **NURSERY** will be offered at 8 AM, 9 AM, and 9:45 AM.

SPECIAL DATES:

- August 2 Thompson Bridal Shower
- August 3rd Communion Sunday
- August 3rd Youth Beach Day West Lake
- August 6 Mission trip River Bend Food Bank
- August 6 Caring Hearts Prep 9AM
- August 9 UMW Pork Chops at Mercer Market 10AM-1PM
- August 13 Loving Hands Food Prep 1PM
- August 17 Missions Meeting 5:15PM
- August 17 Trustees Meeting 6PM
- August 17 Finance Meeting 6:45PM
- August 17 Administrative Council Meeting 7:30PM
- August 18 Men Meeting 6PM
- August 21 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM
- August 21 UMW Executive Meeting 4PM
- August 22 Parish Visitor Deadline
- August 26 Loving Hands Food Prep 1PM
- August 31 Fifth Sunday celebration moved to Rally Day September 7

In addition to our 8 AM Blended Worship and our 9:45 Rock and Worship, we will offer a **10:30 AM** worship service **THREE TIMES A YEAR** for our Christmas and Easter Cantatas and our Children's Christmas program. Rock and Worship will be canceled on those three Sundays to clear the sanctuary for dress rehearsals. This will also give our United Methodist Men the opportunity to serve breakfast on the two Sundays when a cantata is being presented.

Change is hard. Nobody likes to change. I don't like to change. But sometimes change is necessary, and this is one of those times.

Our new format will begin after Labor Day on Sunday, September 7, which will also be Sunday School Rally Day. This will take the place of the Fifth Sunday service on August 31.

Connecting people to Christ with you,

Pastor Dave

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 June. 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.

Sunday, August 3 Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9, Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21.
Holy Communion will be served.

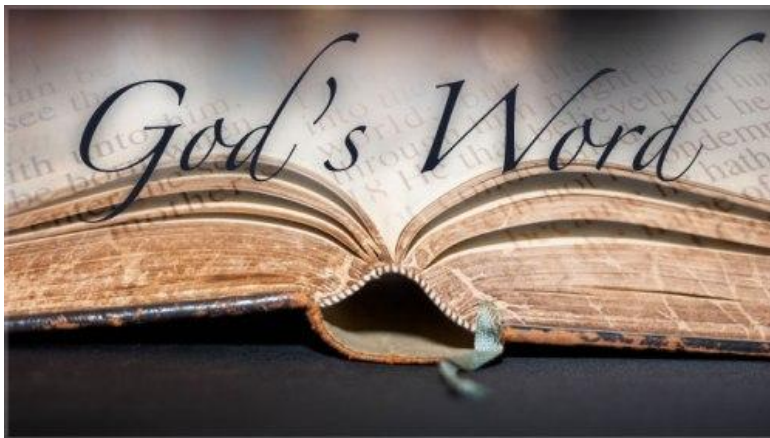
Sunday, August 10: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Psalm 50: 108, 22-23, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40.

Sunday, August 17: Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-19, Hebrews 11:29-12:2, Luke 12:49-56.

Sunday, August 24: Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17.

Sunday, August 31: Jeremiah 2:4-13, Psalm 81:1, 10-16, Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16.

Brown Bag Stories: Since we do not offer children's Sunday school during the summer, Pastor Dave will be sharing one of his Brown Bag stories during all three services as children are present. That's because we exist to connect *children* to Jesus Christ.



Also, Children's Church *may* be offered as volunteers are available. If it is to be held, it will follow the Brown Bag Story until Sunday school resumes this fall. Children's Church will be held in the education wing. Children's Church will not offered on August 3 because that is communion Sunday and we want our children to receive Holy Communion.

Connecting People to Christ with you,

Pastor Dave

An Old Fashioned Church Picnic is coming For Rally Day 2025 Sunday, September 7

This is a day for all church members and friends to join together for exciting activities after our Rock and Worship service. Invite your neighbors and friends!

- Box lunch event of “yester year.” Individuals or groups can select one of the 20 provided boxes, decorate it, and fill it with six sandwiches. The highest bidder will then enjoy lunch with the surprise owner of the box.
- Other church volunteers will provide salads for the meal
- An ice cream social will be our dessert!
- An old fashioned cake walk will be held. Tickets will be sold to participate. *Would you like to provide a dessert for this event?* Sign-up sheets will be on the announcement table in the Fellowship Café.
- Proceeds from the meal donations and fun activities will go toward flooring in the Education Wing.
- Self-guided tours of the classrooms.
- The fun continues with outdoor games and inflatables.
- *An early Labor Day has moved our Fifth Sunday to September 7.*

Mat Weaving

Every Tuesday at 9 or 10:30 am next to the dining room. Our mat weavers have woven 12 mats in less than a year, keeping 8,750 plastic bags out of landfills!

We need you!

We need volunteers starting in September for Fellowship Café, We really need more helpers in this area!

Contact Ruth Dulaney if you can help.



Children's Sunday School

New things are coming for Sunday School! On September 7, we will start our new Sunday School time of 9am. That same day, we kick off Sunday School with Rally Day. Please join us for an Old-Fashioned Sunday School picnic after the second service, with lunch, ice cream, and a cake walk! We then will have inflatables and yard games to enjoy outside. If you haven't been to Sunday School in a while, this is a great time to start. We will continue to have two children's classes: grades K-2 taught by Pete Nelson and grades 3-5 taught by Ashlie Dellitt Fuller. Both classes will be studying Jesus, His resurrection, and the amazing days of the early church. There will be Sunday School classes for all ages at 9am: Jr-Sr High and two adult classes will also be offered at that time. Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity for deeper learning and to connect with others. We can't wait to see you!

Mission Day Trips



Eight members of AUMC visited Chaddock in Quincy on Thursday, July 10 where we spread mulch, did some cleaning in a cottage, had lunch, and had a tour of their facilities, thanks to our friend, Shawna Bunnell, outreach coordinator for Chaddock.

Seven of us went to YouthHope in Moline on Tuesday, July 22 where we filled food packs and sorted coats and school supplies in preparation for their Back to School Bash.



Six of us volunteered at the River Bend Food Bank on July 17 where we spent the morning filling boxes with food to be given to families with children during the summer. We filled 155 boxes in just two hours.

All Mission Day Trips were sponsored by Forge.

Aledo UMC in Mission



Once again this year, our Missions Team provided a home-cooked meal to the carnival workers at the Mercer County Fair. This year we served spaghetti plus a sack lunch for supper. Forty-five fair workers were served on July 7, which was set-up day prior to the opening of the fair. As an added bonus, we received excellent coverage on KWQC-TV, the Quad Cities NBC affiliate.

“There just something special about a church giving and not expecting anything in return,” Pastor Dave noted.

Annual Conference Special Offerings

Six special offerings were received this year at the Annual Conference of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, and here are the totals received:

Africa University, \$4,809.91. This reflects a partnership of over 30 years between the IGRC and Africa University.

John Kofi Asmah Maintenance Fund, \$2,615.00. Laity from our conference raised funds to construct the John Kofi Asmah School in Monrovia, Liberia. This year’s offering will assist with ongoing maintenance.

IGRC Camping Scholarships, \$6,124.77. This offering will help to continue a solid base of support for camper scholarships at East Bay and Little Grassy camps.

Tom Brown Scholarship, Wiley University, \$3,825.75. Wiley University, located in Marshall, Texas, is one of the eleven historical Black Colleges in our nation. This scholarship is named for one of the long-time supporters of Wiley in our conference.

IGRC Campus Ministries, \$6,234.27. Through the Wesley Foundations, our conference maintains a spiritual presences on seven campuses within Illinois, including Western Illinois University at Macomb.

Bishop’s Study Trip for Ordinands, \$3,629.50. This trip is used to form spiritual leaders at the beginning of their ministry.

Midwest Mission received 1,941 pounds of in-kind goods at Conference.

Aledo UMC donated \$100 to each of these ministries. We also participated in giving to Midwest Mission with two plastic mats, one box of school bags sewn by Barb King, two boxes of feminine products, two cases of face masks, and two cases of hand sanitizer.

Sponsors for our August Radio Broadcasts

August 3– United Methodist Men

Aug 10– Angie DeBlock in memory of Carol McAtee

Aug 17— Julie Bigham in memory of my parents

Aug 24– Bill and Carolyn Pollock in memory of Dale & Dean Swanberg.

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.



WRMJ RADIO BROADCAST.

We need sponsors starting in September!

Each Sunday at 5:10PM we broadcast our 8am Worship Service on WRMJ. Would you like to sponsor this? It costs \$30 to sponsor a Sunday broadcast, and is a wonderful way to get our Services out to the public and to those who cannot make it out to church.

If you are interested, let the office know at 582-2169. If you would like to sponsor in memory of a loved one, give us the information and we will acknowledge it in the bulletin and in the announcements.

AUGUST CONNECTION COINS

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 11th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward an awesome ministry, our Network of Caring Fund. This fund has a very specific reason for being- to help folks who are in need. Over the years, it has provided gas money for people to get to work or the doctor, helped pay an electric bill or a rent payment, and helped get food in someone’s refrigerator.... to just name a few. It is an anonymous fund- no one but the Pastor knows who receives help! Your coins will help make that happen. So, remember to bring your change on Sunday, August 11th. One hundred percent of the money that is collected in the cans on the 11th 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 11.

Hy-Vee Baked Product Schedule

Our HyVee bread and many other goodies are delivered on Saturday morning. They are available for you to pick up in the Fellowship Café area when you come to Church Services on Sunday morning. The bread is in the lobby outside the church office on Monday morning 8–8:30AM for you to select bread products for your neighbors and yourself.

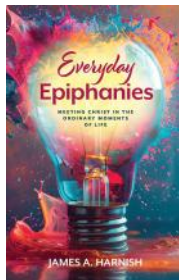


Bible Studies for Men

Men's Bible Study every Wednesday Morning at 6:30AM. Come for breakfast and a time of studying God's Word. The men are currently studying *Ten Men of the Bible* by Max Lucado.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Studies resume beginning Tuesday, September 2, with *Everyday Epiphanies* by James Harnish. Studies begin at 9 am and are open to all who are curious about God. Books will be available for \$13.



Sunday Evening

Women's Bible Study

Our Sunday evening (6PM) Women's Bible Study is studying *Ten Women of the Bible*. Contact Natalie Nelson for more information, including a schedule of meeting times.



Our Pop-up Splash Pad was a huge success this summer, especially since the pool has been closed. The kids were in constant motion, so it was hard to tell how many came. But we know it was a fun filled day. Thanks to all the volunteers and especially to Nicole Taylor for organizing this. Thank you as well to everyone who donated to the inflatables. Thanks to your donations. We now own the inflatables and they will be available for outreach events for years to come!



The United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, August 18th at 6PM in the church dining room. There will be a meal, a short business meeting, and lots of fellowship. Join us, and bring a friend!



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

08/01/2009- Brian & Lindsay Fearman
 08/06/1999- Scott & Dianna Spencer
 08/08/1964- Gail & Linda Morrow
 08/08/1998- Scott & Sabrina Earl
 08/17/1984- Garry & Debra Toops
 08/17/2013- Gary & Karen Buchanan
 08/18/2007- Nick & Miranda Boss
 08/26/1972- Steve & Rhonda Brown
 08/28/2010- Jacob & Hannah Robinson
 08/29/1965- Stan & Debbie Swank
 08/29/1970- Dennis & Vicki Palmer



UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

08/28- Audrey Anderson



The deadline for the next Parish Visitor is

Friday, August 22nd at 8am.

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

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Alli Adams
 Alicia/healing
 Anne/recovery
 Kira Anderson/recovery
 Jodie Andress
 JeAnne & Tom Balmer
 Bishop David Bard
 Christie Bender/recovery
 Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai
 Bill Breeden/health
 Renae Brown/mental health
 Child
 Rev, John & Barbra Crede
 Neil David/hospice
 Deena/health
 Connie Dellitt/health
 Karen Dosh
 Jim Droste/health
 Sonjia Fell/health
 Finn & Max/recovery
 Jayne Fitzsimmons/healing
 Bill Fleurette/recovery
 Renee Forber/healing
 Lyn Franks/peace
 Marie Fredrickson/I V
 Gabrielle/FMD
 Family of Illa Hay
 Judy Headley/health
 Sue Hiscocks & family/loss of
 Sue's brother

Debbie Jasper
 Diane & Stan Hunt, family
 Anderw Hofer
 Kathy Jenkins/health
 Family of Joyce Lindle
 Juna/health
 Vicki Lowe/health
 Family of Laura McGinnis
 Randy McGinnis/health
 Megan Melton/health
 Megan & family/loss
 Mitch Meminger/heart
 Phyllis Meyer/health
 Mom
 Linda Morrow/health
 David murphy
 Donna Murphy/recovery
 Mike Newsom/healing
 Kathy Newswander/cancer treat-
 ment
 Ruby Nimrick/health
 Cookie Olsen
 Jennifer Olson/cancer
 Cara Brown Osborn/health
 Dennis and Tom Palmer/recovery
 Paul & family/addiction
 Chris Pearson & family
 Sharon Peterson/health
 Marion Pinkham/health
 Family of Carole Schmidt



Janice Pollock, cancer
 Bill Pollock, health issues
 Family of Candi Rains
 Dan Reed/cancer
 Kevin Ricke/health
 Chrissy Riddell/cancer
 Trevor Schroeder/health
 Pastor Dave & Candice
 Dianna Spencer/recovery
 Family of Amy Studer
 Debbie Swank/healing
 Dan Swanson/health
 Family of Corey Thompson
 Rev Herb & Suzanne Thompson
 Family of Debby Thomas
 Brenna, Kylar Vileu, & baby/
 health
 Nena Visser/health
 Jane Williams/pain

John Williams/healing
 Young person who needs peace
 Dick Zimmerman
 Liz Zimmerman
 Acceptance, Respect, Dignity,
 Equality
 AUMC family & committees
 Brookstone, nursing home, and
 Vashti residents
 Kind Words, Kind Hearts
 Our Country, Our Government,
 The World and Leaders
 People in need
 Those who are grieving,
 Travel mercies

Volunteers of the Month Adam Douglas & Tammy Friedel

Our August Volunteers of the Month are very community-minded volunteers! When they are not at their regular paying jobs, you can find them working at the Aledo VFW many hours a week.



Both are always ready to serve at the church whenever needed. They have spent countless hours helping Tom and Jeanne Balmer over the years as well as many other individuals.

Adam Douglas and Tammy Friedel have hearts of gold and are willing to serve.

Tammy has expertly cooked the potatoes for the Rhubarb Fest potato salad and is an active funeral lunch worker among other things.

Adam enjoys driving the church bus quite often. He is an active member of the Mercer County Search and Rescue team. He also loves driving golf carts around town at Rhubarb Fest time.

No matter how tired they are because of their busy lives, they are here to be the "Hands and Feet of Jesus."

Adam and Tammy, thank you for your dedicated service at AUMC and beyond!

How to use this *Parish Visitor*

Fill your calendar. Decide which activities you want to be involved in. Are you on a committee which meets this month? When will it meet? Are there special services you want to attend? Is there a fun activity being planned this month that you don't want to miss? Let your *Parish Visitor* be your guide to a blessed month!

Look for mission opportunities. When will Loving Hands gather to make meals for those facing food insecurities? Are we collecting items or funds for a special project? Do I want to connect people to Jesus Christ by sponsoring a radio broadcast?

Use it as a Prayer Guide: Yes, there's a list of "Those We Remember In Our Prayers," but you can also use this newsletter as a guide to pray for the various services, activities, and ministries which will be happening throughout the month. Pray for the United Methodist Men and Women, the Forge Youth, the Caring Hearts and Loving Hands ministries, and so much more!

Invite a friend. After you've filled your calendar, found a mission opportunity, and prayed for the various events taking place this month, why not give your well-used *Parish Visitor* to a neighbor and invite them to a church that is alive, active, and filled with the love of God.



Trivia Night

Plan now for a night of fun, fellowship, food, and trivia on Saturday, October 11. Doors will open at 5 pm; trivia begins at 6 pm. Cost is \$80 for a table of 8 with all proceeds going to the mission and outreach of Aledo UMC. Once again, Pastor Dave will be Trivia Master, and he

says this may be his best trivia night yet. This is a multimedia event with pictures, music, and videos. Best of all, you don't have to know a lot of trivia to have fun!

THE FORGE

WHERE LIVES TAKE SHAPE

FORGE IS OUR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP FOR GRADES 6 THROUGH 12.

Forge will meet on Sunday, August 10, at 6PM, and Sunday, August 24, at 11:45AM.



**Youth Outing to
West Lake Beach,
Davenport**

Sunday, August 3

Noon – 5 pm

**For those entering 5th Grade
through 12th grade.**

FREE!

**Open to the first 15 youth
to sign up.**

VBS kids went on a “Road Trip”

Aledo UMC hosted another successful Vacation Bible School July 21 through 25 with approximately 40 children attending each night. Children connected to Jesus Christ through this year’s theme, Road Trip. Thanks to all the kids who participated and all of the adult helpers in the various activity centers. Thanks as well to all those who helped prepare meals throughout the week.



Need a ride to church?

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



VISIT US

Would you like to follow news from our Illinois Great Rivers Conference? Simply log on to igrc.org and look for the IGRC Communications logo. Then fill in your name and email and you will receive our conference newsletter electronically every month for free! It's a great way to stay connected to other U.M. churches around us. *Please note that if you are currently receiving a paper copy of The Current in the mail, this will be the only way to receive it starting in September.*

UMW Fellowship Pork Chops at Mercer Market

Saturday, August 9th, 10:30-1PM

**Come out and get some delicious pork
chop sandwiches for lunch, and
Support our UMW General Fund.**

Brookstone Service

Pastor Dave will be preaching and serving communion at Brookstone at 10:15 am on Thursday, August 7. If you would like to reconnect with our friends at Brookstone, please feel free to join us for this monthly event. We will meet in the second floor activity room.

THANK YOU!

I would just like to thank everyone who made our 2025 VBS Road Trip a great success. We hosted a total of 45 children throughout the week, teaching them that God is with us wherever we go (Joshua 1:9). Our meals, lessons, crafts, science, games, and family night were all wonderfully planned and a great experience for our kids. Our church was transformed into an amazing road trip down Route 66 thanks to the planning and many hours of work by Candice Schultz. The nightly meals were such a blessing thanks to the planning and coordination by Ruth Dulaney and all of our generous volunteers who helped. The kids learned awesome songs written and led by Mike Millar (aka Music Mike). Our kids had a great experience thanks to the many, many people who helped in a variety of ways all week long, including clean up Saturday! All of these volunteers and the generosity of our church ensure that we can have a meaningful VBS each year. I am thankful for you and I am thankful to be a part of a church that cares about connecting children to Jesus Christ. It is a blessing to be able to worship and serve with you.

Ashlie Dellitt Fuller

FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Date	07/06/2025	07/13/2025	07/20/2025	07/27/2024
Attendance	136	120	110	171
Receipts				
(Toward Budget)	\$6,461.00	\$1,971.00	\$3,065.00	2,495.00

