

# ALPHA

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 2017

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST, TRANSFORMING OUR COMMUNITY  
ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
REV. ZACKARY T. GLENN, PASTOR  
211 N. SCANDIA ST., PO BOX 607, ALPHA, IL 61413

Volume 2017 Issue 12

Greetings friends!

Thank you for another incredible year of Christian ministry together. Thank you for wholeheartedly giving yourselves to God in worship through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness in Jesus' name. Thank you for feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, visiting the lonely or imprisoned, and caring for widows and orphans in Jesus' name. I thank God for his grace at work in each of you!

This December, I pray that the Holy Spirit will bless you abundantly with the faith, hope, joy, and love of Jesus Christ this holiday season. May your prayerful acts of generosity, compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and gratitude for others, in Jesus' name, shine like the Star of Bethlehem that beckons all of humanity: "O come, let us adore Him!"

**John 1:14** *And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

I can see God's glory! Christ is transforming our lives. Our community is ready to thrive.

Advent Blessings & Merry Christmas!

**Pastor Zack, Julia, Eliana, and Ezra Glenn**



from the 10/24/17 issue of the *Current in Carmel*

Carmel, IN residents Lindsay and Toby Ohmer saw their worlds change forever July 14.

It was a busy Friday. Lindsay, who is pregnant with child No. 2, went to a morning ultrasound and found out the couple is having another daughter.

For two days, their 2-year-old daughter, Marley, had been complaining about back pain, even waking up in the middle of the night screaming. So they took her to their pediatrician, thinking it might be a bladder infection, hoping to handle it before the weekend began.



"I thought I'm probably overreacting, but it's a Friday so might as well," Lindsay said.

The doctor took some X-rays and they drove home. No serious worries went through their minds. But a few hours later, the doctor called.

"Our pediatrician told us to go down to Riley, 'Oh and pack a bag because you'll probably be there overnight,'" Lindsay said. "We were supposed to have the gender reveal party that night with our parents. Well, that didn't happen."

After multiple tests at Riley, it was clear that Marley had cancer. Their 2-year-old girl, who loves playing with dogs, making crafts and memorizing her favorite children's books, has a mass the size of a potato in her abdomen close to her kidneys.

"You didn't eat a potato, did you?" Toby asked his daughter as she played with a plastic Mr. Potato Head toy.

"No, I didn't eat a ta-ta-to," Marley said, mispronouncing the word like most 2-year-olds would. She's unaware of exactly what's going on medically.

"So that's the size of this mass," Toby said. "We're fortunate that it's treatable."

Marley has been diagnosed with a stage 3 neuroblastoma. The prognosis looks favorable and right now chemotherapy is the anticipated treatment. The Ohmers are confident surgery isn't necessary.

Nonetheless, for a family with another child on the way, even a favorable cancer diagnosis takes its toll. Especially when Lindsay couldn't even hug her own daughter since she was "officially radioactive" from her medication.

"Dad got lots of snuggles that night," she said.

In the months since, Marley has lost her hair but hasn't lost her positive outlook. The toddler loves going into the playroom and petting the hospital dog named Murphy.



But what she's become known for is her red cowgirl boots. She'll march around in bright boots, her second pair since she outgrew her original pair from when she was about 6 months old.

"She wore her boots around the hospital nonstop, and people got to know her by her boots," she said. "And so we came up with Marley's March."

Marley's March is a Facebook page the Ohmers started to communicate with family and friends about Marley's progress. Marley wears a shirt that says, "Marley's March" on the front. The back reads "Never underestimate a girl and her red boots."

Page likes soared to more than 650 and people asked how they could help the young mom and dad who grew up in Carmel.

"It's been pretty incredible," said Toby, a 35-year-old sales representative. "Every post gets thousands of views. We're pretty lucky to have such an awesome support system."



Our church has been praying for healing in Jesus' name for Marley since we first heard of her 7/14/17 cancer diagnosis from Connie Cohrs, daughter of Larry and Phyllis Anthony. It's been a little over 4 months since.

Here is the latest news from Marley's parents via *Marley's March* on Facebook:  
 \*\*\*11/8/14: Surgery was a success! Our surgeon believes she was able to get almost all of the tumor removed, which far exceeds our expectations of 50%! Marley is still in recovery waking up, but they said she is doing well and we can't wait to see her.\*\*\*

\*\*\*11/14/17: WE ARE HOME!!!! This morning we were woken up by our surgeons at 6:30 and were greeted with the FANTASTIC news that Marley was allowed to eat today!!! She was so excited when she heard that and we immediately found some cheerios for her to start munching on! After trusting that things were on the right track, we ordered more food for Marley and enjoyed some time in the play room! And just when we thought our day couldn't get any better, our doctor told us we could GO HOME! We are so thrilled to be home and will have more information about what comes next after our appointment with Marley's oncologist next week. We are so grateful for all of the support we received during this long week in the hospital. Our family and friends have been so wonderful and we appreciate everyone's thoughts and kind wishes sent in our direction! \*\*\*

*"Never underestimate a girl and her red boots!"* and the power of prayer.

*"God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!"*

## Administrative Council 2017



**Chair:** Lindi Kernan

**Vice Chair:** Mary Nice

**Finance & Treasurer:** Dean Kernan

**Financial Secretary:** Linda Lanning

**Trustees:** Dave Lambin

**S/PPRC:** Eddie Bradshaw

**Outreach:** Linda Lambin

**Nurture:** Kelli Johnson

**Worship:** Roger Swanson

**Christian Ed Chair:** Cathy Jordan

**UMW Chair:** Mary Nice

**Men in Mission:** Dean Kernan

**Lay Leader:** Cathy Jordan

**Youth Rep.:** Delainey Bradshaw

**Recording Secretary:** Desirae Silvis

## Secretary's Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

9:00am - 1:00pm

(309)629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com

The church office will be closed Dec. 25-Jan. 2 for the holidays.

**facebook**  
Live Streaming



Now you can worship with us *online* via **Facebook Live** at 10:00am on Sundays, or stream the replay videos any time afterwards from our church's FB page: [www.facebook.com/alphaunitedmethodist](http://www.facebook.com/alphaunitedmethodist) Feel free to "like", comment, message us your prayer requests, and share the videos with your friends!

## Christmas Flower Orders

Christmas flower order forms can be found on pg. 8 of this newsletter and in Sunday bulletins through Dec. 3. Please turn in your orders to Linda Lanning by Dec. 4.

This year you have the choice of white mums or a Norfolk pine. Both are \$10 each. Below is a picture of the Norfolk pine.



MONDAY,  
DEC. 18TH





## December Worship Volunteer Schedule



**December Ushers: Kurt Jordan & Joseph Shepherd**

### December 3

Liturgist: Angie Althaus  
Acolytes: Jack Silvis & Ella Bradshaw  
Children's Moment: Roger Swanson  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Dean Kernan

### December 10

Liturgist: Eddie Bradshaw  
Acolytes: Jack Silvis & Ella Bradshaw  
Children's Moment: Emily Bradshaw  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Dean Kernan

### December 17

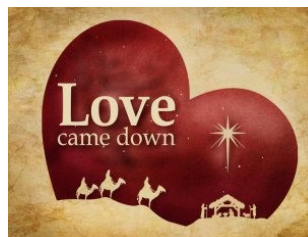
Liturgist: David Althaus  
Acolytes: Ty Anderson & Tucker Swanson  
Children's Moment: Angie Althaus  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Dean Kernan

### December 24

Liturgist: Lindi Kernan  
Acolytes: Ty Anderson & Tucker Swanson  
Children's Moment: Cathy Jordan  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Dean Kernan

### December 31

Liturgist: Dale Lanning  
Acolytes: Shanna Fox & Carissa Fox  
Children's Moment: Linda Lambin  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Dean Kernan



### December Birthdays

07: Carissa Fox  
Shanna Fox  
08: Pastor Zack Glenn  
12: Rosie Merideth  
13: Evelyn Barton  
Ruby Naslund  
Parris Silvis  
14: Linda Buban  
Josh McCaw  
15: Basil Jordan  
17: Cody Lanning  
18: Tom Briggs  
Eliana Glenn  
19: Patsy Broadus  
22: Melvin Briggs  
23: Mary Nice



### December Anniversaries



10: Tyler & Ali Catey

### December Coffee Hour Hosts



3: Marcy Kuhn  
10: Bradshaw Family  
17: Need Volunteer  
24: Need Volunteer  
31: Need Volunteer





### December Meals:

Sat. Dec. 9th, 5:00-6:30pm - Free Community Meal

No mission meal in December.

### Ongoing Ministries:



**Snacks for AlWood Elementary After School Program.** Lists of items needed can be found in the fellowship hall.

### **Humility of Mary**

Creamer, coffee, sugar packets, Styrofoam cups are always needed.



### **UMCOR cleaning buckets:**



Please help us fill the 6 buckets that are in the fellowship hall. Check the list and give what you can. These lists will be updated as donations come in!

A blessed holiday season to everyone and let us look forward to serving God in 2018!

Linda Lambin

Outreach Chair



## **Children's "CHRISMONS" Christmas Program** **Sunday, Dec. 10 during worship**

Our Christmas Program will be held during worship at 10am on 12/10. We want to encourage our congregation to stay afterwards for a meal. It's the perfect way to celebrate Jesus' birth and be together during that day. We will have birthday cake after the meal to celebrate Jesus' birth.



# CHRISTMAS EVE *Services*

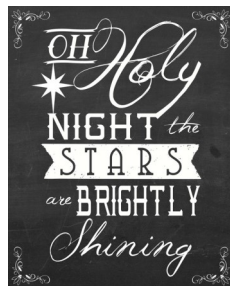
Christmas Eve is Sunday, December 24th. As Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we will have our normal Sunday morning worship schedule at 10am in the morning.



We will also be having our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 9:00pm.

If you are a musician and are interested in playing your instrument and/or singing special music for Christmas Eve please contact the church ASAP.

Please invite your friends and family to join you for one or both services as we celebrate the birth of our savior Jesus Christ!



Alpha UMC Sunshiners would like to invite everyone to join them for Christmas caroling Thursday, December 14th at 6:00pm.



Our Christmas Choir will be performing at our 10am Sunday services on Dec. 17th & 24th to sing well-loved songs from past Christmas cantatas. If you are interested in singing with the choir, please contact Dana Schultz. Choir practices will be after worship services on Nov. 26th, Dec. 3rd, and 10th.

## Christmas Flower Order Form

_____ # of white mums @ \$10 each	\$ _____
_____ # of norfolk pines @ \$10 each	_____
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out your choice below:

\_\_\_\_\_ Given in memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Given in honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Given to the Glory of God for:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ORDERS ARE DUE TO LINDA LANNING BY DEC 4**

*Please pick up your order after the  
Christmas Eve service.*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Check here if you would like it donated.*

*The Worship Committee*



## 2018 Administrative Committees and Ministry Teams

The mission of the United Methodist Church is “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” The local church is the primary means and environment for making disciples of Jesus Christ within a particular community.

**Church Administrative Council:** *The Church Council is responsible for the local **administration** of the Book of Discipline in policy and procedure, for reporting our ministry progress to the District Superintendent and electing new leaders at annual Charge Conference, and for the oversight of our local church’s ministry program in the areas of **nurture, outreach, and witness**. The Church Council works with the Pastor to guide the strategic planning for our church by prayerfully seeking God’s will in Scripture, casting long-term vision, setting realistic goals, and defining clear objectives when it comes to our local mission of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community.” Starting in 2018, our Church Council will assume the administrative duties of both the former Finance Committee and Nominations/Leadership Development.*

**Church Council Chair:** Lindi Kernan

**Vice Chair:** Mary Nice

**Lay Leader:** Cathy Jordan

**Church Treasurer:** Dean Kernan

**Financial Secretary:** Linda Lanning

**Trustees Committee Chair:** Dave Lambin

**S/PPRC Committee Chair:** Eddie Bradshaw

**Nurture Team Chair:** Kelli Johnson

**Outreach Team Chair:** Linda Lambin

**Worship Team Chair:** Roger Swanson

**Christian Education Team Chair:** Cathy Jordan

**United Methodist Men:** Dean Kernan

**Youth Representative:** Delainey Bradshaw

**Lay Delegate to Annual Conference:** Cathy Jordan

**Alternate Lay Delegate:** TBD

**Recording Secretary:** Desirae Silvis

**Trustees:** *This stewardship committee is responsible for maintenance, improvement, and safety of the church property including the church facility and parsonage; they also oversee the distribution and use of memorial funds.*

2018: Dave Lambin, Edie Peden, Joella Holdsworth

2019: Kurt Jordan, Lindi Kernan, Ron Medley

2020: Sadie Carlson, Kelly Atchison, Richard Coffey

Note: Trustees may recruit skilled and experienced workers for improvement projects as needed.

**S/PPRC:** *This human resources committee is responsible for the mutual well-being of the pastor and family; they mediate concerns to and from the congregation; they hire and evaluate church staff and personnel.*

2018: Eddie Bradshaw, Bob Bateman, Deb Briggs

2019: Linda Lambin, Roger Swanson, Lindsy Brooks

2020: Marcy Kuhn, Miriam Greene, Marvin Enstrom

**Open Ministry Teams:** Note: The following ministry teams are open and can be joined at any time.

**Nurture:** *This hospitality ministry team is responsible for the encouragement and well-being of our church members; they plan fellowship events and correspond with our students and soldiers at large; they also help welcome and thank visitors and encourage regular attenders to join our church congregation; they also assist the pastor with the annual cultivation report of our membership.*

Deb Briggs, Angie Briggs, Linda Buban, Jamie Coffey Kelli Johnson (chair), Barb Damron, Karen Pfeiffer

**Outreach:** *This missional ministry team is responsible for our church's engagement with our local community to motivate us to engage in acts of mercy and compassion on behalf of our neighbors. They also oversee the benevolence policies and procedure for our church's discretionary Emergency Outreach Fund.*

Gina Medley, Lindi Kernan, Sadie Carlson, Linda Lambin (chair), Julie Cole, Angie Althaus, Annie Althaus, Makenna Medley;

**Worship:** *This creative ministry team is responsible for assisting the Pastor in planning the liturgy, sacraments, arts, and music for our worship services; they also recruit and train volunteers to serve as acolytes, musicians, A/V technicians, liturgists, children's ministers, ushers, greeters, and nursery personnel.*

Roger Swanson (Chair), Lindi Kernan (Song Leader), Linda Lanning, Linda Lambin, Emily Bradshaw, Karen Schultz

**Christian Education:** *This discipleship ministry team is responsible for facilitating an inclusive all-ages Christian education and spiritual formation process for making disciples of Jesus Christ in our local church. They facilitate and recruit volunteers to help teach and mentor learners in our Sunday School classes, family ministry events, United Methodist Youth Fellowship, bible studies, and confirmation.*

Note: all children's and youth ministry volunteers are subject to annual required background checks.

Barb Damron, Roger Swanson, Desirae Silvis

**Christian Ed. Chair:** Cathy Jordan

**Sunday School Teachers:** Gina Medley, Sami Greene (Pre-K to 1st grade), Thad & Kathy Curry (2nd-4th grade), Cathy Jordan & Sadie Carlson (Middle School), Eddie & Emily Bradshaw (High School); Miriam Greene (Adult)

Thank you to all who served on committees in 2017!  
Welcome and thank you to all who will be joining new committees and those who continue to serve in 2018!  
Your service is much appreciated!



# December 2017



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<u>HANGING of the GREENS</u> has been re-scheduled for Sat. Dec. 2nd 9:00am		1 Pastor's Sabbath	2 Spirit of Alpha Christmas @Oxford Legion with meal, light- ed tree contest, and fun for kids 4:00-7:00pm
3 1st Sunday in Advent	4 6:30pm Boy Scouts	5	6 6:30pm Cub Scouts	7	8 Pastor's Sabbath	9 5-6:30pm Free Community Meal
10 2nd Sunday in Advent Children's Christmas Program during 10am worship with meal afterwards	11 6:30pm Boy Scouts	12	13 6:30pm Cub Scouts	14 6:00pm Sunshiners Caroling	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16
17 3rd Sunday in Advent 10am service with Choir	18 Newsletter Deadline  6:30pm Boy Scouts	19	20 6:30pm Cub Scouts	21	22 Pastor's Sabbath	23
24 Christmas Eve 10: 00am Service with Choir 9:00pm Candlelight Service	25 	26 Church office closed through Jan. 2	27	28	29 Pastor's Sabbath	30
31 New Year's Eve						



## ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Zackary T. Glenn, Pastor

### Sunday Schedule:

9:00 A.M. All Sunday School Classes Begin

9:30 A.M. Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall

10:00 A.M. Worship Service



Have you visited our website?

Dean Kernan is the creator and manager of our website.

Our Web address is [alphaumc.org](http://alphaumc.org)



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