



# ALPHA

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 2018

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

Volume 2018 Issue 1

Happy New Year Church!

First of all, thank you so much for your generosity and kindness as a local church in giving your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness to God. I am especially impressed and inspired by the increase of generosity in our congregation's financial support in 2017. I am emboldened by our church's commitment to prudent financial wellness with a continued increase in benevolence for local and global missions. We are now better positioned to make a significant impact in our community for Christ in 2018. Our Trustees are planning to launch a new campaign to remodel and expand our kitchen facility and build a handicap accessible unisex family restroom. Look for more information to come in the coming weeks and months from our trustees and church council.

Second, in this new year, I am asking you to prayerfully consider your call from God and your unique role to serve in existing and future ministries to strengthen our relationships in mission with our community and in worship with one another. I believe that with God's provision, 2018 is going to be a breakthrough year for us. As pastor, I need your expertise, experience, and enthusiasm to help us connect more people with Christ both inside and beyond our church building. We will be having an all-church gathering to be announced by church council in the coming weeks to get the ball rolling on starting new and revamping existing ministries that are initiated and led by YOU, the local church.

Third, be sure to check out our church's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/alphaunitedmethodist](https://www.facebook.com/alphaunitedmethodist) where you can see event announcements, watch videos of our worship services, and you can now connect with one another in our new Alpha United Methodist Church Facebook discussion group to share testimonies and prayer requests. In 2018 I will be posting links to a powerful daily text devotional bible study by J.D. Walt that will take us moment by moment through the entire Gospel of John and it will run for 24 weeks to the end of June. Remember, if you haven't already, to "LIKE" and follow our church's Facebook page and feel free to share our posts with your friends.

Finally, my family says a hearty "thank you and we love you" to the church for all of your gifts, cards, and acts of kindness. We have never have felt as loved and supported in my ten years of ministry as we were in 2017.

So I'll leave you with Paul's words of love for the Corinthian church in 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

**4** I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, **5** for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— **6** just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— **7** so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. **8** He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Christ transforms our lives so our community can thrive!"

Pastor Zack

## Administrative Council 2018



**Chair:** Lindi Kernan

**Vice Chair:** Mary Nice

**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

**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**



We would like to thank our church family for all of the kind words, food, phone calls, and cards we have received. We appreciate it so much.

Don, & Edie Peden & Family

*thank you!*

We would like to thank all of our church family for the prayers, cards, food, calls, visits, flowers, and the entertainment bag. All was very helpful and appreciated. We believe I have turned a corner in recovery and can now walk with a walker without crying out in pain for sort to medium distances. The prayers are working, so please keep them up a little while longer for more walking ability and even less pain. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thanks again for everything.

Love,  
Deb, Melvin, and Angie



MONDAY,

JAN. 22



**MEN IN MISSION BREAKFAST**

**7:00AM SUNDAY, JAN. 28**

**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME!**



*thank you*

I would like to again thank everyone at Alpha UMC for allowing me to continue as your church secretary. Thank you for your help and encouragement throughout the year. This job is truly a blessing. Thank you also for the generous Christmas gift. It is much appreciated. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Desirae

## January Worship Volunteer Schedule

January Ushers: Bob & Jan Bateman



### January 7

Liturgist: Joseph Shepherd  
Children's Moment: Roger Swanson  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia:

### January 14

Liturgist: Cathy Jordan  
Children's Moment: Emily Bradshaw  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia:

### January 21

Liturgist: Dean Kernan  
Children's Moment: Linda Lambin  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia:

### January 28

Liturgist: Angie Althaus  
Children's Moment: Dale Lanning  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia:



### January Birthdays

05: Ella Bradshaw  
08: Pyper Swanson  
13: Jack Silvis  
22: Ron Buban  
23: Dawson Medley  
26: Eddie Bradshaw  
Joella Holdsworth  
27: Mark Atchison  
28: Gary Barton  
30: Angie Taflinger  
31: Julia Glenn

### January Anniversaries

16: Dave & Julie Cole



### January Coffee Hour Hosts



07: Rich & Jamie Coffey  
14: Bob & Jan Bateman  
21: Need Volunteer  
28: Need Volunteer

## Alpha UMC'S Men-In-Mission

### Annual Soup Supper

At Alpha United Methodist Church

February 3rd serving from 5 to 7 PM

Cost: Donation at the Door

Meal includes choices of Chili or Potato Soup,  
Peanut Butter Sandwiches, Carrots, celery and pickles,  
And a dessert!



Pastor Zack will be hosting a Board Game Day on Monday, Jan. 15. The kids are out of school for Martin Luther King Day, so bring them to the church for a day of games. Lunch will be provided.



## Outreach News

### January Meals:

Saturday, January 6, 5:00 - 6:30pm—Free Community Meal

Sunday, January 14 - Mission Meal following worship



2017 is coming to an end...As Outreach Chairperson, thank you to our Team and the Entire Church Family. You are all such a blessing as you continue to support our Ministries, including meals. Christmas is a time for giving and we are Blessed by Our Father (who gave his Son, Jesus). In 2018 we will continue with Ministries and giving to help others.

Merry Christmas and God Bless,  
Linda Lambin





## Baby Bottles for Life

Alpha UMC will again be participating in Pregnancy Resources' Baby Bottles for Life campaign. Baby bottles will be handed out in January. Please fill your bottle with change, cash, or a check and return to the church .

Pregnancy Resources provides :

- \* Free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds
- \* Adoption Education & Referrals
- \* Material assistance such as diapers, clothing , car seats, etc.
- \* Dad's programs
- \* Education



### Henry County Right to Life Scholarship

Henry County Right to Life is announcing its 2018 scholarship contest for area high school and college students. Applications are now available for qualified students to submit an essay on the theme -

*Many people avoid discussing abortion because it is a very personal and much politicized issue. While we do not want to remain silent about the death of children and the mistreatment of women, we also do not want to offend or alienate others. How do we balance speaking up for justice with respecting others' emotions and beliefs?*

Entries must reflect the general theme.

The student with the winning essay will be awarded a \$500 scholarship which will be forwarded to their intended college in the student's name. Students may pick up the application and complete rules and regulations from their high school career counselor, the church, or by going to Henry Co. Right to Life's website at <http://henrycountyr2l.wixsite.com/life>.

Scholarship applications must be received or postmarked by March 3, 2018.

For further information, contact Henry County Right to Life President, Bonnie Newman, at 309-737-0059. Entries should be mailed to: HENRY COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE, PO BOX 121, GENESEO, IL 61254



# Yoked with Jesus in 2018

12/11/2017

*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.”* (Isaiah 9:6-7a NIV)



The glorious news of Christmas is that we have a Savior that is the sovereign head over all. The light of the world has pierced the darkness and we have hope that his reign ushers in a new realm of possibility. We celebrate the hope, peace, joy and love that accompany his arrival. We recognize that he is much more than a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. He really is “God with us!”

Christmas reminds me that the responsibility for maintaining “government” does not belong to me. As a leader, sometimes I forget the “government” is shouldered by Christ. **I am yoked with Christ, but not as a co-supporter.** Being yoked with Christ does not mean that I am there to help Jesus shoulder the workload. I am yoked to Christ so that I can learn from him. The real proof of discipleship occurs when we put into practice the things we have learned from Christ.

In the infant stages of the early church some folks were looking for the dynamic that caused such a radical change in the early believers. What caused these unschooled, ordinary men and women to show boldness and courage in the face of adversity? The ones raising the questions summed up the difference in Acts 4:13, “... they took note that they had been with Jesus.”

The New Year is upon us. As we prepare to celebrate and welcome another year, with all of it’s potential, I find myself being challenged, “do folks know that I have been with Jesus?” Has the advent of Christ reshaped and changed me in such a manner that I have become an expression and an extension of his government?

One of the exciting things about the Christmas season and the beginning of a new year is the reminder that **we can begin again.** Starting over and making mid-course corrections is an essential part of our faith journey. Those that fail to take spiritual inventory or employ a systematic method for spiritual self-examination that poses the question, “do folks know that I have been with Jesus?” are often lulled into a position of false security. The Apostle Paul encourages others to only follow him as he follows Christ.

My hope is to be a disciple that learns and uses the lessons gleaned from Jesus to make a difference in 2018. Our denomination and our world need a fresh dose of the hope, peace, joy and love that accompanied the arrival of Emmanuel. My personal goal for 2018 is to lift-up Jesus in such a way that folks are once again attracted to him and to the way of life that he offers.

My prayer for the IGRC is that God will deepen our walk with Jesus and allow us to make a greater difference in 2018. The government of Christ has no end. His rule and reign know no bounds. The good news is that he offers grace and peace to all. Let us do all that we can to become conduits of the love and grace of Jesus Christ that we are called to be in this New Year.

God Bless,  
Bishop Beard



# January 2018



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5 Pastor's Sabbath	6 5:00-6:30pm Free Community Meal
7 Taking down Christmas decorations following worship  6:00pm Worship Team meeting	8 6:30pm Boy Scouts	9 Pastor @ New Streams in Springfield	10 6:30pm Cub Scouts	11	12 Pastor's Sabbath	13
14 Mission Meal following worship	15 Game Day 9:00am - 4:00pm	16	17 6:00pm Council  6:30 pm Cub Scouts	18	19 Pastor's Sabbath	20
21	22 Newsletter Deadline  6:30pm Boy Scouts	23	24 6:30pm Cub Scouts	25	26 Pastor's Sabbath	27
28 7:00am Men in Mission Breakfast	29 Pastor Zack @ Covenant Keepers 6:30pm Boy Scouts	30 Pastor Zack @ Covenant Keepers	31 6:30pm Cub Scouts			

## 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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