

# ALPHA

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2019

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 2019 Issue 2

### Time for Gracious Grace GRACE.

We talk about it, sing about it, teach about it, preach about it, but do we really put grace into action? My hope is that the Christian understanding of grace goes far deeper than the secular understanding of grace. Our secular society understands grace as a type of respectful decorum filled with politeness and civility. It is an elegance based on refinement and poise that is evident through one's presence. Grace, from a Christian point of view, is simply, God's unmerited favor offered to us with no strings attached. We cannot buy it, earn it, steal it, and we most certainly do not deserve it. The literal root word for grace means "gift." Grace from God is a free gift! God's free gift is demonstrated to us in the life, death, resurrection, ascension and promised return of Jesus Christ. In just a few short days representatives from around the globe will gather in St. Louis, Mo., to participate in our denomination's General Conference. The General Conference is the official legislative body that determines the rules and policies that govern our denomination. It is the only official voice of our global community of believers. Delegates, observers, media personnel, concerned laity and clergy have all been eagerly awaiting this much publicized and highly anticipated gathering. The purpose of this special called session is to look at the denomination's policies and practices in regard to issues around human sexuality. Some fear that our varied theological positions, and personal preferences, on these issues, are so incompatible that we can no longer remain "united" as Methodist. As you can imagine, each position, believes that their viewpoint is the correct stance and that the delegates to the General Conference should adopt legislation that supports their opinion. The rhetoric from each camp has become so intense that many are afraid that the denomination will fracture and splinter. Many are waiting for this conference to help answer the question, "what will happen to our denomination?" One of the prayers that I am praying is that no matter what decisions are proposed and are finally voted upon, is that each person is determined to be a conduit of God's grace. As brothers and sisters and corecipients of God's grace, I believe the Lord requires and expects us to model and extend grace to one another. After all, we are bound together in Christ and we are held together because of his love for each of us. Gracious grace is filled with civility anchored in the understanding of God's amazing unmerited favor lavished on each of us, even though we do not deserve it. Gracious grace is the ability to disagree while agreeing to not be disagreeable, dismissive, or divisive in an attempt to be demonizing so that we might get "our way." Gracious grace recognizes that we are held together because of Jesus Christ, God's gift freely offered to each of us. Gracious grace is a conviction that I will serve as a conduit for God's love and mercy no matter what. Gracious grace understands that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. We dare not cut ourselves off from family members because we have a variety of differing opinions. When we intentionally sever ties with each other we run the risk of cutting ourselves off from the one that binds us together in grace filled love. Jesus is God's best example of gracious grace. Pray for our delegates to exhibit gracious grace towards each other as they enter into this time of holy conferencing. Pray for our denomination that we will display evidence of Jesus' presence within and among us. Let us be quick to offer gracious grace and space as together we find our way forward.



God Bless,

Bishop Beard

# Administrative Council 2019

- Chair: Lindi Kernan**
- Vice Chair: Mary Nice**
- Church Treasurer: Dean Kernan**
- Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning**
- Trustees: Dave Lambin**
- S/PPRC: TBD**
- Outreach: Linda Lambin**
- Nurture: Kelli Johnson**
- Worship: Roger Swanson**
- Christian Ed Chair: TBD**
- UMW Chair: Mary Nice**
- Men in Mission: Dean Kernan**
- Lay Leader: TBD**
- Youth Rep.: Delainey Bradshaw**
- Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis**

**Secretary's Hours**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday**  
**9:00am - 1:00pm**  
**(309)629-5161**  
**alphaumc@gmail.com**



Sunshiners will meet Tuesday,  
 February 6th at 6:45pm  
 All women are welcome!  
 Sharing: Julie Cole  
 Devotions: Linda Lanning  
 Refreshments: Deb & Angie Briggs

*Thank you*

A BIG thank you to Dean Kernan for plowing the church sidewalks this winter!!!!



MONDAY,

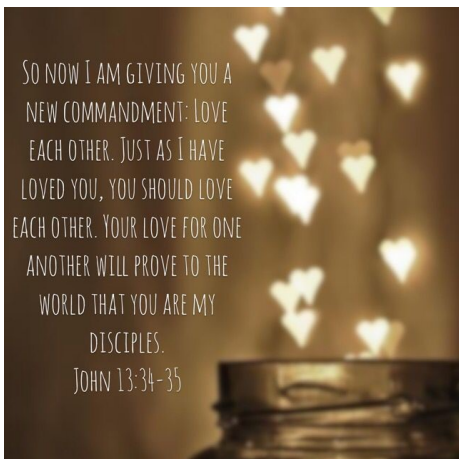
FEB. 18



### Worship Online

Cant make it Sunday morning? Worship with us on Facebook Live.

Go to [www. fb.com/alphaunitedmethodist](http://www.fb.com/alphaunitedmethodist)



**MEN IN MISSION BREAKFAST**  
**7:00AM SUNDAY, FEB. 24TH**  
**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME!**

## February Worship Volunteer Schedule



February Ushers: Dean Kernan & Lindsy Brooks



### February 3

Liturgist: Angie Althaus  
Children's Moment: Linda Lambin  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Joseph Shepherd

### February 10

Liturgist: Bob Bateman  
Children's Moment: Angie Althaus  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Joseph Shepherd

### February 17

Liturgist: Parris Silvis  
Children's Moment: Emily Bradshaw  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Joseph Shepherd

### February 24

Liturgist: Eddie Bradshaw  
Children's Moment: Dale Lanning  
Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer  
Multimedia: Joseph Shepherd

## February Birthdays

- 02: Vicki Jordan Geiger  
03: Jason Lambin  
04: Bryton Brooks  
Clint Cole  
10: Cathy Jordan  
Geri McLaughlin  
11: Ty Anderson  
16: Devin Reed  
21: Natalie Wilson  
28: Brittany Kane

## February Anniversaries

- 10: Ron & Linda Buban  
13: Ron & Ruby Naslund



*"Be devoted  
to one another  
in love.  
Honor one another  
above yourselves."*  
ROMANS 12:10

## February Coffee Hour Hosts



- 03: Need Volunteers  
10: Dale & Linda Lanning  
17: Marvin & Ann Enstrom  
24: Need Volunteers

## Alpha UMC'S Men-In-Mission

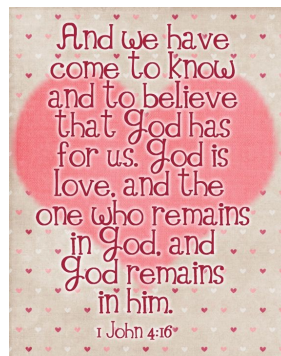
### Annual Soup Supper

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!



### Baby Bottles for Life



Alpha UMC is again participating in Pregnancy Resources Baby Bottles for Life campaign. Please return you filled bottles to Alpha UMC by Feb. 24th.

Pregnancy Resources provides :

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





# February 2019



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Pastor's Sabbath	2 5:00-6:30pm Free Community Meal
3	4 7:00pm Boy Scouts	5 7:00pm PEO Meeting	6 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:45pm Sunshiners	7	8 Pastor's Sabbath	9
10 Mission Meal following worship	11 7:00pm Boy Scouts	12	13 6:30pm Cub Scouts	14	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16
17	18 President's Day  Newsletter Deadline	19	20 6:30pm Cub Scouts	21 9:00am - 12:00pm AlWood Pre-K Screening	22 Pastor's Sabbath	23
24	25 7:00pm Boy Scouts	26	27 6:30pm Cub Scouts	28		

## 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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