



ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

211 North Scandia St., PO Box 607
Alpha, IL 61413
309-629-5161 | www.alphaumc.org

February 2021

Volume 2021 Issue 2

Happy February!! February always makes me think of love, most likely because of Valentine's Day!! 1John 4:7-9 Says: *"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him."* How different the world would be if everyone lived by these verses!



Lent is approaching quickly and instead of giving something up this year, I am giving something to others. I found this suggestion and plan on doing this:

Donate three things each day

For example, you could donate three lightly worn pieces of clothing, three toys, three books, or three cans of food. Can't find three things? Give a compliment to three strangers or leave a 30% tip on your next meal. More important than giving something up or giving something away is to love each other. Let us spread the love this Lenten season and maybe it will become a habit.

On Feb 21 after church (11 am) there will be a short meeting for those who would like to join a confirmation class. The class is for 6th grade and up. If you have a child or grandchild wanting to be in this class please come to the meeting so we can decide on the best day and time for everyone. If you are not officially a member of the Alpha UMC and would like to join, come to the meeting.

Pastor Karna

Thank God for Little Things

*Thank you, God, for little things that often come our way,
The things we take for granted, but don't mention when we pray,
The unexpected courtesy, the thoughtful, kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us in the time of sudden need,
Oh make us more aware, dear God, of little daily graces
That come to us with "sweet surprise" from never-dreamed-of places.
Amen*

Join Us on Sundays!

Sunday 10AM - Indoor Worship Service

~Enter through South door & please wear a mask

Church Council

Council Chair: Lindi Kernan

Vice Chair: Mary Nice

Treasurer: Dean Kernan

Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning

Trustees: David Lambin

S/PPRC: Dale Lanning

Outreach: Linda Lambin

Nurture: Kelli Johnson

Worship: Roger Swanson

Christian Education: TBD

Men in Mission: Dean Kernan

Youth Representative: TBD

Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan

Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis

Church Office Hours

9AM - 1PM— Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

309-629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com

Website: www.alphaumc.org

Facebook: @alphaunitedmethodist.com

Pastor Karna's Contact Info:

Cell: 309-337-2700

email: peteysaunt@yahoo.com

Let's Celebrate!

February Birthdays

02: Vicki Jordan Geiger

03: Jason Lambin

04: Bryton Brooks

Clint Cole

05: Kourtney Fox

10: Cathy Jordan

Geri McLaughlin

16: Devin Reed

22: Ayla Catey

28: Brittany Kane

February Anniversaries

10: Ron & Linda Buban

13: Ron & Ruby Naslund



Ash Wednesday Services



Wednesday - February 17th

This year's Ash Wednesday service will be come and go for ashes and communion. Pastor Karna will hold 2 sessions, in the morning from 9AM - 11AM and in the evening from 6PM - 7PM.

The Season of Lent

When you close your eyes and say "Lent" what is the first thing that comes to mind? Frequently, most people think of: penance, purple, fish, ashes, fasting, sacrifice, no movies and no candy. However, maybe when we think about Lent we should first and foremost think about our baptism. The more we see a link between "Lent" and "Baptism" the more we will understand the church's selection of readings and symbols during the Lenten season.

The season of Lent is meant to refocus our vision on the sacrificial life, death, and glorious resurrection of Jesus. It is meant to clarify our vision of what is truly important in our lives, that is, our conversion to Christ through the community of the church.

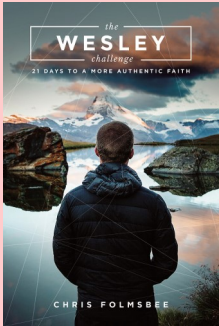


Informational Confirmation Parents Meeting

Pastor Karna will be leading confirmation class for all students 6th grade and up. An informational meeting for parents will be held after church at 11AM on Sunday, February 21st. Please plan on attending this meeting if you would like your child to participate in confirmation this year.

This class is also open to adults that are not yet members of Alpha UMC and would like to join. If you fall into this category, you are also asked to attend this meeting.

Upcoming Bible Studies



The Wesley Challenge - 3 Week Study

Times Offered:

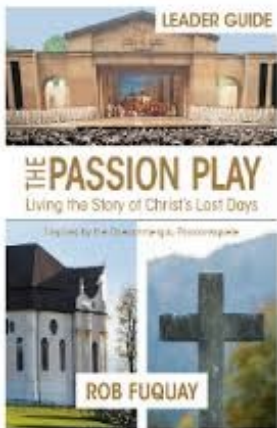
Tuesdays at 10:00AM—Beginning Feb. 2nd

Wednesdays at 6:30PM—Beginning Feb. 3rd

Overview:

Renew your passion and discover deeper commitment to God in just 21 days.

Wesley who? *The Wesley Challenge* not only offers an introduction to our denomination's founder in a practical and accessible way, the series engages small groups and churches to work through twenty-one questions studied over three weeks to help renew passion and discover a deeper commitment to God and others—one that is more authentic, vulnerable, and soul-shaping. Daily posts and messages are designed with an emphasis on graphics and short content bits to engage your physical, emotional, and spiritual lives throughout the 21-day study.



The Passion Play - 6 Week Lenten Bible Study

Let's try this again! Some of you may remember starting this study last year for lent, but due to the COVID shutdown, we didn't get to finish. So we're going to give it another go from the beginning!

Times offered:

Tuesdays at 10:00AM - Beginning Feb. 23rd

Wednesdays at 6:30PM - Beginning Feb. 24th

Overview:

Jesus' Passion story is presented each Lent in countless churches every year. But one play presented by the inhabitants of the village of Oberammergau, in Bavaria, Germany, may be one of the longest-running performance of all. Staged every ten years since 1634, the play makes an impact not only on the villagers who portray the characters but on all who see it as well. In *The Passion Play*, Rob Fuquay follows the biblical story of the Passion and shows how this amazing play has been used both as a ritual of praise and later as a weapon through its anti-Semitic past.

Read the Bible Everyday Calendar

February 2021

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 Psalms 12-14	2 Job 9-10	3 Isaiah 23-28	4 Matthew 11-13	5 Romans 11-12	6 Genesis 20-23
7 Jude 1-6	8 Psalms 15-17	9 Job 11-12	10 Isaiah 29-33	11 Matthew 14-16	12 Romans 13-14	13 Genesis 24-27
14 Jude 7-11	15 Psalms 18-20	16 Job 13-14	17 Isaiah 34-39	18 Matthew 17-19	19 Romans 15-16	20 Genesis 28-31
21 Jude 12-16	22 Psalms 21-23	23 Job 15-16	24 Isaiah 40-44	25 Matthew 20-22	26 1 Corinthians 1-2	27 Genesis 32-35
28 Jude 17-21						

Planting Your Spring Garden

For The Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant Three Rows of peas

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

Plant Four Rows of Squash

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Indifference
3. Squash Grumbling
4. Squash Selfishness

Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce Be Faithful
2. Lettuce Be Kind
3. Lettuce Be Patient
4. Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete Without Turnips

1. Turnip For Meetings
2. Turnip For Service
3. Turnip To Help One Another

To Conclude Our Garden We Must Have Thyme

1. Thyme For Each Other
2. Thyme For Family
3. Thyme For Friends

Water Freely With Patience And Cultivate With Love.
There Is Much Fruit In Your Garden Because You Reap
What You Sow. Pass It On!!!



Spiritual Health Check-up

This country is divided into two halves: the people who build, and the people who break down.

It's time for each of us to stand up and be counted on the side of the people who add to our spiritual health rather than subtract from it

Each day things happen which make the wheel turn. And it's up to us which way it goes.

Mark 1: 29-39 Conversation in a Deserted Place

Most of us think of prayer as talking to God — lifting up our cares and needs and concerns and wants. It certainly is that. But prayer is also listening to God in still silence. It is allowing time and space for us to react to God.

Listening is the hardest part of prayer. We don't have much trouble rattling off wishes, wants and needs, but to just sit in silence, to just listen with all our souls, that's difficult. To slow down our pace, to turn off the TV, to close out the clamor of everyday life is hard to do, even for a little while. And yet it's important. Time away for that kind of reflection is a vacation of the soul, it is recreation of the spirit. Through it God can revitalize our lives. It's important to get away — even for a little while. Step back from the commotion of life, take a deep breath sit and listen.



Listening
For
God



February



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2 1:00PM Bible Study	3 6:30PM Bible Study	4 6:30PM Prayer Group	5	6
7 Communion	8	9 10:00AM Bible Study	10 8:30AM Pre-K Screening 6:30PM Bible Study	11 6:30PM Prayer Group	12	13
14 Happy Valentine's Day!	15	16 10:00AM Bible Study	17 Ash Wednesday 9-11AM 6-7PM	18 6:30PM Prayer Group	19	20
21 1st Sunday in Lent 11:00AM Confirmation Parents meeting	22	23 10:00AM Lenten Bible Study Begins	24 6:30PM Lenten Bible Study Begins	25 6:30PM Prayer Group	26	27
28 2nd Sunday in Lent						

ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Schedule:

10:00AM Worship

Please wear a mask and keep social distance of 6ft.



Visit us online at alphaumc.org and on

Facebook @alphaunitedmethodist

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