



ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

April 2021

Volume 2021 Issue 4

Blessing Box

Alpha UMC has a blessing box that is placed against the building on the northeast corner. Thanks to Jack Silvis, Dawson Medley, Dale Lanning and Desirae Silvis for painting the box! Now we just need to get it stocked and get the word out that it is there for people who need items.

This is what I found on the internet to explain what a Blessing Box is: Blessing Boxes are popping up in communities across the country as people find creative ways to help others who struggle with homelessness and hunger. A Blessing Box is a small, often homemade structure where people leave donated goods for others to pick up anonymously. Located in a common area, people are filling them with items that will help those in need—everything from non-perishable food to toiletries. These donated essentials help fulfill short-term basic needs for those who don't always have access to them.

Offer a variety. There are many things that people need on a daily basis. Some Blessing Boxes focus only on nonperishable items. Then there are others that also offer toiletries, like deodorant, soap and shampoo, and clothes.



Encourage others to give. You can stock the box on your own or get others in your community to participate. If others give, there will be more items available for people to take if they're in need. Don't forget to create a sign that explains the concept. Something as simple as "Take what you need, give what you can" will work.

Let others know. One of the fastest ways to spread the word is through social media. You can post information about it in a local city group, your personal social media page.

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There's no better way to change a community than one small act of kindness at a time. Blessing Boxes can make that difference. They present a low-cost way to help those in your community. Take these steps to start a Blessing Box today and make giving easy and accessible in your neighborhood.

I would add to these suggestion no glass jars, and remember when it gets hot to only put items in the Blessing Box that will not melt! If you would like to bring items for the Blessing Box, please feel free to put the items in the box. If it is full and you can not put the items in, just leave the items at the church and we will put the items in for you! This is a wonderful outreach project for our Church and will be a blessing to many people!

Pastor Karna



Backpack Bags Update

Our Backpack Bags ministry is up and running! Bags are delivered to the elementary school every Thursday to be distributed to students on Fridays. The kids are excited to receive the bags each week!

Funds are needed to keep this ministry going. If you would like to donate, please mark "Backpack" on your check or envelope.



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

Next Council Meeting:

Wed. April 21 6:30PM

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!

April Birthdays

06: Taylor Brooks

09: Kelby Lanning

12: Karen Pfeiffer

14: Lindsie Brooks

14: Shannon Cremeens

22: Seth Thompson

24: Joseph Shepherd

25: Dean Kernan

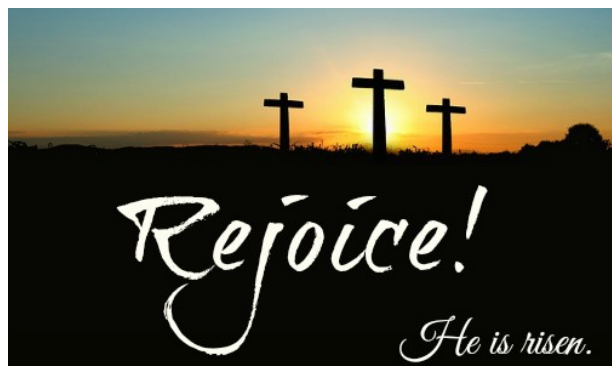
April Anniversaries

02: Bob & Jan Bateman

03: Gary & Judy Barton

10: Kurt & Cathy Jordan

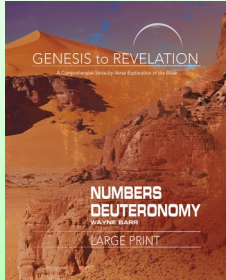
26: Dave & Linda Lambin



Upcoming Bible Study

Genesis to Revelation: Numbers & Deuteronomy

Pastor Karna will begin a new Bible study on Numbers and Deuteronomy. This study will be held on Tuesdays at 10 AM and Wednesdays at 6:30PM. This is a 13 week study. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor Karna know so she can get you a book.



Overview:

Study the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy, beginning with Moses and Adam numbering the people and ending with Moses' death and the Israelites continuing. Some of the major ideas explored are: identity; the blessing of God; the problems of freedom; realism, faith, and the future; following through; living with consequences; misusing the name of the Lord; observing the Sabbath; love and law; the seriousness of disloyalty; hiding from need; and advancing toward justice.



Shoes & Socks Drive

Alpha UMC is once again collecting new shoes and socks for Another Child Foundation. Please drop off donations of any size shoes or socks to the fellowship hall through July 10th.

Monetary donations are also being accepted to help offset the cost of shipping. Please place your donation in the offering plate with "ACF Shoe Drive" in the memo.

Please contact the Althaus Family if you have any questions.

Volunteers Needed!

As we slowly begin to return to normal at church, we will be needing volunteers to serve on Sunday mornings as ushers and to do the Children's Moment.

For the time being we will have 1 usher on Sunday morning to light altar candles, hand out bulletins, and bring up the offering plate.

We are also in need of volunteers to do the children's moment. There are lots of great ideas and lessons online or you can create your own.

If you would like to serve in either one of these ministries, please email Desirae at alphaumc@gmail.com.

Food Pantry Date Change

Due to the local elections, the AlWood Food Pantry date for April has changed. The pantry will be open Tuesday, April 13 from 9:30 - 11:00AM.



Easter Message of Hope

Many years ago a submarine sank off Provincetown, Massachusetts. As soon as possible divers descended. They walked about the disabled ship, endeavoring to find some signs of life within. Suddenly they heard a gentle tapping. Listening intently, they recognized the dots and dashes of the Morse Code. These were the words spelled out, "Is there hope?"

"Is there hope?" This is the constant cry of humanity. And Easter is the answer to that cry.

Read the Bible Everyday Calendar

April 2021

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 Mark 5-6	2 1 Corinthians 11-12	3 Exodus 1-4
4 1 Samuel 16-20	5 Psalms 39-41	6 Job 27-28	7 Jeremiah 7-11	8 Mark 7-8	9 1 Corinthians 13-14	10 Exodus 5-8
11 1 Samuel 21-25	12 Psalms 42-44	13 Job 29-30	14 Jeremiah 12-16	15 Mark 9-10	16 1 Corinthians 15-16	17 Exodus 9-12
18 1 Samuel 26-31	19 Psalms 45-47	20 Job 31-32	21 Jeremiah 17-21	22 Mark 11-12	23 2 Corinthians 1-3	24 Exodus 13-16
25 2 Samuel 1-4	26 Psalms 48-50	27 Job 33-34	28 Jeremiah 22-26	29 Mark 13-14	30 2 Corinthians 4-5	



April



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 6:30PM Maundy Thursday Meal & Service	2 6:30PM Good Friday Service	3
4 Happy Easter! 6:00PM Confirmation Class	5	6 Election Day No Food Pantry 6:30PM PEO	7	8 1:00PM Backpack Bags 6:30PM Prayer Group	9	10
11 6:00PM Confirmation Class	12 6:30PM Boy Scouts	13 9:30-11AM Food Pantry 1:00PM Bible Study	14 6:30PM Bible Study	15 6:30PM Prayer Group	16	17
18 Native American Ministries Sunday 6:00PM Confirmation Class	19 6:30PM Boy Scouts	20 10:00AM Bible Study	21 6:30pm Council 6:30PM Bible Study	22 1:00PM Backpack Bags 6:30PM Prayer Group	23	24
25 6:00PM Confirmation Class	26 6:30PM Boy Scouts	27 10:00AM Bible Study	28 6:30PM Bible Study	29 6:30PM Group Prayer	30	

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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