

ALPHA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 2017

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

Volume 2017 Issue 4

Greetings friends!

April has arrived and her spring showers are here to bring back the May flowers. Spring cleaning is happening house to house. The planting season is underway too for our local farmers (please pray for them!). People are back outside riding their bikes and walking their pets and the kids are playing together in the neighborhood. Yes, I find April to be an exciting time of year. The first weekend starts off with a bang for sports fans: the new major league baseball season (Go CUBS Go!), the NCAA Basketball Final Four Championship, and my personal favorite: WWE WrestleMania. Best of all, for the Church, we will remember and experience Jesus' historic unprecedented victory over sin and death during Holy Week.

So, mark your calendars for: our April 9th Palm Sunday 10am worship service, our April 13th 6pm Maundy Thursday Communion Meal, the April 14th 7pm Alpha Community Good Friday Tenebrae Service (at Maranatha Chapel), and our April 16th Resurrection Sunday 10am Easter worship service featuring our choir cantata "**I Will Embrace the Cross**". For our April 30rd 10am worship service there will be a special United Methodist Native American Ministries presentation with a special offering. Also, our April 30th 10am worship service is our spring Youth and Children's Sunday led by our students from pre-K to high school and our children's bell choir will be ringing praise too! Finally, I will share my personal faith testimony when I preach a new two-part sermon series on Christian Salvation: April 23rd: "**How Do I Become a Christian?**" and April 30th "**How Do I Remain a Christian?**" I look forward to seeing you at church and meeting your friends!

April is a pivotal time for our local community. The AlWood/Cambridge school districts consolidation & school board vote is on the Henry County ballot on April 4th. Please pray for God's will to give us discernment and peace for everyone involved in this process. Remember that we are ambassadors of Jesus Christ. We need to be mindful of our words when we are sharing our public concerns and personal convictions out in our community and online via social media. James 3:5b-8 warns us about the dangers of our speech: "*Think about this: A small flame can set a whole forest on fire. 6 The tongue is a small flame of fire, a world of evil at work in us. It contaminates our entire lives. Because of it, the circle of life is set on fire. The tongue itself is set on fire by the flames of hell. 7 People can tame and already have tamed every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and fish. 8 No one can tame the tongue, though. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.*" A great word of wisdom one of our members told me: "We need to remember that our words are like toothpaste, once they come out, you can't put them back in the tube!" Please pray for our students, teachers, and school officials impacted by this vote.

Another positive community conversation is taking place within the village of Alpha facilitated by the University of Illinois extension that started in March and will conclude its initial series of four meetings to develop a local vision statement and work toward new community development project(s). I have attended the first two meetings with several of our church members. I was inspired by my neighbors' commitment to help Alpha be more hospitable to visitors, helpful for new residents, and attractive to potential businesses. Two more meetings will be held at the American Legion on Wed. April 12th at 7pm and Wed. April 26th at 7pm. Please consider our call from God to be more involved and invested in our local community's future from Jeremiah 29:7: "*But seek the welfare of the city (community) where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.*"

Grace and Peace in Christ,
Pastor Zack

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 Nurture Team will be sending college boxes out near the end of April.

Nutritious and delicious snack items are needed for our hard working students!

8 boxes will be sent.

Please drop off donations at the box in the fellowship hall.

Thank you!



It's Time To Clean Up, Clear Out, and Organize!



Saturday, April 29 from 9am-noon, we will be going through the church to find things that are no longer needed or used and organizing what remains. If you like to declutter and organize, this is a morning for you! We are looking for volunteers. All you need to do is show up.

These items that will need a new home will be set out on the table in the fellowship hall for the following 2 weeks. Contact Lindi Kernan or Dave Lambin with any questions.

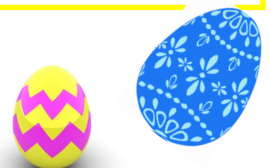
Sunshiners will not be meeting on Wednesday, April 5. They will be attending a play this month instead of having a meeting.



Sunday, April 23

7:00am

All men welcome!



 NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE MONDAY, APRIL 24

HAPPY
EASTER

April Worship Volunteer Schedule

April Ushers: Marvin Enstrom & Dave Lambin

April 2

Liturgist: Dale Lanning
 Acolytes: Grace Althaus & Ty Anderson
 Children's Moment: Cathy Jordan
 Nursery Assistant: Need Volunteer
 Multimedia: Dean Kernan
 Accompanist: Adrienne DeSutter

April 16 Easter Sunday

Liturgist: Bob Bateman
 Acolytes: Ella Bradshaw & Libby Fox
 Children's Moment: Emily Bradshaw
 Nursery Assistant: Althaus Family
 Multimedia: Dean Kernan

April 30 Children & Youth Sunday

Liturgist: Eddie Bradshaw
 Acolytes: Lucas Althaus & Tucker Swanson
 Children's Moment: Bell Choir Performance
 Nursery Assistant: Linda Lanning
 Multimedia: Dean Kernan

April 9 Palm Sunday

Liturgist: Joseph Shepherd
 Acolytes: Ella Bradshaw & Libby Fox
 Children's Moment: Linda Lambin
 Nursery Assistant: Miriam Greene
 Multimedia: Dean Kernan
 Accompanist: Tia Topoluk

April 23

Liturgist: David Althaus
 Acolytes: Lucas Althaus & Tucker Swanson
 Children's Moment: Dale Lanning
 Nursery Assistant: Julia Glenn
 Multimedia: Dean Kernan
 Accompanist: Tia Topoluk



April Birthdays

02: Dennis Gillette

03: Katy Schmitt

06: Taylor Brooks

09: Kelby Lanning

14: Lindsy Brooks

Shannon Cremeens

15: Morgan Britt

Thad Curry

Renee Young

22: Seth Thompson

25: Kaci Bedford

Dean Kernan



April Anniversaries

03: Gary & Judy Barton

10: Kurt & Cathy Jordan

26: Dave & Linda Lambin

29: Chad & Ashley Clark

April Coffee Hour Hosts

02: Rich & Jamie Coffey

09: Rich & Jamie Coffey

16: Briggs Family

23: Linda Lanning

30: Bradshaw Family





HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 9 - Regular Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 13 - 6:00pm Chicken Casserole dinner with service to follow

Good Friday, April 14 - 7:00pm Tenebrae Service @ Maranatha Chapel

Easter Sunday, April 16-Regular Worship Schedule—Choir performing

Sermon Schedule

April 2: *Zacchaeus' Repentance*; Luke 18:31-19:10

April 9: *Cries of Triumph & Tears of Sorrow*; Luke 19:29-44

April 13: Maundy Thursday, *The Last Supper*; Luke 22:1-27

April 14: Good Friday, *The Crucified Christ*; Luke 23:32-47

April 16: Easter Sunday, *The Resurrection of Jesus*; Luke 24:1-12

April 23: *How Do I Become A Christian?*

April 30: *How Do I Remain A Christian?*

A Poem for Easter

Water under the bridge
Water under the bridge

Because all is forgivn'
Because He is risen

Jesus bridge between
God-Man washes us clean

Water under the bridge
Water under the bridge

Jesus bridges the gap
Bridge that cannot collapse

Dirty water under
the bridge flowing under

Sins covered by the Blood
God's bridge to man, Love

Because all is forgivn'
Because He is Risen!

by Connie Cohrs
(Phyllis Anthony's daughter)



Native American Ministries Sunday is April 30, 2017



One tribe in North America has told this story for centuries: when people “pale as birch” crossed the great water in large canoes, they brought with them “The Black Book.” However, the bringers of the physical Book could not have known what it would mean and look like to be Native and a follower of Jesus.

Today Native Americans—with many unique languages, many unique cultures—honor their heritage, and live as Jesus-followers, led by a rotation of primarily Native American pastors.

Supporting the Ministry of Christ Among Native People

Most Americans today recognize that the history following the arrival of the large canoes bore little resemblance to the one all Christians identify as Creator. That’s why the people of The United Methodist Church, Native and non-Native, are creating a new history. Through Native American Ministries Sunday, we’re able to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

As a member of The United Methodist Church, your gift, on this day, equips Native congregations to worship and serve as only they can.

This work, and hundreds of other ministries, are possible because you give.

Our Giving Allows Native Americans to Encounter, Worship and Serve Jesus



Outreach Team Updates:

There have been a lot of blessings this first quarter 2017. Thank you church family and our Outreach Team!

January: Pregnancy Resources/Baby Bottles for Life campaign was able to collect donations and present \$434.01 on behalf of our church.

February: Urgent need request for our community food pantry—several bottles of laundry soap, hand soap, shampoo, and other items were donated.

March: Donated \$50 to our school's softball team for an Alpha UMC banner. Urgent need request for Humility of Mary Shelter—59 washcloths were donated.



Our upcoming ministry, "Make A Joyful Noise", will be coming up. Bring your change and funds to share for Another Child Foundation "Children of Romania". We will announce the collection date in our bulletin ahead of time. The children will be shaking cans and jars, celebrating God's blessing.

April Meals: Lindi Kernan - Meal Coordinator

Saturday, April 1, 5-7pm - Free Community Meal

Sunday, April 9 - Mission Meal following worship

Tuesday, April 25 - Humility of Mary Meal. Meet at the church at 2:30 to help cook and at 4:15 to travel to the shelter and help serve the meal.

This wonderful Outreach Ministry continues to Reach Out. You can be a part of our team. We welcome you with open arms and God does also.

Blessing to you all,

Linda Lambin
Outreach Chair



Our next children and youth Sunday will be April 30th. Our children's bell choir will perform and our children and youth will be leading the worship service. Join us for this fun Sunday and support our children and youth!



AlWood Community VBS 2017 is coming in June!!!!

AlWood Community VBS will be June 12 - June 16 from 9am - Noon daily. This year's theme is Group Maker Fun Factory where curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they're lovingly crafted by God.

Volunteers are needed for all positions: group leaders, kitchen help, craft making volunteers, etc.

Volunteers must attend one of two meetings in April, 17 or 21, at 6:30pm. Please choose the date that best fits your schedule.

Granadosin appointed as Spoon River District superintendent

3/23/2017

SPRINGFIELD ~ Bishop Frank J. Beard announced the appointment of the Rev. Stephen Granadosin, pastor of Industry and Vermont UMC's as Spoon River District superintendent, effective July 1.

"Steve was an easy pick for DS," Beard said in making the announcement. He is a man of integrity that has the respect of his peers and is a prayer warrior."

Born in the Philippines, Granadosin is no stranger to The United Methodist Church as his father, Paul Locke A. Granadosin, served as a bishop of the church in the Philippines, elected in 1968 until his death in 2001. His mother is a deaconess specializing in sacred music. He is married to the Rev. Cecilia Granadosin, an IGRC ordained elder.



Granadosin is in his 13th year of ministry in various capacities. He started as a lay missionary and a local pastor in Washington state ~ experience which Beard cited as "invaluable to the Cabinet" as more and more local pastors are filling churches previously served by elders that have retired.

"As our Conference deploys more and more local pastors, Steve's gifts and experiences will help the Cabinet make better and more effective appointments."

While in Washington, he helped provide El Dios Viviente, a Hispanic ministry in Seattle with a venue for worship services. He was one of four pastors who formed a circuit that included the only United Methodist Church in Canada before it was chartered in 2006.

In the Northern Illinois Conference, Granadosin served as interim local pastor in Frankfort UMC and was an associate pastor of Glenview UMC. While there, he was instrumental in raising funds for the Philippines Central Conference Pension Fund through the General Board of Pensions.

Since coming to the IGRC, he has provided leadership through the Conference Board of Global Ministries in leading Volunteer in Mission teams to the Philippines. He has also organized joint youth gatherings and partnered in ministry with the former Nueva Vida Hispanic ministry in Beardstown.

Granadosin answered the call to ministry by attending the Course of Study at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and then moved on to obtain an M.Div. from G-ETS, graduating near the top of his class and receiving the Bishop Edsel A. Ammons Award for Racial Justice and Understanding. While at Garrett, he organized a prayer gathering of Muslim students at Northwestern and Garrett seminary students.

He has an undergraduate degree in psychology and worked seven years as a network administrator for a Bell Company and was a music minister and choir director for more than 20 years.

The Granadosins have three adult children and three grandchildren.



April 2017



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 5-7pm Free Community Meal
2	3 6:30pm Boy Scouts	4	5 10:00am Mommy Group	6 6:30pm Band Practice	7 Pastor's Sabbath	8
9 Palm Sunday Mission Meal following worship	10 6:30pm Boy Scouts	11	12 7:00pm Alpha Comm. Action Plan Mtg. @ Legion	13 6:00pm Maundy Thursday Meal & Service	14 7:00pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service @ Maranatha	15
16 Easter Sunday Regular Worship Schedule	17 6:30pm VBS Volunteer Meeting	18	19 10:00am Mommy Group 6:00pm Council	20 6:30pm Band Practice 6:00pm Men's Walk to Emmaus	21 6:30pm VBS Volun- teer meeting Men's Walk to Emmaus	22 7:30pm Men's Walk to Emmaus
23 7:00am Men's Breakfast CE mtg after worship ----- 30 Children's Sunday Native American Ministries Sunday Women's Walk to Emmaus 4:30pm	24 Newsletter Deadline 6:30pm Boy Scouts	25 4:15pm Humility of Mary	26 7:00pm Alpha Comm. Action Plan Mtg. @ Legion	27 6:30pm Band Practice 6:00pm Women's Walk to Emmaus	28 Pastor's Sabbath Women's Walk to Emmaus	29 9am-noon Church clean up/declutter day 7:30pm Women's Walk to Emmaus

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



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