

ALPHA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2016

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

Volume 2016 Issue 2

Greetings friends in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

First, I want to express my appreciation and gratitude for the many of y'all who either attended or supported our all-church church gathering with the tasty baked potato bar generously provided by our Nurture & Hospitality ministry team. On January 31st, we celebrated and thanked God for the first-fruits of our past seven months of ministry together. Then, we explored our different personalities with fun animal names (Lion, Otter, Golden Retriever, and Beaver). Next, we engaged in colorful and insightful "cross-pollinating" conversations in teams and sowed seeds for our church's developing ministry map for "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community" in 2016 and beyond.

I was personally moved in my soul as we shared a holy moment of unplanned silence and prayerful reflection as our conversations came to a close. At the end of the night, we prayed a portion of John Wesley's Covenant Prayer and each person present signed their name below a printed copy of this special prayer of consecration and commitment to Christian discipleship and servant leadership in the church. As your pastor, I was inspired and filled with great hope in the Holy Spirit's power to transform our hearts and lead us to love God and our neighbor in the coming days, weeks, months, and years.

Second, I recently noticed that February boasts an array of cultural holidays and celebrations. For instance: February 2nd is Groundhog Day, February 7th is the NFL Super Bowl, February 8th is Chinese New Year, February 9th is Mardi Gras "Fat Tuesday", February 14th is Valentine's Day, February 15th is Presidents Day as well as the night of the the Grammy Awards for music, and February 28th is the Oscars Academy Awards for films. In addition, all of February is observed as Black History Month and Heart Month.

Likewise, in the United Methodist Church, February is a vital month for holy days and changing seasons in the Christian Calendar.

Sunday, February 7th is the 5th Sunday after the Epiphany: *The Transfiguration of the Lord.*

Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99 (UMH 819); 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; **Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)**

Sermon: *"As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed...."*

Note: Holy Communion will be shared. The liturgical color for the Transfiguration is white.

Wednesday, February 10th is Ash Wednesday: a holy day of fasting, prayer, confession, and repentance, culminating with a solemn sign of the cross in ashes on our foreheads or palms.

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17 (UMH 785); 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; **Matthew 6:1-6; 16-21.**

Homily: *"When you give to the poor....when you pray....when you fast...."*

Note: At our 6:30pm service, Holy Communion will be shared followed with Imposition of Ashes.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Christian season of **Lent**, a forty days (6 days a week) journey for growing disciples and preparing candidates for their baptism into the Church. The liturgical color for Lent is purple. During Lent, we will be (re)learning the narrow way of following Jesus, and that this way through suffering ultimately leads us to the Cross. Included in this month's newsletter is a Lenten Reader of daily scripture readings to help each us humbly follow Christ through God's Word while fasting in prayer. For the first half of Lent we will be taking a closer look at our baptismal vows and remembering what it means for each of us and as a church family to "deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow" Jesus as Lord and Savior. Do not be surprised to receive Holy Communion more frequently or to recite our historic Christian creeds often during Lent.

Sunday, February 14th is the 1st Sunday in Lent. This year it is also Boy Scout Sunday, when the local church prays for our local Boy Scouts Troop #144 and Cub Scouts Pack #144.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (UMH 810); Romans 10:8b-13; **Luke 4:1-13**

Sermon: ***"Hold fast to God's Word in times of temptation:***

*renounce Satan and the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin."*

Sunday, February 21st is the 2nd Sunday in Lent.

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27 (UMH 758); Philippians 3:17-4:1; **Luke 13:31-35**

Sermon: ***"Persevere through suffering in Christ's faithfulness:***

*accept the freedom and power God gives you
to resist sin, evil, injustice, and oppression."*

Note: Holy Communion will be shared.

Sunday, February 28th is the 3rd Sunday in Lent.

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8 (UMH 788); 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; **Luke 13:1-9**

Sermon: ***"Repent or perish: 'Change your hearts and lives or you will die.'"***

Let's cling to Christ, and hold fast to God's Word as we give, pray, and fast together this Lent!

Pastor Zack



Administrative Council 2016

Chair: Kurt Jordan

Vice Chair: Mary Nice

Finance & Treasurer: Dean Kernan

Financial Secretary: Linda Lanning

Trustees: Dave Lambin

S/PPRC: Dale Lanning

Outreach: Linda Lambin

Nurture: Kelli Johnson

Worship: Roger Swanson

Christian Ed: Desirae Silvis (Interim)

UMW Chair: Mary Nice

Men in Mission: Dean Kernan

Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan

Alternate: 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



Alpha UMC needs you!

We are currently in need of volunteers in many areas of ministry, including: ushers, liturgists, greeters, coffee hour hosts, and nursery helpers.

Each of these ministries is very important to our church, and you won't be on your own! There will be someone to help you out if you sign up to try something new.

A sign up sheet will be passed around during worship for the next few weeks. Please consider volunteering in one of these areas.



FRIDAY,
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 19

 Newsletter

Pastor Zack will be at a residency conference Monday, February 22 - Wednesday February 24. He will not be in the office during this time.

THIS MONTH USHERS

Dave Lambin & Marvin Enstrom

February Liturgists: 07: Mary Nice 14: Dale Lanning

21: Angie Althaus 28: Eddie Bradshaw

February Birthdays

02: Vicki Jordan Geiger

03: Jason Lambin

04: Bryton Brooks

Clint Cole

10: Cathy Jordan

Geri McLaughlin

22: Nicole Schmitt

28: Brittany Kane

February Coffee Hour Hosts



07: Need Volunteers

14: Boy Scouts

21: Mary Nice

28: Karen & Ed Schultz

February Anniversary

13: Ron & Ruby Naslund



Thank you to the carolers who came to my house before

Christmas. I enjoyed it very much.

Betty Willet



Thank you so much for the work the Methodist Church has given me the past year. Each of you are very caring and kind. Also, thinking of me at Christmastime.

God bless each of you,

Edie Peden



I want to thank my church family for all of the prayers, food, phone calls and cards after my accident.

It was very much appreciated.

Julie Cole

Let God's Light Shine Sunday School

Join one of our Sunday morning groups from 9:00 - 9:45am.

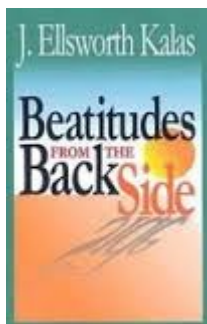
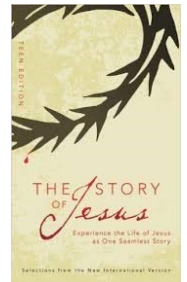
Our elementary students have divided into 2 groups for lesson, discussion, and craft time. This will allow our children to have age appropriate lessons and conversations. Both groups are continuing to use the Deep Blue curriculum, which both teachers and students are enjoying.



Children's Bell Choir Kathy Curry is now leading our new children's bell choir! The children will be practicing during music time during Sunday school and occasionally performing during worship.

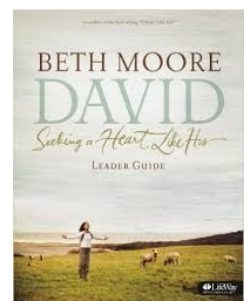


The middle school class (5th–8th grades) decided as a group they would like to learn more about the life of Jesus. They have begun a new study in January, entitled *The Story of Jesus*, covering His life. This is a 7–9 week book and video study.



Mary Nice is currently leading a study by Dr. Ellsworth Kalas entitled, *Beatitudes from the Backside*. The study takes an in-depth look at the Beatitudes, from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

Miriam Greene's class will continue Beth Moore's *David: Seeking A Life Like His*. The study takes a close look at the life of David and how his victories and struggles relate to our on lives.



Outreach Update



February Meals:

Free Community Meal: Saturday, February 6, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Mission Meal: Sunday, February 14 following worship

Humility of Mary: Tuesday, February 23. Meet at Alpha UMC at 4:15pm.

Baby Bottles for Life

Please return your baby bottles to the church by February 7th.

On this day, Pastor Zack will be blessing the bottles and they will be turned in to Pregnancy Resources.



Church Council Update

Welcome to all of our new Council members! Kelli Johnson, nurture chair, Dave Lambin, trustee chair, Linda Lambin, outreach chair, Roger Swanson, worship chair, and Delainey Bradshaw, your representative.

Here's what's happening and coming up...

Trustees have had a busy 2016 already! The nursery remodel is coming along and plaster repairs have been made throughout the church. Three new closets have also been built. Painting is also being completed in these areas. The cross inside of the sanctuary is being repaired and will be up and working again soon!

Donations for our new windows stand at \$6,230 as of Jan. 19. Each window will cost about \$500 to purchase and install.

A big thanks to those working on these projects!

The worship team is working on plans for Holy Week, March 20-27. Nurture will be serving a meal on Maundy Thursday. Look for details in the March newsletter.

Alpha UMC now has official policies in place. Thank you to everyone who worked on, revised, and helped with policy development in any way. Copies of the new policy booklet are available in the church office.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 30 at 6:30pm.



**Ash Wednesday Service will
be held:**

**Wednesday, February 10
6:30pm**

Invitation Bible Study

It's not too late to join the *Invitation Bible Study*! Pastor Zack is leading 2 sessions each week. Choose the session that fits your schedule:

Tuesdays: 9:30 - 10:45am

or

Thursdays: 6:00-7:15pm

EARLY RESPONSE TEAM



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Early Response Training in Moline

Early Responder Training will be offered by UMCOR trainers in February. This time the training is right here in our area! Let's try to a group together to attend, so that Alpha UMC will be ready to help when disaster strikes.

Date: Saturday, February 27

Time: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Place: Bethel Wesley UMC
1201 13 St. Moline, IL

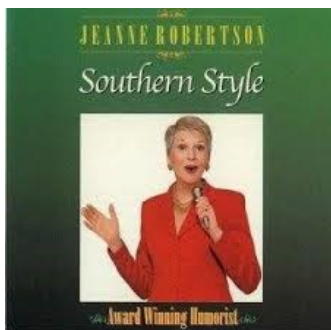
Registration deadline: February 22

Cost is \$40 and includes background check, training materials, lunch, ERT t-shirt, and UMCOR badge.

Go to:

<https://igrc-reg.brapp.com/ERTMolineBethelWesleyUMC160227>

to register or contact Desirae in the office.



Family Movie Night & Potluck Dinner

Saturday, February 20th

6:00pm

Jeanne Robertson will be our comedian. We will be listening to "Southern Style". Jeanne Robertson's "Southern Style" is to laugh at the funny things that happen (or don't happen) to her and to invite others to join in that laughter. She doesn't write humor. She lives it. Fortunately, she also shares it. Recorded before a fun-loving audience at Elon University, Elon, NC, Jeanne reminds us in her elegant yet down-home Southern Style to accept what we can't change about the people around us, look for the humor in our midst every day and keep smiling.

Lent Reading Plan



Begins Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Wednesday, February 10 - Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10;

Matthew 6:1-16,16-21

Thursday, February 11 - Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Exodus 5:10-23; Acts 7:30-34

Friday, February 12 - Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Exodus 6:1-13; Acts 7:30-34

Saturday, February 13 - Psalm 31:1-2, 9-16; Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; John 12:27-36

Monday, February 15 - Psalm 17; 1 Chronicles 21:1-17; 1 John 2:1-6

Tuesday, February 16 - Psalm 17; Zechariah 3:1-10; 2 Peter 2:5-21

Wednesday, February 17 - Psalm 17; Job 1:1-22; Luke 21:34

Thursday, February 18 - Psalm 27; Genesis 13:1-7, 14-18; Philippians 3:2-12

Friday, February 19 - Psalm 27; Genesis 14:17-24; Philippians 3:17-20

Saturday, February 20 - Psalm 27; Psalm 118:26-29; Matthew 23:37-39

Monday, February 22 - Psalm 105:1-15, 42; Exodus 33:1-6; Romans 4:1-12

Tuesday, February 23 - Psalm 105:1-15, 42; Numbers 14:10b-24; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Wednesday, February 24 - Psalm 105:1-15, 42; 2 Chronicles 20:1-22; Luke 13:22-31

Thursday, February 25 - Psalm 63:1-8; Daniel 3:19-30; Revelation 2:8-11

Friday, February 26 - Psalm 63:1-8; Daniel 12:1-4; Revelation 3:1-6

Saturday, February 27 - Psalm 63:1-8; Isaiah 5:1-7; Luke 6:43-45

Monday, February 29 - Psalm 39; Jeremiah 11:1-7; Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday, March 1 - Psalm 39; Ezekiel 17:1-10; Romans 2:12-16

Wednesday, March 2 - Psalm 39; Numbers 13:17-27; Luke 13:18-21

Thursday, March 3 - Psalm 32; Joshua 4:1-13; 2 Corinthians 4:16

Friday, March 4 - Psalm 32; Joshua 4:14-24; 2 Corinthians 5:6-15

Saturday, March 5 - Psalm 32; Exodus 32:7-14; Luke 15:1-10

Lent Reading Plan (cont.)

Monday, March 7 - Psalm 53; Leviticus 23:26-41; Revelation 19:1-8

Tuesday, March 8 - Psalm 53; Leviticus 25:1-19; Revelation 19:9-10

Wednesday, March 9 - Psalm 53; 2 Kings 4:1-7; Luke 9:10-17

Thursday, March 10 - Psalm 126; Isaiah 43:1-7; Philippians 2:19-24

Friday, March 11 - Psalm 126; Isaiah 43:8-15; Philippians 2:25

Saturday, March 12 - Psalm 126; Exodus 12:21-27; John 11:45-57

Monday, March 14 - Psalm 20; Exodus 40:1-15; Hebrews 10:19-25

Tuesday, March 15 - Psalm 20; Judges 9:7-15; 1 John 2:18-25

Wednesday, March 16 - Psalm 20; Habakkuk 3:2-15; Luke 18:31-34

Thursday, March 17 - Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 53:10-12; Hebrews 2:1-9

Friday, March 18 - Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 54:9-10; Hebrews 2:10-18

Saturday, March 19 - Psalm 31:9-16; Leviticus 23:1-8; Luke 22:1-13

Monday, March 21 - Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

Tuesday, March 22 - Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

Wednesday, March 23 - Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32

Thursday, March 24 - Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17

31b-35

Friday, March 25 - Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19, 42

Saturday, March 26 - Job 14:1-14; Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16

1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27:57-66; John 19:38-42



February 2016



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 6:30pm Boy Scouts	2 9:30-10:45am Bible Study 6:30pm SPPRC	3 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:45pm Sunshiners	4 6:00-7:15pm Bible Study 7:15-8:30pm Music rehearsal	5	6 5:00-7:00pm Community Meal
7 No Confirmation Class	8 6:30pm Boy Scouts	9 9:30 - 10:45am Bible Study 6:15pm Worship Meeting	10 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	11 6:00-7:15pm Bible Study 7:15-8:30pm Music rehearsal	12 9:00am - 12:00-pm LEAP Screening	13
14 1st Sunday of Lent Boy Scout Sun- day Mission Meal following Worship	15 10:00—4:00 Game Day w/ Pastor Zack 6:30pm Boy Scouts	16 9:30 - 10:45am Bible Study	17 6:30pm Cub Scouts	18 6:00-7:15pm Bible Study 7:15-8:30pm Music rehearsal	19 Newsletter Deadline	20 1:00 - 4:00pm Private Baby shower 6:00pm Movie night & Potluck dinner
21 5:30pm Confirmation Class	22 6:30pm Boy Scouts Pastor Zack @ Residency Conf.	23 9:30 - 10:45am Bible Study 4:15pm Hum. of Mary Pastor Zack@ Residency Conf.	24 6:30pm Cub Scouts Meeting Pastor Zack @ Residency Conf.	25 6:00-7:15pm Bible Study 7:15-8:30pm Music rehearsal	26	27
28 7:00am Men's Break- fast	29 6:30pm Boy Scouts					

ALPHA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

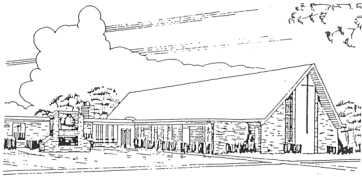
Rev. Zackary T. Glenn, Pastor

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 A.M. All Sunday School Classes Begin

9:30 A.M. Coffee & snacks 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



Alpha United Methodist Church
Rev. Zackary T. Glenn, Pastor
211 S. Scandia St., PO Box 607, Alpha, IL
61413

