

ALPHA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 2016

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 2016 Issue 7

Well, I am back and refreshed from a “real” family vacation that included NO WORK, no conferences, no agendas, no “homework”, just visiting some of my wife’s family members and traveling through Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin and relaxing whenever possible. The one constant thread that I am still ruminating on at the moment is that we really enjoyed some great dinner parties with our loved ones.

First, we went and visited Julia’s brother and her sister-in-law in Ames, IA. He works as head chef and he hosted us for a delicious dinner at his newly opened barbecue restaurant aptly named, “BattleCry Barbeque”. The menu was adventurous and the food was outstanding; I highly recommend you check them out if you’re ever in Ames or visiting Iowa State University.

Next, we visited Julia’s dad and step-mom at their summer campground in Stoddard, WI right on the Mississippi River, south of La Crosse. Every time we see them, we can almost always count on a great family fish fry dinner, and we were not disappointed. Eliana was so excited to eat fresh fried fish that she woke up the first morning in Wisconsin at 6:30am and said she was hungry for some of grandpa’s fish!

So, I hope you and your loved ones are enjoying your summer vacations and making the most of your dinner parties, cook-outs, picnics, ballgames, and family reunions. Summer is always a great time to gather together over a good fresh meal and celebrate the fruits of your labor and valuable relationships.

Our Lord and Savior enjoyed many dinner parties too in his ministry! Actually, you might be surprised by the 1st century “Yelp” reviews by guests and critics of Jesus’ infamous dinner parties, as recorded by St. Luke:

- *“Why do you eat with tax collectors and sinners?”*
- *“John’s disciples frequently fast and pray, like the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink?!”*
- *“Look, a glutton and a drunkard,
a friend of tax collectors and sinners!”*
- *“If this man were a real prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—
that she is a sinner!”*
- *“He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner!”*
- *“Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”*

You see, this summer I have been diligently working on one of my ordination requirements for the Illinois Great Rivers Conference Board of Ordained Ministry: creating, writing, and preparing to teach a six session bible study based on the Gospel of Luke. My approach is unconventional: it’s inspired by dinner theatre. (See page 6!)

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 Interim: Desirae Silvis

UMW Chair: Mary Nice

Men in Mission: Dean Kernan

Lay Leader: Lindi Kernan

Alternate: Cathy Jordan

Youth Rep.: Delainey Bradshaw

Recording Secretary: Desirae Silvis



Pastor Zack will be out of office July 21–24 for the Aldersgate Renewal Ministries conference in Lexington, KY.

Desirae will be on vacation July 18-24.

Secretary's Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

9:00am - 1:00pm

(309)629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com

Parent's Prayer Group

Parents of all ages are invited to attend our monthly Parent's Prayer Group.

Parent's Prayer Group meets the first Sunday of each month following worship. We share the joys and concerns we are experiencing within our families and pray for each other throughout the month.

Our next meeting is Sunday, July 3 following worship.

FRIDAY,



JULY 22



Retired pastor Larry Arden Olson, 78, died June 12 in Iowa. Condolences can be sent to his wife, Phyllis Olson, 618 Cottage Grove Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1807. He served local churches in the former Central Illinois Conference and in the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, retiring from Albion-Bethel in 2002. A full obituary can be found at the website below and messages for the family may be posted there.

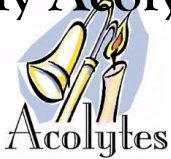
THIS MONTH'S USHERS

- 3: Melvin Briggs & Bradshaw Family
- 10: Melvin Briggs & Bradshaw Family
- 17: Melvin Briggs & Bradshaw Family
- 24: Melvin Briggs & Parris Silvis
- 31: Parris & Jack Silvis

July Liturgists:

- 03: Angie Althaus
- 10: Eddie Bradshaw
- 17: Bob Batman
- 24: David Althaus
- 31: Mary Nice

July Acolytes:



- 03: Lucas Althaus & Jacob Sproston
- 10: Lucas Althaus & Jacob Sproston
- 17: Grace Althaus & Libby Fox
- 24: Grace Althaus & Delainey Bradshaw
- 31: Delainey Bradshaw & Libby Fox

July Birthdays

- 04: Dana Schultz
- 06: Bill Schultz
- 17: Ali Lambin
- 18: Desirae Silvis
- 21: Eric Atchison
- 22: Phyllis Kearney
- 24: Pete Barton
- 30: Kelsey (Schultz) Franklin

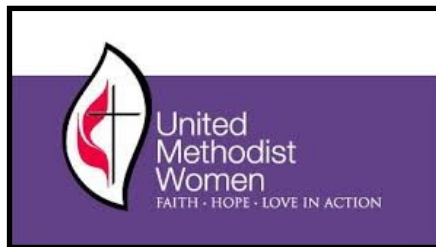
July Coffee Hour Hosts



- 03: Kurt & Cathy Jordan
- 10: Bradshaw Family
- 17: Bob & Jan Bateman
- 24: Need volunteers
- 31: Ann & Marvin Enstrom

July Anniversaries

- 03: Marvin & Ann Enstrom
- 15: Sheldon & Gloria German
- 26: Dale & Linda Lanning



Thursday, July 14
1:30pm
All women welcome!



Sunday, July 24
7:00am
All men welcome!

Summer Sunday School



All Ages Summer Sunday School

Sundays at 9:00am

Join us each Sunday this summer for all ages Sunday School. Each week begins with music, prayer, offering, and a lesson on one of the 10 commandments. Then, depending on the week there will be a fun all ages activity, or adults and children will break up for separate activities.

**VOLUNTEERS
DO NOT
NECESSARILY
HAVE THE TIME;
THEY HAVE
THE HEART**

A BIG THANK YOU to the many volunteers who participated in VBS, prayed over this ministry, helped set up or clean up, for those in the community that gave snacks, art and craft supplies, words of encouragement, or anything else that contributed to the success of this ministry.

We are blessed that you partnered with us to make a HUGE difference in the lives of the children and families in this community. Cave Quest VBS was magnificent and we give the glory to God for this ongoing community ministry.

Outreach Update

Midwest Missions Ministry for the month of May, we collected 22 hand towels, 52 wash clothes, and 70 bars of soap. They were taken at the beginning of the Annual Conference in Peoria.

Another Child Foundation Ministry for the months of June and July continue as we collect new youth shoes and socks for Project Response for the children of Romania. Let's fill the clothesline with all sizes of colorful shoes and socks. See page 5 of the newsletter for more info.

Upcoming Outreach Ministries include: Alpha Lighted Parade, Blood Drive, a visit to Day Spring Native American UMC, and providing back to school needs for children in our community.

July Meals:

Free Community Meal Saturday, July 2, 5:00-7:00pm,

Mission Meal Sunday, July 10 following worship

Humility of Mary Tuesday, July 26 Join us if you would like to help cook or go with to serve the meal. We leave the church around 4:15pm

The Outreach Team says,

“Thank you as we are so blessed by our church family and their outpouring of love.”



For June and July, we will again be collecting for the

Project Response Shoe & Sock Drive

for children in Romania.

We will be collecting NEW youth sized shoes for ages 3 to 14 years old. This is an essential to us and is a great need to these kids! A pair of shoes or athletic shoes with a **good sole** is ideal. Please also remember that even a 14 year old can have adult-sized feet

(see Althaus children!)

We will also collect boy & girls socks - a need that gets under-valued but is in great demand!

Things you can do:

~Pray with Alpha Methodist Church as we secure needs for this ministry for things that many of us take for granted in our own closet!

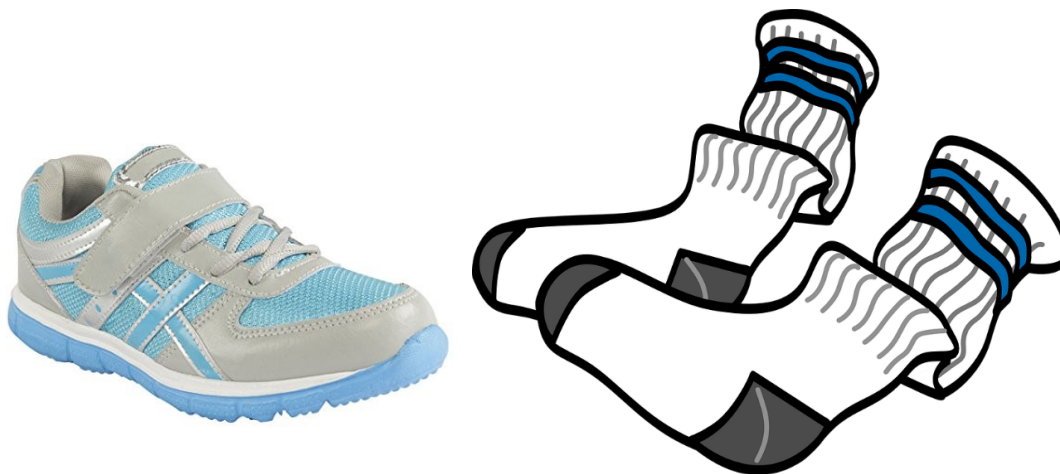
~Bring your items to church for our Outreach Team "Fill the Clothesline" Mission

by 23 July

~If you choose not to donate items, consider a monetary donation to the church with a line memo for Another Child Foundation Shoe Drive

~Celebrate with us on Sunday, 24 July as we pray over our collection before taking it to the ACF Gathering!

If you have any questions, please contact Angie Althaus, Linda Lambin, or any member of the Outreach Team



Friends, are you hungry....to know the real Jesus Christ of the Bible?

Do you ever wonder what it was like to follow Jesus firsthand, receiving hospitality in strangers' homes, walking to and fro in Galilee and on to Jerusalem?

Are you interested in learning about the cultural and social forces that shaped Jesus' life in Palestine as a 1st century Jew under Roman imperial rule?

Do you have a heart to serve the poor and to rescue the lost in our midst?

Finally....do you like eat or cook exotic recipes and host fun dinner parties?

If any of these things speak to your heart, your mind, or your stomach.... perhaps this new summer bible study I have been preparing is for you!

Meals at the Margins with the Messiah

is an original bible study inspired by Jesus' "table manners" in the Gospel of Luke. This six part bible study examines Jesus' scandalous ministry of sharing table fellowship to help learners discover how these "mission meals" truly preached "good news for the poor" and boldly proclaim, even now, that "Today....salvation has come to this house!" Each 90 minute session is designed to be a hands-on, multi-sensory, learning-by-dining experience, designed and taught by Pastor Zack, guided by the Holy Spirit with the living Word of God as our "main entrée".

***Mark your calendars for Sunday evenings, 5:30-7pm
July 10th, 17th, 31st; August 7th, 14th, and 21st.***
"Come hungry....leave holy!" Please RSVP soon!

I hope that our time together "at the table" will prove insightful, challenging, and delicious as we enter into Luke's gospel narrative together in the next few weeks.

*In Christ,
Pastor Zack*

*****If you enjoy culinary adventures and are interested in supporting our Luke Bible Study class by selecting from a list of bible-inspired recipes to help prepare or cook for our gatherings; please contact the church office by phone: 309.629.5161 or email: aphaunc@gmail.com for dates and menu ideas.*****

This is a call to prayer (and fasting) for our IGRC delegates involved in the disciplinary process elect new bishops for our North Central Jurisdiction.

A field of 17 candidates will be offered for election to jurisdictional delegates when the North Central Jurisdiction gathers July 13-16 at the Peoria Civic Center.

Profiles on all of the candidates can be viewed at the North Central Jurisdiction's website by visiting: <http://www.ncjumc.org/ncj-2016-3/episcopal-nominations/>. There each candidate has completed paperwork which will give delegates a sense of their leadership and vision for the church.

In between balloting, a candidate forum sponsored by the Black Methodists for Church Renewal will be held at 7 p.m. July 12 before the first ballot is cast at 2:30 p.m. July 13. All of the worship and plenary sessions will be at the Peoria Civic Center. Live streaming of plenaries and worship by visiting: www.igrc.org/ncj2016live

In order to be elected, a candidate must receive 60 percent of the valid ballots cast in any round of voting. Voting continues until there are four elections to fill the vacancies left by retirement.

A Service of Consecration of the four new bishops (including the new IGRC bishop) will be held on Saturday, July 16 at 10 a.m., at Peoria First UMC.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I, Rev. Zackary Glenn, humbly implore you to join me in prayer (and fasting) for two qualified, disciple-making, Christ following, missional ministry leaders from our Illinois Great Rivers Conference (Spoon River District) serving as 2016 episcopal candidates in the North Central Jurisdiction.

This July, please remember to pray (and fast) for our Spoon River District pastors:

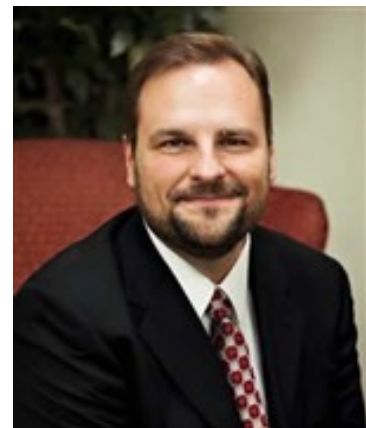
Rev. Sylvester Weatherall

Spoon River District Superintendent



Dr. Rev. Christopher Ritter

Directing Pastor, Geneseo First United Methodist Church
& Director of the Geneseo First-Cambridge Multisite Ministry





**QUAD CITY RIVER BANDITS
FAITH & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT**

Sunday, July 24

Modern Woodmen Park, Davenport, IA

The Quad City River Bandits are hosting a Faith and Fellowship Night at the ballpark. Former NFL running back, Jackie Battle, will give his testimony. Following the testimony, there will be a concert by a local tribute band. After this, the River Bandits will play the Bowling Green Hot Rods. This is also John Deere night at the ballpark for all you John Deere fans!

We would like to purchase a block of tickets for Alpha UMC and go as a church. Please email or call the office with the number of tickets you would like to purchase. Schedule and prices are as follows:

Doors open at 3:30pm

Testimonial at 3:45pm

Concert at 4:15pm

Game at 5:15pm

Tickets: Lower Box Seats \$9

If you are interested in going with us please call (309.629.5161) or email the church office(alphaumc@gmail.com) ASAP or by Sunday, July 17th with the number of tickets you will be purchasing.



July 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Church Ministry Budget Request Forms to be sent out this month and returned to Finance Team in August/Sept.		1	2 5:00-7:00pm Community Meal 
3 Parent's Prayer Group following worship	4 	5 6:30 pm SPPRC	6	7 7:15pm Band Practice	8	9 UMW District Officer Meeting
10 Mission Meal following worship  5:30-7:00pm Luke Bible Study	11 6:30pm Prayer Walk	12	13	14 1:30pm UMW 7:15pm Band Practice	15	16
17 5:30-7:00pm Luke Bible Study	18 6:30pm Prayer Walk <u>BloodMobile @St.Johns CC</u> Desirae on Vacation thru 7/24	19	20	21 Pastor out of office thru 7/24 @ARM conference 7:15pm Band Practice	22 Newsletter Deadline	23 Last day to donate items to Shoe and Sock Drive
24 7:00am Men's Breakfast 3:30pm/5:15pm RiverBandits faith event/game 31 5:30-7:00pm Luke Bible Study	25 6:30pm Prayer Walk	26 4:15 pm Serve Meal @ Humility of Mary	27 6:30pm Church Council	28 7:15pm Band Practice	29 ACF Shoe/Sock Drive Gathering in Moline	30

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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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