



ALPHA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 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 9

Greetings friends!

Summer is almost over and school is now back in session. Labor Day is upon us and we know the routine: “It’s time to get back to work!” For us as a local church, it’s time to roll up our sleeves, fall to our knees, and seek the LORD our God for the sake of our families and our communities. As our students “hit the books”, it’s time for us to renew our commitment to read, hear, study, and embody God’s Word in our everyday lives. We must spiritually prepare ourselves as gospel co-laborers for the coming harvest of new friendships, renewed relationships, and meaningful ministries that God has for us in the 2016-17 school year.

First, let’s sharpen our focus on the “rising generation” of infants, children, youth, and emerging adults in our church and community. We recently blessed the backpacks of our students and prayed for them, their teachers, and their families too. We presented them with a gift tag for their backpacks that served to remind them that our church is praying for each of them and on the back of the tag was Joshua 1:9. “Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you!”

I hope and pray that we will see our returning students and their families AND their friends and neighbors here for worship on Sunday, September 11th. During the service, we will present new bibles to our young children and celebrate the promotion of our Sunday School students. Afterwards, we’ll caravan up to the QC Entertainment Center for pizza and bowling. We’ll end the afternoon with an ice cream sundae bar back at the church with our families to preview and pray for our student ministries.

Second, please remember to pray for our students, their teachers, and their families as they continue to transition back-to-school with their new busy schedules. In the midst of the hustle and bustle of sports and school performances, the local church can serve as a real “sanctuary” for active students. Here, their “spiritual batteries” can be recharged through prayer, encouragement, and wisdom from God’s Word for their lives. Also, by offering our students more outreach ministry opportunities this year to serve the poor and help those in need in our area, we can grow to become more “God-centered and others-oriented” Christians.

So, remember to pray for our United Methodist Youth Fellowship ministry coming soon that will be youth-initiated, bible-based, mission-minded, and supported with prayers and presence from adult volunteers, parents, and the pastor. We already have an awesome God-given vision of student-led intergenerational ministry events that Delainey Bradshaw shared with our church council a few days ago. Last Sunday, our first batch of youth ministry mentors started to pray with her for God to bless and bring forth this new outward focused youth ministry to life.

Third, right now is a great time of the year to invite or even bring your friends, relatives, and neighbors with you to our church for worship, bible study, Sunday school, missional ministry, or a fun fellowship meal. Let’s pack the pews for worship, open our homes for fellowship, and go out and serve our neighbors as Christ transforms us and our community for the glory of God!

I pray that we will grow in our faith together to have the mind of Christ. Jesus’ teaching in the 1st century was rooted in the first two-thirds of the Bible we have today, known as the Old Testament. In light of this, I’m excited to announce that our church’s new fall season of worship ministry and Christian education will be focused on the Old Testament. For the month of September, our Sunday morning worship services, the Deep Blue Bible children’s Sunday School, middle school youth Sunday School, and weekday “Epic of Eden” adult bible study groups will be delving into the Old Testament’s Book of Genesis. So if you’ve ever been curious or even confused by the Old Testament, or if you have wanted to start reading the Bible but didn’t know where to begin, come join us and we’ll start with a clean slate together this month.

I hope to see you soon. We’ve got a great harvest ahead of us!

Grace and Peace in Christ,

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 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

Secretary's Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

9:00am - 1:00pm

(309)629-5161

alphaumc@gmail.com



Pastor Zack will be out of the office Wednesday, Sept. 21–Friday, Sept. 23 at the New Room Conference and Monday Sept. 26–Wednesday Sept. 28 for Residence in Ministry.

All are welcome to attend a:

**Baby Shower
For
Everly DeSutter**
[Daughter of Adrienne & Drew DeSutter]

Sunday, September 25
Immediately following church

Light refreshments will be served.

**Registered at:
Target & Toys"R" Us**

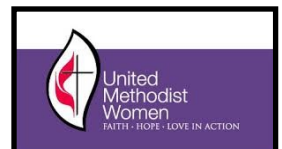
 **FRIDAY,**
NewsLetter
DEADLINE SEPT. 23

Alpha UMC Sunshiners

Sunshiners meeting will be
Wednesday, Sept. 7 at 6:45pm



Sunday, Sept. 25
7:00am
All men welcome!



Thursday, September 8
1:30pm
All women welcome!

THIS MONTH USHERS

Eddie & Emily Bradshaw

September Liturgists: 04: Lindi Kernan 11: Mary Nice
 18: Dale Lanning 25: Angie Althaus

September Acolytes: 04 & 11: Grace & Lucas Althaus



18 & 25: Jacob Sproston & Tucker Swanson

September Birthdays

- 02: Don Peden
- 04: Bob Bateman
- 05: Marty Hines
- 12: Travis Atchison
- 13: Tyson Cremeens
- 18: Gina Medley
- 21: Phyllis Anthony
 Kali Bedford
 Clarissa Young
- 23: Alexis Britt
- 24: Grace Althaus
 Lucas Althaus
 Lauren Curry
- 26: Karen Schultz
- 27: David Althaus
 Dick Rutledge
- 28: Meghan Cole
 Abi Rutledge
- 29: Dave Cole
- 30: Dale Lanning

September Coffee Hour Hosts



- 04: Need Volunteers
- 11: Need Volunteers
- 18: Lanning Family
- 25: Need Volunteers

Nursery Helpers



- 04: Linda Lanning
- 11: Linda Lambin
- 18: Lauren Curry
- 25: Lindsy Brooks

September Anniversaries

- 02: Don & Edie Peden
- 12: Ned & Mary Nice
- 17: Ron & Gina Medley



Thank you for the well wishes and cards celebrating our 7th wedding anniversary, as well as Ezra's 1st birthday!

The Glenn Family



Sunday School Kick Off!

Sunday, September 11 will be a big day at Alpha UMC!

The 2016-17 Sunday School year will begin Sunday, September 11. All classes meet at 9:00am. Here's a breakdown of our classes:

Pre-K— 1st grades: This class will be lead by Gina Medley and Renee Young. We will again be using the Deep Blue curriculum. Class meets in the nursery.

2nd—4th grades: Lead by Thad and Kathy Curry. This class will also be using Deep Blue, but designed for middle elementary ages. They will meet in the northwest classroom,

Middle School Amazing Apostles (5th-8th grades): This class is lead by Cathy Jordan. Students will begin the year reading and exploring the book of Genesis. Class meets in the classroom off the sanctuary.

High School (9th—12th grades): Lead by Eddie and Emily Bradshaw. This class meets in the classroom across from the kitchen.

We also have 2 adult classes. Miriam Greene will be continuing to lead a study of the life of David. Miriam's class meets in the small room off the sanctuary. Mary Nice also leads an adult class with varying studies. Mary's class meets in the fireplace room. Feel free to join one of these classes at any time.



Sunday School Roundup

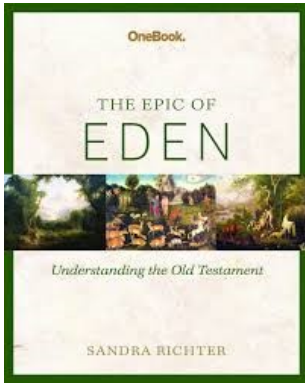


Sunday, September 11th following worship.

Sunday School Roundup will be Sunday, September 11 immediately following worship. We will be going to the QC Entertainment Center in Moline for pizza and bowling. We will return to the church around 2:30pm for ice cream. All Sunday School families are invited to attend. Alpha UMC will pay for pizza and bowling for all children. Families are responsible for their own transportation or make carpool arrangements on your own. Please RSVP to Desirae at 309-629-5161 or alphaumc@gmail.com.



September 11th will also be promotion Sunday. Students who completed Sunday School last year will receive promotion certificates. Our new Pre-K students will receive Bibles. This is always a special time for the students to celebrate and look forward to the new school year.



Epic of Eden Bible Study

Tuesdays 9:30-11:00am beginning Sept. 6
 Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm beginning Sept. 7
 or
 Thursdays 1:00-2:30pm beginning Sept. 8

Pastor Zack will be leading a 12 week Bible study entitled “The Epic of Eden.” This is a weekly video/book study described as follows from the Seedbed website:

“Let’s be honest: It’s just easier to study New Testament. The pre-Jesus part of the Bible can seem so convoluted with lineages, stories, and laws that Jesus came to abolish. In fact, most of what we know about the Old Testament can feel like a grab bag of people, books, events, and ideas, and usually, it’s hard for us make sense of it and see how it connects to God’s bigger story at all.

In Epic of Eden, Dr. Sandra Richter jumps headlong into the Old Testament to clearly and powerfully communicate a history of God’s redeeming grace, weaving together a story that runs from the Eden of the Garden to the garden of the New Jerusalem.

Through text and video teaching, Dr. Richter uses this 12-week Old Testament Bible study to bring a new dimension to the history of the ancient Near East, orienting any study group in time, geography, culture, redemption, and relevance to today – all without diminishing her reader’s faith or “dumbing down” the scripture.”

This study is offered at 3 times to fit your schedule. Please choose the one that works best for you. Study guides cost \$18.36 each (this is with a 20% discount) and are needed prior to the study. Contact Desirae in the church office to order your book.

Helping Hands

Suppers



The Nurture Team is starting a new ministry dedicated to providing meals to anyone needing them after a hospital stay.

Nurture is in need of volunteers to be able to provide meals when called.

To sign up to volunteer or request meals, please contact :
 Kelli Johnson 309-507-3040 or Deb Briggs 306-629-2221



September Walk to Emmaus

Alpha UMC will again be hosting both the men and women's Walk to Emmaus in September. Walk to Emmaus is a 4 day retreat and participants will be staying at Camp Summit in New Windsor. Dates are as follows:

Men's Walk: Thursday, September 15– Sunday, September 18

Women's Walk: Thursday, September, 22–Sunday, September 25

emmaus.upperroom.org

qcemmaus.org

Below is a description of Walk to Emmaus.

A Journey with Christ

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. - Luke 24:15

The walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

The Walk to Emmaus experience begins with the prayerful discernment and invitation from a sponsor. After one accepts this invitation they complete an application. The Emmaus leaders prayerfully consider each applicant and in God's time, the person is invited to attend a three-day experience of New Testament Christianity as a lifestyle.

Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ.

Through the formational process of accountable discipleship in small groups and participation in the Emmaus community, each participant's individual gifts and servant-leadership skills are developed for use in the local church and its mission. Participants are encouraged to find ways to live out their individual call to discipleship in their home, church, and community.

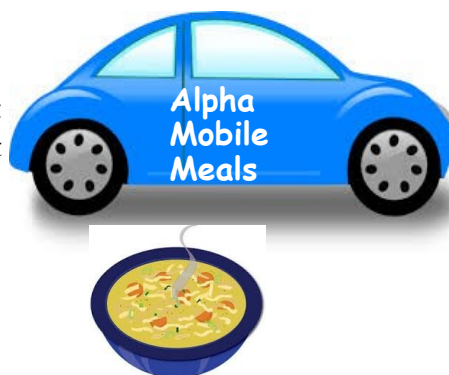
The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

Looking for a hot meal this winter?

If you or someone you know is interested in receiving a hot meal this winter, Alpha Mobile Meals can help. Mobile Meals delivers a hot meal to your door every Tuesday around 11am. It's a great way to get a delicious meal without the work or getting out in bad weather.

Available to all residents of Alpha.

Contact Vanya Cowser at 309-629-4008 to sign up.





Outreach Team Updates:

AlWood Elementary Afterschool Program will continue as our ministry for September. Our children have gone back to school and have an afterschool program that is funded through an initial 5 year grant, however, NO snacks are included. The Outreach Team has set up a bin in the fellowship hall, and will be collecting the following items:

Sun Chips, granola bars, string cheese, Goldfish crackers, peanut butter or cheese crackers, rice crispy treats, cereal bars, pretzels, Nutrigrain Bars, popcorn, and apple juice boxes.

Lists with these items can be found in the fellowship hall. Gina Medley and Linda Lanning are heading up this ministry. Please continue your prayers for our young people.

Meals for September:

Free Community Meal: Saturday, September 3 from 5-7pm

Mission Meal Canceled for Sunday School Roundup

Humility of Mary Tuesday, September 27 Come and join us to help cook at Alpha UMC or come and help serve the meal. WE will leave the church at 4:15pm. We are in need of more people to assist. Please contact Lindi Kernan or Linda Lambin if interested. We would be happy to sit down with you.

Bring the family to the lighted parade and have a spaghetti dinner before. The Boy Scouts will be serving in our church.

Linda Lambin
Outreach Team Chair




Alpha UMC will be sponsoring the Red Cross Blood Drive on **Monday, Sept. 19th from 1pm-6pm**. There is currently a blood shortage so if you or someone you know can donate it would be a big help. Because we don't have air conditioning in fellowship hall, we will use the American Legion Building.



Parent's Prayer Group

The parent's prayer group will hold it's monthly meeting Sunday, Sunday, September 4 following worship. Let's get together and pray for our kids and families.

Parent's prayer group is open to parent's of all ages! Please join us in supporting one another in fellowship and prayer.



Begins Wednesday August 17, 2016 9:00-11:00 am *or* 5:30 – 7:30 pm

At First United Methodist Church, Chapel
120 N. Kellogg St., Galesburg, IL 61401
Workbooks available for \$15

Questions?

Contact Pastor Mary at 309-342-3197 or Melissa Ruehmer at 309-343-3411

Bishop Frank Beard preaching in our area!



Our new bishop, Rev. Frank Beard, will be preaching at the Saturday night contemporary service at Geneseo 1st UMC, September 24. from 6-8pm



We are always looking for volunteers to serve as ushers, greeters, and liturgists. If any of these ministry opportunities interest you, please contact Desirae via email: alphaumc@gmail.com or phone 629-5161. Each of these ministries are a vital part of our church and take little to no time outside of Sunday worship.



Reaching New People

Saturday, October 1, 2016, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Did You Know?

- 89% of new people who attend your church, and return, come with a friend
- 82% of people not connected to a church are somewhat likely to attend if invited
- 70% of people not connected to a church say they've never been invited

Workshop Leader: Rev. Mike Crawford, Illinois Great Rivers Conference Coordinator of Congregational Development

Date/Location: Saturday, October 1, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. On-site check-in begins at 8:30 am.

Galesburg First UMC, 120 N. Kellogg St., Galesburg.

Cost: \$10 per person (includes lunch)

For Whom: A church team which includes a **minimum of the pastor and three laity**. The larger the number of people who attend, the greater the likelihood the principles will have a positive impact on a church's ability to reach new people. BRING A LARGE TEAM!!

How to Register: Register your team at

<https://igrc-reg.brapp.com/ReachingNewPeopleOct1>

Workshop Info: Too often churches take a "wait for people to come" approach, or they think 'invitation' means standing on street corners or initiating painfully difficult conversations. Not so!

This workshop will teach principles which are effective in churches of all sizes that are making new disciples of Jesus Christ. The key to reaching new people is to move beyond the walls of the building and develop relationships with people in the community. This workshop will equip the church to reach out in non-threatening ways.

If more people of the church intentionally engage in this invitational model, the church will be more effective in reaching new people.

Food: Lunch and snacks will be provided for all who are registered. Please indicate during the registration process if any participant of your church team has any dietary restrictions.

Registration deadline: September 25, 2016





September



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 7:15pm Band practice	2 Pastor's Sabbath	3 5-7pm Free Community Meal
4 Ayla Catey Baptism Parent's Prayer Group following worship	5 Labor Day	6 9:30-11:00am Epic of Eden Study 6:30pm SPPRC	7 6:30-8:00pm Epic of Eden Study 6:45pm Sunshiners	8 1:00-2:30pm Epic of Eden Study 1:30pm UMW 7:15pm Band Practice	9 Pastor's Sabbath	10 4-7pm Boy Scout Spaghetti Supper
11 Sunday School kick off Promotion Sunday Sunday School roundup fol- lowing worship	12 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13 9:30-11:00am Epic of Eden Study 6:30pm Pastor @ cler- gy gathering	14 6:30-8:00pm Epic of Eden Study 6:30pm Cub Scouts	15 1:00-2:30pm Epic of Eden 6:00pm Walk to Em- maus	16 Pastor's Sabbath	17 7:30pm Walk to Em- maus
18 4:30pm Walk to Em- maus	19 1:00 - 6:00pm Blood Drive @ Legion 6:30pm Nominations 6:30 Scouts	20 9:30-11:00am Epic of Eden Study 6:30pm Finance	21 6:30-8:00pm Epic of Eden Pastor @ New Room Conf. thru 9/23	22 1:00-2:30pm Epic of Eden 6:00pm Walk to Em- maus	23 Pastor's Sabbath Newsletter Deadline	24 7:30pm Walk to Em- maus
25 7:00am Men's Breakfast Baby Shower for DeSutter's after worship 4:30pm Walk to Emmaus	26 Pastor @ Resi- dence in Min- istry thru 9/28 6:30pm Council	27 9:30-11:00am Epic of Eden 4:15pm Humility of Mary	28 6:30-8:00pm Epic of Eden Study 6:30pm Cub Scouts	29 1:00-2:30pm Epic of Eden 6:30pm VBS Director's Meeting	30 Pastor's Sabbath	

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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