



February 2015

United Methodist Newsletter



Alton United Methodist Church St. Paul United Methodist Church

Friends,

Between the time I wrote this, I will have entered the year-end statistics (thanks to all those who provided the information for me to report), gone on vacation, and then chaperoned seven youth with Nancy Alford to WOW in Springfield, MO. Time flies by when you are busy.

The calendar ahead looks busy. February 18th is Ash Wednesday. It is the beginning of Lent. February 22nd is the first Sunday of Lent. With Lent begins a new Bible study. This year we will use a book by Michael Slaughter, senior pastor of Ginghamburg Church in Tipton, Ohio, to help our study. The name of the book is *Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus*. The following is from the publisher's blurb about this book:

"Central to the Christian faith is a man who denies all our pre-conceived notions about what God should look like. Joining his movement will mean coming to terms with the real Jesus, the rebel Jesus. Jesus didn't come to start a religion. The rebel Jesus came with a renegade gospel to start a revolution. You and I are invited to be a part. In Renegade Gospel, pastor and author Mike Slaughter presents Jesus and his challenging message to inspire us during Lent, Easter, and through the year. Read the red letters and discover Jesus all over again."

I hope you will come and join in the study and the discussion as we learn about Jesus to help us prepare for Easter. It is my prayer that this study will impact our discipleship, that what we learn will help us to be better students of Jesus, and we will make a bigger difference in our communities and in our world. Times and days of meeting as a group will be announced later.

In Christ,
Pastor Denzil





St. Paul Game Night

St. Paul UMC will host a game night downstairs for all ages on Sunday, February 15, starting at 5:00 pm. Lots of snacks provided. Bring your favorite board games, but we also

challenge the techies to bring their electronic gadgets to teach new games to those who don't know! And bring your friends for even more fun!



St. Paul UMW Adopt a Family

Check the Narthex for a new list of items to donate for February.

Super (Souper) Bowl Sunday February 1, 2015

On a day that most of us spend snacking and nibbling on all kinds of tasty foods as we watch the big football game, we often don't want to think about those around us that are hungry. But 23 years ago a group in South Carolina thought about it and started Souper Bowl of Caring. Souper Bowl of Caring is a means for local churches or organizations to support those in need in their own communities. Every day there are children in your community who face hunger. A new study shows 16 million children in our country are at risk of hunger and no county is immune. This impacts more than 16 million children in our country. Studies show that hungry children do poorly in school and have lower academic achievement because they cannot concentrate. On Sunday, February 1, 2015, a special collection will be taken during church service. Please feel free to bring a can or cans of soup to church. If you don't want to carry something that heavy, a dollar bill works just as well. All resources collected will support the Oregon County Food Pantries.



FEBRUARY MEAL OF THE MONTH

Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Meat
Canned Fruit & Jell-O
Bonus Item: Shampoo



Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday February 18, 2015
St. Paul UMC
5:30pm
Alton UMC
7:00pm



Oregon County Food Pantry



The Oregon County Food Pantry in Alton operates out of the Community Worship Center (the CWC) once a month. Volunteers unload and organize commodities provided by Ozark Food Harvest of Springfield, MO, on the first Wednesday of the month. The next day, volunteers meet again to distribute these items to folks who meet income and residence guidelines. These items usually include frozen meats, vegetables, fruits, pasta, beverages, canned goods, cakes, cookies and breads. Occasionally, we distribute cleaning supplies, eggs, peanut butter, yogurt or pizza. Volunteers come from area churches and from the line of recipients. Students from Alton High School's BETA Club help recipients carry their groceries out to their vehicles. Our church's Emergency Food Pantry operates on a smaller but constant (24/7!) basis, with some of the same constraints. Our area food pantry efforts do not stop hunger in Oregon County, but they do provide temporary relief and contact with caring neighbors.

Alton UMC Adopt-a-Family

Laundry Detergent
Hamburger
Spaghetti
Spaghetti Sauce
Parmesan Cheese
Lettuce
Tomatoes
Cucumbers
Potatoes
Carrots
Orange Juice
Cookie Mix
Mustard

**Sign-up Sheet 1st Sunday,
return items, 2nd Sunday.
Cash donations will buy
additional fresh produce.**

Scout Sunday February 8, 2015

The Alton UMM will host the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts for breakfast beginning at 7:00 am.



Lay Servant Training

A Lay Servant Basic Course will be offered at the Stockton United Methodist Church on March 14, 2015. If you are interested in taking this course please let Pastor Denzil know so he can get you registered.



Scout News
The Cub Scouts will host their annual Blue and Gold Banquet Saturday February 21st. Two Cubs, Tim Roberts and Mike Fraley will be crossing over to Boy Scouts. We are so proud of their accomplishments! The Cubs will also host a Klondike Derby at Alton City Park on Saturday February 28th. Make plans to come out and support our Cub Scouts.



In December the Boy Scouts held a Court of Honor and Christmas Party, celebrated with Michael Barton as he held his Eagle ceremony, and camped out at the Hutsler Farm. In January they participated in the District's annual Klondike campout. Boy Scouts from each troop are required to make a sled for racing purposes and compete in different skills. This year 9 boys pulled/carried their sled through a wooded obstacle course and had great weather all weekend! The Scouts are looking forward to the Merit Badge University at Rolla in February and assisting with the Cub Scout crossover ceremony.

Alton / Thayer Newsletter

Alton & St. Paul United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 241
Thayer, MO. 65791
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“We love because he first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

St. Paul Monthly Calendar

Carry-In Dinner 1st Sunday at 12 pm
Leadership Mtg. 1st Sunday at 1 pm
UMM Breakfast 2nd Sunday at 7am
Trustee's Mtg. 2nd Sunday at 12 pm
Piecemakers every Thursday at 9 am
Choir Practice every Wednesday at 6 pm
Exercise Group
Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11am

Alton Monthly Calendar

UMM Breakfast 2nd Sunday at 7 am
Leadership Mtg. 2nd Sunday at 7 pm
Stitches & Prayers every Tuesdays at 9 am
Tn'T every Wednesday 3:30 –5
Choir Practice every Sunday 8:15 am
UMW 3rd Tuesday at 5:00 pm
Quilting Circle 3rd Wednesday 9 am—3 pm



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