

November 2015

United Methodist Newsletter

Alton United Methodist Church

St. Paul United Methodist Church

Friends,

The first several hymns in our hymnal are songs of praise. Praise to God and praise to Jesus Christ. One of my favorites is "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart", #160 in the United Methodist Hymnal. The first verse and refrain remind us:

"Rejoice, ye pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks and sing, banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing."

It is that time of year when we focus on giving thanks. Hopefully we give God thanks everyday but this time of year we are reminded by various holidays and events. On November 1, we remember the saints who went before us in service to Christ. November 11, is a day of remembrance and giving thanks to our veterans. Then come community Thanksgiving dinners sponsored by our Ministerial Alliances. See the calendar and bulletins for information on those. November 22, is St. Paul's Holiday Dinner where we will give thanks to God for all things. Then, of course, November 26, is the big day of Thanksgiving, when we give thanks to God for all that He has provided. We give thanks for all the blessings God has given us in the last year and beyond.

I give thanks for this place where God has sent me. I give thanks for all those who serve the church and God in our churches. I give thanks for my family, those who are in my life now and those who have gone on to their reward in heaven. I give thanks for friends and others whom God has brought into my life, some very briefly and some for a long time. Most of all, I give thanks for Jesus Christ, who has been at work in me all my life. I give thanks that He abides in me even when I am disobedient and when I fail Him and others. I give thanks that He is not finished with me yet.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

**In Christ,
Pastor Denzil**



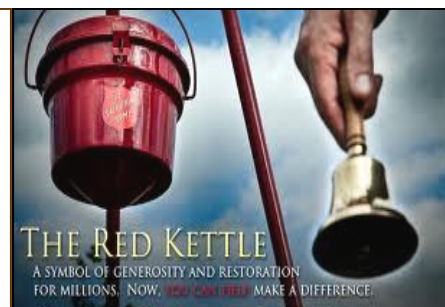
Community Thanksgiving Services

Thayer: Tuesday, November 24, 7:00pm
St. Paul United Methodist Church

Alton: Sunday, November 22, 5:00 pm
Elementary Multi-Purpose Bldg.



St. Paul UMW Adopt a Family
Check the Narthex for a new list of items to
donate for November.



Bell ringing time is almost here!

As we gather to give thanks for the blessings we have, remember that it only takes an hour to help others in need. During the Thanksgiving weekend the Alton UMC will be ringing bells at Harp's in Alton and St. Paul UMC will be ringing bells in front of Town & Country and Wal-Mart in Thayer. Watch your bulletins for more information and sign-up sheets.



November Meal of the Month



Canned Chicken and Dumplings
Canned Vegetables
Canned Fruit
Bonus Item: Glass Cleaner



2015 UMW Special Mission Recognition Award

Congratulations to Maureen Dodge who was honored with the 2015 UMW Special Mission Recognition Award on UMW Sunday. We are truly blessed to have Maureen as a leader in our congregation.

LAY SERVANT TRAINING

The Lay Servant Basic Course will be held on November 7, 2015, at West Plains UMC. Please see Denzil if you are interested in this training event.



ALTON MITTEN TREE



Wow! They say time flies when you are having fun but REALLY can you believe that it is already time to start thinking about Thanksgiving and Christmas? I can't believe it either, but it is! One of the mission projects that we as a church family have supported for years during the Christmas season is the Mitten Tree. We will put up the tree in the Alton Church on November 18, 2015. Take the mitten of your choice, purchase gifts for that child and return the gift with the Mitten attached by December 12th. If you need more information give Diana Clary a call at 270-1536. The new batch of pecans should be here by the time you read this. They will sell for \$10 a pound and you have a choice of mammoth halves or chopped 1lb bags. The profit of the pecan sales is used to help support the Mitten tree project.



Scout News



Both the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts participated in the Flag Ceremonies at Myrtle Yesterday and at the Alton Walnut Festival. What a wonderful service they are doing for their local communities! Popcorn sales ended in October and the Scouts would like to thank those who purchased popcorn and we appreciate the continued support! Cub Scouts are working toward rank advancements and planning their Pinewood Derby in January. Boy Scouts are working on merit badges through MBU at West Plains and plan to attend Winter Encampment at Kia Kima over Christmas break. This will be a new experience for the boys and they are looking forward to this exciting adventure.

Festival of Sharing

Marian Goodding and Pastor Denzil took 8 youth to the Youth Fest at Festival of Sharing November 17 & 18 at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, MO. While there, we bagged dry beans into two pound bags and boxed them up for shipment. We also helped get Backpacks of Love with basic needs for children going into state care ready for distribution. We counted the backpacks and then sorted them by orders for agencies to pick up to take to children in need in their communities. We got to go through booths from various organizations and were able to buy items for sale at some booths. The sales at the different booths also went to help the Festival of Sharing. This year instead of sleeping at area churches, we slept at the fairgrounds. The boys slept in one building and the girls slept in another building. There was time for some fun as well. We rode the P.E.T.s (Personal Energy Transportation). We also got to play Angry Birds with a sling shooter and playground balls. We got to shoot the balls toward stacks of boxes that had other balls on them. There was also a portable climbing wall and a climbing tower. The tower had a trampoline base and cargo nets stretched across the interior to climb up. It was a great experience knowing we were helping others. Thank you to all those who donated kits and money for beans we delivered from both churches and to those who donated money for our trip.

~ TNT Members



*Hanging of the
Green
November 22nd—
Thayer
November 29th—Alton*



ALTON CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 20th during Worship Service. All youth need to see Sharon Fraley for parts and practice schedule.

Alton / Thayer Newsletter

Alton & St. Paul United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 241
Thayer, MO. 65791
Return Service Requested

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I AM GRATEFUL FOR WHAT I AM AND HAVE. MY THANKSGIVING IS PERPETUAL. ~ Henry David Thoreau

St. Paul Monthly Calendar

Leadership Mtg. 1st Sunday at 12 pm
UMM Breakfast 2nd Sunday at 7 am
Piecemakers every Thursday at 9 am
Choir Practice every Wednesday at 6 pm
Holiday Dinner Sunday November 22nd 12 pm
Exercise Group
Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11am

Alton Monthly Calendar

UMM Breakfast 2nd Sunday at 7 am at Thayer
Leadership Mtg. 2nd Sunday at 7 pm
Stitches & Prayers every Tuesdays at 9 am
Quilting Circle 3rd Wednesday 9 am—3:00pm
TNT every Wednesday 3:30 –5 pm
Choir Practice every Sunday at 8:15 am
UMW 3rd Thursday at 4:00 pm



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