



First United
Methodist Church
116 W. Broadway
Alexandria, IN 46001

Address Service Requested

Rev. Jean Brindel, Pastor
Worship Services – 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Our church website: <http://www.alexfirstumc.org>
Church email: alexfirst@sbcglobal.net
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.;
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Office phone: 765-724-3411; FAX 765-724-9592

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Alexandria First United Methodist Church

REFLECTOR

...Open Minds...Open Hearts...Open Doors

June 2011

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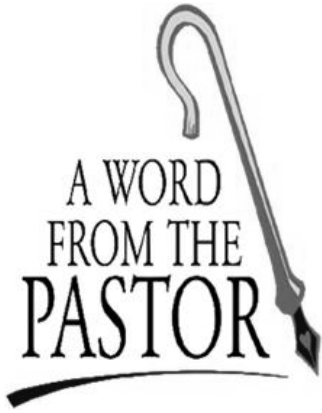
HELP US HELP OTHERS

Missions Committee is asking our congregation to start saving their loose change (paper money will happily be accepted) and to bring it to church every third Sunday of the month. Our local E.R.F.(Emergency Relief Fund) needs our church to step up and help provide financial assistance. In the past, many of us were accustomed to bringing canned good – staples – to donate to the E.R.F. At this point they have greater buying power than we, as individuals do. For those who don't know, the E.R.F. is housed at the Lutheran Church here in Alexandria, and many in their congregation are dedicated to regularly volunteering in this food pantry. Approximately 160 families are receiving help monthly. All the churches in our area are assisting in this ministry.

In a similar vein, many of you may not be aware there is another ministry – Heavens Warehouse. It is located behind the recently renovated church on the northwest corner of Church and Canal. Needy individuals and families can get donated clothing, bedding, towels, etc. We have placed a basket & sign near our church office door. We will take your donations there, or you may check on the bulletin board for their hours of operation and deliver your donations, if you wish. Save the gas you would have used to take things to Goodwill.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PACK BAGS & TRAVEL

Our District is seeking volunteers who donate some time and labor this summer to help in the flood and storm ravaged states to our south. This is a unique opportunity to be of assistance right here in the U.S. Men and women are needed to help clear debris, clean, paint, etc. Teenagers can go if a parent is going to provide supervision. If you feel called to participate in this worthwhile mission, please talk to Pastor Jean for more details.



According to a few people, who apparently were wrong, the end of the world was supposed to have happened last Saturday at 6:00 p.m. Don't get me wrong; when someone tells me the end of the world is coming, I take them very seriously. But I also know that Jesus said that even the angels didn't know the time or day, and if they weren't told, probably we won't

be either, but just in case, well actually I didn't do anything. What can one do to prepare for the end of the world, other than spread mulch?

So, with that in mind I decided to have four cubic yards of mulch delivered to my house. Four cubic yards of mulch is the size of a small mountain. My task was to scoop it into the wheel borrow, push the wheel borrow to the tree line, dump it out and then spread it with a rake. That is after I prepared the area to receive the mulch. Did I mention that it took two solid days, one wheel barrow at a time?

As I was working I began to think about the Israelites walking through the desert (I'm a preacher, that is what we think about - scary - but true), and all the times they must have wondered how they were going to handle the mountain they were facing and what they were going to do now that their world had come to an end.

Unlike the Israelites, I could quit anytime I wanted and hire someone to do the work for me (wait! I actually had that option? Now I think of it!). I had a bottle of water with me at all times, and my trusty dog Shaggy was there to guard me from any marauding earth worms and red birds. So, on I worked, complaining about my weak back, sore leg and the ever present broken nail. Really, I broke the nail on my right index finger.

When Saturday evening came along, I was so very happy to see the beauty of my work, I looked at the clock and realized it was 7:00; I'd missed the end of the world.

I turned on the TV to see if there was any conversation about the end of the world, but all CNN had was news about the war - how many folks had been killed today, the riots in the middle east, the plight of the folks in Japan after the earth quake and the nuclear disaster, the storms in the south, flooding along the Mississippi, the body count from the crimes of the day, slow economic recovery and the banking system, and in general - people being people. No end of the world today, everything seemed pretty normal. I changed the channel.

That's the way it is today, the end of the world came and nobody notices. For some people it was the end of the world as they stood in the path of war, disease and pain. For some people life was completely changed, some for the good, others well, not so much. Yet the world goes on into the hope and promise of the new. Like the Israelites, everything changes, the old comes to an end. That is when we realize that we truly need each other; we truly need God's promise and help; we really need a new world. And for some, like me and probably you, we are the ones who are blessed by God to be called to help the build the future. So Saturday was the end of the old world and the beginning of a new one. There is so much to be done that sometimes it feels like we are called to move mountains; blessed to help move the world into the new future one wheel barrow at a time. I can't believe I just broke another nail.

PLEDGE DRIVE RESULTS

The pledge drive for mid year 2011 was a success. Of course we didn't get all the money we need, this is 2011!! But, pledges were made in the amount of \$50,224. With other anticipated income, the expected income for the year will be in the neighborhood of \$130,000. The budget needs are a little more than that, if we spend the entire budget, but we hope that with new people joining us that we will be about on target.

The Administrative Board and finance committee have worked really hard to come up with a budget that is realistic and allows for growth. I will keep you posted on that.

Alexandria First UMC is an exciting place, where serving God is more than a slogan, it is a way of life.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women wish to thank everyone who helped with the Fish Fry. It takes many busy hands working together to make for a successful event. Thanks to everyone from the dishwashers, the servers, the pie makers, the ticket sellers, the cooks, the fish breaders. We could not have had a successful dinner without you all – blessings to everyone!!! We served 535 meals. The time you all spent in preparation for the meal was time that you helped donate back to many charities and the church. The United Methodist Women will donate much of the proceeds back to various groups. The profit from the dinner was \$1,854.74. The women intend to donate \$1,000 back to the church, \$200 to a youth group fund, \$200 to UMCOR and \$100 to ERF. It was a pleasure to work with you all. This was a group effort in making these charitable donations possible!

- *Dorothy Keesling, UMW Chairman*

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Meet Sunday, June 5, 2011 – 8:00 a.m.

The United Methodist Men of Alexandria First United Methodist Church will host their monthly meeting Sunday, June 5, 2011 in the church basement Fellowship Hall. A full breakfast will be prepared and served by John Dockery of Elwood First United Methodist Church. Brother John is usually a sought after speaker who represents statewide and national Methodist Men, but wants to be a servant to all, and in so doing desires to fix the breakfast which he is so capable of doing.

President David Lange states that the meetings are open to members and non-members seeking the fellowship of men of faith. Please come and bring your wife, and/or friend(s). Everyone is welcome.

Vice President of the group George Smith will tell of his recent visit to a state oriented 5 hour conference at St. Mark's UMC in Carmel, Indiana and how the UMM are making a difference everywhere.

SENIOR CITIZEN INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

Please be aware that senior citizens or their family members can receive valuable information on various programs available by simply calling 211. You may need to leave your name and phone number so someone can call you back, but this is the correct option if you are looking for anything from referrals to physicians, in-home assistance or transportation assistance.

“WHEN JESUS WAS A KID “ VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – JULY 24-28

Be transported back to Nazareth and learn about Jesus' life as a child. Come visit Mary's house, explore the shops of the marketplace, and sing, dance, and celebrate with many of your school friends.

Volunteers are needed to pull off this wonderful VBS that we share with 4 other Alexandria churches. Kitchen/snack staff, craft/marketplace helpers, drama/song leaders, classroom helpers, decorators, and planners are needed. Come to the next meeting at Our Blessed Savior Lutheran Church in Alexandria on June 28 at 6:30 p.m. to meet with your committee. Please contact Jaime Ellis if you are interested in volunteering in any way. Thanks!



ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Friday, July 1st a chartered bus will leave the church at 6:00 p.m. to take you to Conner Prairie for a patriotic concert with fireworks. Charge is \$35 for adults, \$30 for kids (12 and under), age 2 and under: free. Included is a gift bag with votive cup and patriotic candle, matches mints, and choice of water, Coke or Sprite to drink on the way down. Stadium chairs can be rented for \$5. Balloon rides are available at \$20 per person, purchased at Conner Prairie (subject to weather conditions). Bring your own supper and drinks or you can purchase food there. We will return by 11:00 p.m.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY – JUNE 19, 2011



A FATHER

A father never wants to see
His child go astray
Everyday he tries his best
To help you on your way

Knows at times you'll have to fail
Learn things on your own
No matter how it hurts to see
His baby bird has flown

Protector of a youthful heart
Consoler of all pains
A hero in the eyes of love
The blood within your veins

Child love your father now
Give him all your praise
Our time in life is limited
Wisely use these days

Give back all he's given you
This love is something rare
It's flow is unconditional
Strength beyond compare

Duecker Lodge Opening Ceremony
Saturday, June 4, 2011
10:00am-12:00pm



Epworth Forest Conference Center
Duecker Lodge (Behind Auditorium)
8580 E Wesley Ln
North Webster, IN 46555

PLEASE JOIN US with your family, friends and church for the grand opening of Duecker Lodge! That's right, EVERYONE is invited!

Check out all the new features our waterfront lodge has to offer, including air-conditioning, two story vaulted ceiling, waterfront view of Lake Webster, outdoor seating, large flat screen TV, and...well, you really just have to come and see it!

The opening ceremony will include the following:

- Dedication by Bishop Mike Coyner
- Explore Duecker Lodge
- Refreshments and Live Jazz
- Site Tours and Beach House Open (games and snacks)
- Dixie Boat Rides!

Please RSVP online at www.rightfuture.org or call 574.834.2212.

The Right Future Campaign

Duecker Lodge is the first of six waterfront lodges planned to be built at Epworth Forest Conference Center through The Right Future Campaign. The addition of these lodges will allow an additional 2,000 students to be transformed through Christ-centered community at Epworth each summer! *THANK YOU* to the hundreds of donors who are making this dream a reality.

Christ-Centered Community

YOU can stay here for your next retreat, family reunion, or any other get-a-way. That's right, this lodge was built for YOU to provide a space for Christ-centered community to take place. The lodge sleeps 32 between 4 bedrooms (each sleep 8) and can be rented for as low as \$20/person per night.

Visit www.epworthforestrocks.com for more details, or call 574.834.2212.

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please help us keep our prayer list updated of any changes, additions or names that might need to be removed. Contact the Pastor or church office.

Condolences: to Charlie Clark upon the recent death of his sister-in-law

Current Requests: Oren Owen

Ongoing Requests: Mike Robbins, Rose Loy (mother of Leslie Richardson), Kaye Cox, Emily Owens, Dan Campbell (brother of Irene Campbell), Brent Bridwell

Battling Cancer: Heather Beardsley (friend of Vickie Griffin), Marvin Davis, JoAnne Thomas

Shut-ins: Irene Campbell (Summitville Convalescent Center); Hazel (Hanlin) Glentzer (Alexandria Care Center)

Service Personnel: Pray for peace, pray for military personnel

June 2011



Sunday School
9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship
11:00 a.m.

Birthdays!!

- 7 Stuart Sweeney
- 8 Debbie Fox
- 9 Lori Lea Sigler
- 9 Sally DeVoe
- 14 Lucy Ellis
- 30 Barbara Alder

Anniversaries!!

- 8 Harold & Delores Swaim
- 9 Dink & Marilyn Savage
- 19 Shawn & Anna McGuire
- 26 Fred & Sharon Starr
- 26 Neal & Phyllis Johnson
- 30 Scott & Shannon Clark

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 Congregational Care Committee 9:00 am	2	3 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 pm	4
5	6 UMW of Madison County 9:30 am	7 Trustees 3:00 pm	8	9	10 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 pm	11
12 After Worship Fellowship	13	14 Staff/Parish Committee 6:30 pm	15	16 Lunch Bunch go to Mill Creek Inn at Gaston 12:00 pm	17 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 pm	18
19 Father's Day	20	21	22	23	24 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:00 pm	25
26	27	28	29	30		

