



Albany United Methodist Church

“Everyone is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord”!

April 2021

The Methodist Message

Pastor Tom

“A thousand years are like a day in the sight of God.” Psalm 90:4; II Peter 3:8

I have always loved the idea of time travel. It is fascinating to step outside of our immediate time period and even to think with Peter's as to time in light of an eternal God. People around us are doing this as they test their “23 and Me” to understand ancestry. Some are even able to take their family ancestry back many centuries. These people talk of great excitement as they find personal connection to their now identified ancestors.

If you have any fascination in time travel you will greatly appreciate the recent discoveries in the West Bank. For the first time in 70 years new Dead Sea Texts have been found that go back an amazing 2000 years. These texts were translated from original Hebrew into the Greek language used in the Middle East during that time period. The Greek texts show identical writing as we have [today](#). I was comparing the Book of Naham translations made available and was amazed that it read identical to our sanctuary NIV Bibles.

I hope that you experience this as more than just a study in antiquity. Through God's Word you can experience time travel beyond anything you could imagine. These passages take you back to the world of the First Century. The people reading these passages of which we can view were people depending on the same God that we depend upon [today](#). They found hope in these passages and hid them so that the invading Roman Army would not destroy them. It is fascinating to read Naham 1:4-8 [today](#) in light of how they would have read it on that day. Perhaps they hoped to return after the invasion and have the text available. One wonders if they ever were able to do so. Either way, they were people experiencing life as we do. It is a marvelous and fascinating moment to share the same texts of hope that we share.

It is unfortunate that we need an archeological discovery to remind us that our God is a timeless fortress who provides the same strength [today](#) as it has though out time, Psalm 46:1. Perhaps that Word of God deserves more focus in our life [today](#). Why not join us as we read through the entirety of our Bible in a year? Each day brings its own blessings? Even time travel is a possibility. It is especially more meaningful for people like myself who do family roots and keep finding mostly car and horse thieves.

Pastor Tom

April Events:

Good Friday Service, [April 2](#) at 6:00pm

Easter [Sunday, April 4](#). Join us live or virtually on Facebook, our webpage or YouTube.

Albany UMC Education News

Please be in prayer for the educational ministries of our church, the participants, the families, the leaders, and the teachers. Thank you!



Consider joining us for the following Sunday School activities:

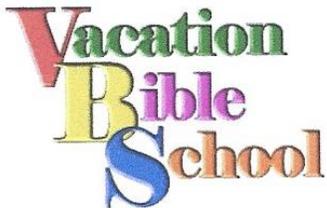
High School Sunday School, Middle School and Youth Activities – in person with use of masks and social distancing. Sunday School meets 8:45-9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.



Adult Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m. Sundays *

Age 3 – Grade 5 Sunday School 8:45-9:15 a.m. Sundays *

**An email address is needed for participation in the Zoom Pre-School thru Grade 5 Sunday School activities and the Adult Sunday School activities. Please contact the church office at (608) 862-3206 or email albanyumc@tds.net to provide your contact information.*



Would you like to be a part of organizing and/or helping with Vacation Bible School this summer? We need teachers, youth and adult helpers and support personnel. Please contact Karen Moe (moe.karen@yahoo.com) to be a part of this fun outreach activity! Also, be thinking of children you would like to invite to have fun learning about God!

Educational Activities 2021-22

We are looking forward to another great year of Sunday School and other activities to help us learn about God and the Bible. Would you give prayerful thought regarding your involvement? Would you like to be a part of the teaching staff? Helping with music? Inviting and bringing children in your family and neighborhood? Being a prayer-partner?

We'd love to hear from you!



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Are you interested in helping with or having your child(ren) participate in a Children's Church program? Contact Karen Moe at moe.karen@yahoo.com.



Youth Group Activities for April - May

April 11th - Yard clean up - 11:00am

May 2nd – To be determined

May 16th - AMAZING RACE!!!!

2021 Melodies of Love

April – High School Mission Trip

May – Family Promise

June – St. Jude's

July – Albany PTO

August – Albany Community Center

September – Nami (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

October – Empty Stocking

November – Shop with a Cop

December – Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Green County

Melodies of Love for **April** is the High School Mission Trip. The high school students take a mission trip every two years. This is a great opportunity for our youth to learn about serving others and serving our Lord.

Easter Schedule

Good Friday April 2nd at 6pm
Easter Sunday April 4th at 10am



Family Promise

Family Promise

I thought it would be important for you to know that just because our churches are not hosting family promise at this time that Family Promise is still helping those in need. Family Promise is a very important part of Green County, especially in the times we are living in right now. I hope this letter will encourage you that once our churches become Host sites again that you will consider about volunteering. Here is a letter from the Executive Director of Family Promise Rick Gleason.

Greetings to all of our Host Site and Support Team volunteers!

I hope this email finds everyone healthy, embracing the warmer temperatures of Spring, and feeling hopeful for a more normal year with the availability of the vaccines.

I wanted to take a moment to say thank you all for your patience and understanding throughout the last year. It really has been an experience for all of us and we have all had to make a lot of adjustments. We also made a lot of adjustments here at Family Promise as we continued to find ways to meet the needs of our families while being faced with so many restrictions. Many of you have continued to find ways to stay involved with volunteering in our communities even in the face of COVID. Thank you!

The year 2020 was a year of real flexibility! While so many things were unknown due to the COVID Pandemic, we remained ready for anything that came our way. We made program adjustments to meet the unique needs of the pandemic and in some cases, we created new programs around those specific needs.

By 2020 years end, we had exceeded the number of people served in 2019 and we did not report one single case of COVID within the program or with staff. How we served families and individuals looked very different than what we were previously used to, but we absolutely made an impact on our communities.

In addition to our Transitional Housing, Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention, and After Care programs, we also created a new COVID version of our Emergency Shelter Diversion Program. Let me give a quick explanation of these programs.

1) Transitional Housing: We operate a two-bedroom apartment in the upper level of the Day Center. This program allows families to rebuild the structure in rental and rebuild a strong rental reference. These families receive ongoing case management while in the apartment; typically, 12 months.

2) Emergency Shelter: This typically refers to our shelter rotation program where families move between our thirteen Host Site churches and return daily to the day center for case management, job, and housing searches and to attend workshops, Dr's appointments, etc.,

3) Homelessness Prevention: This covers a wide blanket of services designed to help a family in crisis regain their stability before losing their home. Examples include mediation between landlord and tenant, in-home case management for an agreed length of time, assisting families in locating new housing before becoming homeless often due to non-renewal of a lease in their current residence. Assistance with job searching, food assistance, emergency funding for rent or utilities under certain circumstances, and more.

4) After Care: After Care is offered to every family that graduates from our Emergency Shelter program. We offer to follow along with families as they transition from a shelter back to housing in order to help them navigate any unfamiliar circumstances. We can assist in locating child care, provide case management, connect them to resources such as budgeting, parenting, nutrition, and cooking as well as other areas of need to help them be successful in stabilizing in their new home.

Continued-

5) Emergency Shelter Diversion Program: This program was created for multiple reasons amidst the COVID pandemic. In **June 2020** we made the decision to turn our transitional apartment into a temporary emergency shelter because our host sites were out of operation. This limited the number of families we could serve at one time. The Shelter Diversion program created a way for us to serve more families beyond our limited capacity in the apartment. If a family is doubled up with family or friends and able to remain in place for an extended length of time, we will bring our shelter services to them. They can receive all the same services provided to families in our day center emergency shelter without having to move into the shelter. They are required to keep weekly Zoom case management meetings with us, set and work on goals to include employment and housing, and in some cases, mental health services or parenting classes, or other areas identified. One positive piece to this program is that some families do not come into the shelter because one parent or significant may be found ineligible due to an unfavorable background check so the whole family declines the offer for assistance.

In 2020:

We served a total of 43 families (53 adults/52 children). In addition to serving

- 5 families in our Emergency Shelter
- 1 family in our Transitional Housing
- 7 families in Shelter Diversion
- 3 families through Homelessness Prevention
- 5 families through After Care stabilization
- 22 families were provided short-term services and assistance other than housing to assist them with maintaining their employment and/or housing as well as multiple referrals for resources available to them.

2021 Y.T.D., we have assisted 3 families (3 adults/2 children) in obtaining housing and have provided referral services and other assistance to an additional 11 families (12 adults/7 children)
2021 Y.T.D. 14 Families Served (15 adults/9 children)

Thank you all for being a part of the solution!

Rick Gleason

Executive Director

Family Promise of Green County

608-328-2600

familypromisegreencounty.org



Easter Lilies Given by:

In Memory of Margaret Holtsapple from Glenn Holtsapple

In Memory of Greg Pryce from Cindy & Bill Alderman

In Honor of Barbara and Calvin Crall and Roger and Karen Brugger
from Teresa Brugger

In Memory of Harry Pryce from Sharon Pryce

In Memory of Thorvald Olson from his Family



Mission Committee



We are in the early stages of planning a fundraiser for the high school mission trip. In May, we will be having a rummage sale at the church. As you are doing your spring cleaning, bring in anything you would be willing to donate. We will also be having a food stand, bake sale, and a golf ball drop raffle with Albany Community 1st!

More details to follow but start bringing in your donations for the rummage sale.



Thank you, Phyllis Runaas, Teresa Brugger, Confirmation Students (and anyone else) that takes the time to do the recording for the church service and also run the Power Point and You Tube. This takes time and dedication each week. It is very much appreciated.

Thank you!!! Debbie Houlberg



The Albany United Methodist Quilters

The Albany UMC Quilters were on a mission to make comfortable, bright, and useful lap quilts for our Sr. Citizens living in Memory Care or Assisted Living facilities. It has been a long winter season, but Spring has arrived, and we are excited to show our support to them by presenting our home-made quilts. It kept us busy and will hopefully show them how people truly care about them.

Thank you to all those participating in this winter project. Our church mission is reaching out into the community and offering a helping hand. Also thank you for the talented individuals who made this all possible. Terrie Blumer





APRIL

April

Albany United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 April Fools Day	2 Good Friday Serv. 6pm	3
4 10am Easter Live on Facebook & You Tube Sunday school classes 8:45 am Virtual Middle & High School SS in person No Youth Group	5	6	7	8	9	10 Quilting Group Canceled until Spring
11 10am Worship Live on Facebook and You Tube Sunday school classes 8:45 virtual Middle & High School SS in person Ad Council mtg. – 11am Youth Group Yard Clean up 11am	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 10am Worship Live on Facebook and You Tube Sunday school classes 8:45 Virtual Middle School SS in person Finance mtg. 11am on Zoom	19	20	21 Staff Parish mtg. at 6:45pm	22	23 Newsletter Items Due	24
25 10am Worship Live on Facebook and You Tube Sunday school classes 8:45 virtual Middle School in person	26	27	28	29	30	

Albany UMC is now live streamed on you tube. There is a link on our website home page that you can click on that will take you there. Join us live. The link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I3yH7VrNNz4> or you can use “AUMC WI Live Stream” and it will bring up our stream and just click on it or you can watch on face book.

The Food pantry is closed but if you need assistance please contact the church office at 862-3206 and we will take care of you.

**Albany United Methodist Church
500 S. Park St.
Albany WI 53502**

UMC Church Staff

Pastor:
Tom Moe

Office Manager: Teresa Brugger

Office Hours M- W- F

8:00am-12:00pm

Office phone # 862-3206

Email: Albanyumc@tds.net

Administrative Council Chair:

Phyllis Runaas

Financial Secretary:

Dave Gavin

Treasurer:

Sharon Pryce

Lay Leader:

Glenn Holtsapple

Custodians: Calvin & Barb Crall



Join us on facebook: AlbanyUMC

Visit our Website www.albanyumchurch.com

YouTube link for live service:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7yuO5HSfexjeZxo6iP1XA>