

# Albany United Methodist Church

*“Everyone is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord”!*

*December 2019*

*The Methodist Message*

## **PASTOR TOM'S MESSAGE**

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers. Ephesians 4:11*

**Christmas** is a time for gifts. We love to give them. We love to get them. We give them with the hope of the gifts being appreciated and well used. After all, there is not much sadder than a gift being returned unopened.

However, “unopened” is quite the description of how many treat the gift of God. Sadly, that word describes how much of our world responds to the gifts of God. Perhaps it is the specific, “Gifts of God,” listed in Romans 12, I Corinthians 12, or Ephesians 4, which gives people the ministries of such things as, “teaching, encouraging, or leading.” So often I have witnessed people who appear to be very gifted by God but of whom refuse to open the gift for service. It may also be the gift of God’s Son, Jesus, that is rejected and returned, “unopened.” Either way, the response to these gifts can only leave everyone involved feeling most disappointed.

Rather than staying on the negative, I encourage you to notice how so many in our church are continually opening the gifts of God in their life? I also encourage you to make sure that you are doing so. It is not enough to have opened just one gift. God wishes to give you plenty of gifts. Some gifts will help you in your life outlook. Other gifts will help you to reach out to others. In every gift from God, you will find yourself growing in grace, wisdom, and maturity. In every gift from God you will also find yourself grateful for having opened the gift. Perhaps the Advent Season would be a great time for you to focus on what gifts God has been wishing for you to discover.

Have a blessed Advent.

Pastor Tom

If you would like to receive an emailed copy of the week's bulletin in advance of the Sunday service, please let Teresa in the office know. She can be reached by email: [albanyumc@tds.net](mailto:albanyumc@tds.net) or phone: 608-862-3206. Thank you.

### Glutens Should Not Limit Your Communion

We are hearing more and more about individuals who struggle with allergies and glutes. This is of concern to us because more communion bread is loaded with glutes. With that in mind, we have developed the procedures to provide gluten free communion wafers. Yes, they are a bit limited on flavor, but those of you who have gotten sick off regular bread will appreciate the new wafers.

To implement this, it would be of utmost help if you would let us know of your need before church starts. We can accommodate everyone but would do well if we know where to find you with our separate tray.

Contact the church office if interested.



**Men's Prayer Breakfast will be Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 am. You don't have to be a Member To attend. All Men are invited.**



In January 2020 the Albany UMC will be hosting the Blood Drive. We will be in need of Volunteers to make cookies or bars and also to help in with the computer input, canteen and donor area. A Signup sheet will be on the table in the Narthex through the month of December. Thank you in advance for your help for this worthy cause.



Please consider Volunteering for Family Promise.

**AUMC will host December 1<sup>st</sup> through December 8th**

If you would like to get on the email list or have more questions,  
please email:

Chris Ochalla at: [chrisandchris5@charter.net](mailto:chrisandchris5@charter.net)

Or Fairy Elmer at: [fselmer@aol.com](mailto:fselmer@aol.com)

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The Quilting Group will be held the **first Saturday in January**. This is a great Mission project for those ages 12 and up. If you do not sew, want to learn to sew, this is a great opportunity. Also, we need help with cutting, pressing, sewing, etc. We are excited to get this project started with 2020. We will meet from 9:00 to 1:00, at the church. Donations are welcomed for purchasing quilting materials. We will be making quilts for the Linus Project. This is a great way to let the community know we are here, and we are open for anyone in the community that would like to join us. This is going to be a relaxing, enjoyable time, working for Christ. Please contact Terrie Blumer at [blumer@tds.net](mailto:blumer@tds.net), Julie Wanless at [lov.quilt@yahoo.com](mailto:lov.quilt@yahoo.com) and Barb Briggs at [bbriggs@wekz.net](mailto:bbriggs@wekz.net).

Just a little note from the office. The office will be closed on Monday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Katie Brugger will be filling in at the office on Thursday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>.



**Sunday, Dec. 22:** The popular annual Bel Canto Singers **Christmas** concert will be offered twice this year, at 3 p.m. and again at 7 p.m. at St. Victor Catholic Church, 1760 14<sup>th</sup> St., Monroe. The Bel Canto Singers, directed by Allen Redford, are celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and they are happy to be able to serve a larger audience this year, with the completion of a major building project which makes St. Victor Church easily accessible with same-level, protected drop-off and a large new parking lot. A reception will follow each concert. Experience the true spirit of **Christmas**. Admission is \$10 at the door. No advance tickets are being sold.



Free Organ!!!

Ron and Roberta Moe have an organ they are looking to give away. Anyone wishing to look at it should call 608 862-3308

## OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE READY



The 2020 offering envelopes will be ready for pickup on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. They are located on the table in the narthex.

If you don't see your envelopes or if you would like to have envelopes, please contact Dave Gavin [davegav53502@gmail.com](mailto:davegav53502@gmail.com) or the church office 862-3206 or [albanyumc@tds.net](mailto:albanyumc@tds.net). Envelopes will be set up for you. Office hours are M-W-F, 8am to Noon.

# AUMC YOUTH SCHEDULE

October, November & December

**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

Family Promise **5:30 – 8:30pm**

Night of Christmas Music

**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 11am-1:30pm**

Christmas Caroling

**This is for All Senior High School Youth! Friends are always welcome!**

Youth Director: Jason Rupnow

Youth Leaders: Chris & Chris Ochalla & Brandi Grazioso

<https://www.facebook.com/AlbanyUMC/>

## *Night of Christmas Music*

Music and Scripture– Celebrating the Saviors Birth

Sunday, December 1st, 2019 at 6 pm

*An Ecumenical Event*

Albany United Methodist Church

105 S Mill Street– Albany, WI



[albanyumchurch.com](http://albanyumchurch.com) | [www.facebook.com/AlbanyUMC/](https://www.facebook.com/AlbanyUMC/)



# Thank You

## Senior High Youth



We would like to give a big THANK YOU to our Sr. High Youth for doing a great job and putting so much time in decoration the Christmas Tree. You did a great job! Looks fantastic!



You are invited on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to watch our Sunday School Children as they present their Christmas Program: "Crazy, Busy, Peaceful, Holy Night". Please come and watch our Sunday School children as they celebrate the birth of Christ.



*Welcome*  
to our guest speaker  
Rev. Jim Wells

Sunday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> we will be welcoming Rev. Jim Wells as our guest speaker at both the 8am & 10am services. Rev. Wells will be speaking on the UMC Foundation.



Christmas Eve Schedule: There will be two Candlelight services held. One at 5:00pm and the other at 7:00pm. Please come and join us in celebrating the birth of Christ.

## SCHEDULE

++ Please note there may have been changes made to the schedule ++

### December

#### Liturgist

1 Janis King  
8 Terrie Blumer  
15 Kathie Riemer  
22 Wesley Isenhardt  
29 Leigh Whitehead

#### Ushers

1 John & Angie Parr  
8 Ann Trow & Doreen Guzman  
15 Darrell & Eunice Clark  
22 Alan & Darcy Stephenson  
29 David & Janis King

#### Nursery

Open but not staffed

#### Acolytes

1 Jack Brugger  
8 Reegan Schmidt  
15 Carver Brewer  
22 To be announced  
29 To be announced

### January 2020

#### Liturgist

5 Katie Brugger  
12 Dean Houlberg  
19 Angie Parr  
26 Jodi Houlberg

#### Ushers

5 Fairy & Emily Elmer  
12 Julie Blumer/Penny Thompson  
19 Teresa Brugger/Barb Briggs  
26 Keith & Terrie Blumer

#### Nursery

Open but not staffed

#### Acolytes

5 Wyatt Smith  
12 Emma Thompson  
19 Anna Brugger  
26 Ryker Schmidt



#### Communion Stewards

December 8<sup>th</sup> – Holly Atkinson/Bonnie Zee  
January 5<sup>th</sup> – Karla Neild/Hazel Ommodt

\* If you cannot fulfill your scheduled day, please try to switch with someone and please let the office know. Thank you for your service for the Lord!

**December 2019**  
**Albany United Methodist Church**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>		<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>1</b> Sunday School – 8:45am 8am & 10am Worship Rev. Jim Wells speaker Senior Choir – 10am Family Promise 5:30 Youth Group 5:30 to 8:30pm Night of Christmas Music 6:00pm	<b>2</b>     Family Promise	<b>3</b>     Family Promise	<b>4</b> Food Pantry 4:30 - 6:00 Choir – 7pm Family Promise Confirmation w/Mentors 6:30pm	<b>5</b>     Family Promise	<b>6</b>     Family Promise	<b>7</b>     Family Promise
<b>8</b> Family Promise Ends Sunday School – 8:45am 8am & 10am Worship With Communion Grace Notes sing 10am Ad Council mtg– 11am	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Choir – 7pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday School – 8:45am 8am & 10am Worship S.School Christmas Program Finance mtg. – 11am Sr. High Youth: 11:00am to 1:30pm Christmas Caroling	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Choir – 7pm Confirmation 6:30pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>    Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30am
<b>22</b> Sunday School – 8:45am 8am & 10am Worship	<b>23</b> <b>Newsletter            Items Due</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight services 5pm & 7pm	<b>25</b> Christmas	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Sunday School – 8:45am 8am & 10am worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>



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

## 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:  
Jon Brunner

Financial Secretary:  
Dave Gavin

Treasurer:  
Fairy Elmer

Lay Leader:  
Glenn Holtsapple

## December 2019

Join us on facebook: Albany UMC  
Visit our Website [www.albanyumchurch.com](http://www.albanyumchurch.com)