

Albany United Methodist Church

"Everyone is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord"!

January 2019

The Methodist Message

PASTOR TOM'S MESSAGE

On hearing this, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"...From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him."

John 6:60 & 66.

In these passages, the Bible presents us with the dilemma of any organization that works in development: do you set the bar low so that everyone can clear it or do you set the bar high to challenge people? It is the same question that moms ask each time they make dinner: do I make food that children will eat or what is most nutritious?

This is the timeless issue in church leadership as well. Do we set the standards of Christian experience so low that everyone's mediocre effort is a success or do we challenge people to reach beyond their comfort zone? It is noteworthy that we will have the same results of our Lord: if we focus on low standards we will probably have more people. If we make the church a comedy club we probably will be very full. However, as Jesus models for us, the Gospel is more than a comedy club. It seeks to challenge us to love the unloveable, the give the ungiveable effort, and to arrive at places we never thought possible. None of that can be accomplished through mediocre efforts.

Most moms know how to navigate through this crisis. They know how to make food with significant nutrition but add plenty of good tasting spices and conclude with a bit of sugar in a dessert. That, is what we tend to do in our church programming as well. We seek to balance content with ease of use. However, a good mom always is aware of what he family will tolerate and adapts as needed. The same is true for a church. We need to know how to find ourselves the most effective to the most people. This is often referred to as the Capernaum Edge, after the place where Jesus gave this message.

We seek to do this as well. As pastor, I give great attention to the responses of people. It troubles me when I see people looking like they are about to, "throw away what I have served to them," so to speak. With that in mind, our church is always open to ideas of how we could minister better to our community. Unlike Jesus, we don't always get it right. It is helpful to us to let us know what you like and don't like. It is really helpful to go directly to the person involved. This communicates exactly what you wish to communicate rather than going through other persons. For example, few of us know what to do with, "I heard from some people....." It is so much better to hear from those people.

Hope this helps as we may include your feelings for the New Year.

In Christ,

Pastor Tom

If you would like to receive an emailed copy of the week's bulletin in advance of the Sunday service, please let Katie in the office know. She can be reached by email:

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.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

January 19th 8:30am.

Please Join us for fellowship and a good meal.

Blood Drive Volunteers Needed!

Please contact Katie if you are interested in helping with the blood drive on Tuesday, January 8th. We need volunteers for set-up, handing out cookies, snacks and juice at the canteen, registration, people to talk with the donors as they are giving, and clean up. The blood drive is from 12:30 to 5:00 at the Lion's Building so our shifts will start at 12:00. Thank you.

Please join us for Sunday school!

We have classes for all ages from preschool through adult. Sunday school meets from 8:45 to 9:45 am. All are welcome. For more information please contact Katie in the office.
(608)862-3206 albanyumc@tds.net

We will be starting a Bible study in January through February to learn more about the Holy Spirit. If you are interested in joining such a Bible study please sign up in the narthex.



Thank you to everyone who worked to make the Christmas Night of Music a success. Thank you to the performers for sharing their talents with us. Thank you to those who worked behind the scenes to make sure everything ran smoothly. It was a wonderful night.

2019 Offering Envelopes available to be picked up at church.

SCHEDULE

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

JANUARY

Liturgist

6 Janis King
13 Serena Palmer
20 Jill Krupke
27 Wesley Isenhardt

Ushers

6 Confirmation Students
13 Keith & Terrie Blumer
20 Confirmation Students
27 Teresa Brugger & Barb Briggs

Nursery

Open but not staffed

Acolytes

6 Whitney Pryce
13 Ty Durtschi
20 Carver Brewer
27 Emmy Briggs

FEBRUARY

Liturgist

3 Myah Johnson
10 Jodi Houlberg
17 Gage Roth
24 Kathie Riemer

Ushers

3 Confirmation Students
10 Julie Blumer & Penny Thompson
17 Confirmation Students
24 Daryl & Kari Fernstaedt

Nursery

Open but not staffed

Acolytes

3 Nolan Bump
10 Reegan Schmidt
17 Allie Dahl
24 Taylor Pryce



Communion Stewards

January 6th – Barb Briggs & Liz Briggs
February 3rd – Teresa Brugger

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

January 2018
Albany United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00 Senior Choir 7 pm	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
6 8am & 10am Worship 8:45-9:45am Sunday school 11am Youth Group help take down decorations	7	8	9 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00 Senior Choir 7pm	10	11	12
13 8am & 10am Worship 8:45-9:45 Sunday school Ad Council 11am	14	15	16 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Senior Choir 7pm	17	18	19 Men's Prayer Breakfast
20 8am & 10am Worship 8:45-9:45 Sunday school	21 Newsletter Items Due	22	23 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Senior Choir 7pm	24	25	26
27 8am & 10am Worship 8:45-9:45am Sunday school	28	29	30 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Senior Choir 7pm	31		

Albany United Methodist Church
500 Park Street
Albany, WI 53502

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Church Staff

Pastor:
Tom Moe

Office Manager:
Katie Brugger

Office Hours: 8:30am–12:30pm

Monday

8:30am-12:30pm

Wednesday

8:30am-12:30pm

Friday

Administrative Council Chair:
Jon Brunner

Financial Secretary:
Eunice Clark

Treasurer:
Fairy Elmer

Lay Leader:
Glenn Holtsapple

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