

Albany United Methodist Church

"Everyone is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord"!

March 2018

The Methodist Message

PASTOR TOM'S MESSAGE

I have to admit that Ash [Wednesday](#) is quite an enjoyable experience for me. While sometimes it feels a bit odd to have ash markings on me, I greatly appreciate the meaning. After all, most of us have no trouble with the markings of, Nike, Under Armour, etc. We add tattoos and all sorts of markings to our bodies. The mark of God is an amazing piece. Would you take some time to reflect with me, please?

The Bible is full of markings of God. For example, in Genesis 12, God's people were told to mark their doors, ironically in the shape of a cross, to identify them as a Godly home. In Exodus 13:9-16 that the people of God would forever wear a sign on their forehead that they were marked by God. Traditional Jews [today](#) still wear what is called, a phylactery, which is a leather belt that may look like a headband, often worn over the forehead. The purpose was to identify self to the world as one who was protected by God.

Ephesians 1:13 identifies this marking even further. Unlike the mark of ashes which falls off so rapidly, the mark of God presented here is an eternal mark. Note the use of the term, "guaranteeing our inheritance." The Bible is indicating that you, as a believer, are marked in the kingdom of God with full assurance of whom you are.

Revelation 7:1-8 continues the thought reflecting on being sealed in Christ. The Bible indicates that, in the final judgment, those with the sealing will be included in the eternal kingdom.

It is a wonderful heritage to be one who wears the ashes. Of course, there are opportunities for abuse. In Matthew 23:5 Our Lord is rather critical of those who wear the seal for show only. His criticism is much like the modern day, "You need to bear the cross not just wear the cross." It reminds us that privilege in life is the result of following responsibilities connected to the privilege.

The entire topic is worthy of your thought. Do you notice how hungry your world is for marking? Do you notice that many people do not own so much as a tee shirt that doesn't have identity writings of some sort. It is noteworthy to watch people when you go to the store and count the numbers of different markings that they feel necessary from their hat to their shoes. Here is a closing question: In a world where some people simply can't have enough markings on their bodies, clothes, tattoos, etc. why does the Bible tell us that the marking of God is enough to satisfy you?

Grace and peace to you this Lenten Season.

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.

Looking ahead on the calendar:

This is just a reminder that Confirmation Sunday will be May 6th.



Everyone Welcome!

Please join us for the Ad Council meeting on Sunday, March 11th.

There will be a representative from the United Methodist Foundation here to talk to us about the use of the church investments.

March 11th Daylight Savings Time begins!
Remember to turn your clocks an hour forward.



Lenten Services Schedule

Wednesday, March 7th Albany United Methodist 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 14th St. Patrick's Catholic 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 21st Albany Lutheran 6:00 pm

Sunday, March 25th – Palm Sunday 8:00 and 10:00 am Albany United Methodist

Thursday, March 29th – Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm Albany United Methodist

Friday, March 30th – Good Friday 6:00 pm Albany Lutheran

Sunday, April 1st – Easter – 8:00 and 10:00 am Albany United Methodist

Easter Lilies! Please contact the office if you are interested in ordering an Easter Lily for the front of the sanctuary on Easter Morning. Forms will be in bulletins on Sundays and are due Sunday, March 18th. Katie will have the cost included on those forms. (608) 862-3206. albanyumc@tds.net

SCHEDULE

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

MARCH

Liturgist

4 Angie Parr
11 Jill Krupke
18 Leigh Whitehead
25 Wesley Isenhardt

Ushers

4 Lily Bump & Brianna Dahl
11 Camden Pryce & Alex Schroeder
18 Serena Parmer & Kaiya Zurfluh
25 John & Angie Parr

Nursery

Open but not staffed

Acolytes

4 Cody Pryce & Nolan Bump
11 Mathew Ochalla & Ty Durtschi
18 Emma Grosz & Emmy Briggs
25 Kaden Zurfluh & Bryce McIntosh

APRIL

Liturgist

1 Kris Schultz
8 Jodi Houlberg
15 Dean Houlberg
22 Ann Trow
29 Terrie Blumer

Ushers

1 David King & Russ Whitehead
8 Katie Riemer & Karla Myhre
15 Abe Runaas & Darrell Clark
22 Daniell & Jon Brunner
29 Doreen Guzman & Krishell Blumer

Nursery

Open but not staffed

Acolytes

1 Volunteers
8 Whitney Pryce & Emma Thompson
15 Sam Rupp & Brady Ochalla
22 Cody & Taylor Pryce
29 Isabelle Brewer & Allie Dahl



Communion Stewards

March 4th: Bonnie Zee and Holly Atkinson
March 29th (Maundy Thursday): Kathie Riemer
April 1st Karla Neild and Hazel Ommodt

* 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!

March 2018
Albany United Methodist Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday 1 Family Promise Host Week | Friday 2 Family Promise Host week | Saturday 3 Family Promise Host week |
|--|------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| 4 8am & 10am Worship Communion Senior Choir Sings Sunday School 8:45-9:45am High School Youth Group Delivering Easter Baskets to Shut Ins | 5 WOW 6:30pm | 6 | 7 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Confirmation at the Lenten Service Lenten Service here at 6:00pm Soup 6:30pm Choir 7:00-8:00pm | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Daylight Savings Time 8am & 10am Worship Sunday School 8:45-9:45am 10am Service Grace Notes Ad Council Meeting 11am In Fellowship Hall Representative from United Methodist Foundation to speak about use of church investments | 12 | 13 | 14 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Worship Service 6:00pm @ St. Patrick's Soup Supper to follow Choir 7:00-8:00pm | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30am |
| 18 8am & 10am Worship Sunday School 8:45-9:45am 10am Service Senior Choir High School Youth Group Fundraiser "Irish Meatloaf" Easter Lily orders Due! | 19 | 20 Spring Equinox | 21 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Confirmation at Lenten Service Lenten Service 6:00pm @ Albany Lutheran Soup Supper to follow Choir 7:00-8:00pm | 22 Newsletter Items Due | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Palm Sunday 8am & 10am Worship Sunday School 8:45-9:45am 10am Service Children wave palms | 26 | 27 | 28 Food Pantry 4:30- 6:00pm Choir 7:00-8:00pm | 29 Maundy Thursday Worship service 6:00pm Communion | 30 Good Friday Worship Service 6:00pm Albany Lutheran | 31 |

**Albany United Methodist Church
500 Park Street
Albany, WI 53502**

Church Staff

Pastor:
Tom Moe

Office Manager:
Katie Brugger

Office Hours: 8:00am – 1:30pm

Monday
8:00am-2:30pm
Wednesday
8:00am-2:30pm
Friday

Administrative Council Chair:
Jon Brunner

Financial Secretary:
Eunice Clark

Treasurer:
Fairy Elmer

Lay Leader:
Glenn Holtsapple

March 2018

Join us on facebook: Albany UMC
Visit our Website www.albanyumchurch.com