

Albany United Methodist Church

125 N Broadway St
PO Box 277
Albany, IN 47320-0277
Pastor Jake Ohlemiller



We are:

***Acting as God's Ambassadors
United by God's Love
Motivated by God's Word, to
Care for Our Community***

Sunday Worship 9:30am

Sunday School 10:45am

A Better Life: Brianna's Hope – Fridays @ 6:30pm

Project Friend Food Pantry – 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 4-7:00pm



Non-Profit
U. S. Postage
Paid
Albany, IN
47320
Permit No. 7

Return Address Requested



Operation Christmas Child 2018

Items to purchase in the month of May:

- Hairbrushes & Combs
- Headbands
- Hair barrettes
- Other hair items



Sunday Night @ the Movies (S.N.A.M.)

S.N.A.M. will be taking a break during the summer months. We will back together in September. Hope that everyone has a great summer!!



PROJECT FRIEND FOOD PANTRY

During this summer while we hold Sunday service in the YCC, we will be helping the food pantry keep their shelves stocked. Here is what we will be donating this month...

- May 13: Canned Corn and Canned Green Beans
- May 20: Canned Carrots and Canned Mixed Vegetables
- May 27: Canned Spinach and Canned Diced Tomatoes

From the Finance Committee:

April 2018 Giving: \$11,441.32

April 2018 Expenses: \$11,780.40

April 2017 Giving: \$12,715.61

April 2017 Expenses: \$10,836.24

A note about April finances: Income to the General Budget was April 2018 was actually \$9,591.32. There was \$1,100.00 given by AUMC Resale Shop for three missions (Christian Ministries, Covenant Partners & Missionary Support), plus Memorials of \$450.00 designated for AUMC Resale Shop. The April 2018 Expenses of \$11,780.40 did not include the \$1,100.00 or \$450.00.



May Celebrations

Birthdays

- 5~1 Bob Ashcraft
- 5~12 Phil St. John
- 5~15 Darlene Bergdoll
- 5~19 Rex Huston
- 5~20 Chuck Moulton
- 5~21 Tricia Williams
- 5~31 Betty Gill

Anniversaries

- 5~1 Don & Donna Stephenson
- 5~11 Murray & Debbie Wilson
- 5~17 Jake & Janelle Ohlemiller
- 5~28 Harold & Barbara Reed



Mark Your Calendar

May 5: dCOM Interviews (Muncie)

May 7-9: Pastor Jake's personal prayer retreat in Michigan

May 19, 20 & 25: Piano & Voices recitals (AUMC Lounge)

June 3: First Responders & City Employees Dinner (YCC)

June 6-9: Indiana Annual Conference (Indianapolis)

June 9: Pastor's Jake Ordination Ceremony (Indianapolis)

September 8: East District Leadership Day for Clergy & Laity

September 23: Installation Service for new Conference Superintendent Rev. Dr. Aleze Fulbright (New Castle)

Have you received your copy yet??

The 2018 Edition of our Church Directory is ready to be picked up and go home with you. We ask that you pick up your copy after church on Sunday. If you are not local to Albany UMC, we will begin mailing out copies to you in a few weeks.



If you let one day pass without laughter, you've let one day pass that could have been a better day.

June Newsletter Mailing...

Beginning with the June edition of our monthly newsletter, we will be making some adjustments to our distributions methods:

1. If we have an email address on file for you, please expect to receive your monthly newsletter electronically.
2. If you do not have an email address but have a mailbox in the sanctuary, we will put your printed copy of the newsletter in your church mailbox.
3. If you do not have an email address or a mailbox in the sanctuary, we will mail a printed copy of the newsletter to you.

Thank you for your understanding of these changes as we look to be the best stewards possible with our time, talents and treasures.

Going to Church...submitted by a church member

The Picnic

A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic Priest met at the town's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter. "This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden! You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?" The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said, "At your wedding."

The Usher

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row, please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No," he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No," she said. "Good," he answered.

Show and Tell

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object that represented their religion to share with the class. The first student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish, and this is a Star of David." The second student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm a Catholic and this is a Rosary." The third student got in up front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy. I am Lutheran, and this is a casserole."

The Best Way To Pray

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

The Twenty and the One

A well-worn one-dollar bill and a similarly distressed twenty-dollar bill arrived at a Federal Reserve Bank to be retired. As they moved along the conveyor belt to be burned, they struck up a conversation. The twenty-dollar bill reminisced about its travels all over the country. "I've had a pretty good life," the twenty proclaimed. "Why I've been to Las Vegas and Atlantic City, the finest restaurants in New York, performances on Broadway, and even a cruise to the Caribbean." "Wow!" said the one-dollar bill. "You've really had an exciting life!" "So, tell me," says the twenty, "where have you been throughout your lifetime?" The one-dollar bill replies, "Oh, I've been to the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, the Lutheran Church." The twenty-dollar bill interrupts, "What's a church?"

Goat for Dinner

The young couple invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having for dinner? "Goat," the little boy replied. "Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?" "Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, "Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner."

FROM PASTOR JAKE.....

Dear AUMC family and friends,

The past week has been an important moment in the life of our congregation. On Sunday, April 29, about fifty of us gathered in the sanctuary after worship to inaugurate our *With Gratitude for God's Blessings* campaign. This project has three parts:

- 1) A two-month, \$240,000 remodeling of our sanctuary by Smith Renovations LLC. The overall plan is to restore and preserve the historic beauty of our worship space while adapting it to the ministry needs of 2018. A transformation of our after-church hospitality area at the back of the sanctuary will be included.
- 2) A \$28,000 improvement to the floor of our Youth Community Center. The new surface will be sturdy enough for hosting local events while also providing a safer, *lined* athletic floor for Albany's young basketball and volleyball players!
- 3) Growing our AUMC Endowment for coming generations through a three-year fundraising goal of \$30,000 total, beyond our regular budget.

It has been such a joy to watch this project unfold—I have remained in a spiritual support and encouragement role, while Allyn Hines and the Renovation Team have spent hours upon hours meeting together, visioning for the future, and pouring over every detail of the project. I am so proud of their work, and I invite you to share in my excitement as the “next steps” come to fruition! Your prayers and generous pledges to the campaign are powerful ways to say “YES!” to the Lord's work in Albany, *With Gratitude for God's Blessings*.

The Bible reminds us that caring for a house of worship is a sacred privilege and a sobering responsibility. In Exodus 35, Moses and Aaron lead the people of Israel in building the Tabernacle in the wilderness, where the Lord's Holy presence would dwell with them: “And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and brought the Lord's offering to be used of the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the sacred vestments.” All who “were of a willing heart” came to bring their gifts for use in building a Sanctuary. (Ex 35:21-22 NRSV) The project didn't just require skilled hands and generous spirits; it called for God's people to surrender their whole selves to their Rock and Redeemer!

As we renew our investment in God's house, as we grow our Endowment, and as we worship together for a season in the Youth Community Center, I pray that the Holy Spirit will prosper our congregation in unexpected ways. May we find ourselves falling more and more deeply in love with the God who first loved us, who fills our lives each day with more blessings than we can ever count.

When we return to glorify God in a fully renovated sanctuary in late July, may we find that our hearts also have been remodeled in Christ's love—for the Church is not a building, but a people.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Rom 12:1-2 NRSV)

In Christ,
Jake

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Game Day 12pm (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 1-7pm Food Pantry 4-7pm (YCC)	2 Bible Study 10:30am (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 2-6:30pm Open Youth Play 4-7:00 pm (YCC) Choir Practice 7pm	3 Piano/Voice Lessons 2:30–6:45pm	4 ABLBH 6:30pm (Lounge)	5
6 Pastor's Prayer Partners 9:10am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am	7	8 Adult Ministries 10am Game Day 12pm (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 1-7pm	9 Bible Study 10:30am (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 2-6:30pm Open Youth Play 4-7:00 pm (YCC) Choir Practice 7pm	10 Piano/Voice Lessons 2:30–6:45pm	11 ABLBH 6:30pm (Lounge)	12
13 Pastor's Prayer Partners 9:10am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am	14	15 Game Day 12pm (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 1-7pm Food Pantry 4-7pm (YCC)	16 Bible Study 10:30am (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 2-6:30pm Open Youth Play 4-7:00 pm (YCC) Choir Practice 7pm	17 Piano/Voice Lessons 2:30–6:45pm	18 ABLBH 6:30pm (Lounge)	19 Piano & Voice Recital
20 Pastor's Prayer Partners 9:10am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am Piano & Voice Recital	21 Church Council Meeting 7pm (Lounge)	22 Game Day 12pm (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 1-7pm	23 Bible Study 10:30am (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 2-6:30pm Open Youth Play 4-7:00 pm (YCC) Choir Practice 7pm	24 Piano/Voice Lessons 2:30–6:45pm	25 ABLBH 6:30pm (Lounge) Piano & Voice Recital	26
27 Pastor's Prayer Partners 9:10am Worship 9:30am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am	28	29 Game Day 12pm (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 1-7pm	30 Bible Study 10:30am (YCC) Piano/Voice Lessons 2-6:30pm Open Youth Play 4-7:00 pm (YCC) Choir Practice 7pm	31 Piano/Voice Lessons 2:30–6:45pm		



From Janelle.....

Spring seems to be here at last, and exciting things are happening in our Ministry of Community Engagement. The highlight of the year so far has been the groundbreaking of the new Albany Community Garden at Albany Elementary School on April 12th. The Albany Community Garden team (including Marcie Schlosser, Marilyn Marks, Pastor Jake, myself, and Chelsie Jaramillo from the Delaware County Purdue Extension Office) has been working with Principal Schmaltz and the teachers at Albany Elementary for almost a year to launch the garden. My work at the church has allowed me to be a liaison between the Community Garden team and the school, because it has made me available during school hours every Thursday. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this new thing God is doing in Albany.

Think about what an impact the school garden could have. The teachers at Albany Elementary work hard to help our community's children learn and grow. The garden is another tool for those teachers, providing hands-on, outdoor opportunities to enjoy learning. The garden is also a teacher in and of itself. It can teach the students how to grow food, of course. But it can also teach them about the wonders of creation, how to take care of something important, and the satisfaction of reaping what you sow. The produce from the garden (or at least the produce that is not eaten right off the plants by curious kids) will go to AUMC's Project Friend Food Pantry. So AES students have the opportunity to contribute their service to our ministry. I hope you can see why I am so excited about this garden!

Now, back April 12th. The groundbreaking ceremony was a big deal, with lots of moving parts. After gathering all the students and teachers in the gym, we went outside to the garden site, which Jake and I had staked out in advance. Students from each classroom joined the Superintendent of Delcom Schools, Chelsie, Jake, and I, wielding shovels to break ground in each of the new garden beds. After that, the students broke into three rotating groups. Each one spent time at the "tilling station," where Jake and I taught them about soil and demonstrated how to use a tiller to turn a yard into a garden bed. Then they went to the Purdue Extension Nutrition Education area, where they learned about what parts of plants are edible. Finally, the big finale: strawberry ice cream for everyone, and time on the playground. It was a perfect day!

Now the real fun begins. This week, the students began planting. Each grade level has a garden bed of its own. The teachers chose which crops to grow based on their lesson plans for the year. The Albany Community Garden team provided seeds, onion sets, seed potatoes, and strawberry plants, as well as instructions on how to grow each plant, a garden map, and a planting plan for each grade level. Soon, we will also be providing a fence, thanks to a couple generous donations. As the teachers and students of AES learn more about what they need to make the garden a part of their classrooms, we will provide them with support, suggestions, and donations.

I cherish the opportunity to serve our community and our church in this way, and I'm sure the other members of our Community Garden team feel the same way. If you would like to join our team, volunteer your time, or learn more about our other projects in Albany, please contact me at janelle.ohlemiller@gmail.com or (765) 426-8601.

You Are Invited!

Pastor Jake and Janelle invite you to join in celebrating Jake's ordination! After a required three-year "residency" in ministry, sixty pages of essays, and an interview in March with the Indiana UMC Board of Ordained Ministry, Jake will be ordained an Elder in Full Connection by our Bishop Julius Trimble on Saturday, June 9 in Indianapolis. The ceremony will be held in the Indiana Convention Center at 10:00 AM. Admission is free (it's a worship service, after all) and there will be plenty of seating available!

No cards or gifts are necessary—your prayers and encouragement have made this milestone possible in Jake's ministry!

