

November

AMBASSADOR

2018

October/November Sermon Series

I WILL!

Discovering the Attitude that
Makes the Difference

God did not create local churches to become country clubs where membership means we have privileges and perks. He placed us in churches to serve, to care for others, to pray for leaders, to learn, and to give. Join in this six-week journey of discovering or re-discovering the privilege and joy of church membership as a gift to be treasured. Our entire attitude is different when we approach membership the Biblical way.

November 4 - "It's About Fulfilling My Promises"

November 11 - "It's About the Family"
Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-6:21

November 18 - "It's About the Gift"
Scripture: Matthew 20:20-28



REMINDER...

Turn your clocks back 1 hour before bed on
Saturday, November 3rd!

All Saints Sunday November 4th

All Saints Day is an
opportunity to give thanks
for all those who have gone
before us in the faith.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Have you filled up your shoe boxes yet?
Some suggestions are school supplies, hygiene
items, toys, and don't forget that "WOW" item!

Collection Sunday is November 11th!

**THANK
YOU!**

**Staff
Recognition
Sunday**

November 18

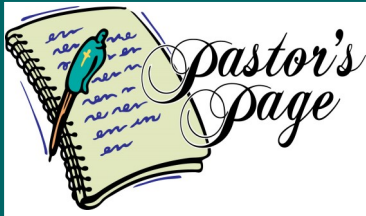
SAVE THE DATE!

May 6-8, 2019

Life Touch
Directory Photos

LifeTouch

CHURCH
DIRECTORIES
AND PORTRAITS



November 2018

As I watch the leaves change color and fall to the ground, I am amazed again at the beauty of God's creation. Magnificent oranges, brilliant reds, glorious yellows blend together in this rich display of color. I love to run or walk on the bike trail and kick up the dried leaves with my feet. This season reminds me to be thankful for all of the blessings that God has provided in my life. I Thessalonians 5:18: *"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* Everyday, we can find at least one thing for which to be grateful.

In fact, it has been scientifically proven that gratitude is the absolute healthiest emotion that you can have, right along with generosity. Studies have shown that people who are generous and grateful are far more resistant to disease and illness than people who are grumpy and grouchy. Your attitude toward life makes a huge difference!

There is incredible power in thanksgiving. It has the power to transform seemingly unsolvable problems. When you learn to thank and to praise God in the midst of a problem, in the midst of a pain, in the midst of a crisis, God often does a miracle and turns things around. Gratitude is a miracle-creating attitude!

The story in Acts 16 is a perfect example. Paul and Silas have gone to Philippi to preach and to teach. They weren't well-received. In fact, the crowd stoned them and then beat them up. They took Paul and Silas and threw them beaten and bruised into prison. At midnight, in the middle of the dark, cold prison, Paul and Silas decided to start thanking God. They started praising and rejoicing in God. They began to sing songs of thanksgiving.

Guess what? God did a miracle! He sent an earthquake and the whole prison started shaking, so much that all the prison cell doors opened and the chains on the prisoners came unbound. They were all set free. You see, freedom comes through thanksgiving. Peace comes through thanksgiving. Joy comes through thanksgiving. Miracles come through thanksgiving. Abundance comes through thanksgiving.

What is it that's got you bound up these days? Fear about your finances? Worry about a relationship? Conflict? Despair? Depression? Guilt? Whatever it is, start thanking God in the middle of that situation. Watch the attitude of gratitude do a miracle in your life. It releases the power of God. Instead of complaining about your problems, start counting your blessings. Instead of looking at what you've lost, start looking at what you have left.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving this month and gather with friends and family, really ponder the question: **What am I most grateful for this year?** Health? Food? Friends? Job? Perhaps you can even be grateful for God's purposes behind the challenges you might be facing. God is always working in our hearts, sometimes in ways that surprise and amaze us!

With a grateful heart,
Pastor Debbie



Arlene Armstrong

Luana Lemasters

Bob Moore

MaryLou Sommerville

Jerry & Ardis Wolven

November Birthdays

11/2 - Arlene Armstrong
11/3 - Anna Lippert
11/4 - Janet Pond
11/8 - Mary Lou Sommerville
Carolyn Studley
11/19 - Stu Shook
Cheri Yost
11/20 - Barb Greer
11/23 - Richard Stuckey
11/24 - Richard Brenner
11/25 - Mary Grace
11/28 - Abigail Zerbe
11/29 - Marilyn Hahn





Purple Angel Seminar Series:
*Understanding Alzheimer's and
Other Dementias*

Thursday, November 1st - 6:00—7:30 p.m.

This seminar is for you if...

**You or someone you know is living with dementia or
you are simply curious and want to learn more about
Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.**



Prayer Quilt Silent Auction

This is a fundraiser for our quilting ministry. Items will be available for bidding on Sunday, Nov. 25 and Sunday, Dec. 2.



Dementia Care Partner Support Group

Do you care for someone who has dementia? You are invited to attend a four-week support group. This group will give you the opportunity to meet and interact with others who also care for a person living with dementia. We will share experiences with each other as well as learn ways to better interact with your loved one. Emphasis will also be on learning how to take care of yourself as you progress on this journey.

**November 15 & 29, December 6 & 20
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

Registration is not required; however, this support group will be a "closed" group. This means that after the first meeting the group will be closed to new members.

Questions? Email Pamela Wright-Hachet, MEd, LMSW at pamelawrighthachet@att.net.



NOVEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

Salvation Army of Gratiot County

The Salvation Army is an important ministry in Gratiot County. They provide food, clothing, and a host of other needs as identified for each person who asks. The donations for this month will be put at the discretion of Salvation Army's Ministries Service Director to help Gratiot County families who need assistance in ways not covered by other programs or agencies. We will be able to give hope to those who haven't qualified or 'slip through the cracks.' *Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. James 3:13.*

FINANCE CORNER

November 2018



General Fund:	(as of September 30, 2018)
Income Year to Date:	\$ 162,791
Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 161,080
Difference:	\$ 1,711

Thank you for your support of mission and ministry here at Alma UMC! If you are interested in electronic giving, simply go to our website (almaumc.com) and click on the GIVE NOW button. If you would like to receive offering envelopes, contact the church office.

Parking Lot : Mercantile Bank Loan for the new Parking Lot: \$39,668. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the parking lot expansion project over the past year. The total project, including the purchase and demolition of the house at 205 E. Downie St. was \$126,000. At this point, our Mercantile Bank Loan for the remainder is just under \$40,000. If you would like to contribute to help pay off this amount, simply direct it to the "Capital Improvement Fund." Thank you!



Membership Class

**Sunday, Nov. 4th
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Interested?
Contact Pastor Debbie at the
church office.**

**Lighthouse
Buffet**

**"No one eats alone"
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.**

Everyone is Welcome!!

Children 5 and under FREE

Ages 6-18 = \$5.00

Adults = \$7.00



11/7 - BBQ pulled pork, baked potatoes, baby carrots, baked beans, coleslaw, cookies

11/14 - Turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green bean casserole, cranberry relish, fresh fruit, brownies

11/21 - no meal

11/28 - Classic pot roast with potatoes and carrots, roasted corn medley, garden salad, cookies



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30am—1:30pm. If you have needs outside this schedule please call Pastor Debbie at 989-463-1485.

REMINDER of CHURCH TIMELINES

Messenger: Wednesday at noon

Ambassador: the 15th of the month

**WATCH
US ONLINE**

Weekly Sermons are now available
online at almaumc.com

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

If you would like to honor a loved one by providing flowers for the altar, please contact the church office at 463-4305. Another way to remember or honor your loved one is to help sponsor students at the Congo Seminary in Mulunguishi, Africa. Our congregation has been supporting this vital mission ministry for several years. The cost is \$15.00 per Sunday. The names of the ones being honored or memorialized will be printed in the bulletin for the Sunday of your choice.



Alma United Methodist Church

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