

Alton / Thayer Newsletter

Alton & St. Paul United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 241  
Thayer, MO. 65791  
*Return Service Requested*

U.S. Permit Paid  
Non-Profit Organization  
Permit #78  
Thayer, MO. 65791

United Methodist Newsletter



Alton United Methodist Church

St. Paul United Methodist Church

### February is Random Acts of Kindness Month

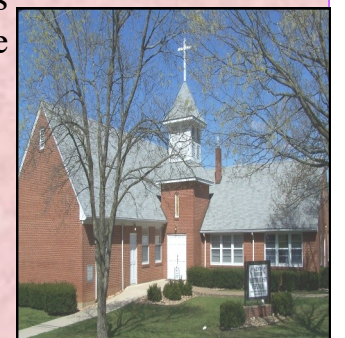
In a world that seems to be consumed with division, anger and despair, each one of us has the potential to bring grace into the otherwise bleak landscape. The way to do that is by doing a Random Act of Kindness. When we are intentional about being kind, amazing things begin to happen. People smile more. They are less tense, unhappy or worried. They begin to feel good about themselves. Maybe, just maybe, someone who has received an act of kindness will pay it forward by doing something nice for another person. We become agents of optimism. If we are deliberate about performing acts of kindness, it will soon become a habit.

We are reminded in Matthew 25 of our obligation to visit the sick and imprisoned, as well as provide food, water and clothing for those who are in need. Those who did these things for others protested that they did not know they were doing them to Jesus. Likewise, those who failed to reach out protested that they did not know they were ignoring Jesus. They were all told “whatever you did to the least of these, you did to me.”

If we see Jesus in everyone we encounter, how would we treat them differently? Random Acts of Kindness helps us to cultivate the good habit of treating others kindly. February will be Random Acts of Kindness Month at both Alton and St. Paul UMCs. When you have done something nice for another person, make a note of it and share it with your church family. There will be a poster where you can place a short note describing the act of kindness. The intent of the display is not to brag, but to remind all of us of the many small opportunities we have every day to brighten another person’s life. Random Acts of Kindness is about spreading joy through the community. You will find that you feel better when you become more focused on doing good for others. At the same time, you will help others feel better about themselves.

Jesus tells us “In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the law and the prophets” (Matt. 7:12). We will draw nearer to God as we obey his command to treat others with love. In John, we are told that people will know we are followers of Christ by the love we show toward others. Random Acts of Kindness is one way of sharing that love wherever we go. Be creative or be simple. Many acts of kindness are quite small. How can you share God’s love with a Random Act of Kindness?

-Pastor Pam



**“Honesty is the first chapter of the book of wisdom.” -Thomas Jefferson**

St. Paul Monthly Calendar	Alton Monthly Calendar
<b>Leadership Mtg.</b> 1st Sunday at 12 pm <b>UMM Breakfast</b> 2nd Sunday at 7 am <b>Trustees Mtg.</b> 2nd Sunday at 12 pm <b>Piecemakers</b> every Thursday at 9 am  <b>Exercise Group</b> Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11 am	<b>UMM Breakfast</b> 1st Sunday at 7 am  <b>Leadership Mtg.</b> 2nd Sunday at 7 pm  <b>T’n’T</b> Every Wednesday 3:30–5 pm



**St. Paul United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 241, Thayer, MO 65791**  
**Alton United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 383 Alton, MO 65606**  
**Parsonage: (417) 778-6266 Pastor Pam Cell Phone: (573) 281-9367**  
**Joint Charge Office (417) 264-3296**  
[www.stpaulthayerumc.org](http://www.stpaulthayerumc.org) [www.altonumc.org](http://www.altonumc.org)  
**E-mail: [stpaulumc@centurytel.net](mailto:stpaulumc@centurytel.net)**



St. Paul will be having a potluck dinner on February 5th after the service.  
The leadership team will meet afterwards at 1 o'clock.

**St. Paul Bread Breakers enjoyed a tasty meal and fellowship on January 17th. A program on the history and restoration of Greer Mill was presented by Jo Beth Anderson and Clara Williams.**  
  
(Pictured L to R: Jo Beth Anderson, Clara Williams, and Louise Brenner)

Thayer UMW will meet Thursday, Feb. 16, at 6:00 pm in the church library.  
  
We will share a light supper, and the program will focus on the Boys and Girls Club Thayer branch.

*St, Paul Bread Breakers will meet on February 21st at noon*



**Freddie Bruce and Jo Ann Wood distributing cookies at the Thayer Senior Citizen's Center**

**Update Your Address!**  
Oregon County has begun the process of assigning new postal addresses for all persons who currently have Rural Route (RR) or HCR Carrier Route mailing addresses. This is part of an initiative to assign physical street addresses to every residence and business in the county and to implement a 911 emergency response system. Over the next few months, many households will be notified of their new address. Some families in the Myrtle and Couch areas already have been contacted. The addresses are being assigned from the southern end of the county to the northern end. As you learn of your new mailing address, please share that information with Pastor Pam so we can update our records. A new church directory will be distributed later in the year, after the new addresses have been received.

Boy Scout Sunday will take place on Sunday, February 5th at Alton UMC. Breakfast will be served at 7:30am and worship will take place at 9am.

Alton UMC has started a scholarship fund for graduating high school seniors. A donation box will be at the back of the sanctuary every third Sunday of the month.

**The deadline for the March newsletter will be February 21st.**



**Scout News**



*Happy Valentine's Day!*

Carl, Will, Mike and Brandon Fraley hosted the Winter Klondike for Boy Scout troops in the Osage Hills District on the Fraley Farm over the January 20th-22nd weekend. The theme for this year's Winter Klondike was "Medieval Knights!" Seven troops with 61 Scouts and approximately 40 leaders attended the weekend event.

On Saturday, additional spectators enjoyed watching the boys build and pull a sled over an obstacle course, compete in a "jousting" course, complete a scavenger hunt and shoot catapults they built and brought to the event. The evening ended with a campfire and flag retirement ceremony. The Sunday morning worship service was led by Kelby Hutsler. Scouts and adults alike had a wonderful weekend!

