



Faith news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ALDA UNITED AND WOOD RIVER FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES
MARCH 2019

STOLEN IDENTITY: Discovering Our Identity in Christ

Who are you? What is the church? Who are we called to BE? We are starting a new sermon series, Sunday, March 3, Stolen Identity: Discovering our True Identity in Christ. We often spend a lot of time wondering what God has called us to do. I will spend my Sunday evenings looking at my calendar to see what is already on my schedule to do and then begin filling up my to do lists for the week. But how many of us look at our calendar and ask who am I going to BE this week? Join us in worship as we discover our identity in Christ. Who we are called to BE!

CHURCH EVENTS

- Mar 4th - Ruth Circle
- Mar 6th - Ash Wednesday - Soup Supper in WR/Worship at both
- Mar 7th - Rachel Circle
- Mar 10th - Ministerial Soup Supper
- Mar 12th - MYF Meeting
- Mar 18th - UMM Event in GI
- Mar 19th - Alda Meet & Eat
- Mar 21st - WR Sewing Circle
- Mar 24th - MYF Pancake Feed
- Mar 28th - UMW Meeting
- Mar 31st - Alda Dinner Church



(Due to office error, the following article and thank you were previously omitted)

RACHEL CIRCLE - Bonnie Schurer

Rachel Circle strolled to The Vault in Cairo on December 6th for our Christmas dinner. Nine members and two guests, Betty Wescoatt and Pastor Trudy Hanke were present. Sylvia McTavish gave us a wooden handmade cross, prayer cards, and candy. Sharon Skeen gave us a Whitman's Christmas wrapped goodie bar. We had a roast beef buffet-style dinner. Then Sylvia had a short meeting. She read an opening prayer. Marilyn Webster gave the treasurer's report. Prayer concerns were given. We are to pray on our own. Rachel Circle will not meet in January and February, but will meet on March 7, 2019. Sylvia will serve the lunch. We played a Christmas game that all enjoyed. Sylvia read the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned.

THANK YOU

Thank you church family for my box of goodies. I enjoyed it all and the card. ~Bonnie Schurer

WOOD RIVER FUMC FINANCIAL REPORT

February report of financial giving.

Thank you for giving your gifts and tithes to God and the continued mission of connecting to impact the community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Budgeted Monthly Expenses: \$11,482.17

Offerings this Month:

Feb 3 : \$2559.00

Feb 10: \$7800.99

Feb 17: \$721.25

Feb 24: \$1057.01

Total given: \$12,138.25

SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Special General Conference is meeting at the time of this printing. Information on decisions made will be shared by email and in the next newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Trudy at 308-583-2716 or 308-583-2552.

CONNECT TO IMPACT

At Wood River UMC, we have launched our new vision statement and now it is time to begin living into our new vision. Connecting to God and Each Other to Impact the Community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our vision statement is based on Christ's commands in Scripture, The Great Commandment (Matthew 22: 36-40) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). This new vision statement invites us to ask the question how are we Connecting to God? How are we connecting to each other to grow and mature in our faith? How are we connecting to be in ministry together? How are we connecting to serve in the community? When we are connected, we have a greater IMPACT in our community. In the church fellowship hall, we have boards up to put post notes on so you can share ideas on how we can be more connected. These boards will be used in leadership meetings to give us insight and help us live out our vision. Move past general ideas and be specific. Begin asking God to reveal how we are to connect as God's people to impact the community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray for God's guidance as we live into who God has called us to BE.

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office Closed - Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting <i>Ashley Gewecke</i>	2 <i>Renae Graham</i>
3 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WRSunday School 11:00 Alda Worship 6:00 Girl Scouts <i>Hannah Paulk Kiernan Paulk Carson Schultz</i>	4 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:30 Ruth Circle <i>Leroy Miller Spencer Rohrich</i>	5 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle <i>Steve Powell</i>	6 ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 WR Soup Sup- per 6:00 Alda Worship 7:00 WR Worship	7 1:30 Rachel Circle 7:00 Alda Solutions Group	8 Office Closed - Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting	9 <i>Sophia Valdez</i>
10 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WRSunday School 11:00 Alda Worship 5:00-7:00 Ministerial Soup Supper <i>Tony & Maylin Ammon</i>	11 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office	12 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle 6:30 MYF Meeting	13 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 WR Leadership Team Meeting	14 7:00 Alda Solutions Group	15 Office Closed - Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting	16
17 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WRSunday School 11:00 Alda Worship 6:00 Girl Scouts	18 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office 7:00 Cub Scouts	19 12:00 Alda Meet & Eat 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle Pastor Trudy to New Hope Chapel <i>Mike Smith Kenna Thompson</i>	20 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 SPRC <i>Cody Brandt Matt & Lisa DeVore Dave & Julie</i>	21 9:00 WR Sewing Circle 7:00 Alda Solutions Group <i>Brad Earnest Deb Rohrich Jeffrey & Trudy Hanke</i>	22 Office Closed - Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting Pastor Trudy to Candidacy Summit	23 <i>Jerry Shears</i>
24 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WRSunday School 10:30-12:00 MYF Pancake Feed <i>Cassie Watts Maxine Rathman</i>	25 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office 6:00 District Network Meeting <i>Larry Powers Virginia Wiese Charles & Judy Mead</i>	26 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle <i>Craig Anderson Lisa DeVore</i>	27 9:30 Bible Study	28 1:30 UMW Meeting 7:00 Alda Solutions Group <i>Sean Smith Shane Smith</i>	29 Office Closed - Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting <i>Marilyn Webster</i>	30
31 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WRSunday School 5:00 Alda Dinner Church <i>Kaye & Cathy Doane Addison Oster Sue Jackson</i>						

Invitation to UMM Program

Annual Dinner Meeting & Program

Monday, March 18, 6:30 PM, GI First-Faith UM Church at 4190 W Capital Ave, Grand Island, NE

DRIVING on Highway 281, turn west on Capital Ave W for 1.2 miles, OR driving east on Hwy 2, turn south on Independence Avenue for 0.9 miles

Please call or email for reservations by Thursday, March 14 to Danielle at firstfaithumc@gmail.com or call **308-384-5620** (leave voicemail with your name & phone number, church name & number coming)

\$10.00 per person, pay on arrival (note PASTORS are FREE)

WHY COME?

- Jack Bunker, motivational speaker from Arlington, SD owns a trucking company and shares his story.
- Music and singing – A GOOD TIME.
- Great food – Roast beef or ham, potatoes, green beans, salads, and dessert.
- Fellowship with old friends and make some new friends.
- Brief business meeting to share your ideas and ministry activities in our District.

Please invite other men and see you there!

PARISH NURSE - Mary Bilslend

We know that spring is coming –hopefully sooner than later. Here are a few tips to keep in mind when you begin your spring jobs.

1. Use safety goggles, sturdy shoes, and long pants with machinery or chemical usage.
2. Protect hearing if operating equipment. If you have to raise your voice to be heard by someone arm length away, you may need hearing protection.
3. Be sure equipment is in proper working order.
4. Wear gloves to protect your skin from irritants, contaminants or cuts.
5. Use insect repellent containing DEET.
6. Follow instructions and warning labels on chemicals, lawn and garden equipment.
7. Reduce risk of sunburn and skin cancer by wearing long sleeves, wide brim hat and sunshades. Use a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 or higher.
8. Keep an eye on the thermometer. Be prepared to take the precautions needed if it gets hot or cold.
9. If working in hot weather, remember to drink plenty of liquids that do not contain alcohol or high sugar amounts as these will rob the body of the fluid needed.
10. Pay attention to heat related illness : high body temperature, headache, dizziness, rapid pulse, nausea, confusion or unconsciousness.
11. Remember if you have a contractor doing a job for you, you need to make sure that they have a good safety record. OSHA can site and fine the contractor and the employer if the worker is hurt.

Enjoy the coming of a new season and be on the lookout for the wonders God has for you.

WOOD RIVER COMMUNITY GARDEN

Rent a plot in the community garden for the growing season. The rent includes the plot, water, and first till of the year. Volunteering is another way to be a part of the garden. People who would like to volunteer to help with the maintenance of the community garden are welcome to help. You do not have to have a garden plot to volunteer. If interested in a plot or volunteering contact Mandy Koperski at (308)258-7803 or stop in at Maltman Library and speak with Mandy.

UMW NEWS -

Renae Graham

Coming in April – Mission Study

On Saturday, April 6th, UMW will present their annual mission study. The title of the study is “What About our Money? A Faith Response”. The study will explore how we understand money within the context of our faith. We will learn what the Bible has to say about money and stewardship of what is ultimately God’s. The study will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall and will end at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided, and our UMW ladies always do a superb job with the food! The day will include music, crafts, small group study, and Bible Study. We would appreciate if you would let us know if you plan to attend, so that we have an approximate head count for the meal and for study materials. Renae Graham will be the study leader. This was a study from Mission U in 2018. Please call Renae @ 308-379-6399, or leave a message on the church phone. Please feel free to attend even if you don’t give us a call ahead of time. We look forward to seeing you there. Again, the date is Saturday, April 6!

A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial

On Thursday, March 28, at the UMW Unit meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m., our ladies will be observing A Call to Prayer and Self-denial. This annual observance gives local units a chance to study and

reflect on a particular theme each year, and to designate funds related to the theme. This year’s theme is ‘Building a Thriving Generation of Children and Youth Worldwide’. This gives UMW an opportunity to reflect on the gospel of Christ and make an offering that helps sustain ministry around the world. Renae Graham will be the program leader.

Ruth Group of UMW

Ruth Group of UMW met Monday, February 4, with four members in attendance. President Susie Powell opened the meeting with a devotion from ‘A Woman’s Daily Prayer Book’. Upcoming events are the Mission Study on April 6; the annual Salad Supper on April 24. The annual audit is complete. Marian Hensley presented the Prayer Calendar and shared scripture from 1 Kings 17:8-16. Prayer concerns were lifted and Susie offered prayer for those names. It was announced that a theme for the 2020 Salad Supper is needed, so everyone is encouraged to think of some ideas. Following the business portion of the meeting, Renae Graham presented the lesson, which was titled, ‘Tongue-Tied’, taken from the book ‘31 Proverbs to Light Your Path’. The lesson was based on Proverbs 13:3, which states, ‘Those who guard their lips preserve their lives, but those who speak rashly will come to ruin.’ The lesson suggested that we should Stop, Look, Listen, and Pray before we respond when communicating with others. Lunch was provided by Jan Carter.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES: March 6

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. It marks the beginning of a period of reflection and penance. In the Bible, sprinkling oneself with ashes was traditionally a sign of one’s sorrow for having committed sins. In the Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday also marked the beginning of preparation for the understanding of the death and resurrection of Christ. (www.umc.org) Let us begin the season of Lent by recognizing we have fallen short of who God has called us to be and that we have a deep need for God and God’s offer of salvation through Jesus.

Wood River First UMC--Soup supper before the service, beginning at 5:30 pm, ALL ARE WELCOME. Worship Service begins at 7:00 pm. **Alda UMC**--Worship service begins at 6:00 pm.

SENIOR SUNDAY

In preparation for Senior Sunday, we are asking that you send in 5-10 pictures of your senior by March 31. You can email them or drop them off and we will scan and return the pictures to you. Email address: office@woodriverumc.org

We will recognize and celebrate our graduating seniors on Sunday, April 28th.

JEANIE McINTOSH BENEFIT

There is a benefit planned for Jeanie McIntosh at the Alda Community Center on March 3 from 12-4. Chili, Chicken Noodle, and Vegetable Beef soups, as well as sandwiches and desserts will be served. Free Will Donation! There will also be a raffle with various prizes available, tickets for that are \$1.00. Jeanie has been battling pancreatic cancer for over a year.

**The Wood River Ministerial Association
is inviting YOU to a**

Soup Supper!

Sunday, March 10

5:00 - 7:00 pm

202 E 12th St, Wood River

Free Will Donation!

**All proceeds will
provide assistance to
many people in need
in our community.**



**Hosted by
First United Presbyterian Church**