

HERE WE GROW!

June Newsletter- Alvarado Methodist Church



Mid-Week Prayer

Lord God,

Make us ever mindful of your call, which you have placed upon each and every one of us to go make disciples of all nations. If each of us would view the world around us as the harvest fields of faith; what a wonderful impact we could make for your Kingdom. Lord, once we have acknowledged your call, make us bold to answer. In your name we pray. Amen!

Note from Pastor Rob

"As He was walking along, He saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and He said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed Him." (Mark 2:14 NRSV)

As we are approaching Vacation Bible School soon (June 16th and 17th) I cannot help but reflect on my experience of VBS last year at my previous appointment:

My teammates and I had the great privilege and responsibility of working with some of the younger children (K5-1st). During this time I was reminded of the human condition which makes it difficult for us to form straight lines when going from one place to another. It really isn't in our nature to stand or move in a line. It was interesting to observe the expressions on the faces of those who were not at the front of the line. There were those who did not want to be there in line. I thought it was funny at first until I later observed the faces of adults in line at the grocery store and realized that some things just never grow out of us.

Even though it was difficult to get the children to stay in line (our group literally had someone trying to climb the wall) it was always easier to get them to follow a line leader. Don't get me wrong, it wasn't always a straight path nor a destination arrived at in an orderly fashion, however, the children could get from point A to point B if they knew who they were supposed to be following. Ultimately, if the line leader arrived there first, the rest would follow. No effective leader can lead where he or she is not willing to go themselves. In other words: lead others the way you would have them lead you.

"Pastor, what does this have to do with Jesus?" Thank you for asking. And thank you for waiting so patiently. Are you ready for it? **Jesus is the ultimate line leader!**

They taught us in seminary to always remember that; "Wherever you go, God is already there." As a United Methodist minister, part of an itinerant system, I've done a lot of reflecting on this subject. This

means that the God I serve, is already present and at work in a place before I ever open my mouth to preach. The Methodist among us might be inclined to say: "Now, wait a minute pastor, didn't John Wesley himself tell his American representatives to 'Offer them Christ'?" You are correct. However, acknowledging God's divine presence, and getting others to accept it are two different things altogether. For example, several people can all be in a room together and not know each other. That is, until a mutual acquaintance begins the introductions.

The Psalmist writes: *"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?"* (Psalm 139:7 NIV) In other words, even if I wanted to get away from God I could not. God is everywhere!

Jesus' command to us is **"come and follow"**, not "you go on ahead and I'll catch up!"^[1] He's already been there. God is already present wherever it is He is sending you (that doesn't necessarily mean a physical location, but it could be a new ministry situation, or leadership in some other aspect of your life etc. He got there first so that He could lead you there.

Pastor Rob

*[1] Please understand that I have not forgotten about the time that Jesus did send the disciples on ahead while He stayed behind to pray. An incident, which proved to be a life lesson for them about faith when He came strolling out to them on the turbulent lake! This is about the substance of His command **to follow** and not about the nitpicky details of His ministry.*



Sunday June 4th

This Sunday after worship, join us in the Family Life Center for a reception for Hannah and Tanner Smith honoring their time with us serving our Youth.

We wish them well at their pastorate position at China Spring UMC.



Interested in Media?

WE NEED YOU!

Our church needs someone to help run the soundboard and computer during the church service. Contact Pastor Rob or the church office.

NEW! Alvarado Methodist T-Shirts!

These colorful shirts are available in every size, just in time for VBS!

Alvarado United Methodist T-Shirt Order Form



Outreach Group

The Alvarado Methodist Outreach Group has been working towards ways to contact our membership and keep everyone connected. In May, they represented our church at the Alvarado Fire Safety event-sharing friendly words with patrons and giving out worship and VBS information. Watch for more updates as we move forward to REACH, LOVE and GROW!



Prayer Request

- Joyce McLaughlin, challenges with Alzheimers
- Healing for James Lavine, submitted by Reena Harman.
- Continued healing for Ellen Mahanay (sister-in-law of Beverly Short)
- Linnie Gilreath, moved to Elk Creek Assisted Living, 301 Elk Dr. #132, Burleson, TX 76028- (she would love to hear from her church family)
- Carolyn Sledge, continued healing .
- Teresa Brende, as she transitions into a new home.
- Continued prayers for the Harman family.

- Mary Blackburn prayers for continued healing.
- Remember to pray for Alvarado Intermediate School teachers, staff and students throughout the summer.

Prayer for others is at the heart of what we do as a congregation.

When you contact us with a prayer request, it is prayed over by the

Prayer Chain and in worship for 30 days.

How can we pray for you today? Email or call with your requests

fumcalv@fumcalvarado.org (817)790-3101

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Get ready to join the FUN!

SATURDAY, June 16th 5:30 - 8:30pm

And

SUNDAY, June 17th - 9:00am - 12 noon


Click to register or call the church office (817)790-3101


Click here to register for VBS!




Alvarado Methodist Church

 Facebook

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