



HERE WE GROW!

November 2023

Tonight!

Because of the rain...

the Alvarado Live Concert Series has been moved indoors to the Reunion Old Settlers Building. We'll set up our booth from 4-5pm and the event is from 6 to 9pm.

Volunteers welcome! See you there!



Note from Pastor Rob

*"This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it."*

(Psalm 118:24)

I recently had a conversation with someone (not a church member) who was quite argumentative with me. They overheard me say how much I like Halloween. They were absolutely appalled that I would give any kind of consideration to "Satan's holiday." They didn't even give me a chance to give my reasons. So, I am taking this opportunity to do so now. I'll admit that I had mixed emotions about it when I was younger. As I was first entering ministry, I heard all the complaints about Halloween and tried to reconcile them in my head and heart. But on the other side of that wrestling this is where I land. I love Halloween. I love the decorations, the costumes, the candy, and pumpkins everywhere!

Halloween is what you make of it (just like many occasions in life). IF you approach it as a fun time, full of laughter, candy, and pumpkins then it can be a great deal of fun. If you are focused on

evil and slasher kind of horror then that is what your Halloween is going to be about.

Many people are surprised to learn that it is first and foremost a religious holiday. No, stay with me on this... All Hallows day is what we call All Saints Day. When something is hallowed, it is sacred and set apart. It is holy! Think about that line in The Lord's prayer; "...hallowed be thy name!" And another way of saying someone is holy is to designate them as a saint. So, November first is set aside to remember all those holy or saintly persons of the church who have gone on before us. It has been, in times past, a high holy day of the church liturgical calendar. A very special Day. Halloween is simply, All Hallows Even. It means the Eve before All Hallows Day. Just as December the 24th is Christmas Eve; October 31st is All Hallows Eve. In the past, the church has celebrated on the Eve of All Hallows day just as they still do on Christmas Eve.

I agree, there are a lot of things that get piled onto the celebration of Halloween that really doesn't need to be there. There are inappropriate ways that Christians celebrate this holiday. And I think followers of Jesus need to be careful. But there are fun and appropriate ways to celebrate too!

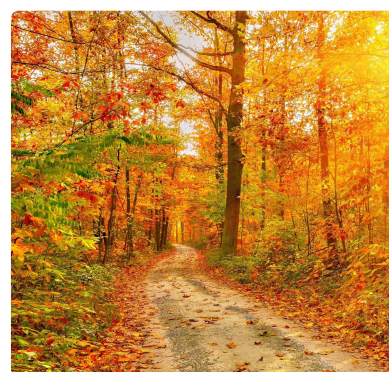
My biggest concern when it comes to Halloween, is that so many just shrug their shoulders, give up, and let the enemy win. Many Christians just allow it to pass and "hope" that nothing bad happens. When we call Halloween or any other day Satan's holiday, we give him ground that does not and should not ever belong to him. Why should we give anything to the enemy that truly belongs to the Lord. We must actively get into this fight. Relinquish nothing! Never give up, and never surrender. The Bible clearly tells us that each and every day are days the Lord has made. And we are meant to rejoice in each one of them.

Let's take back what the enemy has stolen (or in many cases been given)!
Happy Halloween everyone and stay safe!

Mid Week Prayer

Lord,

We pray that as we prepare for the time of honoring All Saints of our church, that you would help us remember those who have gone on before us to be with you. May we always remember the examples of integrity and faithfulness that they set for us. May we be always grateful for the sacrifices they made to ensure that we would also get to benefit from citizenship in your glorious Kingdom. In your name we pray. Amen.



Sunday Worship

Pastor Rob will preach from Matthew 22:34-36. His sermon is titled, "The Goat Commandment!"



Poinsettia Orders

Honor your loved one with a lovely poinsettia for the church sanctuary!

Only \$20

Don't be left out!

Orders due by November 10th

Order blanks are available in sanctuary on Sunday or at the church office.

Questions?

Contact Mary Percifield

(817) 994-9968



Upcoming November Events!

November 5

November 5th- All Saints Sunday

Please join us as our Church remembers the Saints that we have lost this last year. A bell will be tolled in loving memory of each of them.

LeRoy Pollard

Ann Ell Pollard

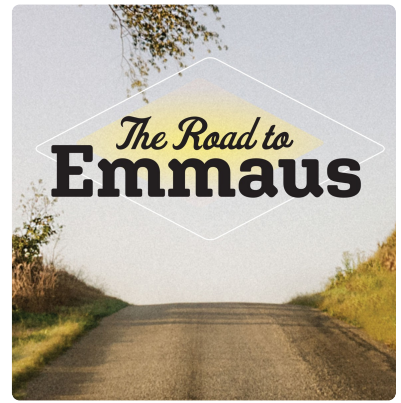
Mary Blackburn

David Griggs



November 7

Alvarado United Methodist will host an EMMAUS meeting on November 7 at 6:00pm. Please come and be blessed!



November 8

Join the Women United in Faith on Wednesday, November 8 for a Chili Lunch at 12 noon in the Family Life Center. Chili graciously provided by Brad Hargrove. See you there!



November 15

Grocery Distribution is Wednesday November 15 from 4 to 6pm. Packing starts at 3:30. Volunteers are always needed!



November 19

Sunday, November 19th after worship, come to the church-wide, Thanksgiving Potluck! Bring your favorite dish for a great time of fellowship and fun!



Cross-stitched Raffle Pictures



Red Truck Scene

Get your \$5 raffle ticket now!



Santa Express

Get your \$10 raffle ticket now!



Antique Car Scene

Get your \$5 raffle ticket now!

On display this Sunday- See Patti Beckham for details

Dressing/Stuffing Recipe from Pastor Rob

I originally got this recipe from cooks.com but I have tweaked it some over the years. It was meant to be a stuffing and dressing recipe but I never use it for stuffing.

Gathering of Ingredients

- 4 c. crumbled cornbread (make it ahead of time and give it a day or so to dry out!!!!)
- 2 c. dry bread crumbs
- 3 1/2 c. chicken stock
- 3 eggs
- 1 c. milk (use whole milk)
- 2 tsp. salt (do not overestimate the size of a tsp. Cautiously under-add rather than zealously over indulge)
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 1 c. chopped celery
- 1 tsp. poultry seasoning or sage (sometimes I use both! However, a little goes a long way!)
- 1/4 to 1/2 c. chopped onion (Depending on how many you are cooking for, 1/4 c. Is enough)

Doing

Mix corn bread with crumbs and add stock. Beat eggs slightly, add milk, salt and pepper. Add to bread mixture. Then add chopped celery, poultry seasoning and chopped onion and bake in a well greased pan (375 degrees) 30 to 40 minutes (going to be closer to the 40 minute mark to get it well cooked!)



Prayer Request

- Ralph Dawson, son of Dorothy and Earl Walker, prayers for healing.
- Continued healing for Ted Franklin, Jamie Jean's father.
- Grayson Peatrowsky, continued recovery after surgery.
- Nick Peikoff prayers for upcoming surgery.
- LeeAnn Byrd continued healing.
- Charlotte Rhynes, friend of Linnie Gilreath, healing from surgery.
- A dear friend of Ray & Shirley Ashbaugh, Cheryl Smith, continued healing.
- Remember to pray for Alvarado Intermediate School teachers, staff and students.



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



Alvarado United Methodist Church

www.fumcalvarado.org

Contact Alvarado

