



HERE WE GROW!

October Edition - Alvarado United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 8th - IMPORTANT Meeting!

Alvarado United Methodist Church is thankful for the recent increase in attendance. We are also thankful for the many recent opportunities we've had for mission and outreach within the Alvarado community.

With the desire to live into our mission of Reach, Love, Grow, and to be a vital part of the community, we will have an informational meeting on the status of the church **immediately following the worship service on October 8th**. In this meeting we will discuss upcoming outreach and volunteer opportunities as well as church finances.

This is an important meeting for our church moving forward. Please make plans to attend if you are able to do so.

CHURCH
WIDE

MEETING

From Pastor Rob

I love the Autumn season; and everything about it! Please bare in mind that I am writing this from the perspective of one who was born and raised in Georgia, went to graduate school in Kentucky and then served the United Methodist Church for fifteen years in Mississippi. I am fully aware that "Fall" in Texas is sporadic and unpredictable. Nevertheless, I speak from a place of nostalgia. Fall! The slight chill in the air to let us know that winter is coming. The smell of fires burning to offer light and warmth to friendly hearths. The start of the holiday season! And let us not forget the explosion of color which the fall affords. It is amazing to see such beauty.

Psalm twenty-four verses one and two remind us:

***"1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
2 for He has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers."***

God is truly an artist! Everything that exists was created by His will through His word! How is it that folks can witness the beauty of creation and still deny the existence of the creator? The writer of Psalm fourteen wondered the same thing. Verse one of that psalm says this:

"Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.'"

We need to pray for those folks who are walking through life as fools. Sometimes they do this out of stubbornness. But much of the time people remain fools because of ignorance. Those of us who are Christians have to remember that it is our mission, given to us by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, to spread the news of the gospel throughout the world. We are all called to be missionaries. Don't let that idea frighten you. Not all of us are called to go to China or Uzbekistan or Zimbabwe or even inner-city Chicago! Many of us are called to minister where we are. But make no mistake about it. If you are a Christian, then you are called. You have a mission.

Fall is a wonderful time to talk about the majesty and wonder of God. God's plan is so perfect, that even in death there is beauty. We sometimes forget that those leaves which offer such splendid colors, are, in fact, dead. If it weren't for the cycle of life that God created and put into motion, we would not have wonderful colors.

God took another situation of death and made something beautiful out of it. Crucifixion is not pretty! It is a horrible, painful way to die! In fact, our word "excruciating" which means "great, unendurable pain" comes from a Latin word for crucify. "Crucifixion" and "excruciating" come from the same source. Crucifixion was not beautiful; but God used it to cause beauty. Jesus had to take the sins of the world upon Himself. He bore them to the cross and He left them there! The result of this agonizing death was the most beautiful thing in the world, salvation. Salvation is beautiful! Jesus had to die to bring about that beauty!

This fall season as you are preparing for the holidays and enjoying the splendor of creation. Allow the beautiful sights around you to remind you of Jesus nailed to that cross bearing our sins unto death. Don't be foolish! Remember that there is a God. God loves you and wants you to enjoy the beautiful things in life. The world that He created and the salvation which He freely offers to everyone. And do not let those around you be fools either. Share the love of Christ with all who will listen. Shalom!

In Christ,
Rob Grant

Saturday- Men's Group

MEN...

Please join us this Saturday morning for breakfast
at the Daily Special Cafe in Alvarado at 8:00am.





POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

October 3

Tuesday, our church will host a booth at the National Night Out to show our support of the Police and Firemen in Alvarado. Volunteers are needed for this event, speak to Jim Norman if you can help.



October 22

Pack the Pews -We want to fill the church with your family, friends, co-workers, etc. Let's see how many each of you can bring! An award will be given to the one who brings the most people!

Blood Drive October 3rd

Mark your calendar to help save lives with the American Red Cross!



**American
Red Cross**

Blood
Services

We are on a mission to help patients in need by hosting a BloodLink and your support is needed to make it a success! Join us at a local blood drive to support blood donations in our community and across the nation. Hospital patients are counting on us!

Battle of the Badges Blood drive-the Red Cross has provided the following link for National Night Out participants to use if they would like to donate prior to the event. You can use the link below to register. Anyone donating prior to the event can bring proof of their donation to our National Night Out event on 10/03/23, cast their vote, and enter to win a \$100 gift card. Our raffle will have 3 winners, all gifted with a \$100 gift card. We appreciate your help in distributing this information. Forward this email or share your BloodLink, encouraging your network to support your BloodLink. Members of your network will schedule and complete a blood donation.

Feel great knowing that you, your friends, family and colleagues have helped patients in need. Share your custom BloodLink in personalized social media posts, articles, newsletters and emails. Your BloodLink:

<https://rcblood.org/46cpi3h>

We hope to see you soon!



Together We Can
Fulfill Our Mission



Contact
Brad Hargrove 817-320-9770
Anna Hargrove 817-528-2055

Alvarado United
Methodist Garage Sale
October 19th and 20th
8:00 AM-3:00pm

Help Needed

Set-up Working Clean up

Youth Fundraising - Coffee Sleeves!

Get your official, Alvarado United Methodist Coffee Cup Sleeve and support the church YOUTH at the same time! **Only \$5 or any amount donation for the Youth.**

Pick up yours this Sunday at the back of the church.



Intermediate School Mission

It's time to get this mission going again. We love the chance to encourage and support the Intermediate School. It's had a huge impact on the entire staff and we want to continue the relationship in our effort to Reach, Love and Grow in Christ's name.

If you haven't had the chance to sign up the last two Sundays, there are different areas for your participation:

- Card Writing
- Gift-Snack
- Prayer
- Volunteer



- Donation.

We encourage everyone to sign up for one or more areas. Please see or call Gay Griffith 817-648-8159 or the church office 817-790-3101.

Women United in Faith

Our women's group has some great things planned!

Wednesday at Noon, October 11th- Bring your favorite finger food to the Family Life Center for lunch and a planning meeting. Guest speaker will be Brad Hargrove of the Alvarado Fire Department.

On December 3rd, a SIP N SHOP event is in the works! Any talented crafter is invited to offer hand-made items, gifts and goodies to be sold. *(10% of the proceeds will be given to the church).*

Also at this event, bring your decorated Christmas card box (see image) and addressed Christmas cards for our members, children and shut ins. **Come Join the FUN!**

Questions? Speak to Patti Beckham or call 817.790.3101



Trunk or Treat - 10/28

Alvarado Methodist will again be participating in the Trunk or Treat celebration- this year, it's being held on the square!

Bring your candy now to be ready for Saturday, October 28th!



Trunk or Treat

Volunteers Needed for Meals On Wheels

Our Meals On Wheels Alvarado group is searching for volunteers for the Alvarado area.

If you can help them out, please call the church office (817)790-3101 and someone will contact you.



Our volunteers are now cleaning the church and could use some cleaning supplies such as:

- Pledge (or other wood cleaning spray)
- Window cleaner
- paper towels
- Kleenex
- Anti-bacterial wipes

Thank you!



Prayer Request



- Charlotte Rhynes, friend of Linnie Gilreath, healing from surgery.
- A dear friend of Ray & Shirley Ashbaugh, Cheryl Smith, prayers for healing.
- Keith Rosenbaum, healing and strength to fight cancer.
- Ellen Mahanay (sister in law of Beverly Short) fighting cancer and recovering from surgery.
- Joe Tackett's cousin Edna Ruth England, improved health, healing.
- Donna Kiblinger Leonard, healing.
- Carla Peikoff continued prayers for improved health.
- 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 Methodist Church

www.fumcalvardo.org

Contact Alvarado

