

The Alburnett Messenger

September 18, 2026

Calendar of Church/Community Activities

FRIDAY, September 18--8:00a-5:00p *Prairie Chapel Women of Faith Rummage Sale (Prairie Chapel Church Basement)*

SUNDAY, September 20--9:00 am *"Back to Church" Worship Service (invite a friend to join you)*

SUNDAY, September 27--9:00 am *Worship Service*

SUNDAY, October 4--9:00 *Worship Service (World Communion Sunday)*

MONDAY, October 5--6:00 pm *Alburnett Administrative Council (NOTE NEW TIME AND DATE)*

SUNDAY, October 11--9:00 *Worship Service*



September 20-9:00 am--Morning Worship

Speaker: Pastor Bruce

Message: We Gather Together

Scriptures: Hebrews 10:1-3, 20-25

Worship Leader: Marcy Machacek

Ushers/Greeters: Jim Arnold and Barbara Leydens

This coming Sunday is nationally known as, "Back to Church" Sunday. This is often a time when summer vacations, travels, and activities have transitioned to a more fixed



schedule of standard work weeks, routine school days, and familiar social events.

It's also a time of year that many church activities start again, and quite often there is a specific focus on reminding all our brothers and sisters in Christ that we're gearing up for the time ahead.

Join us this Sunday as we celebrate our gathering TOGETHER in worship, and be sure to invite someone to come with you. Perhaps your invitation is what they have been waiting for.



Last Week's Attendance: 28

Year-to-Date Giving Comparison:

Last Week: \$ 1,082.00

2026 Weekly Average: \$1,535.24

2025 Weekly Average: \$1,547.74

Weekly Average is down \$ 12.50

My young grandson was spending the night in our new home, in a bed unfamiliar to him. He giggled with excitement as we read books under the dinosaur tent I'd pitched atop his cozy comforter, but when it was time to sleep, his eyes widened with worry. "How will I find you if I need you?" he asked. An idea emerged, and I grabbed a roll of ribbon from the gift wrap stash in the closet. Together we unspooled it from his bed, onto the floor, down the hall, and into my bedroom. "Don't worry," I said. "If you need me in the night, follow the string and you'll find me!" He beamed in response.



In Matthew 6, Jesus speaks straight to our struggle with worry about what we'll eat and drink, about our body and what we'll wear (v. 25). The Greek root of the word translated "worry" means to be torn in two directions--the direction of faith versus self-reliance. In verse 33, Jesus offers the solution to worry: "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." It's a challenge to us to choose and follow the one direction that leads straight to His heart.

When we struggle with worries, we can follow the "string" that direct us to God's kingdom, His ways, and His presence, knowing that He will provide all we need. (Matthew 6:25-34)--Elisa Morgan, Our Daily Bread

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall Bible Study will begin the week of October 5th. Two times are being offered:

--Monday (10/5) at 2:00 pm at Alburnett

--Wednesday (10/7) 7:00 pm at Prairie Chapel

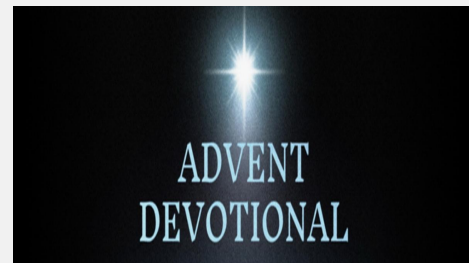
No prior Bible knowledge is needed and everyone is welcome. To assist with our planning, please let the church office (319-640-3858) know which date you will attend.



The new school year is starting! Are there sports, music, or school events that you would like Pastor Bruce to attend? Please send the information to Laura (with as much notice as possible) so they can be added to his community calendar. He would love to

attend as time permits!

Advent is a time of preparation, reflection, and anticipation as we await the birth of Jesus Christ. This year, we want to look at the season through the eyes—and hearts—of our Alburnett and Prairie Chapel church family.



You are invited to contribute a short devotion (no more than 200 words) for our 2026 Advent Devotional. Whether you are a seasoned writer, a first-timer, a child, or a senior, your unique voice and story matters.

Please pick up a sheet in the fellowship hall and review the scripture passages. Select one of the open dates and sign your name. We are asking for your devotion by Sunday, November 1. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Bruce or Laura.



Thanksgiving is a time for sharing, and we want to make sure everyone enjoys a warm holiday meal with others around them this year.

The Alburnett | Prairie Chapel Parish will be working with local churches to serve a community Thanksgiving meal at the Alburnett Historical Society on Thursday, November 26 from 1:30-3:30 pm. We need your help to make this event a success. You can support us in three simple ways (sign up sheets will be available shortly) :

- **Volunteer:** *Help prep food, serve meals, or clean up on Thursday, November 26*
- **Donate Food:** *We will need food items like turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, rolls, vegetables, pie*
- **Give Funds:** *To assist with the purchase of needed items.*

Because of your time and support, we can offer food and a sense of community to many people in our neighborhood. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

We are livestreaming our 9:00 Sunday worship service. We would love for you to worship with us in person, but if you are ill, traveling, or otherwise unable to join us we invite you to watch the service on our website:

<https://alburnettmethodistchurch.org>

Links to recordings of prior services are also available through the website.



Church Contact information:

Pastor Bruce Email:

pastorbrucesmith@gmail.com

Pastor Bruce Cell: 319-768-8593

Office Hours: Mon-Wed (10:00 am-3:00 pm)

Church Email: alburnettmc@gmail.com

Office: 319-640-3858 (Laura)

Church: 319-842-2388

How can we make this newsletter more useful? If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions, please let Laura know at alburnettmc@gmail.com. Thank you.

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