



Prairie Wind

OUR MISSION: MAKING DISCIPLES OF
JESUS CHRIST

SEPTEMBER
2018

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New Bible Study

Beginning in October, Pastor Terri will be leading a book discussion/Bible study. We will be studying the book *Not a Fan* by Kyle Idleman. There will be two different times for this study. You can choose to attend either the evening study on Tuesdays at 6 PM beginning October 2nd or the morning study which will be held on Thursdays at 9 AM beginning October 4th. The study will run 7 weeks. Please call Lora at the office to sign up. The cost of the book is \$7.

From the back of the book:

Are you a fan or a follower? The dictionary defines a fan as "an enthusiastic admirer." Fans want to be close enough to Jesus to get all the benefits, but not so close that it requires sacrifice. Fans may be fine with repeating a prayer, attending church on the weekend, and slapping a Jesus fish on their bumpers. But is that really the extent of the relationship Jesus wants?

Jesus was never interested in having admirers. It's not fans he is looking for.

Not a Fan challenges you to consider what it really means to call yourself a Christian. With a direct frankness that you're not likely to hear in Sunday school class, Kyle invites you to take an honest look at your relationship with Jesus. His call to follow may seem radical to us, but Jesus desires it for every believer.

Please join us for this humorous, powerful, and thought-provoking discussion!



Sunday School Update

We combined the kindergarten through 5th grade classes for the summer and had good attendance. Our teachers for the summer were Sherri Presson, Ann Leisner, Jim and Mary Ann Pattenau, Johanna Steffens, Ali Yantis, Courtney Brewer, and Tricia Willoughby.

Pastor Terri will be teaching this Sunday, August 26 and talking to the students about communion: what it means, why we do it, etc. At the end of the class period the students will be served communion.

There will be no Sunday school on September 2 for the Preschool through High School classes. This is a holiday week-

end and will give our teachers a day off.

Adult classes will meet if they choose!!

Sunday, September 9 we will begin our fall curriculum and will continue with the K-5th grade students combined. The teachers that will be in rotation are: Sherri Presson, Ali Yantis, Pastor Terri, Susan Hall, and Kim Beachy.



Note
from the
pastor



Pastor's Letter

Dear Church Family,

What an amazing and busy six weeks this has been! I have so enjoyed getting to know you all, and I'm starting to feel as though Tuscola truly is my home.

I have a lot of plans for the upcoming year, and if you would like, please stop by my office to get my short term, mid-range, and long-term goal sheet that I have shared with both Church Council and Staff Parish. One of my biggest goals, however, is to get to know you better. I plan to accomplish this with a series of open house meetings during the months of September and October. Sign-up sheets will be available in the back of the sanctuary. There are 12 spots per meeting. Some will be held at the church and some will be held at the parsonage.

So, what is the point of these meetings? They are all about you! You are a captive audience for my sermons for 20 minutes a week, so you hear me talk all the time. This time, it's about me listening. I want to know who you are and what your thoughts are. Before the meeting, I'll ask you to consider some things:

- What do you love the most about Tuscola United Methodist Church?
- What do you feel needs work?
- What is a dream you have about the future of this church?
- What is a fear you have about the future of this church?
- What programs do you think are working well?
- What programs do you think are a waste of church time, energy, and resources?
- Do you feel God's presence and leadership here in the church?

Consider these questions and share the answers with me at the meeting. I also hope to hear about you personally – your story, your life. This is your church. I am here as your facilitator and as a leader, but at the end of the day, you are the church. Let's make it an amazing place to worship!

Blessings,

Pastor Terri

Open House Meetings

The dates and locations for the Open House Meetings are listed below. If you plan to attend a meeting held at the parsonage, please know that there are steps leading up to the front of the house, and I have cats, so if you are not able to climb steps or have a cat allergy, you might prefer to meet at the church. There will also be a sign-up sheet for those of you who would prefer a one on one meeting either in your home, my home, or the church office. The dates and times for these meetings are in the newsletter. If we need to schedule more meetings, please let me know, and I will happily add extra dates.

Tuesday, September 4th – 1 PM – Church
Thursday, September 6th – 6 PM – Church
Wednesday, September 12th – 10 AM – Church
Thursday, September 20th – 3 PM – Parsonage
Sunday, September 23rd – 9:30 AM – Church
Sunday, September 30th – 12 PM – Church

Monday, October 1st – 7 PM – Parsonage
Tuesday, October 2nd – 10 AM – Parsonage
Wednesday, October 10th – 3 PM – Parsonage
Thursday, October 11th – 7 PM – Parsonage
Sunday, October 14th – 12 PM – Church
Thursday, October 18th – 1 PM – Church

**OPEN
HOUSE**

Manna Café News

The next Manna Café will be Wednesday, September 5, serving from 5-6:30 p.m. Sharon Corum will be cooking. The menu includes: pork chops, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and dessert.

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Kitchen help is needed to assist Sharon Corum.

What is needed is 4 people to work 3 to 4 hours on each Manna Café Wednesday. The schedule would be 1 person working 3 to 4 hours, 3 times a year. Sample: Work 4 hours on Wednesday in January, May, and September. Sharon would tell you what she needs help with. We would also need a few extra volunteers when regulars can't make it.

Contact Carol Weemer, 253-4453, for more details. Thank you.



Mary & Martha Circle

Monthly Meeting: 1st Wednesday of the month; 7-8:30pm

We will take this time to study **We Saved You a Seat: Finding & Keeping Lasting Friendships** by Lisa-Jo Baker. Over seven sessions (book and video), we explore our relationship with Jesus as the ultimate model for authentic friendship. Nothing shapes us like the impact of a friend—its how Jesus radically and intimately connects with us. So instead of chasing perfection, overcome

your fear of being known and find the courage to connect.

The first session will be on Wednesday, September 5 at Elizabeth Reed's home. Please contact Elizabeth at ereed21@gmail.com or 621-4846 for more information.



From the Music Department

September is right around the corner and all three choirs will be starting soon! Watch for details on practice schedules. Here's the latest info:

Sanctuary Choir We will begin meeting on September 5th. If you are interested in singing and being a part of sharing your voice in worship, you are welcome to be a part of our music fellowship! Please see Jeannie Craddock for more information.

Handbell Choir We have hired Dwight Vaught of Charleston as our new handbell choir director! Dwight has a Master of Music Theory & Composition and is the former director of Doudna Fine Arts Center at Eastern Illinois

University. He most recently was the minister of music and contemporary worship leader, handbell director and children's handbell coordinator at First United Methodist Church Mattoon. Welcome to Dwight!

Children's Choir Johanna Steffens is our new Children's Choir Director. Johanna is a life-long member of TUMC and teaches English and Drama at TCHS. Johanna has degrees in Theatre Studies and English/Theatre Education from Illinois State University. She hopes to incorporate some of her drama expertise into children's choir this year. Welcome to Johanna!



**FINANCIAL
REPORT**



July Income/Expense Report

Balance as of 6/30/18	(\$ 6,387.64)
July income	\$24,375.06
July expense	(\$20,470.43)
Balance as of 7/31/18	(\$ 2,483.01)

United Methodist Women News



September 11 at 6:00 p.m. is our Salad Supper for all women of the church and their guests. Several district officers and Tolono ladies will also attend. The theme is "Daughters of the King-Sisters in Christ", and musical entertainment will showcase our local talent. Bring a salad to share with a copy of the recipe. Drinks and table service will be provided. We will vote on 2019 officers and the budget. Plan to attend this evening of music, food, fun, and fellowship.

The Mary & Martha Circle will be providing childcare during the UMW salad supper. If you're planning to drop off your kids, please let us know in advance so we have enough helpers! Contact Elizabeth Reed at ereed21@gmail.com or 621-4846.

Our Calendar Dinner, fundraiser for missions, is Oct. 6 at 6:00 with reservations due by Sept. 21. If any seats are still available, someone will take reservations on Sunday, Sept. 23 and 30. The menu is: chicken cordon bleu, cheesy potatoes, French-cut green beans with almonds, rolls, tea, coffee, and water. Chairpersons will provide salads and desserts for their tables, decorated for each month. June and December tables are already full. Dinner music will be provided by harpist, Doris Pickett.

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Iroquois River District meeting is Sept. 29 at Danville, St. James UMC. Lunch reservations of \$10 are due by Thursday, Sept. 20. Contact Sharon Corum or Patty Russell to send reservations together and carpool. The speaker will be Rev. Julie Dowler, Associate Director/Campus Minister at the Wesley Foundation at the University of Illinois. A hands-on project will be bagging food for the hungry. Plan to attend, and learn more about the many missions our district does and pick up books, calendars, program book, etc.

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Cunningham Children's Home is asking for men's body wash, box tops, and gift cards from Walmart, Dollar Tree, and McDonald's. Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House is asking for cleaning supplies of all kinds, including mops, brooms, buckets, all-purpose cleaners, plastic gloves, dish washing liquid, etc. There will be a container in the foyer for these items.

Thank you to all who donated items that were collected for these agencies and taken to mission u. All help is greatly appreciated, as we try to make life better for women, children, and youth.



Worship Preview

This month, we are taking a look at the practical book of James in a sermon series entitled “A Faith That Works”. This book of the Bible was almost cut out of scripture by Martin Luther in the 1500s because it speaks so much about what you can do as opposed to what you believe – something Martin Luther felt that the Catholic Church in his day used to their advantage. I’m so glad that it is still scripture, though, because it speaks to one of the most important Christian truths: if you have faith, you will *want* to do works! Join us for a walk through this real-world application of our faith!

Sunday, September 2, 2018 (15th Sunday after Pentecost)

Sermon: Just Do It!
Scripture: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
James 1:17-27

Sunday, September 9, 2018 (16th Sunday after Pentecost)

Sermon: Body and Soul
Scripture: Mark 7:31-37
James 2:1-17

Sunday, September 16, 2018 (17th Sunday after Pentecost)

Sermon: Taming the Tongue
Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9a
James 3:1-12

Sunday, September 23, 2018 (18th Sunday after Pentecost)

Sermon: The Good Life
Scripture: Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Sunday, September 30, 2018 (19th Sunday after Pentecost)

Sermon: Powerful Prayer
Scripture: Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20

8:15 a.m. Worship Leaders

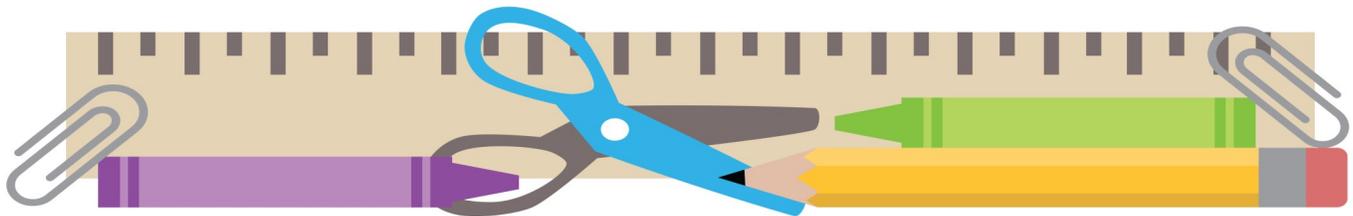
September 2 – Liturgist – Judy Schenkel; Ushers – Bob Smith, Jerry Jones, Todd Kresin, Colter Lewis; Greeters – Mary Smith, Don & Dorris Thode; PowerPoint – Jim & Mary Ann Pattenau

September 9 – Liturgist – Jeff Marker; Ushers – Ray Lamb, Lenny Sementi, Mark Randell; Greeters – Jerry & Jean Leonard, Barb Wills; PowerPoint – Darcy Sementi

September 16 – Liturgist – Kate Watson; Ushers – Paul Wisovaty, Alan Michener, Jack Allen, Jerry Reynolds; Greeters – Sue Wisovaty, Doris Young; PowerPoint – Colin Lewis

September 23 – Liturgist – Janet Butler; Ushers – Debbie & Jeff Marker, Jan Mann; Greeters – Pat & Butch Janusik; PowerPoint - Ted Minger

September 30 – Liturgist – Susan Patterson; Ushers – Tom Sturgis, Jerry & Margo Bladow; Greeter – Cammy Seguin; PowerPoint - Colin Lewis



10:45 a.m. Worship Leaders

September 2 – Liturgist – Christy Hoel; Ushers – Brian Beachy, Kristine Kerns, Kirsten & Mason Day; Greeters – Kathryn McCumber, Patty Russell; Acolyte – Boyd Brewer; PowerPoint – Joel Middleton

September 9 – Liturgist – Alan Patton; Ushers – Dan Craddock, Dale Phillips, Andy & Cindy Wood; Greeters – Jan Boyer, Vicki Jones; Acolyte – Reegan Willoughby; PowerPoint – Noah Woods

September 16 – Liturgist – Wayne Ward; Ushers – Mark & Kim Kemp, Lora, Kyle & Emma Zimmer; Greeter – Alan Patton; Acolyte – Keller Beachy; PowerPoint – Rodney Zimmer

September 23 – Liturgist – Rodney Zimmer; Ushers – Wayne & Joann Ward, Rhonda McCumber, Patty Russell; Greeter – Cheryl Bozarth; Acolyte – Keely Smith; PowerPoint – Kate Watson

September 30 – Liturgist – Diane Zell; Ushers – Youth; Greeter – Darlene Wiesener; Acolyte – Jada/Naomi Luedtke; PowerPoint – Rodney Zimmer



Tuscola United Methodist Church

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Tuscola United Methodist Church

Pastor	Rev. Terri Haas
Children's Ministry Leader	Susan Hall
Secretary	Lora Zimmer
Custodian	Jody Patton
Nursery Attendant	Janice Benner
Sanctuary Choir & Praise Band Director	Jeannie Craddock
Handbell Choir Director	Dwight Vaught
Children's Choir Director	Johanna Steffens
Lay Leader	Jim Pattenaude
Church Council Chair	Wayne Ward
Parish Nurse	Donna Lamb

Prairie Wind is the monthly newsletter of the Tuscola United Methodist Church. We meet for worship at 901 N. Prairie Street in Tuscola, Illinois.

We invite you to worship with us and to experience the joy of having fellowship with people who believe in God's love and Christ's teachings.

Our worship services are Sunday at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m., Jarman Center at 9:30 a.m. and Brookstone Estates at 10:10 a.m. Sunday school classes for all ages begin at 9:30 a.m.

Tuscola United Methodist Church
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Visit us on the web at www.tuscolaumc.org

Office Hours 8 a.m. - noon; 1 - 3:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

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