



## Writing Your Life Chapter into The Story of Life

*if you think Genesis is just a band from the '80's . . .*  
*If you think it was Dr. Dolittle who took two of each animal into a big boat . . .*  
*If you think an epistle is a woman married to an apostle . . .*

. . . you may need to know more of *The Story*.

You may be a bit intimidated by the Bible. You're not alone; many people are. And no wonder, its pages mention odd names like Jehoshaphat and Nebuchadnezzar. It contains accounts from places you probably never heard of, like Sinai and Samaria. And it seems to be made up of a lot of different, seemingly unrelated stories. But it really is one big, exciting story.

You can see it easily if you open your Bible to the beginning and then flip all the way to the end.

The first words found in Genesis 1:1 read: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Then, if you turn all the way to the back of the book, Revelation 21:1, you find, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away . . ."

In the beginning God is creating the heavens and the earth. At the end he is creating a new heaven and a new earth. So, the big question is this: "What on earth happened between the beginning and the end of the Bible?" If you can answer that question you will have uncovered the one seamless story of God.

Why not read God's story with your family this year? Studies indicate if the extent of your child's exposure to things of the faith is a only weekly visit to church or Sunday School, the likelihood is very great that when she graduates and leaves home her relationship with the Lord will turn cold.

However, if you as a parent engage your children in the experience of reading and discussing the Bible, chances go up astronomically that they will remain strong in their faith after leaving home. You don't have to be an expert or have all the answers. You just must be willing to experience it with them.

Get involved in *The Story* of God. It will forever transform your life and your family's life. Every day God is seeking to guide you, forming sentences that flow into paragraphs that over time write the chapter of your life—a life committed to knowing God better.

Will you choose today to take your life chapter and make it a part of the Big Story of what God is doing on earth, as we begin *The Story* on September 8th meanwhile watch for announcements concerning materials. We will soon begin this journey together known as *The*

Story.

Pastor Jon

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Blood Drive - August 28th  
2:30 - 6:00pm  
At Alburnett UMC Church – Fellowship Hall

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**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE....  
ATTENTION CHOIR MEMBERS.....**

Any and all are welcome to attend a potluck Thursday, August 27 at 6:30pm at Prairie Chapel. Please bring a covered dish or two. Beverages will be provided. It will be a time to share summer experiences and make plans for the upcoming Choir season.



Coming in September  
Confirmation Class Photo, Dinner, & Rehearsal  
For Parents, Sponsors, & Confirmands  
Wed, September 11, 2019, 5:30pm – 7:15pm  
Alburnett, UMC Fellowship Hall

Agenda

5:30 pm Class Picture  
5:50 pm Dinner  
6:30 pm Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Youth Ministry - Discussion

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, September 15, 2019  
09:00 am at Prairie Chapel, Be at the church by 8:50 am  
10:30 am at Alburnett, be at the church by 10:15 am  
Confirmands attend both services

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Looking for the **Birthday / Anniversary** list???  
The list can be found in the church foyer.

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There are printed copies of the Newsletter at both churches. At Prairie Chapel copies are located in the Narthex. At Alburnett copies are by the doorway (in wall holder) beside the refreshment table. Please provide your email address to ensure a copy is sent to you.

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**CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE** - please forward any newsletter articles to the following email address:

**[AlbPCNEWS@Gmail.com](mailto:AlbPCNEWS@Gmail.com)**

## COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Vacation Bible School August 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00pm - 8:00pm**

Anyone wanting to donate time to this important community event is welcome to drop in. There is no such thing as too many helpers!



**Saturday, August 10th 9:00am**

Attention will be given to window wells, painting the entryway, cleaning the pews and cleaning the outside shed.

**2019 Omelet Breakfast  
August 24th from 7:00 to 11:00 am**

We need your help to make this a continued success.

1. Volunteer as a worker to help serve, cook, or clean up. Cleanup is a lot easier now so please sign up. If you can't help for the entire time perhaps you could help for part of the morning.



2. You can also donate items used for the Omelet Breakfast - See Signup Sheet in the Fellowship Hall. These items will need to be at the Church on or before Friday August 23rd, 2019 by 3:00 PM

3. You can donate money to help cover the bulk purchases.

Again, there will be a signup sheets Sunday in the Fellowship Hall where you can sign up to volunteer and a signup sheet to provide items or donate toward purchase of bulk items needed for the breakfast.

Thank you for your part in this annual fundraiser.

If you have any questions, contact The Church Office and leave a message at 319-842-2388 and will get with you.

## MISSIONS

The Missions Committee is collecting items in support of the Alburnett Community Schools Backpack Program. Items from the main list may be donated at any time. Each month a list of specific items will be requested.  
*Thank you for your support!*



**MAIN LIST:** spaghetti, pop tarts, granola bars, fruit snacks, ramen noodles, chicken noodle soup, canned fruit, canned vegetables, plastic fruit cups, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly and boxes of raisins.

## AUGUST - Personal Items

deodorant, body wash, shampoo, tampons and pads

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### Pop Can Collection

Our Youth are collecting pop cans. This fund raiser is to help offset the expense of SUMMER GAMES in Grinnell.

## Prairie Chapel

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### Online Giving Established at Prairie Chapel

Ever want to donate but forgot your checkbook? Like most young adults we use checks as a payment method less and less. So, the Finance Committee searched for the best tool to help our friends and members to give easily and at their convenience.

GivePlus, by Vanco, is the tool we choose. It is an easy and secure way for our congregation to give how and when they want. Vanco is trusted by more churches than anyone else. Vanco utilizes the most advanced technology and follows the most stringent guidelines to ensure all your information remains secure. So, for those times when your away or don't have a checkbook or your away, you can still make your donation.

We have instructions that can be made available to you by requesting them from Kevin Banisik at Kevin.Banasik@csbiowa.com or Jarod Bowman at jarodbowman@metro-motorsports.com. In addition, either of these members of the Finance Committee can assist you in creating your login, installing the app on your device or learn how to donate through your home computer.

Special thanks to the Finance committee in doing the research to find a company that offers the lowest cost, a secure application, and user-friendly access to online giving, Easy-Fast-Secure!

[Online Giving Link](#)

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## UMW NEWS

Sunday evening, July 14th, was our Summer Social with grilled loin sandwiches, pies and home made ice cream. Thank you to all for making it a fun, successful event for our mission projects!

Thursday July 18th, we had Chaplain Dave Potter from the Linn Co. Correctional Center as our guest speaker. Their ministry is reaching so many hurting, broken lives and bringing them to the love of Jesus Christ so they know they are forgiven. Our Shepherdess also visited our group.

United Methodist Women will **not** be meeting in August

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**COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** Crayons 24 count, 30cm metric rulers, two 1/2 in. erasers, spiral or bond notebooks, 8 1/2 x 11 in. wide rule 250 sheets loose paper (not college rule) and colored pencils 12 count.





## We had a Roaring Good Time!

A HUGE thank you to all who helped with VBS this year!  
-- *Decorating crew:* Jayda, Lilly and Brynn Bowman, Kathy Clemens, Jim & Judy Kotruba, Beth Martin, Lois Martin, Carrie, Caitlin, Trenton and Tessaly Robertson

- *To Marion 1st Methodist and Christ Community churches for loaning us their decorations.*
- *Skit team:* Caitlin Robertson and Grace Stephenson
- *Teachers:* Wayne Blackford, Kathy Clemens, Olivia Nebergall and Julie Stephenson
- *Powerpoint:* Leann Bowman
- *Meals and snacks:* Linda Blackford, Marcia Jordan, Vickie Martin and Leah Nebergall
- *Crafts:* Carrie and Caitlin Robertson
- *Helpers:* Jarod & Jayda Bowman, Elizabeth Gregoricka, Kallie Hubbard, Lois Martin, Kale Nebergall, Ross Peterson, Tammy Schaul, Ana and Genna Scott, Emily and Carrie Staal, Sharon Scott and Grace Stepehnsen
- *Grilling team:* Tim Clemens and David Martin



**Community Club** is **Thursday, August 1st** at 6:30 in the church basement. Everyone is welcome for this monthly potluck. Hope to see you there!

**Effectively immediately** we are no longer recycling prescription bottles out of the church office. You can still recycle through your home recycling of plastic items.



[Alburnett Calendar](#)

[Prairie Chapel Calendar](#)

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