



A Newsletter of the Peterson and Alta United Methodist Churches

From the Pastor's Pen

Fall is a season of transition, change. The weather turns cooler. God's majestic paint brush sweeps across the landscape turning lush green leaves into reds, golds, deep purples and oranges. Fields of grain ripen and the sound of machines cutting a swath to harvest resonate through the air.

Fall is a season of transition, change as children returned to school to meet new teachers in new classrooms. As they advance by grade, a little more is expected each year to stretch their imagination and challenge them. I still vividly recall being in third grade and discovered the magic of cursive writing. Perhaps it is also memorable because of something that happened a week before school started.

In my eagerness to help my mother do laundry, I was standing on a stool handing her the clothes to push through the rollers. Anyone else remember the old Maytag washers with the mounted rollers to squeeze the excess water from the washed clothes? As mom carried a filled basket to the clothes line for hanging, she admonished me to *NOT* get my hand close to the rollers. But I had watched her do it so many times and sometimes she would supervise me as I put something through. I knew I could do it! And yes, my small hand went all the way through the rollers. I left the doctor's office with a cast on my right hand that extended above the wrist, not because any bones had been broken but because the hand was badly sprained.

Ever tried to hold a pen and write with your hand in a cast? My challenge was to find a new way to hold a pencil and crayons. Writing cursive was especially challenging. I was never able to get my laborious efforts on paper to replicate the graceful slanted sweep to the right of the connected letters that my teacher put on the black board. My efforts did require a transition, a change in the way I mastered the 'pen.' It took hard work and perseverance. I never mastered that graceful slant, but I have enjoyed writing from that early age.

Change – not always a welcome word in our life. It requires a good faith effort, an openness to see where it takes us, an adjustment to finding a new way of doing and being. When we keep our hearts open, change can be effective. Change can be a growing time and a learning time.

October 1 begins a time of transition within our churches as we adjust to a change in pastoral leadership. We wish Pastor Kim every blessing in her new appointment.

In this transition, as I assume the administrative duties of the Alta and Peterson churches, I look forward to listening and working with all of you as we find supportive ways to help our churches grow in faith and ministries. In this transition, I would invite you to join me in prayer:

Pray for the greater connection of the United Methodist Church for healing and unity on those issues that will come before the General Conference in February. There is consideration being given to splitting our denomination. Let us draw near to the words from Ephesians that we are called to accept each other with love and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties us together.

Pray for your pastor that she will have the heart, wisdom and love of God that God will provide all she needs to lead us forward.

Pray for your church to come together in the unity of love, taking the time to seek God for direction and guidance – all the while loving God and loving one another in better ways.

Pray for yourself, for spiritual nourishment and growth, for a stronger personal relationship with God/Christ and that God will provide all that you need.

In all, I am excited and nervous for what is to come – but in faith!

Loving God with heart, mind, soul and strength,
Pastor Karen



2018

ALTA



Alta

October

4—Abbie Watts
5—Ed Rice
5—Laura Holmes
7—Randy Stephan
8—Ron & Gertie Chapman
10—Tonja Meier
11—Ed Peterson
13—Kevin Flaherty
14—Glen Huntington
19—Gracie Meier
20—Cheryl Arnts
20—Elsie Peterson
21—Madlin Wipperling
26—Iris Halverson

Alta UMC
October Board
Meeting
Will Be Held On
Wednesday
October 3 at 7pm.

It's that time again!
There are sign-up
lists at the back of
the sanctuary for
your preference of
dates to usher &/or
greet in 2019.
Please fill in a few
slots for you and
yours before No-
vember 1, or call
Peg Specketer at
712-299-0617.

Ushers

Wes & Linda Holmes and Francis Carlson

Greeters

October 7—Ed & Shirley Peterson
October 14—Ruth Hoferman
October 21—Margie Hoferman
October 28—Sue Gieske

October focus at The Lord's
Cupboard is paper products.
Donations can be dropped off at
The Cupboard on Fridays
between 10 & 12 or left in the
cart in the church entryway.

Friends of Alta UMC

A reminder that travel size or
motel size personal hygiene
products can always be used at
the Lord's Cupboard in Alta
(place in shopping cart in church
entry). Thanks in advance for
your thoughtfulness to the
dignity of all in our midst.

Faith & Stitches

*Bring your project and join the fun!
Tuesday mornings at 10 am in the
Multi-purpose Room at Alta UMC,
gather for fellowship, fun and perhaps learn a
new stitch or finish that never ending project.
If you are not a stitcher or project person, you
are welcome to come for the fellowship and fun.
There is always room at the table!
Please contact Connie Lewis at
712-749-9204 with questions.*

SPARKS RETURNS IN OCTOBER!!

Pastor Karen will be sharing Bible stories and fun
with children aged 4 — 2nd grade
each Monday at 5:30 pm
in the education wing of Alta UMC
Hope to see you there!
All are welcome! Bring a friend!



NEXT MEETING

ALTA

**Wednesday, October 4, 2018
9:30 am**

**Hostess: Ruth Hoferman
Program: Mission Work Day
Spiritual Growth: Margie H
Response: Program Leader
Serving: Sack Lunch**

ALTA UMW HOLDS SEPTEMBER MEETING

The Alta UMW met September 5, 2018 in Anderson Hall with 12 members and Pastor Kim in attendance. Pastor Kim was presented the gold cross lapel pinn and certificate in appreciation for her work on Missions.

President Jane Weber announced there would be no purchase of new coffee carafes. There does not seem to be a need at this time.

September birthdays include: Jone Meredith, Connie Lewis and Judy Cameron.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the future of the UMW serving funerals. After the discussion, it was decided by a vote to discontinue the UMW service at funerals.

The school kits were assembled during the remainder of the afternoon. Coffee and cookies provided by Unit 2 were enjoyed.

The UMW will meet October 4, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. in Anderson Hall. Each member should bring a sack lunch.

**Make plans now to attend a
benefit for**

Randy Ericksen

Sunday, October 21

10am-1pm

at the

Alta Elementary Cafeteria

Bring a friend!

PETERSON



October

2—Bruce & Joni Click

9—Kathy Brees

11—Cody Tibbetts



Peterson UMC
October Board
Meeting
Will Be Held On
Wednesday
October 10 at 7pm.



Greeters/Ushers/Fellowship

October 7—JoAnn Anderson & Bonnie Mueller

October 14—Carolyn Roberts & Patti Snyder

October 21—Lonnie & Sheryl Hansen

October 28—Jon & Cherie Winterboer



OCTOBER INGATHERING FOCUS

The Ingathering focus this month at Peterson & Alta UMC will be on the ministries which are supported by Ingathering which require our giving to be a cash donation to support the outreach. These include:

- Church World Service Blankets
- Monies for shipping and toothpaste
- Heifer International Self-Help International
- Mobility Worldwide (formerly P.E.T.)
- District Hunger Grants

Your cash gifts for the above will be credited to your church. If you wish to give to any of these ministries, please place your donation and a note which shows your designation(s) in an envelope and either place in the offering plate or mail to your church. More information on each outreach can be found on the insert in this newsletter. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Peterson



Saturday, October 6 and
Saturday October 20
at 7:30 am



NEXT MEETING

PETERSON

Wednesday, October 10
1:30pm.

Hostess: Sheryl Hansen
Devotions Daina Powers
Response: Daina Powers
Lesson: Sheryl Hansen

REMINDER!

PETERSON/ALTA CHARGE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

7:00PM AT ALTA UMC

ALL HAVE VOICE AT A CHARGE CONFERENCE, BUT ONLY BOARD MEMBERS HAVE VOTE.

What a whirlwind! By the time you read this change will be just days away, or may even already have happened, and yet in the midst of change things will be so very much the same. This change is a bit different as it is more of a transition. You are familiar with your pastor in the pulpit already and now a new dynamic will be added in more complete leadership and administration. This might be a bit different also in that I will be nearby, but not in the capacity of pastor in your congregations. We will likely see each other shopping, in restaurants, at community and school events and at social occasions. This is awesome because I am able to see your families grow and your community flourish, however because of the lack of distance it can be easy to fall into old routines and call my number or drop a message to my email or text. While this is understandable, please do not be offended if I direct you back to your current pastor for your pastoral needs. I have so enjoyed my time being with each of your congregations; you have enriched me and grown me in ways you cannot imagine. Thank you for being the church where you are. You will continue in my prayers. Blessings to all in reaching your communities for Christ as you go forward.

Be blessed, be a blessing, and take someone on the journey with you! Pastor Kim



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Peterson UMC

Sunday Worship: 8:45 AM
Sunday Fellowship: 9:45 AM
Sunday School: 10:00 AM

Alta UMC

Sunday Fellowship: 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:45 AM