



## The Alplaus United Methodist Church Muse



### ***The Alplaus United Methodist Church's Mission and Vision:***

*Our vision for the AUMC is to be a viable, active, welcoming church that supports both individual members and the community with a loving, spiritual atmosphere.*

*Our mission is to actively live our Christian faith through worship, prayer, and service, and to be God's love to our neighbors in all places.*

### **Pastoral letter**

We live in troubled times, filled with violence and uncertainty. In the midst of sadness, anger, fear, shock, numbness and all our feelings understood and unimaginable, let us remember the Prayer of St. Francis:

*Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.*

*O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life. Amen*

Blessings!  
Pastor Kristi

### **SPRC News**

The SPRC Committee has been hard at work discussing the information needed for the annual Conference forms. We had a very productive meeting on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> and completed 3 of the 4 forms. We ask for your prayers to help us make the best decisions on the 1 remaining form. As always, the members encourage you to let us know how you think things are going at our church. We welcome both positive comments and concerns you may have. The 2016 committee members are: Barb Trask (chairperson), Sandi Donahue, Nancy Flanders, Sue Wither, and Robin Bowman. In addition, Pastor Kristi and Lisa Beretz (lay member) also attend the committee meetings due to their positions in the church. Please feel free to discuss comments or concerns with any of these members. Thanks!

### **Lay Leader**

Dean McIntyre is the Director of Music Resources for The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship. I printed the article found on the next page on 10/25/2011, and recently found it clearing out some papers. I thought it was worth sharing, as we head into our fall programs and events.

Blessings, Lisa Beretz, Lay Leader, [LLBeretz@gmail.com](mailto:LLBeretz@gmail.com)

**Best Church Advertising and Promotion** by Dean McIntyre

I was recently asked, “How can I best promote our church’s upcoming fall program? What’s the best means of advertising and promotion?” There are many promotion methods, and we’ve all used most of them over the years; but there is one method that is far and away the best of them all. It works all the time in all places. It works almost immediately upon being put into action, and it continues to work over long periods of time. It takes little preparation and no training. It doesn’t take a committee working on it to put into action. There’s no need for record keeping. And best of all, it’s completely free – no cost to the church! If a church implements this plan of promotion, there’s no more need for ads in the newspaper or on TV. Forget about littering the neighborhoods with church signs. Don’t spend time composing and sending out press releases or trying to arrange for media interviews.

Here’s the plan: every person in the church – child, youth, and adult, church member and staff – tells someone outside the church family about the church and invites that person to visit. It must be every person. Members can’t elect NOT to do it, thinking that others will. It takes EVERY person’s commitment. Do it once a week, every week. Pick a new person to talk to each week; and after a period of time, follow up on a person you’ve already talked with and do it again. That’s it – one person talking to one other person once a week. Invest sixty seconds per week in the future of your church.

I’m not talking about a heavy-duty door-to-door witnessing campaign or a Bible-thumping, end-times street evangelism program. I’m simply talking about a one-minute conversation with a friend, neighbor, co-worker, supermarket check-out clerk, postman, friend on the playground, teammate on the Little League or bowling team, someone you sit next to on a bus or in a restaurant. Don’t make an appointment for the talk; just work it naturally into the conversation. Tell the person briefly about one good thing that’s happening at your church – the choir, your Sunday School class, the new bell choir, summer camp, youth retreat, after-school day care, the Christmas musical, a mission project, remodeling or new construction, the pastor’s sermon. Just share one good thing in three or four sentences and invite that person to join you the following week. Don’t push. Don’t demand an answer. Extend the invitation and move on. If the conversation allows for it, say more about your church, what’s good about it, why you attend. This is not dishonesty or manipulation. It’s not plotting and scheming to ambush your friend or neighbor. It’s a friendly and honest conversation. It’s also the most powerful and effective means of advertising and promotion the church can do. Word-of-mouth promotion, community spin, personal endorsement and recommendation . . . all these are better than anything you could pay for. A church that benefits from this kind of outreach is a church that is probably strong, vital, growing. It’s a church with a reputation in the community that draws people to it.

A second benefit from this kind of witnessing congregation: the people are transformed. In the act of telling and inviting others, people become more committed. They are more faithful in their attendance. They increase their giving, and the church is enabled to do more. Outreach projects multiply. They create more opportunities in the church for worship, education, training, nurture, and evangelism. They take better care of their facilities. And we hope that all of that takes place so that new people become new disciples of Jesus Christ and all people grow in their faith.

Start with an “open-hearts-open-minds-open-doors” sermon by your pastor. Encourage adult and youth Sunday School classes and groups to talk about it one week. Ask parents to talk with their children about it at home so they can understand and perhaps invite a friend to come to church or choir next week. And on a low-key but regular basis, keep it before your people, encouraging them to make it a regular part of their week’s activities outside the church building.

The problem, of course, is that this is not flashy. It doesn’t bring everyone together all at once for a high-energy emotional gathering followed by a church dinner. There’s no applause, no door prizes or drawings, and no ribbons or rewards for being the best. But if it takes those things to get it going, then forget it. Your church isn’t up for it, and it would be false advertising.



### **United Methodist Women**

Our first meeting this fall will be October 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30. Mandy will tell us about her trip to Ireland and Scotland. Tonya and Ginny Marra will be the hostesses.

### **Community Luncheon**

The luncheon will be held Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am – 2:00pm. Hope everyone will be back from their summer camps and ready to enjoy the beautiful fall. Tonya is planning to have fall themed food at the luncheon. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

### **No Bottom Left Behind Diaper Bank, Inc**

The UMW would like to respond to the needs of families with babies and toddlers who often have to choose between diapers and other daily living costs like gas and medical bills, with disastrous results for their children. Some of these parents rinse out used disposable diapers to save money. Please donate baby diapers, wipes, and diaper cream by **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. Donations received will be brought to the fall District meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be donated to the Diaper Bank in Johnstown. This organization assists 100 families through aid agencies and crisis groups. Please help us reach out to these young children in a positive way. Your donation can be placed in a box on the table in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

### **Pill bottle collection**

We are still collecting empty pill bottles for Matthew 25 Ministries. The bottles are sent to hospitals in third world countries so they can dispense medications properly. Please remove the labels from the bottles. All sizes and shapes are acceptable.

### **Sunday School News**

Sunday School started on Sept. 18 and we had a discussion about what is a church. We started with a tour of the church to observe items we see in a church. Next we read Bible verse Matthew 18:20 which says "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them" and from there we started our discussion. In conclusion we sang from the hymnal "We are the Church." For our craft time during church, we made 3 dimensional chocolate churches and decorated them in a fall theme. It was a finger licking good time! Our next lesson took us back to where we left off in June with the exodus of the Jews from Egyptian rule. Our next few lessons will take us through their wandering throughout the desert, and conclude with the building of the Tabernacle for worship.

Please remember we do not hold Sunday School during holiday weekends, so there will be none on the following dates: Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, April 16<sup>th</sup>, and May 28. The last day of Sunday School will be June 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Children's Church**

Thank you to all the children that participated in our children's church program last spring. We will continue having it on the fourth Sunday of the month, unless it is a holiday weekend. We look forward to starting up again on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This program is offered following the children's message, during worship, for fourth grade and above students. The third grade and below students are invited to go downstairs to the nursery area.

### **Church Service Recordings**

Did you know that our church services are recorded each week? If you cannot attend church and would like a copy of a particular service, please let Dan Trask know by email ([dtrask1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dtrask1@nycap.rr.com)) or phone (399-6454). He will make you a CD copy and send it out to you.



**Words of Wisdom from Guidepost Magazine**

The following quotes were in the June 2016 issue of the magazine.

“Faith is what gets you started. Hope is what keeps you going. Love is what brings you to the end.” By Mother Angelica, Franciscan nun

“Be strong. You never know who you are inspiring.” By Jeremy Chan

“A grateful heart is a magnet for miracles.” By actress Roma Downey

“A word of encouragement can make the difference between giving up or going on.” By Delores Cannon

“You do not write your life with words... You write it with actions. What you think is not important. It is only important what you do.” By Patrick Ness

“Compliments cost nothing, but can make someone feel like a million bucks.” By Angela Martinez

“God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it.” By Susan Griffigen

**Esther Miller’s New Adventure**

At the age of 93, Esther Miller is starting a new adventure in her life. She is moving to Rhode Island to be closer to her son, granddaughter and great granddaughter.

Earl and Esther moved to Alplaus in the fall of 1958 with their two children, David and Donna. Before retiring, Esther worked at Union College for many years. After Earl's passing in 2009, Esther became one of the founding members of The Knitting Ladies of Alplaus. Over the years, her knitting projects have helped keep many people warm.

The Knitting Ladies and Alplaus will miss her great sense of humor, gentle ways and kind smile. The ladies will especially miss her reading each Thursday from the Hal Broland Book, "The 12 Moons of the Year."

We in the church wish Esther many more years of great adventure in her life. Her new address will follow, when we get it from her.

**Lectionary**

These are listed with the idea that you might care to read the scriptures before attending church each week, especially if you will be the liturgist and especially the psalms, which we seldom read in worship.

	<u>Hebrew Scripture</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
10/2	Lamentations 1:1-6	137	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10
10/9	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7	66: 1-12	2 Timothy 2:8-5	Luke 17: 11-19
10/16	Jeremiah 31:27-43	119:97-104	2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5	Luke 18:1-8
10/23	Joel 2:23-32	65	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18: 9-14
10/30	Habakuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4	119: 137-144	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12	Luke 19: 1-10

**Fulfilling our promises - our presence and our presents**

	<u>Our Presence</u>	<u>Our Gifts</u>
August 7	14	\$590
August 14	13	\$355
August 21		\$936
August 28	18	\$343



**Comparison of expenses and income**

	For August	Actual year to date	Budgeted year to date
Expenses	\$4,243	\$42,512	\$46,311
Income	\$2,223	\$30,222	\$32,402

**October Birthdays**

- 1 Patrick Meehan
- 5 Sandi Donahue
- 10 Johanne Shepard
- 24 Tonya Guillaume
- 28 Carolyn Koch
- Michael Kwiatkowski

**October Anniversaries**

- 9 Michael & Elise Dussault '99
- 14 Robert & Susanne Wither

**Prayer list**

- Ginny Smith
- Barbara Hutchins
- The King, Story, and Culver families
- Gordon Neufeld and family
- Amanda's cousin David and family
- Victims of disasters and violence
- Yvonne White's family
- Sandi Donahue and family

- Bill Broland
- Alice and Claudia Lewis
- Robin's grandson Tyler and family
- Tami Flanders and family
- Anne, Emily, and Deontae Kwiatkowski
- Esther Miller

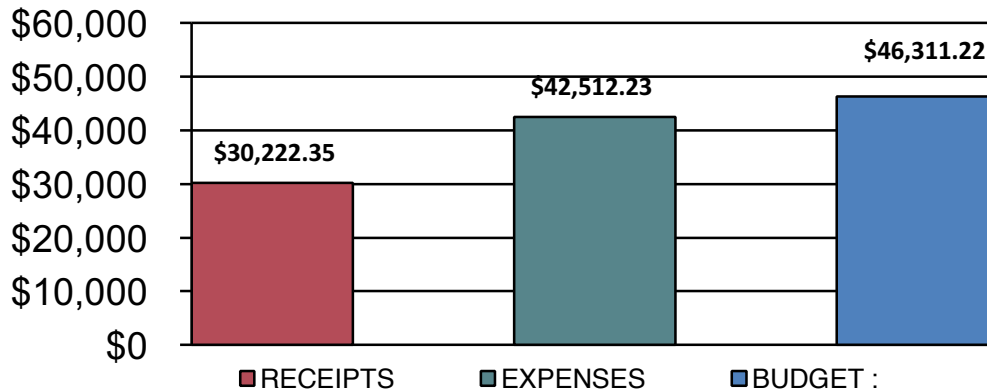


**Dear Friends and Supporters,**

As the chart below shows, our expenses through August are \$42,512.23 (still about \$4,000 under budget), but our receipts are only \$30,222.35. This results in a year to date shortage of \$12,289.88. Since there are only 4 months left of 2016, this leaves us very tight for meeting expenses for the year.

Our expenses average over \$5,000 per month, so that is another \$20,000 by the end of the year. Although year end receipts are generally higher than the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters, it looks like we will still have a deficit at the end of this year. Our normal 4th quarter contributions hopefully will be approx. \$20,500

RECEIPTS vs EXPENSES - AUGUST 2016



With projected expenses of approx. \$62,500 and projected income of only about \$50,750 we are looking at a **projected shortage** of approximately **\$11,750**. Please consider the possibility of making extra contributions through this last quarter to aid in minimizing this projected deficit.

Below is an "Estimate of Giving" form for the 2017 year. Please consider your giving potential and realize this is to support YOUR church, and its programs. Let us be faithful with all that God has given us. God can take little things and multiply their impact beyond what we can imagine. Do not hold back if you think your gifts are "too little".

God can multiply even our smallest gifts in ways that allow people and faith to be restored. For those who are able, allow God to show you that He will be found faithful to His supporters as you increase your faithfulness and generosity.

Please complete the commitment card and return it to the church at your earliest convenience. Either put it in the collection plate anytime, or mail it to the church at 1 Brookside Ave., Alplaus, NY 12008.

**In response to God's love and as a concrete expression of my faith in and commitment to Christ and His church, I plan to contribute to the needs of the Alplaus United Methodist Church:**

Estimate of giving card

MY COMMITMENT for 2017 is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week, month or year. (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Alplaus United Methodist Church October 2016 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> <b>1pm Pampered Chef Party</b>
<b>2</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> day after Pentecost <b>9:15am Sunday School</b> <b>10:15am Communion</b> <b>Worship Service.</b> Church Council Meeting after coffee hour.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:30pm Troop 3036 Leadership Meeting	<b>5</b> 7pm Scouts	<b>6</b> 7pm Choir	<b>7</b> 6:30pm Bridge	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> day after Pentecost <b>No Sunday School</b> <b>10:15am Church</b> <b>Worship Service.</b> <b>SICM Food Collection</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Columbus Day</b>	<b>11</b> 11:30 – 2pm Community Luncheon	<b>12</b> 7pm Scouts	<b>13</b> 1 – 3pm Knitting Ladies  7pm Choir	<b>14</b> 6:30pm Bridge	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> day after Pentecost <b>9:15am Sunday School</b> <b>10:15am Church</b> <b>Worship Service &amp; Childrens Craft time.</b> <b>Church Fall Clean Up!</b> <b>Deadline for diaper donations.</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7pm Scouts	<b>20</b> 12:30pm UMW Meeting  1 – 3pm Knitting Ladies  <b>Muse article deadline!</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> day after Pentecost <b>9:15am Sunday School</b> <b>10:15am Church</b> <b>Worship Service &amp; Children’s Church.</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7pm Scouts	<b>27</b> 1 – 3pm Knitting Ladies	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> day after Pentecost <b>9:15am Sunday School</b> <b>10:15am Church</b> <b>Worship Service.</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Halloween</b>					

Pastor Kristi's office hours: 11am – 1pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Alplaus Methodist Church  
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Alplaus, NY 12008  
(518)399-6000  
AlplausUMC.org

First Class Mail



OCTOBER 1, 2016



Articles for the November newsletter must be submitted to [alplausmuse@gmail.com](mailto:alplausmuse@gmail.com) no later than **October 20<sup>th</sup>**.

Thank you!

**If you want to be removed from our Muse mailing list or you would like to save paper and be added to our Muse email list, please contact Lisa Beretz, by phone at 330-9277 or email [LLBeretz@gmail.com](mailto:LLBeretz@gmail.com). Please put Muse in the subject line.**