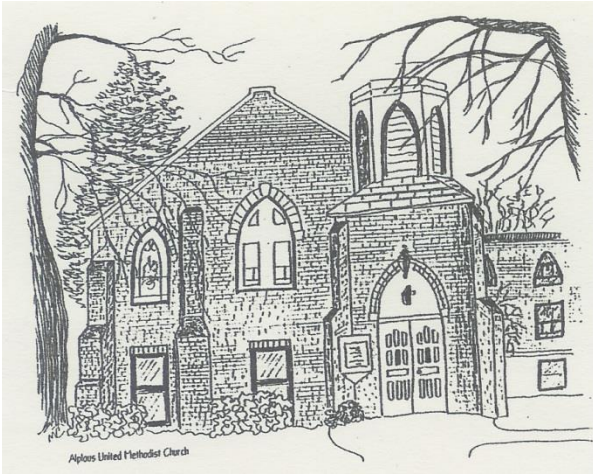




The Alplaus United Methodist Church Muse



The Alplaus United Methodist Church's Mission and Vision:

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

Our mission is to worship, serve, pray, and play by connecting with the community and each other.

Pastoral Letter

“Set Apart for Ministry”

There's a phrase I sometimes hear at conference and heard at seminary about clergy being “set aside” or “set apart” for ministry. Modern day ordination services set men and women apart for ministry as leaders of congregations, on college campuses, in hospitals, and in many other places. This is supposedly based on scripture such as Ephesians 4.11-13, 1 Timothy 5:17-18, Leviticus and Numbers. Clergy wore (wear) special clothing such as clerical collars, robes, and stoles. Clergy lived apart from the rest of the population. Clergy were not expected to do ordinary work to support themselves but would be supported through the tithing of others. But I've never believed that clergy should be separated from their congregations.

Some clergy seem to think they are set “above.” There is work of the church which they should not have to do - cleaning up, taking out or hauling in the garbage and recycling bins, mowing the lawn, secretarial functions, even answering the phone. Of course the pastor can't do everything and trying to do so detracts from the ministry of the laity. But elitism should not be a part of clergy mindset.

I contend that clergy must be set “among” the people. I see myself, and I hope you do too, as just one of you, one who happens to have a particular set of gifts and graces for particular kinds of ministries just as each of you has a set of gifts and graces which equip you for other kinds of ministries. I seek not to minister “to” you so much as to minister “with” you.

For several days now the words to the song “*You Raise Me Up*” by Josh Groban have been running through my head, especially the phrase “You raise me up to more than I can be.” ***That's*** what I want my ministry to be judged to have been - one of raising you up, convincing you that you are and can be more than you think, with the help of God and the inspiration of the Spirit. I hope that I have indeed raised you and this church up in some way.

And I pray that your next pastor has this vision of what the clergy role in ministry should be.

Pastor Carl



Church Directory Updates and Corrections:

We will be including changes for you to update in your own copy of the directory within each Muse as we learn of the changes. Please remember to let us know when you move or have a change of any kind.

Please change Pastor Carl's and Johanne's address to: 55 Evergreen Ave, Clifton Park, NY 12065. Home phone is now 557-2829.

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>
June 1	Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
June 8	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	John 7:37-39
June 15	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 8	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20
June 22	Genesis 21:8-21	Psalm 17	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
June 29	Genesis 22:1-14	Psalm 13	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42

Prayer List

Anne and Deontae Kwiatkowski	Ginny Smith	Dorothy Ziegler
Lu Diel	Terry Gleason	Rev. Dr. Brolin Parker
Claudia Lewis	Alice Lewis	Janice's family
Bill Broland	Betsy Hyatt	Jack Leveille
Marci Kraut	Tom Griffiths	Ginny Bopp
Gordon Neufeld and family	all victims of disasters and violence	

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

2 Emily Hickerson	7 Mary Jackson	8 Emma Bowman
9 Alan Bowman	17 Terry Gleason	18 Vanessa Guillaume
24 John Lewis		

Anniversaries

16 Loren & Yvonne White '51	17 John & Hope Meehan '95
-----------------------------	---------------------------

Fulfilling our Promises - our presence and our presents

	<u>Our Presence</u>	<u>Our Gifts</u>
April 6	31	\$1,605
April 13	29	\$860
April 18 (Good Friday)	27	
April 20 (Easter)	18 + 46	\$958
April 27	24	\$421

**Comparison of expenses and income**

	For April	Actual year to date	Expected year to date (budgeted)
Expenses	\$4,996	\$25,337	\$24,533.33
Income	\$3,844	\$16,987	\$16,666.67

Our budget is built in such a way that we do not expect ordinary income to cover all expenses. Fortunately, we usually have other income sources to help out and we are frugal, seldom spending all our budgeted amounts. At this time our income is about where we should expect it to be but our expenses are higher than usual for this time of year. There are many reasons why this is the case. All we can do is be as parsimonious as we can manage and pray for additional giving.

United Methodist Women

The UMW will have its last meeting until the fall on Thursday, June 19th. Come join us at 12:00pm at the Lighthouse restaurant. Shirley Sutphen is making the arrangements.

Community Luncheon

The luncheon will be held Tuesday June 10th at noon in Fellowship Hall. Come and bring a friend and a dish to share if you can!

Lay Leader**Drinking from my saucer (A very spiritual and true poem)**

I've never made a fortune, and it's
probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much,
I'm happy anyhow
And as I go along life's way,
I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer,

'Cause my cup has overflowed.
Haven't got a lot of riches,
and sometimes the going's tough
But I've got loving ones all around me,
and that makes me rich enough.
I thank God for His Blessings,
and the Mercies HE's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.
I remember times when things went wrong,
My faith wore somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke,
and the sun peeped through again.

'So Lord, help me not to gripe,
about the tough rows I have hoed.



I'm drinking from my saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.
If GOD gives me strength and courage,
When the way grows steep and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings,
I'm already Blessed enough.
And may I never be too busy,
to help others bear their loads..
Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.
When I think of how many people in this world have it worse
than I do, I realize just how **BLESSED WE** really are. (Author unknown)

Thank you to my friends and family that share these great stories and poems, they are such a blessing. If you have any that you would like to see in the Muse, please let me know.

Lisa Beretz/Lay Leader (518) 330-9277 or LLBeretz@gmail.com

Retirement Picnic for Carl and Johanne

After church on Sunday, June 22, 2014, Barb and Dan Trask will host a picnic lunch at their house directly after church to honor Pastor Carl and his wife Johanne for their service and fellowship at Alplaus UMC. Carl is retiring as our pastor at the end of June, and this is a chance to express our thanks for all both he and Johanne have done for us. Everyone (extended families too) is invited to attend this special event. There is a sign up sheet in fellowship hall to indicate the number of people attending in your group and to notate a dish you can bring to share. The Trasks will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs, and the paper products will be provided by the church. In addition to using a gas grill, a charcoal fire will also be used so people can roast marshmallows to make s'mores if they want to. Please bring your own lawn chairs and beverages, and sunshine would be nice too!

There will be activities available for those in the game spirit: bocce ball, croquet, volleyball, and canoeing. If you have other games you'd like to share, please bring them also.

We hope everyone can attend the picnic!



A collection is being taken by Lisa and Barb to buy a gift for Carl and Johanne, so call Lisa (518-330-9277) to RSVP and give your gift by June 15. It was suggested that it might be nice to give Pastor Carl a collection of personal notes. These could be given to Lisa and Barb, or mailed along with your contribution toward his retirement gift to: Lisa Beretz, 8 Greybitch Ct., Saratoga Springs NY 12866. We will collect them unopened and put them in the gift bag along with the gift. We also thought it would be great if there was someone that was gifted at doing scrap-booking, who would be willing to volunteer to put together a memory book for Pastor Carl's 7 years as our spiritual leader. If that sounds like something you would enjoy doing, please let us know. We think Pastor Carl and Johanne would really enjoy something like that. Pastor Carl knows about the party, but we hope to sneak this paragraph into the June Muse without Pastor Carl seeing it, so please don't share this part about the gift with him.



Kids pages



The Day of Pentecost
Acts 2



The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21



X T O B P P H W G H X U E X I
 T G T F Z J V J Y I O C G M B
 Y B H J P X I L P F F U Z Z X
 L L E L E J O Z J M D E S I W
 I W R Y N H L A N G U A G E L
 S Q Z I T E Z F I L L E D A L
 J C C E E L J W H K K A Q D J
 R E G G C S F V Q A T L Q W X
 T Q S G O R W I E S O W H J M
 M D P I S H G P B O N J I V J
 F A I M T E S K J U G A R N H
 I Y R J N A B Y N N U H X K D
 R N I A E V W Q K D E E R L Z
 E L T R H E X M K Y S A P N A
 Z H O C R N S T F I A R K X K

PENTECOST	FILLED	HEAR	HOUSE	WIND
HEAVEN	FIRE	TONGUES	LANGUAGE	OTHER
DAY	HOLY	SOUND	SPIRIT	SPEAK

Alplaus United Methodist Church – June 2014 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 7 th Sunday of Easter 9:15am Sunday School 10:15am Church Communion Worship	2 7pm Church Council	3	4 7pm Scouts	5 1 – 3pm Knitting Group 7pm Choir	6 6:30 pm Bridge	7 Larraway-Ford wedding 2 pm
8 Pentecost 9:15am Sunday School 10:15am Church Worship Service SICM Food Collection!	9	10 Noon – Community Luncheon	11 7 pm Scouts	12 1 – 3pm Knitting Group 7pm Choir	13 6:30 pm Bridge	14 Pastor Carl away for a Wedding. Flag Day
15 Trinity Sunday 9:15am Last Day of Sunday School 10:15am Church Worship Service, with Mandy giving a conference report Father’s Day!	16	17 5:30pm Serving at Schenectady City Mission	18 7 pm Scouts	19 12:00pm UMW Mtg. at the Lighthouse 1 - 3pm Knitting Group 7pm Choir	20 6:30 pm Bridge July Muse article deadline!	21 Summer Begins
22 2 nd Sun. after Pentecost 10:15am Church Worship Service. Pastor Carl’s Retirement Party Picnic at the Trask’s home after church service.	23	24	25 7 pm Scouts	26 1 - 3pm Knitting Group 7pm Choir	27 6:30 pm Bridge	28 John Wesley’s Birthday (1703)
29 3 rd Sun. after Pentecost 10:00am Worship Service at the Alplaus Fire House Pavilion.	30					

Pastor Carl’s schedule - In the office ****NOTE CHANGE OF DAYS****: Monday 10-4, Tuesday 12-5.

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

First Class Mail



JUNE 1, 2014



Articles for the July newsletter must be submitted to alplausmuse@gmail.com
no later than **June 20th**.
Thank you!

If you would like to receive your copy of our monthly Muse via email, please let me know at
llberetz@gmail.com and put "Muse" in the subject line.