



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 Message

Newness Continues!

In addition to the "Finding Your Path" discernment process that still has openings for interested individuals (reach out to Pastor Kristi for more information or to get started!) we will be holding a class to support folks who are interested in visiting members. The class combines notes from our District Superintendent, Debbie Earthrowl, and the book *Care and Visitation Ministry Volunteer Handbook*. It will be offered May 9 at 4pm.

From Norway with Love: Founded over 27 years ago in one of the most environmentally friendly countries on Earth, Norwex® has shared the "Norwegian Experience" with millions around the globe to deliver safer, healthier and more sustainable cleaning and personal care solutions. The company makes cleaning products designed to reduce/eliminate the need for chemical cleaners. Come and see these products in action Saturday May 6 at 2pm. Invite your friends and neighbors and let pastor Kristi know how many to expect (838-200-8601)! The Norwex® party is a fundraiser for the church in the same way a Pampered Chef or Tupperware party would be.

It's exciting to have new things going on at church. We still do the usual things and enjoy them too - worship, fellowship, donation ministries, UWF, choir, knitting. It's always wonderful to do things as a congregation and to see and connect with each other as we engage in activities initiated by our common faith. Stop in and participate anytime!

Blessings!

Pastor Kristi

United Women in Faith

The UWF meeting is May 20th, at 12:30pm. The program is: "Growing Seeds". The scripture reading will be Matthew 13: 1-9. Please join us as I share about this reading.

Peace and Blessings to all,

Amanda Smith-Lucier Sr.



Lay Leader

Take Time To Sharpen Our Axe

Once upon a time, a very strong woodcutter asked for a job with a timber merchant and he got it. The pay was really good and so was the work condition. For those reasons, the woodcutter was determined to do his best. His boss gave him an axe and showed him the area where he was supposed to work. The first day, the woodcutter brought in 18 trees. “Congratulations,” the boss said. “Go on that way!” Very motivated by the boss’s words, the woodcutter tried harder the next day, but he could only bring in 15 trees. The third day he tried even harder, but he could only bring in 10 trees. Day after day he was bringing in less and less trees. “I must be losing my strength”, the woodcutter thought. He went to the boss and apologized, saying that he could not understand what was going on. “When was the last time you sharpened your axe?” the boss asked. “Sharpen? I had no time to sharpen my axe. I have been very busy trying to cut trees...”

Reflect on this: Our lives are like that. We sometimes get so busy that we don’t take time to sharpen the “axe”. In today’s world, it seems that everyone is busier than ever, but less happy than ever. Why is that? Could it be that we have forgotten how to stay “sharp”? There’s nothing wrong with activity and hard work. But we should not get so busy that we neglect the truly important things in life, like our personal life, taking time to fulfill our hobbies, giving more time for our family, taking time to read, enhancing our skills, upgrading our knowledge, being aware of our strengths and weaknesses, spending time for our self-development and health etc. We all need time to relax, to think and meditate, to learn and grow. If we don’t take the time to sharpen the “axe”, we will become dull and lose our effectiveness.

Found on Facebook
Spring Blessings, Lisa Beretz, (518) 330-9277

Finance

Please note the change of mailing address if you wish to continue mailing your contributions. Alplaus United Methodist Church, Attn: Beth Costello, 1 Brookside Place, Alplaus, NY 12008. Thank you.

May Birthdays

- 1 Oliver Suydam
- 4 Jeannine Bechand
Mary Herrick
- 11 Claudia Lewis
- 13 Nora Leveillee
- 15 Emily Kwiatkowski
- 19 Morgan Gates
- 22 Janice Mix
- 23 Jane Uttberg
- 25 Gemma Kwiatkowski
- 28 Patricia Peterson

May Anniversaries

- 25 Jeff and Cindy Leveillee

Prayer list

Atkinson family	Pastor Kristi's Uncle	Mary Herrick
Kay & Marcie Krout	Matthew & Tina Zawisza	Ginny & Ralph Marra
The Broland family	Vicky & Cliff Stoodley	Christine Vedder
Janice Mix	George & Pat Peterson	Lauri Nair
Susan DiBlasio	Carolyn Koch and family	Victims of Disasters & Violence
Gordon Neufeld's family & friends Marcia & Newell.	Barb & Dan Trask's family	Friends and Family Traveling.
Loren White	Sally Halsey's sister	Residents of Nursing homes
Robin Bowman's dad Donald & grandsons Cole & Tyler.	Both Amanda Smith-Luciers & niece Anne & nephew Deontae & friends Betsy & Jan.	Claudia Lewis' cousin Crawford, granddaughter Aloura, brother John & friends Barb and Kenny.
Cindy Franze's mom Jane Uttberg	Frank Stekeur, granddaughter Riley & family.	Sue Wither's family, and friend Doreen's Mother.
Elizabeth Burke's friend Pat & friend Ginny's family	Lisa Beretz' great niece Zoe & friend's husband Stew Neal	Lynn Bouck and nephew Dale

Our presence

March 5	15
March 12	20
March 19	18
March 26	22

May Hymns

5/7	UMH #660 "God is Here"; UMH #529 "How Firm a Foundation"
5/14	UMH #160 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart; UMH 152 "I Sing the Almighty Power of God" UMH #605 "Wash O God Our Sons and Daughters"
5/21	UMH #312 "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" TFWS #2123 "Loving Spirit" TFWS #2088 "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"
5/28	UMH #540 "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord" UMH #331 "Holy Spirit, Come Confirm Us" W&S #3008 "Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord"

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. Readings in **bold** will be read in church.

	<u>First Scripture</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
5/7	Acts 7:55-60	31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
5/14	Acts 17: 23-31	66:9-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
5/21	Acts 1:6-14	69:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
5/28	Acts 2:1-21	104:24-34	1 Corinthians 12:3-13	John 7:37-39

Long-Time Members Celebration

Thank you to everyone that helped with the planning of this event and provided dishes for the potluck luncheon. A few of the team that worked on this event spent many hours going through the church membership book and came up with 40 people who have been members of our church for 20 years or more. We did our best to contact all of them and about half plan to attend the April 30th Worship Service with the special presentation by Pastor Kristi. As I write this, it hasn't happened yet, but we are looking forward to a good time of fellowship for all, during the potluck luncheon following the Worship Service.

Craft and Yard Sale – save the date!!

We are accepting a wide variety of crafters, vendors, or do your own yard sale on the lawn behind the church Saturday, June 3rd 2023, from 9am to 3pm. A 10' X 10' lawn space and advertising can be purchased for \$25, church members \$15. All spaces will be reserved when paid in full with a signed property use agreement, on a first-come first-served basis. To reserve your space and receive a church property use agreement, please contact Lisa Beretz by call/text at 518-330-9277 or email at LLBeretz@gmail.com. If you don't want to rent a space, but have gently used items that you would like to donate to the church to sell, please deliver the items to fellowship hall from 12 – 3pm on Sunday, May 28th, or call Barb Trask at 518-867-6121 to make other arrangements. Items that do not sell must be picked up by the person that donated them by Saturday, June 10th.

Church Directory: Please add the following to your 2023 Church Directory:

Faiz Wareh - email Fjwareh@gmail.com Cell 518-902-3780

Patti Wareh -pwareh@gmail.com

1658 Providence Ave., Schenectady, NY 12309

Faiz is the musician at church and Patti is his mom.

Alplaus United Methodist Church May 2023 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 1pm SPRC mtg. 7pm Knit Night 7pm Boy Scouts	3	4 1pm Knitting Ladies	5	6 2pm Church "Norwex" fundraiser.
7 Fifth Sunday of Easter 10:15am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship, followed by Leadership meeting.	8	9 7pm Knit Night 7pm Boy Scouts	10	11 1pm Knitting Ladies	12	13
14 Sixth Sunday of Easter 10:15am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship. SICM Sunday food collection. Happy Mother's Day.	15	16 7pm Knit Night 7pm Boy Scouts	17	18 12:30pm UWF meeting. 1pm Knitting Ladies	19	20 Muse articles deadline
21 Seventh Sunday of Easter 10:15am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship and Spring Cleanup.	22	23 7pm Knit Night 7pm Boy Scouts	24	25 1pm Knitting Ladies	26	27
28 Pentecost Sunday 10:15am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship. Drop off Flea Market items & set up tables after fellowship.	29	30 7pm Knit Night 7pm Boy Scouts	31			

Pastor Kristi's **CHURCH OFFICE** hours are: Monday 12 - 2pm and Thursday 10am - 12pm, but she is available by text and phone other times. Church website: www.alplausumc.org - Church Phone: 518-399-6000 - Pastor Kristi's Cell: 838-200-8601 - Home phone: 518-399-0497 - Pastor Kristi's email: revklvp@yahoo.com

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

First Class Mail



May 1, 2023



Articles for the June newsletter must be submitted to the editor, Elizabeth (Liz) Zenner at:
alplausmuse@gmail.com no later than **May 20th**. 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 text or calling at: 518-330-9277 or email LLBeretz@gmail.com. Please put Muse in the subject line.

We are created for community, fashioned for fellowship, and formed for a family, and none of us can fulfill God's purposes by ourselves. You are called to belong, not just believe.