



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

"My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I hear the clear, though far off, hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?" - from TFWS #2212 which we will be singing on 8/13 (list of hymns for the month also included with the Lectionary). I have a lot more time to sing in the car now that I am traveling between 2 or 3 congregations, depending on the day. And certainly the earth laments. The land, the people, the weather in a cycle of pain and beauty and love. And still, we sing. There's a song for every silence (UMH #707) there's a song for every feeling. As United Methodists, we sing our faith. We also sing our pain, our grief, our joy, and our hope. So I find myself singing through the Capital District; as I sing - I pray and drive. Even when I'm singing, I'm listening and longing for the Spirit to inspire me to action. I pray that I might bring with me the peace of God to everywhere I go. I pray that God's goodness and mercy might follow me (to quote a really old song, Ps 23) through the paths and interactions of my daily life. I pray that we all have the sense that our lives are songs of faith, filled with actions of God's love, justice and welcome. I pray that we might be 1 of many thousands of tongues (UM#57, W&S #3001) assisted by God to proclaim with all of our lives the goodness of God. Let's join together in song and life and love.

Amen.

Pastor Kristi

Finding Your Path

Over the past couple of years, I have been developing a program designed to help individuals at Alplaus UMC find their own, unique path to following Jesus and his call on their life. This new program is called "Finding Your Path". It will be an opportunity for one-on-one devotions and discernment and determining how God is equipping and calling you to participate in following Jesus Christ. If you are interested, or intrigued, reach out to pastor Kristi (home 518-399-0497/ mobile 838-200-8601).



Lay Leader

RESPECT THE INVISIBLE

A car ahead was moving like a turtle and not giving me the way in spite of my continuous honking! I was on the brink of losing my cool when I noticed the small sticker on the car's rear. It read "Physically challenged; Please be patient."

And that changed everything!! I immediately went calm and slowed down!! In fact, I got a little protective of the car and the driver. I reached work a few minutes late, but it was ok!

And then it struck me. Would I have been patient if there was no sticker!? Why do we need stickers to be patient with people!? Will we be more patient and kinder with others if people had labels pasted on their foreheads?

Labels like:

- ~ Lost my job
- ~ Fighting cancer
- ~ Going through a bad divorce
- ~ Suffering emotional abuse
- ~ Lost a loved one
- ~ Feeling worthless
- ~ Financially messed up....and more like these.

Everyone is fighting a battle we know nothing about. The least we can do is be patient and kind.

We don't have to put people through the pressures of explaining over time before we understand their pains and offer our little best.

As you go through each passing day always remember there's an invisible label on everyone. A simple virtue of patience may just be the respect you're according to that invisible label.

Written by: Dr. M. A. Chaudhary and shared on Facebook

Blessings, Lisa Beretz, (518) 330-9277

Game Night!

In June I talked a lot about Yahtzee in one of my messages - and folks were moved to start up a game night that we had started talking about in 2019. What we have is an informal gathering, some snacks, water, and games. I bring cards, dice and Yahtzee. You're welcome to bring a game to share. There's no agenda, you play what you want. Hopefully we'll grow in number so that we can have simultaneous options for games. Come, be a part of this social gathering. Invite a friend or neighbor. Next opportunity is Wednesday, 8/9 at 6:30. I hope we might get a regular schedule, but informally planning on every other Wednesday at 6:30.

Church Conference

Last year, the folks from Centre Glenville joined us in Alplaus and this year, Rev. Earthrowl has set the time and location for us to join them there. Tuesday. October 24 at 6pm at Centre Glenville UMC, 171 Bolt Rd. Schenectady 12302. I'm sure there will be more details to come about this gathering; for now, please save the date and plan on attending!

Church Directory changes:

Please make the following changes to your 2023 Church Directory:

With great sadness, we inform you that our church family member, Ginny Marra went home to be with our Lord on June 20th, 2023. Condolences and prayers can be sent to her husband Ralph Marra at 24 Blue Barn Road, Rexford NY 12148.

August Birthdays

- 15 Meghan Atkinson
Daniel Trask
- 21 Shirley Sutphen
- 26 Kristi Van Patten
- 29 Jennifer Suydam

August Anniversaries

- 07 Alan Bowman & Amy Riordan
Dan & Barb Trask
- 22 Carl & Johanne Shepard
- 31 Dave & Karen Atkinson

Prayer list

Atkinson family	Pastor Kristi's Uncle	Mary Herrick
Kay & Marcie Krout	Matthew & Tina Zawisza	Ralph Marra and family
Pauline Iwanowicz	Vicky & Cliff Stoodley	Kristine Vedder
Janice Mix & grandson, Ethan	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 family & grandsons Cole & Tyler.	Both Amanda Smith-Luciers & niece Anne & nephew Deontae & friends Betsy, Jan & Diane.	Claudia Lewis' sister Mary, cousin Crawford, granddaughter Aloura, brother John & friends Barb and Kenny.
Cindy Franze's mom Jane Uttberg	Frank Stekeur, granddaughter Riley & family.	Sue Wither's friend Doreen's Mother.
Elizabeth Burke's friend Pat & friend Ginny's family	Lisa Beretz friend's husband Stew Neal	Lynn Bouck and nephew Dale

SAVE THE DATE - AUGUST 19TH TO CELEBRATE SHIRLEY SUTPHEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY!!

Party Time!!!

Shirley Sutphen will turn **100 yrs.** young on August 21st. Our church would like to honor her with a birthday party on **Saturday, August 19th**, with a potluck luncheon at 12 noon.

Please join us for the celebration, and if you can, bring a dish to share. Contact Lisa Beretz at (518) 330-9277 or LLBeretz@gmail.com with how many will be attending and if you plan to bring a dish.

The church will provide a special cake and beverages. We would like to know how many to set up tables and chairs for, so please don't forget to contact Lisa to let her know if you are planning to attend. Mark your calendar for the date and come help us celebrate this wonderful lady.



Our Presence

June 4	24
June 11	21
June 18	17
June 25	14

August Hymns

8/6	UMH #617 "I Come with Joy", TFWS #2126 "All Who Hunger", TFWS #2269 "Come Share the Lord,
8/13	UMH #467 "Trust & Obey", TFWS #2212 "My Life Flows On", UMH #593 "Here I Am, Lord"
8/20	W&S #3001 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing", TFWS #2175 "Together We Serve", UMH #121 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"
8/27	UMH #378 "Amazing Grace, W&S #3022 "Across the Lands", UMH #555 "Forward Through the Ages"

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>
8/6	Genesis 32:22-31	17:1-7, 15	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
8/13	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	105:1-6, 16-22, 45b	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33
8/20	Genesis 45:1-15	133	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15:10-28
8/27	Exodus 1:8-2:10	124	Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20

United Women in Faith

UWF does not meet during July and August and will resume meeting in September. We hope you will join us then. Thanks!

Amanda Smith-Lucier Sr.

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.

Alplaus United Methodist Church August 2023 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Communion Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	7 Church Leadership 1pm	8	9	10	11	12
13 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	14	15	16	17	18	19 12 Noon - Shirley Sutphen's 100th Birthday Party with a Potluck Luncheon.
20 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship. Muse articles deadline.	21	22	23 1pm SPRC meeting.	24	25	26
27 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	28	29	30	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



August 1, 2023



Articles for the September newsletter must be submitted to the editor, Elizabeth (Liz) Zenner at: alplausmuse@gmail.com no later than **August 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 prefer the obvious. We like to be sure. But faith is something else indeed. Hebrews 11:1 reminds us that faith “is the conviction of things not seen.” Not seen? Like a treasure hidden in a field, or like yeast mixed in the flour, hidden and mixed in. That’s how grace works.