



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

Ready or not - September is here! This is crunch time in UM circles; time to get our forms done and submit them to the district or Conference, time to prepare for Church Conferences. There will be meetings with the DS and the DCOM, maybe even the BOM. We have another Special session of AC in the fall. And summer is over; it's back to "Normal". We still kind of function around a school year. So September can feel like a beginning. With all of these due dates and meetings, I feel like it's the beginning of the end of the year! I'm going to keep it brief this month and draw your attention to the new Book Study (*What If It's Wonderful?*) starting on the first Thursday of September - details further inside. Also please take note that there is still availability on "Finding Your Path", this could be a great time to explore this program and find *your* path!

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).

Districts Day - September 30 at Saratoga Springs UMC

Day of worship, fellowship and workshops. Registration opens 8:15 AM. Worship at 8:45 AM. Three sets of 75-minute workshops running until 2:30 PM. Lunch is included, thanks to the generosity of the Adirondack Lay Servant Team. Details will be posted in the weekly newsletter. (www.unyumc.org/news/weekly-digest).

Lay Leader

Don't Wait for Afterwards

Barely the day started and... it's already six in the evening. Barely arrived on Monday and it's already Friday. ... and the month is already over... and the year is almost over... and already 40, 50, or 60 years of our lives have passed... and we realize that we lost our parents, friends...and we realize it's too late to go back.

So... Let's try, despite everything, to enjoy the remaining time...Let's keep looking for activities that we like...Let's put some color in our grey...Let's smile at the little things in life that put balm in our hearts.

And despite everything, we must continue to enjoy with serenity this time we have left. Let's try to eliminate the afters...

I'm doing it after...I'll say it after...I'll think about it after...We leave everything for later like " after " is ours.

Because what we don't understand is that:

Afterwards, the coffee gets cold...Afterwards, priorities change...Afterwards, the charm is broken... Afterwards, health passes...Afterwards, the kids grow up...Afterwards, parents get old...Afterwards, promises are forgotten...Afterwards, the day becomes the night...Afterwards life ends...And then it's often too late.

So... Let's leave nothing for later. Because still waiting to see you later, we can lose the best moments, the best experiences, best friends, the best family. The day is today... The moment is now...We are no longer at the age where we can afford to postpone what needs to be done right away.

(Author unknown)

I didn't write this but it really speaks to me at this time of my life!! Have a Happy Labor Day Weekend and don't wait until afterwards.

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. We're still looking to develop a schedule, so if you have a preferred evening, let Pastor Kristi know!

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 on Tuesday. November 2nd 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 Conference will be on Tuesday. November 2nd at 6pm at Centre Glenville UMC, 171 Bolt Rd. Schenectady 12302. Please save the date and plan on attending!

United Women in Faith

UWF will resume meeting in October. We hope you will join us then. Thanks!

Book Study

What if It's Wonderful by Nicole Zasowski. From the back cover: "In *What If It's Wonderful?* Nicole helps you: - overcome the fears that keep you from looking toward the future with joy - let go of the lies you've believed about happiness and embrace celebration as part of a spiritual growth - approach life with an expectant heart and courage to trust God's good gifts. With a psychological and spiritual case for celebration, Nicole challenges you to let go of the habit of practicing disappointment and fully embrace joy, beckoning you to ask yourself a new question: What if it's wonderful?"

We'll begin discussing Chapter 1 on Sept 7 at 1pm. Discussion guide included at the back of the book.

September Birthdays

- 07 Lynn Bouck
- 13 George Peterson
- 14 David Atkinson
- 19 Nancy Flanders
Anne-Marie Kwiatkowski
- 20 Katharine Davis
Amy Riordan
- 29 Schallai Lange

September Anniversaries

- 20 Kathy and Berkley Davis

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.
Lynn Bouck and nephew Dale	Lisa Beretz friend's husband Stew Neal	

Our Presence

July 2	40
July 9	18
July 16	17
July 23	16
July 30	20

September Hymns

9/3	TFWS #2242 "Walk With Me, "UMH #534 "Be Still My Soul, UMH #553 "And Are We Yet Alive
9/10	UMH #549 "Where Charity and Love Prevail", TWFS #2169 "God, How Can We Forgive" UMH #432 "Jesu, Jesu"
9/17	UMH #121 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy, UMH #389 "Freely, Freely", UMH #560 "Help Us Accept Each Other"
9/24	UMH #340 Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy", TFWS #2126 "All Who Hunger", W&S #3123 "Here is Peace"

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>
9/3	Exodus 3:1-15	105:1-6, 23-26, 45c	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28
9/10	Exodus 12:1-14	149	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
9/17	Exodus 14:19-31	Exodus 15:1-11, 20-21	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
9/24	Exodus 16:2-15	105:1-6, 37-45	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16

A Big Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped set up, decorate, and provide awesome food to make Shirley Sutphen's 100th birthday the special celebration that it was, on Saturday, August 19th. The party was well attended by at least 34 people and the food that everyone brought to share at the party was delicious and plentiful!! We were blessed to have had such a great opportunity to get together to celebrate such a special person like Shirley and we look forward to having more celebrations together like that in the future.

Alplaus United Methodist Church September 2023 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Communion Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	4 Labor Day	5	6	7 10:30am SPRC mtg. 1pm Book Study.	8	9
10 15 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	11 1:30pm Church Leadership meeting.	12	13	14 1pm Book Study.	15	16
17 16 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	18	19	20 Muse articles deadline.	21 1pm Book Study.	22	23
24 17 th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Worship Service. Coffee Hour after Worship.	25	26	27	28 1pm Book Study.	29	30

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

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First Class Mail



September 1, 2023



Articles for the October newsletter must be submitted to the editor, Elizabeth (Liz) Zenner at:
alplausmuse@gmail.com no later than **September 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.

If you are mailing your contributions, please mail to: Alplaus United Methodist Church, Attn: Beth Costello, 1 Brookside Place, Alplaus, NY 12008. Thank you.

Happy Labor Day! Wishing you a day of rest and relaxation as we celebrate the contributions of hardworking people like you.